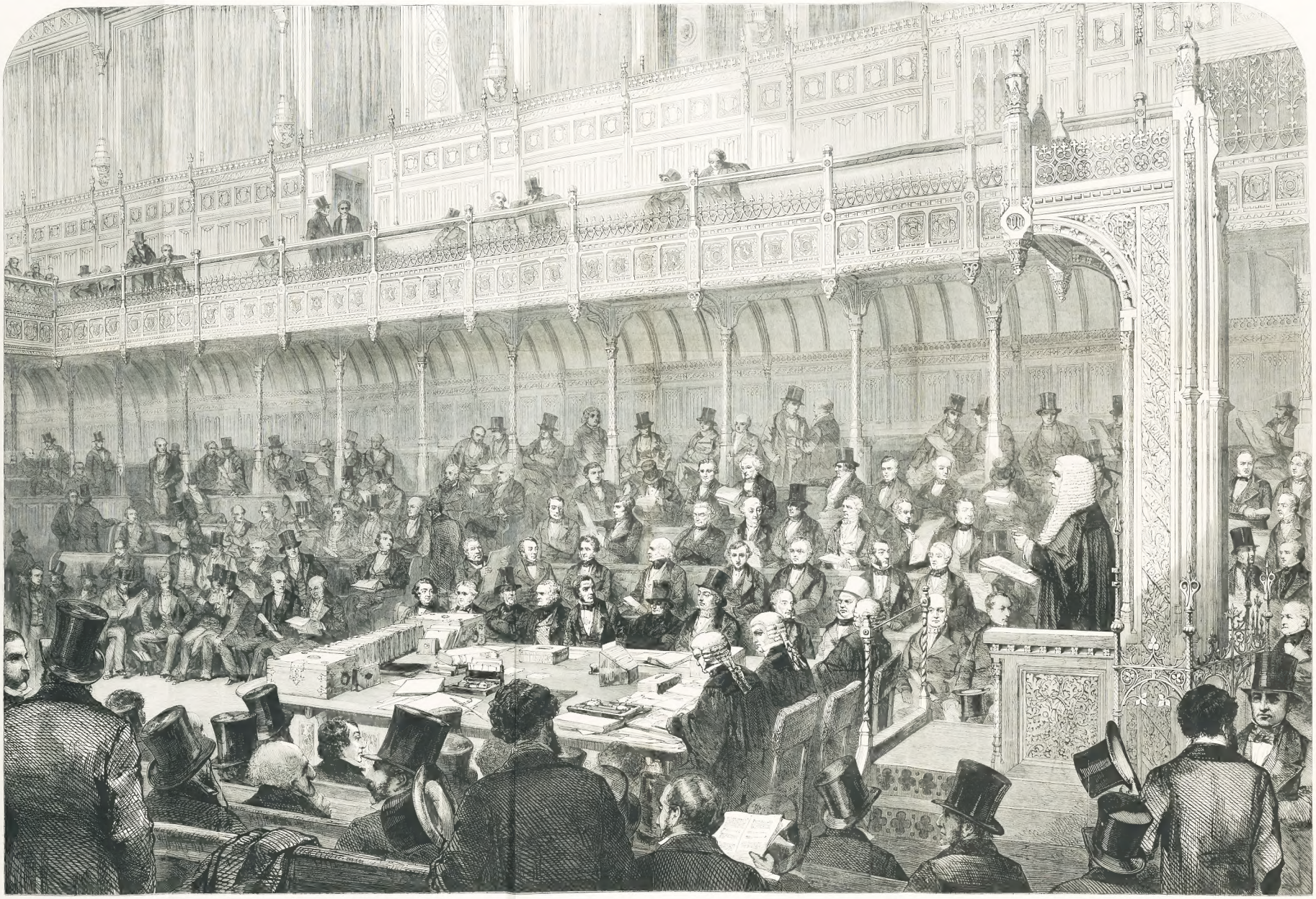

The Ministerial Side of the House of Commons

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

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THE THREATENED IRRUPTION OF THE BARBARIANS.

"IF," says Gibbon, "a line of separation were drawn between the civilised and the savage climates of the globe; between the inhabitants of cities, who cultivated the earth, and the hunters and shepherds, who dwelt in tents, Attila might have aspired to the title of supreme and sole monarch of the barbarians." The Emperor Nicholas, who is the Attila of the present era, is every inch as much a "monarch of the barbarians" as his great predecessor. St. Petersburg may vie in splendour with London and Paris, and its rich nobility may have as much taste for diamonds and the Opera, and all other costly luxuries, as the West of Europe, and Moscow may shine with a light reflected from the newer capital; but a state of barbarism, or, at best, of semi-civilisation, is characteristic of every other part of the immense Russian Empire. The King of the Muscovite barbarians resembles the famous King of the Huns in more respects than one. Though he does not bear so much of the Calmuc upon his face as the ancient hero so vividly portrayed by Gibbon, he has the Calmuc blood and the Calmuc mind of Attila, and evinces a determination to possess himself of Constantinople, which, if departed spirits take any interest in the affairs of this world, must rejoice the shade of the grim King from whom Nicholas has borrowed so much of his policy. Already the barbarians under his command are prepared for a descent upon the South and West. The ferocious swarms menace not only Europe but Civilisation. To the imagination of the timid, they seem about to issue from their boundless steppes and interminable forests, like the Huns and Vandals of old, to destroy Liberty and the Arts, to overthrow ancient kingdoms, and to spread themselves like a torrent of mire and blood over the fairest climates of Europe. Happily for the world, it is not so easy at the present time for a colossal barbarian to have his own way, as it was in the days of Attila and Alaric. Though, by the operation of a law of nature, the hardy tribes of the North make periodical inroads upon the South, this great result is obtained at present by other and better means than warfare. The swarms of the Northern Hive emigrate beyond the seas, and do not possess themselves of the close-lying lands of their neighbours. The condition of the world has altered. The ancient Attila had nothing to resist his desperate legions but an effete and moribund civilisation. The modern Attila, if such a man be indeed fated to arise, will have very different enemies to deal with. Even if the Turks had been the sole opponents of the Czar, he might have found it difficult to re-enact the part which is most to his mind. The fate of Xerxes, and not the successes of Attila, might have awaited him. A nation, goaded by his insults, and lashed into fury, as well as into patriotism, by his unjust and pertinacious attacks, might, in the fulness of time, have found means to defeat great armies, by heroic resistance, equal to that of Thermopylæ; might have destroyed fleets as well as armies; and forced the invader to return to his own dominions a wiser man and a smaller Potentate than when he left them.

It would be useless to disguise the fact that a struggle with such a man must be a severe, and may be a protracted, one; but it would be equally useless to exaggerate the difficulties to be overcome. Whenever there is a giant in the way, it is wise policy to know his exact height and strength. Russia is a big giant, no doubt—especially in the imagination of those who shut their eyes against its actual proportion, and form vague ideas of its immensity. Those who calmly measure what Russia is, and of what the Czar is capable, need be under no great apprehension for the results of the pending struggle. The sanguinary drama of past ages will not be renewed in the nineteenth century. Russia is large upon the map, and, from her climate and geographical position, unassailable with success by any single opponent; but before her barbarous hordes can play the part of the Huns and Vandals of the olden time, there must be no such nations in Europe, as Great Britain, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, and Poland, to unite against her. Were these non-existent, the similarity of circumstances might produce a similarity of result, and the Calmuc King might be the lord paramount of Europe. But no such result is possible in our day. When Russia is quiet she is invulnerable. When another state attacks her wrongfully, Russia is as firm as a rock against the assault of an army of caterpillars; but when Russia begins to move, she is as vulnerable as the rest of the world, and all her defects and weaknesses become apparent. There is only one line of her immense frontier that is not inhabited by an enemy, and that is the line in close proximity to the North Pole. She is there secure, both from foes from without and within. All her other frontier lines are formed of stolen property, and are inhabited by races who have not forgotten the spoliation of which their country was the victim, nor the oppression which they endure under the alien sovereignty to which they are bound by force, not united by affection. From the northernmost cape of Sweden to the southernmost point of the Crimea, the enemies of Russia exist, both within and without the boundary line which marks her dominion on the map. From the Crimea to Kamschatka we know of no friend that she possesses, unless it be that miserable kingdom of Persia, which she has just bought for roubles; and which, if fortune declared against the Czar, would, in despite of those roubles, desert him in his extremity, and take the stronger side. If once fairly committed to a war with the Great Powers of Europe, Russia would find that she had accounts to settle with more than one warlike nation within, as well as on, her own boundaries. The spiritual character of the Emperor as head of the Greek Church would avail him nothing in recalling to their allegiance the subjugated tribes that would then revolt against him. The ancient Muscovites may see no blasphemies in the use which the Czar makes of the name of the Almighty, in the "Te Deums" which he

BUCHAREST, IN WALLACHIA.—(SEE NEXT PAGE)

sings for his shameful victories, or in his bold assertions that the "God of the Russians" approves all the doings of the Emperor Nicholas; but the subjugated Fins on the north, the long-suffering but vengeance-awaiting Poles on the west, and the Mahometans of the Crimea, Bessarabia, Georgia, and Circassia, and other conquered provinces in the south and east, look upon such utterances with disgust. In preaching a religious war against Turkey, the Czar forgot these things, but they will assuredly be all remembered against him on the day that he declares war against Great Britain and France.

For these and many other reasons, the anti-Russian war is not likely to cost so much blood and treasure as has been hastily anticipated. Even should Austria prove false to the alliance, the cause of justice and liberty will not suffer to any extent by the defection. The treachery of that power would but make Lombardy and Hungary the stronger and the readier auxiliaries. Neither is it to be expected that the commerce of the world will greatly suffer. Russia is but a small trader. The provinces of Moldavia and Wallachia have been ar better customers to the manufacturers of England and France, than the subjects of the Czar, in all their wide-spread territories; and if the Russians never consumed another penny-worth of our productions, Great Britain would be quite as rich and flourishing as before. Australia and America would continue to give profitable employment to our looms and factories, were the Russian Empire sunk to the bottom of the sea; and Australia alone is an an infinitely richer market than any of which Russian ambition or malevolence can deprive us. The war, if it come, will have been forced upon us, and there is no reason to be afraid of it. The day of the Barbarians has not yet dawned, and the Goth or the Calmuc that is to destroy Civilisation in Europe is yet unborn.

So countless are the reasons why the Emperor of Russia should make peace rather than war, that the world might even now calculate upon his withdrawal from the false position into which he has thrust himself, if his actions were swayed by the ordinary motives of men; but the tendency of irresponsible power is to inflame the passions, to harden the heart, and to deaden the intellect. None but a despot could wage such a war as the Emperor threatens, and despots, unfortunately, act upon pride and passion. But such despots inevitably pay the penalty of their miscalculation. When war is fairly declared, it will be no difficult achievement to annihilate his naval power. As a military potentate, he may be formidable to attack upon his own territory; but, if he step beyond it, the strength of Europe will be far more than a match for him. We would not value at many roubles the loyalty of the Russian people, or the fidelity of his own household, the day after his defeat.

BUCHAREST.

BUCHAREST, the capital of Wallachia, is agreeably situated in a rich and spacious plain, diversified by hills, on the eastern bank of the Dumbovitza. Though the residence of the Prince Hospodar, and the seat of Government, as well as of a Greek Archbishopric, and covering a considerable space, measuring four miles from north to south, and three from east to west, it is, in appearance, little better than an overgrown and straggling village. The dwellings, with few exceptions, are mud and brick cabins, of the most barbarous construction; and the streets are unpaved, but many of them rudely crossed by trunks of trees. The Princes' palaces, and many of the residences of the Boyards, or nobles, are handsome structures of stone, which contrast strangely with the wretched hovels by which they are surrounded. The metropolitan church is situated in a large square in the centre of the town; there are, besides, some three hundred churches built in various styles of architecture, some very uncouth, but, most of them with spires, which, being covered with tin, glitter in the sun. There are no less than twenty monasteries, or convents, which are all protected by high walls; some few of the churches are also protected in a similar manner. Coffee-houses, billiard-rooms, and gambling-houses everywhere abound; gaming being a vice to which the Wallachians are most ardently addicted. The population is about 60,000; and the principal business carried on is that of dealing in grain, wool, tallow, and cattle, which form the staple of the wealth of the province. The corn market is always abundantly supplied here, at prices which, if the navigation of the Danube were not impeded as it is by Russian interference, would materially affect the prices in Western Europe. At the present moment Bucharest is the head-quarters of the Russian invading force, the Prince Hospodar having fled, and his authority having been superseded by that of a Governor appointed by Russia. The poor Boyards have many of them been turned out of their houses, to make room for the invaders; and some of them have been exiled for want of zeal in the cause of the enemies of their country, falsely assuming to be their friends and protectors. How long in state of things may last it is impossible to say—the inclemency of the season having put a stop to military movements. The last account, under date Decemb r 20th, state—"Everything is perfectly quiet. The vast quantity of snow renders operations impossible." Our Artist's Sketch is taken under these circumstances. The snow-covered houses have a dismal but picturesque effect; and pickets of troops still occupy the deserted streets.

THE CALORIC STEAMER.—The problem as to the success of the Ericsson approaches a solution. The engine is now so nearly completed that a trial trip will probably be made next Tuesday or Wednesday, and Mr. Ericsson is in the best spirits, such as confidence of success inspires. We learn from one of her principal owners that experiments already made show that the desired amount of pressure can be easily obtained, and a full reliance is entertained that the ship will attain a speed of at least ten miles an hour, which will be a rate entirely satisfactory.—*New York Journal of Commerce.*

THE GRAND NATIONAL CURLING MATCH.—The preparations for this event are now, we hear, in a forward and promising state; and the middle of next week, weather permitting, will be the time. The muster promises to be considerably more numerous than on any former occasion. The number of rinks in the grand match is 166, and in the vice-president's match, 37; in all, 193 rinks, or 1544 players. The North, flushed by its last year's victory, musters stronger than the South by 27 rinks; and it is northern players entirely that compose the vice-president's match.—*Scotsman of Saturday.*

SLAVE MOTHERS AND THEIR CHILDREN.—A bill, in relation to the sale and division of slave mothers from their children, is now before the Legislature of Georgia, which proposes to enact that the children not exceeding five years of age of any woman slave, and such woman slave shall not be separately sold, or exposed to sale under execution or other legal process, but shall be placed together, in one of the parts into which the estate to which they belong is to be divided, unless such division cannot in anywise be effected without such separation. Another section enacts, that by consent of the ordinary, slaves living in a different county from a deceased owner may be sold in the county in which they reside, upon application being made for such purpose.

METROPOLITAN WINTER POULTRY SHOW.—His Royal Highness Prince Albert has entered several specimens, and will be an extensive contributor at the ensuing Great Metropolitan Winter Poultry Show, appointed to take place at the Baker-street Bazaar, on the 10th, 11th, 12th, and 13th instant. Amongst the other contributors are Lord Robert Grosvenor, M.P.; Lord Berwick, Lord North, Lieut.-Colonel Goulburn, Lady Gilbert East, Hon. Mrs. Astley, L. C. Marjoribanks, Esq., M.P., &c. The show will be the largest ever attempted, consisting of 1100 pens of poultry, 400 pens of pigeons, pens, comprising some of the finest specimens of rare and beautiful birds. So extensive will be the show that the entire area usually appropriated to the Smithfield Cattle Show will be occupied by the specimens.

THE LEMAN ESTATE FUND.—The indictment against Williams and others, for a conspiracy to defraud, in connection with the Leman Estate Fund, in the Court of Chancery, has been removed by *certiorari* to the Court of Queen's Bench.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

Louis Napoleon and the Empress received, in their apartments, the felicitations and compliments of New-year's-day, from the Princes Jerome and Napoleon, and the other members of the Imperial family, as well as from the officers of the Emperor's household, and the Ministers, Marshals, and Admirals. Their Majesties afterwards proceeded to the Throne-room, where the diplomatic corps were presented by the Grand Master of the Ceremonies, and expressed their congratulations.

The rumour runs that M. Fould is retiring, in order to make way for a minister whose name should be taken as indicative of more warlike policy than he is inclined to countenance.

The Emperor of Russia is not without his partisans in France. He is represented by two Parisian journals, the *Débats* and *Assemblée Nationale*, both of which are under the inspiration of M. Guizot, M. Duchatel, and the other leaders of the old Conservative party. This party spares no means to frighten those who would oppose the Russian aggression. At one moment they endeavour to alarm France by hinting at the proverbial perfidy of England; at another they try to frighten the English, by declaring that Russia can at any time gain over France by giving her Belgium. There is no doubt that this party is not without a certain influence in the councils of Louis Napoleon. Even the ex-Ministers of Louis Philippe, who meet in council at the Princess Lieven's, have an indirect influence, which they do not hesitate to use in the interests of the Czar.

The Emperor of the French some time back gave directions to the Minister of War to prepare a report for him, giving an exact detail of the present situation of the French army, to be accompanied with a statement of the number of men that France could, if necessary, place without delay on a war footing. This paper, it is said, has been lately sent in, and the number of men which could be employed as just stated is set down in it at 1,250,000 men.

The *Corsaire* arrived on Monday night at Marseilles. She left Constantinople on the 25th ult., and no doubt must bring intelligence of importance, since Lord Stratford de Redcliffe thought fit to despatch her, for some reason, before the Porte made known its resolutions respecting the propositions of the ambassadors.

The *Sentinelle* of Toulon, of Dec. 30, says:—"It is reported that the *Caton* will leave to-morrow for the Levant, and that it will carry out the new instructions to our squadron and Ambassador.

The *Siècle* has published a telegraphic despatch, stating that Prussia and Austria have withdrawn from the Conference of Vienna, in consequence of the order for the fleets to enter the Black Sea. This statement requires confirmation.

At a dinner given last week, at Paris, by Prince Louis Napoleon to a party of friends, the host, in answer to some doubts expressed by one of his guests, declared that there was not the slightest doubt as to the gravity of the situation, and that within ten days news would be made public which would open the eyes of all.

According to the commercial reports, the state of trade in Paris and in the departments is as bad as might be expected in presence of a threatened war. Orders have been withdrawn and purchases suspended, especially for Russian articles. On the other hand, it is expected that the corn markets must soon turn, as it is now said that the whole amount of the harvest deficiency has been made good, or very nearly so, by importations from other countries.

The wound received by the Marquis de Turgot, in his duel with Mr. Soulé, the American Minister at Madrid, is now said to cause great anxiety to the friends of the Marquis. Serious symptoms have shown themselves in the leg, and threaten the knee joint, and a telegraphic message has been received at Paris, requesting the attendance of French surgeons.

TURKEY.

The following is an official report of the threatened insurrection of the Softies at Constantinople, on the 21st ult.:—

PERA, Dec. 22.—The General Assembly having authorised the Minister to negotiate, the students of the seminaries, excited by some Ulemas, met yesterday to petition against that resolution. Disturbances were at one moment feared, but the measures taken by the Cabinet assembled in the Palace prevented any disorder. Only three to four hundred students have been arrested. Every thing is tranquil. A proclamation just issued makes known the true object of the deliberation of the General Assembly, and announces that measures will be taken against the perturbators, if necessary.

The proclamation alluded to, as explaining the real object of the Grand Council in granting its authority to the Government to enter into negotiations for peace, is simply nothing more—particularly after the Protocol, the collective Note, and the conferences going on at the ambassadors—than the permission to send to the conference an Envoy, charged with explaining the last conditions on which the Sultan will

3000 mels loaded with ammunition, and that they were last seen passing Fahreez; that the Shah had sent an envoy to Dost Mahomed; and that the Russian army, having captured Ahmetzee, was marching on Herat. On the other hand, it is stated that Dost Mahomed, who is well known to be no friend to Russia, has sent two Ambassadors to the Shah of Persia, in the persons of Mirdat Khan and Cohendehil Khan, to declare that the 16,000 men, the Persian garrison at Herat, be withdrawn; that the Sheik Heidar, Governor of Herat, and son of the Persian Sirdar of Resehet, be dismissed, and the Government given back to Yesein, son of the late Viceroy of Herat, Yar Mahomed, who died ruling two years ago.

The Stockholm *Aftonbladet* announces, on authority, that the Secret Committee of the Swedish Diet has decided on strict neutrality in case of war. A treaty has been concluded with Denmark for a common course of operations by sea. It is difficult to say what this decision actually indicates; but there is too much reason to fear that Russia has more influence both at Copenhagen and Stockholm, than is good for Europe.

A letter from Athens (16th Dec.) states that Ismail Pacha has forbidden the entrance into Smyrna of the Athens *Siècle*, on account of its having published an article exciting the Greeks to revolt against the Sultan, and to co-operate in the destruction of the Ottoman Empire.

ITALY.

The Cabinets of the North are greatly alarmed about the anti-Russian feeling gradually displaying itself in the Austrian army. It is asserted that whole corps would go over to the enemy, if placed in the vicinity of an army opposed to Russian aggression. In the Roman States it is found necessary to concentrate the Austrian forces, and change some of the regiments. This is creating much fear at the Vatican, as the places thus abandoned must be occupied by French troops, which the Government of the Pope by no means desires, as the spread of Frenchmen over the Papal States is looked upon as an evil. From the frontiers of Piedmont to Sicily the police are hard at work daily imprisoning suspected persons. In Rome nearly a hundred have been shut up within the last three weeks; in Naples arrests are taking place daily in the army as well as amongst the townspeople. Travelling, for an Italian, is almost impossible in Southern Italy.

The somewhat novel ceremony of consecrating an English abbot was performed at Rome, on the 21st ult., by Cardinal Wiseman, at the church of St Gregory. Dr. Burder, the abbot elect, abandoned the Church of England about eight years ago, and entered the new Trappist monastery of St. Bernard, in Leicestershire, where he rendered himself so acceptable to his brethren, that at the end of three years they elected him their superior. The provincial-general of the order, however, would not ratify the election, on account of the short time the Doctor had served in the monkish ranks, and he was therefore obliged to content himself for four years more with the secondary dignity of Prior. On the day named, Cardinal Wiseman installed him in his full rank, and Dr. Burder, as Abbot of St. Bernard's, with shaven crown and Carmelite gown, paraded up and down the church between two Italian Bishops, all with their crosiers before them, whilst a full choir thundered out an impressive "Te Deum." Another English Trappist monk took part in the ceremony, acting as the Cardinal's deacon, his powerful frame and thoroughly Anglo Saxon features, in combination with the monkish garb, reminding English spectators irresistibly of the Friar Tuck class of anchorites who figure in our early ballads and traditions.

PIEDMONT.

In its sitting of the 28th ult., the Piedmontese Senate voted the answer to the speech from the Throne without a dissentient voice, and without a discussion. It is but an echo of the speech, interspersed with warm expressions of loyalty and confidence in the King's Government. The answer, unanimously voted by the Chamber of Deputies on the same day, is in a similar strain. The latter afterwards passed the bill for authorising the provisional execution of the budget of 1854, by a majority of 86 to 12.

UNITED STATES.

By the steamer *Niagara*, which left Boston on the 20th ult., and Halifax on the 23rd, we have intelligence from New York to the 22nd. The latest advices from Washington state that the Naval Committee of the Senate had reported favourably on the proposition for the immediate construction of six steam-frigates. An exciting debate on slavery had taken place in the House of Representatives. The subject was introduced by Gerrit Smith, the abolitionist representative for New York, while the House was considering a resolution voting a sword and thanks to Captain Ingraham, for his conduct at Smyrna in the Costa affair.

A complimentary dinner had been given at New York to John Mitchel, at which he spoke strongly against the American Secretary of State, for having warned all "seditious propagandists" that the Government will not protect them "if they engage in fraudulent machinations for disturbing the tranquility of other nations." The "Exile of Erin" thinks that such a warning shows the cloven hoof; that it indicates too much sympathy with those whom he styles the "accepted conspirators of Europe" than is befitting in an American Minister. The dinner party was a large one; but it appears to have been attended principally by Irish residents in New York.

The United States Government had despatched an officer to the Pacific to take measures to capture the Sonora invaders. The latest accounts from New Orleans deny positively that any Cuban expedition is fitting out.

There had been a dreadful riot among the workmen on the Illinois Central Railroad, near Lasalle. An altercation occurred about wages between a contractor named Story and a party of Irishmen, which was terminated by shooting one of the disaffected. Mr. Story was afterwards captured and brutally murdered, and his wife was fired at, but escaped. The foreman of the deceased has since shot nine of the labourers, and the sheriff has killed two more, and captured thirty. The ringleader of the rioters escaped.

The river steamer *Zachary Taylor* had exploded her boilers, by which three persons were killed and ten severely scalded. A still more fatal steamer explosion had occurred at Charlestown. The victims in this latter case amounted to thirteen.

From St. Domingo we learn that a difficulty had sprung up between that Government and France. The war steamer *Julia* had assumed a threatening attitude, and a demand had been made to Santa Anna to dismiss his Cabinet and appoint another more favourable to France. Great excitement, in consequence, prevailed in St. Domingo city.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

By the *Bosphorus*, which arrived at Plymouth, on Monday, we have news from the Cape to Nov. 21, at which time all was peaceable and progressive. The only thing of an adverse nature was a fatal disease among horned cattle, said to have been imported from Holland. In Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, Graham's Town, and several other places, a general spirit of co-operation in favour of universal education had manifested itself, and was expected to lead to a vast extension of the educational institutions of the colony. General Sir G. Cathcart continues to speak hopefully of the future state of the border. The new arrangements and general administration of affairs in Kaffirland seem to be peaceably sequescened in by the Kaffirs. Some uneasiness, however, is naturally felt by the colonists at the early withdrawal of the troops, after so fierce and protracted a struggle with a daring race like the Kaffirs. In the Orange River sovereignty, Sir G. Clerk proceeds steadily in maturing arrangements for the withdrawal of British authority from the north side of the river. Numerous petitions and remonstrances against this line of policy have been signed and forwarded to her Majesty. It is also proposed to despatch two delegates to England to represent the wishes and opinions of the inhabitants on this subject. A proclamation has been issued by the Governor, announcing that the lists of persons qualified to vote in the several electoral divisions being completed, it is fitting to proceed with the elections of the members of the Legislative Council. His Excellency therefore proceeds to appoint the several returning officers, and fix the polling places in the several divisions. The elections are to commence on the 9th January, and will have been completed throughout the colony on the 28th.

THE BERLIN CONSPIRACY.—Fresh arrests, effected at Berlin last week, have proved that the conspiracy of last March was more extensive than had been supposed. Sentence on the prisoners of that period is still deferred; one of them has been confined for nine months; another of them, Dr. Lindersdorff, is suffering under mental alienation.

PROGRESS OF THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH IN INDIA.—In the simultaneous arrival at Calcutta of Dr. O'Shaughnessy and Mr. R. M. Stephenson, we have a good augury for electric telegraphs and railways in India. Dr. O'Shaughnessy, who leaves Calcutta immediately for the north-west, will find the work far advanced already. Poles for the electric telegraph have sprung up as if by magic along the greater length of the Grand Trunk road, and we hear that very great progress has been made on the Bombay line, so that the end of the cold season will see at least two sides of Dr. O'Shaughnessy's great triangle very nearly completed.

THE DISASTER AT SINOPE.

We have engraved upon the next page, from accredited sources, the scene of the destruction of the Turkish squadron, under Admiral Osman Pacha, at Sinope, by a squadron of the Russian fleet, under Vice-Admiral Nachimoff, commanding the 5th naval division, on the 18 (30) November, 1853.

The moment depicted by the Artist is the commencement of the attack made by the Russians on the Turks. We have already fully detailed the disaster.

The following is a list of the Turkish squadron under Osman Pacha, in which, however, the number of guns differs from that in the Russian account:—

Names of Ships.	Guns.	Men.	Fate of Ships.
Nguamia (flag) ..	60	600	Fired by the enemy, blew up after action
Navik	62	600	Blew up half an hour after action began
Nessim	62	600	Burnt the next day by enemy
Kaid	60	600	Burnt the next day by enemy
Damiat (Egyptian)	54	500	Burnt, and blew up during action
Avimilah (flag) ..	36	400	Burnt the next day, after enemy trying to tow her out
Fazeh Hah	40	400	Burnt the next day by enemy
Fauz Murbout ..	26	440	Burnt the next day by enemy
Gul Sefit	24	200	Burnt, fouling the English brig Howard, and destroying her
Nedjez Jesan ..	24	200	On shore, riddled and dismasted
E Kegli	4	160	Burnt the next day by enemy
Laf	16	200	
Total	432	4440	

The opposing force of the Russians, under Admiral Nachimoff, consisted of three three-deckers, three two-deckers, two frigates, and four steamers

The English steamer *Retribution* and French *Mogador* brought down 219 wounded and about 400 men and officers who had escaped unhurt to the shore.

The Turks estimate their loss at 3000 killed.

We have been favoured with the annexed plan of the attack as given by the Russian authorities.

PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.

Tuesday being the day to which Parliament was prorogued on the 29th of November last, for the purpose of further proroguing it, the doors of the House of Lords were thrown open, and a great concourse of persons assembled to witness the ceremony, notwithstanding the severity of the weather.

The Lords Commissioners (the Lord Chancellor, Lord Granville, and the Duke of Argyll) attended at the unusual hour of one o'clock, instead of two or half-past two, which, for many years, has been the hour at which their Lordships were in the habit of assembling. On their Lordships taking their seats on the bench—placed, according to usual custom in front of the throne—and the throne having been uncovered,

The Lord Chancellor commanded the Yeoman Usher of the Black Rod to summon the attendance of the Commons to hear her Most Gracious Majesty's commission for the further prorogation of Parliament read.

Mr. Pulman accordingly proceeded to the House of Commons to summon the representatives of the people to the House of Lords, and in a few minutes returned, accompanied by Mr. Ley, one of the Clerks of Parliament, Capt Gossett, Assistant-Deputy Sergeant-at-Arms, and several officials connected with the Lower House.

Her Majesty's Commission was then read, commanding the Lords Commissioners to further prorogue Parliament until the 31st of January instant, then and there to meet for the despatch of business.

The Commissioners then rose and bowed to the Commons, who withdrew, and the Commissioners having bowed to each other, withdrew also.

The proceedings did not occupy more than a few minutes. The body of the house, with the exception of the front seats, was occupied by ladies anxious to witness the ceremony.

HONOUR TO THE FRENCH EMPRESS.—By a decree of the Prefet de la Seine, placarded in all directions, an inquiry is to be held at the second Mairie of Paris into the project of immediately dispossessing (at a compensation) the proprietors of some forty houses in the Rues St. Honore, Richelieu, du Rempart, and Jeannisen, for the purpose of forming a grand opening in front of the Theâtre Francaise, to be called "Place de l'Imperatrice Eugenie."

LONDON MECHANICS' INSTITUTION.—The thirtieth anniversary of this institution was celebrated with much spirit by a *soirée and conversazione*, at Southampton-buildings, Chancery-lane, on Wednesday evening. The friends and supporters of the society mustered in unusual numbers, and a short time after the opening of the doors the various classrooms of the institution were completely crowded with ladies and gentlemen, who amused themselves till the commencement of the concert by inspecting the different scientific or artistic works which were displayed round the rooms. The concert, which took place in the theatre of the Institution, was the principal feature of the evening. It was diversified by a selection of pieces, which were delivered with much spirit by the pupils of the elocution class. A ball in aid of the funds of the *conversazione* committee will be given at Willis's Rooms on Wednesday evening next.

A HARD CASE.—In consequence of the inclement state of the weather, and the high price of provisions, the London omnibus proprietors memorialised the Inland Revenue Commissioners for time to pay their mileage duties, and offered to prove to the Commissioners that the sums amounted to a tax of 18 per cent on the returns, when the railways only pay 5 per cent. The board, without giving time for inquiry, refused the application; though it is well known that similar applications for longer credit have been granted when the hop-growers have had a bad season. The result, it is said, will be a great sacrifice of property. The owners of omnibuses unanimously affirm that, had they to rely upon the returns of that trade as their sole means of livelihood, two-thirds of the London omnibuses would have been discontinued during the last four months, from having failed to pay their working expenses.

Temperance refreshment-rooms are being established at Wick, in connection with the "statute," or fairs; and the Duke of Sutherland has signified his readiness to contribute £100 towards the object.

THE TURKISH QUESTION.—At the meeting of the St. Pancras vestry, on Wednesday, a numerously-signed requisition was presented, calling upon the authorities to convene a public meeting "To take into consideration the present unsatisfactory conduct of her Majesty's Cabinet in reference to Turkish affairs, and to humbly pray her Majesty to take to her council such statesmen as will maintain the honour of England and the integrity of the Sultan's dominions against the atrocious aggression of the Autocrat of Russia." After some discussion, it was resolved that the use of the vestry hall be granted gratuitously.

GIURGEVO.

GIURGEVO is the principal port of Wallachia on the Danube, and the point of landing and embarkation for Bucharest. On the right bank of the river, about a mile higher up, is the Turkish fort of Rustchuk. Giurgevo has the remains of some old fortifications fronting the river, which were destroyed by the Russians in 1829: but otherwise the place appears to be undefended, and its aspect is very unpretending; being chiefly remarkable for the wide-spread mud banks on which it is imbedded. Between the Turkish and Wallachian shores stands the little island of Moksanu, which has been the scene of so much hard fighting in the course of the late military operations; and which, in spite of repeated attacks, is still in the hands of the Turkish forces. Lower down is a Cossack station. On the heights near Rustchuk is seen part of the Turkish camp. It was a few miles below Giurgevo that the Russian army crossed the Danube in 1829. The movement was silently effected at night, by means of pontoons, which were swung across by the force of the current; and, before the day had well dawned, the troops of the Czar were on their way into the interior of Bulgaria.

There is a considerable trade in corn and other agricultural produce carried on at Giurgevo; there is also a port between it and Rustchuk, and thence ever land to Constantinople. This is the route generally taken by the couriers of the foreign agents established at Bucharest.

A gentleman who has recently made a tour in the Danubian Princi-

PLAN OF THE DESTRUCTION OF THE TURKISH SQUADRON, AT SINOPE.

THE BATTLE OF SINOPE.

palities, gives some interesting particulars of what he observed on his journey from Giurgevo to Bucharest—a distance of about forty miles:—

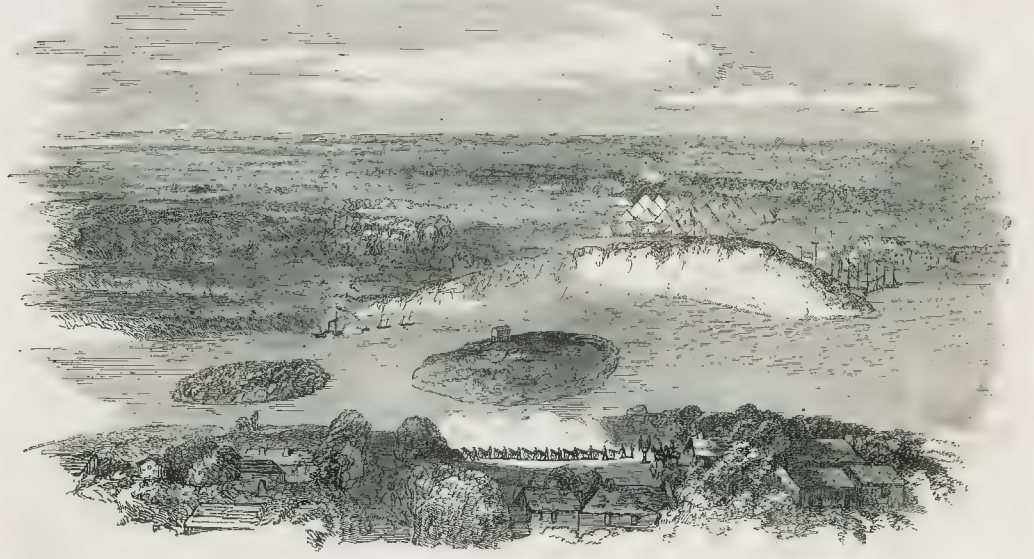
There were eight wild looking horses attached to the diligence driven by our postilion, who rode on the near wheeler. We went along at a very good pace, considering the nature of the ground. There are no roads, properly speaking, in Wallachia. There are merely broad tracks, covered with a deep lair of dark-coloured dust in the summer, and which, in rainy weather, or after a thaw, change into rivers of mud, through which the coach labours, sunk in slush to the axle-tree. When the road is too much cut up, a new track on either side of it is chosen, which is soon reduced to the same state. But in the winter, when the snow on the ground is frozen over, travelling is performed very rapidly in sledges. It was only four o'clock in the morning when we started, and at seven o'clock we reached the Khan, which is situated half-way between Giurgevo and Bucharest, and there we breakfasted.

There were about 800 Russians quartered in the neighbourhood of the Khan. They had that staid, soldierly look, which is the effect of severe discipline. This I observed to be the characteristic of nearly all the Russian soldiers that I have seen in the Principalities. The exceptions are the young recruits, who, of course are not yet properly formed. I have never observed any appearance of light-heartedness amongst the Russian soldiers, even when off duty. It is true that at times, in marching, whole battalions sing in chorus, either the National Anthem, which is a fine, solemn air, or some wild melody, generally of a warlike character, interspersed with sharp cries and an occasional shrill whistle. The latter songs are particularly animated and spirit-stirring; and the quick rattle of the drum, which is the sole instrumental accompaniment, increases their exciting character. To the listener there is something sublime in thus hearing thousands of manly voices blended together in chorus, uttering sentiments of devotion to God and the Emperor, or of fierce defiance to the enemies of the Czar. But even in these exhibitions the sternness of military rule is seen. Upon the faces of the men thus engaged no trace of emotion is visible; their tread is measured; their forms are erect; they are obeying a command, and not an impulse. The emotions of the heart seem to have been drilled into order, and expressions of love or anger, devotion or revenge, are only awakened by the voice of their commander.

The country in this part is remarkably rich and beautiful. It had rained for a couple of hours during the night, and everything looked fresh and sparkling in the morning light. The habitations of the small farmers and peasants in Wallachia bear a near resemblance to those belonging to the same class in Ireland. The cabins of the labourers are built of mud, or half-dried bricks, and covered with thatch; whilst the house of the small farmer is in the same style, but upon a larger scale. There is very generally some attempt at ornament about these dwellings. They are all nicely whitewashed, and there is often some vine or creeping plant trained round the door or window. The spot, too, where a village stands is almost always sheltered by trees, and where there is not a running stream, there are generally five or six wells, from which the water is drawn by a sort of wooden crane. To the end of the transverse pole the bucket is attached by a rope, whilst at the opposite end is fastened a heavy stone. With a lever thus constructed, the water is raised from the deepest wells with very little effort. Taken altogether, the villages have an air of picturesqueness, and almost of comfort.

As we proceeded along the road to Bucharest we saw small parties of Russian soldiers encamped on either side of the way; and in one place we passed a battery of heavy guns, drawn up in line, and pointed menacingly down the road towards Giurgevo. At about six miles from Bucharest we saw a large encampment upon our right; and at every few minutes we met a mounted Cossack, hurrying along as if he were the bearer of despatches. The lance which the Cossack carries is not longer than the English one, and has no flag; besides this, his other weapons are a heavy carabine slung at his back, a pistol stuck in his belt, and a long sword. His uniform is a blue frock-coat, buttoned up to the throat, and wide trousers of the same colour. He wears a high, conical-shaped shako, of black oilskin, without a peak, which is kept on his head by a strap fastened under his chin. The Cossack's horse is generally a wiry animal, of about 14½ hands high. His bridle is a plain snaffle, without side-bars; and his saddle is of a very rude construction. When the Cossack trots or gallops he leans forward in his saddle, with the upper part of his body quite straight—an attitude, one would suppose, the least suited for comfort, but he nevertheless sits his horse with extraordinary closeness.

It was about two o'clock in the afternoon when we came in sight of Bucharest, which, seen at a little distance appears a very handsome city.



GIURGEVO.

SECTIONAL VIEW OF THE INTERIOR OF A GREEK TOMB, AT CANOSA.

CARVED IVORY ORNAMENT OF THE BRONZE BED FOUND AT CANOSA.

INTERESTING DISCOVERY OF GREEK TOMBS AT CANOSA.

(From a Correspondent at Naples.)

THE year 1853 will be remembered as a remarkable one in the annals of archæological history, for having been singularly productive. Whilst the Cumæan excavations are daily increasing in interest, M. Bonucci, director of Herculaneum, invites attention to the Necropolis of Canusium, a City of the Dead,* erected during the best period of Greek art, and containing an amount of antiquarian treasure far surpassing anything yet discovered in the Magna Græcia. In 1847 M. Bonucci first visited Canosa by order of the Government; but, owing to political events, no official report of his labours was made at the time; and it is only within the last few weeks that he has presented his drawings, with observations thereon, and received orders to continue the excavations. To the portfolio of this gentleman I am indebted for the accompanying drawings, which show the complete furniture of one of the most important Greek Tombs yet discovered.

The shores of the Italian peninsula have ever attracted the peoples of all nations, from the Pelasgians to the Normans. The country, therefore, is crowded with monuments of every age—

> The intelligible forms of ancient faith,
> The fair humanities of old religion.

The resting-places of the dead, ever more or less respected, afford the largest amount of antiquarian treasure, and assist us in forming an idea of the manners, customs, and art of a people to whose inspirations we still turn for instruction. Canusium was in its glory about 400 years before Christ, a period remarkable in Greek history for its arts-excellence; and the objects found in the funeral mansions of this city fully bear out the fame of their age.

I have before me a ground-plan of the large tomb at Canosa. You enter a vestibule, which opens into nine surrounding apartments, intended to receive the members of a Royal family. The building is of tufa rock, and the chambers are all painted with red, black, and yellow fresco decorations of a panel character, simple, and subservient to architectural demands. In each of these chambers were found vases, glass vessels, carved ivory, terra cottas, &c.; and in one (the subject of illustration) the complete furniture of a Greek tomb. Before, however, proceeding to describe this chamber, it is necessary to observe that the building has evidently been entered by the Romans, and one chamber even used by a Roman lady; for we find written on the wall—MEDELLA. DASM. F. SUA. AN. D. III. KAL. JAN. . . C. PISONE. M. AOILIO. . . cos. The Romans entered the building by subterranean passages, and then broke into one room from the other; which accounts for some of the chambers containing so few objects, and showing evident signs of a rude intrusion. The exterior of this tomb is not yet excavated.

I must now explain the interior subject of illustration. All the objects were found just as they are placed, excepting the lamp, which had fallen.

*For an account of the ancient Canusium, see Antonini's "La Lucania," and Mastriani's "Dizionario Storico-Geografico."

INTERIOR OF A TOMB DISCOVERED AT CANOSA.

TERRA-COTTA VASE, FROM THE TOMBS OF CANOSA.

The body on the bed M. Benucci has thought proper to restore, together with the cushions, as the remains of drapery and some fragments of gold ornaments afforded material for so doing. The side walls of the chamber are illuminated with painted paneling, in red, black, and yellow, intersected by Ionic columns. The end wall is decorated with floral offerings, designed on a yellow ground. The roof is painted to represent beams. On the floor were found fragments of fine gold thread, probably from the robe of the Royal body which reposed in so much state magnificence. In the centre of the chamber is seen a *lectisternium* of bronze, with ivory decorations. At the four corners of the bed were represented the seasons, or hours, exquisitely carved in ivory. (See Drawing of one with the reverse; a curious conceit; which will be easily understood by the

antiquary.) On the right is an important painted vase, elegant in form, but not enriched with figures. At the foot of the head are two terra-cotta objects, remarkably interesting. They are only found at Canosa. I send you a drawing of one still more important, but not from this tomb, as an illustration of their beautiful contents and forms.* In the foreground is a cornucopia, and an elegant bronze cup. Near is a dwarf bronze table, on which was found a glass dish of wonderful workmanship, being a mosaic of colored glass and pieces of gold. Here, also, were some small cups, and scattered about were discovered fruits and flowers of painted terra cotta. Some of the objects here named are in the Royal Museum of Naples, but many of the treasures found at Canosa have been bought by private individuals, whilst others are hid away, the Government at the time of their discovery having almost neglected owning, as I said before, to political events) the most important monument of Greek art yet known. Such, however, I am assured, will not take place in future, and the authorities are now employed in hunting out the lost and hidden treasures of this tomb.

The lower Illustration represents the façade of one of the Canosa tombs, not yet opened. They are built, and in some measure cut out, of the tufa or sand-stone which surrounds them. Such material being faced with a stucco, which was painted, as was the buildings of Pompeii. But here we have colour used to magnify and contrast the parts of a building, and not simply to decorate.

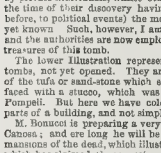
M. Bonucci is preparing a very elaborate report of the Necropolis of Canosa; and ere long he will be again employed in uncovering those mansions of the dead, which illustrate the civilisation and art of a period which has claimed the respect and excited admiration in every succeeding age.

* M. Bonucci believes they are portraits, and the small heads and figures ning therefrom are, in the first instance, the children; and, secondly, th cent, which are to accompany the soul to the Happy Islands. These terra cottas are peculiar to Canosa, and present an endless variety of concepts.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

SIR THOMAS THEOPHILUS METCALFE, BART.

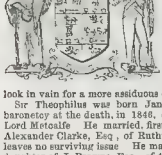
INFORMATION has been received from India of the decease of another distinguished Civil Servant, Sir Thomas Theophilus Metcalfe, Bart. For more than forty years he had served in India, and never once during the long interval from his first arrival had revisited England. Nearly the whole of this period was spent at Delhi; there he passed through the successive grades of his profession, and there he died, Agent to the Governor General and Commissioner of the District. The natives of all ranks deeply deplore his loss, and the Government will look in vain for a more assiduous or conscientious officer.



Sir Theophilus was born January 2, 1795, and succeeded to the baronetcy at the death, in 1846, of his distinguished brother, the late Lord Metcalfe. He married first, in 1818, Grace, eldest daughter of Alexander Clarke, Esq., of Ruthven; but by her (who died in 1824) leaves no surviving issue. He married, secondly, Felicité Anne, eldest daughter of J. Browne, Esq., of the Bengal Medical Board; and by her (who died in September, 1842) had four daughters and two sons—the elder of whom, Sir Theophilus John Metcalfe, Bart., born November 28, 1828, is now 5th Baronet. The title was first conferred, in 1802, on Sir Thomas Metcalfe, the deceased's father, who served in a military capacity in the East Indies, and became a director of the East India Company.

SIR RICHARD JENKINS, G.C.B., D.C.L., F.R.A.S.

THE death of this gentleman occurred on the 30th ult., at Blackheath-park, in the sixty-ninth year of his age.



Sir Richard, for many years in the civil service of the East India Company, was elected a Director in 1832, and filled the office of Chairman in 1839. The insignia of a Knight Grand Cross of the Bath were conferred on him in 1838, in requital of diplomatic services in India, especially during the Mahratta war. He sat in Parliament for Shrewsbury for 1830 to 1841.

Sir Richard was the eldest son of the late Richard Jenkins, Esq., of Bicton, county Salop, by Harriet-Constantia, his wife, daughter of George Ravenscroft, Esq., of Wrexham. He married, March, 1824, Elizabeth-Helen, daughter of Hugh Spottiswoode, Esq., F.L.C.C.S., and had several children.

SIR WILLIAM LOWTHROP, OF ALGA HOUSE, SCARBOROUGH.

SIR WILLIAM died at Nice on the 19th ult. He was born in 1794, the second son of the late James Lowthrop, Esq., of Welton Hall, East Riding of Yorkshire. He married, in 1818, the fourth daughter of the late Thomas Riddell, Esq., of Kingston-upon-Hull. Of that borough he was an active magistrate, and served as Mayor in 1840, when he received the honour of knighthood.

WILLS.—The Will of the Right Hon. Mary, Dowager Baroness Arundell, has just been proved, bequeathing to her son, the Hon. Henry Arundell, a pecuniary legacy, and the residue to her son, the Hon. Robert Arthur Arundell, appointing him sole executor, having settled £8000 on her daughter, the Hon. Mary Neave, at her marriage; and has directed all rate, taxes, and portraits, to be held and descend as heir-looms in the family to whom they are respectively bequeathed.—The Will of Sir George Ralph Fetherston, Bart., was first proved in Ireland, and now in London. He has devised his reversionary interest to estates in Brenagh, Lisdimagh, and Cooleaw, in the county Longford, to his brother Thomas, subject to annuities of £200 by him bequeathed; and has devised his fee simple estate in the county to his widow, Lady Frances Elizabeth, and, at her decease, to his great-nephew, George Fetherston. There are also a few other annuities; but the residue is left to Lady Fetherston, who is also sole executrix, and has administered to the will in both courts.

ISLINGTON EXTRAMURAL CEMETERY.—The poll demanded on Thursday week, and adjourned for adoption or non-adoption of the report of the directors, was taken on the purchase from St. Pancras of [illegible] and near Copenhagen-fields, including a [illegible] of the New River Company, for the sum of £21,000. The meeting was opened at 10 o'clock, and continued open until Tuesday evening, when it was finally closed. The adoption of the report of the Parliamentary Committee, sanctioning the purchase, was carried by a majority of 607.

NATIONAL FREEHOLD LAND SOCIETY.—The fourth annual report of this society has just been issued, from which it appears that the receipts during the year were £91,197 per cent. on shares, £1223 2s. 2d. from forfeited shares, and £1,260 from entrance fees; the total receipts for the previous three years were £1,260 for the members during the same period was 165 per cent. more than in the year [illegible], and exceed by £1,000 the amount of all that had been previously sold from the formation of the society. The shares issued in the 17 months ending October 31, 1853, were 5,154, in the year ending October 31, 1852, 2,201, and in the year ending October 31, 1853, they were 10,742. The sums received in the same four periods of time amount in the following order to £91,197, £39,667, £21,257, £260,157, £192,071, and £295,154. The society has issued in all 41 classes, and received 40,630 of its 103,630 sold at par, in one to [illegible] the balance available for the purpose of [illegible] is sufficient to [illegible] more than sufficient to pay the usual rate of profit; and, [illegible], for the past year a dividend of £5 8s. 6d. per cent per annum has been carried to the account of all uncompleted shares not advanced. The balance of profit real and from estates, and which forms the guarantee fund, now amounts to £14,443.

THE FISH MARKET.—In consequence of the intense frost which has now prevailed for several days, the fish-market at Billingsgate has been supplied in a very limited manner. On Tuesday almost all the fish which arrived in the market was by rail, and that supply was limited in the extreme, and the prices were exorbitant—cod-fish being charged from 15s. to 25s. The only fish-vessel which took a berth at the market-pier on Tuesday was an oyster-vessel, all the other vessels, including the Dutch eel-boats, being obliged to keep in the Pool, and most of them compelled to dry and cook their fish, in order to make it saleable, for, by keeping it, the fish would become worthless. The regular fish-dealers, as well as the itinerant ones, were, in consequence, much disappointed.

LITERARY MISCELLANIES.—No. IX.

THE NEW YEAR'S DAY OF THE MODERNS; OR, AN OUTRAGE AGAINST THE SUN.

By M. MERY.

THE sun is always right—"Solem quis dicere falsum," says Virgil; and the children of the Nile, after four thousand years of sustained hostilities against "L'astre eclatant de l'univers," have ended by acknowledging their secular errors, and—under the protection of the Viceroy and English capitalists—by reconstructing Heliopolis, the City of the Sun. We, also, without becoming Persians or Incas, ought to open the year with a hymn of thanks to the sun, the brilliant destroyer of winter. Strange to say, in those very countries where the sun, by excessive heat, bred mortal plagues and fevers of all colours, he was gratefully worshipped, and the year was commenced with a splendid fête in his celebration, of which it is dazzling to read the official programme.

Les verrons nous encore à des tems révolus
Ces tableaux des Incas que notre enfance a lus
Aspect miraculeux! quand la lumière éclose
Argentait les vallons où coule le Potose,
Sous les palmiers sacrés tout un peuple béant,
Attendait à genoux le céleste Géant
Qui, prêt de s'élancer dans les brulantes zônes
Brisait ses lames d'or dans l'eau des Amazônes!

Those happy Incas, they had a warm New-year's-day! They were wise, like the Egyptians, and began the year under the auspices of Janus—the King who created the month of January, and invented doors and locks. And thus proprietors, capitalists, bankers, Publicans, Scribes, and Pharisees—and, in fact, all law-makers—have maintained Janus in his ancient prerogatives, and given him the preference over all the saints of the Calendar. Be a saint who will, after that—to be elbowed out of his place by a sort of Pagan King of Yvetot! How encouraging, to be sure!

The fête of the King was the opening of the year: friends felicitated, embraced, and gave presents and *étrennes*; and, out of respect for this royal inventor of doors and locks, rich legislators have founded a custom which forces all the people of France to descend into the streets on this day, to present to each other their cheeks and their bonbons. The stupidity of the originators of custom, and the "rage" of their imitators, have never shone with more éclat. Not that we would reproach them for the bonbons they have caused to be given, and the cheeks they have caused to be moistened, on New-year's-day. Heaven forbid such a calumny! But we consider them to be eternally responsible for the colds, the pleurisies, the bent backs, the colics, the deaths, and all the tortures of this frightful day—day chosen in the dead of winter, in order not to displease Janus.

But this good King was not short-sighted, like Pharamond or Peter the Great. Janus reigned in Latium, where the 1st of January was a 1st of May, people could very well descend into the streets of Janopolis on that day, and moisten each other's cheeks with their sugary lips. The National Guard of the land of Saturn had no fear of being struck with cold or rheumatism for having done homage to King Janus on New-year's-day. Our silly founders of custom, our ignorant imitators of the antique, have made no allowances for differences of latitude and longitude. They compel us to celebrate upon the snow what the ancients celebrated beneath the sun, and that, too, in direct opposition to all the laws of common astronomy. What sort of year is it that opens on the 1st of January? One might be entirely ignorant of the very existence of the sun, and yet form a calendar not a whit more absurd. The year begins with the spring at the equinox of Mars; the year begins with the return of verdure and of the sun, when the earth decks herself with all her graces, embalms herself with perfumes and adorns herself with smiles. It is then that we ought to exchange New-year felicitations, and make vows for the future, when nature herself displays the green colours of Hope, and sets us the example.

Ah! it is custom! Who shall gainsay what custom decrees? Attempt to dethrone routine in France, with the best of reasons, and you shall fail. Routine lodges at the Hospital of Incurables, where she finds neither death nor cure. Silence to the paradox!

How Janus would laugh with his double face, if he witnessed the celebration of our first of January! The people of the south can form no idea of it. Paris is a lake of black mud, with numberless carriages floating about in it. Five hundred thousand sons or nephews grope amidst this Cocytus, on their way to embrace their fathers or uncles. An army of officers of the National Guard rolls like a wave in the eternal Rue St. Honoré—a wave of white epaulettes and blue faces! The slates of the roofs distil melted snow upon all these worshippers of Janus, and a million feet mingle it with the mud of the streets. The supply of all sorts of carriages is deficient; foot-passengers may be seen at every corner stretching out their arms to fugitive coachmen, like the shadows of Styx hailing a fleet of Charons. What idea would resuscitated Janus form of our civilisation?

We may even go further; we may even regard the institution of our New-year's-day as a revolt of the Christian Calendar against the sacred Scripture. The Bible is remarkably clear on this point, but the song has been sung to deaf people. What says the text. "In that time, God said to Moses and to Aaron in the land of Egypt: let this month be the first of your months and the first of the months of your year. Let the fourteenth of this month be your Passover, that is to say the 'passage' of the Lord."

The command is as clear as a ray of the sun of Heliopolis or the borealis of Thabor; and the makers of the Christian Calendar have no excuse; their date of inauguration is a sacrilege in figures. We begin our year by testifying our disdain or our forgetfulness of the word of God. After absurdity comes impiety. Let us no longer be astonished that we have so many years of storm and bloodshed, when we begin them all in denying the Bible and insulting the sun—the two eternal stars—the sacred lights of our eyes and of our hearts. And see to what extremities a bad example leads. The Israelites—that great and noble people—the chosen of the Lord—the Israelites, who received the law at Sinai, who were visited by the angels of heaven under the palm-trees of their tents in the desert, and were, in the earliest times, in direct communication with God—the Israelites, too, have forgotten what God said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt. They celebrate their New-year's-day on the equinox of September. For a Hygiene fête, this month is no doubt preferable to the month of January; and they have, in this particular, an advantage over us; but the disdain and the forgetfulness of precepts are the same with Jews as with Christians. See, too to what errors blindness leads us when we once depart from the sacred word! The makers of our absurd calendar were forced, on account of its disorderly nomenclature, to designate the last month of the year as if it were the tenth: December! Thus the number twelve is called ten. Two and two make five, according to the mathematics of the Calendar. Who can wonder, then, at the confusion of the affairs of this world?—that the Emperor of Russia has recommenced the part of Theodoric in 1853, amidst the full splendour of civilisation? We have it from the highest authority that, when the Lord knocks down the edifice, those that reconstruct it labour in vain.

However, be it well or ill begun, another year is behind us, and upon all our *cartes de visite* we might inscribe the following philosophical stanza, and sign it with the signature of "Eternity"—

Encore un an qui s'envole
Vers le gouffre du trepas,
Un an que le tems nous vole
Et qu'il ne nous rendra pas!

FINE ARTS.

THE DEPARTMENT OF PRACTICAL ART.

An Exhibition of the Works of the Schools of Design, in connection with the new Department of Practical Art, has been within the last few days opened to public inspection at Gore House. The display is confined, however, to the performances of the London and various provincial schools (thirty-five in number), in the department of drawing and water-colour painting; the examples in the more important branches of modeling and applied design, being reserved for an Exhibition to be held later in the season. The exhibits, nevertheless, present many points worthy the consideration of those who take interest in the progress of the arts. Consisting chiefly of studies in perspective, and in wall decoration and flower painting, and a goodly array of ordinary school copies of ordinary school examples (the Laocoon, the Discobolus, &c.) they indicate that the heads of the Department perceive the necessity of directing a great part of their attention, at the outset of their labours, to instruction in the purely elementary parts of their subject—in writing, as it were, before even entering upon grammar. A circular, recently addressed by the Secretary of the Department to the masters of the schools in connection with it, on the importance of instruction in drawing, as a necessary branch of education, instead of as an accomplishment and as to the best means of affording such instruction, confirms and gives importance to this view of the question. With respect to the productions themselves—doubtless, picked specimens of the scholars of the various schools throughout the country—we must confess that they do not rise above the average efforts of boarding-school tyros; whilst many of them are so crude as to afford little hope of considerable amendment, more particularly in the case of pupils somewhat advanced in years—that is to say, verging upon thirty—whom it would be but just and charitable in the master to warn of the futility of their attempts in a newly-adopted field. Another point upon which we entertain something stronger than a doubt, is as to the expediency of awarding medals at all in this stage of art-progress. The selection of prize subjects from amongst a mass of pretty even mediocrity, must always be a difficult and thankless task; and, in the present instance, appears to have been done capriciously. We could point out many of these copy-sheets to which medals have been awarded, which, in our humble opinion, cannot so good as very many other the same originals, which have not been similarly rewarded, nor even "highly commended;" or even two notably of the Discobolus, which are completely out of drawing. Indeed, we are not quite sure but that the unhappy efforts consigned to a side-room, as "not eligible for competition for medals," might have competed very successfully with the rest, if their cases were thrown open to general suffrage. We may add that it would give additional interest to the examination of Exhibitions of this kind, if the heads of the Department were to issue a report upon the specimens collected in it, accompanied by a catalogue; or, at least a reference to the principal subjects.

We make no apology for these remarks, as all that concerns the management of this new and experimental "Department" becomes daily of increasing importance; more particularly since the Treasury minutes issued in April last, by which it seems probable that it is to be extended in its sphere of operation, by including within its province the so-called "kindred and analogous institutions" of the Government School of Music and Science, the Museum of Practical Geology, the Geological Survey, the Museum of Irish Industry, and the Royal Dublin Society—the official denomination being again to be changed to "The Board of Trade Department of Science and Art." In this great country, if we are to have a department of this kind, it should be comprehensive in it scope, and efficient and authoritative in action, to the fullest extent possible in such matters.

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY.

The Annual Exhibition of this Society was opened on Tuesday evening, at the Suffolk-street Gallery, by a soirée, which was numerously attended by the admirers of the interesting art to the promotion of which it is devoted. The walls were hung with numerous specimens of most successful achievement in every class of subject—portrait, landscape, architectural, and *genre*. In the portrait class, we particularly remarked some admirable miniatures, daguerreotyped by Beard, and finished afterwards by artists in oil and water-colours—a manifest and important improvement upon the mere sun process; giving character and feeling where artistic taste could alone supply it, and softening asperities which the accidents of nature can never be entirely free from.

Her Majesty and Prince Albert honoured the exhibition with a private visit in the morning. The latter, and suite, consisting of Lady Jocelyn, Colonel Bouverie, and Lieutenant-Colonel F. Seymour, were received by Professor Wheatstone, Mr. Robert Hunt, and other members of the Council of the Society, who conducted them through the rooms. Her Majesty appeared to take a deep interest in the superb specimens of the several classes of the photographic art which the collection contains, and remained in the Gallery upwards of an hour.

We take this opportunity of correcting a verbal error into which we fell last week when noticing a similar exhibition in New Bond-street. That exhibition is of the Photographic Institution, not Society, as we described it.

CONSCIENCE MONEY.

—The following is the account of the advertised amount, during each month of the last year, of the sums received by the Chancellor of the Exchequer from anonymous correspondents, with unpaid taxes:—January, £1223 2s. 2d.; February, £115; March, £60; April, £69 17s. 9d.; May, £2313 9s. 8d.; June, £1661 18s. 8d.; July, £164 16s.; August, £65 13s. 6d.; September, £15; October, £58 10s. 10d.; November, £60; December, £220 11s. 6d. Total £4758 14s. 6d.

ANOTHER MEGATHERIUM.—A discovery of great interest to the science of paleontology has lately been made at the gates of Constantina (Algeria), while making a cutting for the improvement of the approaches to that city, where a great part of the skeleton of some gigantic animal was found. The thigh and leg bones, the vertebræ, the ribs, the upper part of the head, and several teeth, were in a very good state of preservation. The head is not less than 25 centimetres from the neck to the nape, and 48 across the bone of the forehead. The front part of the upper jaw has long teeth, and also tusks, similar to a wild boar. The legs of the animal are about the size of those of a horse; from the bend of the ribs, it is supposed that its size must have been about four times that of an ordinary ox. Its head is somewhat similar to that of the hippopotamus, and its mouth must have been of enormous power. No name can be assigned to this animal; but it is considered probable that it may belong to the numerous family of antediluvian pachydermes. (the ground wherein it was found is composed of a red sandstone of tertiary formation. It is expected that the Government will order some further excavations to be made on the same spot, which may lead to other discoveries interesting to science.

IMPROVEMENTS IN BROMPTON.—A number of improvements are about to be made in Brompton and its neighbourhood. The Royal Commissioners promise several new and extensive public roads. Mr. Purday, superintendent of a great part of Bromptonpark, has also given notice to make a new road from the end of the square into the road leading to Prince's-gate, Knightsbridge, and so on to the Kensington-road. A great improvement has been made at the end of Brompton crescent, next to Fulham-road, by the removal of the iron bars which stood there.

THE IRVINGITE CHURCH IN GORDON-SQUARE.—The followers of the late Rev. Edward Irving, who lately assembled at Newman-street, having adjourned to the magnificent Gothic church erected for them in Gordon-square, that building was solemnly opened on Sunday morning at ten o'clock. At that hour precisely, "the Angel," as he is termed, entered, magnificently attired in purple robes, and took his seat in a chair of authority. Then followed the "Prophets," wearing blue stoles, typical of the skies, whence they draw their inspiration. After these came "Evangelists," clothed in red, denoting the blood which flowed at Calvary; and, last of all, followed pastors, elders, and other officers. A Liturgy was used very similar to that of the Church of England, from which there appears to be very little doctrinal deviation. A sermon was preached by one of the elders, who inculcated various moral duties. The "Gloria in Excelsis," composed by Miss Mills, was given with great power on a very splendid organ, which has been erected on each side of the centre aisle; and in the "Te Deum," Master Wild (son of Mr. Wild, the engraver), executed various portions of it with wonderful precision. Amongst the office bearers of the church in London may be mentioned Admiral Gambier; Mr. H Drummond, M.P.; the Hon. Henry Parnell; Mr. J. F. Knight, R.A. Mr. Cooke, the barrister; Major Macdonald, &c.; while Lady Dawson Lady Bateman, Lady Anderson, and other ladies of rank and fortune, are amongst its members. Those who join this church offer a tenth of their annual income towards its support and extension, and this promise, it is believed, is, year after year, rigidly and faithfully kept.

POSTAL COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE ORKNEY ISLANDS.—Mr. James Wilson, M.P., Secretary to the Treasury, in reply to a memorial from Newcastle upon this subject, states that their Lordships are prepared to make an experiment for two years of a steam postal communication from Scrabster-pier to Stromness; the service to be daily during the six months of summer, and every other day during the six months of winter, Sundays excepted; and to be commenced on the 1st of April next.

THE attraction of the Dublin Winter Garden (late the Exhibition building) continues as great as ever: on Tuesday last the numbers that entered were 2000 in excess of those present at the opening.

THE SNOW STORM.—THE WEATHER.

The specimen we have already had of 1854 shows that it is destined to be a remarkable year, so far as regards the weather. Towards the close of last week the signs of an early and severe winter had begun to manifest themselves in a very unequivocal manner, but it was not till Monday that it assumed its most rigorous form. On Saturday night a great quantity of snow fell, which had the effect of rendering the streets exceedingly slippery, and thereby causing a number of accidents. Its effect on the ice in Regent's-park, Hyde-park, Kensington-gardens, and St. James's-park, was to make it as smooth as any skater could desire, as was evident by the crowds who were practising on the Serpentine and every other available spot. Throughout the greater part of Sunday, the Parks were crowded with well-dressed visitors, especially on the north bank of the river Serpentine, and along most of the drives and promenades in Hyde-park and Kensington-gardens.

The coldest night experienced in this country for many years was on Monday. Such was its severity, that two constables attached to the metropolitan police force were found frozen to death on Tuesday morning in the neighbourhood of Hounslow. The thermometer fell to 12°, being 14° lower than on Thursday night, when the mercury indicated 16° Fahrenheit. On Tuesday morning the glass was quite as low as on the preceding night; but during the middle of the day, the influence of the sun was high as 30°; and in the evening, at five o'clock, it stood at 31°, but shortly after that hour it again fell to 29°. The barometer at the same time stood at 29·18°. The wind blew tremendously in the early part of the day from the east to north-east; but between seven and eight o'clock in the evening it veered towards the south-west, from which it was inferred that a thaw was about to take place; but, instead of that, we were visited on the night of the severest snow-storm which has been witnessed in London for the last quarter of a century. Such was its force by half-past ten o'clock that the Strand and other principal thoroughfares were almost impassable. Many of the omnibuses ceased running before their usual hour, and even those which did persist crawled along at a very slow pace.

The snow continued to fall during the greater part of the night, and on Wednesday morning it was from nine to twelve inches in depth, even in places where no drifting had taken place. In exposed situations, the wreaths of snow were from three to four feet in depth. Throughout the whole day the streets had a most singular appearance. In the morning, especially, London seemed almost like a deserted city. Along the Strand and Fleet-street very few vehicles were to be seen, and those which did make their appearance passed along silently, the snow being so deep as to drown the customary rattle of the wheels. Very few of the omnibuses risked the journey in the early part of the day; indeed, the long distance ones did not attempt to run at all, with the exception of those to Richmond, which, by means of three horses to each, managed to get along at a reasonable pace. Some of the Paddington ones, with due regard to the frightful ascent of Holborn-hill, ran with four horses; and a few started on that route with one of the foremost. Single-horse cabs were unable to pass through, many of the streets, and, therefore, some of the enterprising Jehus harnessed an additional animal in front, and drove fashion. As might naturally be expected under these circumstances, an ad ition to the ordinary fares was out of the question. The long stage omnibuses, instead of 6d., charged 1s. and 1s. 6d., and the hopping omnibuses along Holborn and Oxford-street raised their fares to 6d. Cabs were difficult to procure at any price, the ranks being almost entirely deserted, "Cosby" arguing, and in this instance with justice, that "once upon the rank he would be nailed for the s pence, which wouldn't pay each weather' Those vehicles, therefore, which were out, were generally hired direct from the yards, or picked up while loitering about so as to make their own terms with the hirer. The railway stations were as deserted as the street stands, and passengers arriving from the country were frequently compelled to leave their luggage at the stations, and proceed on foot to their various destinations, in some instances as much as 5s was given for cabs for a distance barely exceeding a mile.

Throughout the whole of Wednesday the narrow streets in the city, where so much carriage is usually employed, were rendered utterly impassable for almost any vehicle, there being so little room for the mass of snow shovelled on the pavements. Even along the Strand and Fleet-street the thoroughfares the heaps of snow at each side of the street rendered driving very hazardous in the evening. In Lombard-street, a number of men were employed in carrying off the snow in carts. In Regent's-park, the skaters were not numerous, a few very zealous members of the Skaters' Club, having had the snow cleared away, made an attempt, but their performances were not such as to excite admiration.

As evening drew on the omnibuses gradually decreased in number, until at nine o'clock they had entirely ceased running, and the streets relapsed into a state of silence, alike unwonted and monotonous at such an hour, the silence being the more marked from the fact that the heavy waggons employed in the heavy goods traffic of the railways were for the most part absent, those only being required where six horses to do work for which three or four would have been sufficient under ordinary circumstances, and for one or two waggons which ascended Holborn-hill eight horses were found to be necessary.

The various theatres and other places of amusement suffered to a great extent on Wednesday night on account of the weather. Most of the houses presented little more than empty buildings. The Wednesday Evening Concert at Exeter-hall was entirely discontinued in the early evening, it being found impracticable for the carriages conveying the company to approach the building.

The most serious injury which the public are likely to suffer from a continuance of such inclement weather would arise from the dearth of coals. The coal trade on the river below London-bridge is now such that the colliers at the Pool cannot discharge their cargoes, the barges being in in almost every instance frozen in, or so jammed up as to render it impossible to carry on the ordinary operations. The directors of several of the leading coal companies met on Wednesday for the purpose of determining what was best to be done under the circumstances. No decision was arrived at; and the only hope was that the severity of the weather might moderate. Many of the small coal dealers in the poor neighbourhoods at once took advantage of the state of the weather, and put an extra 2d., and in some places 3d., per cwt. upon the price of coals, which must have been severely felt by their poor customers. The Rev. W. M'Call, Incumbent of St. Mary, St. George's-in-the-East, while calling attention to the state of the poor generally—in his own parish there are 2000 persons in a state of the deepest distress—says that coals are selling at 34s. 6d. per cwt., or 55s. per ton.

On nearly all the principal railways, the excessive depth of snow which drifted into the cuttings during the storm caused a serious interruption to the traffic. The London and South-Western railway was almost the only line on which the trains arrived on Wednesday any way near their time; and, even on it, the mail-train was four hours late.

LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.—Early on Wednesday morning a telegraphic message from Tring announced that the up line was blocked in the cutting, and the down line in a very bad state, a luggage train, followed by the mail train, being almost embedded in the snow. Several hundred men were at once set to work to clear the line, but, after several hours' arduous labour, only partially succeeded. The first train from Northampton was considerably behind time. The snow had drifted three feet high in the Northampton station, and at Roade, Wolverton, due at nine, arrived at twelve. At half-past twelve came in the train from Liverpool and Manchester, eight hours behind its time. At the Tring cutting, the train came to a dead block, and was soon embedded in the snow five hours. Ultimately, it was found necessary to go back to the next station, and shift the train to the down rails, along which it finished its journey. The other trains continued to arrive during Wednesday, from one to two hours behind their times.

GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY.—A message by electric telegraph on Wednesday morning announced that the line on both sides of Grantham was completely blocked, and all traffic impossible between Peterborough and Newark. The first train arriving was from Peterborough, at seven o'clock, due at 5.15 a.m. At ten o'clock two other short distance trains arrived, one of them about an hour and a half late. A train from Peterborough, due at eleven, arrived at 12.45. At three o'clock in the afternoon a second telegraphic message was received, stating that the line between Newark and Peterborough was still completely blocked, and that the snow, which had continued throughout the day, was then falling faster than ever. The down trains started at the usual times, but the company declined to book passengers further than Peterborough. A telegraphic message at eight o'clock stated that traffic between Peterborough and Newark was still impossible—the loop line not being open, and the main line remaining closed; nothing standing the exertions made to clear it; the snow in the cuttings having accumulated to an almost uniform depth of six feet.

SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.—The great obstruction along this line commenced at Ashford, the line from whence to Dover was blocked so early on Tuesday night, that the mail-train, which left London at eight p.m., and ought to have arrived at Dover about eleven p.m., was delayed until half-past nine on Wednesday morning. [illegible] its time. The mail [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

THE POST-BOY.

THE MAIL-COACH.

THE MAIL-TRAIN.

THE POST IN THE SNOW.

THE incidents of the last few days—the severe frost, the heavy snow-storms, filling up ditches, burying hedges in white round ramparts, and piling up deep snow-drifts in the exposed entrances of narrow valleys—have come upon us almost by surprise. Years have passed since we experienced anything like it. In some districts coach and horse travelling has been altogether brought to a stand-still; in others, the rarely seen four-in-hand, or four horses with a burly groom as postilion, has been called into activity to drag coaches and omnibuses through the deep roads. The posts are all behind-hand—we wait impatiently for an hour or two past the time when we are accustomed to settle the business of the day by our letters. In Wales, in Devonshire, in Cornwall—where railways have not yet penetrated—the mails have been stopped in more than one district. Even on railroads it has required the expansive power of the express engine to force a way through deep drifts; and, in some instances, a clear road could not be made for heavily loaded trains until ploughs, helped by a gang of labourers, had been set to work. Fortunately, we enjoy, this winter, one great advantage of the railway system, in the facility for concentrating labour on the spots where it is most needed. Our Illustration shows the mail-train at a stand-still, blowing off its steam in the face of a heavy drift; the passengers, no doubt, impatient at the delay; yet how comfortable their condition in contrast with that of passengers by the old mail coaches!

Our two Pictures of the Post-Boy and the Mail-Coach illustrate incidents in the life of a friend, who looks, with no small satisfaction, on the present post system, as compared with that of the days of his youth.

The village where I was born—I ask pardon of the present respectable inhabitants (it is now a town with a Health of Towns' Act, and a set of remarkably quarrelsome commissioners)—in its rise and progress to its present stage of prosperous grininess, affords a complete history of travelling changes. We used to be five miles from the high road, over a way that was partly bridle road and partly a cart track by a moor, long since portioned off, fenced, and turned into fields of turnips, oats, and barley. Our village consisted of a church and rectory house, a water corn-mill, an inn (the Fisherman's Rest), a shop, a blacksmith's smithy; a pound, with walls of loose stones and sods, which we used to pull down when we wanted a donkey ride; half a dozen houses, and twice as many cottages, all scattered over the valley, alongside the brook, "Alder Brook." Our village was called Alder Vale. We have a stone bridge now, and the streets stretch over the two hills on each side.

It was a proud day for Alder Vale, when our first post-office was opened; and, by favour of the Rector's cousin, a powerful M.P., we were chosen from all the other villages on the stream, because we had the ancient corn-mill. My mother's once favourite maid, Barbara, widow Bugler, was chosen for post-mistress, because her husband, wild Jack Bugler, had been killed under Lord Exmouth, fighting as a jolly marine at Algiers; for, as the poor Widow Barbara remarked when the news came, "he never could keep himself out of mischief, and always was the very dooce for fighting and drinking, and——" There she stopped: she might have said more, but put her apron to her eyes and began to cry. So poor Barbara was left with a little Jack—a curly-headed laughing, mischievous imp—her savings all spent, to take in sewing, and do odd jobs, and make a living anyhow; and that was not very well until she was put into the post-office. Little Jack Bugler turned out the very "moral of his father," as Barbara observed ten times a day. At four years old he had no respect for the high-capped dame who kept the village school: at six played old gooseberry with the two cats of Miss Selina and Miss Clarinda Brown, the maiden aunts of the Rector. At nine he had successively passed through the hands of the village tailor and shoemaker, and been by both rejected as an unruly apprentice. The old folk were beginning to shake their heads very ominously, when his mother's establishment in the post-office opened a new career suitable to his genius, long practised on all the donkeys and ponies of the moor. With many threats, and cautions, and promises, and a general contribution of garments, he was made post-boy, and the happiest of boys at the same time. Bilberry, wickedest, wiliest, and most surefooted of our moor ponies, was selected as his four-footed assistant in carrying the letter-bag to and from the Cross-road Inn, where the mail-coach daily left and took up our letters.

The second winter after Jack's installation in office, there came on just such a frost, and then successive hard snow storms, as we have had lately. All over the country the mails were stopped, and, in some places, buried for days, and ploughed out. Nevertheless, Jack, varying his route, making short new cuts with the help of Bilberry's craftiness, managed to do his work, if not keep his time; and we ceased to have any anxiety on his account, although it was often midnight before his clanging horn disturbed the silence of the village, and brought us to our frost-covered panes to see him trot through, "cold yet cheerful." But one night, just after Christmas, we slept through without hearing any echoes of Jack Bugler's horn; and, early after daybreak, were awakened by the lamentation of his mother. Neither Jack nor Bilberry had come home. There had been a terrible fall of snow, with a gale of wind in the night; so we were all more frightened than we liked to say. There was a general turn-out of the village: all the able-bodied men, with the Rector and the Doctor, the blacksmith and the miller at their head. Of course I went with my brother John and our terrier, Spot, to look on. We divided into three parties, and took three roads, and searched nearly all day, until something dark on the waste of snow, which turned out to be Jack's cap on a bush, set us to search, and in the leeward side of the hollow trunk of a huge branchless oak, almost buried in snow, we found Bilberry lying, with poor Jack close under him, and quite insensible. We wrapped him in blankets, the old shepherds rubbed him with snow, and he soon came round—the shaggy coat of the pony had saved him.

It seems he had dismounted to lead Bilberry through the deep snow; had lost his way in the storm, taken shelter in the Robber's Oak, and fallen asleep under Bilberry. He knew no more until he came to himself in bed at the Rectory, where he was first carried. He used to say, smacking his lips at the recollection, that he should like to be lost in the snow again, to have another week of nursing, nice clothes, and posnets of ale and cider-wine. Jack Bugler, a few years afterwards, left the Royal post service to whip in a pack of fox-hounds, in Yorkshire, where he is now huntsman.

Times changed: a coalpit was opened, and a bunch of factories established, a few miles beyond Alder Vale; then came a new short cut of the high road, intersecting us; and we began to grow into importance.

My next adventure was in the first winter journey of the mail coach, on my return from a continental tour, fifteen years ago, when most anxious to reach home by Christmas-day. We were thirty hours in performing 190 miles of the way; and when ten miles from Alder Town, were waked up from a cramped slumber (having been up walking by the side of the mail most of the night, helping the horses and easing the load up hill), by a heavy lurch, and loud cries of the guard. Out we jumped, and found ourselves half in a ditch on the wrong side of the hedge. Whipping, pulling, pushing, made progress at the rate of about one mile an hour, when a crack, and another lurch to the near side, announced the axle-tree snapped. There was no help for it. The guard and my friend Jack Splinterbar, of Brasenhead College, set off with the leaders and the mail-bags on a steeplechase, leaving me with a pipe and a small bar of Cavendish, to keep company with the coachman for four hours, until a team arrived, and dragged us through.

This winter snow and ice affect us as little as floods. The Great Universal Junction has given Alder Town a loop line; a vast viaduct spans the scene where little Jack Bugler was lost in the Robber's Oak, and the hills down which Bilberry "*skidded*" We may be detained at times, but we cannot wander over the fences without knowing it. The moor has lost all its romance, and post-boys and post-horns will soon be as rare elements in fireside stories as Sleeping Beauties and giants and dwarfs. Without the slightest anxiety, I accepted an invitation to dinner at Alder Town on New Years'day, and entered the express train, 200 miles off, on the morning of the 31st December, with perfect confidence that in about six hours I should be deposited within an omnibus distance of the main street. Looking back for five-and-twenty years I see many changes: moor lands to fertile fields; the site of woods and coverts to populous towns; bridle roads to highways; fishing creeks to prosperous ports; post-boys, with mail-bag and pony, superseded by mail-coaches; and mail-coaches by mail railway trains. But the seasons remain the same.

One duty we must not forget. We are able to take advantage of the modern luxuries of travelling, of which the express train, first-class, when well clad and warmed, is one of the greatest. We must not forget to help, when we can, those poor people who are compelled to endure, by day and night, the inclement seasons from which we are shielded.

S. S.

SKATING IN THE REGENT'S PARK.

ON THE ICE.

THE snow has left its card for us this season without doubt. London has resembled a sheet of white paper in the past week, on which was written the footprints and activity of its myriad population. The metropolis has put on its winter robe, and taken it off with coquettish frequency. There have been fifty pretty little amateur snow-storms from ten to a hundred minutes in duration—intermittent in their calls, coming and going with unsatisfactory celerity. The ornamental waters of the Parks are ice-bound; and much obliged to the weather are the thousands of pleasure-seekers who extract amusement from ice, and manage to cut out as much pleasure on a pair of skates as less enterprising folks would languidly enjoy on a day of brilliant summer sunshine.

In the northern sections of Europe and America, where ice and snow are constant occurrences of the cold quarter of the year, water may freeze as hard as it likes, and nature put on as gorgeous a mantle as the element can form, and little attention is created in consequence; but, in London, where snow is coy of its visits, and water slow to lose its state of liquescence—where the Thames prides itself on its flowing freedom, bidding defiance to the severity of the seasons—where the *trottoir* glories in its ever-present pave-stones—in London, then, snow and ice assume a different moral aspect, and become matters of greater importance than in colder climes. The season of snow in the United States has a specific character of its own—suggesting at once moonlight, festivity, buffalo-robes, pretty girls, and music. The three weeks' sleighing of New York is a great event, involving as many happy associations as any other important period of the year. To part with this episode of merriment would be cutting away a slice from the winter that many would regret. It is the white oasis (a singular term as applied here) in the desert of the season's dreariness.

Our metropolis, not boasting of its season of sleighing, must fly to the ice in order to turn the effects of the cold weather to account. Accordingly, we find thousands trooping to the Parks, for the purpose of enjoying the artificial surface nature has prepared for their reception. Some content themselves with merely sliding; others dash about on skates. The timidly-cautious venture only to the edge, and endeavour to convince themselves that they enjoy the scene, and chill themselves very much during the mental operation. Just now the ice is in good order, and there is great amusement on it. Young gentlemen who affect skates, and execute all sorts of gliding impossibilities, are in high feather; and lads, and "children of a larger growth," who convert the polished surface into a slide, and go slipping along in a procession are in quite as good humour with the sport.

Let us take a walk to the Serpentine. It is about two o'clock, and the sheet of ice is covered with people. Hundreds are skating. We single

ROUGHING HORSES FOR FROSTY WEATHER.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

out that tall young man with the whiskers, who moves with graceful action, performing flourishes that astonish the spectators. Now he whirls rapidly about, one leg before the other, shaping a device on the ice with facility. Now he turns, altering the position of his feet by directing them in the tracery of lines, which he achieves by a succession of movements that seem like floating. The device grows into a grotesque series of circles, set in what resembles a curious frame of fanciful lacework; and, this done, away glides the accomplished artist in ice, leaving an admiring group to express their pleasure for its feat—or rather that which his feet have been the means of producing. There is a class of clumsy skaters who do nothing but tumble, and try the ice fearfully; these persons may excel on *terra firma*, but ice is beyond their power their action might be elegant on a gravel walk, but the frozen carpet of the Serpentine lake demands more skill than they possess.

The clumsy portions of the visitors are not without their uses. They produce their share of the general fun, for what they lack in grace and management, they abundantly compensate for in feat—or rather that which his feet have been the means of producing. There is a class of clumsy skaters who do nothing but tumble, and try the ice fearfully; these persons may excel on *terra firma*, but ice is beyond their power their action might be elegant on a gravel walk, but the frozen carpet of the Serpentine lake demands more skill than they possess.

The Ornamental Water of the Regent's Park is, perhaps, after the Serpentine, the most popular resort of the skaters. The aristocratic edges of the Park contribute a vast number of amateurs and proficients, who, attired in heavy furs and shawls, come about with an air of gay comfort. The ladies make their appearance here in great numbers, and brave the weather for an hour's amusement. How daintily they step over the crested snow, and with what piquant timidity they venture on the frozen waters. Should the ice playfully indulge in that wondrous cracking sound, which it sometimes does, without absolutely breaking, how they scream and scamper, half terrified, half elated, at the novel danger of their position.

There are two places where a *débutant* cannot hope to escape bewilderment—in the water when learning to swim, and on top of the water when learning to skate. We give the preference to the latter, on the ground that there is a certain amount of comfort in the knowledge of a full possession of the use of the legs, which, as everybody knows, are invaluable in cases of loss of equilibrium. But a pair of skates try the legs sadly, and upset the strongest-minded confidence that can be brought to bear in their behalf. There is a comic desolation in putting on skates for the first time, that belongs peculiarly to the situation. If the novice be a young man of the "rapid" species, he is fascinated by the gliding troops on every side, moving with easy confidence. At first he wonders whether he can do the same, and, after a mental struggle or so, he at length summons courage and half-a-dozen—the latter as a deposit to be left with the attendant for the use of the skates, and the former to be used after his feet are equipped. "How funny I feel," utters the *débutant* very cold, and very fearful that he will not be able to put in execution his desires. One goes one foot, and the other flies about as if it were on a pivot. "Don't leave me for a moment," he says to the attendant, in a faltering voice, clutching him by the coat. "I think they are not strapped firmly;" and he saves himself from an ignominious tumble by clasping him tightly about the waists, and then sinking into a chair. The man, perceiving at once that his customer is a "raw 'un," affects to change the position of the straps, and once more the brave youth is erect. He is less nervous now, and seems re-assured. He puts his best leg forward this time, and does it very well bringing up the other in qu te a dashing style.

"Go it, Mr. Cheever!" "Now, then, Mister, catch me if you can!" shriek a pair of audacious youths who have been wrestling the whole affair.

The throws him off his guard in glancing at the same time to dare utter such impudence, his right foot gets into trouble, the left wickedly follows the example, and he feels himself going—gets very red or pale, as the case may be; and in the effort to spare himself the mortification of a fall, he seizes by the arm a passing skater, who, gliding swiftly by; and the latter, unable to recover from the suddenness with which he has been checked, also reels, and they measure their mutual lengths side by side on the ice, to the boisterous approval of a crowd of delighted lookers-on.

The *débutant* crawls back to the chair after mildly apologising to his fellow sufferer, and thinks he will not try skating any more, just at present. Perhaps he descends to the less ambitious operation of sliding; and, though he feel that skates may come other time to be a source of pride to his acquaintance, he is content to take out his fun on the ice that day in a manner more adapted to his ideas of entertainment unblent with peril.

ROUGHING HORSES FOR FROST.

THE blacksmith is busy—busy with work he has not had to do for many a long day. One must look back through a series of Annual Registers to find the last short, sharp, and decisive frost, that turned plushes of the country lanes into sheets of ice, and gave to—to the immense satisfaction of the plough-lads, as they slithered along, and the discomfiture of Dobbin and Bald-face, and Long-tail, the colt. We almost thought that Jack Frost had forgotten us. Why, it's not two days since Job Bellows was as busy and more interested than when our artist caught him with "Clydesdale's" fore-foot in his hand, on quite a different job. Old Jem Harkforard killed his fox within half a mile of Job's smithy, after an hour and forty-five minutes, at a rattling pace, over and down some fine sticky fallows, through willow beds, and clay pit coverts where every stride was at least up to the hocks, and a good many up to the belly: and those who did not stick fast were glad to get away, leaving a collection of "lucky horseshoes"—some at the bottom of the mud-made air-pumps, others flung high up, in last violent efforts at extrication, into bushes, there to hang until the spring season, and then be carried home as great prizes, to be nailed over cottage doors or sold, by some unbelieving National School urchins, to the blacksmith.

Until a case of "kill," or "blown and beat," no fox-hunter ever finds out that he has cast a shoe. In this last instance the gentleman who had outridden and lost their second horses, a green-coated farmer, with a four-year-old, that he wanted to sell, and a steeple-chaser who had gone rather harder and faster than was consistent with "qualification thoroughbred," were clamorous round Job's smithy for first turn. It is not often that a blacksmith earns money so quick y and easily as when, with four nails and a second-hand shoe, he satisfies an impatient sportsman. Men don't wait for charges on such occasions, if there is to be another covert drawn for a second fox.

Not so in "roughing." Deliberation is the order of the day; and there is no crowding, now coaching is a bygone institution. One set of horse-owners don't foot with another. Some think that the roads are not so very slippery—that they can do without such extra caution—and would sooner run all risks, and walk instead of ride, rather than pay an extra sixpence beyond the annual shoeing contract to the blacksmith. Now this is very foolish. Abstractedly, the less a horse's feet are knocked about with hammers and planted before it practically, more harm may be done in going 500 yards in smooth shoes over slippery ground than in a dozen shuffings. As to gentlemen's horses where according to common custom, the groom is lazy and has his own way, there are ten nags spoiled by over-feed and staying in the stable for one by over work. In slippery weather, especially in driving or riding fast through icy lanes, where there is little traffic, and the ground is an even, there is as much chance of the shoes of the fore-feet of the leaders and rick- of the back, as by absolute falls. A strain is worse to cure than a cut. So, if there is the least chance of the frost holding until horses must be used, it is sooner they are roughed the better. For riding hacks and light harness work, where there are steep hills to be descended with a heavy carriage, horses can be roughed very effectively without shifting the shoes at all. Four sound large-headed nails will give hold enough to trot over a frozen pond. Wheelers and carters, like our blacksmith's "Clydesdale" require a calk at the heel and toe, according to the work they have to do. All three examples are given in the Illustration. The country postman is taking a play with the dog, while his quiet, saddle-bridle roadster, with the wallet, is eating his turn, after the smart, well-bred nag that, no doubt, does the distance between his master's house and the railway station at the rate of ten miles an hour daily. "Clydesdale" is wanted to fetch a load of draining tile, that could not be put on the land until the rain ceased.

A heavy fall of snow is more of an impediment than the most slippery, ice-covered road. Deep soft snow is very exhausting to, and soon wears out, the best horse; and, when there is a hard frost, the snow "balls" in it horse's feet until he is mounted upon a pair of round clogs; and, at night tapping over, falls on his head. The rider has nothing for it but to gather himself up, clear out his steed's feet with a knife or whip-handle, and either continue the journey on foot, or re-mount and repeat the feat. We remember, some twenty years ago, when two stone lighter than we ride at present, awakening one winter morning in Wales, to find a deep fall of snow, a sharp frost, and twenty-five miles to ride. At that time we valued our bones little, and our hack's (an Irish thorough-bred) still less. After two or three falls on very soft ground, in which we amicably rolled over in the snow together, we found that the best way to avoid "balling" was to push on at a hand-gallop. By this expedient, although every now and then there was "a coming down with a run," it was not nearly so frequent as at a slow pace. It is said that filling the hoofs with soft-soap will prevent snow "balling;" but of the efficiency of this expedient we have no evidence.

MUSIC.

During the Christmas holidays there are, in general, few musical performances in London; it being the custom of our most popular vocal and instrumental performers to betake themselves to the provinces, to figure as "stars" at the many oratorios and concerts which are given at this season at most of our principal towns. For the last two or three years, consequently, the metropolitan musical intelligence has been little more than a blank.

THE REUNION DES ARTS terminated its season of 1853 on Wednesday, the 28th of December. This society—notwithstanding its affected French name—is judiciously managed, and flourishes accordingly. The cultivation of Music, though its most prominent, is by no means its sole object. Its purpose is to bring together and into a state of social intercourse, the votaries of all the fine arts, whether artists or amateurs, and to afford them pleasure and instruction by musical performances, by exhibiting paintings, sculpture, and other objects of art; by lectures on literary and artistical subjects, and by *conversazioni*. The society's spacious rooms in Harley-street are adorned with many masterly and valuable works of art; and there is a news-room for the use of the subscribers, which is liberally supplied with newspapers and periodicals of every kind, and gives the members all the advantages of a club-room. The long and increasing list of subscribers includes the many distinguished artists and lovers of the fine arts. The concert of the 28th of December may be taken as a specimen of these entertainments of the Reunion. It consisted vocal pieces, Miss Arabella Goddard, with M. Ries on the violin, and M. Paque on the violoncello, played Beethoven's Grand Trio in B flat—his *chef d'œuvre* in this class of composition. Miss Goddard played as a solo, Chopin's grand March recently composed for the Sultan, arranged by Benedict for the piano, in which form its effect is admirable. A new Trio, by M. Praeger, for the piano, violin, and violoncello, was played by the author and the two performers already named, and gained every suffrage as a masterly and beautiful work. The principal vocalist was Madame Amedie, who delighted the audience by her splendid performance at the fine aria, "In si barbara sciagura," from Rossini's "Semiramide," and in Mercadante's Duet, "E mi puoi credere," the tenor part of which was finely sung by Signor Cubatta. Other vocal pieces were sung by Miss Iernan and Miss Hunt; and M. Paque obtained great applause for his execution of a Violoncello Solo composed by himself. The rooms were crowded to the door with distinguished company.

THE SOCIETY OF BRITISH MUSICIANS had their Third Chamber Concert of the season on Monday evening last, at their usual place of meeting, Erat's harp saloon, in Berners-street. Several compositions, by members of the society, were performed with much applause. Among the instrumental pieces, special notice is due to a MS. quartet in C minor, for two violins, tenor, and violoncello, by Dr. Steggal; to a sonatina in F, for piano and violin, by Mr. Henry Graves; and to a quartet, for piano and stringed instruments, by Mr. Charles E. Stephens. All these works, which were carefully and well executed, did much honour to their composers—Mr. Stephens's quartet, especially, which evinced a boldness and novelty of style rarely acquired by so young a composer. Among the vocal pieces, a part-song, for four voices, "Dream the dream though long deceived," composed by Mr. Lake, bore away the palm. It is a piece of pure and beautiful vocal harmony, worthy of companionship with the finest works of our old English masters. A "Benedictus," for four voices, by Mr. Lovell Phillips, was worthy of this young musician. Altogether the Chamber Concerts of the society are exceedingly interesting and deserving of attention, as they bring before the public a great amount of talent on the part of the younger members of the musical profession.

MISS RANSFORD GAVE one of her series of soirées at her residence, in Welbeck-street, the last of which took place on Tuesday last. They have been very well-conducted, elegant, and successful entertainments; possessing, moreover, a peculiar feature rarely met with at the present day. They have consisted entirely of English music; and our ears have been refreshed by many of the finest glees, part-songs, duets, and ballads, of our own national school, now generally laid aside to make room for foreign compositions of the day, often very inferior, but preferred simply because they are foreign. The concert of last evening, for instance, we had the pleasure of hearing Attwood's beautiful but now almost forgotten glee, "The Curfew." Sir Henry Bishop's splendid five-part glee, "Now by day's retiring lamp," a charming ballad, "Still my spirit yearns for thee," by Mr. Lindsay Sloper; Hatton's "Sun and Battersea," a ballad worthy of Dibdin; and Mr. Brinley Richards's beautiful serenade "Up, quit thy bower," from Joanna Baillie's drama "The Beacon." They were all admirably performed; the singers being Miss Ransford, Miss Messent, Madame Weiss, Messrs. Ransford, senior and junior, and Mr. Weiss.

Edinburgh possesses at present, and for the first time, a regular Opera, which is quite the rage in the fashionable circles of the Scotch metropolis. The *impresario* consists of the most popular Italian and German opera, performed in their respective languages. "Norma," the "Barbiere di Siviglia," "Lucrezia Borgia," "Fidello," and the "Freischütz" have been given to crowded houses, and with immense success. The company would be considered strong even in London. It includes Mdme. Carsdori, Mdme. Zimmermann, Reichardi, Formisi, Bettini, and other performers of merit. The orchestra, under the direction of Herr Anschues, is very good, and every piece has been brought out in a complete and effective manner.

The appearance of a new and successful composer in Italy—where, for so many years, nothing has been heard but the weak and worn-out operas of Verdi—is an occurrence of much interest. A Correspondent at Milan writes to us as follows:—

The opening of the CARNIVAL season at LA SCALA has been one of the most successful known for many years. The opera was a new one, "Il Convito di Baldassare" (Belshazzar's Feast), by Buzzi. The music is quite of the sterling (*vecchi*) school, and pleases extremely. It has the true rich voice and peculiar excellence of the first singer, Cara Novello, who is received with enthusiasm by the Milanese as a most accomplished musician. The veteran Basini came to Milan on this occasion from the country house, expressly to hear the début here of the vocalist whom he had advised, as a young artist, when he heard her in England, to prosecute the opera career. His delight was expressed in no mistakable terms, and was further proved by his dropping a hint of returning shortly to Milan, to sing for and with her. There is a decided reaction just now in Italy, in favour of the pure vocal style, against the shouting school which lately prevailed; as an evidence of which, Rossini's operas of "Mosè in Egitto," "Semiramide," and "Cenerentola," are talked of for speedy production. The new opera of Buzzi has been superbly put upon the stage. The grand scene and tableau of the "Feast" is as admirable copy of Martin's celebrated picture; while the scenes and ... have been taken from the Nineveh sculptures in the British Museum.

MUSICAL PUBLICATIONS.

The sixteenth volume of the "Musical Bouquet" is calculated to be an interesting New-year's Present. The principal portion of its contents is a selection from the vocal compositions of Henry Russell, including the most favourite songs from the "Emigrant's Progress:"—"Cheer, boys, cheer," "Far, far upon the sea," "Land, land, land!" and "Long parted have we been," all written by Dr. Dibdin Pratt; "Slave Sale," the "African Village," written by Mr. Angus B. Reach; and the "Lament for Wellington," written by Bruce Cook. There are likewise several elegant quadrilles, polkas, and other pieces of dance-music; the whole forming a very handsome volume.

"A set of Songs," by Edward Francis Fitzwilliam, does honour to the genius of this young and rising composer. They are twelve in number; the words are selected from the works of the greatest English poets, and united to appropriate and characteristic music. Mr. Fitzwilliam's melodies are graceful and expressive, and the accompaniments are rich, ingenious, and masterly.

"One hundred and one progressive Exercises for the Violin," by W. Wand of the Royal Italian Opera, will be found very useful to the student of that instrument, especially in the earlier stages of his progress. They are well calculated to lay a good foundation, by giving a sound method of fingering in all the different keys, and also in imparting freedom and variety in the use of the bow. The book has the further recommendation of cheapness.

Mr. Chesney's "New Instructions for the Concertina" will, likewise, be found a useful guide in learning this pleasant instrument, which, as its powers are developed, is daily coming into greater and greater repute. The instructions are plain and concise, and the exercises afford excellent practice to the young performer.

THE THEATRES.

DRURY-LANE.

On Saturday, a new piece in three acts, called "The Begging Letter," was produced. It is of the transpontine melo-dramatic school of horror and is so full of that element that the audience properly rebelled against the infliction. When we said that Mr. Smith considered all as fish that came to his net, we had no conception that he would have caught such a fish as this; we gave him credit for more judgment. But it is more than probable that he did not consult his own taste on the occasion—perhaps, has none of his own in relation to the choice of dramas, and knows it; contenting himself, therefore, perforce, with the dictates of others, and taking counsel of more experienced persons. Of these, ninety-nine out of a hundred are the worst possible advisers in such cases. "The Begging Letter" is a sanguinary tale of bigamy, in which *Mad Bess* (Mrs. Vickery), the wife of a poacher, impersonates the principal character, and endeavours to destroy the offspring of the first union, in revenge for the death of her own husband, by the same. The last scene is a haunted glen, where the first wife dies, leaving the field clear for the second, and *Mad Bess* perishes from a fall over a precipice. Another underplot exhibits Miss Featherstone with some effect as a gay young milliner, and somewhat relieves the sombre character of the principal action. The world has had quite enough of such dramas already.

MARYLEBONE.

"Broken Toys" and "Katherine and Petruchio" have been the dramas which have preceded the pantomime at this theatre since Boxing-night. In the latter, Mr. H. Vandenhoff and Miss Gordon have exerted themselves very effectively. Both, by the practice of legitimate parts, have been experiencing the most beneficial and gaining in the artistic recognition of the true principles of histrionic suggestion. In our notice of the pantomime we should have mentioned that the very beautiful scenery by which it is illustrated, is from the pencil of Mr. Childers, the actor. It is worthy of his multiple credit. The transformation scene is especially splendid, with its moulding flowers, disclosing the groups of beauty and interest, and its falling rivers of phosphoric waters, and "the light of more than common day" shed over the scene according to the most vibrant prospect, and fantastically clouded horizon. The houses have been fully attended, though it will be observed that Mr. and Mrs. Wallack are not now acting. These truly great performers are, we understand, reserving themselves for the study of new parts in an original tragedy which they are about to produce on a magnificent scale, and in which it is understood there are tragic effects and situations of extraordinary power. The character to be assumed by Mrs. Wallack in particular, is described as one requiring the highest genius for its adequate embodiment; but this lady has a Siddonian force of style, capable of sternly sustaining the loftiest dramatic ideal.

BOARD OF TRADE RETURNS.

The returns for the month and eleven months ending the 5th December were issued on Wednesday. The total declared value of the exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures from the United Kingdom during the month and eleven months is shown below:—

1853	£	5,625,760	£
1852	"	5,602,000	"
1851	"	5,188,216	"

Compared with 1852, the increase on the month is £21,592,760, or at the rate of 20½ per cent; and on the eleven months, £19,604,381, or equal to 23½ per cent. It will thus be seen that the increase in the month's figures is actually in excess of the large average increase of the eleven months. The considerable increase of one fourth in our aggregate export trade is certainly a feature calculated to excite considerable alarm after making allowance for the higher prices now current. Should the profits from this large trade vary in proportion to its extent, the returns cannot fail to add greatly to the prosperity of the country. The increased demand for nearly every important item of our export trade, including cottons, woollens, linens, silks, metals (especially iron), machinery, haberdashery and millinery, hardwares and cutlery, other manufactures, beer and ale, &c. All these items exhibit a material increase, both on the month and eleven months; and, in this respect, the present issue of the Board of Trade tables is similar to its predecessors.

In the table of imports and consumption, the chief feature is a great increase in the former, owing to our deficient harvest. The total imports of wheat for the eleven months are stated at 8,402,814 cwts., against 9,820,190 in the corresponding eleven months of 1852, and 3,652,260 in the eleven months of 1851; and of flour, 4,207,518 cwts., against 3,651,961 in 1852, and 4,936,728 in 1851. In the consumption of foreign articles, there is a decreased consumption; but on the whole it does not appear that the high price of provisions has yet had the effect of causing the bulk of the population to dispense with many of the comforts and luxuries to which their prosperous condition has lately enabled them to indulge. The consumption of sugar, wines, tea, sugar, and cocoa—all important articles—show a considerable increase over those of last year both on the month's and eleven months' comparison. In coffee there is a falling off on the month, but a considerable increase on the eleven months. One of the minor articles, the consumption of which has been unfavourably affected by the rise in price, is that of currants. The quantity of this article entered for home consumption in the eleven months, is only 172,827 cwts. against 342,373 in the eleven months of 1852, and 4,3,210 in 1851.

THE LONDON COAL TRADE.—A correspondent of the *Newcastle Chronicle*—a paper exceedingly well-informed in all matters relating to the coal trade—puts the public in possession of the following curious piece of information, which will be useful to the writer for the benefit of the readers. He says:—"It is pretty well known that the London coal-merchant computes his profits upon the principle of charging a certain fixed sum above the Pool price, to cover cargo hire, landing, waste, and profit; this sum varies from 5s. to 7s. a ton, giving a medium charge of 6s. The same household coal is sold for 28s. in the coal-market, the coal-merchant supplies his customers at 33s., and as we all know, the Railway Company perform the same services—that is, they take the coals from the waggon to the consumer—for 2s. 6d. a ton; the difference being 3s. 6d. This profit can be had by any company desirous; I merely quote it to illustrate what follows:—On the 9th and 10th of December a large fleet of nearly 600 sail of colliers arrived in London. This fleet had been collected, by means of the telegraphic wires of three weeks; and when it arrived it was well known that London was literally on the starving point for coals. At the previous market 35s. had been given for house, and 28s. for steam coals; and the railway and gas companies had not twelve hours' stock among them; and the house trade was equally close run. Now the theory of the London coal-market is, that the coal-factor is the agent of the consumer, and pays him an excessive commission for a very easy and unimportant service. As agent, if the theory were correct, he is bound to sell the property of his principal at the best possible price—in fact, to take advantage of every accidental circumstance which might enhance the value of the article entrusted to his care. Let us see how this was carried out in practice on the 9th and 10th ult. I have already said that the sail arrived in all the large fleet was sold on the 9th, for best coals. As soon as the wharfingers of the coal factors ran up the prices of house coals to 35s. and 36s., for half a dozen straggling cargoes. The coal-merchants, advancing their pens, with the last price on the market, charged to the public the bulk of the coals bought at 28s. and under, as if they had been bought at 35s. and 36s., putting the difference between these prices and 28s. into their own pockets, in addition to the fee to which they consider themselves entitled. As a condition of things nearly analogous is imminent, it may not be without use to call the attention of the parties interested in it to the subject."

CONSUMPTION OF COAL IN LONDON.—The imports of coal into the port of London during the past year were 12,111 voyages, bringing 3,373,256 tons. The importation by sea, rail, and canal into the London districts amounted during 1853 to upwards of 4,000,000 tons, and the trade has doubled itself in twenty years. The quantity of coal brought within twenty miles of London by rail and canal during 1853, amounts to 658,726 tons, an increase of nearly cent per cent as compared with the imports of 1853 notwithstanding the high price of coal.

TERCENTENARY FESTIVAL OF THE BATH GRAMMAR-SCHOOL.—THE PROCESSION IN BATH ABBEY CHURCH

TERCENTENARY FESTIVAL IN COMMEMORATION OF THE FOUNDATION OF KING EDWARD THE SIXTH'S SCHOOLS.

A VERY interesting Festival was held in Bath on the 28th of last month in honour of King Edward VI., whose death took place in the year 1553, and whose benefactions to the cause of education were the immediate objects of the commemoration. Not less than thirty free grammar schools were founded by this King in different parts of England during the last three years of his short life. One of these Schools was founded at Bath, and endowed with a considerable part of the property belonging to the Abbey, and surrendered to Henry VIII. in 1539.

The exact extent and nature of this property, from the miscon-duct of former corporations, has become so involved in obscurity, that the resources of the School are at present only partially known; but it is pretty certain that a considerable part of the beautiful town which within the last century has been added to the old city, stands upon ground left by King Edward for the maintenance of this foundation. A late decree in Chancery has restored some of the property; which, however, is so hampered with long leases granted for nominal considerations, or considerations by which the School has never benefited, that the full value of that decree will not be realised for several years. Meanwhile, however, something has been gained—a new master has been appointed, and there seems to be, as we are informed, a determination to do all that can be done to raise the importance of the school, and extend its usefulness. The Festival of the 28th ult. had reference to this foundation, but more to the general cause; and was celebrated by the masters of the principal schools of Edward VI.—six of whom attended from various parts of the country. The proceedings of the day began with a pro cession from the School-house to the Abbey, which was joined by the Mayor and Corporation at the Guildhall, and which entered the Abbey at the west door, in the following order

The Mayor of Bath, the Members of the Corporation, the Stewards of the Festival, the Trustees of the School, the Head-Master of Bath, the Head Master of Wells, the Head-Master of Bury St. Edmunds, the Head Master of Christ's Hospital, the Head-Master of Shrewsbury, the Clergy in their robes, the Second and Assistant Masters, and the Pupils.

Our Illustration represents the procession passing up the nave. The ven. Archdeacon Moore, Head-Master of Bath, preached from Matthew xxv. 27, "Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury." In the afternoon the Guildhall, at Bath, was crowded, and Mr. Macdonald made a speech, in which he reviewed the history of the Festival, and gave an account of King Edward's foundation, the state of education when he came to the throne, the property he endowed, and the objects for which they were founded. Mr. Macdonald gave an account of some few of the distinguished pupils of the School—the names of Sir Walter Raleigh and Ben Jonson, and at Bath, particularly among whom were the ever memorable John Hales, William Prynne, in former days; Sir Sidney Smith, Sir Edward Parry, and the distinguished "opium eater," Thomas de Quincey, in modern times; and, having given a narrative of the misdoings of its former guardians, the reverend gentleman commended these schools to the company, for the sake of their principles out of which they were born; and concluded, from the sobriety of their constitution, to uphold, in the present dangerous times. The meeting, which was addressed by the Mayor and several gentlemen, passed resolutions expressive of their veneration for the memory of King Edward, its sympathy with the schools founded by him and with the principles of education, as well as a sense of the duty of the Corporation and Council of Bath to support the School, and to extend the benefits of education to the poor.

In the evening there was a dinner at the York House, which was attended by between seventy and eighty gentlemen; Mr. Norman, an old pupil of the Bath School, presiding. Many speeches were made, bearing upon the objects of the Festival; and among the speakers were the head-masters mentioned above: several others having been prevented from attending.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

LORD LANSDOWNE, it appears, is answerable, in the first instance, for the purchase of the Holbein for the National Gallery, about which there has been within the last three years so great a disturbance in artistic circles. This fact is plainly stated by Sir Charles Eastlake, in his manly evidence before the Commons Committee. We confess we are somewhat surprised that his Lordship should be mistaken in the works of so well-known a master. It is true that Holbein has only attracted due and *correct* attention of very late years; and that his Lordship, from what we remember of his two collections at Bowood and Lansdowne House has not been curious about this famous master; nor do we remember that either of the trustees has exhibited any appreciation of his works while Sir Charles Eastlake himself restricts his own knowledge of art to the Italian school. Sir Charles, indeed, assures us that he undertook the office of Keeper on the full understanding that his opinion was only to be asked in matters connected with Italian art; and that, in the alleged Holbein acquisition, he at least is not to blame.

Our able writers on Art are acquiring reputations for eccentricities. No one now-a-days, it is said, can achieve greatness without being an original. Mr. Ruskin is an original: he is

> Above all Greek, above all Roman fame;

he condemns Bramante and Wren; thinks all good architecture contained in Venice; and that he has the skill to give Tintoretto a name in art above that of Titian. We know into what eccentricities he ran (and in print, too) in admiration of Turner; but his converts have been very few, and those few not long faithful to his preaching. He has done nothing for Mr. Coningham, who objects, in his evidence, clamorously and frequently, to the displacing of the Claudes, in order to make room for "extremely inferior works by Turner;" nay, he would go further, and would discountenance the purchase by the nation of even a fine work by Mr. Turner. "If you were to ask me (he says emphatically) whether I should recommend the purchase of the Turner pictures for the National Gallery, I should say, decidedly not." How we should like to get Mr. Ruskin and Mr. Coningham into a hot encounter about Turner; and, when they were well by the ears, to escape from the room to other subjects less noisy and of more importance.

Scotland has been extremely barren of sculptors: indeed, we cannot call to mind any sculptor of great eminence born north of the Tweed, who ... with Flaxman or Chantrey, with Banks or Bacon. We have had, however, in London, during the present week a Scotch sculptor at work, who works with care and skill in the school of Chantrey. We allude to Mr. Steel, the sculptor of the Edinburgh equestrian Wellington. Mr. Steel has been in London to superintend the erection in the Painted-hall at Greenwich, of his marble standing statue of Admiral Saumarez. The statue is erected; and Mr. Steel has returned to the north to complete his sitting figure of Lord Jeffrey for the Parliament-house. We shall, no doubt, have something critical to say next week about the Greenwich statue.

Sir Robert Peel has a right to be heard on subjects connected with literature and art: his opinions, if th[ey] ... deserve attention. Sir Robert, it appears, differed from Prin[ce] ... and others, in the enlarged notion of a National Gallery, embracing specimens of every school and scholar of note: he saw that, with our present narrowness of spirit, it was impossible to construct a National Gallery on so wide a basis; and, therefore, in a letter to Sir Charles Eastlake he expresses his views on the subject in his own clear and unmistakeable manner. "It seems to me," he says, "that we should give a preference to works of sterling merit, that may serve as examples to the artists of this country, rather than purchase curiosities in painting, valuable as illustrating the progress of art, or the distinctions in the styles of different masters, but surely less valuable than works approaching to perfection." This is a text engaging conversation in artistic circles.

Messrs. Christie and Manson have commenced the new year with a goodly list of auctions, at their rooms, long previous to the approach of spring. There is not much promise, it is true, of pictures possessing a name and a genealogy—those essential requisites for securing critical bidders and large prices; still, the list looks well, and some of the sales will obtain attention. And here, the mention of this leading firm in Europe for the disposal of works of art, enables us to make public a little bit of useful information communicated by Mr. Christie to the Commons Committee; but buried in the enormous Blue-book to which we have called attention so frequently. Mr. Christie says (and his experience is indeed great) that "people prefer pictures that have not been cleaned just before they come to be sold;" that "people prefer having them as they are;" and that there is "something" in the common impression, that a well-known amateur of good pictures, possessing a long purse and bidding for himself, is likely to be run up "It is a very common impression," he says, "but I do not think there is much in it; I think there may be something in it."

We observe a statement in the *Morning Post* to the effect that the Bishop of London has consented to a plan laid before him by the Rev C. Hume, the incumbent of St. Michael's, Wood-street, for the removal of some thirty of the City churches into suburban and rural districts. The churches to be removed are named in a classified list, and the selection appears to have been made with great good judgment. There is, however, one serious blunder; for surely it would be a blunder, and something worse, to destroy the interesting church of St. Helen's, Bishopsgate—one of the few London churches that escaped the Great Fire, and possessing an interest to many from the tomb it contains of Sir Thomas Gresham, the founder of the Royal Exchange; to say nothing of the noble sixteenth century monument to Sir John Crosby and the interesting tomb of Sir Julius Cæsar. Mr. Hume has placed his own church in the moveable list: Weybridge or Wimbledon are pleasanter places than Wood-street, Cheapside. In this great change are the churches to be built as before, stone for stone? And are they, above all, to retain their names? St. Swithin's, London-stone, is to go (what are the antiquaries about?); St. James's Garlick-hill, is to be moved—no one knows whither; and St. Margaret Pattens is to be carried, not on pattens, but in Mr. Cubitt's waggons, to some wild heath as yet wholly unprovided with a church.

Our two classic architects—Mr. Hardwick and Mr. Tite—have met in the fine old Norman church of St. Cross, near Winchester; and the rude masonry which the Conqueror engrafted on a ruder Saxon of the Confessor, is not to be covered, we are glad to think, with buckets of white-wash, eked out here and there with pailfuls of yellow. The church is [in] safe[r] ... perfectly safe if entrusted to Mr. Tite.

A Correspondent, who gives his name, and on whose information we can rely, directs our attention to an error in our last week's column. We stated, it will be remembered, that the average auction price of the remainder of Roberts's "Holy Land, Egypt, and Nubia," varied from ten to eleven guineas. It appears, however, that we were misinformed the average auction price maintained throughout, "was not less than thirteen pounds." On the second evening, as our Correspondent admits, a few copies "sunk as low as eleven pound."

We have been gossiping entirely on art; but on this tack conversation during the past week has almost wholly run—not unvaried, however by cheap books, works in hand, and the prospects of the approaching season.

OPENING OF THE SOUTH-WALES RAILWAY.—THE NARBERTH ROAD STATION, HAVERFORDWEST.

HAVERFORDWEST RAILWAY—IMPOSING DEMONSTRATION.

The extension of the South Wales Railway, which has hitherto terminated at Carmarthen, into the ancient county of Pembroke, thus forming another link in that great chain of railway communication which has already done so much for the Principality, was inaugurated on Wednesday week, in a manner worthy the occasion. For this purpose, Mr. W. Walters, Mayor of Haverfordwest, provided a magnificent banquet; to which were invited the directors of the South Wales, Great Western, and Vale of Neath Railways; the Eastern Steam Company, the Australian Direct, viâ Panama, Steam Screw Navigation Company; the Corporations of Haverfordwest, Swansea, Carmarthen, Cardigan, Pembroke, and Tenby; the Mayors of Cardiff, Neath, Newport, and Waterford; and the Lords-Lieutenant and members for the town and the adjoining counties. Following the example of the Mayor, the leading inhabitants resolved to make the celebration as general as possible. They not only decorated their houses and establishments in the gayest manner, but subscribed liberally for a plentiful dinner to 2000 persons of the poorer classes in the town and district.

A special excursion-train started from Swansea at 8.45, with the Mayor and a number of officials. At Landore and Carmarthen other parties joined, so that the train became a monster one before it reached Haverfordwest. On its arrival there the procession formed in regular order, and proceeded to the Shire Hall; on entering which, the Town Clerk read a congratulatory address to the Chairman and Directors of the South Wales Railway from the Mayor and Corporation of the town. An address from the Odd Fellows was next presented, soon after which the company separated.

At the Banquet—which was on a most extensive scale, ranking amongst the most elegant entertainments ever witnessed in Wales—there were about 800 ladies and gentlemen. The sides and ceiling of the station, in which it was given, were festooned with yellow, crimson, and white drapery, in a tasteful manner. The chair was filled by the Mayor, who was supported by C. R. M. Talbot, Esq., M.P.; Viscount Emlyn, M.P.; J. H. Phillips, Esq., M.P.; David Jones, Esq., M.P.; Hon. W. H. Yelverton; Dr. Llewellyn; Dean of St. David's, and other gentlemen. After the usual toasts had been given, and loyally responded to, the Mayor proposed "The healths of the Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese, including Dissenting Ministers." In reply to which, the Dean of St. David's said that no person rejoiced more in the event they had met to celebrate than the Bishop whose health had been proposed. "Instead of trundling slowly along on his way from Abergwilly to that part of his diocese, he could now take his breakfast at his palace at Abergwilly, and be amongst his friends at Haverfordwest in a short time." Lord Emlyn, in proposing "Prosperity to Milford Haven, and a speedy re-establishment of direct communication with Ireland," said he did not believe that half of them knew the vast amount of trade and commerce which would be brought to that port should this communication be re-established. The subject was again referred to by W. S. Parker, Esq., of the Waterford and Kilkenny Railway Company, who said he had great pleasure in being able to state that arrangements were already on the *tapis* to establish a line of packets between Milford and Kilkenny, which would not only do credit to the projectors, but would also prove a formidable rival to the Holyhead route.

A Ball was given in the evening, which was attended by the principal inhabitants of the town and district. The arrangements were excellent; indeed, altogether, it was pronounced one of the most agreeable *réunions* that ever took place in the county. A brilliant display of fireworks was given by the directors of the South Wales Railway, to the great delight of a numerous crowd.

HAVERFORDWEST.

THE SEINE FROZEN, AT PARIS.

LOUTH CORN-EXCHANGE.

IT is only a few months since the project was conceived of erecting an Exchange in the important agricultural town of Louth, in Lincolnshire; and, it is mainly by the exertions of a few spirited individuals, that this object has been speedily accomplished. The capital for the purpose was raised in shares of £10 each, the greater portion being held by the Directors —of whom Charles North, Esq., an eminent agriculturist, residing at South Thoresby, near Louth, is the Chairman; and Robert Norfolk, Esq., of Louth, one of the most influential merchants in the county, is Vice-Chairman. The foundation-stone of the edifice was laid by the respected Mayor of the borough of Louth (Mr. Samuel Trought), on the first day of July last, in the presence of the chairman, vice-chairman, the directors, the town-clerk of the borough, and secretary of the company (Mr. C. Ingoldby), and a numerous and influential

NEW CORN EXCHANGE, LOUTH.

body of the inhabitants of the town and district, who celebrated the event by suitable rejoicings. Wednesday, the 4th instant, being the market-day at Louth, and the New Year's market, was selected as an appropriate time for opening the building for the transaction of business.

The Façade, of which we give a view, is executed in Caen stone, of the modern Italian style of architecture, consisting of three stories, divided into three bays: the lower story by rusticated pilasters, the middle story by three-quarter Doric columns; the centre compartment of this story over the arched entrance is a niche containing a figure of Ceres. The upper story is divided by deeply-paneled pilasters, surmounted by an enriched bold cantaliver cornice, over which is a balustrade, with emblematical vases thereon. The basement story consists of extensive wine and porter vaults, and other requisite offices, occupied by Messrs Lucas and Co. On each side of the principal entrance are offices for merchants from whi h, rising by a broad flight of stone steps, the level of the Exchange-room is attained; which is entered from a spacious landing. The room is 75 by 35 feet, and proportionately high. The whole area of the Exchange is covered with Hartley's patent rough plate-glass, arranged in the ridge-and-furrow form; supported by enriched beams, upon beautiful large carved corbels, modeled by Mr. T. W. Wallis, of Louth.

Over the front offices is a large dining-room, thirty-five feet by twenty-four feet, with bed-rooms in the attic story for the accommodation of the adjoining inn.

The most essential points (light, ventilation, &c.) appear to have been well considered—the former is extraordinarily good. The design throughout is chaste and original, and reflects credit on the designer, Mr. Pearson Bellamy, of the firm of Bellamy and Hardy, architects, Lincoln and Louth.

The amount of the contract for the building is £2510, including £400 for the old Town-hall building, which originally stood on this site. The works have been executed by the contractor, Mr. John Levitt, of Louth, in a very efficient manner.

THE FROST AT PARIS.

THE French capital has been visited with frost equalling in severity that experienced in our own metropolis. On Saturday morning last the thermometer of M. Chevallier marked, at six o'clock 4 deg. 6-10ths centigrade below zero (23½ deg. Fah.); at mid-day 5-10ths deg. (31 deg. Fah.). During the night of Saturday there was a heavy fall of snow, and the thermometer rose. At seven o'clock on Sunday morning, it stood at 1 deg. centigrade above zero (33 deg. 8-10ths Fah.), and at mid-day 2 deg. 3-10ths centigrade above zero (36 deg. 1-10th Fah.).

On Saturday the Seine was frozen, and several persons passed over the ice. Of this extraordinary scene our Artist has enabled us to present the accompanying picture.

Notwithstanding the severe weather which prevailed in Paris during the whole of last week, the streets were never more crowded with pedestrians visiting the shops and booths where New-year's presents were laid out to tempt purchasers. Nothing is more curious to a stranger than to see the magnificent Boulevard des Italiens transformed into a fair, and lined with wooden huts, in which fancy articles are displayed. A great number of poor persons, who are permitted to occupy these huts, gratuitously, brave the snow during the day, and they occupy the huts during the night, notwithstanding the intensity of the frost.

CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL AT THE ST. JAMES'S DISTRICT SCHOOLS, HAMPSTEAD-ROAD.

AMONG the most interesting celebrations of Christmas are the festivals given to the poor children of certain of our metropolitan schools. We have illustrated one of these pleasing little treats, which was given to the children of the St. James's District Schools for girls and infants, at their School-room, in Henry-street, Hampstead-road, on the 24th ult. These schools were opened on the 17th of last January, under the management of a committee of gentlemen, presided over by the Rev. Dr. Stebbing, the indefatigable minister of the district. On the first day, 110 children were entered, and this number has since increased to 220. An Infant School-room has been added and a second mistress engaged for the infants, who have thus been separated from the elder children. Each child pays one penny per week; and the additional expenses of the schools are defrayed by voluntary subscriptions, which, like all the other charities of that poor district, mainly come from without. The schools owe much of their efficiency to the exertions of the lady visitors, to whose kindness and liberality, aided by the good taste of Mrs. Stebbing, the children are indebted for the above festival. The children met in the Infant School-room at four o'clock, and partook of bread-and-butter, cake, and milk. They then proceeded to the upper room, represented in the Illustration; the Christmas-tree at the end of the room was lighted by twenty-two jets of gas, and hung with toys, and little silk bags, containing sugar-plums. After an address from Dr. Stebbing, and some singing by the children, a bag of sweetmeats and a toy were given to each child.

An equally pleasing sight was witnessed in the same room on the following evening, when twenty-six poor old women were assembled to tea; and afterwards, through the seasonable liberality of a lady of the congregation, the women were presented with flannel petticoats and packets of tea and sugar.

CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENT TO THE CHILDREN OF THE ST. JAMES'S DISTRICT SCHOOLS, HAMPSTEAD-ROAD.

PLATE PRESENTED TO MR. KEAST, LATE CHURCHWARDEN OF ST. LUKE'S.

TESTIMONIAL TO MR. KEAST.

THIS handsome service of Plate was, on the 14th ult., presented to Mr. John Keast, late Churchwardea and Chairman of the Board of Guardians for the parish of St. Luke. The principal piece bears the following inscription :—

This Salver, with a Cup, Snuff-box, Tea and Coffee Service, was presented to Mr. John Keast, of the Star Tavern, City-road, by his fellow parishioners and other friends, in testimony of their esteem, and in acknowledgment of the efficient services rendered by him to the parish of St. Luke, Middlesex, while filling the office of Churchwarden and Chairman of the Board of Guardians, 14th December, 1853. John Brown, William Christie, George Sandelin, and George Whittle, Honorary Secretaries ; Charles Allberry, Acting Secretary ; Richard Hooper, Churchwarden, Chairman ; James Lowes, Vice-Chairman ; James Tilfer, Treasurer.

The Service, weighing 223 ounces, and costing £150, was made by Mr. Wright, of Coppice row, and is a highly creditable piece of workmanship. The presentation of the Testimonial took place, at a dinner given to Mr. Keast, on the 17th ult., as recorded in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for Dec. 17.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

THE ARMY IN INDIA.

The Commander-in-Chief in India, Sir William Gomm, has notified in general orders the following :—

"With deep sorrow—a sorrow sacred to the memory of rare private worth and recorded public merit the Commander-in-Chief in India makes known to the army the death, at Simla, after brief but severe illness, of Major-General Godwin, C.B., commanding the Sirhind division, and recently holding chief command of the combined force which achieved the conquest of Pegu. Sir William Gomm feels assured that the army at large will regret with him the sudden departure from amid its ranks of a distinguished soldier, a gallant leader, and an ardent promoter of its interests ; while some, perhaps, will mourn with his Excellency over the loss of a long-tried and justly-valued friend, faithful and true from youth upward to the close of an useful and honoured life."

The Commander-in-Chief has also passed some high encomiums in a general order, dated Oct. 24th, 1853, on the three distinguished regiments (the 18th, 51st, and 80th) now on their march for Calcutta, where they are to embark for England :—

"Her Majesty's 18th (Royal Irish) and 80th Regiments of Foot are on the point of returning home, after each completing a term of nearly seventeen years' foreign service. Her Majesty's 18th contributed essentially to the success of our arms in China. Her Majesty's 80th assisted actively throughout the first Sikh war, and conspicuously at the battles of Moodkee, Ferozeshah, and Sobraon. Neither can his Excellency forego the opportunity thus afforded him of expressing his sense of the recent services of her Majesty's 51st Light Infantry, also about to proceed home —services repeatedly brought to his notice by the Major-General commanding the field force in Burmah, and of offering to this regiment the same earnest good wishes as to its brethren in arms of the 18th and 80th."

A NORTH SEA SQUADRON.

Energetic efforts are being put forth by our dockyards to create and fit out a powerful North Sea squadron, to be ready for service as soon as the ice breaks up. The push will be for steamers, so many having been commissioned in 1853. Leaving Admiral Corry's force at Lisbon, or sending it to Malta or to Constantinople, to strengthen Admiral Dundas, we have a goodly force, now, at the home ports. Enumerating them we find the following :—

PADDLES.		SCREWS.	
Magicienne	16, Capt. Fisher.	Royal George	120, Capt. Codrington, C.B.
Basilisk ..	6, Commander Hon. F. Egerton.	Princess Royal	91, Captain Lord C. Paget.
Medea ..	6, Comm Phillimore.	Cressy	81, Captain Warren.
Cyclops ..	6, Mast. Com. Roberts.	Blenheim ..	60, Captain Hon. F. Pelham.
SAILING SHIPS.		Hogue	60, Capt. W. Hamby.
Water-oo ..	120 Sheerness.	Edinburgh ..	58, Capt. Hewlett.
St George ..	120 Devonport.	Ajax	58, Captain Warden.
Neptune ..	120 Portsmouth.	Euryalus ..	51, Capt. J. Ramsay.
Monarch ..	84 Sheerness.	Dauntless ..	33, Captain Ryder.
Boscawen ..	70 Wes. idies.	Horatio ..	29, Com. Jenner.
Pique	36 Fitting, Devonport.	With some smaller steamers and sailing-vessels.	

This would make a large force ; but there is not half a dozen of them fully manned, and few of the others have more than their complement of marines on board. Well fitted and manned, this force would be quite strong enough for any emergency.

It is rumoured that the *Neptune*, 120, will fit out for the Mediterranean, and the *Nelson*, 120, take her place as guard-ship at Portsmouth.

THE *Cressy*, 80 guns, new screw steam-ship, Captain Warren, has been placed under the masting shears in the fitting-basin, Sheerness, for the purpose of being masted. She is to be masted and rigged as a second-class line-of-battle ship.

THE *Majestic*, 80 guns, new screw steam-ship, has received all her engine machinery on board ; and, immediately the *Cressy* is masted, the boilers of the *Majestic* will be put into their places, and she will be got ready for sea.

COMBINED FLEETS IN THE BOSPHORUS.—The strength of the combined English and French fleets now in the Bosphorus amounts to 44 sail, including line-of-battle ships, frigates, and steamers. Of these the French and English have each three three deckers ; we have seven two-deckers (including the *Agamemnon*) to five French two-deckers, the French 90-gun screw-ship *Napoleon* having, unfortunately, been sent back to Toulon for repairs. Each flag has, or will soon have, 11 paddle-wheel steamers. The *Sanspareil* (English) and the *Charlemagne* (French) two deckers have auxiliary steam power. In addition to this powerful fleet, there are in the Bosphorus at least seven Turkish and Egyptian line-of-battle ships, besides frigates and steamers ; so that the combined force may be taken at about 80 sail. From the large amount of steam power, the weight of guns, the size of these ships in proportion to their rating, and the perfection to which naval gunnery has now been carried both in the English and French navies, this is, beyond doubt, the finest naval armament ever sent to sea, though it might, if necessary, be powerfully augmented by the first class steam-ships and frigates which form Admiral Corry's squadron now at Lisbon. Those vessels are, however, probably reserved as the nucleus of the North Sea fleet in the spring. The best understanding prevails between the English and French officers, and the signal-books of the two squadrons have been exchanged, with an arrangement that, in sailing order, the French squadron will form the weather and the English the port line.

THE ENGLISH FLEET IN THE TAGUS.—The British squadron was still at anchor in that river on the 29th, and not likely to go to sea for some days. Admiral Corry intended to sail on the 24th ultimo ; but, after the *Duke of Wellington* and *Impregnable* had gone down below Belem in good style, they were recalled in consequence of a collision between the *St. Jean d'Acre*, Captain Reppe., and the *Desperate*, Captain Chambers, which, in the crush, dismasted the latter, and brought her mainmast down upon the *St. Jean d'Acre's* forecastle. It appears to have been providential that no lives were lost in what might have been so serious an affair. A court of inquiry is said to have found no one to blame, attributing the occurrence to the fresh water current in the river and a sudden gust of adverse wind. It appears that both vessels were driving towards the south bank of the Tagus, and that the *St. Jean d'Acre* had no option but either to go on shore or run foul of the *Desperate*. The *St. Jean d'Acre* left the Tagus on the 28th, for a cruise to the Western Islands.

ABSTRACT OF WRECKS IN 1852.—The wrecks on the coasts and in the seas of the United Kingdom in the year 1852, were 1115 which may be thus classed :—

Total wrecked	500
Vessels run in collision	43
Damaged seriously and had to discharge	550
Damaged seriously in collision	24

The number of casualties in each month were :—

January	128	May	91	September	85
February	72	June	75	October	164
March	74	July	98	November	169
April	84	August	101	December	139
		Total, 1115			

Of these 464 occurred on the east coast of Great Britain ; 168 on the south coast, and 235 on the west coast ; 128 wrecks strewed the coasts of Ireland ; 5 were cast on shore at Scilly ; 9 at the Channel Islands ; 18 at Orkney and Shetland, and 18 at the Isle of Man ; the remainder, 81, occurred in the surrounding seas. The gales of January caused 126 casualties ; they prevailed during the whole month and the early part of February. The succeeding months passed over unattended with gales of more than ordinary force ; and a very moderate amount of casualties is recorded until the latter part of September, when they again began to increase —not, however, unusually so—till later in October, on the 26th of which an easterly gale begun that in six days strewed the coasts with 102 wrecks. Strong breezes, and a short lull of moderate winds until the 23rd of November were followed by gales of ordinary force at this period of the year ; but on the 24th December a heavy storm from the south-west burst over the country, and continued to the end of the year with such violence, that, by the 29th there was scarcely a vessel in the neighbourhood of the British Islands left at sea. Some had found safety by running into port ; while, of others, the returns show a list of 183 casualties ; of these, 109 were totally wrecked, making an average of 30 wrecks a day during this awful and destructive gale.

LOSS OF THE "HUMBOLDT" STEAMER.—In our last Number we gave an Illustration of the wreck of this fine steamer, near Halifax, North America. We now learn, from the *Halifax Chronicle*, that the cost of this ship is to be attributed to the ignorance of the person who attempted to pilot her into the harbour ; and it also intimates that he was not an authorised pilot. The paper says, "There never was a more flagrant case. A fisherman appears on the deck of a steam-ship, which, with her cargo, is valued at 800,000 dollars. He represents himself to be a pilot, and, on being asked for his certificate, states that he has left it in his boat, or at home. Confiding in his statement, and naturally anxious to secure for their passengers rest and refreshment after a friendly port, the officers give him charge of the ship. He alters her course, contrary to their judgment. They remonstrate ; he perseveres in his stupid ignorance ; and in a few moments she strikes upon the 'Sisters,' and the sea rushes into her with such rapidity that there is no chance of rescuing human life but by a frightful squandering and waste of an enormous amount of capital. To punish that pilot, then, ought to be the first wish of people of every man interested in the character and prosperity of this fine seaport."

A FARCE OF "HONOUR."—A duel was arranged to come off near Eltham on Tuesday last, between a military officer and a naval officer from Woolwich, who were said to have quarrelled about a young woman. The seconds, however, having more common sense and discretion than the principals, brought the affair to an arrangement by proposing that each of the belligerents should present his self before the young woman for her to make choice between them. It is whispered that she was so prudent as to reject them both, as they deserved.—*South Eastern Gazette.*

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

EMIGRATION FROM LIVERPOOL IN 1853.—The emigration from Liverpool during the last quarter of the year was, as might be expected, much less than that of any of the previous quarters. During the first three months of 1853, 106 emigrant vessels left Liverpool with 40,461 passengers ; in the second quarter, 147 ships, with 70,385 passengers ; in the third quarter, 148 ships, and in the three months ending last December, 77 ships, with 36,221 passengers. If we add to these 21,067 passengers to Australia, who are not included in the foregoing list, the total number of emigrants from Liverpool, under Government inspection, during the whole of last year, is 224,787. Out of 20,318 steerage passengers for Australia last year, 10,624 were English, 386 Scotch, 4084 Irish, and 1870 natives of foreign countries.

MANCHESTER : BIBLE LIBRARY. The British and Foreign Bible Society has, at the request of the Bishop of Manchester, presented to the Manchester Free Library twenty-one volumes of its publications, comprising the whole or portions of the Scriptures in twenty different languages, as follow :—English, Danish, Fegeean, French, German Greek (modern), Italian, New Zealand, Polish, Portuguese, Russ, Samoan, Spanish, Swedish, Tahitian, Lengan, Armenian, Hungarian, Chinese, and Turkish.

SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE ELECTION.—Lord Ingestre, accompanied by Lord Lucan, M.P., arrived at Liverpool on Tuesday morning, on board the *Niagara*, from America, and reached Stafford about five o'clock in the afternoon. The two noble Lords have been absent from England about three months, having been travelling together in the United States and in North America. Lord Ingestre was to pay a visit to Wolverhampton on Wednesday. His friends have been engaged during the past week in an active canvass on his behalf.

TRADE OF THE PORT OF BRISTOL.—The following are the foreign importations into Bristol for the last four years, as taken from the Bristol presentments : 1850, 742 vessels, 142,603 tons register, 1851, 659 vessels, 137,835 tons ; 1852, 627 vessels, 134,779 tons ; 1853, 775 vessels, 171,341 tons. Of the imports of 1853, 159 were timber ships, measuring 66,923 tons. Many large ships are kept out by the easterly winds ; otherwise the number and tonnage for 1853 would have been considerably greater.

MONEY ORDERS.—GENERAL POST-OFFICE, DECEMBER, 1853. —On the 1st inst. the undermentioned minor money-order offices were raised to major money-order offices. Postmasters must, therefore, in future, give orders issued at those offices on receipt of the corresponding advices direct therefrom : Abergele, Denbigh ; Bingley, York ; Crook, Durham ; Hawkhurst, Kent ; Heywood, Lancaster, Newcastle Emlyn, Carmarthen ; Northfleet, Kent ; Patrington, York ; Ramsey (Isle of Man) ; Rawtenstall, Lancaster ; Sandgate, Kent ; Southend, Essex ; Sowerby-bridge, York ; Walton-on-Thames, Surrey ; York Town, Surrey. Minor money-order offices have also been opened at the undermentioned places : Buckden, Huntingdon ; Holme-upon-Spalding-Moor, York ; Newmills, Derby (head office, Stockport) ; and Schull, Cork (head office, Skibbereen).

WHO WILL CUT THE TIGER'S NAILS?—Mr. Vallance appeared at the Police-court, Hull, on Friday, and called the attention of the sitting magistrates to the miserable condition of the tiger at the Hull Zoological Gardens. He stated that it had for some time suffered much in consequence of its nails growing and cutting its flesh, the poor animal being almost unable to put its feet to the ground. He understood it was considered dangerous to do anything to the nails, but he, nevertheless, thought it a proper case for investigation by the magistrates, and he wished to know whom he could summon ? Mr M'Manus suggested that chloroform should be administered to the animal, under the influence of which he thought its nails could be cut without danger. The magistrates said they had no power to interfere in the matter.—*Hull paper.*

SOME gigantic shears, erected on the eastern side of the Southampton docks, for the purpose of lifting the steam machinery, such as boilers and engines, in and out of the mail packets, fell with a terrific crash, on Tuesday, the noise being heard half a mile off. No less than 140 feet of masonry fell at the same time. It is supposed that the water behind the dock wall had frozen, and, acting like a wedge, forced out the wall, and the shears, losing their support, fell in consequence. To replace the dock and erect other shears, so as to restore what has been destroyed, just as it was before the accident, would cost about £15,000.

FOG IN THE MERSEY.—On Thursday week this town, and particularly the river, was visited by another of those dense fogs which have also been so prevalent in the locality. At half-past eight o'clock the fog became suddenly very thick ; the fog-bells of the various vessels on the river were kept in constant motion to prevent accidents ; but, notwithstanding every caution, several collisions took place. Shortly before nine, the steamer *Wervoll* left the landing stage for Woodside and when she got into the middle of the stream, notwithstanding the greatest precaution on the part of the crew, she came in contact with the steam-tug *British Queen*, lying at anchor, and sustained considerable damage. The *Queen* steam-tug and a flat about the same time came into collision with the *Derbyshire*, from Quebec, which was being towed up the river. The steamer was proceeding from the Cheshire side towards Liverpool, and, not observing the ship, she ran athwart the bows of the latter, the jibboom of which caught her funnel ; the steamer's funnel, and carried it overboard. Besides losing her funnel, the bulwarks and plating of the steamer were damaged to a considerable extent. Fortunately, the crew escaped unhurt. About the same time, the steamer *Prince*, having on board nearly 700 persons, left the Woodside slip, and proceeded very slowly towards Liverpool. The density of the fog at this time had apparently increased, and, upon getting into the middle of the river, the persons on board of the *Prince* heard the ringing of a bell at a very short distance, but supposing the sound to proceed from a ship at anchor, the steamer was not stopped. In the meantime, the Birkenhead steamer *Cato*, belonging to Messrs. Willoughby, was discerned in the mist, and the engines of both vessels were promptly reversed ; not, however, in time to prevent a collision. The *Cato* was struck near one of her paddle-boxes, and had a portion of her bulwarks damaged. Some alarm was felt by the passengers on board the *Prince* ; but, on the extent of the injury being ascertained, it quickly subsided. The steamer *Wellesley* ran into the American ship *Henry Grinnell*, which was lying at anchor, and damaged one of her paddle-boxes. The fog on the Liverpool side of the river cleared off shortly after seven o'clock ; but it remained very dense on the Cheshire side for upwards of an hour after that time. *Liverpool Mercury.*

THE CHOLERA IN SCOTLAND.—No further cases of cholera have been reported in Edinburgh since our last ; though two are stated to have occurred in Leith. In Glasgow, we are glad to say, it seems on the decrease. There were, on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 12 cases, and 22 deaths ; and, in addition, 61 cases of diarrhœa are reported. Dundee is now almost entirely rid of the disease ; but it has carried off 513 victims. In Kilwinning and Dalry the malady has also made its appearance—in the former county with great malignity, carrying off its victims after a few hours' indisposition. In Cambridge there have been some eight or ten cases of the disease.—*Scotsman.*

DEATH FROM BURNING CHARCOAL IN A BEDROOM.—At Chudleigh, Devonshire, a lace-curer, named Richard Bickford, employed by Mr. Oldham, was requested, in the absence of that gentleman's family, to sleep in a room over the coach house, in order to be near at hand in case any assistance should be required. A fire-basket, used for burning charcoal, was on the premises, and before going to bed the gardener cautioned the deceased as to the danger of burning charcoal in the room in which he was to sleep. Notwithstanding this warning, however, he appears to have taken the basket into his room, and killed himself thereby. Two medical gentlemen were immediately called in, but it was of no avail, life having been extinct for several hours.

THE RAILWAY ACCIDENT AT NEWTON-HEATH.—The inquest touching the death of Miss Jane Sykes was held on Saturday last, when the following verdict was returned :—" That the death of Jane Sykes was caused by the collision of the express train to Oldham with the Yorkshire train, and that the death was accidental, and the jury take the opportunity of expressing their regret at the apparent carelessness of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company, in allowing the express train to start so short a time after the above-named train, and would suggest that, in future, more care be exercised, especially in foggy weather." Mrs. Lord, grandmother of the young lady who was killed, is in a fair way towards recovery.

HOW DID IT COME THERE ?—A few days since, a gentleman at Birkenhead was presented with a cow's tongue, which appeared to be perfect in every respect. After being boiled, he discovered a piece of metal imbedded in the muscle about three quarters of an inch in length, half an inch in width, and a quarter of an inch in thickness.—*Liverpool Standard.*

RELIGIOUS WORSHIP IN ENGLAND AND WALES.—The important census tables of religious worship in England and Wales have just been issued, by which it appears that there are 85 different religious communities and sects, of which 27 are native and indigenous, and 9 foreign ; in which latter are included various isolated congregations of religious worshippers, which are not organised to be called a "sect." The population of England and Wales, by the last census, was 17,927,609 ; and on Sunday, the 30th March, 1851, there were present at the most numerously-attended services 7,261,358 members of the Church of England, 4,110,782 Protestant Dissenters, 249,339 Roman Catholics, and 24,270 other bodies. Of all denominations the number returned as present on the occasion was 6,356,252.

THE CHINESE INSURRECTION.

THE events which are now taking place in China possess so world-wide an interest, and are so pregnant with stupendous changes affecting every people upon the face of the earth, that neither the distance of the theatre nor the nearer pressure of the great Eastern question, can divert the public mind from intense curiosity as to the origin, the progress, the present position, and the future prospects of this extraordinary struggle. The news received from time to time from the seat of war possesses us, though in an uncertain manner, of such intelligence as can be derived from the irregular and casual intercourse with the interior of the country, and seems to point at the probable overthrow of the reigning Tartar dynasty; but whether this should or should not become the catastrophe, a comprehensive glance at the Celestial Empire, and a retrospect at the growth of the rebellion, which fills it with discord and threatens its dissolution, can hardly fail to be accept ble to general readers.

An empire occupying nearly five and a half millions of square miles, and hitherto hedged in by a jealous policy unparalleled in the history of nations—a table land extending over a third of the Asian continent, containing a population of about an eighth of mankind, appears at last, after the endurance of many centuries, to be breaking up—letting the light of external day into its dark and guarded concealments, and resolving into other forms and elements of incalculable importance, not only to their own relations, but to the relations of the whole human race.

Their vast rivers, "sons of the ocean," heretofore hermetically sealed against foreign intrusion, must speedily be opened to the enterprise of commerce; and the wonderful fertility and wealth of this immense region—twelve times the extent of Great Britain—be no longer confined to the superfluous luxuries of a sensual slavery, but participated among the free, energetic, and progressive natives of many another clime. The great wall, sixty miles from Pekin, may be tumbled down, unless the expulsion of the Tartar dynasty may lead to wars between the Tartars and Chinese, as before the conquest and union; but on all other sides the barriers are broken, and every point of the seaboard exposed to speculations, which cannot and will not be denied entrance.

Of the history of China, all that is needful for us to notice here is that the ancient Tsin dynasty was succeeded by that of Soong (about 950), which, after a time, called in the aid of the Monguls to enable them to resist the Tartars; the said Monguls changing the character of allies for conquerors: and, under the famous Kubla-Khan, establishing the Government at Pekin, where his successors reigned and degenerated during nine successions, till 1366, when the Chinese dynasty of Ming was again obtained the ascendancy, and ruled in comparative peace till 1618. At this epoch the native sway was again terminated; and, after a struggle of nearly thirty years, the present family of a race sprung from the expelled Monguls and East Tartars, mounted the throne. They are denominated Ta-Thsing, and are often spoken of in the Chinese accounts as the Shing-Khing, from the place of their birth.

From this period is dated the formation of secret societies, which, under various appellations, have pursued various courses, but generally merging in conspiracy to oust the Mantchoo usurpers. Except by overt acts, there has always been a difficulty in ascertaining exactly what was the condition and schemes of those associations whose mysteries were so studiously concealed, and also so cunningly varnished and misrepresented for the sake of diverting suspicion and misleading inquiry. Yet ever and anon the wrath of Government was excited, and hundreds of individuals were seized and decapitated *pour encourager les autres*. Yet, in spite of these raids, every province, especially in the west and south, was infected with unions, or *kongsis* of this kind, and, on the whole, deemed so dangerous, that the jealous laws pronounced the penalty of death for five persons associating together under any pretence. This only made secrecy more imperative, and multiplied the combinations, occasionally assuming the ostensibles of charity, philanthropy, or the encouragement of manufactures. Thus there were, among many more, the Great Ascending Society, the Society of Glory and Splendour, the White Jackets, the Red-Beards, the Short Swords, the White Water-Lily, the Sea and Land, the Righteous Rising, the Queen of Heaven—worshipping this divinity as the nurse of productiveness, and including housebreaking in its sacred duties—and the Union of the Three Great Powers of Heaven, Earth, and Man, spread far and wide throughout China, and prevalent and flourishing in Canton, the Straits of Malacca, and the whole Indian Archipelago. It is asserted, however, that this last Association can be traced to the third century of the Christian era, the time of a usurper named Tsan-Tsau. It is evident that the country was never tranquil under Mongul or Tartar, as it was under the succession of the thirteen intervening Chinese monarchs who formed the golden epoch of nearly three centuries between these usurping forces; and, in one semblance or another, secret plans for re-establishing a native authority have been cherished (when needed) for six or eight hundred years. So long have these aspirations been in existence; and their lasting is the less wonderful when we consider the character of the people. Precedent, tradition, custom, and habit, are as inexorably their rule, as the law of the Medes and Persians, which never altered. Generation after generation go in as animals do. From the head to the foot, the governing and the governed, the same immutability overrules all else. The Emperor reigns and dies; the Mandarins in all their nine ranks are buttoned and degraded; the officials are raised from the learned who pass their examinations successfully, or doomed to inferiority; the military have peacock's feathers, or are ordered to rip themselves up—in short, all must submit to immemorial practices; and it is no surprising that opinions and feelings should be as faithfully preserved by so stationary a people.

A good deal of our difficulty in reading or understanding either ancient or modern information about China is found in the intricacies of the language and the confusion of titles, their interpretation, and translation. On consulting a learned Chinese scholar we learn that the last-described society, the Secret Triad, is the Society of the Tien-ti-hnih); and the next writer to whom we apply ourselves speaks of the Sanhohwuy, or Society of the Three United, or of *jheen*, heaven; *te*, earth; and *jin*, man; the three great powers in nature, according to the Chinese doctrine of the universe.

These slighter discrepancies being made intelligible, all the accounts agree that the initiation of the members into the sacred bond of brotherhood are very solemn and appalling: the oaths are tremendous and damnatory. The candidate must be manly and neutral; and his firmness is tried by passing through or under swords, amid awful imprecations if he fail in his obligations. A wild tradition of three brothers connects this ceremony directly with the descriptions we have recently received of the three commanders of the insurgent forces. A black cow and a white horse were sacrificed to Heaven and Earth, in the garden, on the original compact. The three men burnt incense, reverently worshipped, and took the oath, saying, "Liu Pi, Kwan I, and Chang Fei, although of different surnames, are now united as *brethren*, joined hand and heart, &c., &c. "May the supreme heaven and the deep earth behold and establish our hearts; he that proves treacherous and ungrateful, may heaven and men join in his destruction!" The oath being ended, they honoured Hinen Teh as elder Brother, Kwan I as second Brother, and Chang Fei as younger Brother—the very same distinction now held by the commanders of the rebel army at Nanking. The adventures of the first model trio might class with those of the heroes of Persian or Greek anthology, the legends of Scandinavia, or the exploits of knights who encountered magicians and giants in yet more stirring tales. Azure-coloured dragons, and, moon-ornamented scimitars, and well-tempered spears, eighteen feet long, were fearful weapons in their hands, and they slay fifty thousand enemies faster than *Bobadil* with his "twenty more, kill them too." But their history will not throw more light on the present; and, curious and amusing as it is, we put it aside to state that a regularly-descended branch of the fraternity was proscribed in the *Pekin Gazette* so recently as 1817, and several executions followed of criminals who made paper effigies of the Emperor, which the novices, on entering the society, cut in pieces. It was proved by a MS. discovered at Macao that they were conspiring for the destruction of the reigning Monarchy; and a number of their rules and customs were brought to light. There were no fewer than thirty-six oaths, all inculcating fidelity to the order, and perfect subordination. The finger was cut, and three drops of blood let fall into a chalice of spirits, and drunk—a dreadful corroboration of a Chinese oath, human blood being reckoned far more terrible for this purpose than the cutting off a cock's head—a sacrifice of great solemnity on such occasions.

Resemblances to the rites of Freemasonry, and the system of Secret Tribunals in Germany, are obvious in many parts of these Chinese communities.

At Hong-Kong, Mr. Gutzlaff found many papers belonging to the Triad Society, which gave a somewhat different version of its origination; but still resting in a hate of the Mantchoos, and a resolve to re-instate the Ming Chinese Sovereigns. In these the Society set forth the following religious principles:—"We consider Heaven as our father, the Earth as our mother, the Sun as our elder brother, the Moon as our elder sister; we pay respect to the true Son of Heaven, worship our five ancestors, (five bonzes or priests, whom they declare to be their founders, and not the three brothers before stated), treat with deference our brethren, and devote ourselves to a life of pleasure." They had a symbolical language, and hymns or songs by which to recognise each other; besides the signs in pouring out tea into cups, lighting their pipes, smoking opium, and other devices by which every kind of meaning was clandestinely communicated. These papers prove that they considered themselves a powerful body, and certain of the final result of their endeavouring to place a Chinese Monarch on the Throne.

Gradually increasing in numbers, strength, and organisation, the Triads continued to induce other patriotic societies to fraternise with them; and thus at length to make the head now seen against the Tartar oppressor of the peculiar Chinese race. One remarkable element consists of the Scholars, who have studied all the sages, and wish the world to be ruled by Confucius. Whether this body plays a subordinate or paramount part in the drama now acting, is one of the most interesting problems connected with its *dénouement*. A distinguished public officer, just returned from China, observed to us, in answer to an inquiry, that as far as he could ascertain, and his opportunities had been of the foremost order, the insurgents possessed all the elements of Destruction but none of Construction—they might overthrow a Government, but to recompose one would be out of their power. From our own investigations, agreeing entirely with this dictum, we would say, that though strictly applicable to the Triad leaders now in the field, we should not consider the task of reconstruction so unlikely were the Scholar section to acquire authority after the battle was won.

Of the elder society we may mention, that in the time of the last Emperor it flourished under the name of Thee-ho-hwuy—the Celesto-Terrestrial Society, or the Society that unites Heaven and Earth. It then nearly succeeded in overturning the Government, and was only suppressed fifty years ago, when a number of chiefs were taken and cruelly put to death; and it was proclaimed, with the usual bombast of these vermilion documents, that "there was but one of that rebellious fraternity left under the wide extent of the Heavens!" The result was greater secrecy and an accumulation of adherents; the assumption of the title of Triad—adding MAN to the preceding two great powers; and also adopting another distinction (not preserved throughout), viz., that of Hung-Kea, or the Flood family; but whether having reference to the Deluge, or being allegorical, to signify their overflowing all resistance, we cannot distinctly ascertain. Dr. Morrison gave a very unfavourable opinion of their objects—"theft, robbery, the overthrow of regular government, and an aim at political power;" and the plunder divided in shares according to the rank the members held in the society." They levied black-mail and protection-money where they were strong enough; and their Government consisted of three persons, denominated "Ko" (Elder Brothers); thus distinguished: Yih-Ho, Urh-Ho, and San-Ho; i.e., Brother-First, Brother-Second, and Brother-Third—as we find them now on their march towards Pekin, at the head of the Heung-té, or body of the "Brethren."

From these particulars we see that the threatened dissolution of the Tartar dynasty, and with it a great, probably a total, change in the condition of the Chinese empire, both as regards itself and its foreign relations, is but the consummation of the work of centuries; the peculiarities of which have depended on the peculiarities of this strange people.

The engrafting of several tenets on the preceding religious code (if it may be so called), which bear some analogy to the Protestant faith, is one of the most remarkable features in the case. As far as they can yet be made out, they are much more nearly allied to the Jewish dispensations, as related in the Old Testament, than to the Humanising morality inculcated in the New. But whatever they are, they appear to be recently derived from missionary tracts, in which portions of the Bible were translated into Chinese, and scattered over the country. The destruction of idols and temples, and the massacres of men, women, and children have a striking resemblance to the historical wars of the children of Israel. At Nanking, above 20,000 Tartars were massacred on second branch; and accredited report states that, on other occasions, the Roman Catholics—as worshippers of idols—have, in like manner, been sacrificed to the creed of *T'hien* or *Jin*.

Through their strange mingled yarn of doctrine and superstition, there are, without doubt, principles of Protestantism—however perverted or defiled. The Ten Commandments, the nature and observances of prayer, and a glimmering of the Christian Trinity, and the salvation of the world by the Second Person, are observable in their books and official documents. Tai Ping Wang, their chief leader, though reverenced as a god, or "the Mighty Pacificator," is said to have been taught by an American missionary; and either this fact, or the fact of other missionary intercourse, would account for some of the anomalies to which we are alluding. The astute Chinese could not fail to learn the schism between Protestant and Roman Catholic Christians, and the greater difference of the former from the Tartar idolatrous rites and ceremonials, which it is his object to destroy. Thus, what the Jesuits permitted, and to a certain extent conformed to, with the view of converting proselytes, has, in the issue, turned to the disadvantage of their creed; and the more distinct shape of Calvanism has been assumed, either from principle or policy, as likely to neutralise the hostility or excite the sympathy of Great Britain and America in their cause. This is far sighted, and yet precisely what was to be expected from the acute character of the insurgent leaders, "the Celestial King," and his four fellow generals, the Kings of the East, North, West, and South. Their puritanical demeanour and fanaticism may be genuine or put on for this great purpose, and the importance of the adopted line is demonstrated in the neutrality of the (now no longer) "outside barbarians," and the voice of the countries most intimately connected with China, in their favour.

The result is now imminent. The young Emperor, who on his ascension in 1850 took the palpable misnomer of "Complete Abundance," is reduced to his last defences, after degrading and executing Mandarins and military commanders without number, who have failed in "exterminating the rebellious monsters." The chances are against him. The English war led to much disaffection and anarchy; and, what was still more dangerous, allowed multitudes of the people to get arms, previously so rigidly proscribed. The learned, on whom, by the constitution and practice of the Empire all offices of trust were conferred, were disgusted by the sale of preferments to the merely wealthy classes, in order to raise money for the payment of subsidies imposed by the victorious English. Mantchou Tartary is too thinly populated to supply reinforcements sufficient to withstand the insurgents, who have now been three years in the field, and continually advancing. Famine, above all, menaces the overthrow of the reigning dynasty; for, owing to the patriarchal form of the Government—always looked up to for food, as the father of a family is by his children—scarcity has never failed to stimulate revolt; and there are not now, as usual, vast stores and granaries to meet the exigencies of the case. On the contrary, all has been consumed; and the last edicts of the Emperor are appeals *ad misericordiam*—apparently the last sighs and groans of a departing empire. The insurgents were, according to the latest advices, about to march, in two great divisions, upon Peking; and it is not improbable that we shall soon hear of the fall of the northern or Tartar capital; and that its Sardanapalus has followed the example of his dignified mandarins, and swallowed that suicidal ounce of gold leaf in pills, with which they put an end to their forlorn existence.

Judging from the past, the Imperialists cannot avert this inevitable destiny; and the present generation will live to see such changes in the whole world's business, through the emancipation of China, with its 350 millions of inhabitants, as the wildest dreamer of what Free-trade might effect could never imagine within ten thousand degrees.

CHINESE MILITARY PICTURE DESPATCH.

WE annex a fac-simile of a Despatch sent by the Imperial officers to Pekin, announcing the re-capture of Chin-kiang, or Tching-kiang, from the insurgents. The Despatch in question is a woodcut, of which the tone is chiefly a dull red, a few parts, together with the writing, being black. The insurgents may generally be distinguished by having merely coarse wrappers round their heads, instead of a sort of helmet, or by wearing long hair. The Mandarins, with their attendants, are in the upper right-hand corner of the picture, admiring the prowess of their troops. The dress and general appearance of Chinese soldiers are given with great accuracy.

We must add, that the event portrayed in this is sheer invention; the town having been found by the English authorities to be still quietly in possession of the insurgents long after the date of its asserted re-capture. Had the Duke of Wellington been a General *à la Chinoise*, he would, no doubt, on raising the siege of Burgos, have sent to England an announcement of the capture of the place, with a spirited sketch of the final assault, for insertion in the *Gazette*.

Tching-kiang, the scene of this imaginary victory, is situate on the Yang-tse-kiang river, between Nankin and its mouth, and is a place of great importance.

THE CITIES OF LONDON AND PARIS.—The Lord Mayor has received an answer to the address presented to the Municipality of Paris, recording the reception of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council of the City of London in the year 1851. The document, which is framed and emblazoned in the most splendid and tasteful manner, acknowledges, on the part of the Prefect of the Department of the Seine, courteous address forwarded through the medium of her Majesty's Ambassador at Paris; and, after expressing satisfaction at this new proof of those good feelings which exist between England and France, conveys the assurance that the municipality of Paris, like that of London, appreciates the benefits of the happy brotherhood which peaceful competitions tend to establish between civilised nations. This document is dated "August 18, 1853," and is accompanied by a note, dated the "17th of December, 1853," from the present Prefect of the Seine; the receipt of which was acknowledged on the 22nd of December last by the Lord Mayor, who expresses an earnest hope "that the reciprocation of kindly feelings, which were cemented by the Great Exhibition of 1851, may long be cherished by those much powerful and distinguished communities as the cities of Paris and London."

CAUTION TO CAPTAINS OF PASSENGER SHIPS.—The *Melbourne Herald* of the 10th of September gives an account of a punishment inflicted in Melbourne on Captain Howes, of the *Anna*, under the following circumstances:—Captain Howes was convicted at Williamstown police-court of divers breaches of the Passengers Act in the passage of the ship from England to Australia, and was fined in the aggregate amount of £1800. In default of payment, Captain Howes has been sentenced to a series of imprisonments amounting altogether to nearly thirty years—a period longer than the whole past lives of the majority of the colonists. This tremendous sentence has begun to take effect.

A SNAKE IN A FIX.—A Texas correspondent of a New York paper gives the following snake story:—"One night myself, my wife, and myself were awakened by a noise from a shelf which contained our small store of crockery, followed by a crash, which showed that a great portion of our cups and plates had been flung on the floor. Springing up to discover the author of this 'smack upon chins,' I found a large snake in a somewhat unpleasant 'fix.' He had crawled upon the shelf, attracted by a number of eggs which were scattered about. One of these he had swallowed, and, in order to get at the next, he had put his head and a portion of his body through the handle of a jug, which happened to stand between the coveted delicacies. The handle was just open enough to let his body, when puffed out by the egg. In this position he had swallowed the second egg. His snakeship thus found himself unable to advance or retreat; and, in floundering about to escape from this novel stock, had caused the accident which had aroused us. I, of course, proceeded at once to execute summary justice upon the interloper; but the eggs which he had swallowed were a dead loss."

DESTRUCTIVE FIRES.—A very large amount of property was destroyed on Saturday night, by a fire which broke out among the large warehouses in Cheapside and the immediate neighbourhood. The fire commenced on the premises of Messrs. Townley, hat-manufacturer, and ran along the back warehousing, lying in succession the premises of Messrs. Liddiard and Co., 61, Friday-street; those of Messrs. Le Willet and Co., No. 62; and those of Messrs. Muir and Son, No. 60, all warehousemen. At the same time the flames were driven into the warehouses of Messrs. Mackerrow and Sons, manufacturers, No. 54, Bread-street, and those of Messrs. Douglas and Co., manufacturers, No. 6 in the same street. The firemen of the Brigade and West of England office made a vigorous attempt to confine the fire to the scene of its present operations, but without the least success, the flames extending to the warehouses of Mr. W. Airey, jun., silk and mohair manufacturer, No. 4, Bread-street; also into those of Mr. Thomas Greenless, warehouseman, and bakers into the property of Messrs. Broughton, Son, and Co., hardware and button warehousemen. The flames illuminated Bow Church, and brought out in bold relief the beautiful tracery round the gallery of St. Paul's Cathedral. So great was the main body of fire that for hours all the men could do was to protect off the flames when they threatened to seize upon the contiguous houses. Most of the premises and stock appear to have been insured. The fire was not fairly extinguished until Tuesday. The damage is estimated at from £500,000 to £600,000.—Several other serious fires have since taken place. On Tuesday evening, between eleven and twelve, the residence of Lord Normanton, Seymour-place, Curzon-street, May-fair, took fire, and considerable damage was done before it was extinguished. On Tuesday morning the premises of Messrs. Hobb, look-manufacturers, Cheapside, took fire, and nearly destroyed the whole building. On Wednesday morning the Lansdowne Arms, Old Paradise-row, Islington, was found to be on fire about half-past one; and, notwithstanding a bold had the flames obtained, that the inmates escaped with great difficulty. Owing to the deep snow, the supply of water was short, and the consequence was that the flames extended to the neighbouring premises. The property destroyed is valued at several thousand pounds.

THE military lines to the north and east of Devonport, long left unfinished, are now under the hands of engineers. It would seem to be the intention of the authorities to complete them.

CHINESE MILITARY DESPATCH.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

CAVALRY: ITS HISTORY AND TACTICS.*

THE Encampment at Chobham has awakened that degree of public interest in the condition of our army without which it is impossible to effect any great reform in this country. In no branch of our military armament is reform more needed than in the cavalry, which has for a period beyond the memory of living men been given up to the control of foreign martinets, and Royal tailors.

We are the best horsemen in the world, take us for all in all—that is to say, a given number of Englishmen, mounted on any horses, with or without saddles, will get over a rough broken country in a shorter time, in better condition, than any other civilised nation. We ought to have, and could have, the best horses in the world. With these advantages to start from we ought to have a high and special reputation for our cavalry, which we have never earned.

Why we are deficient where we ought to excel, and how we may attain the superiority due to our condition, Captain Nolan has come forward to tell us, in a capital book, written with full knowledge of the subject, both practical and theoretical; exhibiting, at the same time, enthusiasm and admirable common sense. Having served with our own army in India and with foreign armies on the Continent, he is able to speak with much more confidence and experience than the most learned pupil of riding-schools and reviews.

The first two chapters contain an historical sketch of cavalry, from the earliest times down to 1815. The remainder of the work is descriptive, critical, and suggestive. Although mainly addressed to the profession, to which the author belongs, there are considerable portions which will interest, and be fully appreciated by all the horse-riding public.

At the conclusion of his historical sketch, he comes to the following conclusions:—that "individual prowess, skill in single combats, good horsemanship, and sharp swords, render cavalry formidable." "That in the long run light active horsemen have prevailed over heavily equipped cavalry, and that speed and endurance are to be specially prized in the horseman." "Therefore our European cavalry is not organized on an efficient system." "For the present riding drill makes few good horsemen. The swords blunted by steel scabbards, are not efficient weapons. Speed and endurance cannot be expected from horses that are overweighted."

Pace is power: the heavier the man, his arms, and accoutrements, the less his power of moving rapidly or long. Captain Nolan objects to placing grenadiers of six feet on horseback. He shows, by copious authentic evidence, that Indian Irregular Cavalry, with sharp swords, on small horses, have inflicted more formidable and more numerous sword cuts than any European Cavalry, number for number. The cuirass gives weight, yet leaves the arms, the legs, the head, unprotected; yet the moment either of the horseman's arms is wounded, it signifies not which arm, he is at the mercy of his adversary. "If a heavy-armed horseman gallops and exerts himself only for a few minutes the horse is beat by the weight, and the rider is exhausted in supporting himself and his armour in the saddle; his sword arm hangs helplessly by his side; he can hardly raise his heavy broadsword." Let those who have seen the exhausted state of our splendid Life Guards or Blues after a sharp canter as Royal escort, imagine what their condition would be after a day's march over a stiff broken country.

The nations of the Continent cannot obtain sufficiently well-bred horses, of size and power, to carry their heavy cavalry, and are, therefore, obliged to mount their heavy dragoons on large, clumsy, and slow horses. To make the best of a bad job they case them in armour, in order that they may have a better chance of reaching the point of attack alive. England, if reduced "to mount her heavy dragoons on Barclay and Perkins' dray horses, would most likely imitate the French charge at a trot, or arm the men *cap-a-pied;* but whilst no dearth of horses has reduced her to this expedient, it is truly pitiful that she should copy from such bad originals as Continental cuirassiers." Heavy cavalry should have the largest and most powerful horses; but their men and their accoutrements should be light. "If you weight powerful horses with heavy men and accoutrements you bring them down to the level of smaller and weaker horses." Certainly, war is harder work than hunting; and, in hunting the object is always to have a horse above your weight. Properly mounted and armed, our English dragoons could, on an emergency, make their way across a country where no foreign dragoons could ride and follow.

With these views Captain Nolan would discard the cuirass, give the dragoon a neat short frock coat, the sleeve from the elbow to button slashed, so as to turn back, for work, in a long cuff; cover the hand and arm with a steel gauntlet, formed so as to leave the inside of the hand naked, to grasp a sword. This would be light yet strong enough to ward off a disabling blow. Put on the head a well ventilated not too heavy helmet, and arm with a really sharp sword, with a grip well fitted to the hand, substituting a leather or wooden scabbard for the steel, which renders it impossible to keep a sword sharp. "To me it appears that we have too much frippery, too much toggery, too much weight in things worse than useless. To a cavalry soldier every ounce is of consequence. I can never believe that our bussar uniform is the proper dress to scramble through thickets, to ford or swim rivers, to bivouac, to be nearly always on outpost work, to 'rough it' in every possible manner." Instead of overalls or trousers, which are constantly getting torn, rotten with mud, and inconvenient from the straps, Captain Nolan recommends overalls without straps, ankle boots, and black leather leggings, made in the shape of Napoleon boots, with a covered bar of steel running down the side, fastened with straps above and below; with fixed spurs attached, to be only worn when mounted, and to be left hanging to the saddle when dismounted in the field. Thus while the dragoon would be unencumbered with spurs and straps when dismounted, when mounted he would have the comfort and strength given by boots, an advantage which every hunting man knows.

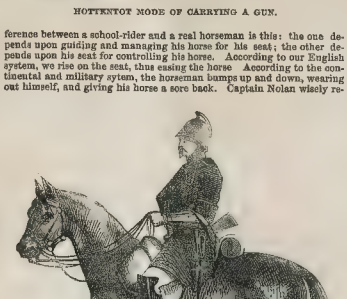
With regard to fire arms, he would give them short handy rifles (we suggest that if loaded at the breech on the American "Mould's" plan, exhibited at the Institute of Civil Engineers' last soirée, so much the better); and he recommends for carrying the rifle a bell-mouthed holster, open at the bottom, fastened below the off-wallet, pointing to the horse's shoulder. To this plan there are several strong objections. The bullet shakes down, and the gun misses fire or bursts.

Mr. Francis Galton, in his recent "Travels through Tropical South Africa," recommends the Hottentot method of carrying a gun as far better than any other, viz.:—"Have a case of strong leather of such size and shape as to admit the gun-stock a little stiffly (See Cut). This case is fastened tightly above to rings or clees in the pommel of the saddle; below it is unsupported, except by a thong which passes round the saddle-girth, and keeps the gun-case from tilting too far forward. The gun is pushed stock downwards into the case; the barrel passes between the right arm and the side; while the muzzle is so clear of the person, that, even in taking a steep leap, it never shifts into a dangerous position. The hands of the rider are free; the lock is in full sight; a cover to keep out rain is easily put on. In a moment the gun is out of the case—almost as quickly as a whip could be raised."

Captain Nolan's improvements in the saddle must be reserved for separate illustration. But, supposing the horse, the rider, the costume, the arms, and the accoutrements, as near perfection as possible, all will be useless without a good seat. With a good seat and a good horse, a bold man can ride over anything; with a weak horse, or a loose seat, a stick can turn his sabre.

We ride across country in a style no other European native can equal, yet we are silly enough to import our system of military riding from the Continent. When we fly across the pastures of Leicestershire or Northamptonshire, we sit back, bend the knee, and grip firm with thigh and calf, with the leg straight from the knee. In our cavalry we ride by balance. Our officers have one style for show and another for work. The established military seat is upright. The knee drawn back and the heel in a perpendicular line with the point of the shoulder. The man's legs, from the knee down, are carefully brought away from the horse in order to prevent what is called "clinging." A form of riding, in which not one man in a hundred could get across a dozen fences on a pulling horse. The balanced seat originated in times when knights sheathed in armour, ran a course with lance in rest. "The upright seat enabled them to carry the weight of the armour with more ease; the long stirrup supported the leg at that point to which the weight of the armour pressed it down. They were obliged to study balance on horseback; for the equilibrium once lost, no effort of strength could save them—the weight of armour brought them to the ground. The necessity has long ceased to exist, but the system is kept up"—perhaps, chiefly, because cavalry are the toys of kings and princes, and there is something showy and imposing in the balanced seat of a tall horseman on a well-trained fiery horse. But those who have only learned to ride by balance are helpless on untrained horses. The difference between a school-rider and a real horseman is this: the one depends upon guiding and managing his horse for his seat; the other depends upon his seat for controlling his horse. According to our English system, we rise on the seat, thus easing the horse. According to the continental and military system, the horseman bumps up and down, wearing out himself, and giving his horse a sore back. Captain Nolan wisely recommends us to stick to the seat we practise as a nation of foxhunters while teaching our dragoons how to work their horses with hand and leg, so as to make them as handy as Eastern cavalry. His idea of what a seat should be and should not be is exemplified in the two accompanying illustrations, copied from the work under review:—

HOTTENTOT MODE OF CARRYING A GUN.



THE MILITARY SEAT AND COSTUME AS IT OUGHT TO BE.

THE MILITARY SEAT AND COSTUME AS IT IS.

In the first, the horseman is in a position to gallop fast, leap anything, hold and control a fractious horse, and hit hard. In the second, if the horse pull hard or become restive, half the rider's strength must be exhausted in preserving his balance—hold him in he cannot. We conclude our notice of this valuable contribution to military literature without being able, from want of space, to make further extracts from a crowd of interesting historical passages and anecdotes.

* By Captain L. E. NOLAN. Bosworth.

THE IMPROVEMENTS IN PARIS.

LONDON astonishes us by its *ensemble.* Paris charms by its individual features. It may be said of these two great capitals, that the first commands admiration, like those majestic women, of handsome Juno-like features, who owe their charms to a regular and perfect harmony of proportion; of the other, that it pleases, like those women who, without being strictly beautiful, irresistibly captivate us by their expression of countenance, by their *piquante* liveliness, by the grace of their person and the *je ne sais quoi* which fascinate as entirely as beauty itself. The traveller, fresh from the grandeur of London, the magnificence of its streets and squares, and the imposing spectacle of the Thames, is, on his arrival in Paris, first impressed by the narrowness of its streets, with their inextricable windings, which exactly resemble a skein of silk entangled. He is struck especially by the absence in the houses of that decent exterior which characterises our English cities. To find the proper character of the physiognomy of Paris we must enter into its details. When we have visited its monuments, its treasures of art, its public institutions, its curiosities of all kinds, we feel that we are in the midst of a people who, in attaining to the splendid and the showy, sometimes sacrifice the enjoyments and comforts indispensable to the Englishman.

During the reign of Louis Philippe, great improvements were made in Paris. New quarters of the city, well built and airy, were substituted for squalid and ill-drained districts. The fine double line of quays which border the Seine along the entire length of the city is a remarkable work, which France owes to the same Monarch. The present Emperor, actuated not only by good intentions, but probably also by the suggestions of public policy which represented the necessity of creating great public works, in order to find occupation for the working classes, has prosecuted the good work commenced by Louis Philippe with the suddenness and vigour which characterise his acts, and has organised a series of gigantic enterprises, the result of which will be to effect the entire transformation of Paris.

The first and the most important of the improvements now being made in Paris is doubtless the junction of the Louvre and the Palace of the Tuileries, and the opening up the approaches to the north of these two edifices. This project, conceived by Napoleon I., but which he could only partly execute, had been abandoned after his time by reason of the enormous expense which it entailed. In 1849 the National Assembly, wishing to find employment for a portion of the industrious classes, had decreed the completion of the Louvre, under the name of the People's Palace. This decree was not put in execution. It is this project considerably expanded, which is now being carried out, under the orders of Louis Napoleon, with such remarkable promptitude. It is to him the Parisians owe the destruction of the wretched hovels which encumbered the space between the Louvre and the Palace of the Tuileries, and to him also they are indebted for the prolongation of the Rue de Rivoli as far as the Place du Louvre. This undertaking has been conducted with such activity that the space between the two buildings has long since been cleared; and in less than a year the wing, which is too close in on the northern side the immense Place du Carrousel, is already half finished. The street, which is to run by its side, is laid out as far as the Louvre, and even beyond it, as we shall hereafter describe. The total expense of this construction, including the cost of purchasing the houses demolished, amounts to the sum of £1,912,000.

M. Visconti's plan consists of two detached edifices parallel to the wings of the Louvre, and which stand a little in front of the west façade of the Palace. These two edifices are destined—that to the north for the residence of the Minister of the Interior; and that to the south, very probably, for a barracks. They will be separated from one another by two semicircular enclosures; in the centre of one of which will be placed a colossal statue of Louis XIV., and in the other a statue of Napoleon. The façade of the Louvre which opens upon the Tuileries will be modified. The vast square thus formed may, upon occasion, be converted into a formidable fortress and *place d'armes.*

The prolongation of the Rue de Rivoli, which is to be carried on simultaneously with the completion of the Louvre, is a work of more decided utility. It necessitates the removal of low and filthy streets, the neighbourhood of which disgraced one of the most magnificent quarters of Paris. The piazza of the Rue de Rivoli will be continued along the Louvre, and around the Place du Palais Royal, which is about to be enlarged. An square will replace the houses, at this moment in process of demolition, at the end of the Rue Richelieu, and will extend as far as the Théâtre Français, the approaches to which will thus be cleared. The purchase of the houses pulled down for the purpose of clearing the approaches of the Louvre and the Tuileries, has amounted to the sum of £1,200,000.

The space comprised between the Place du Louvre and the Place de l'Hôtel de Ville presents a labyrinth of streets both straight and crooked, unwholesome, and occupied in a great measure by wholesale dealers, who found in the old and dark houses of this lifeless quarter warehouses at a low rent. The idea of cutting through this neighbourhood by a great connecting street had been long entertained, and a very old project, which dated from the construction of the colonnade of the Louvre under Louis XIV., made this street end at the eastern door of the Louvre, on one side, and on the other at the Bastille, following the line of the Rue St. Antoine, which is was intended to absorb. The municipal administration decided to continue the Rue de Rivoli on this side of the Place du Louvre towards the east in the direction of the Hôtel de Ville. This immense enterprise, which will give to the Rue de Rivoli a total length of nearly three miles, and a width of about 70 English feet, has been executed in less than a year, and the greater number of the new houses which are to form this magnificent thoroughfare are already constructed. The mania for building upon the land re-sold by the city has been powerfully stimulated by the legislative provision which exempts them from the land-tax, and from the door and window-tax, for twenty years. The number of houses demolished for the purposes of the new street of this part of the Rue de Rivoli is 240; they have cost the city about £1,000,000.

The passage of the new street across the ancient streets has occasioned differences of level which have rendered necessary a general survey, and this has led to a great number of new demolitions. Advantage has been taken to straighten and enlarge a crowd of cross streets, especially the Rue St. Martin, one of the great arteries of Paris, where the soil had risen twelve feet above that of the Rue Rivoli. The expense of this feature of the work has been about £800,000.

In this sweeping clearance, which has just effaced entire streets from the maps of Paris, all of them extremely ancient, archæological science will have to regret numerous losses, and history many precious souvenirs. The house which, under the name of the Hôtel Coligny, recalled one of the most execrable crimes that attended the massacre of St. Bartholomew, the death of the brave and virtuous Admiral de Coligny, the victim of his attachment to Protestantism—has been totally demolished. One monument only has escaped the general destruction. We mean the Tower of St. Jacques la Boucherie, one of the most interesting remains of Christian architecture, in the style of the *Renaissance.* It will occupy the centre of a square, one of the sides of which will be formed by the Rue Rivoli. The improvements of this quarter have required the destruction of 167 houses.

The passage of the Hôtel de Ville in particular reaps the greatest advantages from the continuations of the Rue de Rivoli. A barrack for 2000 men has been constructed behind the edifice, in a position which commands at once the Rue de Rivoli, the Hôtel de Ville, and the Rue St. Antoine. The construction of this barrack, which has a frontage of 360 feet, has cost the state, which has borne the whole expense, the sum of £450,000; the land, given by the city, being estimated at an equal sum. The block of houses which fronted the Hôtel de Ville to the west has been razed to the ground, and the new habitations will be carried further back, with a symmetrical façade opening upon the square. They will be constructed uniformly of five stories, at the height of forty-eight feet, with projecting cornice carried along on the same line, and windows adorned with striking mouldings.

The central markets are to be rebuilt upon a larger scale. These works are already in course of execution; they necessitate the purchase of property to the value of one million sterling. The construction of the stalls destined for the service of the dealers will cost the sum of £322,000; the approaches to the Halles will be entirely new; and the quarter, which up to this moment has been one of the most filthy in Paris, will become one of the most airy and the most easy of access.

If we add to this mass of alterations and improvements which will absorb a capital of £6,000,000, exclusive of the rebuilding (to be carried on at the cost of the new proprietors), the immense works which are being executed in other quarters of Paris—such, for example, as the laying down of the new Boulevard de Sébastopol, which opens upon the southern façade of the railway of that name, so far as the Boulevard St. Denis; the opening of the new Rue Napoleon, to the Faubourg St. Germain; the works for the canalisation of the Seine, under the southerly portion of the Pont Neuf—we shall not exaggerate when we say that the building trades employ at this moment in Paris a capital of £15,000,000 for the prosecution of the improvements.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, January 8.—1st Sunday after Epiphany.
MONDAY, 9.—Plough Monday. Cape of Good Hope taken, 1806.
TUESDAY, 10.—James Watt born, 1736. Royal Exchange burnt, 1838.
WEDNESDAY, 11.—Hilary Term begins.
THURSDAY, 12.—Riots at Sheffield, 1840.
FRIDAY, 13. Cambridge Term begins. C. J. Fox born, 1749.
SATURDAY, 14.—Oxford Term begins.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,

FOR THE WEEK ENDING JANUARY 14.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
M h m 6 15	A h m 6 43	M h m 7 9	A h m 7 30	M h m 7 56	A h m 8 17	M h m 8 42
A h m 9 3	M h m 9 30	A h m 9 56	M h m 10 23	A h m 10 45	M h m 11 12	A h m 11 36
M h m Tide	A h m 0 3	M h m 0 32	A h m 0 58	M h m 1 21	A h m 1 45	M h m 2 10
A h m 2 34	M h m 3 1	A h m 3 25	M h m 3 52	A h m 4 14	M h m 4 39	A h m 5 2
M h m 5 26						

TO CORRESPONDENTS

INVESTIGATOR is anxious to ascertain if there be in existence any descendent of the Rev. John Parry, who was Rector of Aston Somerville in 1666. Perhaps some one of our Correspondents can afford the information.

ABERYSTWITH and C. H. C.—A lady is not, under any circumstances, entitled to bear a crest.

WILFRED.—Clerk's "Heraldry."

HELIFELD.—The penalty of death attaches to the crime.

A SUBSCRIBER.—The two surnames will descend to all his posterity, except, of course, the descendants of married daughters.

H. A. D.—A person, A. B., is clearly entitled to quarter his *paternal* grandmother's Arms, if she was an heiress. A maternal grandmother, although an heiress, would not confer the right, unless the daughter (the mother of A. B.) was also an heiress.

T. R., Ampstead-road.—We have not space to print descriptions of the Arms, Crests, Supporters, and Mottoes of Lords Hardinge and Exeter. They can be found in any recent "Peerage."

UN SOLDAT.—Militia officers are entitled to place cockades in their servants' hats. Militia officers have no especial precedence.

W. M. HASTINGS.—Arms of Pole, Lord Montague: Per pale or, and sa, a saltire engr. counterchanged. Arms of Ferrers of Charsley: Vairé or and gu. Arms of Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick: Gu. a fesse between six cross crosslets or. Arms of Valence, Earl of Pembroke: Barry arg. and sa. an orle of marlets gu. Arms of Fitz Osborne, Earl of Hereford: Gu. a bend arg., over all a fesse or Arms of Fitz Piers, Earl of Essex: Quarterly or and gu. a bordure vaire.

A. Z.—Elizabeth, Countess Dowager of Hardwicke, widow of Philip, third Earl, is alive. Her Ladyship was born 11th Oct. 1763, and has, consequently, completed her 90th year. Anne, Dowager Lady Grenville, widow of Lord Grenville, is also living, aged 81.

OMER PACHA.—Edward Vernon Harbord, fourth Lord Suffield, died Aug. 22, 1853, at Gunton Park, Norfolk.

YNO.—Arms of Gilpin of Westmoreland: Or a boar passant sa. Crest: A pine-branch vert.

T. T. S.—Arms of Hide of Cone park, Essex: Erm. on a fesse sa., a castle with two turrets ppr. Crest: A castle as in the arms. Motto: Fide sed cui vide.

DELTA.—Arms of Mason of Yorkshire: Per fesse or and gu., a lion rampant counterchanged.

A SUBSCRIBER.—Arms of Jameson: Az. a saltire or, cantoned by ships under sail, in chief and flanks, and a mullet in base arg. Crest: A ship in full sail, her flag displayed ppr. Motto: Sine metu.

W. J. Arms of Nicholl: Sa. Three pheons arg. Crest: CCornish Chough, Wings elevated ppr., perched on the battlements of a tower arg.

DE MOWBRAY.—Arms of Cosens: Az. on a bend or betw. two lions rampt. arg. three martlets of the first. Crest: A Cookatrice, wings erect, or.

ALPHA.—The Arms are those of Atkinson, of Newcastle.

CHEVALIER.—All the ex-Lords-Lieutenant of Ireland are entitled to wear the Insignia of the Order of St. Patrick, although not Knights of the Order.

D. C. L.—1st, The wife of the son is Mrs. Smith. The widow of the father is the dowager Mrs. Smith, or Mrs. Smith, senior. 2nd, The son of an heiress entitled to a quartered coat may, with perfect heraldic propriety, bear his shield thus:—1st and 4th, his paternal coat; 2nd, his mother's paternal arms, 3rd, the quartering to which his mother was entitled.

M. A. F.—A wife should use her husband's arms without crest or motto.

U. A. W.—The Fenwicks of Maldon were a well-known branch of the Fenwicks of Northumberland. Our Correspondent informs us that the male descendants of Mr. Fenwick, who represented Newcastle-on-Tyne during the reign of George II., are now resident in the West of England, and retain the motto, "Ferit ut vivat."

A CONSTANT READER.—*Arms* of Langmead, of Devon: "Gu. a lion rampt. arg., on a chief wavy of the last, a lizard's face between two cinquefoils. *Crest*: a spur between two wings."

J. C. E. is very desirous of information as to the pedigree and arms of the family of Roughley, of Shirley Hall, near St. Helens, Lancashire. Can any of our readers indicate where such may be obtained.

J. J. T. M. The peer's or baronet's daughter would not loose her *innate* precedence of marriage. We do not think the wives of M.P.'s have any precedence as such.

G. D. C.—Can any of our Correspondents explain the origin of the Bee as an emblem of the Napoleonic Dynasty?

HUNWOOD.—*Arms* of Dodson: "Gu. a chev. or, between three peacocks arg. *Crest*: Two hands conjoined in fesse, winged at the wrist."

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 7th, 1854.

THE unanimity of feeling with which the English people demands a war with Russia will greatly facilitate the labours of the approaching Session of Parliament. The nation has learned to detest war, and the authors of war; but, with that innate common sense which inspires mankind in the mass, it feels that the best way to end a war is to carry it on vigorously. It is quite certain that the nation will begrudge no sacrifice to restrain and punish the Russian aggressor, and to maintain the national dignity and honour, as well as the equilibrium of Europe. In prosecuting the war, the Ministers will have no internal difficulties to contend with. The necessary funds will be cheerfully voted, and as cheerfully paid; and the highest honours that the country can bestow will be lavished upon the Admirals who shall destroy the Russian fleets in the Euxine and the Baltic. At such a time, and with such a task before it, the nation will scarcely expect the Ministry to make any fiscal experiments, unless with the object of increasing taxation. Although such brilliant success has attended the commercial policy of the last seven years, and although the results of Mr. Gladstone's admirable Budget of 1853 might well justify him in proposing a further extension of Free-trade principles in 1854, it is probable that the nation will have to wait for more tranquil times for the abolition of the many impolitic taxes that still operate injuriously upon the trade, the health, and the morals of the people. Yet, even at such a crisis, it may be wise to make some exceptions in favour of the nations with whom we are at peace. A Russian war will not greatly interfere with our commerce, and any fiscal relaxations that shall tend to increase our trade with friendly or allied states, may enable us to bear with greater ease the war burdens that will necessarily be laid upon us. For the first time in their history, Great Britain and France are cordially united upon a question on which the sympathies and good wishes of the whole civilised world are with them. Free-trade has answered so well with us, that the French Emperor—already more than half a convert—med itates its introduction into France. The French nation is not so well informed as its chief; but Louis Napoleon has lost no opportunity that ever presented itself to him, of introducing the wedge of sound policy into the dense block of Protection. The reduction of the duties on iron and coal is a strong proof of what he would do if the French nation were sufficiently enlightened to support and follow him. If one thing more than another have strengthened the Protectionist error in France, and kept up a spirit commercial hostility towards this country, it has been the heavy impost which Great Britain has laid upon French wines. France, though an agricultural country, grows no more corn than she needs; but she produces the best, the most abundant, and the cheapest wines in the world. It is no exaggeration to say that she could send to this country an almost limitless supply. But unwise legislation has forbidden the English the use of the wholesome beverage. Had we traded with France for her wines, as we might have done, both nations would not only have been better friends, but each would have been richer; and the English people would not have incurred the reproach of being, next to the Scotch, the most drunken people under the sun. There can, we think, be scarcely a doubt that the admission of French wines into this country, either free or at a nominal duty, would help to convince the French people of the firm friendship of England. Such a measure would prove to them the excellence of Free-trade far better than any which their own Emperor can adopt. A duty of 300, or even 400, per cent, which is levied upon the excellent *vin ordinaire*—which the French merchants could deliver in the Thames, all charges included, at fivepence or sixpence a bottle—is a disgrace to us as a commercial nation. The prohibition—for such it is—has done as much to estrange the two countries as all the battles that they ever fought against each other; and its removal at this time, when a common cause unites them against the disturber of the peace of the world, would add moral force to their efforts, and operate as heavy a blow against the Czar as an additional fleet or army. Experience has amply shown that the abolition of unwise taxation is no ultimate loss to the revenue. What we lose under one item is compensated under another. Two such great and wealthy nations, separated from each other only by a few miles of sea, ought to have traded more and fought less. They would assuredly have done so, had we been commercially as wise in 1789 as we were in 1845. Our own experience has been tardy. France still lags behind us, but her present chief magistrate shows, whenever he can, that he has not studied in vain the recent history of this country. It is not from any adherence to the old principle of Protection that the duties upon French wines are still maintained. The question is one of revenue only; and, notwithstanding the demands which the war is likely to make upon us, the finances of the country are in so buoyant and prosperous a state, that a far more timid Chancellor of the Exchequer than Mr. Gladstone has shown himself to be, might well be induced to give the subject his serious consideration. Even although a temporary loss of revenue might ensue, the experiment would be amply justified, if, upon the eve of war, it cemented the friendship of allies, and led to an extension of commercial intercourse between two of the foremost nations of the earth.

THE Great Fire of London, in 1666, was a double misfortune;—a misfortune that so much loss of property was occasioned;—a still greater misfortune that the rebuilding of the City was left in the hands of short-sighted and incompetent persons. If the citizens of London at that time had had the courage or the common sense to reconstruct their capital upon the admirable plan proposed by Sir Christopher Wren, London at this day might have been the most beautiful city in the world. But the men of 1666 were deaf, blind, and narrow-minded. They rebuilt their narrow and crooked lanes and streets, exactly as they had stood before. They seem to have thought that their city, before its destruction, was a model of elegance, convenience, and propriety; and, therefore, made it their pride to restore it in all its old and familiar, but most objectionable, features. The consequences of their obstinacy beset us at the present day. London has no street wide enough for its traffic; and the enormous increase in the value of property, renders it a matter of extreme difficulty to carry out the smallest and most imperative improvement. Among many other obstructions to the widening of streets, and the creation of new thoroughfares, have been a mass of ugly and inconveniently-placed churches; to hint at the removal of which was long held to be as bad as sacrilege. If these churches had been well attended—if the parishes in which they are situated had been occupied by dwelling-houses—and if their several incumbents administered, each of them, to the spiritual necessities of two or three hundreds of people, it would have been still more hazardous for any sanitary reformer to have expressed an opinion in favour of their removal. But churches without congregations are like nuts without kernels, or purses without money; and, most of the sacred edifices within the ancient limits of the City being in this condition, it has become safe for sanitary reformers and street improvers to advocate openly the expediency of taking them down and replacing them in the roomy suburbs whither their congregations have preceded them. No loss a person than the Bishop of London has at length bestirred himself in the matter. His Lordship is in favour of the removal of thirty City churches; and, with his support, there is no fear of any considerable opposition, in or out of Parliament. The Bishop of London takes up the question on religious grounds alone—not thinking it conducive to the temporal credit or the spiritual efficiency of the Church, that, in so many temples for the worship of God, Divine service should be weekly performed to congregations ranging from twenty to fifty persons, while in the outskirts of the metropolis there should be a crying and increasing want of Church accommodation. We trust that the sanitary, as well as the religious, part of the question, will meet with due attention, and that the amenity and convenience of the whole metropolis will be studied. It would be a misfortune if so favourable an opportunity for improvement were thrown away. London not only wants wider thoroughfares, but new ones, and there is no reason why it should not be the most convenient and beautiful as well as the richest and most religious city in Europe. When the Bill necessary for the removal of all these churches shall come in due course before the Legislature, it is to be hoped that means will be taken to promote all the interests involved. The Bishop of London requires coadjutors—not to interfere with his projects for the spiritual improvement of his dioceses, but to aid in a kindred spirit in carrying out a good and necessary work—in other departments, only next in importance to that which the Bishop himself has so properly undertaken.

THE COURT.

The Queen's Christmas gifts to the poor were distributed in the Riding-school, at Windsor Castle, on Saturday last. The recipients consisted of about 600 poor persons, residing in Windsor and Clewer parishes. At ten o'clock the Queen and Prince, accompanied by the Royal children, the Duke of Cambridge, the Marquis of Abercorn, the Earl and Countess Granville, Lady Harriet and Lady Beatrix Hamilton, and attended by the whole of the Ladies and Gentlemen in Waiting, left the Castle, and proceeded to the gallery of the Riding-school, to witness the distribution, which took place under the superintendence of the clergy of Windsor and Clewer.

On Sunday, the Queen and Prince, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, the Princess Alice, the Duchess of Kent, and the Duke of Cambridge, the ladies and gentlemen of the Court, and the domestic household, attended Divine Service in the private chapel of the Castle. The Marquis of Abercorn and the Ladies Harriet and Beatrix Hamilton were also at the service. The Hon. and Rev. G. Wellesley officiated.

On Monday morning, Prince Albert, with the Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred, and the Duke of Cambridge, skated on the ice in the Home-park. Her Majesty was present.

On Tuesday the Queen and Prince, attended by the Viscountess Jocelyn, Colonel Bouverie, and Lieut.-Colonel F. Seymour, left Windsor Castle at one o'clock, for London, by a special train of the Great Western Railway. The Royal party drove from Paddington to the exhibition of the Photographic Society, in Suffolk-street. Her Majesty and his Royal Highness also visited the Duchess of Gloucester, and the Queen returned to the railway station, and arrived at Windsor at ten minutes before two o'clock. The Prince proceeded from Gloucester House to Mr. Bailey's studio, in Newman-street, to inspect his cast for the statue of Lord Mansfield. His Royal Highness afterwards honoured Mr. Bell's studio, at Kensington, with a visit, to see his cast for the statue of Sir Robert Walpole, for which, when completed, it is to be executed for the Houses of Parliament. The Prince called at Buckingham Palace, and returned to Windsor at a quarter-past four o'clock.

On Thursday Prince Albert entered her Majesty out in a sledge, towards Sunset. The Princesses followed in another sledge.

The office of Lord High Steward of her Majesty's Household, filled, since the accession of the Earl of Aberdeen to the Premiership, by his Grace the Duke of Cleveland, has been resigned by that nobleman. The desire of the noble Duke to be relieved from official duty has been no secret for some time past. The post has been offered to, and accepted by, the Earl Spencer, K.G.

The Lord Chancellor will receive the Judges, Queen's Counsel, &c., on Wednesday next, the first day of Hilary Term, at his Lordship's residence in Upper Grosvenor-street, at twelve o'clock.

The Marquis of Abercorn and the Ladies Hamilton arrived at Chesterfield House, on Tuesday, from visiting her Majesty at Windsor Castle. The Marchioness of Abercorn and the younger branches of the family are staying at St. Leonard's-on-Sea.

The Earl of Eglinton is expected to arrive next week at his mansion in St. James's-square, from Eglinton Castle. In consequence of the death of his lamented Countess, the noble Earl is breaking up his establishment.

Lord and Lady John Russell have returned to Pembroke Lodge, Richmond, from visiting her Majesty, at Windsor Castle.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,

TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, JAN. 5.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading.	Thermometer. Lowest Reading.	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Melted Snow.
	Inches.	°	°	°	°			Inches.
Dec. 30	29.642	39·1	22·0	32·1	— 4·9	89	N W.	0.09
,, 31	29.677	35·9	24·6	29·9	— 6·8	78	W.	0.02
Jan. 1	29.435	31·5	21·2	24·2	— 12·0	90	N.	0.09
,, 2	29.229	33·7	23·0	28·6	— 8·0	86	S.W. & N.E	0.09
,, 3	29.316	33·5	13·0	23·5	— 12·5	97	N.E.	0.03
,, 4	28.941	32·0	29·0	31·3	— 4·4	93	N.E.	0.60
,, 5	28.886	37·7	29·2	33·8	— 2·1	97	S W.	0.08

Note.—The sign — denotes below the average. The numbers in the seventh column are calculated on the supposition that the saturation of the air is represented by 100.

The reading of the Barometer decreased from 29·65 inches at the beginning of the week to 29·39 by the afternoon of December 30th; increased to 29·68 inches by the morning of the 31st; decreased to 29·23 inches by the afternoon of January 2; increased to 29·31 inches by the morning of the 3rd; and decreased to 28·94 inches by the end of the week. The mean for the week at the height of 82 feet above the level of the sea, was 29.295 inches.

The reading of the Thermometer very early in the morning of December 30, was 22°; it then turned to increase, and reached the maximum for the week, 39·1°, at 4h p.m.; decreased to 36° by 9h p.m.; it then turned to decrease, and was 24·1° on the morning of January 1, during which day the temperature never reached 29°—its highest point was 31·5°. On the 2nd, the extremes were 23° and 33°. It was painfully cold, and the temperature declined till 1h a.m. on the 3rd, when it was 13°; and still further declined to 13°, which is the lowest point yet reached At 8h a.m. it rose to 14°; at 9h a.m., to 19°; and reached 33·5° during the day. From this time to the end of the week the temperature, both night and day, has been between 23·5° and 37·7°.

The mean temperature of the week was 29·2°, which is 7·5° below the average of the same week in thirty-eight years. The mean temperature of the week ending January 5, in 1839, was 29·5°, and in 1821, was 27·2°, so that the temperature of the last week was lower than any corresponding week since the year 1821.

The range of temperature during the week was, 26·1°, being the difference between the highest reading on December 30, and the lowest, on January 3.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 11·2°. The greatest was 20·5°, on January 3, and the least 4°, on the 4th.

Snow fell to the depth of a foot on the level during the night common to the 3rd and 4th, and to one inch on the following night, producing about seven-tenths of an inch of water.

This severe period set in on November 9; on the day preceding the temperature was considerably above the average: on November 7, it was 10·2° above the average, and has continued so with very few exceptions to the present time. The mean temperature of the period from November 9 to January 5, has been 30·9°; the corresponding period ending January 5, 1853, was 34·9°; and that in the year 1815, was 36·2°, so that with one exception the weather has been colder than any since the memorable year 1814, when the Thames was frozen over.

Since the commencement of the year the mortality in the middle of November has caused a greatly increased mortality. From the following article, it must be seen that the number of deaths registered in the metropolitan districts the last week was 380 above the estimated average of the same week in the preceding ten years. The number of deaths registered to the week attained to the large number of 1656; of these some are Coroner's returns, which are always included at the end of every quarter. Allowing for these, the catalogue of mortality shows to a painful extent the fatal effects of the severity of the weather.

For the month of December, the mean reading of the barometer at the level of the sea was 29.969 inches.

The highest temperature during the month was 49°, on the 1st; and the *lowest* was 20°, on the 29th. *The range of temperature during the month* was therefore 29°. The mean of all the highest temperatures by day was 39·4°; and of all the lowest by night was 26°. *The mean daily range of temperature during the month* was, therefore, 9·4°.

The mean temperature of the month was 34·2°, being *below* the average of thirty-eight Decembers by 1·1°, and the coldest December since the year 1846, when its mean temperature was 32·7°. In 1840 it was 32·9°, in 1839 it was 32·9°; and in 1814 it was 32°.

The mean temperature of evaporation was 32·3°.

The mean temperature of the dew point was 31·3°.

The mean degree of humidity of the air was 90°, complete saturation being represented by 100.

The fall of rain during the month was six-tenths of an inch.

Lewisham, 6th January, 1854. JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—The births of 1566 children were registered in the week ending December 31: of these, 791 were boys, and 775 were girls. The averages of the same eight weeks in the preceding eight years were 685 boys, and 648 girls. The deaths registered within the week were 1656. The high number exceeds the estimated average by 380, and is chiefly caused by the severity of the weather.

THE LONDON DOCKS.—The new building at the entrance of the London Docks, which is being erected by direction of the Government for the accommodation of the Customs department, is nearly finished, and it is expected will shortly be ready for occupation. It is intended to devote the new building entirely to the wine and spirit delivery department of the Customs, which forms so large and important a feature in the vast business transacted at this establishment.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—A deputation, consisting of Dr. Babington, president, Dr. McWilliam, and Mr. Tucker, hon. secs. of the Epidemiological Society, had an interview with the Earl of Aberdeen, on the 2nd December, at his official residence, Downing-street.

POSTSCRIPT.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

The intense severity of the weather, if productive of good to the country in the way of destroying the blights and insects that have for the last two or three years proved so ruinous to the grape and other crops, is in the mean time extremely trying in various ways, and adds much to sickness, misery, and the stagnation of commerce. The streets of Paris are in a condition—between frost, snow, ice, thaw and mud—that renders circulation equally difficult, and even dangerous, on foot or in carriages: colds, influenza, inflammation of the chest, and cholerine abound; several grave accidents have occurred through the imprudence of skaters and sliders, on the Seine; and altogether the *jour de l'an* has not passed brilliantly.

Among other effects of the rigour of the season, it is a subject of remark, that a number of the Senators—who are, for the most part, somewhat advanced in years—find it absolutely necessary, for the preservation of their health, to seek a milder climate; and, with the commencement of the winter, with its severities, its gaieties, and the fatigues the necessity of display and hospitality would entail upon them, to remove themselves and their *dotations* to a softer clime, where such dangerous duties are not entailed upon them.

A very large body of the inhabitants of Paris—the domestic servants—are up in arms from a proceeding that has been adopted by the Government. The retailers of provisions have been visited by the commissaries of their quarters, and received intimations that it would be well for them, instead of giving their usual *étrennes* to the servants of their customers, to deliver them into the hands of the said commissaries, to be distributed to the poor. Placards to the same effect, are posted in all quarters. Had this measure been, as there was some idea of its being, adopted by the tradesmen themselves, we venture to say that few complaints would have been made; but, as it is—if not in form, at least in fact—an almost compulsory measure of authority, the sentiments it inspires are those of anything but satisfaction among both classes concerned in it; and we doubt if the poor will be much benefited by the scanty alms thus unwillingly bestowed.

Much and sincere regret has been felt both in public and private circles, from the sudden death of M. Visconti, the architect of the Emperor, from apoplexy. M. Visconti had just been named one of the members of the Commission under the Prince Napoleon, for the *Exposition Universelle* of 1855. It was under his direction that the Church of the Invalides, with the tomb of Napoleon, has been arranged in its present condition; and the extension of the buildings of the Louvre now in progress, is the last monument of his taste and talent.

We learn that M. de Lamartine has sold his monthly production, "La Civilisateur," to MM. Mirès et Milhaud, for 100,000 francs, ready money, and 26,000 francs a year; we believe that M. de Lamartine's uncertain health, rendering the fatigues of the whole of the conduct of this publication too severe for him, is the cause of this arrangement.

A correspondent of the *Indépendance Belge* signalises the discovery of a new talent in Napoleon I., as displayed in a book existing in French literature, entitled, "Bonspartiana; ou, la Fleur des Bons Mots de l'Empereur Napoléon Ier."

The celebrated romancer and poet, Comte Alfred de Vigny, who, for nearly ten years, has retired almost completely from the ranks of the literature of the day, has, it appears, just completed the second volume of a work, of which the first excited so much attention and admiration at the time of its appearance and since—"Stello; ou, la Première Consultation du Docteur Noir." It is expected shortly to be published. Another most interesting and valuable work, the eleventh volume of the biographical and bibliographical dictionary, "La France Littéraire," of M. Quérard, has just been brought out. Its peculiar interest lies in its being an *exposé* of the real names and conditions of the "*écrivains pseudonymes et autres mystificateurs*" of French literature during the last four centuries.

Fresh demolitions and fresh alterations are planned to take place in the course of the year in Paris. The Rue de Strasbourg is in active progress in the midst of one of those quarters, where, in the six-storied houses, men, women, and children are densely crowded; round the Théâtre Français is to be cleared a vast square, which will permit carriages to be stationed and to circulate freely; and the Boulevard Malesherbes, so often projected, and as often abandoned, is to be finally carried out from the Madeleine to the Park of Monceaux—an enormous undertaking, which will carry away a whole series of streets and buildings in the midst of one of the best-inhabited quarters of Paris. A new street between the Rue de Rivoli and the Boulevard des Italiens is to be entitled Rue de l'Impératrice.

Two new clubs, of importance, are being founded, and are shortly to be opened. The one, the Circle Napoléon, at the Hôtel d'Osmond, is under the special patronage of Louis Napoleon, who is to be Honorary President; the actual President, to be named by him, will, it is believed, be his cousin, the Prince Napoleon. The second club is the Circle des Chemins de Fer, to be built on the space lately occupied by the Bains Chinois. M. de Rothschild is, we hear, to be the President of this *réunion*.

A robbery of jewels, belonging to the Princess Galitzin, has just taken place in a furnished *appartement* temporarily occupied by her in the rue Jean Goujon, Champs Elysées. The jewels—consisting of diamonds and emeralds, of immense value—were, by some unaccountable carelessness, left behind in a drawer in the apartment when the Princess moved to another residence. On sending to seek them, they had, as may well be supposed, disappeared; and as yet no trace of the robber has been discovered.

A sale of valuable autographs, almost exclusively political, took place, a few days since, and attracted much attention and interest. The greater number were of the period of the Revolution, and the Empire, and traced by the hands of the most conspicuous men of those times.

At the theatres there is still little of novelty. "La Pierre de touche," at the Française, by MM. Jules Sandeau and Emile Augier, has an immense and merited success. "L'Aventurière" of the latter writer is to be *repris* for Mdlle. Judith. The Opéra Comique has given a new opera in one act, "Les Papillotes de M. Benoist"—a work with some pretty music in it, but mediocre as a whole. This theatre is preparing "L'Etoile du Nord" (a production from which great things are expected), for the end of the month.

Alexandre Dumas is really pursued by a *guignon*, which would utterly destroy the confidence of any man but Alexandre Dumas. We are told (we pretend not to assert the statement as a fact) that *la Cessear* has forbidden the appearance of a piece of his, entitled "Olympe de Cléves" at the Vaudeville. The second volume of the "Mémoires d'un Bourgeois de Paris," by M. Véron, has appeared. It is said to be more interesting than the first, and contains some most remarkable letters from the Duchesse d'Angoulême, "*l'homme de la famille*," which we regret our limits will not permit us to quote. An account of the assassination of the Duc de Berri, among a series of most singular and but little-known conspiracies; a biography of M. Thiers; a highly interesting chapter on the three epochs of the Restoration, containing most valuable documents hitherto inedited; and an account of M. le Duc de Polignac, and the *ordonnances*, form some of the contents of this volume. Two new illustrated works, "Les Métamorphoses du Jour," of Grandville, and "Les Œuvres Nouvelles de Gavarni"—Gavarni, "le Balzac du Crayon"—are highly worthy of notice. Nothing can be more admirable or more characteristic than these designs.

In the official circles of Paris it is believed that war is inevitable. The decision of the Emperor Nicholas with respect to the Vienna proposition was known, though not officially. His Majesty's remark when he heard of his being asked to send an Envoy to the Conference was, that he would never send any General of his to sign his own condemnation—his own dishonour.

A communication has been addressed by the French Government to the Cabinet of St. Petersburg on the general question of the East, and in particular with reference to the Black Sea. It consists of an autograph letter from the Emperor Louis Napoleon to the Czar, and it demands that the Euxine shall no longer be exclusively Russian, but that it shall be thrown open to all the nations of Europe. How the Emperor Nicholas is likely to receive such a demand it is scarcely necessary to say.

It is not doubted that a *corps d'armée* will be despatched from France at the proper time to Turkey. It is said that two considerable camps will be formed: one, the most important, at Adrianople; and the other, probably, close to Constantinople: the former to be under the command of General Canrobert; the other under the immediate direction of the Minister of War, who will, in fact, command the whole expeditionary army. The combined fleets will be commanded by Admiral Dundas. Candia will probably be the general depôt of the army.

In the midst of preparations for what, if it break out, must be a war of giants, the negotiations of the Fusionist party are, according to the reports of some of its members, going on most satisfactorily. The Comte de Chambord, we are again assured, is positively going to England in the month of March next; and a meeting of the whole of the members of the Bourbon family, including the Duchess of Orleans, who by that time is to be confined over, will take place thereupon; a complete reconciliation will be effected, and plans for the future arranged. Their hopes are founded, they say, on some of the many chances of a general war; and on the hope, not yet abandoned, of the separation of England, which would be of immense service to them, as to the Emperor Nicholas. In the meantime there are symptoms of considerable activity in the departments, where the scarcity and consequent dearness of provisions is a real cause of discontent.

Some fresh arrangements have been made by the French Government, by which telegraphic messages may be despatched during the night from Paris, Lyons, Marseilles, and Bordeaux, to Brussels, Berlin, Vienna, and Trieste; but England is not included in the list of countries so favoured. We hope, however, that equal facilities will be afforded to this kingdom as soon as the necessary measures can be adopted for that purpose.

The Levée at the Tuileries on Monday evening was the most brilliant since the Restoration. There were 2000 persons present, belonging to all nations, and in every variety of the richest costume. The train of the Empress, which was upwards of ten feet in length, was supported by two of her Majesty's suite, most elegantly attired.

Dr. Bowring had a private audience of the Emperor on Tuesday, at the Tuileries. He was to leave Paris for London on the following day.

TURKEY.

It is said that since the massacre at Sinope no Russian vessel has been seen in the Black Sea, they having taken refuge in Sebastopol, which they seemed very disinclined to quit upon any account whatever.

The united fleets were still in the Bosphorus on the 26th ult.

Advices from Malta state that his Excellency the Governor had received orders from his Government to make the necessary arrangements at the arsenal for the establishment of a reserve of artillery and ammunition about to be sent forthwith from England.

PERSIA.

Letters from Persia, dated the 30th of November, announce that the Persian Government had, in consequence of the steps displayed by the English Chargé d'Affaires, withdrawn from its warlike attitude towards England, and given our Minister every assurance of its pacific intentions; so that the intrigues of Russia in that quarter, for the present, at least, have been unsuccessful.

The British mission was on the eve of quitting the capital, but the Shah, who is afraid to proceed to extremities on the subject, will do his utmost to prevent it. The official announcement sent abroad by his Majesty, regarding the cessation of diplomatic relations with the British representative, is very moderately worded, and even goes so far as to state "that the Shah, although grossly insulted by Mr. Thompson, will do all in his power to prevent the mission leaving Teheran until a Persian Ambassador be sent to England to explain the matter to the British Government.

All accounts from Teheran confirm the important fact that the Turkish Ambassador was on the worst terms with the Divan, on account of the determination of the latter to send only a small two armies to the frontiers of Kirmanshah and Ayajik, and to proceed immediately to Bagdad. The motive which has induced Persia to join Russia is money; indeed, neither the Shah nor his crafty Ministers could find in their hearts to turn away from the sight of gold. The lower classes would have preferred joining the Turks against Russia; but they are counteracted by the officials, who calculate on appropriating to themselves a large portion of the money from St. Petersburg.

Letters had reached Tabreez from Tiflis, announcing that Schamyl had defeated the Russians.

SPAIN.

The Generals Sauzet and Lersundi have been dismissed from the Captain-Generalcies of Galicia and Andalusia.

UNITED STATES.

The mail steam-ship *Atlantic* arrived in the Mersey on Thursday afternoon, with the usual mails from the United States and British North America. The *Atlantic* sailed from New York on the 24th inst. Owing to the interruptions of railway communication, we have not yet received her news.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

PROROGATION OF CONVOCATION.—The Convocation of the Prelates and Clergy of the Province of Canterbury was further prorogued, on Wednesday, pursuant to the Royal writ, to Wednesday, the 1st day of February next. The Archbishop of Canterbury, attended by the Registrar of the Province, entered the Jerusalem Chamber shortly after twelve o'clock, when the Royal writ having been read by the Registrar, his Grace signed the schedule of prorogation.

THE NEW BISHOP OF LIMERICK.—The consecration of the Bishop of Limerick (Dr. Henry Griffin) took place on Saturday last, in Trinity College Chapel. The consecrating Bishops were the Archbishop of Dublin and the Bishops of Cork and Derry.

REVENUE OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.—It is stated in the Census report of religious worship, just issued, that the income of the Church of England in 1851, was upwards of £5,000,000 per annum.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—*Rectories*: The Rev. F. J. Walker to Finmere, Oxfordshire; Rev. W. Jephson to Hinton Waldust, Berkshire; Rev. J. Prior to Papplewick, near Nottingham; Rev. A. F. Cust to Cheddington, near Aylesbury; Rev. Dr. Rowley to Willey, Salop; Rev. R. C. Jenkins to Lyminge, near Canterbury; Rev. H. J. Sawyer, M.A., to Sunningwell, near Abingdon; Rev. Dr. Hawtrey, Provost of Eton College, to Farnham Royal, Bucks; Rev. R. W. Pearse, B.A., to Gaywood, Lynn Regis; Rev. J. T. Walters to Stradsehall, near Newmarket. *Vicarages*: The Rev. G. Rainier, M.A., to Ninfield, Sussex; Rev. W. H. Hicks to Walton, Norfolk; Rev. J. Pennell to Horley, near Banbury. *Incumbency*: Rev. J. Griffiths to Trinity Church, Brighton. *Metropolitan Curacies*: The Rev. J. W. Hammond to St. Martin's-in-the-Fields; Rev. S. G. Fraser to Grosvenor Chapel; Rev. C. M. Church to Curzon Chapel, May-fair; Rev. R. W. Bush to St. Marylebone; Rev. T. Mackitrye to St. Dunstan's-in-the-West; and the Rev. W. H. Foy to St. Simon Zelotes, Bethnal-green.

CHURCH PASTORAL AID SOCIETY.—A meeting of the friends of this society was held on Tuesday evening, at Lawson's Rooms, Gower-street. The Hon. Arthur Kinnaird, M.P., Vice-President, occupied the chair, and observed, that the Pastoral Aid Society was one of the most deserving and practical of the numerous religious associations which were labouring for the best spiritual interests of the poor. The society provided curates for railway and canal churches; increased the stipends of ministers; assisted, indirectly, in the erection of churches; and provided lay assistants to labour in those parishes where the light of the Gospel was scarcely known.

TESTIMONIAL.—A testimonial of affection and regard has been presented to the Rev. L. M. Sharpe, by the parishioners of Southover, on his leaving the curacy.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.—The council of this University have made the following arrangements for the various examinations of the present year:—The Matriculation examination commences on the first Tuesday in July. The examination for the degree of Bachelor of Arts commences on the fourth Monday in October. The examination for the degree of Master of Arts commences on the first Monday in June. The examination for the degree of Bachelor of Laws takes place in the last fourteen days of June.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

REDUCTION OF NATIONAL DEBT.—The National Debt Commissioners give notice in last night's *Gazette*, of their intention to apply £511 858 17s. 11d.—one fourth part of the surplus revenue of last year, to the reduction of the National Debt.

THE NEW GOVERNOR OF VICTORIA.—Sir Charles Hotham, Bart., who intended leaving England by the General Screw Shipping Company's steamer *Oneaus*, which sails from Southampton on Tuesday next, has been compelled to postpone his departure. It is probable he will leave England by the *Bosphorus*, which will sail for Australia next month, and will carry the mail.

HOSPITAL OF ST. CROSS, WINCHESTER.—The Master of this Hospital—Francis North, Earl of Guildford—has resigned the two livings of Alresford and St. Mary's, worth (exclusive of their houses, glebe, and fees) about £4000 per annum. His Lordship, however, holds for the present his Mastership of St. Cross's Hospital.

DEATH OF LORD PLUNKET.—The ex-Chancellor of Ireland died on Wednesday morning, at his seat in the county of Wicklow, at the age of ninety.

THE THAW, which took place yesterday, rendered the "circulation," in the metropolis, of cabs and other vehicles more easy, but was kingmore difficult. Many of the streets could not be crossed at all, except by wading in the abominable slush, some six or eight inches deep. A deputation waited on the Lord Mayor, yesterday, to ask what steps they ought to take to abate the nuisance. His Lordship referred to the Thames and Sch of Victoria, wherein the flues were set forth for rubbish, &c., being al owed in front of dwelling-houses, shops, &c., and said, that the best and readiest way would be to have the snow removed, and instead of being forced down the street sewers, to throw it over the bridges into the Thames. The statement that two policemen had died from exposure to the cold on Tuesday night has been contradicted. Two persons in London died that night, however, owing to the cold.

UP to yesterday afternoon the accounts from the North were that the railway obstruction still continued in many places. Some amusing accidents had happened. A lady residing in Liverpool was, on Thursday, to have been married to a gentleman from London, who was expected to join the guests assembled at the marriage feast. Instead of his bodily presence, however, the bride received a telegraphic message conveying the intelligence that her intended was "snowed up" at Stafford.

EFFECTS OF THE WEATHER.—In consequence of the non-arrival of many of the mails on Wednesday, no less than 880 bills were noted, the same evening, at the Bank of England, and the same was the case at many private bankers. But for the use of the electric telegraph, the instances would have been more numerous.

FOREIGN.

The *Moniteur* of yesterday (Friday) morning contains a circular, dated December 30, addressed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs to the Legations of the Emperor in foreign countries, on the Eastern question. This document, which is very moderate, but very firm, after narrating the different phases of the question, declares that France, England, Austria, and Prussia, have recently, by their agreement concerted at Vienna, solemnly recognised that the territorial integrity of the Ottoman Empire is one of the conditions of their political equilibrium. It affirms that "the affair of Sinope took place against all prevision, Russia having declared that she only desired a material guarantee for the fulfilment of what she demanded;" and announces that, "to prevent the Ottoman territory, or the Ottoman flag from being the object of a new attack on the part of the naval forces of Russia, the French and English fleets have received the order to enter the Black Sea." In conclusion, a hope is expressed by the French Minister that Russia will not expose Europe to new convulsions.

The general rules which the Governments of Sweden and Denmark have laid down for themselves in the event of the outbreak of war, are—abstention during the struggle that may take place, from all participation, direct or indirect, in favour of one belligerent party to the detriment of another. Admission into Swedish, Danish, and Norwegian ports of the men-of-war and merchant-men of those same belligerent parties, each of the two Governments reserving to itself, however, the right of prohibiting the entrance of vessels of said vessels to certain ports or into certain basins of those ports—an interdiction which will naturally be extended to the vessels of all the belligerent parties. Permission to said vessels to provide themselves at the ports of the two monarchies with all goods and merchandises they might stand in need of, with the exception of articles regarded as contraband of war. Exclusion from the entrance, and from the sale in the said ports, of war prizes, &c. The Sovereigns of Denmark, and Sweden and Norway, on the other hand, claim for the vessels of their respective states the right of the continuance of enjoying safety and every facility in their commercial relations with the belligerent Powers, under the obligation of submitting to the rules of the law of nations in special cases of blockade, &c.

Among other rumours circulated in Paris is one, taken from a German paper, that the Russians have obtained possession of Batoum. Another report is to the effect that the French Government is about to order a levy of 150,000 men, and that the decree will soon appear in the *Moniteur*.

By way of following up his rejection of the propositions of the Four Powers, it is said that the Czar has ordered that immediate preparations shall be made to cross the Danube. Both the French Government papers, the *Patrie* and *Bulletin de Paris*, expressly countenance this rumour, which they affirm to be well-founded. The fresh having rendered the ground favourable for operations in Wallachia, it is thought that an attack will be made on Kalafat.

A letter from Bucharest of the 16th gives very serious news. Russia has, it is said, replied by a fresh movement of forces, and by extraordinary warlike measures, to the last propositions of peace which were made to him. According to instructions received from St. Petersburg, the army of invasion of the Danubian provinces, which does not now exceed 80,000 men, is about to be immediately carried up to an effective strength of 240,000 men.

Australian advices nearly a fortnight later than those by the last arrival have been received, *viâ* Panama. The advices from Sydney are to the 1st of October. The general tone of the markets for imported goods was favourable. The receipts from the mines continued large, and the persons engaged at them were increasing.

CABINET COUNCIL.—A Cabinet Council was held on Tuesday afternoon, at the Foreign-office, Downing-street. The Ministers present were—the Earl of Aberdeen, Lord John Russell, the Lord Chancellor, Earl Granville, the Duke of Argyll, the Marquis of Lansdowne, Viscount Palmerston, the Earl of Clarendon, the Duke of Newcastle, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir James Graham, Sir Charles Wood, the Right Hon. Sidney Herbert, and Sir William Molesworth. The Council sat three hours and a half. A second Cabinet Council was held on Thursday, which lasted four hours.

THE HORSE GUARDS.—We are assured, on what we believe to be good authority, that Lord Hardinge yesterday gave in his resignation as Commander-in-Chief of the army; that his Lordship is to be succeeded by Lord Raglan; and that General Brown will resume his former appointment of Adjutant-General.—*Morning Post*, Thursday.—[We are enabled to state that the resignations and changes in the Horse Guards, reported by a morning contemporary, are quite unfounded.—*Globe*.]

CHRISTMAS IN MADRID.

THE Engraving upon the next page presents an interesting picture of an important locality of Madrid, upon the day of Christmas-eve; and specially illustrates the extensive preparation made in the Spanish capital for the celebration of the festive season.

The scene is the Great Square, in every corner of which are various packages—as sacks, boxes, and baskets; and lambs, turkeys, and other articles of good cheer—where the confusion and crowding are insupportable. The number of "Nacimentos" (figures representing the birth of Christ) and images of every description is infinite, as well as rattles, back-scratchers, and other instruments of amusement. The place becomes a Babel, where a thousand different language are spoken. On one side are enormous pyramids of pomegranates of various kinds, Valentia oranges, Arragonese apples, opposite are sellers of the walnuts and chestnuts of Galicia, grapes, and Malaga sweet potatoes. In another corner rabbits and hare are strewed upon the ground. Here also are castles of "pestiños," and tables covered with almond cakes, songs of the sepulchre, and Castilian biscuits. Further on are interminable columns of sweetmeat boxes, flanked with strong walls of tambourines, drums, pipes, &c. In the centre are herds of turkeys of Castell, and capons of Biscay; and the "virtuous" pullets of Puercarral.

The vast assemblage, seen beneath a bright sun, and clear blue sky, has a very animated appearance. The costumes are not the least attractive characteristics.

TOWER OF ST. JACQUES LA BOUCHERIE. IMPROVEMENTS IN PARIS.—EXTENSION OF THE RUE DE RIVOLI.—(SEE PAGE 17.)

THE GREAT SQUARE IN MADRID, ON CHRISTMAS-EVE.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

SPORTS ON THE ICE—CURLING IN SCOTLAND.

MEDAL MATCH OF THE FINGASK CURLING CLUB.

EVERYBODY who knows anything of Scottish out-door sports has heard of the game of Curling; but, as few Englishmen are in the habit of visiting the "land of the mountain and the flood" in winter, and as no description, however elaborate, can give a correct knowledge of the exhilarating game, the only way in which it can be presented to the reader who has never seen it is, by depicting the game in progress. In 1851 and 1852 the winters were so mild that there was little or no ice; and, therefore, the lovers of this favourite sport had no opportunity of enjoying themselves

In February and March, last year, there were several short periods of frost, which were busily improved by the numerous curling clubs throughout Scotland. A Correspondent has favoured us with a pair of Illustrations of this fine sport. One of these scenes is the "Fingask Curling Club Medal-day, 17th February."

On occasions of this kind each member of a club who competes for the medal, which is given by the patron or patroness of his club, plays, in turn, a variety of points in the game, which are defined in the "Annual" of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club, whose rules are binding among all curling associations. In order to avoid delay, there are generally two rinks marked off on the ice; and each player takes, first, the one rink down with his pair of curling stones, and immediately returns on the other rink. Thus, in the Sketch, the principal figure to the left, who is standing on an iron cramp, is attempting to achieve one of the points of the game which is called "chip the winner;" the method of which is attempted to be shown in the rink to the right when the object of the player (who is out of sight), is to pass with his own stone, another half guarding the one at the tee (the point aimed at), and displace the latter. In ordinary matches at curling there are two sides formed, generally consisting of four players on each side, when the game is contested in turn by players from the rival parties. The brooms, broom-cows, or besoms, are then busily in operation, as each is bent on keeping the ice favourable to his own party's progress in the game; but in this instance it is "every man to his own hand," and no brooming is allowed. The eye and the hand must work steadily together to ensure success. Markers are placed at each rink, who note the successful shots; and the winner of the greatest number is victor of the day, and medal-holder.

The much-respected President of the Fingask Curling Club is Sir Peter Murray Threipland, Bart., of Fingask; and the medal which is competed for annually is the gift of his mother, Lady Murray Threipland, who is patroness of the club. The Curling-lodge, or *Scottice* "bothie," adjoining the pond, is used as a keep for the Curling stones, brooms, cramps, compasses, and apparatus proper to the game, as well as for the preparation on a field-day of the excellent "restoratives" of hot potatoes and whiskey punch. On the Medal Day an excellent *déjeuner à la fourchette* is given by the President to all present. A musician or two are generally in attendance; and strathspeys and reels on the snow keep the lookers-on in exercise, and add to the amusement of the scene.

The second View shows a Curling Match, which was played on the 3rd of March last, on Invernytie Loch, near Perth, by his Grace the Duke of Atholl, and eight of his Grace's rinks, against eight rinks from the Carse of Gowrie. In this match, the Duke was victor. This, being more of a landscape Sketch, only shows the players in the game at a little distance. The Hill of Birnam, near Dunkeld, is conspicuous in the distance; and on the right are some farm-houses, the property of

CURLING MATCH ON INVERNYTIE LOCH, NEAR PERTH.

DINNER IN THE IGUANODON MODEL, AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE, SYDENHAM.

Sir W. Stewart, Bart.; with, in the middle ground, an old Scotch fir wood and forester's lodge.

Should the winter of 1854 prove to be as severe a one as has been predicted, and as it threatens to be, we should not be much surprised to see a number of Curling Clubs formed on this side of the Tweed.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE, AT SYDENHAM.

IN our Number of last week we gave a whole-page Illustration of Mr. B. Waterhouse Hawkins's Model-room, or Studio, at the Crystal Palace, Sydenham, where he is constructing his gigantic restorations of the Extinct Inhabitants of the Ancient World. We then had only the opportunity briefly to allude to this novel and great undertaking; and repeated the speculations of enthusiastic discoverers of antediluvian remains which are now, with anatomical severity, being reconstructed and restored to a state of life-like nature by Mr. Waterhouse Hawkins; to whose talents and knowledge this department of the great educational scheme of the Directors of the Crystal Palace Company is now confided; and with how much credit to their judgment was most agreeably exemplified on Saturday evening last (the last day of the year 1853), when Mr. W. Hawkins, with the concurrence of the Directors, invited a number of his scientific friends and supporters to dine with him in the body of one of his largest models, called the Iguanodon, which occupies so conspicuous a place in our Illustration of last week. In the mould of this colossal work of art—for as such it must deservedly rank very high—Mr. Hawkins conceived the idea of bringing together those great names whose high position in the science of palæontology and geology would form the best guarantee for the severe truthfulness of his works; and, at the same time, show to the public the high tone of criticism and knowledge which the Directors of this truly national undertaking require those officers to sustain to whom they confide the carrying out of any important part of their plan which so particularly bears on the education of the people.

To carry out this extraordinary idea, cards were issued at the beginning of last week—and such cards! as startling as the invitation they bore: "Mr. B. Waterhouse Hawkins solicits the honour of Professor ——'s company at dinner, *in the Iguanodon*, on the 31st of December, 1853, at four p.m." The incredible request was written on the wing of a Pterodactyle, spread before a most graphic etching of the Iguanodon, with his socially-loaded stomach, so practicably and easily filled, as to tempt all to whom it was possible to accept, at such short notice, this singular invitation. Many have to regret the rapidity of executing this novel idea, at a season when almost all have a plurality of engagements. Nevertheless, Mr. Hawkins had one-and-twenty guests around him in the body of the Iguanodon on Saturday last; at the head of whom, most appropriately, and in the head of the gigantic animal, sat Professor Owen, supported by Professor E. Forbes; Mr. Prestwick, the geologist; Mr. Gould, the celebrated ornithologist; and the Directors and officers of the Company.

The dinner, which was luxurious and elegantly served, being ended, the usual routine of loyal toasts were duly given and responded to—allusion being gracefully made by Mr. Francis Fuller, Managing Director, to the great interest evinced and approbation expressed by H.M. the Queen and H.R.H. the Prince, on their recent visit to the extraordinary works by which the company were surrounded.

Professor Owen then took occasion to explain, in his lucid and powerful manner, the means and careful study by which Mr. Hawkins had prepared his models, and had attained his present truthful success; Professor Owen adding that it had been a source of great pleasure to him to aid so important an undertaking, by assisting with his instruct on and direction a gentleman who possessed the rarely-united capabilities of an anatomist, a naturalist, and a practical artist, with a docility and eagerness for the truth which ensured Mr. Hawkins's careful restorations the highest point of knowledge which had been attained up to the present period. The learned Professor then briefly commented upon the course of reasoning by which Cuvier, and other comparative anatomists, were enabled to build up the various animals of which but small remains were at first presented to their anxious study; but which, when afterwards increased, served to develop and confirm their confident conceptions—instancing the Megalosaurus, the Iguanodon, and Dinornis as striking examples.

Professor Forbes also bore testimony to the truthful care and study with which these great models were produced by Mr. Hawkins, and which would render them trustworthy lessons to the world at large in a branch of science which had hitherto been found too vast and abstruse to call in the aid of art to illustrate its wonderful truths.

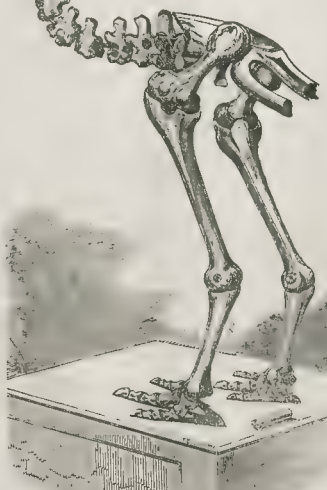
After several appropriate toasts, this agreeable party of philosophers returned to London by rail, evidently well pleased with the modern hospitality of the Iguanodon, whose ancient sides there is no reason to suppose had ever before been shaken with philosophic mirth.

THE numbers attending the Museum of Ornamental Art at Marlborough House, during December, were—19,630 persons on the public days, free; 475 persons on the students' days, and admitted at 6d each; besides the registered students of the classes and schools—an increase of 5,567 over last year.

GIGANTIC BIRD OF NEW ZEALAND.

IN the fine Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons, in Lincoln's-inn-fields, is a most interesting illustration of the pitch to which comparative anatomy has reached in this country; the result of an immense induction of particulars in this noble science. Such is the Skeleton of the *Dinornis* of New Zealand, which the visitor will immediately recognise on the left side of the old Museum, having the skeleton of O'Brien, the Irish giant, on its right. The means by which the Museum obtained this valuable acquisition is thus graphically described in Mr. Samuel Warren's truthful and eloquent lecture on "The Intellectual and Moral Development of the Present Age:"—

In the year 1839, Professor Owen was sitting alone in his study, when a shabbily-dressed man made his appearance, announcing that he had got a great curiosity which he had brought from New Zealand, and wished to dispose of it to him. Any one in London can now see the article in question, for it is deposited in the Museum of the College of Surgeons, in Lincoln's-inn-fields. It has the appearance of an old marrow-bone, about six inches in length, and rather more than two inches in thickness, *with both extremities broken off*; and Professor Owen considered that, to whatever animal it might have belonged, the fragment must have lain in the earth for centuries. At first he considered this same marrow-bone to have belonged to an ox—at all events, to a quadruped; for the wall or rim of the bone was six times as thick as the bone of any bird, even the ostrich. He compared it with the bones in the skeleton of an ox, a horse, a camel, a tapir, and every quadruped apparently possessing a bone of that size and configuration; but it corresponded with none. On this he very narrowly examined the surface of the bony rim, and at length became satisfied that this monstrous fragment must have belonged to *a bird*—to one at least *as* large as an ostrich, but of a totally different species; and consequently one never before heard of, as an ostrich was by far the biggest bird known. From the difference in the *strength* of the bone, the ostrich being unable to fly, so must have been unable this unknown bird; and so our anatomist came to the conclusion that this old shapeless bone indicated the former existence, in New Zealand, of some huge bird, at least as great as an ostrich, but of a far heavier and more sluggish kind. Prof. Owen was confident* of the validity of his conclusions, but could communicate that confidence to no one else; and, notwithstanding attempts to dissuade him from committing his views to the public, he printed his deductions in the "Transactions of the Zoological Society" for the year 1839, where, fortunately, they remain on record as conclusive evidence of the fact of his having then made this guess, so to speak, in the dark. He caused the bone, however, to be engraved; and having sent a hundred copies of the engraving to New Zealand, in the hopes of their being distributed and leading to interesting results, he patiently waited for three years, viz., till the year 1842, when he received intelligence from Dr. Buckland, at Oxford, that a great box, just arrived from New Zealand, consigned to himself, was on its way, unopened, to Professor Owen; who found it filled with bones, palpably of a bird, one of which was three feet in length, and much more than double the size of any bone in the ostrich! And out of the contents of this box the Professor was positively enabled to articulate almost the entire skeleton of a huge wingless bird, between ten and eleven feet in height, its bony structure in strict conformity with the fragment in question; and that skeleton may be at any time seen at the Museum of the College of Surgeons, towering over, and nearly twice the height of the skeleton of an ostrich; and at its feet is lying the old bone from which alone consummate anatomical science had deduced such an astounding reality: the existence of an enormous extinct creature of the bird kind, in an island where previously no bird had been known to exist larger than a pheasant or a common fowl!



SKELETON OF THE DINORNIS, IN THE MUSEUM OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.

* The paper on which he even sketched the outline of the unknown bird, is now in the hands of an accomplished naturalist in London—Mr. Broderip.

THE distinguished artist, Don Rafael Benjumea, has had the honour of a private audience of her Majesty the Queen of Spain, to deliver to her Majesty a splendid historical picture of the presentation of the Princess Royal in the Royal palace after the birth took place. This painting has been executed by the artist, by special command of her Majesty, and has taken the author two years to complete.

SOUTH SEA COMPANY.—On Thursday the half-yearly meeting of this company was held at the South Sea House, when a dividend of 1½ per cent for the half-year was declared. After some discussion, it was resolved that a special meeting should be called, to take into consideration the proposition for obtaining an Act of Parliament to continue the company as a trade company.

ASYLUM FOR FEMALE ORPHANS.—On Thursday the quarterly court of this charity was held at the Asylum, Westminster-road; W. Wild, Esq., in the chair; when it was reported that the school was now quite full, the number of children in the Asylum being 160, and their general health, notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, very satisfactory. Since the last meeting, £200, being part of the proceeds of the triennial dinner, at which his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge presided, had been invested in the Funds. The report was adopted, and a special vote of thanks given to his Royal Highness for the great zeal evinced by him in the success of the institution.

ROYAL NATIONAL INSTITUTION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF LIFE FROM SHIPWRECK.—On Thursday last a meeting of the General Committee of this old and valuable institution, was held at the offices, John-street, Adelphi; Mr. Alderman Thompson, chairman of the society, presiding. The gold medallion of the institution was voted to the gallant Captain Ludlow, of the American ship *Monmouth*, in admiration of his noble and humane conduct to the crew and passengers of the unfortunate emigrant ship *Meridian*. The silver medal of the Society was also presented to R. Harrington, and W. Waters, first and second coxswains of the *Southwold* life-boat, for their frequent services in saving life in the life-boats of that place. The thanks of the committee, on vellum, were voted to the Rev. Mr. Williams, jun., and to Captain Redenchi, of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company's Services, for their intrepidity in saving life. A reward of £4 10s. was granted to the crew of the *Boulmer*, new life-boat, for saving the crew, consisting of seven men, of the brig *Robert Nicol*, of Perth. The boat was placed on this station by the Duke of Northumberland, K.G., and liberally presented by him, as president, to the institution. Other rewards having been voted, the committee decided that a public dinner should be held, early in March next, in aid of the funds of the society, and for the purpose of bringing the truly benevolent and national objects of the institution prominently before the public. It was reported that four new life-boats were nearly ready to be sent to the coast. Colonel Tulloch, R.A., as successor to the late Colonel Colquhoun, C.B., having been elected a member of the committee, the proceedings closed.

A FIRE BROKE OUT IN DOCTOR'S-COMMONS at half-past eight on Thursday morning, destroying the extensive manufactory of Messrs. Hodgkinson and Burnside, envelope makers, and the premises of Mr. Coombs, builder—these buildings lying between the Church of St. Benet, and the College of Advocates, both of which narrowly escaped destruction; but the residence of Mr. Pritchard, adjoining the Hall, has met with some partial damage from the heat of the flames. Had the fire happened a few hours earlier, the library of the College (only separated a few feet from the burning premises), and the whole range of the buildings, including the Will-office, might have become a heap of ruins. The damage is estimated at from £9000 to £4000.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

BUSHEY.—You have forgotten to send the conditions and solution of the Problem.
J. M.—Moderately good only.
PALAMEDES, SPESSA, ONE OF THE OLD SCHOOL.—The appointment rests with the Committee of the St. George's Chess Club. Your applications should, therefore, be addressed to the Hon Secretary
NEMO (Bath).—The article on "A New Chess Notation," appealing from its length and the complication of its symbols, shall be returned if you will be good enough to send an address
It is quite unsuited for publication in a Journal like ours.
H. G.—Very look again. It is a mate in *one* move. So obvious, that a player of three days' experience could not miss it.
J. K. B.—T. T. On the contrary, the variation you omit is the most difficult and beautiful.
C. D. de J.—Intelligence—a private communication has been forwarded.
KNIGHT.—We have received the first number of the Manchester Chess Magazine. The correspondence between the representatives of the two par. ies in Manchester has been of so amicable a character as to render unnecessary the hon. mode to keep Mr. Harrwitz to his engagement, but happily without success. We hope to find room next week for the final proposition made by Mr. Staunton with the view of bringing the matter to an issue.
A CARDINAL.—In the appointment in question, we believe the preference will be given to native players.
COMO.—We should take Black's game for choice, as he has a Pawn more than you, without any inferiority of situation.
A CHESS-PLAYER.—The subscription is very trifling; but we do not know exactly the amount. Pay to Dr Robertson, Grange-street, Edinburgh.
J. P.—If the SUN shall be returned, if it is not destroyed.
C. D. de J.—Intelligence—a private communication has been forwarded.
ANNIE.—We have taken cognizance of the suggestion which you and many others have sent us, and shall endeavour, whenever it is practicable, to give the Chess Column in the Supplement.
J. B. H.—We cannot engage a person in the act of stating
A. N. M.—Your last solution was the more elaborate, but the shorter is not observed on. In speaking of the play of Messrs. Harrwitz and Löwenthal, in the late match, we confined ourselves to *their* skill, relatively one with the other's. We are as conscious as our Correspondent can be of the great advantage a player of the highest level of second class chess [illegible] the latter is the better of the players, as a set encounter, would have the same result—although [illegible] first case.
D. N. Sheffield.—If those who must now send the account of your Club to the Chess Players' Chronicle, which proposes to give a Monthly List of matches [illegible] duly [illegible] should adopt the suggestion as to remodel the intention will be a useful publishing such a list.
P. B.—Reported. They shall be examined, and the solutions given.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 515, by Arnold, Memphis, Mona, Douglas, W. F. H., Amicus, are correct.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 516, by J. P. M., Dawson, Jack of Shrewsbury, Sarcinula, Jack of Worcester, T. K. B., J. Addison, I., F. X., Almaric, D. J., of Hanworth; I. C., Medicus, I. H. F., S. P. Q. R., are correct All others are wrong.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 513.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. K to K B 5th (ch)	K takes P, or (a)	4. Q to Q 2nd (ch)	K takes Kt
2. K to K 2nd (ch)	K takes R	5. Q to K R 2nd (ch)—Mate.	
3. Kt to K Kt 2nd (ch)	K takes P		

(a) If K to K 7th (ch) K to K sq, B to Q 3rd
2. K to Kt 7th (ch) K to K 2nd
3. Q to Q Kt 4th (ch) P to Q B 4th

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 514.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. Q to K 7th	B takes Q, or (a)	3. Kt to B 3rd	R to Q Kt 5th
2. R to K 8th (ch)	K takes R	4. P to K Kt 4th (ch)	

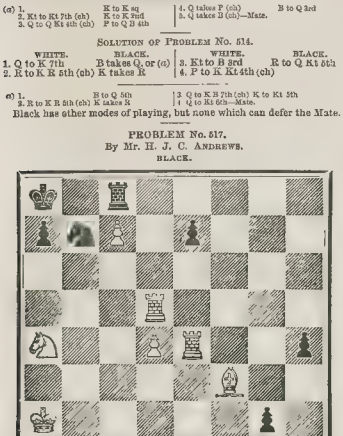
(a) If B to Q 5th [3 Q to K R 7th (ch) K to Kt 5th
2. R to K R 8th (ch) K to Kt 6th—Mate.

Black has other modes of playing, but none which can defer the Mate.

PROBLEM No. 517.

By Mr. H. J. C. ANDREWS.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to move, and mate in four moves.

CHESS IN BELGIUM.

The following well-contested Games were lately played at Brussels, between Mr. VON HEYDEBRAND AND Mr. STAUNTON.

(Allgaier Gambit.)

BLACK (Mr. V. H.)	WHITE (Mr. S.)	BLACK (Mr. V. H.)	WHITE (Mr. S.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	26. Q Kt to his sq (i)	B takes Q P (ch)
2. P to K B 4th	P takes P	27. K to Q 2nd	Q to her R 6th
3. Kt to K B 3rd	P to K Kt 4th	28. Q R to his 4th	Q to her B 6th
4. P to K R 4th	P to K Kt 5th	29. K takes B	Kt to K B 7th
5. Kt to K 5th	P to Q 3rd		(ch)
6. Kt takes Kt P	P takes Kt	30. K to Q 2nd	Q to her Kt 3rd
7. Kt K R 3rd	B takes K R P		(k)
8. P to Q 4th	Q to K Kt 4th	31. K to Q B 2nd	Kt takes K R
9. Q to K B 3rd	B to K Kt 6th	32. R to K 3rd	P to Q B 4th
10. Q Kt to Q B 3rd	K Kt to K B 3rd	33. P takes P (in passing)	Q takes Q P
11. B to Q 2nd	B to Q 2nd	34. Q takes K Kt	P to Q R 3rd
12. Castles	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	35. K to Q 3rd (l)	P to Q K 4th (m)
13. Q Kt to K 2nd	B takes K Kt	36. K to Q 4th (n)	K to K Kt 3rd
14. B takes P	Q to Q R 4th (c)	37. Q to K R 5th	Q to K R 3rd
15. Q takes B	Q takes Q B P	38. Kt to Q 5th	K to Q B 3rd
16. Kt to Q B 3rd (d)	Q to Q R 5th (ch)	39. K to K B 4th	Q to K B 3rd
17. Kt to Q Kt sq	Castles on Q side	40. Q to Q 4th	K to Q B 2nd
18. R to Q Kt 3rd	K Kt to K 5th	41. Q to K Kt 6th	Q R to K 3rd
19. Q to Q Kt sq (e)	Q R to K sq	42. Kt takes Q R	P takes Kt
20. P to Q 5th	Q Kt to his 5th	43. Q Kt K 5th (ch)	K to Q B 3rd
21. Q to her Kt 4th	Q Kt to K B 3rd (f)	44. Q to K B 7th (ch)	K to Q B 2nd
22. Q to K Kt sq (g)	B to Q Kt 4th (f)	45. Q to Q R 7th	Q to Q B sq
23. Kt to Q B 3rd	Kt takes B (ch) (g)	46. Q to K 7th	Q to Q sq
24. P takes Kt	Q to Q 3rd (h)	47. Q takes K P	
25. K to Q B 2nd	Q to her K 3rd		

And wins the game.

(a) This move gives White at once an almost decisive advantage.
(b) He had no better move.
(c) A tempting retreat, but he could not afford to lose another Pawn, and had no other way to recruit it.
(d) Threatening to win the adverse Queen
(e) Again Black appears to have had no better move than to retire his Queen to this distant post.
(f) An ill-judged step. He should have thrown forward his P to K B 4th, and Black would then have had a hopeless game.
(g) Again White plays without due consideration, for he might still have preserved a great superiority of position, by checking with the Kt at Q 7th, instead of exchanging pieces. For instance—

23.	Kt to Q R 7th (ch)
24.	K to Q 2nd
25.	B takes B. &c.

(h) Q to her K 3rd would have been better. By checking with the Queen, he enables Black to bring out his pieces
(i) Very finely played. Black has now fairly turned the tables on him.
(k) This was imperative; for, if he had taken the K Rock, Black would have won his Queen by playing D to K 3rd, &c.
(l) Mr. Heydebrand plays all this termination admirably.
(m) This exposes his King too much. He should rather have replied the King to Kt sq. In that or any other case, however, White would have had a winning game.
(n) After the coup White's game is beyond retrieval.
(o) To enable him to bring the Rook to bear against the adverse King and Queen.

CHESS ENIGMAS.

No. 856.—By E. B. C., of Princeton.

White.—K at his 7th, Q at her sq., Kt at K 3rd, P at K Kt 2nd.
Black.—K at his 4th, Ps at K Kt 6th and Q 3rd.
White to play, and mate in three moves.

No. 857.—By RICARDO.

White.—K at K Kt 7th, R at Q B 6th, B at K Kt 4th, Ps at K 2nd and Q Kt 5th.
Black.—K at Q 6th; Ps at K 5th and 6th, Q B 2nd, and Q Kt 3rd.
White to play, and mate in five moves.

THE SNOW-STORM.—THE WEATHER.

There was another fall of snow on Thursday morning, but not to any depth. It commenced with a slight thaw, which became stronger in the morning; and the consequence was, that the streets became overloaded with mud and snow, and, to the serious impediment of the traffic. The omnibuses generally had four horses; a few had three only; and very few indeed had but the ordinary complement of two horses. Several cabs had two horses, and the crawler along at a very moderate pace. At first all other vehicles, except the butcher's cart, which, despite of ice, or snow, or rain, or hail, must rattle along at an arbitrary pace which butchers' horses driven by butchers' boys can alone accomplish.

The railway traffic between Havre and Paris was completely obstructed by the snow on Tuesday, and no train reached Paris from that place, but the line from Rouen to Paris was open. The arrivals of the trains from Brussels and the north of France had also been much retarded in their progress, but the line was not completely obstructed. Between Dunai and Lille the snow was so deep on the line that the directors of the company found it necessary to apply for the assistance of the troops in garrison at the former place, which was promptly given.

So much snow has recently fallen in the country near the upper part of the Seine, the Marne, the Yonne, and the Aube, that serious alarm is felt at the probable effect of a sudden thaw.

The thermometer at Toulouse on the 3th ult. stood as low as 14 degrees. On the same day it was at 7 degrees at Marseilles and at Nimes, and 8 degrees at Montpellier. As to the north of Europe, a letter from Dirschau, 28th ult., states that the ice on the Vistula and Nogat is so strong that carriages can cross those rivers. In Paris the frost entirely ceased on Wednesday, and was followed by continued rains.

THE REVENUE.

An Abstract of the Net Produce of the Revenue of Great Britain, in the Year and Quarter ended 5th Jan., 1854, showing the Increase or Decrease thereof.

	Year ended 5th Jan., 1854.	Quarter ended 5th Jan., 1854.	Year ended Jan. 5, 1854.		Quarter ended Jan. 5, 1854.	
			Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Customs	18,695,332	4,444,578	232,441	..	..	96,896
Excise	13,356,981	3,426,676	273,122	..	..	113,970
Stamps	6,387,261	1,589,928	213,737	..	..	75,101
Taxes	3,877,843	1,462,699	..	223,975	..	17,163
Property-tax ..	5,509,637	414,888	50,589	..	..	53,850
Post-office ..	1,022,000	335,000	15,000	63,000	..	..
Crown Lands ..	260,000	80,000	142,888	..	..	..
Miscellaneous..	293,732	26,121	..	17,354	..	5,387
Total Ordinary Revenue	48,802,833	11,668,811	962,187	269,329	63,000	362,207
Imprest and other Moneys..	636,063	279,477	345,028	..	136,539	130,293
Repayments of Advances ..	1,031,287	361,702	388,091	..	..	..
Total ..	50,468,183	12,310,060	1,675,254	269,329	199,539	492,500
Deduct Decrease }	..	..	269,329	} Deduct Increase }	199,539	199,539
Increase on the Year .. }	..	..	1,315,925	} Decrease on the Quarter. }	293,051	

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

Notwithstanding that there have been numerous rather large sales of Money Stock, and that the accounts from Turkey are of an unsatisfactory character, the fall in the quotations during the week has not been more than about three-eighths per cent—the lowest figure having been 93 for the Three per Cents for the Opening. There has been a full average supply of money in the Exchange. In Lombard-street the demand for it has continued steady, yet first-class Bills have been discounted at from 4½ to 5 per cent.

In the year just concluded, the extreme range of Consols was 10½ per cent against 5¼ in 1852. On the 1st January, 1853, the stock of bullion in the Bank of England was £20,527,692; it is now about £18,800,000. At the Bank of France, the total at the beginning of the year was £20,450,000; but it is now only £12,700,000. The Board of Trade tables for the month ending the 5th ult. show very satisfactory results, the comparative increase in our exports being £1,595,730. The total value of shipments during the first eleven months of the year was £93,784,515, against £89,339,184 in the corresponding period in 1852. The increase, therefore, is equal to 24 per cent.

The South Sea Company have issued a notice to the effect that the directors ready to make advances on the security of South Sea Stock, at the rat eof 100 per cent., to such proprietors as may give three days' notice to the cashier. The rate of interest is to be four per cent; and the reason why the notice has been issued is, the directors cannot divide the £3,662,784 now being paid off by Government without a special Act of Parliament.

The commercial mills falling due on the 4th were well and generally met, although, in some cases, owing to the stoppage of the mails from the effects of the severe snow storm, the remittances were not received till a late hour.

On Monday, Consols opened at 93⅛, and closed at 93⅜ to ⅝ ex div. for the 18th January. The Three per Cents Reduced were 93½ to ⅝; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 94⅛ ⅜. Bank Stock was 217½. The Unfunded Debt was rather active, at 7a. to 10s. prem. India Bonds sold at 2a. to 5s. prem. The Market, on Tuesday, was very flat. The Three per Cents reduced were done at 93⅛ ⅜ ½; the Three per Cents for the Opening, 93⅛ ⅜ ½; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 94 ⅛ ¼ ⅜. India Bonds were 4s. prem., par, to 5s. prem; Exchequer Bills, 5s., 10s. prem. Bank Stock was unaltered. On Wednesday, 21st. The Three per Cents Reduced, were 93½ ⅝; Consols for Account, 93⅝; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 94½ ⅝. The Market, on Thursday, was very inactive. In the Foreign Stocks little alteration took place. The Three per Cents for Account were first done at 93; but they subsequently became rather firm, and closed at 93⅜ to ½ ex div. The Three per Cents Reduced were 93⅜ ½ and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 94¼ ⅜ ½. Exchequer Bills were steady, at 7s. to 10s., and India Bonds, 1s. to 5s. prem.

All Foreign Bonds have met a very dull market; in many instances quotations have ruled almost nominal. Brazilian Old rive per Cents have been 99; Danish Three per Cents, 84½; Dutch Two-and-a Half per Cents, 62⅜ ex div.; Equador Bonds, 4⅜ ⅝; Grenada Deferred, 19; Ditto Active Cents, ex Dec., 1849, Coupon, 20; Ditto Deferred, 7½; Mexican Three per Cents, 21½ ¾; Portuguese Four per Cents, 40¾ to 41¼ ex div.; Russian Four-and-a Half per Cents, 94⅜ to 95 ex div.; Spanish Three per Cents, 44¼ ex div.; Ditto New Deferred Three per Cents, 21¼ ¾ ex div.

Miscellaneous Shares have met a dull market, and prices have ruled rather lower:—London Chartered Bank of Australia have been 18⅜ Crystal Palace, 6⅜ ½; Scottish Australian Investment, 2⅜ ⅝; South Australian Land, 3⅝ ex d.v.; Berlin Waterworks, 1⅜ ½; East London, 130; Grand Junction, 73; West Middlesex, 110; Chelsea Water, 84; Hungerford Market, 8⅜; Albion Insurance, 85; Globe, 144 to 143; Guardian, 53½ to 50; Imperial Fire, 275; London, 99; Sun Fire, 165; Sun Life, 65; Australian Royal Mail Steam, 2⅞ to 3; Canada Six per Cent Stock, 119; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, 66 to 63.

The imports of specie, this week, have amounted to £430,000 from Mexico, and 440,000 dollars from New York 325,000 of the latter being destined for Havre. The shipments are £120,000 to the Continent, and 425,000 to India, China, &c.

The market for Railway Shares has been in a very quiet state, without sales of magnitude. Prices have been kept tolerably steady, though their tendency has been to decline. The following are the official closing prices on Thursday:

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Ambergate, Nottingham, and Boston Junction, 4½; Bristol and Exeter, 95; Caledonian, 50½; Dundee, Perth, and Aberdeen Junction, 8½; East Anglian, 4⅜; Eastern Counties, 12⅝; East Lancashire, 64; Great Northern, 84; Great Western, 88; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 66½; London and Blackwall, 8; London and North-Western, 102; Ditto, Eighths, 1⅞; London and South-Western, 76; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 21⅜; Midland, 61⅞; North British, 28⅜; Shrewsbury and Chester, 13; South-Eastern, 59⅜ York, Newcastle, and Berwick, 63⅜; York and North Midland, 46.

LINES LEASED AT FIXED RENTALS.—East Lincolnshire, 141.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Caledonian, 10⅜; East Anglian, 4¼; Eastern Counties, New Six per Cent Stock, 13⅝; Great Northern, Five per Cent, 119; Ditto, Redeemable at Ten per Cents prem., 10⅜; Ditto, Four-and-a-Half per Cents Scrip, 10⅜; Lancashire and Yorkshire, Six per Cent Stock, 142; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 103.

FOREIGN.—East Indian, 22⅝; Grand Trunk of Canada, 6¾; Hamilton and Toronto, 10; Luxembourg, 10¾; Ditto New, 5¾; Ditto, Guaranteed, 4⅝; Northern of France, 34⅜; Southern of France, 9¼

In Mining Shares scarcely any business has been doing. Linares have sold at 11; Santiago de Cuba, 9¼; Yuba, ⅜.

Friday Evening.

The arrival of warlike intelligence from Vienna has had some effect upon the Consol Market to-day. Prices have fluctuated to some extent. The Three per Cents Reduced have been 93⅜ ⅝ 93; New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 94¼ 93⅝ to 94; Consols for Account, 93⅝ ⅞ 93. Bank Stock, 218 to 217. India Bonds, 3s.; Exchequer Bills, 7s. to 10s. pm. In Foreign Bonds and Railway Shares very little doing.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE (Friday).—Fresh up to-day the arrivals of English wheat were on a very limit scale, and the show of samples of both red and white was trifling. Owing to the closure of the inland navigation rendering it impossible to deliver, the amount of business doing was limited, nevertheless factors were very firm and nearly buyers were compelled to pay an advance of from 1s. to 2s. per quarter on Monday's prices. The import of American wheat is very good, yet the sale for all kinds was cheap, and prices nearly 1s. per quarter higher. Floating cargoes were held as value at 45s. per quarter. We were very moderately supplied with barley, which sold steadily, at 1s. per quarter more money. Malt was in good request, and 1s. dearer. We had a good demand for oats, at 6d. per quarter more money. Beans, peas and flour were held at enhanced rates

ARRIVALS.—English wheat, 1,650 loads; foreign, 2,000 qrs.; flour, 1,050 brls. Irish, barley, 750; oats, 13,750 Foreign, wheat, 13,000 barley, 350; oats, 2,100 flour, 17,020 brls.

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 44s. to 52s.; ditto, white, 52s. to 56s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 44s. to 52s.; ditto, white, 44s. to 52s.; rye, 34s. to 37s.; grinding barley, 23s. to 25s.; distilling ditto, 26s. to 27s.; malting ditto 31s. to 34s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 54s. to 56s.; Severn ditto, 52s. to 54s.; kingwood and Ware, 50s. to 52s. Chevalier, 57s. to 59s. Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 20s. to 23s.; potato ditto, 23s. to 25s.; Youghal and Cork ditto, 22s. to 23s. ditto, white, 24s. to 25s.; tick beans, new, 42s. to 45s.; ditto, old, 43s. to 45s.; grey peas, 42s. to 44s.; maple, 42s. to 46s.; white, 40s. to 43s.; boilers, 42s. to 45s. per quarter. Flour, 38s. to 39s.; Suffolk, 37s. to 38s.; Stockton and Yorkshire, 40s. to 42s. per 280 lbs. *Foreign.*—French flour, —s. to —s. per sack, American, 36s. to 40s. per barrel.

Seeds.—There is rather more doing in clover seed, at full quotations. In cut harseeds very few transactions have taken place.

Linseed, English, sowing, 50s. to 52s.; Baltic crushing, 47s. to 49s.; Mediterranean and Odessa, 50s. to 54s.; hempseed 32s. to 34s. per quarter; Coriander, 10s. to 15s. per cwt. Canary seed, 44s. to 46s.; Carraway, 24s. to 26s.; rapeseed, 42s. to 44s.; linseed cakes, £9 10s. to £10 per ton; Canary, 6s. to 7s. per quarter. English clover-seed, red, 36s. to 66s.; ditto, white, 70s. to 80s.; trefoil, 20s. to 24s.; rapeseed, 42s. to 46s.; maple, 42s. to 46s.; white, 40s. to 43s.; boilers, 42s. to 45s. per quarter. Flour, 38s. to 39s.; Suffolk, 37s. to 38s.; Stockton and Yorkshire, 40s. to 42s. per 280 lbs. *Foreign.*—French flour,—

THE CORPORATION OF LONDON.

THE CITY BRIDGES.

The bridges of London, or at least some of the bridges of London, the structures of which the authorities are justly proud; and it was with no small amount of satisfaction that they heard uttered the high encomium attributed to Canova, that if London contained no other attraction, the Strand-bridge (now called Waterloo-bridge) would amply compensate for a journey of a thousand miles. London-bridge is another of those noble works which demands the highest approbation. The question, however, which we desire to discuss is not whether some of the bridges are not a credit to the metropolis, but whether we have a sufficient number to properly accommodate the immense traffic desiring to cross the river. However important and useful to a large city a tidal river may be, it is nevertheless an immense inconvenience to those residing on its banks; preventing, as it does, that free communication, so important to all classes, but more especially to a mercantile and trading community. Whatever interferes with the immediate fulfilment of an object desired, is an evil which those who have the power ought to remedy without delay. Before scientific minds had conceived a plan for carrying a roadway over a river, the only plan by which the difficulty could be overcome was by boats of the rudest character, constructed of the bark of trees, or of wicker-work covered with hides. These times have long passed away; but, judging from the antipathy to the increase of bridge accommodation in London, it would almost seem as if barbaric notions, in a modified degree, still possessed the minds of the rulers of the city of London. The Government has determined on a large improvement in the bridges at the West-end, where they are less needed than in the City: wherever the population is the densest and trade the largest, there should bridges be the most numerous. It is curious to note how the Corporation of London have always opposed the building of bridges. No bridge has ever been thrown over the Thames without meeting with the determined opposition of that body. Even last year they put in motion all the machinery they could bring to bear against the Government plan for building the new bridge at Westminster. In like manner, they opposed the building of Putney-bridge—the strong argument being, that it would injure the business of the watermen; and change the current of the river, and greatly interfere with its navigation. But, the most extraordinary opposition ever persevered in, was that of the Corporation to the company which proposed the construction of Southwark-bridge. In May, 1811, the Navigation Committee of the Corporation reported "that it was proved by the most clear, distinct, and incontrovertible testimony of witnesses, that, from the strength of tide, and the extreme velocity of the current, vessels are wholly unmanageable from London bridge to parts of the river above where the intended new bridge is to be placed; and that, in their opinion, it will be impossible for barges, and other vessels, to proceed up the river from London-bridge without the most imminent hazard of destruction from striking against the intended bridge." There is something almost grand in the decided tone of the language just quoted. Yet the bridge has been built; and the barges have not been destroyed; the dangers apprehended have not been experienced; nor has the river run itself dry, as some wise folk predicted, by the removal of the dam of the river caused by old London bridge.

Then-a-days, as now, the leading members of the Court of Common Council always attributed personal motives, when any independent man proposed a scheme of improvement; and the opposition to the New Bridge arose chiefly because it was observed by some "that the principal merit of the scheme consisted in its becoming the means of *forcing* the City to take down or rebuild London-bridge."

The City was not to be cajoled or forced, and not to be caught napping. Their watch-dog, the Remembrancer of that day, was on the alert in the House of Commons, and the civic pride was roused. Their pet, old London-bridge, was to be destroyed by the innovators; and, if they succeeded in demolishing their favourite of antiquity, what would become of London—where would be its charters and its privileges? If they succeeded in this, who could tell but they might next desire the annihilation of Temple-bar; the removal of Smithfield market; and, perhaps, seek to deform the Corporation of the City of London itself, and for ever put an end to the wonder and admiration of the world—the famed pageant of the Lord Mayor's Show? Therefore, to prevent the possibility of such a result, the safest course for them to adopt was determined opposition to everything not initiated by the favourites of their own court. For nearly twenty years they succeeded in their protection of the old and dangerous bridge, though they did not prevent the completion of the new iron bridge. The climax to the absurdity of their opposition appeared in the following paragraph, extracted from the report already referred to—"That an iron bridge *will be disgraceful in appearance, compared with the other bridges*" (old London, Blackfriar's, and Westminster—*all* condemned or destroyed), "and, in the opinion of many men of science, such a bridge, of upwards of 700 feet in length, with only two bearing piers, of twenty five feet in thickness, thus subject to vibration, contraction, and expansion, *cannot stand*; therefore, and for other reasons therein set forth, the committee submit the necessity of continuing to oppose the bill." This they did unsuccessfully; and, although they predicted its speedy downfall, it has stood for nearly forty years; and the Corporation are desirous of buying it for the free use of the public. The record of opinions, such as those quoted, should teach men humility, and make them less prone to condemn things as impracticable, because their experience has been insufficient to enable them to arrive at truth. Some two years ago, the subject of New Bridges was brought before the Corporation of London by Mr. Bennoch, who was then a member of the Common Council. The entire project was ably discussed; and we, in common with the great mass of the public, hoped to have seen some evidence of the earnestness of the Corporation long before this. But petty squabblings seem to have obstructed the progress of the question; and now that that gentleman has left the Corporation, we suppose his plan for additional bridges will be laid on the shelf. It is, however, just within the range of possibility that now they have got rid of that, to them, troublesome person, they may, of their own accord, urge forward the questions proposed by him, and which they have hitherto opposed.

From a valuable pamphlet on the "Bridges of London," written by Mr Bennoch—which has already been noticed by us, and which is full of interesting details—we gather that while conveyances of every kind have increased fourfold, while the population of the metropolis is larger by a million of persons, we have only had added to our bridge accommodation some ten feet of carriage-way since 1821. From various reports that have come before us, we learn that the reason assigned for delaying the question is want of means. If the question is important, means will be found. The plea of poverty by the Corporation of London is one that will not be accepted by the public. The disclosures made before the Royal Commissioners sufficiently prove that, had the Corporation the will, the way would be found. There is no city in the world so wealthy as London; and there is no city of any pretensions to power or credit possessing so little bridge accommodation as London. Paris, Lyons, Glasgow, Dublin, are a credit to their respective countries, so far as bridges are concerned; while London is a disgrace to England in that respect.

At the close of the last session of Parliament Mr. Oliveira gave notice of a motion to inquire into the Bridges of London, which it is understood will pass unopposed by Government. The honourable member has been travelling on the Continent, to make himself thoroughly acquainted with the working of the Wine Duty; and, judging from his energy, we may fairly expect that the Bridges of Paris and other places will have received a due amount of attention. The evidence to be given, will, in all probability, establish the fact that, in its want of attention to the convenience of the public, the Corporation of London has, in the matter of bridges, as in the several matters referred to by us in former articles, shown itself wholly unequal to the performance of duties it had undertaken.

Every bridge on the river should be purchased and made toll-free, and other bridges should be added, without delay. The first new bridge should undoubtedly be that projected by Mr. Bennoch, near St. Paul's; because it would permit the traffic north and south to cross the river without any deviation. The improvement of the thoroughfares of the metropolis is of such vital importance to all that it might, for the information of the public, be advisable to lay down an entire scheme of alterations, which ought to be proceeded with simultaneously. Before concluding the series of articles in which we are now engaged, we shall in all probability, give, in a condensed form, a list of such improvements as are imperatively called for. Next week we shall turn our attention to the Markets of the City, with a view to ascertain whether in that respect the arrangements are equal to the requirements of the public.

INDUSTRIAL INSTRUCTION.*

As a step towards realising the plenary education of all classes of the people, nothing of late accomplished is, perhaps, of more importance than the published "Report of the Committee appointed by the Council of the Society of Arts, to Inquire into the Subject of Industrial Instruction; with the Evidence on which the Report is Founded." This industrial application of the educational process brings it to a practical level, where its value can be appreciated by the general understanding. The object of the Committee was to ascertain "how far and in what manner the Society of Arts may aid in the promotion of such an education of the people as shall lead to a more general and systematic cultivation of arts, manufactures, and commerce—the chartered objects of the Society." The better to promote this object, they sought, first, proof of the sentiments of manufacturers on the question; and next, that of those of its advocates and students—of all, in fact, who had regarded the subject of education as a great social movement. To the circulars which they consequently issued they obtained a great number of valuable answers—amounting on the part of the manufacturers to "a decided expression of opinion as to the urgent necessity of industrial instruction;" and on the part of the various friends of education in general, to "a most cordial sympathy with their object, hope for the success of so important a movement, and regret that reform had been delayed so long." Thus, as we have suggested, the question formerly discussed on abstract grounds alone has been brought to a practical result, from which much good may be expected.

Such, then, is the stage of progress attained; and our arrival at it is no doubt partly due to the influence of the Great Exhibition on the minds of those who think. To quote the words of the Report, that Exhibition "at once showed to manufacturers their true position; it brought the truth home, not only to the well-informed few, but to the mass of our ill-instructed population." To this may be added the conviction of an intelligent foreigner, M. de Cocquiel, that "the Universal Exhibition was a great school in which every nation came to seek, from the example of others, the means of improving its own labour, its own industry; and one by which the British people has therefore been extensively benefited by the improvements which their rivals have brought to the work of production. The idea (he adds) which originated the Great Exhibition is now fructifying and developing itself in the United Kingdom, and will certainly expand to a magnificent system of industrial instruction which, I have no doubt, will, ere long, serve as a model to all the nations of the Continent."

The Committee, nevertheless, have not been blind to the unfortunate fact that "there is still, in some quarters, an unwillingness to promote industrial instruction, especially so far as the cultivation of taste in the Fine Arts is concerned." Capitalists in this country, it would appear, have preferred to pirate foreign patterns, rather than to raise at home the requisite artistic talent. This practice, to some extent, has been found profitable; but it is not without its inconveniences. Thus we are told, that the foreign pattern is frequently modified by varying the arrangement and quality of the colours—a delicate operation, sometimes left to the workmen themselves, which does not always turn out happily. "The result," says M. de Cocquiel, "is often seen in these patterns jarring in colour and absurd in form, overladen with a multitude of incoherent accessories, from which we avert our gaze as we would stop our ears in listening to a discordant concert of sounds." One of the strongest points of objection to the plan is the presumed want of necessity for the kind of education proposed. Those who are unfavourable to its promotion, roundly urge that "the supply of science is always equal to the demand for it; that none of our works, either public or private, is at a stand-still because architects, engineers, or skilled workmen are not to be had; that we have attained to an eminence of commercial and manufacturing prosperity, unrivalled in any age of the world, and that all this has been accomplished without the aid of colleges of chemistry, or of schools of industrial instruction; that, whenever great discoveries were wanted, men to make them have always been forthcoming; and that improvements or discoveries in the arts and sciences are rather the accidents of a lucky chance than the elaborated results of well-directed research and scientific investigation." The Report before us has opposed to this the obvious reply, that the question is not, how this superiority has been acquired, but how it is to be retained. Invention, it has already been produced in spite of the want of favourable conditions, not because of it; and should operate as an encouragement in future for the furnishing of such, as so much capital to be expended on an enterprise which has proved to be exceedingly productive of remunerative return. Nations, also, that have survived their internal convulsions, will naturally come into the market, and compete with us in the peaceful pursuits of industry, in which, from our peculiar position, we have previously got the start.

Conclusions such as these are corroborated in the Report by the expressed opinions of Mr. Disraeli, Lord Seymour, and Lord John Russell. The most forcible way of placing the subject, however, was reserved for Sir Robert Peel. Some years ago, he observed—"All the facilities of intercourse," said he, "are operating as bounties to skill and intelligence. They are shortening the distance between the producer and consumer, and it is not safe for us to remain behind-hand; for, depend upon it, if we are inferior in point of skill and intelligence, or general knowledge, to the manufacturers and producers of other countries, the increased facilities of intercourse will result in transferring the demand from us to others."

The requisite means for maintaining our superiority are not to be found in the further application of capital, which is already, from the mere fact of its superfluity, seeking to stimulate new sources of productive industry; but, in the improvement of labour, and its translation from the muscular spheres of activity to the nervous, or mental. "The whole of industrial competition," says Dr. Playfair, "is now resolved into a struggle to obtain a maximum effect by a minimum expenditure of power." The Continent, it is allowed, has been enabled to seize the *preparing* element of progress. "The man, (to quote an eloquent passage from the Report) has become a limner, the electric fluid a postman, galvanism thrusts aside the goldsmith, and chemical action dispenses with the need of mechanical agency." These discoveries render muscular energy or brute animal strength less significant and less productive than the exercise of refined intellectual power. In illustration, the following instances may be profitably cited from the Report *in extenso*:—

> For example, in cotton-mills and factories, the feebler strength of women and children has supplanted the robuster vigour of able bodied men and the locomotive has driven the horse from the great lines of communication. On the other hand, an increasing amount of intellectual skill is required to guide the steam-engine, to prepare the photograph, to work the electric wire, or to manage the electrotype. On the farm, the steam-engine supplies the place of manual labour, and agriculture is fast becoming a branch of chemistry. To meet this altered state of things, it is obvious the kind of instruction hitherto given must be modified and enlarged. The knowledge which half a century ago would have constituted its possessor a man of science, does not now suffice for the every-day working uses of the intelligent artisan. This shows that the question is not one of mere competition. Were we the only producers in the world, it would be still our interest to provide for the development of natural forces by an adequate cultivation of those powers of man which correspond to it. "Nature is subjugated only by obedience," is the maxim of Bacon. There is also another great advantage that would result from an improved instruction of this kind. Men would no longer have to pass their lives in hopeless wretchedness whenever that branch of art or manufacture to which they happened to turn their early attention, chanced to fail, either through the change of fashion, or the adoption of improved methods of manufacture. Education would give them that versatility of mind which would enable them to turn to something else. There are none so helpless as the hand-loom weaver or the farmer's boy. Their skill is not rational, but instinctive, like that of the beaver or the bee.

Some persons may, even yet, be found who lament that the progress of civilisation tends to extinguish the ignorant and untrained; but lamentations, however just—which this is not—cannot alter the law of tendency and the fact of position. The instinct of a benevolent heart ought rather to suggest the desire that the instructed should aid their less fortunate brethren in acquiring those additional attainments which have become indispensable for their subsistence; and a practical recognition of the ever-increasing necessity for an improved education of the mind in proportion to the advance of civilisation.

A considerable portion of the Report is occupied with combating the vulgar sophism that presumes an antagonism between theory and practice, that is essential, and indeed so fatal, as to amount to an incompatibility. It is not necessary for us to dwell on such a point. Our readers are sufficiently aware that theory and practice, in the nature of things, inseparable, and must ever help each other. The objection, indeed, may be voted obsolete, as well as fallacious. No amount of practical skill and experience can replace the want of theoretical knowledge; and this every one, who knows anything of the subject at all, knows well enough, now-a-days. That the public mind just at present so clear on this point, is in part due to the Society of Arts, which justly claims the credit of having greatly conduced to the desirable result, in the encouragement of scientific agriculture, and the share which it had in the idea and the working out of the Great Exhibition.

Such being the facts and the argument, it becomes evident that an enlarged plan of general education for all classes is required. A merely classical education is, in these times, not enough. A mathematical and scientific education should be added, to enable the student to take an active part in the ever-variable developments of modern society. Schools of all sorts must undergo improvement in accordance with the spirit of the age. Those of the Dean of Hereford are quoted as examples. In them it is stated that the instruction is worth paying for and staying for. The great evil of popular education is the early age at which children are taken from school—an evil only to be remedied by an improvement in the means and character of the instruction accorded. The low standard of instruction adopted, for instance, by our parish schools, has made the class just above the labourer look upon them with contempt. We must prove to the public that the instruction given in schools bears directly on the future prospects of young men; and they will then be numerously and properly attended, but not until then. To make the instruction efficient, there should be brought to bear on it the agency of a Central Board of Examiners, with power to grant certificates of merit; the opposition to which (which is right) is strongly urged by the Committee.

The selfish doctrine that people should not be educated above their condition, is now an exploded error. Men exercise with pleasure any craft in which they are conscious of excellence. They like their profession, because they know it. If they like the Report before us, "it be a wise economy in a flourishing trading establishment, or in a large manufactory, to have all the hands, and tools, and machinery, each the best of its kind, and in the most perfect working order, it surely cannot be unprofitable to have a refined public; this country should develop all its native force of character and strength of intellect, to the utmost perfection of which it is susceptible." New wants, too, require new means. Professions and occupations lately unknown, are now highways to fortune and eminence; some of the greatest fortunes, have been overfilled and become unprofitable. The movement of civilisation is evidently in the line of the useful arts. Our education, it is manifest, should travel in the same direction.

To sum up our analysis with the practical result which the Committee have embodied in their Report, as the résumé of the facts and suggestion which they had solicited:—

To found schools for art and colleges for science, is by no means a novel idea. It has been tried for centuries, and by some of the most ingenious men for more than two centuries. Some of our most practical manufacturers have come to the same result, that some central institution is required, and should originate with the state, as in continental nations throughout the country. We believe the following outline would, to a great extent, include their several plans:—

That a central institution be established in London or Manchester, or in some other convenient locality. That, on the plan of the London University, it should admit into union with it, colleges, mechanics' institutions, schools, and even private examinants; that the conditions of admission should be few and simple; that, like the London University, it should hold examinations, not, however, in London only, but throughout the provinces also. Under the London University, it would be only examine, but teach. It should be its especial duty to train masters as teachers of science, so far as it bears on industrial instruction, and not teachers only, but those also who are to be trained to follow other occupations. They believe it better that there should be no separate school for teachers, but that all should be instructed together, as in our older universities and their colleges, of which this has been in part modelled, is not a truly admirable institution. We do not mean to imply by this that teaching should not be taught as an art. Experience has established the principle, that to teach knowledge is an art, and that it may be taught. It is founded on certain principles, and general principles, and certain rules founded on these principles. The central institution to have attached to it exhibitions or scholarships to reward those students who, by the local examinations, have established such claims to enable them to receive a higher kind of instruction. The examinations in the provincial districts would enable the examiners to see at the elite of our youth, who could then be in a position to perfect those studies they had so worthily begun. This is a brief sketch of some of the suggestions we have received.

A central institution of this kind would not only be well adapted to advance and assist the present local institutions, but also to aid in the setting up of new ones. Even the mere establishment of the central institution would encourage the formation of others in the provinces, and, in fact, it would be a rallying point for advice and assistance.

So far, so good. But, in the cause of plenary education for all classes, something more remains to be said. In order effectually to teach the people, education must be made attractive. Dry knowledge, cultivating the memory at the expense of the mind, is not sufficient. This has been found to be the case with Mechanics' Institutes; and they have, accordingly, been turned into places of amusement rather than of instruction. In that sphere they will perform an important duty. But a higher aim will be required for an Educational Institute; and in order to realise it, an improved method of teaching must be adopted, which shall lend to the facts of science a life capable of commanding an active sympathy. The circle of learning must, in fact, be extended, and learning itself must be popularised, not by being deteriorated, but by enlargement and elevation.

All real and permanent improvements of the kind have proceeded in this way. The art of printing, which has given to the poor man cheap books, was a higher art than that of writing, which it superseded; and every spelling is a more scientific system than that of stage coaches on the high-roads. An eloquent writer, in enforcing these or similar views, has aptly remarked that "the arts of education that will summon the people to learn, are *toto cœlo* different from, and greater than, those which have been sufficient for schools. A petty magnet (he adds) is sufficient to take up a few hundreds of isolated persons; but, when the nations are to be attracted, there is nothing less than the earth that will draw their feet."

The problem of Universal Education, therefore, will require the fullest application of the highest philosophical intelligence to direct it, in its complicated bearings and various relations, to the most successful issue. Theory and practice must unite; low and narrow views must be carefully repudiated; while the loftiest principles and the most generous motives should be not only sedulously conciliated, but permitted to rule with absolute power, as the legitimate initiatives of every plan proposed for adoption, and the ultimate tests of its prospective advantages and its probable fitness for the growing wants of modern society—as ambitious in its objects as ceaseless in its progress.

* "Report of the Committee Appointed by the Council of the Society of Arts, to Inquire into the Subject of Industrial Instruction; with the Evidence on which the Report is Founded." London: Longman, Brown, Green, and Longmans.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

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THE ALLIED FLEETS IN THE EUXINE.

THE British and French fleets have at last entered the Black Sea. The Emperor of Russia has no longer all the "material guarantees" to himself. The new phrase which he introduced into the popular parlance of Europe has received an interpretation of which he did not imagine it to be susceptible. The nations that are determined to uphold their independence, and the civilisation of the world, against Muscovite aggression and barbarism, have also determined to have a "material guarantee." Every honest politician had, of course, a moral certainty that the Czar would not be allowed to dictate his own terms, or cut and carve the map of Europe at his pleasure; but the Czar himself set the example of preferring "material guarantees" to moral certainties, and he will not be surprised that others should imitate him. "Material guarantee," in the sense in which the Emperor Nicholas employed it, is, doubtless, a very fine phrase. A pickpocket, diving his hand into his neighbour's waistcoat, and abstracting his watch or his purse, might allege that the article thus appropriated was but a "material guarantee" to prevent his endurance of the pangs of hunger, or his lingering death from starvation. Society, however, even in Russia and Kamschatka, does not recognize such logic—and calls the forcible seizure of "material guarantees" of this description by a very ugly name—and gives it, when it can catch the offender, a very ugly, but a very just, punishment. The morality of the Russian seizure of the Danubian Principalities was exactly on a par with that of the pickpocket, with this difference, that, judged of by its results, it was infinitely more wicked and mischievous. The swell-mobsman does not usually calculate a loss of human life among the contingencies of his evil-doing; even the burglar and highwayman, though he may make up his mind to homicide as an unhappy eventuality consequent upon his forcible seizure of the "material guarantees" that it pleases him to exact, does not count upon the loss of thousands, or even of hundreds, or of scores of lives, as likely to result from the war which he declares against society. If he did, it is possible that he would relent and amend his ways. Not so merciful and so considerate are the greedy and irresponsible despots who covet the territories of their neighbours, and exact "material guarantees" for the possession of that which they have not the shadow of a right to claim. But there are two sorts of material guarantees; and when society, by the agency of its police and gaolers, locks up, and prevents from doing further injury, the felonious misappropriator of other people's goods, it takes the body of the delinquent as its guarantee against his persistency in ill-doing. Tardily, and to a limited extent, this is the course which has been adopted by Great Britain and France in their naval occupation of the Black Sea. This act, which was partially accomplished on the 30th of December, will convince the Emperor of Russia, if he were not convinced before—that the allies of Turkey are in earnest. A finer and a stronger fleet than that under the French and British flags, now in possession of the Euxine, never put to sea in any period of the world's history; and we may add, without exaggeration, that a force more thoroughly animated by a sense of high moral duty, and more cordially united on the great objects to be pursued, was never before employed for purposes of warfare.

The effect of this proceeding upon the mind of the Emperor of Russia remains to be ascertained. If it please him to consider it a declaration of war, he is of course at liberty to do so; and he will recall his Ambassadors at the Courts of St. James's and the Tuileries, and proceed to such active hostilities as are within his power. But he is under no such necessity. If he be at length convinced of that which is quite

THE ROYAL CHILDREN'S SLEDGE.

HER MAJESTY'S SLEDGE.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

apparent to every one out of Russia, and beyond the pale of Russian partisanship, that the combined strength of the Allies will prove an overmatch for him, he has still the opportunity of remaining quiescent, and trusting to the chapter of accidents, if not of withdrawing altogether, and with the best grace he can, from the dilemma into which ungovernable lust of dominion has led him. The naval occupation of the Euxine is not an act of war, nor a declaration of war. It is a strictly legal act, against which the Russian Emperor has not the legal right even to enter a protest. His invasion and appropriation of Moldavia and Wallachia was an act of war, not only against Turkey, but against every State that was a party to the last territorial settlement of Europe; and if the Great Powers were contented to look upon it in a different light, it was only with the hope that the Czar himself would escape by the loophole which had been mercifully left for his pride as well as for his convenience. But the entrance of the allied fleets into the Euxine admits of no such designation. The Black Sea is not the property of Russia. Neither nature nor treaties give her any exclusive rights over it. It is a highway for the commerce of all nations that choose to make use of it; and the only power in the world that has the right to assume a dominion over it, is the power that commands its entrance.

The reasons which have induced the British and French Governments to take this decisive step, have been concisely and admirably set forth by M. Drouyn de l'Huys, in a circular addressed to the representatives of France at all the Courts of Europe. We have reproduced this document *in extenso* in another column. The logic of M. Drouyn de l'Huys is unanswerable. It was the same able statesman who so effectually demolished the false pretences of M. de Nesselrode. There is no ambiguity or double dealing about the French Foreign Minister. He can crush a crafty opponent in the most quiet but most effectual way in the world; or he can administer a reproof, with irresistible logic, and the most cutting sarcasm—not impossible for the Emperor of Russia to mistake the meaning of this temperate but significant State paper. It means war in every line of it—war avoided as long as was consistent with duty and honour—not from cowardice, but from a sense of the awful responsibility resting upon the souls of those who rashly or wickedly undertake it; but a war, when finally resolved upon, that will be fought out to the utmost limits to which it can tax the spirit, the energies, and the resources of a mighty nation. We have not the smallest doubt that a circular to the full as emphatic has been addressed by the British Court to all its envoys and representatives. The French nation, not possessing a Parliamentary Government, must obtain the publicity of such documents from the Ministry by means of the official columns in the *Moniteur*; but England, when its Parliament is not sitting, must be contented to wait for a knowledge of the contents of similar State papers until cognizance of them comes fairly before the great Council of the Nation. French statesmen have thus an occasional advantage over their British compeers; and thus, at the present moment, the name of M. Drouyn de l'Huys stands more prominently and advantageously before the European public than that of the English Foreign Minister. But no one in England will begrudge him the advantage and the honour. He speaks like a man; and his words will have weight wherever there are manly hearts to respond to them. Lord Clarendon's instructions to the representatives of this country at foreign Courts, we feel confident, will be as worthy of this country as those of M. Drouyn de l'Huys are of France; though it is, perhaps, a matter for regret that the British circular could not have been given to the world contemporaneously with the French one. Be this as it may, Lord Clarendon's opinions are known to the Emperor of Russia, and will operate as strongly upon his mind as if they had already been printed in every newspaper in Europe.

We trust that the occupation of the Euxine will not be wholly warlike one. If the Emperor will persist in braving the justice and the strength of the world, on his own head must fall the consequences. The loss, not only of Sebastapol, but of the whole Crimea and the Black Sea fleet may happen to be the least of them; but, even although the necessity should not arise for resorting to such extremities, the fleets of Great Britain and France have nobler tasks than to destroy. Under their protection a work of reparation ought to be attempted while they have the opportunity. The Sulina mouth of the Danube, which, contrary to treaty, the Emperor has allowed to be silted up, and which is actually choked with the wrecks of hundreds of unfortunate vessels that might have escaped destruction if he had fulfilled his solemn pledges, must be cleared and deepened, so that the Danube may be restored to Europe as the great highway of commerce to many fertile regions. The cost of this necessary work ought to be reckoned as One of the heavy items which the Emperor will yet have to pay for his indulgence in the mad freaks of his guilty ambition.

THE MANIFESTO OF THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT.

The *Moniteur* of Friday, the 6th inst., contained, in its official columns, the following Circular, addressed by M. Drouyn de Lhuys, the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, to the various diplomatic agents of France throughout Europe:—

"Sir,—The affairs of the East now assume a turn too serious for me not, at the moment when circumstances impose fresh duties on the Government of his Imperial Majesty, to remind you of the efforts which we have never ceased to make in order to prevent the complications with which Europe is so seriously threatened.

"The question of the Holy Places—either badly presented, or wrongly understood—had excited the alarms of the Cabinet of St. Petersburg. We endeavoured to quiet that uneasiness by complete explanations, given in good faith. It had appeared to us that, while reserving the rights of the Porte, a discussion of this kind would better have taken place at a distance from the scene where it began. Our opinion was not shared in by Russia and Prince Menschikoff received orders to proceed to Constantinople. I shall confine myself to remarking that, if we had entertained the exclusive views which were attributed to us—if the vindication of our old and incontestable privileges had not been supported with so much moderation—the mission of that Ambassador Extraordinary would have been immediately the object of a conflict which we have known how to avoid. The affair of the sanctuaries of Jerusalem having no tie, according to the testimony of Count de Nesselrode himself, settled in a satisfactory manner, another difficulty arose. Prince Menschikoff claimed guarantees for the maintenance of the privileges of the Greek Church. The Cabinet of St. Petersburg did not establish by any particular fact, that these privileges had been violated, and the Porte, on the contrary, solemnly confirmed the religious immunities of its Christian subjects.

"Animated with a desire to put an end to a difference which, if it on the one hand concerned the sovereign rights of the Sultan, on the other affected the conscience of the Emperor Nicholas, the Government of his Imperial Majesty, in concert with that of her Britannic Majesty, carefully sought for the means of reconciling the interests, at once so delicate and so complicated, which were engaged in it. The Cabinet of St. Petersburg cannot have forgotten the zeal and the good faith with which we endeavoured to fulfil this difficult task; nor can it deny that the resistance of the Porte to accede to a first plan of arrangement, emanating from the conference of Vienna, has not been the sole cause of our want of success.

"In the course of this new negotiation grave facts occurred. A Russian army crossed the Pruth, and invaded in full peace two provinces of the Ottoman Empire. The squadrons of France and England were made to appear in the Dardanelles, and at that time, if the Government of his Imperial Majesty had desired it, its naval forces would have anchored in the water of Constantinople. However, if it thought it necessary to establish its right, it was only, as it were, to make its moderation more striking. The nature of the relations between Russia and the Sublime Porte had become such that it was necessary for the state of war to succeed the state of peace; or, to speak more correctly, it was necessary that things should take their veritable name, and that the aggression of which the Turkish territory was the object should produce its consequences. This change in the situation necessitated a new movement of our fleet, and on the demand of the Sultan the French flag appeared in the Bosphorus at the same time as the British flag. However, Monsieur ——, we had not abandoned the hope of an arrangement, and, in accord with Austria, we had not ceased to act with England, when we continued to pursue a pacific object. New propositions, for the success of which we shall not cease to employ our efforts, have been addressed to the Porte by the representatives of the Four Powers.

"No treaty concluded with Russia interdicted the navigation of the Black Sea to our vessels of war. The treaty of the 13th July, 1841, by closing, in time of peace, the entrance of the Dardanelles and the Bosphorus, reserved to the Sultan the faculty of opening them in time of war; and from the day on which his Highness left us free access to the Straits, that of the Euxine was legally acquired to us. The same motives which had detained us so long in the Bay of Beikos detained our squadron in the roadstead of Beyoos. The Government of his Imperial Majesty had at heart to testify to the Emperor Nicholas the sentiments of friendship which it professes for Russia, and to reject in the eyes of the world the responsibility of an aggravation of the state of things which a little circumspection (*ménagements*) had not succeeded in modifying. It took pleasure in believing, besides, from recent despatches from General de Castelbajac, that the Cabinet of St. Petersburg, satisfied with a taking of possession which it considered as a pledge, would take no offensive steps in a conflict which has commenced so unfortunately for Turkey. It appeared to us sufficient that the pavilion of our flag in the waters of Constantinople should attest our firm resolve to protect this capital from a sudden danger, and we did not wish that its premature appearance in a spot nearer to the Russian territory should run the risk of passing for a provocation.

"The state of war rendered, no doubt, a collision possible on sea as well as on land between the belligerent parties; but we were warranted in believing that such a misfortune would be imitated by Russia, and that her Admirals would avoid, with the same care as ours, the occasions of a rencontre, by abstaining from proceeding to measures of aggression within limits in which they have supposed the Cabinet of St. Petersburg to be animated with different intentions. our fleet would certainly have exercised a more active surveillance.

"The affair of Sinope, Monsieur ——, took place contrary to all our provisions, and this deplorable fact also modifies the attitude which we should have desired to maintain.

"The accord which has recently been effected at Vienna, between France, Austria, England, and Prussia, has established the European character of the difference which exists between Russia and the Porte. The four Courts have solemnly recognised that the territorial integrity of the Ottoman Empire is one of the conditions of their political equilibrium. The occupation of Moldavia and Wallachia constitutes a breach struck on that integrity, and it is not doubtful but that the chances of war may lead to others.

"Count de Nesselrode, some months since, represented the invasion of the Danubian Principalities as a necessary compensation for what he then called our maritime occupation. In our turn, Monsieur ——, we think that it has become indispensable to ourselves to measure the extent of the compensations which have a right, both from our own title of a power interested in the existence of Turkey, and from the military positions already taken by the Russ an army. It is necessary that we should have a pledge which will ensure to us the re-establishment of peace in the East on conditions which shall not change the distribution of the respective strength of the great States of Europe.

"The Government of his Majesty and that of her Britannic Majesty, have, in consequence, decided that their squadrons shall enter into the Black Sea, and combine their movements in such a way as to prevent the Ottoman territory from being invaded, and from their title of a power interested in the existence of Turkey, and from the military positions already taken by the Russ an army. It is necessary that we should have a pledge which will ensure to us the re-establishment of peace in the East on conditions which shall not change the distribution of the respective strength of the great States of Europe.

"The Government of his Majesty and that of her Britannic Majesty, have, in consequence, decided that their squadrons shall enter into the Black Sea, and combine their movements in such a way as to prevent the Ottoman territory from being invaded, and from being the object of any fresh attack on the part of the naval forces of Russia.

"Vice-Admirals Hamelin and Dundas will receive orders to communicate to whom it may concern the object of their mission; and we take pleasure in hoping that this straightforward proceeding will prevent conflicts, which we should see with the greatest regret. The Government of the Emperor, I repeat, has only one object, that of contributing to effect, on honourable conditions, a reconciliation (*rapprochement*) between the two belligerent parties; and, if circumstances should oblige it to provide for redoubtable eventualities, it has the confidence that the Cabinet of St. Petersburg, which has given such numerous examples of its prudence, will not expose Europe, scarcely yet recovered from the shocks it has experienced, to bring down upon it the lofty reason of sovereigns has been able to preserve it for so many years.

"I authorise you to read this dispatch to M. ——.

"DROUYN DE LHUYS."

HER MAJESTY'S SLEDGE.

DURING the severe weather of last week, the deep snow presented an opportunity for the enjoyment of sledge drives in the neighbourhood of Windsor. On Wednesday afternoon, his Royal Highness Prince Albert drove her Majesty in the Royal Sledge, towards Staines; the Princesses following in a second Sledge; and on Friday morning, the Queen attended by Viscountess Jocelyn, again drove out; the Prince of Wales, accompanied by the Earl and Countess of Shelburne, following in a second Sledge.

The Royal Sledge is drawn by two grey horses, across whose backs are thrown leopard-skins; in the network over the harness are suspended small circular bells, mounted with feathers, besides larger bells, which produce three different notes. The body of the Sledge is painted with a dark ground of crimson, carved with gold; and the inside is lined with red velvet. Her Majesty is attended by Colonel Bouverie and Colonel Seymour; and the outriders and grooms wear their scarlet liveries. The second Sledge, containing the Princess Royal, and the Princess Alice, the Duchess, was driven by Colonel Grey; and was drawn by two grey horses.

The children's Sledge, also represented upon the preceding page, is simply made from a carriage, and drawn by a pony.

SHAMEFUL TREATMENT OF ENGLISHMEN BY RUSSIA.—Of the Turkish fleet destroyed by the Russians at Sinope, among the frigates riding at anchor, was one belonging to the Pacha of Egypt, officered by three English engineers and English stokers; the frigate was captured, and the engineers and stokers, together with a great number of the crew, were made prisoners by the Russians. They were taken to Sebastopol, and thence transported to Odessa, barred with gold; and the inside is lined with red velvet. Her Majesty is attended by Colonel Bouverie and Colonel Seymour; and the outriders and grooms wear their scarlet liveries. The second Sledge, containing the Princess Royal, and the Princess Alice, the Duchess, was driven by Colonel Grey; and was drawn by two grey horses.

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By the *Valparaiso Echo* we learn that Mr. George Maughan, the able engineer, who but a few months since arrived from England to head the engineering department of the Valparaiso and Santiago Railway, died on the 9th November, after a short illness. The directors and a large number of their friends accompanied Mr. Maughan's remains to the tomb.

INCREASE IN THE PRICE OF GAS.—The Phœnix Gas Light and Coke Company have notified their intention of forthwith raising the price of gas from 4*d.* to 5*d.* per 1000 cubic feet. The advance has been occasioned by the increased cost of coal, freight, iron, and labour.

THE SEARCH FOR FRANKLIN.—The Admiralty have determined again to despatch the screw-steamer *Phœnix*, in the ensuing spring, to Beechy Island, to communicate with, and to convey supplies to, Sir Edward Belcher's expedition in search of Sir John Franklin.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

The announcement that the Prince de Chimay had been sent by the King of the Belgians on a secret mission to Louis Napoleon furnished speculators in the Bourse with new rumour that war was likely to be arrested. The report was contradicted next day, but it served the stock-jobbing purpose of the moment. The Legitimist organs are still busily endeavouring to sow dissension between France and England, but they make no impression.

Some further details have transpired relative to the mission of the Prince de Chimay to Paris. M. Rogier, Belgian Minister at Paris, is not popular with the French Government. This feeling being communicated to King Leopold, he proposed to substitute for him the Prince de Chimay, as per orally agreeable to Louis Napoleon. The Council decidedly opposed the change, M. Rogier's services not permitting such a slight. A middle course was adopted, the Prince de Chimay was sent as on a special mission, with directions to pass the winter in Paris.

The publication of the circular of M. Drouyn de Lhuys has been followed by another announcement not less significant. The *Moniteur* of Saturday publishes a decree calling into active service all the young soldiers available under the second portion of the contingent of the class of 1852. The number of this force is variously estimated at 45,000 to 50,000. This decree is substantially an augmentation of the effective force of the army by from 30,000 to 40,000.

TURKEY.

As many contradictory statements have been made regarding the nature of the note presented to the Porte by the Ambassadors of the Four Powers, we give the actual text; as future proceedings may, to some extent, depend upon it:—

The undersigned Ambassador of her Britannic Majesty, in accordance with the representatives of France, Austria, and Prussia, has the honour to make known to the Sublime Porte that the Governments of the Four Powers, having still reason to believe that his Majesty the Emperor of Russia does not regard the thread of negotiations as broken by the declaration of war, and by the events the consequence thereof; and knowing, moreover, that, according to the proposed declarations of his Imperial Majesty, that he desires only to behold secured a perfect equality of rights and immunities *octroyéd* by his Majesty the Sultan and his glorious ancestors to the Christian communities, subjects of the Sublime Porte:

On its part, the Sublime Porte, responding to these declarations by that which it made itself to regard as concerning its honour to continue to maintain the said rights and immunities, and to be still disposed to put an end to the differences arising between the two powers, the negotiation to be followed shall be based upon:—

1. The evacuation of the Principalities, to take place as soon as possible.
2. The renewal of ancient treaties.
3. The communication of the firmans relative to the spiritual privileges freely granted by the Sublime Porte to all its subjects not Mussulmen, which communication, made to the powers, shall be accompanied by suitable assurances given to each of them.

The arrangement already made to complete the agreement relative to the Holy Places and to the religious establishments at Jerusalem shall be definitively adopted.

This arrangement concerns the erection of a church and the establishment of a Russian hospital at Jerusalem.

The Sublime Porte shall declare on its part in the same interest its firm resolution to deve op more efficaciously its administrative system, and those internal reforms of a nature to satisfy the wants and the just expectations of its subjects of all classes.

(signed) STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE,
BARAGHAY D'HILLIERS,
L. DE WILDENBRUCK,
B. DE BRUCK.

Pera, Dec. 12, 1853.

The *Trieste Zeitung* announces, under date of Constantinople, Jan. 2, that three Persian corps were marching against Erzeroum, Bagdad, and towards the Persian Gulf.

A private telegraphic despatch, dated Constantinople, Jan. 2, says:—

The combined squadrons of France and England entered the Black Sea this day, together with the first division of the Turco-Egyptian fleet. Six vessels are left at Beicos, to guard the entrance of the Bo-phorus, and the second division of the Ottoman fleet is anchored at Therapia.

The French Government received despatches from Constantinople of the 31st ult. On Wednesday last the Divan gave its adhesion to all the propositions of the Four Powers.

THE TURKISH INSURRECTION.

Private letters from Constantinople give some interesting particulars regarding the threatened insurrection in that city on the announcement that Turkey was about to make peace with Russia. The note presented by the Four Powers was signed by the Ministers of the Porte on the night of the 20th ult. The news got abroad that evening, and the excitement became very great. Early next morning crowds of Softas (students of Mahomedan theology, candidates for the priesthood, and the hottest votaries of Moslemism) assembled in different parts of Constantinople in strong bodies. Round the mosques of the Sultan Mehmet and Ghiol Djami no less than 2000 of these men gathered, very wroth at what was passing, and deeming the cause of Islamism betrayed to the interest of the infidel Giaours. A dragoman belonging to one of the embassies, who had to go to Constantinople early that morning to see Redschid Pacha on urgent business, started from Pera at about half-past eight, and crossed the great bridge that stretches across the Golden Horn from Galata, on horseback. He penetrated far into the immense city, and was nearing Redschid Pacha's palace, when, having to pass by the mosque of the Sultan Mehmet, he was surprised at seeing so many Softas assembled in the great space surrounding that noble edifice. On passing, in his chimney hat and European dress, he was, however, greeted by a shower of stones; and, striking spurs to his horse, pressed on to the palace of the Pacha, with the intention of informing him of what had occurred, and of demanding redress. After rushing through the narrow lanes of Stamboul, at the risk of breaking his neck, he neared Redschid Pacha's residence. The Turkish Minister of Foreign Affairs was just entering his carriage; two carriages were behind, with his suite in them. Consternation and alarm were depicted in the countenance of the Turki h Minister, and he beckoned to him to return immediately, as he could not possibly attend to him. Redschid Pacha drove off, surrounded by his attendants and guards, to the Seraskier's palace of Tchiflick, which is situated on the Bosphorus, not thinking himself in safety at Stamboul.

Every person, who has visited Constantinople, knows that the waters of the Golden Horn (the port) divide the Turkish capital from the European suburbs. Never-the-less, numbers of merchants have warehouses in Constantinople. It is easy to conceive, therefore, the consternation of those gentlemen on receiving communications from their respective emissaries, or close of their offices, as the town was in a state of revolt. They had seen nothing, remarked nothing. But Stamboul is an immense place, and men of business do not stroll. The alarm spread—warehouses, offices, bazaars, shops, &c., were shut—and all the Christians hurried across the bridge to Galata and Pera as fast as they could. Their fellow countrymen on that side, eager to learn the cause, gathered on the other side of the water, questioned them in vain. They had seen little assemblies in the streets, and some of the shops were shut. That was all their reliable relate; but they were much frightened, and eagerly inquired whether the fleets were not coming down.

When the tumult was at its height General Prim and Lord Dudley Stuart (so one of the letters says) presented themselves alone, and without any protection whatever, in the midst of the excited assemblage; and it is but just to say that, at that critical moment, not only without menace or insult being offered to them, but with marks of respect. General Prim, who has served rather a fair apprenticeship in insurrectionary movements, must have felt quite at home on the occasion, and probably it recalled to his memory scenes or other days of a similar kind—Barcelona, Vich, Valencia, Reus, and Madrid, *quorum pars fuit*. On former occasions, and those not very remote, it would have been as much as his life was worth for a Giaour to have presented himself in the midst of a crowd of Softas in the Turkish capital.

At two o'clock a meeting was held at the British Embassy, at the desire of Lord S ratford de Redcliffe. The Representatives of Austria the gium, Spain, Sardinia, Holland, Naples, and others, attended. General Baraguay d'Hilliers, the French Ambassador, being absent at Therapia, an express was sent off for him, and he returned to Pera that afternoon. M. de Wildenbruck, the Prussian Ambassador, was likewise not in town, but at Kuruczesme, his residence on the Bosphorus. On the news reaching him of the state of Constantinople, he immediately repaired to the place of meeting.

Measures for the protection of the Christian suburbs were taken with

the most judicious precaution, and in such a way as not to alarm the inhabitants. The steamers did not come down until after dark, and their presence in the Golden Horn was scarcely remarked; indeed, some persons doubted whether any were coming at all. Any person, however, who knew the prompt manner of acting and the decision of the British Ambassador, felt sure that all that was necessary would be done. The marines were in readiness to disembark, and the boats were prepared to be launched at a moment's notice. The three wooden bridges that unite the suburbs of Constantinople with the Turkish city were kept open during the whole night. On such an occasion as this it is necessary to prepare for the worst, though not believing in very serious disorders, as a European cannot possibly estimate the intentions of a Turkish mob with much accuracy. At the same time any very sudden display of military or naval force might irritate the population, and cause the very thing which they have been called on to prevent. The immense naval force lying in the Bosphorus was more than sufficient to put down any attack upon the Christians that might be meditated by the Turkish population.

The city continued in a very excited state on the 22nd and 23rd; but no further tumult took place. The ringleaders, and more active of the rioters, were put in prison. They declared that they had no intention of harming anybody, whether Turk or Christian, but that their demonstration was simply against those Pachas (meaning, no doubt, the newly-named Ministers, Riza Pacha and Halil Pacha) whom they did not trust, and who did not in any way inspire them with confidence, their precedents being unfavourable, and they being suspected of standing under Russian influences.

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

Telegraphic despatches from Hermannstadt of the 6th inst. announce that a serious engagement has taken place at, or in the vicinity of, Kalafat. Cars were arriving at Krajova filled with the wounded. Krajova is placed in a state of siege, and the commandant has threatened to visit the severest punishment all who shall disseminate disquieting reports.

According to accounts from Bucharest of the 4th, a Turkish squadron drove in the Russian outposts at Bolleschi Cotate, a village on the high road between Kalafat and Krajova. A Russian battalion came up, and a combat ensued in which each side suffered severely.

A letter from Krajova, dated the 30th ult., states that the insurrection of the peasantry along the left bank of the Danube, is every day becoming wider and wider. The movement is spreading even to the irregular Wallachian militia, and has extended from Kalafat to the Aluta. Turnul, also, on the right shore of the Aluta, has been abandoned by its civil authorities, which were favourable to the Russians. Additional numbers of Russian troops have been sent into the disaffected district. The present Turkish force at Kalafat numbers more than 80,000 men, and is constantly being increased. Judges of military matters believe the Omer Pacha will soon again assume the offensive, and attempt to cross the Danube at Turnul-Magurele. The cold had become intense, and an unusually long and severe winter was expected.

A letter from Bucharest, dated the 28th ult., states that there was no prospect whatever of a suspension of hostilities. Notwithstanding the extreme cold and great depth of snow, the dislocation of the Russian troops continued. At Oltenitza three large subterranean dwellings had been constructed for the Russian outposts stationed at that point. Similar winter quarters have been constructed for the troops in other parts of the Principalities. The skirmishes between the outposts of the two armies have not ceased, as the number of wounded daily, for some time, brought to Krajova and Bucharest, indicates. Twelve pieces of the heaviest Russian artillery had recently been sent from Bucharest to Giurgevo

The theatre of war is approaching nearer and nearer to the Austrian frontier. The Russians already occupy Grajs, a village scarcely four leagues from the Austrian territory. The troops stationed in the vicinity came down from the northern part of Lesser Wallachia. Omer Pacha's camp is at Rustchuk; but he visits Widdin every four or five days.

RUSSIA.

As matters stand now between the Western Powers and Russia, we must be prepared for an angry outburst from the North If the language used by the Western Powers, in their notification of the orders given to the combined fleets to enter the Black Sea (or, as others call it, the *Western ultimatum*), is at all calculated to touch the pride of the Imperial Autocrat to the quick, then nothing can be more sure than that the Russian Ambassador will be ordered to leave London and Paris forthwith. But, even in this case, it is thought that the diplomatic relations will not at once be entirely broken off. On or before the 15th inst. it is said that the all important answer—not to say decision—may be expected from St. Petersburg. The general belief is that the Emperor is resolved to refuse the intervention of a mediating congress; he will only consent to receive the propositions of the Four Powers by the intermediation of the Four Powers. It is quite impossible to be deceived, therefore, as to the gravity of the situation. The excitement at St Petersburg is equal to that at Constantinople. The national movement which in 1848 caused so much agitation has extended to the Czar. It was a political question so publicly discussed at St. Petersburg before as this Eastern question The pris-ts make it the text of their sermons: they preach a crusade against the infidels, and, in the eyes of the national party, the question is a reparation to the honour of Russia, and to put down the revolutionists. In Russia, all persons opposed to the orders of the Emperor are called revolutionists. The exaltation is such that it would be difficult even for the Emperor to follow a peaceful and conciliatory line of policy.

A rumour was prevalent at Jassy on the 23rd December that General Woronzoff had died at Tiflis, and that his successor *ad interim* is to be General Osten Sacken.

GERMANY.

A telegraphic despatch, dated Berlin, 9th inst., states that the Second Chamber held a secret sitting to receive a communication from the Government relative to the acquisition by Prussia of a military port on the North Sea.

The Russo-Polish authorities have announced to the Prussian Government the discovery of a political plot, which had come to light through numerous arrests in the ex-kingdom of Poland and the Grand Duchy of Posen. The Emperor Nicholas has expressed a desire that the Prussian papers should abstain from all communications on the movements of the Russian army.

For some time past a certain degree of animosity has prevailed amongst the soldiers of a Hungarian regiment in garrison at Vienna against Italian sub-officers. Last week, while a party of them were drinking in the canteen of the barracks a quarrel began with a sub-officer, which soon came to blows, in which the latter was killed.

SWEDEN AND NORWAY.

On the 21st., the secret committee of the Four Chambers met his Majesty, King Oscar, to receive communications explanatory of the large demands lately made for the defence of the kingdom; and the *Folkes Rost* (a Stockholm journal) gives an outline of the proceedings. The King laid before the committee numerous notes exchanged with the great European Powers, amounting to not less than twenty-five, from A to Z, the substance of which is that Russia had begun by making several demands, most offensive to Sweden, in case war should break out in the Baltic or its neighbourhood; that the Government has declined these requisitions in the most precise terms; that it has, at the same time, made communications on this subject to England, France, Prussia, and Austria; and that it has finally obtained the satisfactory result, that perfect neutrality shall be a guarantee, in case of war, to the united kingdoms (i. e., to Sweden and Norway). But France, England, and Prussia stipulated as one condition that the said united kingdoms shall keep a sufficient force, so as to be able to maintain their neutrality (of themselves) and that neutrality, in case of need The reason why his Majesty judged it right to convoke a secret committee for establishing an intercourse between himself and his States-General in this conjuncture was to obtain, in compliance with these expressed wishes of England, France, and Prussia, the consent of the Diet for raising next spring, if circumstances required it, about 600,000 rix dollars banco upon the extraordinary credits reclaimed during a certain number of years for completing the defence of the country. It is said that the unanimous confidence felt by the Government on this question, as likewise the energy it has displayed in defending the independence of the united kingdoms, has given great satisfaction to all the members of the committee.

A letter from Christiania says:—

Norway has decided on the fitting out of a squadron, composed of four frigates, five corvettes, and three brigs. This measure has been adopted in view of the events which are in preparation. The country, although united to Sweden, has, as is known, a constitution of its own, a fleet of its own, and a national flag. Its inhabitants, like the Swedes, are altogether opposed to the Russian policy, of which they know the ambitious intentions, and, in consequence, they reckon on the power of France and England to aid them, if necessary, to cause their neutrality to be respected. The Russian officers sent on mission have been received with courtesy and consideration; but they must have convinced themselves of the slight sympathy which the conduct of their Government inspires in any class of society. At the date of the last despatches they were in the province of Soundefjeld, having just visited that of Nordland.

SPAIN.

An extraordinary *Gazette* was published at Madrid on the 5th, announcing the birth, that morning, of a Princess to the Queen, and that her Majesty and the child were going on well. The French Embassy, in consequence of the inability of the Ambassador to assist on the occasion of the accouchement, was represented by the First Secretary, and that of Great Britain by Mr. Otway, the Secretary of Legation—Lord Howden, on account of the recent loss of his mother and ill health, having excused himself on the occasion.

A despatch dated Madrid, January 8, announces the death of the Infanta that day, at noon.

PORTUGAL.

It is stated that the young King is about to marry his Coburg cousin, the Princess Charlotte of Belgium. Lisbon is perfectly quiet, and is likely to be, as long as the British squadron remains in the Tagus.

AMERICA.

The steamer *Asia* has brought New York papers and letters to the 26th ult. The steamer *Pacific* had arrived two days previously. Another terrible conflagration had occurred in New York on the 26th ult., by which upwards of 1,000,000 dollars worth of property had been destroyed. The conflagration first commenced in Front-street, and extended on both sides. Some of the sparks from the burning buildings were blown into the sails of the colossal ship *Great Republic*, which was lying in an adjacent dock, nearly ready to sail for Liverpool; and, in a very short period, she was a mass of flame. The burning materials then communicated to the packet-ship *Joseph Walker*, and the celebrated clipper *White Squall*. The three ships, notwithstanding energetic endeavours to save them, were totally destroyed. The *Great Republic*, valued at 300,000 dollars, was insured for 180,000 dollars; the cargo, valued at the same amount as the vessel, was insured for 275,000. The *Joseph Walker*, valued at 90,000 dollars, was insured for the full amount; the cargo, valued at 40 000 dollars, was uninsured. The *White Squall* was fully insured, for 80,000 dollars. Many vessels had narrow escapes from sharing the fate of the *Great Republic*. The *Red Jacket* steamer was cut adrift, and escaped the flames; as did likewise the clipper *Wavkwind*, not, however, before she had some part of her rigging destroyed.

Cincinnati has been the scene of a riotous demonstration against Monsignor Bedini, the Pope's Nuncio, who was on a visit to the Archbishop Purcell, of that city, and officiated in the cathedral. A most violent animosity, it seems, is entertained towards M. Bedini by a body of Germans in the city called the "Society of Freemen," and about 500 members of this society assembled at their hall, and, having organised, marched in a body to the vicinity of the Archbishop's residence, with the supposed intention of doing personal violence to the Nuncio. The chief of police, having received an intimation of the movement, retained the entire police force at the Town House, which is situated opposite the Archbishop's residence. As the "Freemen" approached they set up a dismal groan, accompanied by shouting and discordant music. When the procession was passing the watch-house, the police, at the word of command, rushed upon it, and each arrested a man. A general melée began. Many shots were fired, and shouts and execrations filled the air. The rioters finally fled, but were pursued by the police, and upwards of sixty of them were captured and placed in the cells of the watch-house. The bitter animosity against the Nuncio which led to this outbreak is in consequence of his alleged betrayal of the cause of liberty in Italy during the Revolution of 1848. Several inflammatory articles have recently appeared in the German papers touching this matter, in one of which the following sentence occurs:—"If the Hungarian butcher, Haynau, met with so warm a reception in Monarchical England, what ought the Pope's Nuncio to expect in Republican America?" The persons arrested have been held to bail. Fourteen of the rioters were wounded, of whom one has died. It will be recollected that M. Bedini experienced a somewhat similar reception in Pittsburg

The mail steamer *Winfield Scott*, which sailed from San Francisco on Dec. 1, with upwards of £1,000,000 in gold dust, went ashore on the following day, and became a total wreck; but the mails and treasures were saved

It was ah advices of the 22d ult state that the new Governor of Cuba signified his determination to do all in his power to prevent the landing of slaves, and also to capture slavers approaching the island.

Advices from Vera Cruz to the 22nd ult. state that Santa Anna had issued a decree accepting the Guadalajara with a salary of 60,000 dols., but taken the title of Most Serene Highness, instead of Captain-General Santa Anna had also decreed that, in case of his death, or moral disqualification, he should name his successor.

INDIA.

By the extraordinary express in anticipation of the Overland Calcutta Mail we have news from India and China. The dates are—Calcutta, Dec. 5; Madras, Dec 8; Bombay, Dec. 14; China, Nov. 14. The news from India is of a gloomy character. There were rumours of war in Burmah. In the north-west there had been some fighting with the Afreedies, who were ultimately beaten. At Lucknow there had been a serious engagement between Captain Bunbury and the Talookdar and followers of a rebellious Rajah, whose fort was stormed. The news of the Russians having made themselves masters of Khiva was confirmed. the certainty of their presence there had caused the Governor-General to place an army of observation on the north-west frontier. There is no news from China of much importance.

AUSTRALIA.

By the arrival of the ship *Francis Henty*, we have advices from Melbourne to October the 18th. The passengers express the greatest confidence in the gold fields, all of them bringing substantial proofs of success, from £1000 to £10,000 each. The population of Melbourne and the neighbourhood was again beginning to move for the summer diggings campaign, and this movement had caused an increased demand for commodities; but there appeared no chance and no expectation that the excitement, speculation, high prices of former years would be again experienced. Labour market was at present very slack, there is a great demand for all kinds of labour, at increased wages. Seamen for the coast were abundant, but for home few offering, as most men seemed unwilling to leave the colony.

Three of the ringleaders of the daring gang of mounted highwaymen who stopped the Mount Alexander gold escort, and plundered it of nearly £10,000 of treasure, suffered death on the scaffold at Melbourne gaol on the 4th of October, in the presence of a large concourse of persons. They were lastily convicted through one of the gang, named John Frances, a ticket-of-leave convict, transported from Sheffield, turning approver According to his evidence it appeared that, on July 26th, he, with the three condemned men and two others, left the Mt Ivor gold field for a place on the road, where they propo-ed to attack the gold escort on its way from the diggings to Melbourne. They all had horses, and each man was armed with a revolver, which they loaded with bullets and duck shot. They then cut large boughs from the trees, which they stuck upright in the road, so as to screen those of the gang who were behind, from the advance troopers of the escort coming up, they espied the prisoners behind the boughs, and instantly fired at them. The gang then rushed forward, and a volley was poured upon the escort. The fight then became general, and those in charge of the treasure being either wounded or overcome, the convicts soon obtained possession of the boxes of gold, which they put into a cart, and made off into the bush. The gold was then measured out in a powder-flask, and equally divided amongst them. Flynn took a different route to Melbourne, where Frances had a house. They evaded the vigilance of the police until the 11th of August, when four of them, including the approver, were captured.

WEST COAST OF AFRICA.

WE have been favoured by a Correspondent with the accompanying letter and Sketches

On the 7th November, the *Penelope* having arrived off Lagos, the following day King Ducimo and suite went off to pay his respects to Rear-Admiral Bruce, accompanied by Abbeokutan chiefs. On his arrival, he was received on the quarter deck by the Admiral, Captain Lyster, and Captains of her Majesty's ships *Polyphemus*, *Ferret*, and *Waterwitch*. His Majesty, after being presented to the Commander-in-Chief, took his seat on the quarter-deck, his followers going down in succession on their knees and kissing the deck before him. On going round he ship, the Admiral ordered a shot and shell to be discharged from one of the 68-pounder guns. They were astonished at the distance the shot was propelled, and more so when the shell burst in the air. After partaking of some refreshment, the King with his suite, left for the shore, evidently much pleased with what he had seen.

King Ducimo has just been placed on the throne, by the death of his father, King Akitoy, who, as far as report goes, poisoned himself The present King has taken the direction of affairs at a very troubled period, several attempts having been made by the deposed chief Kosoko, assisted by the slave dealers, to retake Lagos, and revive that infamous traffic. However, the late attack made on him (Kosoko) at Appi, and the massacre of the slave-dealers, at Jabu, it is hoped, has caused a check on that at present.

The first illustration represents the Admiral showing King Ducimo round the ship; his "Majesty" appearing naked to the waist, which is considered the highest mark of respect that can be paid by native chiefs to Europeans.

The next incidents in our Correspondent's letter are of a less pacific character.

In July last, the British merchant schooner *Heroine*, then at anchor off Grand Taboo (a large village thirty miles to the eastward of Cape Palmas), was boarded by about sixty of the natives, who barbarously murdered the captain and the whole of her crew, excepting one boy, who saved himself by hiding in the schooner's hold. The particulars of the sad affair are as follows:—Captain Cormack, who had been some time trading on the coast of Africa, purchased a quantity of palm oil, and landed some of his goods as part payment, the residue to be paid on his receiving the oil. It would appear that the chiefs never intended fulfilling their part of the agreement; at least, their breaking faith with, and not bringing the oil on board, induced Captain Cormack to believe as much; for, after waiting a considerable time without obtaining any satisfactory or conclusive answer, he deemed it necessary to adopt some other measures, to prevent his owners being defrauded; and it is to be regretted that the measures he resorted to were stronger than the circumstances of the case actually required. He got some one or more of the chiefs of Taboo and Basea on board, and put them in irons, intending by having them prisoners until he received payment for his goods. How long they were kept in confinement is not known; but the result was, a number of canoes came off laden with palm-oil casks, but only two containing oil, the others water. Of the deception the unfortunate master of the schooner was ignorant; and, of course, allowed them alongside his vessel to discharge their loads: when they rushed on board, shot the captain, clove open the mate's skull with a hatchet, and forced overboard and murdered the remainder of the crew, with the exception of the boy before mentioned. Rear-Admiral Bruce, in the *Penelope*, arrived off Grand Taboo on the 27th November, when a canoe with six natives came alongside; they were immediately made prisoners, and their canoe hoisted on board. The *Penelope* then proceeded to Grand Basea, and sent a cutter on shore with an invitation to the King to come on board; after a great deal of palaver, his Majesty consented; but, much to his surprise, was made a prisoner—and told, until George Macauly, Chief of Taboo, either came or was brought on board, his Majesty would be kept as a hostage. Means of communicating with the shore were afforded him, and he was informed that, at daylight, the ship would get under way for Taboo, to receive their chief, he being the promoter and principal leader of the attack on the schooner. Having ascertained from the six natives taken prisoners on the previous day had nothing to do with the affair, they were liberated. Messengers were sent on shore, but neither inducement nor threat would make the natives deliver up their chief. The Admiral then informed them, unless they complied with his demands he would blow their town down; their answer was—that "if the Admiral want one year, two year, three year, he would not get George Macauly." Consequently, the *Penelope* proceeded to within half a mile of the shore, getting a spring on the cable so as to bring broadside on, and opened fire with shot and shell. The place was soon observed to be in flames, and before sunset was completely reduced to ashes: the fire spreading rapidly among the dry huts and palm oil. After a couple of hours' good shot and shell practice, the *Penelope* hauled off into deeper water. King George of Basea was then that evening transferred to her Majesty's brig *Waterwitch*, where he will be kept as a hostage until George Macauly surrenders; this he will doubtless soon be compelled to do, as the *Waterwitch* is to remain blockading the coast.

The Illustration shows the *Penelope* hurling the *White Man's Fetish* into the town of Grand Taboo.

(From another Correspondent.)

A murder of a most revolting character has recently been perpetrated by some natives of the Island of Kanzabac, Bijouga Islands. The victim of the Blacks' ferocity was Mr. Carr, second mate of the merchant-man *Myrmidon*: he had landed on some rocks opposite where the ship lay, on the 28th November, to amuse himself with spearing fish, but had not been above ten minutes when he was fired at from the bush or jungle; he was hit, and jumped or tumbled off the rock into the sea. Immediately two natives made their appearance, one of whom advanced when poor Carr rose from the water, shot him dead, and rushed into the bush. All this occurred so rapidly, that a gun was fired, and a boat shoved off, just as the murderers disappeared; but night soon setting in, the body was not recovered till next day.

The crew were greatly distressed; for Carr was universally beloved, and as promising a young officer as any on the station

THE ACCIDENT AT THE SOUTHAMPTON DOCKS.

THE accident at Southampton Docks, on Tuesday week, of which we gave a brief notice in our last Publication, appears to have been of a much more serious nature than was supposed; indeed, it must have been a terrible spectacle to those who happened to be present. When the great lifting-sheers fell into the dock they carried with them a length of nearly 140 feet of the solid masonry, comprising the walls of the dock and a vast extent of the foundations, weighing in the aggregate some thousands of tons. The granite legs of the sheers, each of 16 tons weight, appear to have snapped off in several places like carrots; and the massive wrought iron bolts and fastenings securing the various parts together were torn away as though they had been pasteboard; while the immense blocks of granite lining the coping of the quay wall, together with immense masses of masonry, 40 feet in length, were swept away and engulphed in the dock with a noise exceeding that of artillery or thunder. The Peninsular and Oriental Company's steamer *Bentinck* was alongside the quay at the time, under repair, her boilers having been lifted in by these very sheers only a few days since. Owing to the tide being high, she sustained no damage whatever, the heavy pieces composing the débris of the sheers having fallen outside of her into the dock, while the quay wall skipped inside The sheers were of the largest kind ever made, and capable of lifting 80 tons dead weight at one time. They have been tested to a lift of 50 tons, and, while constantly used in hoisting weights of 15 to 40 tons, no symptoms of defect or instability either in reference to the sheers or the dock walls have been observed. The sheers were 80 feet high and with the necessary chains, gearing, blocks, and hoisting apparatus, cost several thousands of pounds. They are now a complete wreck. The damage done altogether by the accident is loosely estimated at from £30,000 to £40,000. The eastern wall on the dock, together with its foundations, is nearly in ruins. nearly 140 feet in length of it has fallen into the water; while a great portion of the remaining masonry is so insecure as to render its removal necessary. As regards the cause of the accident, it is supposed that, owing to the recent low tides, caused by the prevalence of heavy north-east winds, the severe frost had penetrated between the dock wall and the earthwork, and, acting upon a column of fresh water in the intervening space, as well as upon the inner part of the foundation, had shaken the stability of the fabric upon which the sheers were erected, and caused their entire destruction.

In the accompanying Sketch, of that part of the Docks where the accident has occurred, the peculiar use of the Oriental Company's noble steam-ship *Bentinck* is introduced, undergoing refitment at the sheers previous to her departure for India some few months back.

STATUE IN MARBLE OF ADMIRAL LORD DE SAUMAREZ, FOR THE HALL, GREENWICH HOSPITAL.

BY JOHN STEELL, R.S.A., EDINBURGH.

THIS work of art, of which we this day give an Engraving, has now been fixed in its place, and is one of the three statues of celebrated naval heroes commissioned for Government by the late Sir Robert Peel. In consequence of an accident which befel the model, the marble has only now been completed; but the fine conception, careful finish, and artistic feeling displayed, more than compensate for the delay, and almost dispose us to believe that works of art in this country acquire new genius by executed with more precipitancy than is consistent with excellence

The mode of treatment adopted by Mr. Steell is that daily gaining ground—all the essential characteristics of costume, badges of honour, and emblems of rank being retained, although partially concealed beneath the simple and picturesque folds of a boat cloak—the continuous

H.M. SHIP "PENELOPE," DESTROYING THE TOWN OF GRAND TABOO. (SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

THE ADMIRAL RECEIVING KING DUCIMO IN BOARD "THE PENELOPE," OFF LAGOS.

SHEERS AND REPAIRING QUAY, SOUTHAMPTON DOCK.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

sweep of which, terminating in graceful lines, falling over a cannon sculptured in base, invests the entire figure with true classic feeling. There is a calm dignity and thoughtful expression in the countenance of Lord De Saumarez which harmonise well with his character, for he

MARBLE STATUE OF LORD DE SAUMAREZ, RECENTLY PLACED IN GREENWICH HOSPITAL.

was no less distinguished for sagacity than bravery; uniting, during his long and arduous career in his country's service, all the essentials of a skilful statesman and a daring warrior. The introduction of the telescope, united with the unostentatious attitude of the figure, is very suggestive, and we at once imagine De Saumarez engaged weighing well the result of his observations, when, after having discovered the ships of the enemy, he is about to engage in some of those heroic naval achievements with which his name has been identified.

MEMORIAL AT HONG-KONG.

THIS Monument has recently been erected at Hong-Kong, in the Wong-nei-Chung (mis-named the "Happy Valley"), by the officers, non-commissioned officers, and private soldiers of the 59th Regiment, to the memory of their deceased comrades, and of the women and children, who have died since the regiment embarked at Cork, on the 11th June, 1849. The height of the entire monument is 30 feet, in eight pieces of solid granite. The inscription is as follows:—

North Side: Sacred to the Memory of all those of the 59th Regimen who have died between the 11th June, 1849, and the ——.*

South Side: Erected by the Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, and Soldiers of the 59th Regiment.

East Side: Quartermaster Wm. M'Donald, Surgeon G. W. Powell, Surgeon A. Campbell.

West Side: * Sergeants, — Corporals — Drummers, — Privates, — Women, — Children.

MILITARY MEMORIAL LATELY ERECTED AT HONG-KONG.

Up to the 25th of September the Regiment had lost 2 surgeons, 1 quartermaster, 12 sergeants, 9 corporals, 3 drummers, 213 privates, 15 women, and 41 children. The above numbers are exclusive of those who have died on the passage home, after having been invalided in Kong-Kong.

* To be filled in when the Regiment leaves Hong-Kong.

NEW YEAR'S RECEPTION BY THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH, AT THE TUILERIES.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

NEW YEAR'S FESTIVITIES AND JUVENILE PARTIES IN FRANCE.

Although the French have no Christmas-day, they have a Christmas time as well as the English: the season of balls, fêtes, juvenile parties, and the interchange of visits, which commences with New-year's-day, and is carried as far into the months of January or February as people please.

"Coming events cast their *shadows* before," is the beautiful but hackneyed expression of the poet; but it may be said, with equal reason, that some "coming events cast their *glory* before;" and this view of the question applies admirably to the season of juvenile parties, both in England and in France. For does not the party accepted three weeks in advance cast its long bright halo before it in the imagination of juveniles? Who shall depict worthily and truthfully the pleasures of the interim, when the thought of the glad event so occupies the youthful

JUVENILE EVENING PARTY, AT PARIS.

mind, that what with brooding over it during the day, and dreaming about it during the night, the young ladies and gentlemen almost fancy when it has actually taken place, that they have been to a dozen parties instead of one?

First comes the postman with the letters. See how leisurely he walks along, with what *sang froid*, with what indifference, although he holds in his hand the magic missive that shall make a dozen hearts leap for joy! Oh shame! he is going to pass by—no, he hesitates, he stops, he turns back, with a neat little envelope between his forefinger and his thumb. Then the ring at the door (they have no knockers in France), then the delivery of something to the *concierge*, then the sound of the postman going down the steps—then the delivery of the letters at each successive stage or apartment—then the greedy snatch at the unconscious letters—then the breathless silence while Julie breaks the seal and reads the precious contents—and then the mingled cries of happy voices, and the bustle to and fro. O, what power in a senseless piece of paper that can move the life-springs of so many living creatures! Of course they accept with great pleasure the kind invitation, &c., and make all the preliminaries for the joyous occurrence. And, when at length the day arrives, be sure it will find no pouting lips in this happy family, but all the bright eyes, and shining teeth, and glittering dresses, that give the lie to those grumblers of the press who *will* persist in declaring that France has no longer any festivities, and that the dark shadow of the approaching war has shut up the usual sources of rejoicing. What cares the juvenile for the Emperor Nicholas? Not a straw. "*Vive la danse! Vive la fois!*"

THE NEW YEAR'S RECEPTION AT THE TUILERIES.

THE Levee usually held on the 1st of the New Year took place on Sunday week, in the superb Throne-room of the Tuileries, with the state represented in the Illustration upon the preceding page.

The Ministers, grand functionaries of State, the Judges of the Courts of Law, the Cardinals and Bishops, Canons, Marshals, Generals, and superior officers of the National Guard, the members of the Diplomatic Corps, all in costume of ceremony, were punctual in attendance. It was considered probable that the Emperor would address a few words at the moment the Representatives of the Foreign Powers presented the salutations usual on such occasions; and, as may be easily believed, a good deal of curiosity was manifested on the subject. After saying a few words to the Nuncio, which were not overheard, the Emperor addressed the other members of the Diplomatic Corps, and said, in substance, and very nearly in words, as follows:—"I sincerely hope to be able to maintain the relations of amity which now subsist between my Government and the Sovereigns whose Representatives you are;" and, turning to the Ottoman Ambassador, he added:—"My good wishes, my sympathies, and my efforts are in favour of your Sovereign; and you will be good enough to communicate what I say to him." He then bowed to the Ambassadors, and the rest of the ceremony proceeded.

THE ARCTIC SEARCH.

A DESPATCH has been received from Captain Maguire, giving an account of the Arctic Expedition, from his leaving Port Clarence, on the morning of the 21st August, 1852, till the vessel was released from her icy prison, near the Esquimaux settlement on Point Barrow, in August, 1853. Among the first of the incidents mentioned by Captain Maguire is the trouble which he had with the natives, some of whom were unfriendly, and nearly all dishonest. A great deal of forbearance was manifested towards them for the sake of the object of the expedition, notwithstanding very gross provocation. Sometimes, however, they were obliged to be taught a lesson, as in the following instance:—

"During the forenoon several "u-mi-aks" arrived alongside the ship, disclosing their crews in swarms on our deck, so as literally to crowd it for the day. They were allowed every freedom consistent with their known propensity for stealing; but some bolder than others, were difficult to deal with. One man attempted to force back the after ladder-door, and my stopping him brought about a fight entirely between us. That did not seem to have satisfied him, as he soon afterwards came in contact with the quartermaster of the watch, a quiet but rather short-tempered powerful young man, who, before he could interfere, gave him a lesson he will not soon forget: he dealt him fair English blows about the head, each of them sufficient to stun any one except an Esquimaux, but he received them until they had the effect of quite taming him, when he was put over the side in the presence of at least sixty of his countrymen, few of whom offered to interfere, and the remainder looked on with indifference.

"Arrangements were subsequently made to allow only a few on board at a time, which the captain was at great pains to explain to the chiefs in order that it might not be misunderstood; still little difficulties occurred from the numerous chiefs which the natives committed.

"A more serious affair took place on board the ship. The officer in charge, Mr. Hull, second master, in keeping back a large powerful man who attempted to force his way over the side, had a knife drawn on him by a friend of the other on board the ship, who immediately called out for the women and children to arm. Mr. Simpson, the other officer of the standing near, and very soon produced before the man with the knife one of Colt's revolving pistols, and explained to him the use of its six charges, which had the effect of keeping them very quiet for the remainder of the day. I met the women and children re reating over the ice ahead of the ship, and thought something must have happened, although they told me they were going home to dinner. A chief, striving at the same time, reassured the retreating party, when we explained to them that if they used knives we must use guns, but otherwise we wished to be good friends. Similar squabbles took place frequently. This was a cause of a good deal of anxiety with me, as our men, being unarmed, were very much at their mercy under such circumstances; and, in the event of arming them, more forbearance was necessary than some of them would have been found to possess, from the frequent provocations they had received in return for the usual kindness and good-nature that characterise seamen. On giving the subject every consideration, and seeing that it must excite an unpleasant feeling for our men to have knives pointed at them without a means of defence being at hand, the quartermaster of the watch, and two putty officers of the party would, when on shore, have armed with pistols, but properly cautioned not to produce them unless under circumstances of necessity, as I hoped the mere knowledge of their having them would be sufficient. Of this we soon had an instance. One of them played off one of their usual practical jokes on one of our men, by kicking him in the back of the knees when carrying a spar, for which he was rewarded with a bow on the face. He then drove him to the corporate entrance of the coming up, and being known to have a pistol, the offender ran away. These sort of annoyances continued as long as our men had work to do outside of the ship.

"On another occasion the natives bowed a very riotous disposition, so much so, indeed, as to require a sharper mode of dealing with them, as he thus relates:—

"We observed with our glasses an unusual stir at the settlement. In the first place, some women and children were seen moving across the bay to Cape Smyth; afterwards the men were advancing over the ice towards the ship in three single files, armed with their bows and arrows and quivers. I fancied on this occasion they saw spears also, but did not observe them afterwards. The leading men were discharging their arrows ahead of them as they advanced, picking them up again as they reached them, which satisfied me their visit was not entirely friendly, and my mind was soon made up to keep them in check at the distance of the nearest man, by firing over their heads, wishing above all things to avoid taking a life, unless under the most urgent necessity. Our small force, forty-one in all, was placed under command of the officers appointed to guard the quarters, forecastle, and previous to their getting within range, a blank charge from one of the 18-pound carronades and ... ce from the gun, which had not the effect of dispersing them, as I hope ... and when within musket range we commenced firing over them from the forecastle. This had the effect of dispersing them for a short time, when they advanced ... from the ship's bows. At the time one of the chiefs who had been on board the ship previously, with every kindness made a rush down ahead of the ship towards us first by others ... when he found ... had a bayonet fixed on the end of a musket ... ran down his bow and quiver, ... a powerful fellow, and ... with barbed iron heads. This man had become very unpopular with the crew, from one or two acts of fun, and I'm ... determined ... case, that, although the order to fire over his head was carried out, this direction was very much infringed upon. A few now extended themselves ... over the bows, but, as a constant fire was kept up in that direction, not many attempted to reach the ship's ... being fired so as to graze it, had the effect of ... them. At this time a false alarm was given that they were breaking down the house and carrying things away. I was on the forecastle, and on hearing the report, ordered a man next me, a marine, to fire at a man then escaping from under cover of it, and, from the sudden way he seemed to fall and kick out his legs, I thought he was killed. Immediately afterwards the report was found to be incorrect, and no more shots were fired at them; and I had the satisfaction to find out that the man fired at (the only instance) was not killed.

"After this, the captain and some of the crew paid visits to the Esquimaux settlement, and friendly intercourse continued, though with partial interruptions, owing to the felonious propensities of the natives. One of the natives was shot by accident on the 8th of June, and the misadventure, on being explained, was attributed to the right cause. Whilst these proceedings were going on, two of the officers fell in with a chief who had been previously seen by Capt. Pullen; and from this man they obtained some interesting information as to the migratory habits of the natives. In May they found a native, who brought them papers, showing that Commander M'Clure had been making his passage along shore in the *Investigator*. On the 9th of July, Capt. Maguire left the ship with the gig and whale-boat for Cape Lisburne. The boats were lost in this expedition, but the whole party returned to the ship in safety. On the 26th of July, the ice having cleared away for a considerable space round the ship, preparations were made to move off; and on August 7, at eight p.m., Capt. Maguire left the anchorage where he had found shelter for eleven months and four days. On the 10th he fell in with the *Amphitrite*, with which he returned to Port Clarence, the point from which he originally set out.

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

BREAD RIOTS IN DEVONSHIRE.

The dearness of food has led to serious disturbances in Devonshire within the last few days. The first breach of the peace took place at Crediton, about eight miles from Exeter, where a mob of navvies and labourers, thrown out of employment in consequence of the snow, assembled on Friday evening last, armed with sticks and stones, and proceeded to the shops of the principal bakers, demanding a supply of bread. This having been refused, missiles were hurled through the windows, and the mob helped themselves. In some instances the shopkeepers heard of the approach of the rioters in time, and closed their shutters without any loss of time. This precaution, however, was of little avail; the shutters were beaten in with immense sticks, and the men seemed determined to have all they could lay their hands upon. The parish constables attempted to interfere, but they were powerless. Mr. Buller, a county magistrate, having arrived, a number of special constables were sworn in, who prevented any further outrage. On Saturday morning a band of fifty navvies went through the market, and one of them se zed a pound of butter throwing down a shilling. The woman told him the price was 1s. 6d.; but he coolly replied that the rioters had closed their shutters without any sort

gine, the railroad, and the electric wires, and that has made us the most enterprising, the most industrious, and the most prosperous people in the world. But we became all this, and shall become much more, not by the aid, but in spite of the education given to our people. There remains, however, a large substratum of society which has not the advantage of any education at all, and which might help us in the struggle to maintain our proud preeminence, if we would extend to them some portion of the advantages which they cannot obtain for themselves. The poor require secular knowledge to enable them to become good workpeople, and to live and thrive. In default of it, hundreds of thousands remain destitute, and in due time become criminal. Every one knows the not quite hopeless, but often heart-breaking, trouble that it costs the State and benevolent individuals to reclaim and to educate the young outcasts of society; but all the world is unfortunately not convinced of the comparative facility with which they might be educated into virtuous and intelligent citizens, if they were taught and cared for at the proper time. Squalor, filth, obscenity, and dishonesty are the only "common things" that most of them understand, unless the pursuing policeman, the stern judge, and the relentless gaoler, may be considered to extend their knowledge a little further. The good chaplain gives his ministrations at too late, and for too short, a period to be of much service. The question incidentally raised by Lord Ashburton, has a deeper root than perhaps even his Lordship imagined. The neglect of it has already done us much injury, and thrown upon us much merited obloquy. If we are again to become a fighting nation, the necessities and temptations of war will doubtless greatly diminish the numbers of our destitute and criminal population; but if we would enjoy the blessings of peace—when peace shall again be restored to us—we should teach our poor what the rich and the comfortable teach themselves, that man is made for this world as well as for the next, and that to be ignorant of the uses and benefits of the "common things" which surround us, is to be practically ungrateful to Heaven for the blessings which it has bestowed upon us, and to degrade ourselves, by our apathy and ignorance, into the condition of savages.

MUSIC.

THE WEDNESDAY EVENING CONCERT of this week consisted of the materials prepared for last week's concert, which (as we mentioned) was postponed in consequence of the severity of the weather. It was the weakest concert of the series. Indeed it is impossible to make a strong concert in London at a time when almost all our principal performers are absent from town. The chief attraction was Madame Anedei, who seemed conscious of the necessity for the exertion of all her powers, and certainly did exert them most effectively; particularly in the splendid scena, "Pensa alla patria," from Rossini's "Italiana in Algieri," in which the charms of her lovely voice were shown to the greatest advantage. The only other singer of note was Mr. Augustus Braham, whose performance of the celebrated song in Weber's "Oberon." "Oh, 'tis a glorious sight to see," was received with much applause. There were solos on the pianoforte, harp, and violin, by young players, who showed promising talents, but something more than promise is expected a t a great concert like this. We trust that the directors of these concerts, who appear to have always done their best, will next week have it in their power to produce a stronger programme.

SIGNOR MARCHESI, who for several seasons has held a distinguished place in the London concert-rooms, is at present in Italy. He has an engagement at Ferrara, as *primo baritono assoluto*, during the Carnival; and made his first appearance on the 26th of December, as *Charles the Fifth*, in Verdi's "Ernani," with great success.

THE THEATRES, &c.

DRURY-LANE.

Mr. Mark Lemon had a three-act drama produced at this theatre on Monday. It is entitled "Paula Lazarro; or, the Ladrone's Daughter." The scene is laid in Spain, and the story extends over a considerable period. The action consists of the consequences of a feud between the houses of Tavero and Lazarro. *Sidi-on Lazarro* (Mr. T. Mead), apparently a blind beggar, but really a ruined nobleman, seeks revenge for the destruction of his family. He is accompanied in his wanderings by *Paula* (Mrs. E. Lewis) his daughter, who guards him with tender affection, but revels from his plans of vengeance. They do not appear until the second act; when the old father leagues with the brigand *José Maria* (Mr. G. Bennett), who undertakes to surprise the alcazar of the *Marquis of Tavero*, and effect the abduction of his daughter, *Juana* (Miss Featherstone). This purpose is effected at a masked ball. Soon after, *Paula* discovers that *Juana* is her long lost sister, who had been taken away by the former Marquis. She has a lover, one *Pablo* (Mr. Belton), a supposed muleteer, who, in like manner, turns out to be the son of the *Marquis*. In the *melée* which succeeds, this state of things *Gideon* is shot by soldiers in pursuit of the brigands. Mr. Mead, in the character, won much applause; and Miss Featherstone, an encore for one of her two songs The scenery and costume were picturesque; and the play was accompanied by melodramatic music, the composition of Mr. Alfred Mellon. Altogether, the piece may be accounted a success, though not of the class which we should prefer witnessing on the classic boards of this theatre.

WHITTINGTON CLUB.—On Monday the annual juvenile soirée took place in the spacious rooms of the above institution. The members of the club, with their juvenile friends began to assemble at seven o'clock. From 300 to 400 pretty, well-dressed children shortly congregated in the hall, which was varied with conjuring tricks by Mr. Farley, and dissolving views by Mr. Cox. The children were served with supper in the drawing room, and afterwards kept up dancing till after midnight, when they retired, highly delighted with their entertainment at the Whittington Club

WOODCOCKS have been very plentiful this season in Appin-Argyle. On the 1st inst. a friend of Miles Lockhart, Esq., shot 11½ couple of cocks, and 6 braces of snipe, in 2½ hours, at Ardsheal, Appin, N.B.

CHEAP NOVELS.—(*To the Editor of the* ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)—"24, Cockspur-street, January 8th, 1854.—In your article on Literature, Art, &c., of last week, you mention our names in connection with Mr Bentley's new scheme of publishing novels at a reduced price, and that he was not supported by the circulating libraries. How far he was encouraged by others, we know not; for ourselves, we can say that we took *three* times the number of copies we should have taken at the old price of 31s. 6d. We trust that you will give this explanation, in order that those who take an interest in cheap literature may know that we did not offer any impediment to its well-working. Your obedient servants, CAWTHORN and HUTT."

DISTRESS IN LONDON.—A meeting of the inhabitants of St. Saviours, Southwark, was held in the vestry-room of St. Saviour's Church, on Tuesday, to consider the distressed condition of the poor, from want of labour and the high price of provisions and fuel, and to devise the necessary means for their temporary relief. The prolonged severity of the weather, combined with the great dearness of coals and bread, has brought upon large numbers of deserving poor persons considerable want and suffering. Various resolutions, approving of the above object for the welfare of their poorer neighbours, were passed, and subscriptions entered into.

MARYLEBONE FREE LIBRARY.—The reading-rooms of this institution—the first of the kind established in the metropolis—were opened for the gratuitous admission of the public, at 27, Gloucester-place Newroad, on Monday. The books are arranged round the rooms on the first floor of the house, tables being placed in the centre for the convenience of readers. The name of the institution is local, but persons of any locality have free access to the books. The library already possesses about 3000 volumes, comprising works in a.. branches of literature, and endeavours are being made to increase the number.

Verdi's "Luisa Miller" has been given at the Oriente, in Madrid, with great success; Mdlle. Gazzanga, as the heroine, is very highly spoken of.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

Lord Brougham is expected to leave his chateau at Cannes at the close of next week for Paris, *en route* to London. The noble Lord, who is now in his 76th year, is in the enjoyment of good health.

It is stated that Lord Harris, whose period of service as Governor of Trinidad will shortly expire, has been offered the Governorship of Madras. Captain Charles Elliot, R.N., now Governor of Bermuda, is spoken of as the new Governor of Trinidad.

The *New Prussian Gazette* lately announced the mobilisation of the entire Russian army; adding, that the measure would enable the Czar to dispose of 1,000,000 soldiers.

Captain Hast, the oldest and one of the most experienced commanders in the Royal West India Mail Steam Packet Company, and who was the commodore of their fleet, has retired from their service.

With reference to the trade with Russia at the present juncture, it is of some interest to know that large purchases of grain have been made with "hard money," as usual, with the provision that it will be returned in the event of hostilities preventing its shipment.

There died at Moscow, on the 11th of October, a soldier, named Peter Sosnowsky, aged 122 years, 1 month, and 25 days.

Mr. Edward Johnstone Manley is appointed Colonel Auditor; Mr. John Foster, Accountant of Stores; Mr. Francis Smith, Solicitor-General; and Edward M'Dowell, Crown Solicitor—all in Van Diemen's Land.

The *Voce della Liberta* of Turin having been some time ago condemned for insults against Napoleon III., and having appealed, the Court of Appeal has just confirmed the sentence of the lower court.

The neighbourhood of Exeter has again been flooded to an extraordinary extent. On the Exeter and Crediton Railway it was found impossible to carry on the traffic.

A great curiosity has been exhibited on the Stock Exchange. It was a receipt for £1300 Consols, dated July 20, 1798, at the price of 47½, the purchase-money being only £590 15s. The above is nearly the lowest price Consols ever fell to.

A letter from Eisenach says:—"On Christmas-day, the Duchess of Orleans gave an abundant dinner to 400 poor persons of this place, and also distributed clothes to 400 poor children."

The Parliamentary estimate for constructing the Wellington Docks, Southwark, is set forth at £917,000; being £908,000 for the dock works, and £11,000 for the connection by tramway or railway.

There has been an increase in the exportation of soap since the duty was removed. In the month ended the 5th ult. the value of soap exported was £24,863, against £18,450 of the same month in the preceding year.

The Count de Peyronnet, formerly Minister of Justice under Louis XVIII., and afterwards Minister of the Interior under Charles X., has just expired, at Montferrand, near Bordeaux, aged 77.

Mr. Milner Gibson has arrived at Malta from the Ionian Islands, and proceeds on by France to England.

The Peruvian Government has instructed its agents in this country to advance the price of guano to an amount equal to the advance in the rates of freights during the past year.

The orphan child of one of the oldest of the Irish baronets was admitted a few days since into the Wanstead Infant Orphan Asylum.

The committee of the Société Française de Bienfaisance have received from the Emperor of the French £40 in aid of the funds of their institution, for the relief of the French poor in this country.

Mr. John Sadleir, M.P., has ceased to be connected with her Majesty's Government. Lord Aberdeen has received the resignation of his office as one of the Junior Lords of the Treasury. It is rumoured that Mr. C. Fortescue, M.P. for the county of Louth, will succeed Mr. Sadleir.

The *Freeman's Journal* states, that "a commission has been sitting for some weeks, under order, to prepare a report on the proposed transfer of the heads of the Irish Post-office department to London.

J. H. O'Byrne Redmond, Esq., of Killoughter Hall, Ireland, has been appointed Chamberlain to his Holiness Pope Pius IX.

The Emigration Commissioners have chartered the following ships to take out emigrants to Australia—viz., the *Royal Charlie*, the *America* the *Parade*, and the *Taymouth Castle*. The *Royal Charlie* is bound to Adelaide, and all the others for Melbourne.

Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton, M.P., has named the 25th instant for his visit to Leeds. The annual soirée of the Mechanics' Institution and Literary Society, at which he is to preside, has been fixed to take place on that date.

In the Southampton graving dock there is a screw steamer with a boomerang propeller, the first that has been seen in Southampton water. The vessel is named the *Hanalin*, and is intended for a trader in the Chinese seas. She will carry nearly a thousand tons of coals.

In consequence of the very inclement weather, and other circumstances, the opening of the Londonderry, Seaham, and Sunderland Railway, which was to have taken place on the 7th January, is postponed until June.

The extramural cemetery for Islington has been adopted by the parish of St. Pancras, by vote: 397 for the cemetery, and 607 against it.

The Academy of Sciences, in Paris, have elected M. Tulasne a member in the section of botany, in the place of M. Jussieu, deceased.

The Czar of Russia was burnt in effigy a few days ago at Cupar—a band of music and torchbearers assisting.

The success of the New Stamp Act is immense. Already £400,000 more than Mr. Gladstone calculated has been realised. Some thirty-five millions have been sold.

The Russian clergy have offered to the Czar, from the large Church property, a sum of 20,000,000 roubles towards the war expenses with Turkey.

It is understood that a bill is in preparation for the abolition of the practice of locking up juries "without meat, drink, fire, or candles, until they come to a verdict."

Fires seem to be more numerous in Paris than even in London. In one day, lately, the gendarmes, besides having to extinguish fires in twenty-eight chimneys, had nine serious conflagrations to combat between midday and six o'clock next morning.

The Duke of Richmond, it is stated, has sold his stud, and retired from the turf.

Captain Inglefield, under whom the late Lieut. Bellot served as a volunteer, has had an audience of the French Emperor. So has Dr. Bowring.

Raglan Castle, the seat of the Duke of Beaufort, narrowly escaped being burned down last week.

The printers of western and southern New York (says the *Le Roy Gazette*) are to celebrate the anniversary of Franklin's birthday, at Albany, on the 17th of January.

The barque *Hannah Maria*, with 100 emigrants, has been lost off the south-east coast of Australia. Happily, no lives were lost.

An accident happened on the line last week, near Holyhead, to a train getting up the rain, and running into a snow-drift. The driver and stoker were suffocated.

Three immense flights of wild ducks, and one of wild geese, passed over Cambridge last week. They were making their way in a southerly direction.

The number of vessels employed in the coasting-trade of the United Kingdom in the eleven months ended the 5th ult., that entered inwards, was 123,746, and the tonnage 11,866,448; while the number cleared outwards was 135,419, and the tonnage, 12,485,516.

On Tuesday week Major Rait, of Anniston, was sledging in true Russian style through the streets of Brechin. Colonel Maule was also driving alone in his sledge, with his brothers, Lord Panmure and the Hon. William Maule

His Excellency Mr. Mason, the newly-appointed Minister from the United States to Paris, arrived in London from Washington, *en route* to enter on his diplomatic duties

The dearness of provisions in Poland has caused the Administrative Council at Warsaw to issue a decree prohibiting the exportation of every sort of corn and flour from Poland, dating from the 1st January.

The Earl of Portsmouth died at his seat in Hurstbourne Park, near Andover, on Monday. The second Peer, Newton Fellowes, was born in 1772, and had succeeded his brother but a few months. His only surviving son, Viscount Lymington, now in his 29th year, becomes Earl of Portsmouth.

The mortality of the town and parish of Montrose for the year 1853 was 307. This is twenty less than 1852, and sixty-five less than the average of the preceding ten years.

A testimonial, consisting of a magnificent candelabrum, value £230, was presented to the Right Hon. George Bankes, M.P., by his Dorsetshire admirers. The presentation took place on Wednesday, at a public dinner in the Town-hall of Dorchester.

The *Journal de Calais* mentions the arrest there of a person named Antoine Wenzel, a Saxon by birth, who had just landed from England. A pocket-book containing forged bank notes to the amount of 90,000 fr. is said to have been found on him.

Prince George Stourdza, son of the ex-Hospodar of Moldavia, has offered his services to the Sultan, who has accepted them; and the Prince was to set out for the army of Omer Pacha, where he will command a brigade.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

The question of an English copyright in books in America has again been under agitation at the Board of Trade; but the progress made in determining the question is neither very great nor, to English authors and publishers, very satisfactory. Jonathan wishes to deal out a hard measure to John Bull. The Americans possess, at present, an enormous advantage in the acquisition of English books. It is true that, at times, they give a little money for what they get—and give it, we believe, willingly; nay, some houses are, indeed, liberal, and would like to be still more liberal; but the feeling of the nation is, apparently, against any full recognition of an English author's claim to a copyright in America. There is a belief abroad, supported by a rumour from the Board of Trade, that a duty is about to be levied in America on the importation of new books from England, and that an English author's claim to a copyright, in America shall only exist in cases where the type of the book has been actually set up, and the pages printed off by American hands. This, perhaps, to very popular authors will not be a very heavy tax, but it will have, we fear, a very different effect with books that do not rush immediately into reputation. The class of books requiring the kindliest recognition by a nation, such as history and biography, will, under the rumoured treaty, receive but very least. This should not be.

A very useful society—the Shakspeare Society—terminated its labours on the first of the present month. This society had existed for twelve years, and has given to its members and to the public some really useful and important publications. If it failed to throw any valuable light on the life and works of Shakspeare, it was not from any want of activity or desire, but rather to the circumstances, only too well known, and too true, that diligence is ever failing in any endeavour to "unsphere" Shakspeare. Not but what the society has contributed several points of minor value to the received story of Shakspeare's career, or that it has failed in throwing light on some of the obscurer passages of his writings. The essential service, however, rendered by the society to our literature, has been in what it has done for Shakspeare's contemporaries. The forty-seven volumes issued by the society abound in most curious matter. What excellent materials are to be found in the "Registers of the Stationer's Company," the "Account-Book of Heaslowe," and the lives of Alleyne and Inigo Jones. And how fine a print has the society supplied in Mr. Cousins's admirable mezzotint, after the Chandos portrait of Shakspeare. That print alone cost in the mere engraving one hundred and eighty guineas, and is a faithful and admirable translation of the original picture. The society's stock of books will, it is said, be sold. Mr. Cousins's plate was destroyed after seven hundred and fifty impressions were taken.

The reading-room of the British Museum was re-opened on Monday last, but without any visible improvements in the arrangement of the books and tables. The selection of works of reference on the shelves might be easily improved, and there is still a want of a printed catalogue of the books to which readers are allowed access without tickets of application. A great improvement might have been made in the interval, and at a small cost. The catalogues are placed at the furthest extremity of the room, and at the greatest possible distance from the station to which the reader is obliged to carry his ticket. He has, in the present arrangement, to pace the whole extent of the room before he can obtain the book he requires. This is not only inconvenient, but is annoying to readers. Either the person receiving tickets should be placed nearer the catalogues, or the catalogues carried nearer to him. Though Mr. Panizzi is not over-fond of out-door suggestions, he will, perhaps, kindly look to the evil and its obvious remedy.

The daily papers announce the death of Mr. Maltby, the friend of Porson, and known to every frequenter of Mr. Rogers's breakfast-table, where his varied information was contrasted very favourably with the repartees of Sydney Smith, Mr. Rogers's own witticisms, and the ceaseless puns of Mr. Luttrell. As those we love decay, we die in part; and Mr. Rogers, who had lived in uninterrupted friendship with Mr. Maltby for more than eighty years, will indeed feel the loss of his early friend. Mr. Maltby was in his ninetieth year, and had seen and known many eminent men belonging to bygone generations. He linked us to the past—to the days of Porson and Sneridan, of Grey and Mason.

This linking with the past receives an admirable illustration in one of the new volumes of "Moore's Diary:"—

In talking of the close *rapprochement* which long lived individuals establish between distant periods of history, Lord Lansdowne said, as an instance that he himself had been acquainted with Sir Edward Baynton, who knew Sir Stephen Fox, who had been on the scaffold with Charles I. I mentioned, as another instance, William Spencer having, when a boy, played on the sofa with his grandfather, Lord Vere, who had done the same thing (played on a sofa), when a boy, with Charles II. Lord Lansdowne remarked, how curious it was to think that by this sort of links, the number of persons necessary to carry tradition down from the time of Adam to the present day might all be contained, with ease, in the room we sat in, calculating them, at a rough guess, about 70 persons.

We will not endorse the calculation of Lord Lansdowne, though his Lordship was, at one time, Chancellor of the Exchequer. We shall never, indeed, look upon Lord Lansdowne without saying to ourselves, Here is a living being who knew Sir Edward Baynton, who knew Sir Stephen Fox, who had stood, two hundred and four years ago, on the scaffold with Charles I.!

The recent death of the Principal of Brasenose, Mr Harrington, at the age of fifty-two, is suggestive of a very appropriate but unusual reflection. Mr. Harrington was the youngest of the Heads of Houses at Oxford, and was not even born when the still-living President of Magdalen (Dr. Routh) was made President of Magdalen. Dr. Routh was well acquainted with a former President of his College, who had lived on terms of intimacy with Hough, the famous President who made so conspicuous a figure in the Revolution, and who is seen to such advantage in Mr. Macaulay's History. Here is another living link with the past; but still not so extraordinary as Lord Lansdowne's.

Sir Charles Eastlake has preserved a saying of Talleyrand's connected with the irreparable loss of the Lawrence collection of drawings, that calls for general circulation. Sir Charles, as might have been expected, was eager in urging the purchase of the collection by the British Government "When the drawings were in Mr. Keightley's hands," says Sir Charles, "I requested permission to take some of them to Lord Brougham, then Lord Chancellor. Lord Lansdowne and Talleyrand were present: the drawings were examined by them; and I remember Talleyrand saying, 'If you do not buy those things you are barbarians.' His expression was, 'Si vous n'achetez pas ces choses là, vous êtes des barbares.' And so we are barbarians about works of art; but the real barbarians in the Lawrence case were Lord Grey and Sir Martin Archer Shee."

Critics well up in old glass are praising and directing attention to the stained-glass window, just completed by Miss Harriet Clarke, for the little church of St. Martin's, at Canterbury. Mr. Winston (whose knowledge of mediæval glass is not for a moment to be doubted) is, we are assured, high in his approbation of it. We have seen it ourselves, and can safely commend it for skill in design, and rich but sober colouring. Miss Clarke has not suffered herself to be led away by a blind admiration of what is old, but has endeavoured successfully to engraft whatever is valuable in fifteenth-century glass on the skill in design to be found in the best Italian painters.

It is estimated by the Census Tables that the number of men engaged in London alone upon omnibuses on the Sunday is as many as 6,000.

OBELISK, AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

THE BLACK SEA.

In the present interesting crisis, the united fleets of England and France having, for the first time, in the history of the world, entered the Black Sea, hitherto viewed as a Russian lake, we feel called upon to give a full and faithful portraiture of this important spot, which may, before very long, become the scene of events materially affecting the destinies of Europe.

The Black or Euxine Sea is a great inland sea between Europe and Asia; its extreme length being 700 miles, and its greatest breadth 380 miles. It is bordered by the countries of Russia, Armenia, and Asiatic and European Turkey; and communicates by the Strait of Yenikale with the Sea of Azov on the north-east, and by the Bosphorous with the Sea of Marmora, on the south-west. The Black Sea is larger than the Baltic, and receives larger rivers. The land which surrounds the Black Sea is almost everywhere fertile; and it can be navigated at all seasons, except in the Sea of Azov, and some of the ports adjoining Odessa. The shores are high and bold on the north-east, east, and south-west, but flat on the north and north-west. The water contains one-seventh less salt than the ocean, and is so fresh that it freezes very easily. The Black Sea has excellent harbours on all sides; but the only gulf of importance is that of Kerkinit, between the Crimea and the continent of Russia. From its extent, position on the earth's surface, and physical structure, the commerce of the Black Sea ought far to exceed that of the Baltic; yet we find our trade with the former limited to comparatively minor operations on the Lower Danube, at Odessa, Taganrog, and Trebizond; while the Baltic trade of Sweden, Prussia, Russia, and Denmark, constitutes no inconsiderable fraction of our aggregate national commerce. The Black Sea, which has at a comparatively recent date been opened to all trading vessels, is still hermetically sealed in time of peace against the ships of war of all nations situated outside the Dardanelles.

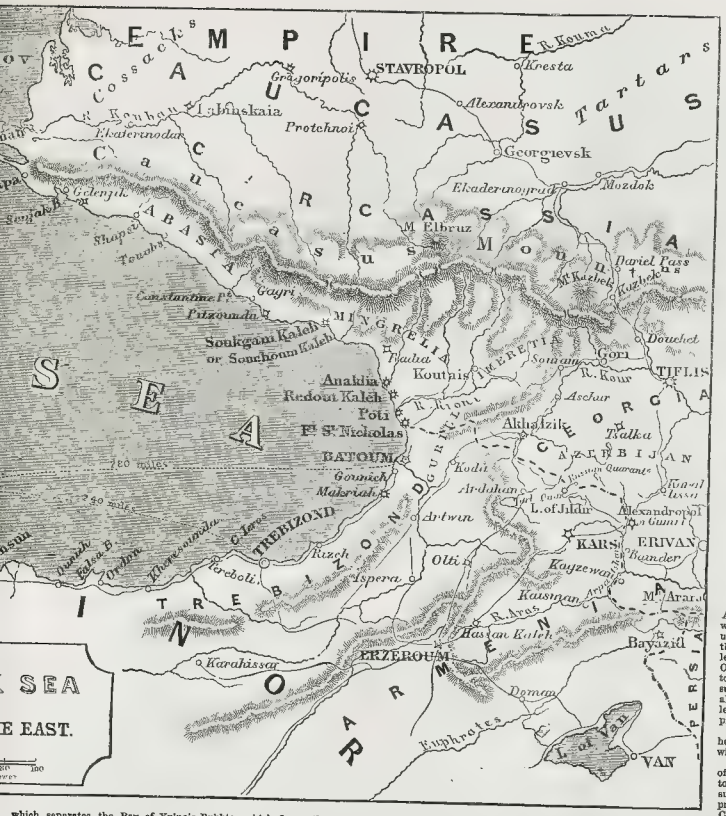
The *Cologne Gazette* contains the following details of the positions of Russia on the eastern coast of the Black Sea:—

"Anapa is the most northern point on the eastern coast of the Black Sea. It is a celebrated fortress, which the Turks originally constructed to protect their commerce with the tribes of the Caucasus. Since then the Russians have made it the most important military position in Circassia. The harbour is open to every wind, and is useless except in the fine season.

"The first port on the coast is Sudjouk-Kalé, which the Russians have defended by three redoubts. In this port the Russian squadron captured the English vessel the *Vixen*, an event which produced so great a sensation in 1837. Some way further down is the Bay of Guelendjik, the finest and safest on the coast, and the most important station of the Russian flotilla appointed to watch the movements of the Circassians. Further on, is the Bay of Pchilat, at the entrance of which the Russians have had a fort since 1837. Along the coast, inhabited by the formidable tribe of the Chapsuke, are the little bays of Nonlan, Djonhou-hon, Kodos, Subachi, Naidan, and Mamai. This part of Circassia, which is marked by rich cultivation and numerous villages, opposes the most determined resistance to the Russian rule. Beyond Mamai the western coast of the Caucasus assumes a more imposing character—the rivers being larger, and the general aspect of the hills more rugged and lofty First of all is seen the fine valley of Sutchali, then the fort of Navakinskoi, Cape Senghi, called the Cape of Hercules by the ancients, and the bays of Komomichelaz and of Kinschuli; next, the sombre fortress of Sagri, commanding the entrance into Circassia on the side of Abasia; behind which rise the precipitous rocks which constitute the most elevated points of the Caucasus. Pozunda, famous for its church, which is said to have been founded by the Emperor Justinian, is the first important point of Abasia; then comes the fort of Bomborai; next Guelendjik—one of the best bays on the coast, where the Russians have a fort, built in 1838, by the Sultan Amurath; and, lastly, Iskuriez, known in the time of the Romans by the name of Sebastopolis, about 1½ English miles below Cape Iskarias. The mountains of the Caucasus on the north, and those of Akhalzick on the south, surround this magnificent basin, watered by the rivers Khopi and Rion (Phasis). At 8½ English miles above the Phasis, the little river Nabs-Nelea (Lixis, of Arrian) separates the Russian territory from that of Turkey. In the middle is situated Trebizond—become, since the commercial blockade of Russia, one of the most important places of the Black Sea, being the great *entrepôt* of all the articles of importation and exportation from Northern Persia and Turkey in Asia. The situation of Russia, in appearance so powerful, is exceedingly critical on the eastern shore of the Black Sea. She possesses there only detached forts; and the Turks have taken one of them, that of St. Nicholas, which the Russians, notwithstanding all their efforts, have not as yet been able to retake."

The town and port of Sebastopol is, however, the famous stronghold of the Russians in the Black Sea. Vsevolojsky, the Russian topographer, describes Sebastopol as one of the most modern creations in the rapidly-growing empire of the Czars; its site, until 1786, having been occupied by a miserable village of Tartar huts, named Akhtiar. The splendid natural advantages of its harbour for a first-rate naval port, however, attracted the keen notice of Catherine II.; and in 1780 the first stone of the new fortress and arsenal was laid. Sebastopol is situated on the western coast of the peninsula of the Crimea, in an amphitheatre to the south of the harbour, extending along a point of land

BURGAS, ON THE BLACK SEA.



which separates the Bay of Yajnaia-Bukhta, which forms the port, from Artillery Bay, a small indentation on the other side. The town stands on a chalky stratum, which rises from the height of thirty feet at the extremity of the point to an elevation of 190 feet above the sea in the upper part. This elevation, with the steep coast opposite, which also consists of a calcareous rock, perfectly defends the bay, which, from the summit of the heights, appears to lie at the bottom of a deep cavity; and, indeed, at a very short distance from the shore inland, it is impossible to perceive the tops of the highest masts Near the extremity at the point of land stands the house built in 1787 for the reception of the Empress Catherine II. Behind are situate the Admiralty, the Arsenal, and the houses of the naval officials, while higher up are the dwellings of the inhabitants of the town, the market, and the Greek Church; besides which there is a Russian Church, for the use of the sailors belonging to the Black Sea fleet. The seamen's hospital and barracks, and the magazines, are mostly situate on the other side of the harbour, and, together with the barracks of the garrison, built a short distance from the former, compose a sort of suburb. The town of Sebastopol itself is not much above a mile in length, and is nowhere more than 400 yards wide.

The harbour, the most important feature in Sebastopol, has been compared to that of Malta. The principal bay is about three miles and a half in length, with a width of three-quarters of a mile at the mouth, widening to nearly a mile, and then narrowing to 600 or 700 yards at the head. The entrance of the harbour is defended by strong batteries placed at the extremity of the two points of land that form the bay. Besides these, there is another fronting the town, and two more on the double point on which the town stands, with a redoubt higher up.

THE TOWER OF GALATA, AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

About a mile from the mouth of the bay the grand port for vessels of war forms a sort of small arm, running in a south-west direction. It is upwards of a mile and a half in length, with a width of 400 yards at the entrance, and has a little narrow creek of about 600 yards in length, in which ships can be laid up in ordinary with perfect safety. On the other side of the town, in Artillery Bay, is a similar creek, used to careen vessels of war. The sea-worm, *teredo navalis*, which pierces submerged wood, exists in large numbers in the Black Sea, especially along the shores of the Crimea, and in the harbour of Sebastopol. In less than two years, if a vessel is not copper-sheathed, these worms pierce through the whole of the outer timbers.

The situation of Sebastopol on a dry soil causes it to be extremely healthy, the air being tempered in summer by cooling winds; in winter it is sheltered by lofty hills to the north and east.

Kherson is an important fortified town and port on the right bank of the Dneiper, and about ninety-two miles E.N.E. of Odessa. The town was founded by Potemkin, under Catherine II., in 1778 (after the successful war which resulted in the treaty of Karnadji); and the proud Empress, in exultation, inscribed over the gates, "The way to Constantinople." The arsenal, barracks, and citadel are represented as formidable in their dimensions and arrangements. In the town are buried Potemkin, the founder; and Howard, the philanthropist, who died here January 20, 1790.

For a period of three hundred years the commerce of the Black Sea was closed against the nations of Europe, and was exclusively the privilege of Turkey. But the conquests of Peter the Great and Catherine changed all this. The Russians advanced to the south and made themselves masters of the Sea of Azov, the Crimea, and all the northern coasts of the Black Sea. In 1774 the treaty of Karnadji was signed, which, by throwing open the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles, definitively secured to Russia that immense influence which she exercises to this day over the destinies of the East. England has secured a position at Trebizond, which enables her now to supply all the neighbouring provinces of Asia with the manufacture of

RESIDENCE OF PRINCE GORTSCHAKOFF, NEAR BUCHAREST.

Western Europe, while the rapid rise of large commercial towns in the Danubian Principalities has diverted much of the vast corn trade which was once carried on through this port.

Odessa is, next to the two capitals of the Empire, one of the most important cities of Russia. Its position on the Black Sea, the rapid increase of its population, its commercial wealth and its brilliant society have enabled it to outstrip the other half Sclavonic, half Tartar cities of the Empire. The Russians themselves prefer it to St. Petersburg, as they enjoy greater liberty, and are relieved from much of the etiquette of the capital. Odessa is the Paris of the Russian ladies, where they can indulge their taste for dress and their luxuries without the ruinous expense whi h they entail on them at St. Peter burg

The town is defended by a wall and ditch; but the fortress built by Suwarrow, in 1793, is now used as a quarantine establishment. The city is built of stone, is paved with granite, and has macadamized roads. It has a cathedral and 21 other churches, and 30 bridges; and among the chief buildings is the bazaar, "*le petit Palais Royal.*" It has open boulevards, botanic, and other gardens. The port is formed by two moles, bordered by a quay, on which is a bronze statue of the Duke of Richelieu, erected in gratitude for his services in improving the city. Odessa was founded in 1792. It affords a remarkable example of commercial prosperity. In 1802, its population was only 9000; it was made a free port in 1817; in 1837 its population had increased to 53,803; and in 1846 it amounted to 70,877. It is still rapidly increasing. Its chief trade is the export of Russian products, and the import of foreign goods; and it has two steam navigation companies.

Kustengee is a fortified town of Bulgaria, forty miles east of Rassova, at the termination of Trajan's Wall, of which some traces exist. It has some trade in corn, abundant supplies of which are raised in the neighbourhood; but its harbour is exposed, and ill adapted for large ships. Kustengee is supposed to have been originally one of the principal mouths of the Danube, the passage of which river towards this point has, in course of years, become filled up; but the important saving in distance to be accomplished by resorting hitherto, instead of by the present circuitous route by Sulina Passage, has been frequently agitated; and the late Sultan, as well as his successor, has at times seriously entertained the project of re-opening a line of traffic in this direction, either by means of a canal or railway. These projects have always been industriously opposed by the Russian Government, who see that their realisation would fatally interfere with their present command of that important river.

Varna—the ancient Odessus—is situated in Bulgaria. The fortifications have been repaired and strengthened since the rumours of approaching hostilities with Russia. As a naval and commercial position, the possession of Varna is almost indispensable to Turkey. The bay is deep, and of great extent; the anchorage safe, and completely protected against the winds of the north and south—the most disastrous to shipping in the Black Sea. Varna has one great advantage over its great rival, Odessa, in Southern Russia, that navigation is never interrupted during the severest winter. Varna is the outlet through which the products of the vast and fruitful territory adjoining find their way. In these provinces of European Turkey, the corn of every description cannot be surpassed in weight and nutritious qualities: the wine and fruits are excellent; and oil, tallow, hides, wax, honey, timber, and live stock of every description, are produced in abundance. The commerce of Varna with Great Britain has largely increased since the repeal of the Corn-laws; and, if the Sultan would only declare Varna a free port, the inhabitants of the country around would find the market which they need for the sale of the surplus produce of their labour. Such is the fertility of the soil and the favourable nature of the climate, that the productions of the provinces of which Varna is the natural *entrepôt*, might easily be quadrupled in a few years. The population of the rich and fertile province of Bulgaria are industrious, but they labour under disadvantages in the want of roads; in the absence of which they are obliged to transport the produce of the country on the backs of mules and horses across steep mountains and through rugged defiles.

The province of Bulgaria, in the centre of which Varna is situated, forming as it does the frontier of this portion of the Turkish Empire, has frequently been the theatre of war between the Turks and their neighbours the Austrians and Russians. Having the Black Sea and the Danube for a boundary to the north and east, and being defended by a connecting chain of strong towns and forts from Varna to Widdin, nature and art have made the province of Bulgaria a position of great strength.

Bourgas, or Burghaz, is an important sea-port town in Roumelia, on the Black Sea, about ten hours' sail south of Varna; on the Constantinople side of the Balkan, and seventy-six miles north-east of Adrianople. It is situate at the extremity of a gulf, fourteen miles in length, which forms a natural harbour, sheltered from the wind in almost every quarter. The town itself is neat, and tolerably clean, and is very picturesque in appearance from the harbour; the country in the neighbourhood is extremely beautiful. There is here a considerable trade in iron, coarse woollens, and provisions. The population is, probably between 6000 and 8000.

Sinope, the scene of the late disastrous outrage, has recently been described in our Journal.

THE OBELISK AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

THE Obelisk, which our cut represents, is, in itself, one of the most interesting relics of ancient Byzantium, and is situated in a spot on which many most interesting events have since occurred. The famed Hippodrome, or horse-course (now translated into Turkish as the At-Meidan), is situated in the neighbourhood of the mosque of Sultan Achmet, and not far from the Seraglio and the far-famed St. Sophia. At the upper end of this place stands the granite Obelisk represented in our Engraving, and called after the Emperor Theodosius, though it is probable that he only removed it from another part of the city after it had been thrown down by an earthquake. The Obelisk is partly covered with hieroglyphics, which, however, are not of the best workmanship. Near this Obelisk is the fragment of a wreathed column of bronze, which has been the subject of many discussions, some alleging it to have been a three headed serpent from the oracular shrine of Delphi, whose three heads were struck off at a blow by Mahomed II. Whatever be their history, these relics are, in truth, but poorly esteemed by the inhabitants of Constantinople, who have neither much regard for art in itself, nor its associations.

THE TOWER OF GALATA.

THE Tower of Galata is a venerable and striking object, lifting its time-honoured head in the midst of the European quarter of Constantinople, and where it serves as a watch-tower, particularly in the case of fire. On such events, which are of every-day occurrence, flags are hung out, which, by their colour and arrangement, indicate with precision the spot in which the fire for the day rages. The view from the top is, perhaps, the best of Constantinople and the neighbourhood which can possibly be obtained; presenting all the principal edifices of the city, including the Seraglio, and the various mosques of St. Sophia, in their best point of view, as well as a magnificent general panorama—to which the bright waters of the Golden Horn, of the Bosphorus, and of the Sea of Marmora in the far distance, give a life-like effect indescribable.

RESIDENCE OF PRINCE GORTSCHAKOFF, NEAR BUCHAREST.

UPON the preceding page we have engraved a View of the Residence of Prince Gortschakoff, in the neighbourhood of Bucharest; and subjoin an interesting account of an inspection of troops by the Prince, in the neighbourhood, from the journal of a Correspondent, who has just returned from the seat of war:—

Some days ago I went to see Prince Gortschakoff review a portion of the Russian army, which was encamped about six miles from Bucharest. The vast plains of Wallachia are admirably adapted for displays of this kind, or for the more serious operations of actual war. There was not a wall or hedge, and scarcely a tree, to impede the movements of the troops. There were about 18,000 men present. They at first formed in line, with the artillery on the extreme left, and next to them the cavalry, composed of lancers and hussars, and then came the infantry. The infantry, regiment by regiment, then broke into open columns of companies, and marched past the General. Each company, as it passed before the Prince, cheered; and the light troops ran by in double time, for about two hundred yards, cheering all the way. The cavalry marched by in squadrons, each squadron cheering when they came in front of the Commander-in-Chief, and a body of Hulans, who waited some little time behind, went past at a charge, shouting wildly. The light artillery also went past at full gallop. Each regiment of infantry then formed in close column, with cavalry and artillery on their rear. They were, in all, a magnificent body of troops, and went through the different movements with wonderful precision. The effect of the great mass of infantry formed in close column, with the sun sparkling on their helmets, was very fine. Seen at a distance it looked like a lake of flames. When the inspection was over the troops marched off the ground to their respective quarters; each body, as it passed, singing the National Anthem, or some war song. Prince Gortschakoff is more than sixty years of age; but he is firm and erect, and has all the appearance of a veteran soldier. None of the generals under his orders seem less than fifty years old, and all have the same stern, war-worn look.

FORTRESS OF SEMENDRIA.

SERVIAN VILLAGE.

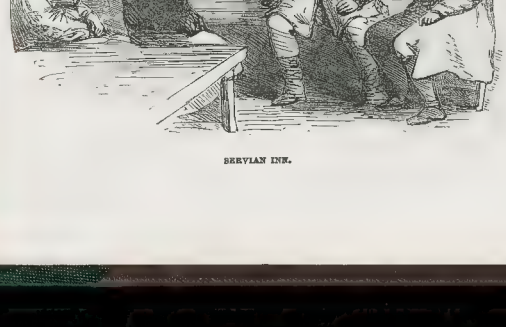
THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

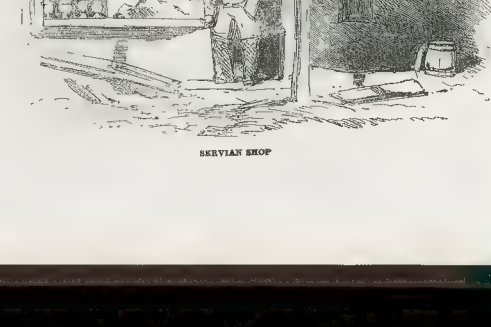
NEGOTIN, Dec. 25.

THERE are two ways in summer leading from the Austrian frontier at Semlar to the Turkish at Widdin: the first short and agreeable, the second long and fatiguing. In winter, however, there is no choice. The navigation of the Danube, so agreeable and so varied by splendid scenery, is interrupted by the frost, and the traveller who seeks to journey into Turkey must perforce consent to undergo the long privations of a land journey. These privations are very much increased by the mountainous formation of the country through which it is necessary to pass, and by the natural impediments superadded of snow, ice, and fog. It was not, therefore, without considerable preparation that your Correspondent started from Belgrade on a journey crossing Servia, and on a route encompassed by alps of considerable height. The roads, it was well known, were execrable in good weather. What might they not be after snow had lain upon them? Inns, it was equally certain, there were none—at least in the European sense of the word. It was, therefore, politic to carry, besides the usual baggage and complement of furpelisses, a coverlet to sleep on, tea, knives and forks and spoons, napkins, and provisions.

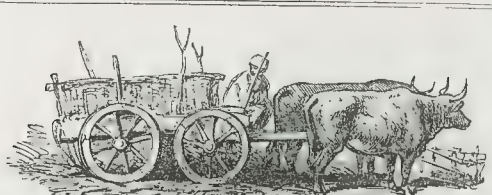
A hurricane was blowing at Belgrade on the 16th of December. The snow had fallen thick throughout the night, and but little chance appeared of change. It was, therefore, under unpromising auspices that the little party of horsemen composing our expedition left Belgrade behind. Perhaps, under more favourable circumstances, the sight of the semi-Turkish city in its prominent position on the promontory that commands the Danube and the Save might have been picturesque and beautiful. The sight of minarets intermixed with Christian steeples is not a spectacle that leaves the mind long unimpressed. The struggle of the Crescent and the Cross is manifest externally; the Turk and the Christian mingling in the streets, and scowling at each other. All this is present to the mind. But snow and wind, with its accompaniments, soon drive attention from all, except from one's self; and the traveller, shivering, turns his back on Belgrade, and commences the ascent of the hills behind it. Suddenly, as the upland opens, one sees through the rents in the dusky clouds the square towers of a ruined Roman castle. The Crescent and the Cross vanish for a moment, and dim visions of Imperial legions guarding Servian passes rise before the eye. By the time the ideas thus raised and dwelt on are replaced by others, a village is in sight, consisting of small, low houses, made of wood and mud, and covered with the branching straw of Indian corn. Each little cottage, with its dirty yard and oxen, its watchful dog and gobbling geese, nestles separately, in the midst of orchards surrounded by wooden palisades, six or seven feet in height. In the centre of the place is the inn where the horses and their riders park together and take refreshments. There are but two apertures in the common inn of Servia: through the first the traveller enters, and through the second the smoke of a blazing fire makes its exit. In truth, the houses in Servian villages, like those in the Highlands of Scotland, are more like chimneys than anything else. The fire and the smoke are such paramount necessities, that all is sacrificed to them. Round the cheerful logs that blaze in the midst, the Servian squats and sips. With his complement of saucepans the *meiandjich* makes the coffee of the guests, or boils the beans, which are the only fare obtainable in days of fast. Hanging in festoons along the sides are hides of oxen, sheep, and pigs, in various stages of smoke and preservation. Higher up the chimney are lines on lines of strips of beef; and straggling everywhere, on pegs, and poles, and nails, the fat of hogs and wedders is suspended till the day of marketing. In the



SERVIAN INN.



SERVIAN SHOP



SERVIAN OX-WAGGON.

midst of the smoke which emanates not only from the blazing logs, but from the pipes of every person in the place, the martial figure of the Tartar, with moustache and arms, the far less handsome uniform of the Europeans; and the stalking innkeeper, with red cap and white apron, and his store of knives stuck in his belt, are but dimly visible, and look like visions of the Brocken. Such is a truthful sketch of the first Servian inn I entered—a picture which may be found repeated throughout the length and breadth of the country.

Grotshka, on the map, seems no great distance from Belgrade. The road, however, was so bad that it was dark before we reached it. The inn had one advantage, which the first we visited had not: it had a stove and a window; and when the door was opened, a score of swineherds, drovers, and peasants were dimly visible on the raised dais, which forms the sleeping place for all. On this a Turk was squatting, and quietly enjoying a narghilé. Around him were the drowsy forms of sleepy peasants; the cunning face of the Sinza trader peered amidst the smoke; and the *melandjiah* was quietly making coffee amidst the noise and uproar.

It may be well to remind the traveller who visits Servia that, for five weeks before Christmas-day and for seven before Easter, the Greek Church enacts a fast from everything but fish and vegetables. Accordingly, at Grotshka, beans and *pariblatsch* (a peppery soup of salted fish) was all the food that could be had. We rejoiced that some excellent *saucissons de Lyons*, a cold roast turkey, and sardines, from Bordeaux, were part of our stores, which enabled us to eke out the miserable Servian fare. But it was with a still more pleasurable sense that we laid out our well-prepared bed upon the boards of the inn, when we discovered that there were no separate rooms for travellers, and no beds to be had in Servia. There is no denying, however, that sleeping in one room, in company of twenty others, is a practice to which more civilised Europeans do not at first become reconciled. There is no general *esprit de convenance* which makes the silence on which sleep depends imperative. Those who fall asleep at six perhaps will rise at three, whilst others who go to roost at nine will possibly be up as late as six. There is, therefore, no single instant of silence or repose. Those who are accustomed to it, however, sleep in spite of noise. The only quiet and noiseless things about, are one or two varieties of the insect species, who are as indefatigable in their attacks as the noise is ceaseless. A Servian inn affords you every day what Punch's Eastern Correspondent has gracefully called an Arabian Night's Entertainment. "Late to bed, early to rise," is the result of such discomforts. The Servians and Turks, whose skins are hardened from early youth to every species of insect attack, get up as fresh as I would get up from a bed at Long's. The former, as they rise, devoutly say their "*cospodi pomilui*," bow down their heads as they make three times the sign of the cross, and depart on their errands; the Turks, more cleanly, wash themselves. And thus the scene is renewed each night and morning.

SERVIAN PEASANT.

Early dawn saw us on the road to Semendria. The way for a time remained as dull as that from Belgrade to Grotshka; but as the sun appeared above the hills, the Danube came in sight, its frozen surface glistening in the rays, whilst behind it, in the limpid atmosphere, lay the plains of the Banat and the mountains of Weisskirchen. If you have seen from Klosterneuburg, above Vienna, the hills that form the gorge in which the town of Presburg lies, then may you have a faint idea of the distant view from Grotshka of the mountains of Weisskirchen. There, not many years ago, a series of fearful engagements marked the quarrels of the Servians and the Hungarians. Weisskirchen, a strongly-fortified town, was taken and retaken twice. This quarrel between the Servians and Hungarians was a strange one. Previous to the break-out of the war between Austria and Hungary there had been a quarrel between the Magyars and the Croats, on the Banat, on a question of education. The Hungarians were desirous of imposing upon the Croats their language. This the Croats resisted, and they were numbered during the revolution amongst the enemies of Hungary. The Servians, whose antipathy to Austria is very great, were ready to join the Magyars; and many of their chiefs were at Pesth when the Hungarian army was at the gates of Vienna. But here, again, a false policy was pursued by the Magyar leaders, and the Servians were alienated by the same assumption which had deprived Hungary of the sympathy of the Croats. The more politic Servians, whilst refusing to be absorbed in the Hungarian nationality, determined even to return to their homes, others to fight the Austrians in Italy. Austria, however with considerable cleverness fomented the quarrel of the Servians and Hungarians, and then obtained well-timed assistance from the former. Hence the battles of Weisskirchen, which rank among the sharpest and best-contested of the Hungarian struggle.

SERVIAN PEASANT.

There is nothing so free or inspiriting as a glorious sunrise; and none was ever more so than on the occasion of our leaving Grotshka. At the foot of the Servian hills, which reared their forms to an enormous height upon the right, and casting bright reflections on the frozen Danube, towered the countless squares of the Roman fortress of Semendria; impregnable possibly at the period of the battering-ram, but of little use at present, though containing a small garrison. A pity it would be to see this stately edifice and splendid reminiscence destroyed by modern cannon-balls. Behind the fortress, and far away to the left, were stretched the ample folds of the Austrian landscape. The winter wind had not yet robbed the Servian oaks of their withered leaves; the sharp northern gusts had drifted almost all the snow into holes and gullies, the plains of the Banat, brown with reeds, lay broad and majestic in the morning sun, and the light blue hills in the distance formed a noble picture. What a contrast between the great remains of the Roman conquerors and the humble wooden, broad-brimmed, red-tiled, rickety cottages of the Servians. Of such the town of Semendria is entirely composed. There is but one house in the town that has more than a ground floor, and that belongs to a minister. Yet Semendria is a large trading city, through which the cotton traffic of Turkey passes on its way to Trieste. It furnishes with fish, caught in the Danube, almost half of Servia; and exports hides, tallow, and lard to foreign countries. It is in Semendria, also, that one begins to see real Servian peasant women. One rarely finds them about on the roads as they keep very much at home; but here they were marketing and bargaining at the little shops, in highly picturesque attire. Their white woollen robes are embroidered with blue and red list; they wear the sandal with a brown and red stocking; a white or red drapery hangs from the back of a species of comb or crown, adorned with silver, and sometimes golden coins; and collars of the same pieces adorn their necks. It is computed that in this species of ornament the Servian women altogether possess upwards of 10,000,000*l.*; a sacred fund, which is never touched except in times of war and peril, and when it becomes imperative to defend the national independence. The custom first arose apparently at the time of the Turkish inroads, the Osmanlies generally respecting the property on the persons of women, who thus became the safest repositories for Servian savings.

Pojarewacz, remarkable, perhaps, for little more than that its name is given to a well-known treaty with the Turks, is the second sleeping station on the road from Belgrade. From thence the country gradually rises till the road entwines itself amongst the gorges of the valley of the Pêk; whose precipitous sides barely give passage to the bullock-carts of the Servian peasantry. The magpies no longer peck their food from off the backs of swine; the trees no longer crowd the landscape, transformed into incipient haystacks, for in the lowlands the oaks appear to serve two purposes—the acorns feed the swine, and the twisted boughs are laden with the hay from the broad-leaved maize; but snow and ice are closely packed around, the mountains which roar above one on each side are peopled by bears, and the rocks are rich in lead and iron. The road through the gorges of the Pêk is generally in the bed of the river, and it seemed an inviting place for a brigand attack; but this in Servia is never known. The people bristling as they are with arms, their shining pistols and horn-hilted knives sticking out of their belts, are peaceful when they are not engaged against a foreign enemy. Their swine feed in the recesses of the forest, and afford them ample revenue. The land is rich in the yield of wheat and maize, and scarcely requires tilling; the population is thin, and here, certainly, "there is room enough for all." The valley of the Pêk opens as one ascends, its course until the village of Kruchenitza is reached, where one eats and sleeps in the usual unsatisfactory manner. The weather, which until we reached Semendria had been cold, became milder, and was quite genial in the valley of the Pêk; and it was under a pure and almost cloudless sky that Neresnitza, at the foot of a high range of mountains, was passed. From thence the road begins to ascend, and winds through the gorges of the chain of mountains, which, where they extend into Turkey, are called the Balkan. The mildness of the weather was very deceptive, however. Although on the plain below the snow was well nigh melted, and the sky was pure, we were not long to enjoy these advantages. The wind, as we advanced, appeared to sigh amongst the beeches; then the darkness of thick clouds enveloped us and the landscape. The snow under foot became higher, the fog drifting through the trees suspended to their branches large crystalline formations, which, dropping on the road, formed a rough and slippery medium. The horses' hoofs gradually sunk deeper and deeper, and soon a snow-drift appeared in sight, which it became evident it was impossible to pass. In vain attempts were made to turn this obstacle. The way was along the crest of a hog-backed mountain, and precipitous descents on both sides prevented all further passage. This most provoking barrier put an end to all hopes of reaching Widdin through the pass of Maidampêk; and, necessity compelling, our horses' heads (not reluctantly as regarded them) were turned, and after dark the village of Neresnitza, with its humble inn, was welcomed with considerable pleasure.

Rather than return to Pojarewacz—from which another and a longer road leads to Widdin—it was determined to strike across country, and join the road some distance forward. A guide, in the shape of the master of the inn at Neresnitza, promised to see us in safety through the cross roads, but decamped after seeing us to Milutzza, a village composed of mixed Wallachs and Servians. The whole of this portion of Servia is thus composed; and the Greek cap of the native is silvernailed by the sheep-skin covering of the Wallach. It is only since 1833 that this portion of the country has formed part of Servia, and has become independent. The people then were still rayahs, and retain in part the sullen manner of the Christian subjects of the Porte. The Servians are hospitable to a degree. At Sehetoh, a little village where it became necessary at night to repose, the largest house (which is the hall of justice) was heated and prepared for our repose, there being no sleeping-place in the tavern of the place; and your Correspondent was served at dinner by the mayor of the village, and attended by the *birou*, or policeman, who punctually came in to keep the fire up and to attend to his wants; and, further on, during the day, a second curious instance of the hospitable feeling was witnessed at a village. On passing a house, and asking the way, the master rushed out, accompanied by a priest and almost all his relatives. Each of them clamoured to have the honour of dragging us in to eat and drink at their expense. "Have some fish," said the master of the house; "Take wine," said the priest; "A bottle of raki," said a third; and so the chorus went round. But we refused the kind offers, left our half tipsy yet hospitable friends, and with difficulty escaped from a score of similar invitations from each house in the village. Two young men, as we went forth into the fields, were the last who cried "Take wine, take raki;" and our horses were put to speed to avoid their kind intentions. It seems that this was the anniversary of the patron saint of the village, and during three days feasting is the order of the day; and it is esteemed a special advantage to have strangers at the board. The priest, on these occasions, generally honours the feast with his presence. He is generally an humble man, paid chiefly by the proceeds of marriage ceremonies, baptisms, and burials, who earning a little theology at Belgrade, is sent by the Archbishop to his native village, where he at first acts as curate, and then succeeds his rector. The influence of the priest appeared to me to be considerable; if one may judge of this from the respect paid him by his parishioners, who kiss his hand, and pay him other marks of respect at his approach. In Russia it is not so the *popes*, or priest, is an object rather of ridicule than respect; but there he belongs to a country differently constituted from Servia. The priests in this country have asked to be entrusted with the right of education; but, as there is great jealousy of Russia, and as the Czar is protector of the Greek religion, the Servians refuse to allow their priests to meddle in the teaching of their children. In the primary schools—of which there are great numbers—there are lay teachers and the priest come every Sunday to give what religious instruction he may. The priests are appointed by the Archbishop of Belgrade, who himself is nominated by the Senate and Prince in conjunction.

Popowitz, on the main road to Negotin, was ultimately reached in safety; and Chuprier, a large town on the Moldava, was a resting-place for the night. The road then leads to Krivivir, and across the mountains to Bohowacz. Here the snow rendered the road again hardly passable. The hurricane which blew at Belgrade on the day of our departure had filled the roads with snow, uprooted scores of large trees which had fallen crosswise, and whose boughs impeded travelling. Three days elapsed before we came in sight of Zaichar, and then an open road brought us to our present quarters in Negotin.

THE LATE SNOW-STORM.

The metropolis, on Sunday, so far as the state of its main thoroughfares was concerned, bore little resemblance to the London of Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday last, when its streets were piled with a mixture of snow and mud, through which omnibuses, cabs, and foot passengers pushed their way with difficulty. The rain, which commenced to fall on Friday evening, and continued at intervals throughout the night, with a total absence of frost, resuming again about ten o'clock on Saturday morning, and pouring down without intermission until about three o'clock, completely changed the aspect of the metropolis. The mud became liquid, while the action of the rain, united with the mildness of the temperature, speedily converted huge masses of snow into water. The effect of this upon the streets was such that, on level spots, a series of ponds were formed upon the roadways, the footways at the same time being often overflowed, owing to the stoppage of the water channels through the accumulated snow. On the other hand, where the slightest declivity existed, the water in the earlier part of the day rushed down like a torrent, sweeping mud and snow before it. This was especially the case on Ho born-hill, where a vast body of snow lay heaped up till Friday night, and through which street orderlies were employed in making and keeping clear a channel to the gullies, so as to prevent the lower part of Farringdon-street from becoming flooded. A number of dust carts belonging to the parish contractors were drawn up and down the streets with beams attached behind by means of chains, and which, sweeping along the surface, compressed the water from the snow, and speedily cleared the carriage way. In the earlier part of the morning few cabs were out, but towards the middle of the day they were fully equal to the usual supply. This was also the case with the omnibuses; few vehicles of either description driving the extra cattle which they had been compelled to use on the previous days. On Sunday the action of the thaw had been so complete, that the principal streets of the metropolis generally resumed their ordinary aspect.

Some alarm was felt lest the sudden thaw might cause destructive floods in low-lying districts. The weight of water brought from the uplands sloping to the Medway was so great, that the river gradually rose during the night to an alarming height, overflowing its banks and flooding the neighbouring fields and meadows to a far greater extent than during the floods which occurred on the 20th and 21st of October last, and which occasioned the loss of a number of lives at Hadlow. At Maidstone the paths and wharfs on each side of the river were placed completely under water, which, in passing under the bridge, assumed the wild strength of a torrent. The cellars of the houses near the bridge were filled with water.

On Saturday most distressing information was received from the various coast-guard and Coast Guard stations, giving in detail the disastrous effects of the late snow-storm along the north-east and west coasts, which not only involves an immense destruction of property, but a no considerable loss of life. From the accounts received, it would appear that not less than 120 vessels were driven on shore at various points on the coast, most of which, from the violence and continuance of the storm, have become total wrecks, their cargoes lost, and many valuable lives sacrificed: and it is feared, from the large quantity of wreck that is to be seen floating in the channel, that a number of wrecks have occurred at sea by collisions occasioned by the extreme opacity caused by the falling snow.

Several persons were frozen to death during the storm. A travelling tinman and his two little boys were seized by the frost when making their way from Sheffield to Glossop. They were found standing against a wall—the father with his legs frozen stiff, and his two children by the arms, one on the other, dead! The father survives. A man was found dead by the roadside near Barnesgreen, towards Maidstone; a woman was lost in a drift at Oldham; a man was burned to death at Heywood by falling against the furnace of a locomotive engine upon which he was warming himself; and a child was lost in the snow at the same place, but was recovered after a long and painful search; and it is feared that upon the moors in the West Riding of Yorkshire, east of Lancashire, and in Derbyshire, many casualties have occurred.

EDINBURGH.—The frost broke up on Saturday, a rapid thaw, with a drizzling sleet, having set in about one o'clock, which soon converted the ice and trodden snow on the streets and pavements into a mush and water. In passing along the pavements during the progress of the thaw process, passengers could not fail to remarken some those negligent shopkeepers and householders whose portions of the foot-path were left to become puddles almost ankle deep.

"SNOWED-UP."—The Rev. G. W. Brameld, M.A., of Lincoln College, Vicar of East Markham with West Drayton, Nottinghamshire, was appointed to preach before the Oxford University on Friday, being Epiphany; but he telegraphed to appoint his Vice-Chancellor, that he could not come in consequence of the railway being blocked up with the snow.

WRECK OF A STEAMER.—The steamer *Yorkshireman* was totally wrecked during the storm of last week. On Wednesday, at half-past two o'clock p.m., she left Morecambe with only one passenger, and, although it was blowing a strong gale, proceeded satisfactorily until she came in sight of the lighthouse at Donaghadee. The Copeland light was not observable, owing to the snow squalls; and the intention of the captain being to keep to the right of the Copelands, and to shun the Sound, dangerous on such a night, he imagined that he was doing so when he sailed to the right of the light which was visible, but which proved to be the lighthouse of Donaghadee. By this mistake he was led into the very danger which he had endeavoured to avoid, and the first apprisal of it was the striking of the steamer, at half past eight o'clock p.m., upon a bed of rocks, about a mile to the north west of Donaghadee. The fore compartment immediately filled with water, and in a short time the stern canted towards the north; and scarcely an hour had elapsed from the time at which she struck, when she was broken in two at the fore part of the paddle box; and the bow portion twisted round till it was at right angles with the remainder of the vessel. About a quarter past twelve, the bow portion began to break up, and it then became evident to Captain Sully that it would be folly to risk any further the lives of those aboard, as there was no prospect of their being able to render the smallest assistance towards the saving of the vessel or her cargo; accordingly the boats were lowered, and, at half-past twelve o'clock the mate, with two or three others, including the pas-senger, dropped down under the ship's quarter, and at one o'clock one of the quarter boats with a crew of seven persons, got also under the shelter of the stern. There they remained until seven o'clock on Thursday morning, during which time signal lights were kept burning and pistols firing with unabated constancy by the people on shore. At seven o'clock the quarter-boat left the vessel, and having made to a particular spot indicated by the burning of a large blue-light, succeeded, with great difficulty and at considerable danger, in effecting a landing, in which they were a short time afterwards followed by the life-boat and her crew.

A LONDON STREET SCENE DURING THE LATE FROST.

THE LATE SNOW-STORM.

THE STREETS OF LONDON.

In our Journal of last week we recorded the most remarkable effects of the great fall of snow, which commenced on Tuesday night, and continued during part of Wednesday morning; by which the traffic of the metropolis suffered an interruption so great as forcibly to remind one of the inconvenience experienced from the great Cab Strike, with the addition of an Omnibus Desertion. Such a great fall of snow had not been remembered in the metropolis for many years: many of the inhabitants found their homes almost blocked up, the strong easterly wind having drifted the snow in some parts to a height of three feet above the doors and area railings. The scraping and shovelling of the snow from the footpath, according to the Police Act, and the shooting of it into the carriage-way, soon formed an additional obstruction to the passage of the few conveyances in the roads. Early on Wednesday morning the streets presented a truly desolate appearance; and, later in the day, the omnibuses were "few and far between;" and these were mostly drawn by three, and even four, horses attached to them. Of the cabs, fully one-half of those out were drawn by two horses *tandem*.

THE RAILWAY.

But the most serious interruption to the course of metropolitan business arose from the effect of the snow blocking up the various lines of railway, owing to which the mail and other trains were delayed to an extent unknown for many years past; and, probably, unprecedented since the introduction of the railway system.

Our Illustration represents one of these instances of railway obstruction—a blocked-up train—where the snow was up to the buffer-beam of an engine, sufficient to stop a train, as the wheels became clogged, and would not go round. To free the train, the men, with spades or scoops, clear the rails for eight or ten feet at a time; when, however, the snow drifted down from the top of the cutting, thus filling up nearly as fast as the men cleared.

The scene of the Engraving is this operation at night.

SCENE IN THE POOL OF THE THAMES.

The severity of the late weather has been felt more or less in everything connected in any way with commerce; but perhaps nothing in the mercantile world has suffered more from the effects of the inclement season than the shipping interest: frightful storms and wrecks, frozen rivers and detained shipping, have been unhappily the order of the day; and the commencement of 1854 will be remembered by all as unparalleled in the history of cold weather.

Our Sketch represents the river as it appeared on Wednesday week. For some days previously the ice had increased to such an extent as to render the navigation of the river above bridge not only difficult and dangerous, but so destructive to the bows and paddles of the steam-vessels plying between London, Chelsea, Woolwich, and other parts of the Thames, that it became necessary to discontinue running them; which, coupled with the scarcity of vehicles and doubtful travelling on land, occasioned an amount of public inconvenience unequalled on any previous occasion.

Under the circumstances before noticed the river assumed a most

RAILWAY TRAIN IN THE SNOW.

THE THAMES BELOW BRIDGE, DURING THE LATE FROST.

forlorn appearance, being, at high water, a field of moving ice, with occasionally a solitary coal barge vainly endeavouring to make the shore through the mass of obstruction which surrounded it; and at the bottom tide it assumed a still more wretched aspect—immense blocks of ice and frozen mud (in some instances seven and eight feet thick) entirely filling the distance between high and low-water mark, and giving the banks of the river the appearance of a miniature polar region.

Below bridge the numerous steamers and other craft, which line either side of the Pool, became totally surrounded by the floating ice; and their moorings affording facilities for the stoppage of the blocks of ice, they quickly became completely surrounded, and at certain times of the tide so perfectly was the Thames covered that but for the strong current of the stream, the river must have again become stopped for some distance below London-bridge. Altogether, the dark gloomy sky and falling snow, the ice-covered and deserted river, the bitter cutting wind, and the absence of the busy scene which usually pervades the Pool of the river, caused Father Thames to assume an appearance which has rarely been witnessed.

SHIPWRECKS AND LOSS OF LIFE AT TYNEMOUTH.

On the morning of Wednesday week, while the snow-storm was raging over the greater part of England, one of the most destructive gales that has been seen for many years was experienced on the east coast. On the day previous no less than 1300 vessels left Yarmouth Roads, with a fair wind, the greater number of them bound for the northern ports. That evening the storm began, and the result was that a great many vessels were driven on shore at various parts of the coast.

At Tynemouth great destruction of life and property took place during the storm, but the most melancholy accident was the shipwreck of the schooner *Eliza*, of Kirkwall, with eight or nine men on board, all of whom perished. The ill-fated vessel approached the Bar about eleven o'clock on Wednesday morning, during the height of the storm, and in a few minutes she became unmanageable, and capsized. As she emerged from the waves, the crew were observed in the chains and fore rigging. The vessel then neared the shore, her topmast fell, and a poor fellow was seen crawling up towards the cross-trees in the mainmast, holding on for life. He was distinctly seen to make desperate efforts to retain his hold, but as the vessel plunged violently into the surf of the sea, he lost it, and his foot having got entangled with a piece of rope, he hung by his leg, with his head downwards, and, as the vessel fell, his head came in violent contact with the mast, by which he must have been instantly killed. The vessel drove nearer and nearer the shore, and at every plunge, the body of the man hanging by the leg was dipped into the sea, and then hurled into the air. At this time three of the crew were seen in the main rigging and two in the fore rigging, lifting up their hands for assistance; but the rockets could not reach them, and there was nothing but a small model life-boat, manned with five hands, who attempted to reach the vessel in order, if possible, to save some of the crew, but they had not proceeded far before the boat filled, and it was with considerable difficulty that they themselves reached the shore in safety. Another attempt was equally unsuccessful. Indeed it would have been instant death to all in the boat if they had dared to approach the wreck, as the sea was making a complete breach over the schooner, every wave dipping her crew over head in the sea. Two seamen went on board the barque *Sir Rober*

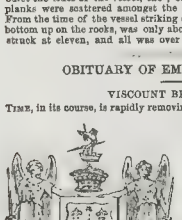
WRECKS ON THE COAST.—TYNEMOUTH.

Peel, which was stranded, and under whose stern the schooner was driven, and, having got a line, affixed an oar to it, and threw it in the direction of the ill-fated vessel; but the line reached the schooner, but the poor fellows were so exhausted they could not take advantage of this assistance. By-and-by a huge wave washed one man out of the fore rigging; and the vessel made three or four more lurches after which it seemed to subside towards the haven, and many a prayer was breathed for the drowning men who were still piteously crying for help, and lifting their hands above their heads, as another huge wave broke over and buried the vessel beneath. The crowd of spectators held their breath, and when the vessel rose again, those who had struggled so long, dying inch by inch, struggled no more, except one bald-headed seaman, who had been washed by the wave from the main rigging into the waist of the vessel, and who was seen for a minute, as the vessel drove away towards the point. His face was turned to the people on the shore with a despairing look for assistance, and his hands were pointed towards heaven. Soon, too, his trials and struggles were ended; for another sea struck the vessel and turned her bottom up, extinguishing the life of the poor fellow, and hiding in an instant the miserable spectacle presented by the body of his unhappy shipmate. The pent up air having burst the sides of the vessel, tubs, casks, sailors' hammocks, and loose planks were scattered amongst the waves, and the sad sight closed. From the time of the vessel striking on the Herd Sand until she turned bottom up on the rocks, was only about three-quarters of an hour. She struck at eleven, and all was over by a quarter to twelve.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

VISCOUNT BERESFORD.

TIME, in its course, is rapidly removing from amongst us those stalwart chieftains who, on either side, have made the late war a glorious and imperishable theme. All the Marshals of the great Napoleon are now dead: our own mighty Captain, when the vault of St. Paul's closed over him, left few of his attendant warriors behind him. One of the last was the subject of this notice—William Beresford—a soldier whose daring and brilliant deeds have placed him in fair juxtaposition with Murat, Ney, and other paladins of the opponent Imperial host.



William Carr Beresford—Viscount Beresford, Baron Beresford of Albuera, and of Dungarvon, co. Waterford; a General in the British Army, Governor of Jersey, P.C., G.C.B., G.C.S., K.T.S., K.S.F., K.S.H., Colonel-in Chief of the 60th Foot, Colonel of the 16th Foot, Duke of Elvas, Marquis of Campo-Mayor and Count Francoso, a Field-Marshal of Portugal, and a Captain-General of Spain—was the son of George De la Poer, first Marquis of Waterford. William Carr Beresford was born in 1770, and entered the British army in 1785. His first services were performed in Nova Scotia, his next at Toulon. He fought through the Egyptian campaign in 1800. He then, as Brigadier-General, commanded in Southern America, and seized upon Buenos-Ayres, but was at length forced to yield to numbers, and became a prisoner of war to the French. He escaped from captivity in 1807. After some armed assistance rendered to the Royal family of Portugal, and, after acting as Governor and Commander-in-Chief in Madeira, Beresford became a leader in the Peninsular struggle. His military career is embodied in the history of that victorious war. He was with Sir John Moore at Corunna. On the 28th of April, 1808, the rank of Major-General was conferred upon Beresford; and in February, 1809, he was ordered to proceed a second time to Portugal, for the purpose of taking the command of the army of that kingdom, under the authority of the Prince Regent of Portugal, with the local rank of Lieutenant General. His appointment as Marshal Commanding (Sir Arthur Wellesley being Marshal-General and Commander-in-Chief of the Portuguese) was made on the 1st of March, 1809; and placing himself, as soon as possible, at the head of 12,000 men, he, with chivalrous valour, attacked the French in the north of Portugal, crossed the Upper Douro, drove Loison's division back to Oporto, and there, with Sir Arthur Wellesley under Sir Arthur Wellesley pursued the retreating enemy till that division of the French army was utterly disorganised. Beresford, then, entirely re organised and re-disciplined the Portuguese army, and, on the 27th August, 1810, led them to the victory of Busaco. For this he was created a Knight of the Bath. Upon many memorable occasions Sir William Beresford performed the duties of a General of Division; and not one among the illustrious leaders who contributed to the military renown of England during the campaigns of Spain and Portugal, ever displayed more ability, daring, or devotion, in carrying out the instructions of his commander.

Having resumed, in 1811, an independent and separate command, he won gainst Soult, on the 16th May of that year, the sanguinary and memorable battle of Albuera, where he personally displayed prodigies of valour. This victory gained him the thanks of Parliament. In the subsequent course of the war, Sir William Bere-ford was present at Badajos, where the Duke of Wellington marked his conduct with especial approbation; at Salamanca, where he was severely wounded; at Victoria; at the various battles in the Pyrenees; at Nivelle, where he led the right of the centre; at Nive; and at Orthez. He commanded the British troops which took possession of Bordeaux, and he subsequently bore a distinguished part in the battle of Toulouse. He was raised to the peerage as Baron Beresford, the 17th May, 1814, and a grant of £2000 per annum was made to himself and the two next inheritors of the title; but he died without issue. Soon after his return to this country the city of London presented him with a valuable sword; and in July, 1815, he received the acknowledgments and thanks of the Prince Regent; and he obtained various honours both British and foreign.

In the latter end of the summer of 1815, Lord Beresford was commissioned to proceed to Portugal, for the purpose of negotiating with respect to the support to be rendered by that country against the enemies of England; but the necessity for any aid from Portugal soon passed away; and Lord Beresford continued to maintain so good an understanding with the Portuguese Government, that within two years from that time he was employed by them to proceed to Rio Janeiro, where he suppressed a conspiracy that at first threatened to be formidable. In the year 1822 he received the appointment of Lieutenant-General of the Ordnance, the command of the 16th Foot, and became a Viscount. In 1825 he was promoted to the rank of General in the army; and, when the Duke of Wellington became Head of the Government in 1828, Viscount Beresford served under him as Master-General of the Ordnance, which office he held till the Whigs came into power, in November, 1830; when his public career ended.

Viscount Beresford married on the 29th Nov., 1832, Louisa, youngest daughter of William Beresford, Lord Decies, Archbishop of Tuam, and widow of Thomas Hope, Esq., of Deepdene, Surrey. By this lady, who died the 21st July, 1851, he leaves no issue. Viscount Beresford departed this life on the 8th inst., at his seat, Bedgebury Park, near Goodhurst, Kent.

The late Rear-Admiral Sir John Poer Beresford, of Bagnall, county of Waterford, K.C.B., K.T.S., was Viscount Beresford's brother.

A more copious and detailed account of the distinguished services of Viscount Bere-ford, with a fine Portrait, from a painting by Reuben Sayers, appeared in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for Dec. 18, 1852.

WILLIAM CONYNGHAM, LORD PLUNKET.

THE family of Plunket, from which Lord Plunket descended, claimed to be a branch of that from which springs the noble house of Louth. His Lordship's father was the Rev. Thomas Plunket, a minister of the Church of Scotland, officiating in Dublin; and his mother, Mary, sister of Redmond Conyngham, Esq. He was the Rev. Thomas Plunket's second son; the late Dr. Plunket, an eminent physician, was the elder. This second son, William Conyngham Plunket, was born at Enniskillen in July, 1764, he was educated at Trinity College, Dublin, where he obtained a scholarship, taking his degree of B.A. He was called to the Irish bar in 1787. His speedy success in the legal profession soon brought him into public notice; he entered the Irish House of Commons as member for the borough of Charlemont; and henceforward, for more than half a century, the name of Plunket stood prominent in almost every parliamentary or legal event that occupied the attention of his country. At the trials consequent upon the rebellion of 1798. Mr. Plunket appeared among the counsel for the defence. He displayed much forensic ability in his speech in favour of the unfortunate Henry Sheares, who, together with his brother, John Sheares—both barristers and gentlemen of family and station—was convicted of high treason, and suffered the penalty of the law. Mr. Plunket, after voting against the Legislative Union, still d himself more closely with the high Whig party, and, in the proceedings for another re-ellion, or rather insurrection that of Emmett and others, in 1803—Mr. Plunket was one of the counsel for the Crown. At the trial of the unhappy and misguided leader of the conspiracy, Mr Plunket's conduct gave rise to some animadversion. The prisoner, it seems, had addressed no evidence in his own behalf, nor had a speech been delivered for him, yet Mr Plunket insisted on the exercise of his right to a reply, which he made with an energy rather unusual on such occasions. This was thought to come with less grace from him, as he had been the known intimate friend and frequent guest of the prisoner's father, Dr. Emmett. William Cobbett, in his *Political Register*, commented so violently on what Mr. Plunket had done, that the latter brought an action for libel against him, in 1804, in the King's Bench, Westminster, and recovered £100 damages. Meanwhile, Mr. Plunket's advance went rapidly on. Three months after Robert Emmett's execution he became Solicitor-General for Ireland; and, shortly after, Attorney-General and a Privy Councillor.

Mr. Plunket resigned office, with his party, in May, 1807; his extensive business had by that time, placed him at the head of the Irish bar. In every Chancery suit he appeared as leading counsel, and continued in the undisputed enjoyment of his position from 1807 till 1827; in the course of which period his fees, exclusive of professional gains during the preceding twenty years, could not have amounted to less than £120,000, or an average income of £6000 per annum. In 1807 Mr. Plunket had become a member of the British House of Commons. He sat first, for a short time, for Midhurst; and, subsequently, in 1812, he was returned for Dublin University. His first important speech—one in favour of Catholic Emancipation—achieved his success in the imperial senate—a success which lasted throughout his subsequent Parliamentary course of fifteen years.

In 1822 Mr. Plunket was again Irish Attorney-General. In 1827 he was elevated to the Irish bench as Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, and created a Peer of the United Kingdom, as Baron Plunket, of Newtown, county Cork. In 1830 he became Lord Chancellor of Ireland. This high office he held, with the exception of an interval of four months in 1834-5, until 1841, when he was succeeded by Lord Campbell. Lord Plunket, then seventy-six years of age, retired into private life. He died at his seat, Old Connaught, Wicklow, on the 4th inst.

Such was the career of Willliam Conyngham Plunket. a man who, without attaining actual greatness, was most useful to the State. He had intellectual powers of a very high order, and he knew well how to employ them. His sound sense and cool judgment—his constant care, too, of his own interests—steadied his natural ardour, and made his talents subservient to his own and the public advantage. He may have been blamed by the more fiery politicians of his country and party; but there is no doubt he long and extensively benefited more than contributed to the dignity, stability, and reputation of the bar and Government in Ireland, than Chancellor Plunket. Lord Plunket married, in 1791, Catherine, only daughter of John McCausland, Esq., of Strabane, M.P. for the county of Donegal by whom he had six sons and four surviving daughters: of the latter, the eldest, Elizabeth is the widow of the Rev Sir Francis Lynch Blosse, Bart; and the third, Isabella, wife of Henry Gunn, Esq., of Burleigh, county Wexford. The sons are:—1. Thomas, Bishop of Tuam, now second Lord Plunket, who is married to Louisa Jane, daughter of J. W. Foster, Esq., of Fanevalley, and has four daughters; 2. John, Q.C., who married a daughter of the late Chief Justice Burke; 3. David, Examiner in the Irish Court of Common Pleas; 4. William Conyngham, in holy orders. Rector of Bray; 5. Patrick, a Commissioner of Bankrupts in Ireland, and 6. Robert, in holy orders, Dean of Tuam.

SIR RICHARD GODIN SIMEON, BART.

SIR RICHARD SIMEON died on the 4th inst., at Swainston, Isle of Wight in the seventieth year of his age, being the eldest son of Sir John Simeon, M.P. for Reading, Senior-master of the Court of Chancery, who was, in 1811, at the head of the commission for placing in trust the real and personal estate of King George III. during his Majesty's illness. Lady Simeon, Sir Richard's mother, was the eldest daughter of John Cornwall, Esq., of Hendon House, Middlesex.

Sir Richard was born 21st May, 1784; and married, 8th April, 1813, Sarah Keith, eldest Daughter and co-heir of Sir Ratcliffen Barrington, Bart. of Swainston, Isle of Wight and Barrington Hall, Essex; and by that lady (who had a right to quarter the Royal Arms of England), he leaves several children; of whom the eldest son, now Sir John Simeon, third Baronet, married, in 1840, Jane Maria, only daughter of Sir F. T. Baker, Bart., at in Parliament, for the Isle of Wight, from 1847 to 1851, when he relinquished his seat on becoming a Colonel. Sir Richard, whose decease we record, succeeded his father in 1824, and served as High Sheriff of Hampshire in 1846. He was also the first member for the Isle of Wight, when made a county for Parliamentary purposes, under the Reform Act, and continued to represent the island until compelled by ill-health to resign. He was well known as a scientific and practical agriculturalist. Sir Richard was lineal representative of the ancient family of Simeon of Brightwell and Syrton, county Oxon, which for some generations enjoyed a previous Baronetcy created in 1677.

WILLS.—The will of the Right Hon. Valentine Browne, Viscount Castlerosse, and Earl of Kenmare, was proved in London by his widow and relict, the Countess of Kenmare; the personal by England, and within the province of Canterbury, being sworn under £35,000. To the Countess he has bequeathed the £2000 bequest, besides an annuity of £500 a year under settlement, also the house and furniture at Belgrave-square, and the linen, pictures, &c., at the mansion at Killarney, and all plate, enumerated in a list, amongst other articles 100 silver handled knives, and a large quantity of silver forks and spoons, all carriages and horses. The manor of Hendtal, and his estates in Limerick, he leaves to his brother, the present Earl of Kenmare, who is also appointed residuary legatee of the real and personal estates, and an executor. To his servants he has left annuities. His Lordship was a Privy Councillor for Ireland, and a Trustee of the College of Maynooth.—The will of General Sir Augustus De Butts, K.C.B., has been proved in London by his sons, Augustus De Butts, and James Whitshed De Butts, Esqrs., two of the executors; the personality in England being estimated at £10,000. This property, together with his estates in Dublin, he leaves to trustees to raise annuities for his widow, Lady De Butts, and his four sons. There are some minor and other bequests to a few of his relatives.

SUSPECTED HOCUSSING AND MURDER.—An old female miser named Mary Anne Allan, lately disappeared in a mysterious manner from her home near Brookes' market, Leather-lane. No trace of her was obtained till Friday last, when she was discovered leaning against the area railings of a house in Greville-street, Hatton-garden, partly unconscious, with a severe wound across her forehead. The poor creature was immediately assisted home, and taken to her room, where she was left to herself, the people in the house not apprehending danger, and she having an objection to any one entering her apartment. As she did not make her appearance during Saturday, the landlord became alarmed, and on Monday morning sent for the police, who, on entering her room, found her lying dressed and quite insensible upon the floor. Medical assistance was instantly called in, but she died in a few hours after the surgeon's arrival. On examining the wound across the frontal bone, it appeared to have been produced by a blunt instrument. The police have been making inquiries after the guilty parties, but hitherto without success. They have ascertained, however, that the poor old woman was turned out of a cab on the spot, and in the unconscious state in which she was found, by a man who then rapidly drove off. It is supposed that she has been the victim of hocussing and brutal treatment at the hands of some miscreants, who thought, no doubt, that the deceased carried a large sum of money about her, in consequence of her reported wealth and miserly habits. Upon searching her room, the police and coroner's officer discovered a quantity of plate, money, and other valuables, which they immediately secured.

THE LONDON CORPORATION.—THE CITY POLICE AND THIEVES' SANCTUARY.

THE tenacity with which the people of England cling to an old-established custom, even after the custom has been shown to be useless, or perhaps injurious, is proverbial. They hate changes. The fear of something worse makes them support with all their power things equivocal, and submit to that which is wrong. This partly accounts for the strong conservative feeling recognised everywhere, even among the stoutest Radicals, in matters where political prejudices do not enter. It is this feeling that makes some of the worst legislative enactments unpopular for awhile. The far-seeing statesman is, however, aware of the fact, and is prepared to endure the obloquy of the censorious, when satisfied that the good of the nation has been consulted in the change.

In nothing has this prejudice of the people been more strikingly exhibited than in the reception of the New Police Act, introduced by Sir Robert Peel; yet it is probable that were the people of England polled to-morrow, there is no independent act of the deceased statesman that would receive so unanimous a vote of confidence, as the measure to which we have referred. The dogged and unreasoning antagonism of some portion of the weekly press, excited much discussion at the time the law was enacted, and now the metropolitan police enjoy the unlimited confidence of the public. This change in the popular opinion is mainly attributable to the judicious conduct of the Commissioner and his many able superintendents.

A measure so general, and embracing the whole of the metropolis, received, as usual, the severest opposition from the Corporation of the City of London. They had their Marshals, Marshalmen, and their ancient watch, and required no new-fangled troop of mere—spies or soldiers in disguise—to protect the property of the citizens. They met, they spoke, they petitioned, and they prayed Government to exclude the magical district of the City from the operation of the dreaded measure. In this they succeeded; and were supported by the "fast" men of the City. The "old Charleys" being their pet amusement. When heated with wine, or the victims of *ennui*, they got rid of the effervescence of the one and the depressive effect of the other, by a nocturnal attack on the ricketty watch-boxes and their slumbering occupants.

We remember the late Sir Matthew Wood describing with much gusto the enjoyment the young men of his day had in their attacks on the gouty watchmen. They would quietly watch the jaded officer of peace into his box, then stealthily approach, and at a given signal upset it, face downward, and hilariously dance on the top, keeping time to the melancholy moanings of the half-stifled and quite overthrown protector of the property of the City.

A few years' experience of the admirable conduct of the new force induced the City to apply for an Act of Parliament, giving them the power of introducing a similar force into the City, of which the Corporation should have the entire control The present Corporation was forgiven its former opposition, the bill passed, and the City police force was established. A more efficient body of men could not possibly be found, and we believe that no fault has ever been found with them. Our objection to the City police is not in regard to the efficiency of the man, but in respect to its independent jurisdiction, from which many evils flow.

First, there is the unnecessary multiplication of highly-paid officers. If one commissioner of police is sufficient for nineteen-twentieths of the metropolis, surely the addition of the twentieth part, constituting the City and the cent e, would not unduly add to the labours of his office. One additional superintendent might be required to assist him, but that would be all. A considerable expense would, of course, be saved, and perfect unity of action secured. Under our present conflicting jurisdiction, there are some singular anomalies, which could not arise if all were placed under the power o one central authority. A single anomaly will serve to show the absurdity of the system, and perhaps surprise our readers. Few well informed men will believe that, under our police regulations, there is virtually created, in the centre of the metropolis, a *Thieves' Sanctuary*.

There are three classes of police exercising authority in the valley of London. These are—the Thames police, whose authority is confined to the river; the metropolitan police, whose functions extend to the river side; and the City police, whose authority does not extend below high-water mark, or, in other words, cannot go beyond the wharves on the banks of the river. It happens that, between high water and low-water mark, there is left, at every tide, a considerable strip of land or mud; and as the City police cannot go beyond high-water mark, and the Thames police have no power off the river, it necessarily arises that, from the Temple to the Tower, the shoals left bare by the receding tide are really under the control of the metropolitan police; yet as that force has no authority on the river, nor on the shores watched by the City police, there is virtually no police whatever, and it becomes a refuge for rascality. The absurdity of such a system requires no comment; but, it is another of those evils which arises from the obstructive policy of an effete Corporation, whose days are numbered. How puerile must be the Government that can longer permit such a condition of things to exist. The safety of life and security to property alike demand that all these artificial barriers should be broken down, and the entire area of the metropolis placed under one responsible authority so far as police is concerned; and thus would be saved the expense of one commissioner, several superintendents, and all the expense connected with the police committee of the city of London.

Mr Commissioner Harvey and his subordinates are doubtless able men; but they are not needed, and therefore ought to be dispensed with.

Under the old *régime* the heads of the City watch were the Marshals and their men. The Marshalmen have been deposed or pensioned. The duties of the Marshals are considerably circumscribed; but the officers are retained, and their salaries paid. It will hardly be credited that the united salaries of the Upper and Under Marshals, who are now-a-days only ornamental officers at the Mansion house, wearing laced uniforms and cocked hats, form an amount somewhat larger than is paid to the City Commissioner of Police, to whom and the force under him is confided the safety of all the property in the City, which, in the aggregate, must be reckoned by hundreds of millions of pounds sterling.

This is another illustration of the abuses of the Corporation in its retaining officers at high salaries, whose duties are nil, and whose offices ought to have been abolished when a new system of things was introduced. This, and other matters, will come under the cognizance of the Royal Commission, and will, doubtless, be amended. Much stress will probably be laid on the fact that towards the expense of the police force within the City boundary, the Corporation contributes annually out of its own funds the large sum of £10,000. But, as all the property left in trust to the City was really intended to be expended for the well-being of those residing within its limits, it matters little whether the £10,000 is paid towards watching, or in aid of improvements; as all additional sums required must be the product of a tax on commodities, or a rate levied for a distinct and definite purpose. We might multiply our facts and arguments, and swell their proportions immensely; but we believe that what we have stated will be sufficient to convince the metropolitan public that nothing valuable will be lost—no good perilled—but much advantage gained, by the establishment of a central authority in the matter of police.

A preliminary announcement has been made of a company, with a proposed capital of £250,000, for mining coals in the district of Burdwan, Bengal Presidency.

LITERATURE.

"THE REVIVAL OF POETRY."

THERE is some talk amongst professed critics, of what they are pleased to call "the Revival of Poetry." But a revival presupposes a state either of decease, or of torpidity; and, with all deference to critics, we are not aware that either of these calamities has in our day, befallen poetry. There is, how ver, a public taste, which is sometimes capricious, and which generally needs direction; and which for the last twenty years has turned a deaf ear to the claims of all, or nearly all, the new poets that have arisen in the interval, to exclaim "*Noi anche siamo poeti*"—and to demand the wreath of laurel and a niche in the great Temple of Parnassus. What we are so glad to observe as characteristic of the literature of the present day, is not, therefore, to be considered a revival of poetry, so much as a revival of poetic appreciation. Even within the last quarter of a century, there has not ceased to exist a class of readers of refined and cultivated taste; persons excessively difficult to please, and qualified by innate taste and the study of the best writers, to distinguish true from false poetry—the gold coin with the genuine ring of the mint of Apollo, from the base metal of Brummagem. But poetry has not been fashionable during that period, unless it were the poetry of the great authors who had died, and stood in nobody's way. The arbiters of fashionable literature were loth to admit that gentlemen who might be seen in the streets, at the Clubs, and at the theatres, and that might now and then be met with at an evening party, were entitled to rank with men who slept in Westminster Abbey. It pleased the critics and some clever writers to make fun fashionable, and to elevate slang above philosophy. New poetry did not sell. Many great booksellers, who had made fortunes by selling guinea and two-guinea quarto volumes of poetry—and who did not understand or approve the craving of the great mass of readers for cheap literature—stood aloof from all novelty in poetry, finding quite enough to do in turning their old copyrights to account. They made it their business to introduce the "old hands," who had so long wrought for them, to the numerous class who could not afford guinea and half-guinea volumes, and who thought five shillings a large sum to pay for a portion of Wordsworth, when they could get the whole of Milton for less money. The mass of readers were, at the same time, quite contented with Shelley, and Campbell, and Rogers, and Coleridge, and Southey, and Byron, and Moore. The last age was so prolific of poets that the public had not leisure even to make the acquaintance of the members of that brilliant galaxy—to say nothing of the new generation of writers that were ostracised by the fashionable bibliopolists, and pooh-poohed by the herd of criticasters. And always—with the exception of the select few who thoroughly enjoy and appreciate good poetry—the gentle public was but too apt to confound verse with poetry—a mistake as unpardonable as it would be to consider a purse full of copper as valuable as a purse full of gold. But, in spite of all this, the sun shone, the trees blossomed, the birds sang, the human heart throbbed with love and hope, and the clear current of poetry rolled its refreshing waves in the highways as well as in the by-ways of life. Critics no longer made the reputation of poets; the poets made their own—by a slower process, no doubt, but in all probability by a surer one. The absurdity of the idea that in any age of the world there could, in a civilised country, be any real distaste for true poetry, became gradually more and more apparent; and the false critics were reduced to the dilemma either of denying altogether a public taste for genuine poetry, or of denying poetic genius in the existing generation of writers. Both horns of this dilemma were successively clung to, and successively abandoned; for new poets actually appeared, and the public (by slower degrees than formerly) actually recognised them. But the faith in poetry never died out, either among the poets themselves, or among the choice readers, who were competent to form an opinion, and who had leisure to judge for themselves. The sacred fire still burned, and the vestals still continued to guard it. M. De Lamartine published in 1834 a pamphlet entitled "The Destinies of Poetry," in which he stated his belief that never at any previous period were there "such profound symptoms of a deep spirit of poetry pervading, not only France, but all Europe; and that the poet who should respond to this feeling by becoming the poet of the people and singing in popular strains their wants, their feelings, and their affections—the poet who should interpret nature to the people, and explain to them, in their own language, all the goodness, elevation, generosity, patriotism, and pious enthusiasm implanted by God in their hearts, was the poet demanded by the age, for whom the people were athirst." He defined poetry to be "the guardian angel of humanity in every age;" and he was right. The voice of song declared itself, and was always on the side of the people. True genius always is on that side, for truth is universal, not particular, and appeals to the common heart of humanity, or makes its appeal in vain.

This is the kind of poetry that is most appreciated in the great writers of the past. Passages imbued with this spirit are those which are "household words" among all classes, and form the gems of thought that are quoted from Shakspeare, from Cowley, from Milton, from Dryden, from Pope, from Rogers, from Campbell, from Burns, from Byron, from Moore, from Shelley, from Keats, from Wordsworth, from Coleridge—and, in fact, from every other great master of the art of song. If the poet do not appeal to the many as well as to the few—if he do not aim his impassioned words at the popular heart—he is but a verse maker at the best, and maunders around the basis of Parnassus, without having the power to reach the summits. All this, if not understood by the great bulk of the people, is felt by them; and those poets or verse-makers who do not act upon this principle, and who do not suffer it to pervade and permeate all they write, may be admired by the multitude for a while, but their fame will be of short continuance. They will not be quoted; their sayings will not become part of the every-day wisdom of a nation; and they will fall gradually into neglect. Who, now-a-days, quotes from the versicles of nine-tenths of the poetasters whose names are included in the well-known work of Dr. Johnson—though a sad misnomer—"The Lives of the Poets"? Who quotes from the writings of the rhymers of the last half of the eighteenth century? Who quotes even Sir Walter Scott as a poet? No one; for there is nothing to quote in those long strings of rhymed romances, vivid and admirable as they are, but which would have been more vivid and admirable if they had been written in prose, and served to extend the long and brilliant series of the Waverley Novels. Neither does any one quote the epics or ballads of Southey. They are full of gorgeous description—discloses a wonderful wealth both of fancy and imagination—and are prodigies of learning and research. But they teach nothing, and never touch the heart. They are as hard as the rock of Horeb; but no wand of the magician or the prophet can draw the healing water from them. They prompt no tears, and scarcely quicken the pulses of their readers. They are sealed books to the multitude, and so they will remain until the multitude prefer stubble to full ears of corn. But the great masters of song—the poets who will live as long as literature—have a consoling word for every man's and woman's sorrows—have sympathetic utterances for all the afflictions, as well as for all the joys, cares, hopes, and aspirations of humanity. They are perpetual fountains of the highest philosophy; and the weary and way-worn can never sit down and dip into them without feeling themselves refreshed, purified, and exalted. It is not the mere tale or legend which they may tell, but the philosophy and religion which they preach, that makes them such favourites; so that it would be as much a fallacy to assert that this age of the world despises philosophy or religion as it is to assert that it despises poetry. The mere verse-makers have no claim to such high function or prerogative: they yield neither healing nor refreshing, in the vapid streams of rhyme, which they incessantly pour forth. When they are at their worst they disgust; and when they are at their best they but fatigue us. That they are hateful to gods and men is a *dictum* as old as Horace—probably much older. For them we may be quite sure there can never be any revival of popular taste. Some few, or even many of them, may give pleasure in their own small circles of friendship, or cliques of interest. Some of them may acquire a certain degree of reputation in a wider sphere, consequent upon the renewed degree of attention which the public seems willing to bestow upon poetry, as the highest department of literature. But none such will achieve an abiding place in the popular memory—unless it be the unsavoury place which a future Pope may reserve for them in a new Dunciad.

While the poetic taste of the mass of readers—that great mass whose encouragement makes popularity and success—has continued to be sound, the taste of a smaller circle, in later years, has been vitiated. This circle, after speaking through the organ of a few public journals, whose conductors have accidentally happened to belong to cliques, has bestowed its patronage upon a kind of poetic mysticism, which would not be tolerated by them in a prose writer. The *blasés* of literature like other *blasés*, love the unwholesome, the startling, and the dreamy. To be intelligible is, in their estimation, to be dull. They love poetic riddles. They like a half-meaning to be half expressed, or a no-meaning to be wrapped in great words. The vague is to them delightful. But, luckily, the efforts of such writers and critics to pervert the public taste are futile. The great heart of humanity is sound; and the people, not too busy to be amused, are far too busy to solve riddles, and to look for meanings in authors who probably never had any. Common sense is the staple of all good writers whatsoever, whether they write in verse or in prose; and the test of the finest poetry is to strip it of its mantle of rhythm, and its adornment of rhyme, and make it plain prose, and yet leave it beautiful and true, and worth remembering. The best poetry is the finest common sense, illustrated by the grandest imagery, and allied to a pleasing and a musical form of expression. We may be sure that he who writes obscurely either thinks obscurely, or does not think at all. We may also be quite sure that mysticism and vagueness in poetry will not long pass current. They may please for a while, in a limited sphere, but truth triumphs are ephemeral, even in the minds of their own admirers. All the grand sayings of Shakspeare are clear as day; and nothing survives of any writer—however much he may be flattered in his time—which is not lucid and terse. Let us hope that, in the so-called "revival of poetry," we may see the downfall of sickly and vapid sentiment, and mysticism; and that our new poetry will be wholesome, hearty, and manly.

TESTIMONIAL TO MR. ALDERMAN MATTHEWS.

THE circumstance of Mr. Alderman Matthews (of the firm of Messrs. Turton and Co.) of Sheffield, filling at the same time the offices of Mayor and Master Cutler, with the auspicious coincidence that a son was born to him during his year of office, has been commemorated by the presentation of a very superb Testimonial to the highly-respected gentleman. The requisite fund was raised by private subscription in the latter weeks of Alderman Matthews' mayoralty; and the gift was presented on the 26th of December last, in the name of the subscribers, at Ald. Matthews' residence, Weston-bank, by Mr. Dodds, engineer, of the Holmes, and a deputation. The Testimonial consists of a massive silver Epergne and a Salver. The former was manufactured by Messrs. James Dixon and Sons, of Cornish-place, from designs and models by Mr. Vincent Nicholson. The design is that of an oak with six arms. In the centre it supports a crystal basin, surrounded by smaller crystals and nglets. The base represents rock-work with ferns and rock plants, among which are three stags couchant. On each of the three angles is a medallion, on which appear in relief the arms of the corporation of Sheffield, of the Cutlers' Company, and the crest of Mr. Ald. Matthews. The weight of the Epergne is 27½ lbs. The Salver was manufactured by Messrs. Hawksworth, Eyre, and Co. It is circular, and measures 24 inches in diameter. It is in the Renaissance style of art, the border being composed of medallions, foliage, and laurel. The medallions bear the arms of the incorporation of Sheffield, of the Cutlers' Company, and the crest of Mr. Ald. Matthews. The centre has a bold engraved border, enclosing the inscription, which is ornamentally engraved. The salver weighs 12 lbs. Both pieces of plate bear the following inscription:—

Presented to WILLIAM ANTHONY MATTHEWS, Esq., Mayor and Master Cutler of Sheffield, by a few friends, in testimony of his private worth and public spirit. 1853.

TESTIMONIAL TO MR. ALDERMAN MATTHEWS, MAYOR, AND MASTER CUTLER, SHEFFIELD.

We have engraved this Salver, which, with the companion Epergne, are fine specimens of an important branch of local manufacture. The cost was 250 guineas.

Mr. Alderman Matthews' splendid "Cutlers' Feast," it will be recollected, has been illustrated in our Journal; and the high estimation in which he is held by the people of Sheffield fully justifies the eulogium of the *Sheffield Times*, that "his genial spirit, his ever active benevolence, unrestricted by class or rank, and the liberality he has invariably manifested in furtherance of public objects worthy of promotion, have paved the way to the twofold distinction which was conferred upon him by his fellow-townsmen, and added to the éclat which attached to that peculiar honour."

LIGHT SOVEREIGNS.—Within the last few days Mr. Webster, the inspector of coins to the Mint, has had his attention called to a system of fraud now being practised to a very great extent with the good coin of the realm by a most ingenious method of reducing the value of a sovereign by several shillings. It appears that the fraudulent operator obtains new ones, and affixing them, by means of cement, to the clouck of a table, with a cutter turns off the wings of the proper edge of course, leaves the edge plain; but, by an ingenious process, the edge is again made as perfect as before, and the coin, but little varied as far as casual appearances are concerned, whilst in every other respect it being a good coin, no suspicion is created. By the process from eight to twelve grains are taken from each; and it is calculated that persons carrying on this nefarious trade have been making about £10 per diem. As no person is compelled to take coin unless full weight, and the Mint will not, of course, recognise such coins should they feel inclined to again call in the gold, the loss will fall upon the unlucky possessor, and it will average from 12 to 15 per cent. Formerly, an offence of this character was in the category of false pretences, punishable with death; and, as the law now stands, the punishment is of the most serious character.

THE NEW ROAD AT KENSINGTON.—The Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851, in their financial declaration, explain that the works to be executed under the bill to be applied for in the ensuing session, consisting of the proposed new road at Kensington, are to be defrayed out of funds under their control; that the actual surplus of such funds is £49,000; that the cost of the new road will be £18,000, that no rates, duties, or revenue are created by, or arise under the bill, and that no private or personal pecuniary profit or advantage is to be derived from it.

NORTH METROPOLITAN RAILWAY.—The Parliamentary estimate of this company for proposed extensions to the Paddington station of the Great Western, and to the General Post-office; for communication between the London and North-Western and Great Northern; for stations and warehouses in the city, and for traffic contracts and other arrangements, amounts to £650,000.

PROPOSED REMOVAL OF THE LAW COURTS.—A serious proposition has at length been made for the removal of the law courts from Westminster-hall, to a more permanent and central situation. The site proposed is the most central in London, and is in the very midst of the dens of lawyers of all denominations. The site lies between the Strand on the south, Carey-street on the north, Chancery-lane on the east, and Clement's-inn and New-inn on the west. The proposed space occupies about 7½ acres, and is at present occupied by lanes and by streets, which contain some of the choicest abominations in London. The front would be towards the Strand, the back, naturally, in Carey-street, and these would form the shorter sides of a parallelogram. It is proposed by Sir Charles Barry that the building shall be in the Tudor style, and that it should be of so decorative a kind as to be an ornament to this part of the town. As may be seen by a glance at a map of London, this position is in the very centre of the inns of court—Lincoln's-inn, the two Temples, Gray's-inn, the Rolls'-house, the Incorporated Law Society, and all the minor inns, are in close proximity to it. It is proposed to defray the expense from the accumulated fund of the suitors in Chancery, as it is represented this money can be so applied without any injury to the actual suitors. In point of fact, from the year 1726 downwards, from time to time, money has been taken from the same fund for similar purposes—as the erection of the Six Clerks' offices, Masters' offices, the offices of the Examiners, and other Chancery offices in the Rolls yard. Acts of Parliament are quoted under which these appropriations have been made, and the authority of the late Lord Langdale is relied upon for similar applications of the fund. The ultimate cost of site and building is estimated at £675,874.

THE GREAT METROPOLITAN POULTRY SHOW.

IN spite of the inclement weather of last week, and the stoppage of most of the railways for a day or two, the meeting of this week—the second annual exhibition—which was opened to the public on Tuesday, has been the greatest Poultry Show which has taken place either in London or any other part of the kingdom. The number of specimens was double that of last year, there being nearly 2000 pens, comprising between 4000 and 5000 birds. Owing to the very large number of entries, the space occupied by the London Summer Pouliry show, at the Baker-street Bazaar, was found to be utterly inadequate; nearly the whole of that usually allotted to the exhibition of the Smithfield Cattle Show having been required.

Among the breeds most worthy of notice were specimens of the Brahma Poutra, exhibited by Messrs. H. D. Davies, H. Gilbert, J. Fairlie, and Mr. S. F. Baker. These were beautifully represented by about thirty pens. The first entry, sent by his Royal Highness Prince Albert, was much admired at the private view, and was highly commended by the judges. The first prize, however, was awarded to Mr. H. D. Davies, and the second to Mr. H. Gilbert, of Kensington, who was an exhibitor to a large amount, and a very successful one. The show of Dorking fowls was particularly good and varied; as was also that of Cochin-China fowls. Indeed, the same need of commendation as to quality is applicable to the Spanish fowls, the Malays, the Game fowls, the Polish fowls, and the cross-bred fowls. Bantams were beautiful, both in symmetry and plumage. In the pens allotted to the simplest of creation—the Geese—there were some valuable birds. There were numerous good specimens of Ducks of all kinds. The "Muscovy" birds were very fine. The Turkeys and Guinea-fowls were few in number, and there were very few good samples. As to Pigeons, the collection is declared to have been

PRIZES AT THE METROPOLITAN POULTRY SHOW.

RED TURBITS (95.) BLACK NUNS (91.) POUTERS (170, 167.) ALMOND TUMBLERS (56.) DUN COCK CARRIER (197.) WHITE FANTAILS (98.)

One of the most splendid that ever was got together. Mr. Butt's contribution of pouters formed the chief attraction to the connoisseur in such matters.

Her Majesty the Queen was among the first to avail herself of the rule of the Club, which declares that any pen of birds may be claimed at the price affixed to them after one o'clock on the first day of the show, by claiming on those terms the beautiful pen of gold-laced (Seabright) bantams, numbered 973, in class 51, bred by Mr Uriah Spiney, Market-street, Dunstable, hatched in 1853. Prince

GOLD-LACED BANTAMS (973.) GAME COCK (633.) WHITE BANTAMS (1000.) GOLDEN-SPANGLED HAMBURG (742.)

Albert also claimed the splendid Dorking cock, bred by Mr. Fisher Hobbs, of Boxted-lodge, Colchester, which obtained the first prize in class 7, and numbered 145. The second prize in the same class, also carried off by Mr. Fisher Hobbs, numbered 147, was claimed by Colonel Kingscote for ten guineas.

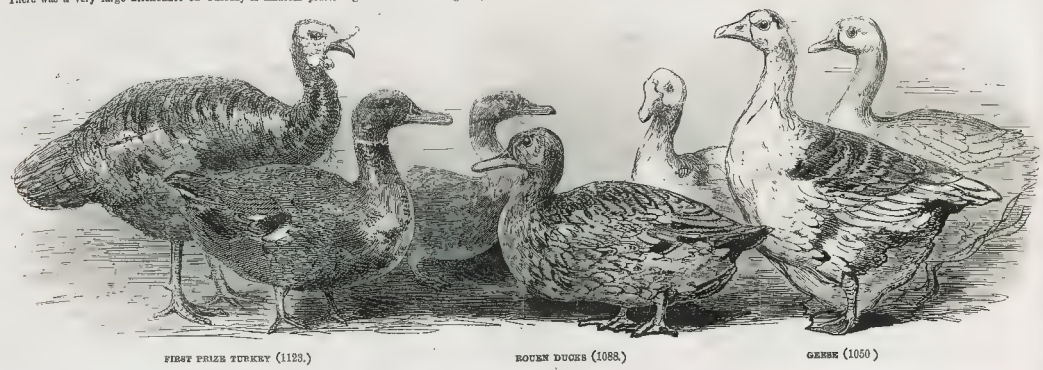
Prince Albert's pen of Brahma Poutra fowls, numbered 581, in class 22, and to which his Royal Highness had affixed a price of £25, were claimed, at that sum, although they had received no prize, by Mr. Fox, of Skinner-street, Snow-hill. Lord Robert Grosvenor claimed

SPANISH FOWLS (55, 6) WHITE COCHIN-CHINA (486)

at £15, No. 135 in class 6, a Dorking cock and two pullets, which obtained the second prize in the class, bred by Mr. Edward Terry, of Aylesbury.

There was a very large attendance on Tuesday of amateur professional bird "anglers," as well as of persons attracted by curiosity. The exhibition was agreed upon all hands to be the finest which had ever taken place in this country, and to have beaten the great show at Birmingham, at which so large prices were obtained for Brahma Poutras and Cochin-Chinas. The sales effected on Tuesday realised upwards of £400.

We have engraved a selection from the Prizes; the figures beneath which indicate the numbers in the Prize-list.



FIRST PRIZE TURKEY (1123.) ROUEN DUCKS (1088.) GEESE (1050)

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS, TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, JAN. 12.

Month and Day.		Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading	Thermometer. Lowest Reading	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Melted Snow in Inches.
		Inches	°	°	°	°			Inches.
Jan.	6	29.015	37·8	31·1	32·9	— 2·3	92	S.E.& S.W.	0.15
,,	7	29.130	43·0	31·7	38·3	+ 3·2	94	N.E.& E.	0.40
,,	8	28.914	47·0	39·0	42·7	+ 7·6	93	S.S.W.	0.30
,,	9	29.096	41·6	32·5	36·5	+ 1·5	98	S.E.& N.E.	0.04
,,	10	29.435	40·0	34·3	36·8	+ 1·7	91	N.	0.07
,,	11	29.537	38·0	26·6	32·5	— 2·3	87	N.W.W.	0.00
,,	12	29.881	40·2	32·2	35·8	+ 0·5	87	S.E.	0.00

Note.—The sign — denotes below the average, and the sign + above the average. The numbers in the seventh column are calculated on the supposition that the saturation of the air is represented by 100.

The reading of the barometer increased from 29·03 inches at the beginning of the week to 29·15 inches by the morning of the 7th; decreased to 28·89 inches by six p.m. on the same day; increased to 29·91 inches by six p.m., on the same day; increased to 29·91 inches by six p.m., on the 11th, decreasing by the end of the week. The mean of the week at the height of 82 feet above the sea, was 29·320 inches.

The mean daily temperature was above the average on every day except the 6th, when it was 2·3° below it. On Sunday it was 7·6° above it. The mean temperature of the week was 36·9°, which is 1·8° above the average in the same week in 38 years.

The mean temperature of the dew point was 33·9°.

The range of temperature during the week was 15·9°, being the difference between the highest reading on the 8th, and the lowest on the 6th.

The mean daily range of temperature was 7·6°.

Rain fell to the depth of 0·96 inch (nearly seven-tenths of an inch).

The Weather has been dull, and the sky almost constantly overcast. Snow still remains in many places to which it has drifted. The direction of the wind had been variable.

JAMES GLAISHER.

Lewisham, JAN. 13, 1854.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—The births of 1372 children were registered within the week ending January 7, in the metropolitan districts: of these, 679 were boys, and 693 were girls. The average of the first week of the nine preceding years was 1686. In the corresponding week of 1853 the births numbered 1911. The number of deaths within the week was 1445; the corrected average of the corresponding week, derived from the preceding ten years, was 1288—so that the mortality is 56 in excess: of those deaths, 636 were of children under fifteen years of age; 431 were of persons between fifteen and sixty years; and 368, at ages exceeding sixty years. The corrected averages of these periods of life are 614, 458, and 212, respectively—so that the mortality was, in children, 52 in excess; in persons in the prime of life it was 25 less than the average; and of men and women in advanced life, who had completed sixty, and upwards, it was 21 excess—so that the severity of the season has caused an excess of mortality in children and old persons. The number of fatal cases in zymotic diseases was 264 (their average, 260): this excess was caused chiefly by hooping-cough, which carried off no less than 58 children—being about the double of its corrected average. The deaths in other classes of diseases were about their averages, excepting in those of the lungs and of the other organs of respiration: their number was 352 (average 278)—189 of bronchitis, 104 of pneumonia, and 26 of asthma. To violence, privation, cold, and intemperance, 38 deaths were referred. Only two deaths were registered as caused by cholera.

CITY CORPORATION COMMISSION.

The Commissioners have renewed their labours this week at the Privy Council Chambers. The most interesting evidence which has yet been tendered was that contained in a defence of the Corporation, read by the Recorder. This document, which occupies nearly seven columns of the daily papers, goes through the whole of the charges brought against the Corporation, and endeavours to show that they are all either exaggerated or untrue. The gross income of the Corporation, instead of being what some of the witnesses stated, is said to average only £300,000 a year; and this, they allege, is all obtained from unobjectionable sources. The coal-tax is defended as the least injurious mode of raising money to promote public improvements. The banquets and shows are deemed neither expensive, useless, nor absurd; and the Corporation has not yet heard any good reason for abolishing them. The City police force is well managed; and so likewise is the lighting, paving, and sewerage of the City. The defence winds up with a comparison of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, in order to show how much the Corporation has accommodated itself to the advancing spirit of the age. As a specimen of what it has done in that respect, the defence states that—

"In the eighteenth century, and even at the commencement of the nineteenth century, the Corporation, with an income of £80,000 a year, remunerated their four standing committees with cash allowances to the annual amount of £1100, and tavern expenses *ad libitum*; amounting, upon an average of seven years, to upwards of £4000 per annum. But in the nineteenth century, by a series of resolutions, the same four committees, administering a revenue of £210,000 a year, discharge their duties without any money allowance, and with tavern bills restricted to £1200 among them all."

CROSBY HALL ELOCUTIONARY CLASS.—On Wednesday the first public entertainment of this class was held, under the presidency of Mr. Leopold Smart, to whose well-directed efforts the proficiency of its members are due. Three scenes from "The Merchant of Venice," "The Rivals," and "The Recruiting Officer," were very well given; and some recitations from the poets effectively delivered; nor were the various pieces of humour without merit. The practice of elocution cannot fail to be of great value to the rising generation; and the classes at Crosby Hall are evidently well conducted.

TESTIMONIAL.—A handsome silver tea and coffee service has just been presented to John Thwaites, Esq., by the directors and shareholders of the Surrey Consumers Gaslight Association (accompanied with a purse of 220 sovereigns), in testimony of the high sense entertained by them of the valuable services rendered by him to the association. The service weighs 103 ounces, and has been manufactured by Messrs. Benson, Cornhill.

CHARING-CROSS HOSPITAL.—At a quarterly meeting of the Committee held in the Board-room of the Hospital, West Strand, on Tuesday last—R. Low, Esq., in the chair—a report of the operations of this charity for the past year was read. It appeared that 1203 in-patients and 13,462 out-patients had partaken of its benefits. The cost of effecting this great amount of good was £2668 12s. 5d. The committee have added additional wards and beds for sick children, and from forty to fifty more patients can be accommodated than heretofore. These wards will greatly increase the efficiency of the Hospital, and render it more worthy of the support of the benevolent.

COLDBATH-FIELDS HOUSE OF CORRECTION.—An important inquiry has been in progress some time, and is not yet completed, into certain matters in the financial administration of the Coldbath-fields Prison. One result has been the absconding of George C. Hoare, principal clerk in the finance department, and defalcations to a serious extent have been discovered in his books. A description of him has been published in the *Hue and Cry*, and a warrant for his apprehension placed in the hands of the police. The inquiry is being carried on by the visiting justices, and Captain Williams, the Government Inspector of Prisons, and a Government short hand writer has been in attendance.

CABINET COUNCIL.—A Cabinet Council was held at the Foreign office, Downing-street, on Tuesday afternoon. The Ministers present were—The Earl of Aberdeen, Lord John Russell, the Lord Chancellor, Earl Granville, the Duke of Argyll, the Marquis of Lansdowne, Viscount Palmerston, the Earl of Clarendon the Duke of Newcastle, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir James Graham, Sir Charles Wood, the Right Hon. Sidney Herbert, and Sir William Molesworth. The Council sat four hours.

HILARY TERM.—Wednesday, being the first day of Hilary Term, the Lord Chancellor entertained the Judges of the several equity and common law courts, the leading Queen's counsel, and the serjeants-at-law, at breakfast, at his mansion in Upper Brook-street. Shortly after one o'clock the Lord Chancellor and the Judges left his Lordship's mansion, and proceeded in state to Westminster. The legal cortège arrived at Westminster Hall shortly before two o'clock, preceded by the High Constable of Westminster. The hall was well filled with spectators, principally ladies, anxious to witness the Judges appearing in their full state robes. The Lord Chancellor and the Judges were received at the entrance of the Court of Common Pleas by the Serjeants-at-law, and from thence they passed to and gained their respective courts.

ADVANCE IN THE PRICE OF BREAD.—The bakers have this week made a simultaneous advance in the price of bread. The 4 lb. loaf, which was selling last week at 9d., 8½d., and 10d., cannot now be obtained for less than 9½d. 10d., and 11d. respectively. Household or country bread is advanced 1d.; viz., from 8½d. to 9½d.; the League Bakery bread is at 10d. the 4 lb loaf, and the best, or full-priced, is from 1s. to 1s. 0½. The reason assigned for this increase in price is, that flour, which could be had last week at 7l8., is now fully 75s.

MADAME TUSSAUD'S EXHIBITION.—The Metropolitan Poultry Show, at the King-street BAZAAR, during the last week, has been indirectly tributary of visitors to Madame Tussaud's curious collection of WAXWORK costumes, and memorials of distinguished persons; among which the relics of the Emperor Napoleon are prominently attractive.

TELEGRAPH BY NIGHT TO THE CONTINENT.—In reference to the statement which lately appeared, to the effect that the Governments on the Continent had not extended to this country the advantages of night service which they had established with each other, we have learned that the Submarine and European Telegraph Companies have already concluded arrangements with the Continental Governments for a night service between the various countries and England. All the most important towns of France, Belgium, and Germany will in future be open both by day and night for the transmission of despatches.

A CHAPTER OF ACCIDENTS.—The driver of the mail cart between Trowbridge and Chippenham, has experienced a most unfortunate Christmas. One night last week his horse fell down, and the mail cart was very much damaged. On Sunday night, when leaving Lacock, the horse again fell, and broke off both shafts of the vehicle he was then driving; and, on Tuesday night week, on the road to Lacock, the horse took fright, and the driver was thrown off, the cart entirely beaten to pieces, and the horse much injured.

AN agitation is in progress in the City for the purpose of "procuring an alteration in the existing laws relating to the assessment of the poor-rate and the removal of chargeable poor." It has been resolved on to request the Lord Mayor to call a public meeting on the subject as early as possible.

SNOWBALLING UPON THE LIVERPOOL EXCHANGE.

SNOWBALLING ON LIVERPOOL 'CHANGE.

AN amusing scene was transacted on 'Change, at Liverpool, on Thursday week. The cotton-brokers and share-brokers, between whom there is frequently a good deal of harmless raillery, having no London papers to read, commenced a regular snowball engagement, which lasted nearly two hours. The contest commenced about two o'clock, and did not terminate till nearly four. For some time the battle raged with great waste of ammunition, and victory seemed doubtful. The snowballs flew in all directions, in some instances infringing somewhat disagreeably upon the faces of the combatants. Many fell in the conflict from the effects of blows, or from the slippery state of the ground; but, nothing daunted, they rose again, and renewed the fight. Hats were knocked off, and trodden under foot, many of them being so disfigured that they could not be identified by their owners. In order to keep up a continued fire, a portion of the troops made balls, while others were actively engaged in warfare; and the former, when prepared with ammunition, then advanced to the attack. At one period the cotton corps seemed to be gaining advantage, as they drove the enemy into a corner; the share-brokers, however, after a slight retreat, rallied, and almost routed their adversaries, making considerable havoc amongst them. It is but justice to say, that, although the sport was carried on with great spirit on both sides, the utmost good-feeling prevailed, and no exhibition of ill-temper occurred. All seemed animated with the spirit of their schoolboy days, and resolved to engage merely in a little harmless sport. Several squares of glass in the Exchange News-room were broken; and, during the heat of battle, a ball went through a window of the Council-chamber while a member of the Health Committee was speaking. The shock put a momentary stop to the flow of his eloquence; but, on ascertaining that no mischief had been done, he resumed his address.

During the heat of the engagement, Captain Greig, head-constable, having been directed by the Mayor to request that an armistice should take place, was imprudent enough to risk himself, along with a few policemen, on the battle-ground. But the brokers would brook no interference. They assailed the head-constable with the snowballs they were using, knocked his hat off several times, and otherwise handled him rather roughly. To such treatment the man of order could not submit, and, therefore, several of the leading plotters—among whom were some of the principal cotton and share-brokers—were taken into custody. They were marched off to the Central Police-office, amidst loud marks of disapprobation towards the police, who were considered guilty of improper interference. After some explanation, the prisoners were liberated. The battle then recommenced, and was continued as vigorously as ever for a short time, when the head-constable again made his appearance, under authority from the Mayor, to intimate to the gentlemen in the Exchange News-room the desirability of putting an end to the contest. On entering the news-room he attempted to state the object of his mission, but was instantly met with hootings, cries of "Out with him!" and other marks of disapprobation. In vain he attempted to speak; his audience would not hear a word: and a mob of them having got round him, they ultimately forced him to leave the room, amidst loud applause from within and without the building. The snowballing was then renewed, and kept up with considerable vigour until nearly four o'clock.

A gentleman who saw the whole of the extraordinary scene says the snowball contest lasted altogether for about an hour and a half; that it was witnessed or participated in by about 300 of the gentlemen who usually assemble on 'Change; that it was commenced in the sportive and jocose spirit often generated by the unexpected enjoyment of leisure; that it was, throughout, conducted in the most good-humoured and innocent manner; that even those who were knocked down got up and renewed the contest in a spirit of hearty and kindly enjoyment; in fact, that if it had been a battle between ladies on the one side and gentlemen on the other, it could not have been carried on in a more gallant and considerate manner. The contest was exhilarating even to the spectators; and so heartily did some of the oldest and most respectable frequenters of 'Change enjoy the novelty, the earnestness, and the gentlemanly spirit of the contest, that they frequently applauded the combatants, and urged them to continue the sportive strife.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, January 15.—2nd Sunday after Epiphany.
MONDAY, 16.—Gibbon died, 1794. Battle of Corunna, 1809.
TUESDAY, 17.—First stone of the Royal Exchange laid, 1842.
WEDNESDAY, 18.—St. Prisca. Old Twelfth Day.
THURSDAY, 19.—Copernicus born, 1473. Earl of Surrey beheaded, 1547.
FRIDAY, 20.—American Independence acknowledged, 1783.
SATURDAY, 21.—Louis XVI. guillotined, 1793.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING JANUARY 14.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
M. A. h. m. / 2 32	M. A. h. m. / 3 3	M. A. h. m. / 3 35	M. A. h. m. / 4 5	M. A. h. m. / 4 35	M. A. h. m. / 5 5	M. A. h. m. / 5 35
h. m. / 1 0	h. m. / 1 30	h. m. / 2 3	h. m. / 2 32	h. m. / 3 3	h. m. / 3 35	h. m. / 4 5
h. m. / 4 35	h. m. / 5 5	h. m. / 5 35	h. m. / 6 5	h. m. / 6 35	h. m. / 7 5	h. m. / 7 35
h. m. / 5 6	h. m. / 5 35	h. m. / 6 5	h. m. / 6 35	h. m. / 7 5	h. m. / 7 35	h. m. / 8 5
h. m. / 6 35	h. m. / 7 5	h. m. / 7 35	h. m. / 8 5	h. m. / 8 35	h. m. / 9 5	h. m. / 9 35
h. m. / 7 50	h. m. / 8 20	h. m. / 8 50	h. m. / 9 20	h. m. / 9 50	h. m. / 10 20	h. m. / 10 50

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 1854.

THE press of this country is unanimous as well as cordial in its denunciation of the conduct of the Czar. At one time it is true that a public journal of considerable power and influence endeavoured to serve the cause of Russian ambition by unfounded accusations against the Turkish Government, and by equally unfounded laudation of the Czar. But that journal speedily discovered that it was on the wrong tack, and for the last month or six weeks has steadily advocated the rightful side. We are not aware of a single British journal which is at the present moment, either openly or covertly, the supporter of Russia. In France, however, the case is different. Although the press of France only exists upon sufferance, and can by no means be considered the free and unbiassed organ of public opinion, it is allowed sufficient liberty on questions of foreign policy to free it from the suspicion of being under the absolute control of the Government. A small portion of the French press is not ashamed to flatter the ambition of Russia, to goad it on to further violence, and to condemn the alliance between Great Britain and France. The partisans of what is termed the fusion between the elder and younger branches of the House of Bourbon are mean and cowardly enough, in the desperate state of their fortunes, to look with favour upon a Russian alliance as the only means of restoring Henry V. to the throne of his ancestors. They feel that, if the claims of Bourbon and Orleans are left to the decision of the French people, they have no more prospect of the Crown of France than the Duke de Modena has of the Crown of England. But, rather than not see their idol restored to its place, they would have it set up for their adoration by the enemy of the liberties of Europe. They would rather that France should be humiliated by the enthronisation of their *Fetish*, amid the salvos of Russian artillery and the support of Russian bayonets and Cossack lances, than renounce all hope for Henry V. and Louis Philippe II. If there ever was a chance in a country so notorious for change of dynasty and Government, that something might turn up in their favour by the storms of revolution, they have destroyed it by such base and anti-national policy. The friends of the elder branch of the Bourbons claim to be the representatives of honour, chivalry, and patriotism. The next time they talk of their honour, the indignant hisses of Europe will remind them that dishonour is the fate of those who, for a presumed personal advantage, take the side of the wrong-doer against his victim. The next time they talk of their chivalry, they will be reminded that it was the pride of chivalry to help the oppressed, and to fight even in a losing cause, if it were the cause of justice and humanity. Should they ever dare talk of their patriotism, it will be cast in their teeth, to their eternal disgrace, that they would have sold the independence of their country to a foreign barbarian if they could thereby have increased their slender chance of regaining possession of the Tuileries. But the Bourbons of both houses are true to their ancient character; "they have never learned anything from adversity." The hopeless stupidity of the one branch, and the hopeless pedlarism of the other, have sealed their doom; and the recent efforts of their organs in the press to embarrass the present Government of France, and to sow mistrust and disunion between the British and French people, have but served to cement the alliance, and to strengthen the throne of Louis Napoleon. Their "fusion" has been their "confusion;" and the young Count de Paris, who might have been a considerable personage, if he had had no effete cousin and no intriguing uncles to cloud his prospects, need encourage no hopes of ever ascending the throne of his grandfather. The friendship of such partisans as are possessed by the Legitimists is not simply dangerous—it is fatal.

BREAD riots are no novelty. "It is ill to reason," says the old proverb, "with a hungry belly." Whenever corn rises to a famine price, there is a danger of riots among the destitute population. If to the calamities of hunger be added the miseries of cold, the reason of the multitude too often gives way to a savage instinct, which exists more or less in all men, and which is only to be controlled by reason and education. The riots at Bristol during the present week, show no peculiar ill-feeling. Millers and bakers become invariably the objects of popular dislike, as the price of the loaf rises. The hungry and the ignorant know these traders; but their acquaintance with the laws of social and political economy which regulates the dealings of these men, as well as those of all other tradesmen, are things beyond their comprehension. They expect superhuman virtue from the baker, and seem to think that the miller ought to grind and sell to his own ruin, rather than that the price of flour should advance a farthing:

> Two millers thin, named Bone and Skin—
> They grind the poor, or near it;
> But be it known to Skin and Bone
> That Flesh and Blood won't bear it.

Such is the logic of the ignorant when they are hungry. The mere thieves, who always turn up on such occasions, are but too glad to exercise their propensities with a mob at their back. In Paris, at the close of the last and the commencement of the present century, the bakers' shops were so often besieged by the populace, that, by the advice and with the sanction of the Government, they barricaded their windows with strong iron bars, which the stranger at Paris may observe to this day. There have been bread riots in every civilised country under the sun; and it is well for a Government, when such events occur, if its members can absolve their consciences from the guilt of having, by their unwise legislation, created, or helped to create, an artificial scarcity. The bulk of the people of England know that, however dear bread may be, it is as cheap as it is anywhere else; and that no efforts of any Government, or of any men or class of men, could, by possibility, have made it cheaper. No misgiving can, in such circumstances, paralyse the arm of authority. We may pity the misguided men—but we must punish them. The mass of the people know that if Free-trade cannot give them a cheap loaf when there is a deficient harvest, nothing can; and they know, also, that a benevolent Poor-law will prevent the really destitute from dying of starvation. Whatever legislation can do is done, in this country, to prevent scarcity, and to help its inevitable victims. Such foolish and wicked assaults upon the property of unoffending men will, therefore, meet with no sympathy; and there is no reason to fear that the example of Bristol and Exeter will be extensively followed; or, if followed, that the perpetrators will not be promptly and severely punished.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

CONSECRATION.—On Thursday, the 5th of January, a new church was consecrated at Northwood, in the parish of Ruislip, a hamlet distant three miles from the parish church, and on the borders of Rickmansworth and Watford; and the district assigned to the new consolidated chapelry is composed of portions of the three parishes. The edifice has been built by subscription. Lord Robert Grosvenor, in whom the patronage is vested, has given the ground, and endowed it. It is situate a little more than a mile distant from Moor-park. Although the district is in the two dioceses of London and Rochester, the ceremony of consecration was performed by the Bishop of London, on account of the church being in Middlesex. The Bishop was entertained by Lord Grosvenor, at Moor-park, on the previous day, but was obliged to return home after the service. A large party partook of a *déjeûner* given by his Lordship, at Moor-park, in the course of the afternoon. Tea and cakes were served to the school children, in the school-house, near the Church; and, on the following day, 110 old men and women, and others who had been recently employed in the very arduous duty of keeping the roads clear of snow, were regaled with a substantial dinner in the conservatory at Moor-park. An evening service was performed in the church, on the day of consecration, at the 5-past six o'clock, by the Rev. H. Loring, Rector of Cobham; and, on the following day, being Epiphany, lectures were delivered after both morning and evening service, by the Rev. Joseph Bayliss, D.D., Principal of the College at Birkenhead. The church, which is intended to accommodate 300 persons in nave and chancel, is in the Early Decorated style, and has a tower, a shingle spire, and five stained-glass windows. The architect is Mr. Teulon.

THE BISHOP OF LONDON'S VISITATION OF ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL.—On Monday and Tuesday the Bishop of London, assisted by Sir John Patteson, and Dr. Addington, as assessors, held an inquiry into the alleged abuses of the revenues of the metropolitan cathedral by the Dean and Chapter. The Dean, Canon Wilberforce, and Canon Champneys, as also several of the Minor Canons and other gentlemen officially connected with the cathedral, were present. Mr. Rolt, Dr. R. Phillimore, and Mr. Hale were employed professionally on the principal point of which, whether the Bishop has a right to share in the revenues of the Cathedral. The Bishop of London thanked the learned assessors for the assistance they had rendered him, and said he would take time to consider his decision.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—The Rev. J. Jones, Rector of Criccieth, Carnarvonshire, to be a Rural Dean. *Rectories:* The Rev. H. Cuddell, to Atwick, near Hull; Rev. H. M. Fletcher, to North Stoke, Somerset; Hon. and Rev. A. B. Hanbury, to Shobdon, near Leominster; Hon. and Rev. A. Douglas, to Corry Mallet, Somerset; Rev. to H. F. Strangways, to Kilmington, Somerset; Rev. J. A. Hall, to Bromham, near Sevenoaks; Rev. G. Hurd, to Sheinton, Shropshire; Rev. F. Broome, to Adderley, near Market Drayton; Rev J. T. Bennett, to St. Mary Aldermary and St. Thomas the Apostle; Rev. J. S. Hart, to Somerby, Lincolnshire; Rev. M. Jeffreys, to South Thoresby, Alford. Rev. W. J. Deane, to Ashen, Essex; Rev. C. Randolph, to East Garston, Berkshire; Rev. H. Dale, to Wilby, near Eye, Suffolk; Rev. E. S. Patrick, to Weston Beggard, near Hereford. *Vicarages:* The Rev. H. F. Bacon, to Castleton, Derbyshire; Rev. P. Bennett, to Shrewton, near Devizes; Rev. A. Brooke, to East Retford, Nottinghamshire; Rev. C. Nutt, to East Harptree, Somerset; Rev. E. Bagley, to Woburn, Bedfordshire; Rev. W. Gell, to Fulloxhill, Bedfordshire; Rev. S. G. Selwyn, to Milton Cleveland, Somerset; Rev. J. E. C. Leigh, to Bray, near Maidenhead. *Incumbencies:* The Rev. J. Hodges, to Middleton, Yorkshire; Rev. W. Smith, to Cowick, Yorkshire; Rev. E. Synge, to Trinity Church, Matlock; Rev. R. Hawes, to Tunstall, Staffordshire; Rev. R. J. S. Valentine, to Trinity Church, Portsea; Rev. J. Woolley, to St. George's, Portsea; Rev. J. H. Compton, to Kidderminster, near Reading; Rev. L. C. Bathurst, to Wythall, near Birmingham; Rev. W. C. Evans, to Campsall, near Doncaster; Rev. C. J. Westropp, to Hunningham, Warwickshire; Rev. T. G. M. Luccock, to Little Berwick, Shrewsbury; Rev. J. D. Massingham, to St. Paul's, Derby. *Perpetual Curacies:* The Rev. H. Munn, to Christ Church, Nailsea, Somerset; Rev. H. C. Seller, to Trull, Somerset.

THE Bishop of Worcester has intimated his intention of holding a general ordination in the Cathedral Church of his diocese on Sunday, March 12. The Bishop receives candidates for Deacons' orders to offer themselves at least three months previous to the time.

THE Convocation of York will meet in the Chapter-house at York, immediately after the Minster service, on Wednesday morning, Feb. 1. The Canon in residence (Rev. W. V. Harcourt) will preside as Commissioner for the Archbishop

BY the decease of the Rev. William Hodge Mill, D.D., a vacancy occurs of one of the proctors in convocation for the diocese of Canterbury. A mandate from the Archbishop is to be issued, and an election to supply the vacancy will shortly take place from among the clergy of the diocese. Dr. Mill was a very active member of that body.

TESTIMONIAL.—The Rev. H. H. Pearson, Vicar of Norton, has been presented by the ladies of the parish with a suit of clerical robes, a pocket communion-service in silver, and other silver articles.

MAYNOOTH COMMISSION.—The Maynooth College Commissioners have been sitting occasionally during the past week, and some further meetings for the examination of witnesses will be held this week, after which an adjournment will take place, probably for two months. In all likelihood, the report of the Commissioners will be ready for presentation to Parliament soon after the Easter recess.

THE WONDERS OF CIVILISATION IN INDIA.—The railway and the electric telegraph are attracting many native chiefs from the interior of India to Bombay. There was lately encamped on the island, with 2500 of his followers, the Rajah of Dhar, Rao Jeswunt Powar, a Rajpoot chief with a revenue of about £68,000, but principally remarkable for being the head of the great family of Powar, of which (as antiquaries suppose) Porus, the antagonist of Alexander, was a member. He had been admiring the gunnery practice of the Indian navy, the war-steamers now ready for launching in the Dockyard, the steam machinery of the factory and Mint, and, above all, the railway; and will return to his capital impressed with a high idea of the arts and resources of the British in India.

LIONS FROM ALEXANDRIA.—Letters from Alexandria of the 3rd inst., mention that the steamer "Bentinck"—which made the voyage from Southampton in ten days and fourteen hours (the quickest passage on record)—was to sail for England next day, and may, therefore, be expected at Southampton daily. Among the passengers by the *Colombo* is the Earl of Carlisle, who arrived at Alexandria on the 24th ult. in the *Waag*, from Beyrout. His Lordship intended to visit Upper Egypt, but the rumoured changes in the Ministry, and other news made him determine to return to England at once. The much spoken of Guzerat lions are also coming by this vessel; they are said to be exceedingly fine beasts, four years and three months old. This species of lion has not hitherto been introduced into England. They are intended for the Zoological Gardens, Regent's-park.

THE COURT.

The Queen and the Prince, with the youthful members of the Royal family, continue in the enjoyment of excellent health. Her Majesty has received, during the week, a succession of distinguished visitors at Windsor Castle. The Earl of Aberdeen has been a guest at the Royal table more than once; and other members of the Ministry have been commanded to attend at the Castle. The Marquis of Lansdowne, with his son and daughter-in-law, the Earl and Countess of Shelburne, closed their visit on Saturday last.

On Sunday, the Queen and the Prince attended an early service in the private chapel of the Castle, and received the holy Sacrament. Her Majesty and his Royal Highness were also present at the afternoon service.

On Monday the Queen and the Prince walked in the grounds adjoining the Castle. His Royal Highness afterwards rode out on horseback, attended by Colonel Bouverie. In the evening her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent dined with her Majesty. The Earl of Aberdeen, the Right Hon. H. Labouchere and Lady Mary Labouchere, and Lady Elizabeth Grey, had the honour of joining the Royal party.

On Tuesday the Queen walked in the Home Park at an early hour. The Prince Consort went out with the shooting. In the course of the day Earl Spencer arrived from London, and had an audience of her Majesty, to receive his wand of office on being appointed Lord Steward of the Household, in the place of the Duke of Norfolk, who has resigned. In the evening the Duchess of Kent again dined with the Queen. The following had the honour of joining the Royal party:—His Excellency Lord Bloomfield and Lady Bloomfield, the Earl of Aberdeen, the Earl Spencer, the Earl and Countess of Mulgrave, and Viscount and Viscountess Sydney.

On Wednesday the Queen and the Prince walked in the Home-park and the Slopes. His Royal Highness afterwards rode out on horseback. The dinner party in the evening included, in addition to the Duchess of Kent, the Lord Chancellor and Lady Cranworth, the Marquis and Marchioness of Salisbury, the Earl and Countess of Derby, and Lady Emma Stanley, Viscount Jocelyn, and Major-General Sir George Bowles.

On Thursday, the Queen, with the Princess Royal and the Princess Alice, walked in the Home Park. The Prince Consort, accompanied by the Marquis of Salisbury, Viscount Sydney, the Earl of Mulgrave, Lord Bloomfield, and Major General Sir George Bowles, went out shooting. In the evening a dramatic performance took place in the Ladies' Room, at the Castle. The play selected was Sir E. Lytton Bulwer's comedy of "Money." Mr. Charles Kean, Mr. Webster, Mr. Buckstone, and Mr. A. Wigan filled the principal characters.

Lord George Lennox has succeeded Lieut.-Colonel F. Seymour in attendance on the Prince.

The Earl and Countess of Derby and Lady Emma Stanley arrived in St. James's-square, from Knowsley, on Tuesday evening, and on Wednesday left town for Windsor Castle, on a visit to her Majesty.

The Earl of Minto and Lady Charlotte Elliot are making a tour in the Italian States.

Mrs. W. E. Gladstone, the wife of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, gave birth to a son on Saturday last, at the official residence of the right hon. gentleman, in Downing-street.

Married, on the 5th inst., at Sutton Coldfield, Sir Francis Edward Scott, Bart., of Great Barr Hall, Staffordshire, to Mildred Anne, eldest daughter of Sir William Cradock Hartopp, Bart., of Four Oaks Hall, Warwickshire, and Gumley Hall, Leicestershire.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVAL OF THE "SERPENT."—The *Serpent*, 12, Commander Edward H. G. Lambert, arrived at Spithead on Tuesday. She brings home nothing but herself—her sailings and doings having been announced from Sydney on the 26th of July: New Zealand, 14th of August; Valparaiso, 13th of October; arrived at the Falkland Islands on the 31st.—The *Thetis*, with pressure on board, left two days previous for England (vid Rio). Left Valparaiso her Majesty's ship *Portland*, 50, and sailed from thence direct to England. She left England in October, 1849, and has gone over about 30,000 miles; brings home about half the crew of the *Portland*. The crew are all well.—Rear-Admiral Fairfax Moresby, in the flag-ship *Portland*, was at Valparaiso, and had, a few days prior to the *Serpent's* leaving that port, left half the crew of his ship being succeeded by Rear-Admiral David Price, in the *President*.—The *Dido*, 18, Captain Morshead, had left Valparaiso for Pitcairn's Island; after which she was to visit the coast to collect freight.

The *Banshee*, 3, paddle-wheel steam-vessel, Lieut. Louis R. Reynolds, having completed coaling, went out of harbour to Spithead on Wednesday, and anchored there. She is to serve as a despatch vessel to Admiral Dundas' fleet.

The *Blenheim*, 60, screw guard-ship, Capt. the Hon. F. T. Pelham, remains in dock undergoing repairs.

The *Duke of Marlborough*, 131, screw three-decker, building in Portsmouth yard, makes a very perceptible progress, assuming an imposing and majestic appearance.

The *Simoom*, 18, iron screw troop-frigate, Captain Henry Smith, arrived at Spithead, with the Rifles and some Royal Artillery from the Cape of Good Hope, on Saturday. She came into harbour on Tuesday morning, and hauled alongside the Victory jetty: soon after which, on the Captain's landing, the whole of the troops on board, together with the blue jackets, ranged themselves from the poop to the headrails, and gave Captain Smith three hearty cheers. The Royal Artillery soon after this disembarked, and marched out of the yard, their brass band playing "Auld Lang Syne." The Rifles landed on Wednesday, and proceed to Dover via South Coast line. The gallant corps was marched to the railway station by the bands of the 2nd Battalion, the 35th, and the 77th Regiments

NEW SCREW-STEAMER.—The saw-mills at Woolwich Dockyard are actively employed in converting timber for the *Edgar*, 90, screw-steamer, one of the new class of the *Neptune*, and building on the same slip from which the *Ajax* was launched. The *Edgar* is progressing fast in her outward structure.

MERCHANT SEAMEN.—The Lords of the Admiralty have exercised the powers given to them by the 15 and 16 Vic. chap. 31, to dispense with so much of the Act 7 and 8 Vic. chap. 112, as relates to the system of registering seamen by means of tickets.

THE WELLINGTON COLLEGE.—Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to grant a Charter of Incorporation for the Wellington College. The subject is one of great interest to the army in particular, and to the public in general.

TROOPS FOR FOREIGN SERVICE.—Transports are daily expected in Queenstown, for conveyance of the service companies of the 9th and 62nd Regiments on foreign service. It is rumoured in military circles that it is in contemplation to form the different regiments doing duty in the Mediterranean with a reserve battalion. On the score of economy, reserve battalions are advantageous, for no additional staff is requisite.—*Cork Constitution.*

SOAP AS A MEANS OF ART.—Dr. Ferguson Branson, of Sheffield, writing in the "Journal of the Society of Arts," says:—"Several years ago, I was endeavouring to find an easy substitute for wood engraving, or rather to find out a substance more readily cut than wood, and yet which would allow of a cast being taken from the surface when the design was finished, to be re-produced in type metal, or by the electrotype process. After trying various substances, I at last hit upon one which at first promised success, viz., the very common substance called soap; but I found that much more skill than I possessed was required to cut the fine lines for surface printing. A very little experience with the material convinced me that, though it might not supply the place of wood for surface printing, it contained within itself the capability of being extensively applied to various useful and artistic purposes in a manner hitherto untried, and, in fact, becoming a totally new material, and no method of die-sinking that I know of admits of freedom of handling. A drawing may be executed with a hard point on a smooth piece of soap almost as readily, as freely, and in as short a time, as an ordinary drawing with a lead pencil. Every touch thus produced is clear, sharp, and well defined. When the drawing is finished, a cast may be taken from the surface in plaster; or, if you will, by pressing the soap firmly into heated gutta-percha. In gutta-percha several impressions may be taken without injuring the soap, so as to admit of "proofs" being taken, and corrections made—a very valuable and practical good quality in soap. It will even bear being pressed into melted sealing-wax without injury. I have never tried a sulphur mould; but I imagine an impression from the soap could easily be taken by that medium." Dr. Branson has also employed bees'-wax, white wax, sealing-wax, lace, as well as other plastic bodies; and in some of these cases a heated steel knitting-needle, or point, was substituted for the ivory knitting-needle. He has sent several specimens to the Society of Arts, which show that from the gutta-purcha or plastic cast a cast in brass may be obtained, with the impression either sunk or in relief.

TRANSHIPMENT OF SPECIE TO FRANCE.—Of the gold brought to this country by the *Asia*, at Liverpool, from the United States (332,730 dollars) the greater portion, viz., 269,000, was for French merchants, and was transhipped in the *Margaret* from Liverpool to Havre.

POSTSCRIPT.

DEFEAT OF THE RUSSIANS.

The following is the telegraphic message from Belgrade, announcing another defeat of the Russians by the Turkish troops under the command of Omer Pasha:—

"BELGRADE, Jan. 10.—On the 6th, a Turkish division, 15,000 strong, with 16 pieces of artillery, attacked the intrenched position of Citalenet far from Kalafat, and took it by storm. The Russians lost 2,500 men.

"A reinforcement of 18,000 Russians, marching from Karaul, was forced to retire, with a loss of 250 men."

CONSTANTINOPLE, Jan. 1.—The news that an important advantage had been won by the Cetinan army at Kalafat was officially announced to the representative of the Powers. A convoy carrying 15,000 men to reinforce the army of Asia will set out for Batoum on the 3rd.

BERLIN, Jan. 9.—The order given to the English and French fleets to enter the Black Sea has worked no change in the attitude taken by Prussia on the Oriental question.

PARIS, Jan. 12, Six p.m.—The Bourse has closed with a fall. The Three per Cents closed at 70f. 50c. for the end of the month, and the Four-and-a-Half per Cents at 98f. 90c.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

We regret to have to announce to our readers that the commencement of the year 1854 has been marked by an act of open rebellion against supreme authority, which is the more serious in that it is manifested in the upper ranks of society, and among a class which has hitherto—no matter whatever the various private opinions of its members—refrained from any overt demonstration of resistance to the orders of "the powers that be." We allude to the insurrection of the ladies of Paris on the grave question of Court etiquette, involved in the matter of trains, in which the heads of the State have received a check, so much the more mortifying, that it will be difficult, if not impossible, to inflict on the fair insurgents the punishment due to their disobedience, and that there seems to be no course left open but to pocket the affront. At the Reception, on the occasion of the New Year, not more than two hundred ladies, including foreigners, independent of those about the Empress, were present, in consequence of the absolute necessity of the *manteau de cour* on the occasion, and as upwards of three times that number were already invited to the ball of the 4th, or must be invited to the Court fêtes, whose non-appearance at the Reception was significant of their intentions on the subject, it is too late to attempt to exclude the *récalcitrantes*—that is to say, three-quarters of the women of society, whose position gives them a prescriptive right to be present on such occasions. The Empress, instead of the dress and train of cloth of silver, prepared for the event, wore one of cloth of gold, with crimson flowers in relief, offered by the town of Lyons for this Reception. Some magnificent toilettes appeared; the prevailing colours were white and violet, and, in most instances, the dress and train were of the same material and shade. Although the ceremony was not long, the Empress was evidently fatigued before its conclusion; some confusion took place at the *sortie*, it being expected that each person or party would leave after having defiled before their Majesties; but the fairer portion of the company, not having seen enough of the toilette of the Empress, the Princess Mathilde, &c., or perhaps not shown enough of their own, remained till the latest moment, and all departed, pell-mell, by the single door open on the occasion.

The ball of the 4th was magnificent; but like all the Court fêtes, cold. Louis Napoleon danced the first quadrille with the Princesse Mathilde, and waltzed with Madame de Persigny; the Empress only danced in the first *contre danse*—her partner was the Prince Napoleon; on this occasion she appeared in a dress of blue Lyons silk, with white flowers, and trimmed with knots of blue and silver ribbon. The Duke of Brunswick figured in a uniform of which no description can render a correct idea; suffice it to say that diamonds seemed to form the principal material of his dress. Vely Pacha's costume came next for brilliancy among those of the *laid sexe*. The illness of one of their children prevented the attendance of Lord and Lady Cowley. About twelve o'clock the news was generally that a despatch of the utmost importance had just arrived from Russia, wholly tending to a warlike demonstration, which caused the Emperor to retire almost immediately. At this ball, the first after the declaration that the train is *de rigeur* for the court fêtes, the number of these *necessary* appendages amounted to twenty—eleven borne by the wives of Deputies, nine by those of Senators! The husbands were *bien entrement* docile last year on the subject of the *culottes courtes*; and Heaven knows what good reasons the majority had for resistance.

A report existed some days since that the Marquis de Turgot had been recalled, in consequence of the affair of the late complication of duels at Madrid; so far from this being the fact, we are informed, on tolerably good authority, that he received a very flattering letter from the *Chef de l'Etat*; and, without affirming this statement as a fact, we do not hesitate to assert that Louis Napoleon has approved, rather than reprobated, his conduct in the affair.

The intense cold has entirely, and we trust permanently, given way, During eight-and-forty hours a constant *surveillance*, night and day, was preserved, in order to prevent the alarming accidents threatened by the breaking up of the ice on the Seine; and it was with the utmost difficulty, despite these precautions, that the bridges and the baths and wash-houses established on the river were secured against the shocks of the floating masses. During the interruption of the navigation the price of coal augmented upwards of one-third. The damage done to the macadam and the pavement in the streets has been very considerable, and will entail considerable expense.

The fact announced in the *Moniteur*, that the Prince de Chinay had had an interview with Louis Napoleon, in which he presented to him a private letter from the King of the Belgians, has produced much speculation and attention. In the absence of any satisfactory intelligence on the subject, many suppose that the purport of the letter in question is to express the intention of the King to follow in the footsteps of England and France in the case of war becoming inevitable. Others believe that it is to announce an intention, or at least a desire which he has for some time been supposed to entertain, to renew the efforts already made to induce the Emperor of Russia to arrive at measures of conciliation.

Great sensation has been produced in the diplomatic circle by the omission of M. de Kisseleff, the Russian Ambassador, in the invitations given for the select ball at the Tuileries. Every other member of the diplomatic corps has been invited; and as this is a ball *d'élite*, the slight put upon M. de Kisseleff is the more remarkable. The invitations are given, it is true, not in the name of the Emperor, but in that of the Empress; but it is generally understood that M. de Kisseleff would not have been left out without the formal order of the Emperor. Some persons imagine that this has been done by his Majesty to punish M. de Kisseleff for some remark which he is said to have made before the Imperial marriage, and which applied more to the Empress than to the Emperor; but this is not probable, for he has been always invited to the parties of the Empress until now, and was always very graciously received by her Majesty.

The recall of General de Castelbajac from St. Petersburg is spoken of at Paris, as not unlikely to take place before long; the gentleman designated as his successor being the Count de Reiset, his first Secretary of Embassy. It appears that the Emperor was exceedingly displeased at the conduct of the representative of France at the Court of Russia, particularly at his strange not in going to offer his congratulations to the Czar on the victory of Sinope. "It is not, sire," he is represented as having said to the Emperor of Russia, "it is not as Ambassador of France that I felicitate you; but as a military man." "It was precisely as a military man," was the remark of an august personage in France, on hearing of this saying of the Ambassador, "that M. de Castelbajac ought not to have offered congratulations on such a victory."

A levy of 10,000 seamen is very currently spoken of in Paris. Already, indeed, measures have been commenced at Havre for calling out such seamen as have been dismissed for more than one year. The Minister of Marine (M. Ducos) is at the present moment organising a third squadron, to be called that of the reserve, and to consist of seven line-of-battle-ships and six frigates. The expense is calculated at ten millions of francs; and it is said that M. Ducos, who is one of the firmest supporters of war in the whole Ministry, is displaying great activity in effecting this increase to the French navy.

On Sunday last a meeting of bankers and moneyed men took place in Paris, M. Koningswater in the chair. It was decided at the meeting that a memorial should be at once drawn up, and presented to the Emperor, praying him to take into consideration the great pecuniary interests engaged in commercial and industrial undertakings in France and throughout Europe, and not to allow himself to be lightly engaged in the difficulties of a distant war. The Emperor, it is said, replied to the persons who presented this memorial, that undoubtedly material interests possessed incontestable importance in his eyes, but that he could never place them above moral interests, and that a question of honour and national dignity must always weigh with him much more heavily in the scale than any mere question of money.

TURKEY.

The most contradictory statements are given as to what proposition it is that the Divan has agreed to. The Paris correspondent of the *Times* says he is assured that the conditions accepted are the abrogation of the existing treaties, virtually annulled as they are by the war—the evacuation of the Danubian Principalities as soon as possible by Russia guaranteed by the Powers—the withdrawal of the pretensions of Russia, as comprised in the note of Prince Menschikoff—that the great question of Russia interfering in the internal concerns of the Ottoman Empire—and the understanding that, if any reclamations be found necessary, they shall proceed from the four Powers together."

Other accounts say that the French Government has received a despatch from Constantinople, announcing a great victory gained by Omer Pacha over the Russians in the neighbourhood of Kalafat. The Russians, who were more numerous than the Turks, had from 25,000 to 30,000 engaged. It is said, besides, that the present results of the populist on of Lesser Wallachia have risen against the Russians; and the victory now gained by Omer Pacha is expected to decide such parts of the country as might still hesitate to join the insurgents. This insurrection would appear to be of an infinitely more general character than the partial outbreaks already reported from other quarters. Constantinople was said to be in the greatest joy and enthusiasm; the disaster of Sinope was almost forgotten in the delight caused by the signal advantage now gained. The news thus received is said to have produced a profound impression on the French Council of Ministers, which was convoked immediately on the arrival of the despatch at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The advantage thus obtained by the Turkish arms was not confined to a single encounter. Several took place—at Sistowa, and on the Danube in front of Isatchka and Matschin. The date given of these actions is the 19th December. The news of Omer Pacha's victory over from 25,000 to 30,000 Russians, arrived simultaneously in Paris by two different channels at the same time—from the French Consul at Bucharest, and from General Baraguay d'Hilliers, who wrote his account at the moment of the departure of the *Chapital*, which arrived on Tuesday at Toulon. The despatch of the French General announced at the same time that the united squadrons were on the point of conveying 15,000 Turkish troops to Batoum, and that Schamyl had safely received all the ammunition and military stores which had been forwarded to him.

On the 26th ult. it was known at Constantinople, that a Russian squadron, composed of three sail of the line and several frigates, had been cruising for several days in the Black Sea. On the 22nd they were seen at a distance of three or four miles from the entrance of the Bosphorus. The telegraphic despatch from Vienna, on Wednesday, says—All the Russian ships of war in the Black Sea, have orders to return to Sebastopol.

The following letter from Bucharest shows that the Russians were preparing for an active campaign:—

BUCHAREST, Jan. 4.

Since the 20th of December there have been 40,000 (deduct 11,000 in hospital) men of the corps under Osten-Sacken in Wallachia. In Bessarabia, a new concentration of troops is going on. Near Kremanesoff and Charcow preparations are made for the establishment of two camps of cavalry; each will be composed of 10,000 men. The park of artillery near Giurgevo is composed of 100 guns of large calibre; that of Galatz consists of 120 guns. The construction of the intrenchments near Bucharest continues north and south. Two companies of Sappers are employed for that purpose from Giurgevo at Bucharest. The offensive movements of the Russians have commenced on a grand scale. The corps of Osten-Sacken advances in the midst of ice. The Russian Alisatia is making an advance in three columns. The corps which will operate against Kalafat is estimated at 22,000 men. The second marches through Karakal, and the third along the Aluta.

AUSTRIA.

The accounts from the French Ambassador at Vienna to the French Government are said to be very satisfactory as to the intentions of the Austrian Cabinet in the Eastern Question. It appears that, although the Emperor of Austria, from motives which can be appreciated, will not stand forward as a determined adversary of the policy of the Emperor of Russia, he is really desirous to see that policy checked, his own good sense, and his private conferences or correspondence with Prince Metternich, having fully enlightened him as to the necessity of assisting the other Powers of Europe directly or indirectly, in preventing the further aggrandisement of Russia. The anti Russian policy of Prince Metternich is well known; but it is not generally known that the advice of this old diplomatist has been taken by the Emperor of Austria on the present occasion. On this subject, a letter from a diplomatist at Vienna contains the following passage:—

Our old friend Metternich, even before, in his retirement, a service to be couldn't even refuse to any capital he rendered when in office. He has opened the eyes of the Emperor to the dangerous projects of the Russian party. Having been told that he was inconsistent, as formerly he had made no effort to check the designs of Russia in Turkey, he replied that his counsels had always been anti-Russian; and that he had never been passive except when France and Russia were in harmony, for then, he said, it would have been useless to protest. In a conversation with Count——, the Prince said, "You know of the part I have taken in my views. I wished to do everything possible for the independence of Germany, which must cease if one day Russia should become all powerful; and the emancipation of Greece was an additional instrument of power in the hands of Russia.

AUSTRALIA.

By the way of Singapore and overland, Adelaide papers are to hand to Nov. 1, a month later than previous advices. The South Australians, like their sister colonists, were much occupied with the political and social changes incidental to the new Constitutions. The Colonial Parliament Bill was to be read a third time and passed on Nov 1. The Governor was expected to dissolve the Council soon on its return to business of the session was concluded, in order to take the opinion of the colonists on the Parliament Bill. The consideration of the Colonial Estimates had been adjourned for a week, to allow time for the committee on the increase of salaries to bring up their report. The harvest prospects were encouraging; the only drawback was the scarcity of labour.

Hobart Town journals state that Governor Sir William Denison intended to remove all the convicts from Norfolk Island to Launceston. This announcement had caused considerable excitement and dissatisfaction. On Sept. 23, an Address to her Majesty was moved in the Legislative Council, to prevent the introduction of the pardoned criminals located at Norfolk Island. The committee appointed had recommended a vote of £10,000 per annum for public education.

THE LATE MUTINY IN THE CHINESE SEAS.—It is reported that Admiral Sir Fleetwood Pellew has been recalled; and that Admiral Sir James Stirling is to take his place as Commander-in-Chief on the East India Station.

THE EGYPTIAN RAILWAY.—Mr. R. Stephenson, the eminent engineer and contractor for the Egyptian Railway, arrived at Alexandria on the 1st, in his yacht *Titania*, to inspect the line, which is not progressing satisfactorily just now, as the rise of the water in Lake Mariotis has rendered it necessary to take up three or four miles of rails in order to raise the embankments beyond the reach of the inundation. The President of the Council at Cairo, Hassan Pasha, has given the engineers every assistance; but the war between Turkey and Russia has drawn so many men from Egypt that the Viceroy is unable to prosecute the works with vigour.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A YEAR.—THE PROPOSED MATCH BETWEEN MR. STAUNTON AND HERR HARRWITZ.—We think, that either Mr. Harrwitz's "acceptance" of Mr. S.'s challenge was a piece of bravado, which he never intended to carry out, or those members of the London Chess-club who, according to their President's declaration, were prepared to back Mr. Harrwitz, have lost all confidence in their champion since the redoubtably redoubtable opponent of his play in the late match. Whichever is the case, as Mr. H. has virtually declined the contest, his backers are bound in honour to pay over the forfeited stakes to the opposite party. There can be no two opinions among gentlemen upon this point, and the sooner it is done the better, both for the credit of Chess and all parties concerned.

CHESS IN BELGIUM.

The following fine game was recently played in Brussels between Mr. HEYDEBRAND and Mr. STAUNTON.

(Sicilian Opening).

BLACK (Mr. V. H.)	WHITE (Mr. S.)	BLACK (Mr. V. H.)	WHITE (Mr. S.)
1. P to K 4th	P to Q B 4th	22. Kt to Q Kt 6th	B takes B
2. P to Q 4th (a)	P takes P	23. Kt takes B	Q R to Q B 3rd
3. Kt to K B 3rd	Kt to Q B 3rd	24. P takes P	Q Kt takes P
4. B to Q B 4th	P to K 3rd	25. P to K Kt 4th	Q Kt to K Kt 6th
5. K Kt takes P	B to Q B 4th	26. K R takes K (ch)	Q takes R
6. K Kt to Q Kt 3rd	B to Q Kt 3rd	27. Q to K Kt 2nd.	R takes Kt
(b)		28. Q takes Kt	Q to K 2nd
7. Castles	K Kt to K 2nd	29. Q to K B 3rd	R to Q B sq
8. Q Kt to Q B 3rd	P to Q R 3rd (c)	30. Kt to Q 2nd	R to K B sq
9. Q B to K B 4th	P to Q 4th	31. Q to K Kt 3rd	P to K R 3rd
10. Q B to K 3rd	B takes B (d)	32. Kt to Q B 4th	P to Q 4th
11. P takes B	Castles	33. Kt to Q Kt 6th	P to Q 5th
12. Q to K R 5th	P to K Kt sq (e)	(f)	
13. P to Q R 4th (f)	Kt to K Kt 3rd	34. K P takes P	P takes P
14. Q R to Q sq	Q to K 2nd (g)	35. R to K Bsq (m)	R to Q sq
15. Q R to Q 5th	Q to her sq	36. P takes P	R takes P
16. P to Q Kt 5th	P to Q 3rd (h)	37. Q to Q B 3rd	Q to her 2nd
17. P to K R 3rd (i)	B to K 3rd	38. Q to Q B 2nd	Q to her sq (n)
18. Q R to Q B sq	Q R to Q B sq	39. Q to K 3rd	R to Q 4th
19. Q to K 2nd	R to R sq (k)	40. Q to K 4th	Q to her 2nd
20. P to Q B 3rd	Q Kt to K 3rd	41. R to K B 3rd (o)	Q to Q B 4th (ch)
21. Q R to Q sq	P to K B 4th	42. K to B sq	Q to Q B 8th (ch)
		And Black surrendered.	

(a) This move, which Jaenisch and other authorities have pronounced the best that can be made at the present moment, was first given in Volume IV., page 30, of the *Chess Players' Chronicle*.

(b) We are not advocates of this move. It takes the Kt too far away from the grand point of action

(c) Better, perhaps, to have Castled. Black could have gained nothing by playing his Q Kt to Kt 3rd, and he does now obtain a very smart attack for some time.

(d) Hazardous because, although it doubles two of the enemy's Pawns, it opens the battery of his King's Castle upon a weak point.

(e) The only way to escape some serious damage. If instead of this move he had played the natural one of K Kt to K Kt 3rd, the game would have gone on thus—

	12.	K Kt to Kt 3	
	13.	R takes K B P	R takes B
	14.	Q R to K B sq;	and Black has by far the best of the game.

(f) Mr. Heydebrand remarked, afterwards, that this was a last time.

(g) White is hampered a good deal by his inability to advance the Queen's Pawn, which confines two of his best officers, and compels him to fight with four pieces against six.

(h) Taking the Q B Pawn would have been the height of imprudence. For suppose—

16	Kt takes Q B P	16	Kt to K 7th (ch) Kt takes Kt
17. Kt takes Kt	Q takes Kt	18	R takes K B P—and wins.

(i) The more enterprising play of Kt to Q Kt 6th would have led to some highly interesting combinations. Ex. gr

17.	Kt to Q Kt 6th		
18.	Kt takes Q B P	18	R takes K (ch) K takes B
19.	K takes Kt	19	K takes R
		20.	Kt takes R

This appears to be his best play. If to K B sq would not drive the King into a place of safety. Kt to Q B 5th

(k) It is difficult to see, in actual play, that this is the only safe move White has. If he play the obvious one of Kt takes Kt, or K to Kt sq, he must lose the game, or, at least, have so bad a position, that he ought to lose. For example—

	Kt takes Kt	22	R to K B sq (ch), and Black has a
21. Q Kt to K B P (compulsé)	Kt to Q B 6th		capital game.

So, also, if—

	Kt to Kt sq	22	Q to K Kt 5th
21.	Kt takes Kt		

And again Black has an excellent game; for he now threatens to play P to Q Kt 4th, by which he will be enabled to rescue his Kt, and obtain a terrible attack besides.)

21.	Q takes K R P (We see	Q Kt takes K P	22. R to Q 2nd Q Kt to K Kt 5th
	no better move for him)		

And White must now win the imprisoned Kt, and, consequently, the game.

(l) At length, through some dangers and difficulties, White [illegible] and to ensure the enemy to abandon the attack. Remforced to [illegible] all the ought to the catastrophe.

(m) Had he taken the Q Pawn, White would have won easily, by playing Q to K B 2nd, &c.

(n) If he had taken Pawn with Pawn, White's answer would have been Kt to K B 5th, and if he had taken Pawn with Rook, then, probably, White would have replied with Q to K 7th

(o) White might have won by simply exchanging Queens, and playing Rook to Q 6th, but preferred another course.

(p) His best move here was, perhaps, Kt to Q B 4th. But that would not have saved him, as we [illegible] for, as follows—

	Kt to Q B 4th		Q to K Kt 8th (ch)
42.	Q to K Kt 2nd		Q to K 8th
43.	Kt to K B 3rd		

(If K to R 2nd, then follows Q to her sq, threatening to win the Kt, and also to play Kt to K 7th (ch), &c.)

43.	Kt to K B 5th	44.	R takes Kt (best) R to h. Kt 6th
	And White has a Queen against a Rook and Kt		

MATCH BETWEEN MR. STAUNTON AND MR. HARRWITZ.

(From a Correspondent.)

As the proposed contest has been looked forward to with much interest, it may be well to show briefly how far the negotiations respecting it have proceeded, and why they have been interrupted.

It will be remembered that, at the Manchester meeting last May, Mr. Staunton put forth a general challenge, offering to play a match with any one in the world for £250 aside. To this challenge, for [illegible] there was no response; when, suddenly, Mr. Harrwitz wrote to say that he accepted the challenge, conditionally that the stakes on each side should be £100 only

Now, as Mr. Harrwitz is a player who has never risen above the second rank, even when in his best p ay, had lost every game he ever played with Mr. S. upon even terms, and had been beaten in a match where Mr. S. gave him the enormous odds of the Pawn and two moves, and, moreover, was at a very moment when he accepted the challenge under engagement to play a match with a competitor of his own calibre, reasonable doubt [illegible] aimed as to the bona fide nature of his "acceptance." In [illegible] for the encounter, Mr. S. took the precaution, [illegible] of sending to the President of the London Chess-club to ascertain whether that society undertook to find the stakes for Mr. H. From that gentleman's statement, it appeared clear that [illegible] of the club had subscribed the amount required, and that Captain Evans had consented to act on their and Mr. Harrwitz's part in arranging the minor preliminaries of the match. Upon his assurance, Mr. S. [illegible] to wrote to his opponent to say that he had deposited [illegible] with Mr. Bean, of the St. George's Chess-club, and somewhat later stated for a week stay on the Continent, with the condition that the match was settled, and that he must be ready for battle upon the termination of the match between Messrs Lowenthal and Harrwitz. On returning to England, at the early stage of this match, he had an interview with Captain E., and laid before him copies of the correspondence between himself and Mr. H. when Captain E. expressed his opinion that Mr. H. was unquestionably bound to play the match on the terms of the challenge. He stated, however, that Mr. H. was desirous of having those terms modified in some particulars. A short time afterwards Captain E. brought to Mr. S. and to the gentleman who acted as his representative, a draft of the terms upon which Mr. H., who, he said, "considered himself no longer bound to play upon the conditions he had before accepted!" now proposed to play. Upon Mr. S. demurring to an entirely new feature in the question of time in moving, Captain E. proposed, "as any restriction as to time was foreign to the spirit of chess," that the time-clause should be cancelled altogether! To this, after a few minutes' consideration and some reflection on the subject, Mr. S. consented, and it was believed that every impediment was now removed. This pleasant illusion was dispelled almost immediately by Captain E., after consulting with his principal, announced that Mr. Harrwitz would not agree even to this arrangement. The affair then fell into the hands of the two seconds, Capt. Evans and Mr. Sheppard; and, after much proceeding, in which they appeared to arrive no nearer a satisfactory adjustment, Mr. Sheppard, upon the conclusion of the late match, wrote as follows to Capt. E.:—"As I am actuated by a real desire to bring about this contest, I will not now enter into minutiæ nor peril the object in view by reviving useless discussions. We can settle all minor matters when we meet; let us now only concern ourselves with endeavouring to display the prowess of the respective warriors. If your principal is only half as willing to play as mine, we shall not have much difficulty. I can assure you that Mr. S. is as fully prepared to enter the lists now, as he was before the termination of the late match. As a proof of this, he authorises me to make the following final proposit-ion:—

"*He will play at the time Mr. H. himself proposes, either according to the terms of the challenge already accepted; or he will even consent to agree upon the terms you, as Mr. H.'s second, proposed, altogether waiving the question of limiting the time on moves; and in either case, if agreeable to Mr. H.'s supporters, he will double the amount of stakes.*

"If this offer is refused by Mr. Harrwitz, it must be obvious to you, as to every body else, that he is determined in every way to evade the contest."

This seemed a clencher, but did not prove so. Captain E. replied by saying he had resigned his appointment as second, and had forwarded the letter to Mr. H. Mr. Harrwitz, as might be expected, has made no reply. Mr. Sheppard has since written to the party who represented himself as the holder of Mr. H.'s deposit, demanding the forfeited stakes; and no notice whatever has been taken of his communication. Here the matter rests.

We have not room for a letter from Mr. Sheppard regarding the above affair, but shall try to give it next week.

RELIGIOUS WORSHIP.—CENSUS TABLES.

Another volume of the elaborate Reports of the Census Commissioners has recently been published, and relates to religious worship, to church accommodation, and to the number of persons who frequent church and chapel in England and Wales. It is a thick octavo of 484 pages, closely printed, and remarkable, like all the productions of the Commissioners, for minuteness and patient thinking. It consists of a report and a great number of tables, and the former has been written, and the latter compiled by Mr. Horace Mann, who has performed his task with great diligence and great care, and supplied the public with some much-desired and important information. He has not confined himself to a mere dry enumeration of buildings, seats, and persons present at church; but has made the subject interesting and intelligible, by a valuable sketch of the progress of religion amongst us from the earliest times to the present. Before stating the statistical results of the inquiry, we shall very briefly allude, for the benefit of our country readers, to the great religious changes which have taken place in England and Wales within the last century.

At the accession of George III., now little more than a century ago, there were not more than six well-defined and well-known denominations of Christians in the country, viz., the Church of England, Presbyterians, Independents, Baptists, Friends, and Roman Catholics—all but the first being subject to political restrictions, and the last being in a manner proscribed. There were one or two other denominations, off-sets of these, as the Unitarians, who sprang from the Presbyterians; and the Moravians, who had, a few years before, achieved their first settlement in England; but they were scarcely known to the public, and were unrecognised by the law. All these denominations, like the Church of England itself, grew out of the Reformation, which led, as its consequence—while Roman Catholicism admitted of no deviation, and abhorred toleration—to the existence and toleration of several sects of Christians. At the accession of George III., religious indifference was in the main the characteristic both of the clergy and the people. Hume could then exult at the easy quietude the land enjoyed under a well-endowed and well-contented clergy; and he, with Gibbon and others, encountered no fierce opposition in their gentlemanly though infidel attacks on Christianity itself. There had arisen, however, before their time—though then barely acknowledged, if known—a new man, who was to effect a greater change in the religious spirit of the people, if not a greater reformation in religion, than Luther himself. From amongst the clergy, like Luther, and even from Oxford itself, the new reformer arose. John Wesley was the son of a Lincolnshire clergyman, and was himself a member of Oxford University, and a clergyman of the Church. In 1727, he and his brother began at Oxford to devote themselves to a strictly religious life; and in that age, when religion was generally mocked at, were nicknamed Methodists. It is not for us to re-write his remarkable history—to describe the vast labour he went through, the opposition he encountered, the conditions he met with; it is enough to say that he directed his labours principally to instructing and enlightening the lower classes—that he excited the emulation of many of the clergy, and awakened amongst the great mass that religious spirit which has continued active to our time—that he laboured as a missionary, and as the head of a vast number of congregations, directed by a Conference—and formed, in truth, a great religious establishment, which ere long was to erect its chapel almost wherever there was a church, and very often to erect two or three chapels to one church, for the long period of sixty years. He died in the year 1791, having lived to see his efforts attended by a success it was impossible that he or any man should at first have anticipated. Since then the desire to promote religion amongst the people has never ceased to exist. The Wesleans, formerly so indifferent, or so occupied, like the meanest of the people, with worldly cares, has devoted time and funds to increase the facilities of worship, and make men moral by the influence of religion. The rise and success of the Wesleyans roused the emulation both of clergy and laymen, and both have in latter times exerted themselves and freely given of their wealth to provide religious edifices in every place. Existing and increasing toleration has permitted a free operation to religious zeal; and the change which has been at length had the same effect, but to a greater degree, as the Reformation in increasing the diversities of Christian worship. From that there grew only seven or eight denominations of Christians; there are now enumerated in England and Wales thirty-three distinct denominations or sects—twenty-seven native or indigenous, nine foreign," besides a number of isolated congregations, with little or no formal organisation, which are just numerous and consolidated enough to be called a sect. We shall at once copy from the tables appended to them, together with the number of places of worship each possesses:—

RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS.	PLACES OF WORSHIP.	RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS.	PLACES OF WORSHIP.
Church of England	14,077	Calvinistic Methodists:	
Scottish Presbyterians:		Welsh Calvinistic Methodists	828
Church of Scotland ..	18	Lady Huntingdon's Connection	109
United Presbyterian Ch. ..	66	Sandemanians	6
England	76	New Church	54
Reformed Irish Presbyterians	1	Brethren	132
Independents	3,244	Isolated Congregations ..	647
Baptists:		Lutherans	8
General	93	French Protestants	8
Particular	1,947	Reformed Church of the Netherlands	1
Seventh Day	2	German Protestant Reformers	1
Scotch	15	Italian Reformers	1
New Connection General..	18	Catholic and Apostolic Churches	32
Undefined	460	Latter-Day Saints	222
Society of Friends	371	Jews	53
Unitarians	229	TOTAL	34,467
Moravians	32		
Wesleyan Methodists:			
Orig nal Connection ..	6,579		
New Connection	397		
Primitive Methodists ..	2,571		
Bible Christians	483		
W. M. Association	419		
Independent Methodists ..	30		
Wesleyan Reformers ..	329		

The separate bodies not classed with these, and yet distinct enough to have names, are as follows:—

Calvinists, Calvinists (supra-lapsarian), Huntington fans, Universalists, Millenarians, Predestinarians, Trinitarian Predestinarians, Christians, Christian Association, Orthodox Christians, New Christians, Christ's Disciples, Primitive Christians, New Testament Christians, Original Christians, United Christians, Gospel Pilgrims, Free Gospel Christians, Believers, Non-sectarian, No particular Denomination Evangelists, Gospel Refugees, Freethinking Christians, Protestant Christians, Apostolical Protestants, Protestant Free Church, Trinitarians, Protestant Dissenters, Dissenters, Evangelical Dissenters, Episcopalian Seceders, Free Church, Teetotallers, Doubtful, Benevolent Methodists, General Christians, Christian Israelites, Sceptheniles, Inghamites, Temperance Wesleyans, Temperance Christians, Freethinkers, Rational Progressionists, Southcottians.

Of these last there are yet four congregations in the land.

By these lists the readers will at once see how vast has been the almost silent change in a century. From the new sects several others sects have split off. Thus there are five kinds of Baptists, and already, within sixty years of Wesley's death, ten branches from Methodism. They have not been without influence on politics; but we confine our view to the subject before us. As these various sects grew into strength, as they each began to exercise political power, and as the public money was appropriated to building churches, or to promote education, there arose a great desire, independently of all mere scientific reasons, to ascertain, not only the number of persons belonging to each sect, but the number of churches or chapels that each possessed, and the number of worshippers they could accommodate, and the extent of means they supplied for the religious education of the people. When the Census Act was passed, it was supposed that the words "to inquire into further particulars" warranted the Commissioners to ascertain all these circumstances respecting religious worship, and they endeavoured to do so; but when, in consequence, they issued their queries, they were met by objections to their authority—and that view having been supported in the House of Peers and by the law officers of the Crown—they were obliged to substitute requests for commands. The returns, therefore, were voluntary, not compulsory; and, though they have been obtained from 14,077 churches belonging to the Establishment, and from 20,390 places of worship belonging to all the various bodies of Dissenters, they are not complete. They are probably more defective in respect to Dissent than to the Church; but, incomplete though they be, they form by far the most valuable information on the subject that has ever been collected; and, indeed, the only information that can be called reliable.

Confining our remarks chiefly to the accommodation latterly provided for Church worship, we must remark that, of 14,077 churches and chapels enumerated as belonging to the Church of England, there were built—

Before 1800 ..	..	..	.. 3667
Between 1801–11 ..	..	..	.. 55
1811 21 ..	..	..	.. 197
1821–31 ..	..	..	.. 276
1831–41 ..	..	..	.. 667
1841–51 ..	..	..	.. 1157
Dates not ascertained	..	..	.. 2113

Taking no notice of the last line, as not knowing to what period to assign them, it is plain that the progress of church building has been much greater in the latter decennial periods of the half century than in the earlier decennial periods. The first large grant from the State was subsequent to 1821. In 1831 the number of churches and chapels of the Church of England reported in the Census, was 11,525; and the number in 1851 being 14 077, it is pretty certain that many of those of which the date of the erection is not mentioned were built within the twenty years, and still more within the century—and we may assume that not less than 2252, or nearly one-sixth of the whole were built within the twenty years 1831–1851. The result of this, stated in a tabular form, has been to provide in the five counties mentioned below the following increase of church accommodation, notwithstanding the large increase of people:—

	One Church to Population in 1851.	1831.
In Cheshire	2355 ..	1868
In Lancashire	4578 ..	3898
In Middlesex	5832 ..	4688
In Surrey	3059 ..	2434
In York West Riding	3481 ..	2894

At the same time church accommodation is yet so unequally distributed and so inadequate, that, notwithstanding the large increase, there are fewer churches in relation to the whole population in 1851 (one church to every 1296 persons) than in 1831 (one church to every 1175 persons). Amongst the places where in proportion to population church accommodation is least, are several districts of the metropolis—Shoreditch, St. George's-in-the-East, Newington, St. Saviour, Clerkenwell; and even the parish of St. James's, Westminster, in which is situated the ancient palace of the Sovereign.

(To be continued.)

DISSENTERS' FUNERALS.—For some time past a good deal of excitement has been produced by the refusal of the curates of Barking to admit the bodies of Dissenters into the church in that pic re previous to interment. In consequence of the unseemly scenes which have been witnessed, the parishioners determined to memorialize the Bishop of London upon the subject, and it is stated, his Lordship has recently intimated to the curates, that they are not, on any account, to refuse admission of such bodies into the parish church.

A curious discovery has been made near Jakobstad, Sweden. Some men gathering reindeer-moss in the forest found a serpent-lair, from one to two ells under the surface. The first day they killed 180, and the following days still more, so that the total number destroyed was 440.

THE WEATHER AND THE WOLVES.—The severity of the weather has rendered the wolves very daring in their attacks in France, particularly in the Moselle. On Tuesday morning last, as a man on horseback was entering one of the gates of Metz, he was assailed by one of these animals, which sprung at the horse's chest, but fortunately the man was able to beat it off with the butt-end of his whip. On the following day a cow, in a field close to the village of St. Julien, was pursued by three wolves, but escaped. An inhabitant of Lorry, while at work in a field near the village, suddenly saw three very large wolves advancing towards him, but he was able to obtain shelter in a shed before they reached him.

LATEST BETTING AT TATTERSALL'S ON THURSDAY EVENING.

METROPOLITAN.—20 to 1 agst Virago (t).

CHESTER CUP.

50 to 1 agst Virago (t)	40 to 1 agst Newminster (c) | 40 to 1 agst Aldford (c)

DERBY.

8½ to 1 agst King Tom (t)	40 to 1 agst Scythian (t)
OAKS 4 to 1 agst Meteora (t).	

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

Notwithstanding the entrance of the combined fleets into the Black Sea, and that several rather heavy sales of stock for foreign have been effected, the value of British Government Funds is kept tolerably firm during nearly the whole of the week. The firmness is attributed to the continuous imports of gold from Australia (from whence about £400,000 has just arrived, with advices that £1,000,000 sterling is on passage), the steady increase in the stock of the precious metals in the Bank of England, the payment of the dividends, and the abundance of money. As a matter of course, we are always calculated to give an ability to the market, and to inspire confidence as respects the future. We may observe, however, that the purchases effected in Consols on the part of the public have been comparatively small.

On Monday the Three per Cent Reduced Annuities were done 92¾ & ⅞; the Three per Cent Consols, 92¾ & ⅞ ex div.; Consols for the Account, 92¾ & ⅞; and Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 93¾ up to 93⅝; Long Annuities, 1860, 5⅛. India Bonds were par to 4s. pm.; and Exchequer Bills, 6s. to 9s. pm. On Tuesday the latter securities advanced 1s. or 2s. to 4s. pm. India Bonds were the same as on the previous day. The Three per Cent Consols were 92⅝ & ¾; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 93⅜ & ½ pm. Bank stock was done on Wednesday, 214 to 216. The three per Cent Reduced annuities were 92⅝ & ¾; and the Three per Cent Consols, 92¾ & ⅞. The Market, on Thursday, was tolerably firm. In the general quotations on Thursday, there was an upward movement. The three per Cent. Consols for the 15th having been done at 92¾ & ⅞; the Three per Cents Reduced, 92¾ & ⅞; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 94 to 94⅜. Exchequer Bills were 7s. to 10s. premium.

The Money-Market has presented no new feature. It has been well supplied, and first-class bills of a short date, have been taken in Lombard-street, at 4¢ per cent.

In the ensuing quarter, £811,855 will be employed on account of the Sinking Fund for the Reduction of the National Debt. It is understood, however, that this amount will be disposed of in the purchase of deficiency bills. Since March last, the following sums have been handed over to the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt:—

Quarter ending July 5, 1853	..	£604,380
Quarter ending Oct. 10	..	615,185
Quarter ending Jan. 5, 1854	..	832,175
Quarter ending March 5	..	811,855

It is rather important to notice that the surplus means of the various Savings Banks in this country are increasing, although "strikes" continue in some districts

The Foreign markets have been wholly devoid of animation. In most instances prices have tended downwards. Brazilian Small have been 97⅛; Ditto, Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 90 to 91⅛; Mexican Three per Cents, 23 to 23½; Ditto, Five per Cents, 17⅞ to 18; Peruvian Bonds, Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 90 ex div.; Spanish Three per Cents, 42¾ & ⅔ ex div.; Ditto, New Deferred, 20¾ ex div.; Venezuelan One per Cent, Deferred, 13; Austrian Five per Cents, 74¼; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 61⅞ ex div.; Dutch Four per Cents, 94⅜.

In Miscellaneous shares we have very few transactions to notice. On the whole, prices have been in favour of buyers. Australasia Bank Shares have sold at 74; British North American, 64; London Chartered of Australia, 18⅜; Oriental, 44; Union of Australia, 75¾; Australian Agricultural, 62; Australian Royal Mail Steam, 33¾; Crystal Palace, 3⅜; Ditto, New, 3⅛; London Dock, 111; Peel River Land and Mineral, 6; South Australian 1 and, 30¾ ex div.; Berlin Waterworks, 1⅜; East London, 136; Grand Junction, 79; West Middlesex, 116¾ ex div.; Southwark and Vauxhall, 82¾ & ½; Hungerford Bridge, 12; Waterloo, 6¼; Vauxhall, 22. Albion Insurance have marked 95; County, 123; Globe, 144; Guardian, 20¾; Imperial Fire, 375; Pelican, 50; Phœnix, 168; Royal Exchange, 310; Sun Life, 65; Universal, 45¾; Canada Six per Cent Bonds, 112¾ ex div.; General Screw Steam Shipping Company, 1⅞.

The market for Railway shares has been very dull and drooping. The following are the official closing prices on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Aberdeen, 20¾; Caledonian, 62⅜; East Anglian, 6¾; Eastern Counties, 12¾; East Lancashire, 89; Great Northern, 88¾; Ditto, A Stock, 81; Ditto, B Stock, 129; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 100; Great Western, 82; Lancaster and Carlisle, 92⅜; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 85⅝; Ditto, Fifths, 3⅛; Leeds Northern, 18; London and North-Western, 102; Ditto, Fifths, 1⅛; Ditto, £10 Shares, 1¼; Ditto, Eighths, 1⅛; London and South-Western, 86; Manchester, Sheffield and Lincolnshire, 47¾; Midland, 71; Norfolk, 46; North British, 29¾; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 36; Scottish Central, 91½; Scottish Midland, 56; Shropshire Union, 7⅜; South-Eastern, 69¾; Vale of Neath, 79; West Cumberland, 62; Yorkshire, 63; Ditto Extension, 11⅜; Ditto G. N. E. Purchase, 9⅜; York and North Midland, 45¾.

LINES LEASED AT FIXED RENTALS.—Clydesdale Junction, 101, Royston and Hitchin, 142; Wear Valley, 30⅝.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Caledonian, 99; Eastern Counties Extension, 1¾ prem.; Ditto New Six per Cent Stock, 10⅜; Great Northern Four-and-a-Half per Cent Scrip, 10⅜; Great Western Convertable and Redeemable 4¼ per Cent, 101; Ditto, Irredeemable 4 per Cent, 98; Londonderry and Enniskillen 5 shares, 12½; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, New £10 Shares, 9⅞; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 101; South Eastern, 20¾.

FOREIGN.—Grand Trunk of Canada, 6⅜; Great Western of Canada, 16¾; Luxembourg, 9⅝; Ditto, Railway, 6¾; Paris and Lyons, 21½; Paris and Strasbourg, 30¾; Zealand, 1¼.

The Mining Share market has been greatly depressed. On Thursday, St. John del Rey marked 20 to 32 and 31½; Copiago, 12⅞; Quartz Rock, 1⅜; Santiago de Cuba, 6¼ to 5.

THE MARKETS.

COVT ENGRAVER (January 9).—The supply of English wheat on offer in to-day's market was very limited. All kinds moved off briskly, at a rise in the prices of Monday last of 5s. per quarter. There was no active inquiry for foreign wheats, at from 4s. to 5s. per quarter more money than on the corresponding day of last week. Barley, the supply of which was moderate, ruled firm, at 1s. to 2s. per quarter more money. Malt and oats were quite 1s.; beans and peas, 1s. to 2s. per quarter dearer. Flour advanced 2s. to 3s. per sack. The top price of English being 75s. per 280 lbs.

Wednesday, January 11: The attendance of buyers to-day was limited. All articles moved off slowly, at Monday's prices.

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 72s. to 82s.; ditto, white, 74s. to 92s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 69s. to 83s.; ditto, white, —s. to —s.; rye, 44s. to 46s., grinding barley, 32s. to 42s.; distilling ditto, 41s. to 44s.; malting, ditto, 45s. to 50s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 46s. to 72s.; brown ditto, 66s. to 68s.; Kingston and Ware, 72s. to 78s.; Chevalier, 74s. to 78s.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 23s. to 30s.; potato ditto, 30s. to 33s.; Youghal and Cork, black, 23s. to 25s.; Sligo and Limerick ditto, white, 26s. to 28s.; ditto, black, 25s. to 25s.; ditto, red, 24s. to 25s.; grey peas, 42s. to 45s., maple, 42s. to 47s.; white, 46s. to 48s.; beans, 42s. to 45s. per quarter. Town-made flour, 70s. to 75s.; country marks, 54s. to 58s. per sack. *Foreign:* French flour, —s. to —s per sack; American, 38s. to 45s. per barrel.

Monday, January 16: The supply of wheat on sale last week, limited, moves off freely, at the late advance. Oakes are firm, at full prices.

Linseed, English, sowing, 39s. to 40s.; Baltic crushing, 47s. to 52s.; Mediterranean and Odessa, 46s. to 48s.; hempseed, 33s. to 38s. per quarter. Coriander, 10s. to 13s. per cwt. Brown mustard-seed, 10s. to 12s.; white ditto, 12s. to 14s.; and tares, 7s. 6d. to 8s. per bushel. Rapeseed, £20 to £24 per last of 10 quarters. Linseed cakes, English, £9 5s. to £10 10s.; ditto, foreign, £9 5s. to £11 10s. per ton. Rapeseed cakes, £6 0s. to £6 10s. per ton. Canary, 55s. to 70s. per quarter. Hempseed, 35s. to 36s.; ditto, white, 42s. to 46s.

Bread.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 11d. to 11½d.; of household ditto, 10d. to 10½d. per 4 lb. loaf.

Seeds.—Clover sold in firm and quite as dear as last week. Linseed moves off freely, at the late advance. Cakes are firm, at full prices.

Wool.—Our market is firm, at very full prices.

Provisions.—The demand is still active, and middling to fine white Bengal has realized 16s. 6d. to 17s. per cwt.

Tallow.—A good business is doing in Irish butter, the value of which is well supported. Foreign has advanced fully 2s. per cwt. English qualities are held at full quotations. The beef market is rather active at extreme rates. Lard is quite as dear as last week. In other kinds of provisions, very little is doing.

Tallow.—A good business is doing in the market, and prices are on the advance. P. Y. C. on the spot, 47s. 6d. Town Tallow, 45s. per cwt. Rough fat, 2s. 4d. per cwt. Town tallow, 52s. net cash.

Oils.—Our market is very firm, at enhanced rates. Linseed, £1 14s. to £1 15s.; cod, £36 10s. to £37 per tun. Sperm, £84 to £86; coco, £34 to £35 per ton. Spirits of turpentine, in punchcons, 41s. per cwt.

Coals.—Tanfield Moor, 30s.; Wylam, 30s.; Whitwell, 33s.; Hough Hall, 30s.; South Hartlepool, 30s.

Hay and Straw.—Meadow hay, £3 5s. to £5 15s.; clover ditto, £4 to £6 10s.; and straw, £1 14s. to £2 2s. per load.

Spirits.—The sale for rum is active, at extreme quotations. Proof Leewards, 2s. 7d. to 2s. 8d. per gallon. Brandy is brisk, and again dearer. Geneva firm. Corn spirits are 5d. to 6d. per gallon.

Hops.—The demand for all kinds of hops is steady, at full prices. Mid and East Kent pockets, £4 4s. to £17 17s.: Weald of Kent, £3 10s. to £13 13s.; Sussex, £10 to £12 5s. per cwt.

Wool.—Small parcels of East India and low foreign wools have passed off steadily. In the private market a fair amount of business is doing.

Potatoes.—The demand is steady, as follows:—Kent and Essex Regents, 140s. to 155s.; Scotch ditto, 130s. to 140s.; Scotch cups, 110s. to 120s.; Lincolns, 100s. to 120s. per ton.

Smithfield.—A full average business has been done in this market, as follow:—

Beef, 4 cut 3s. 2d. to 3s. 8d.; mutton, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 6d.; veal, 3s. 6d. to 5s. 6d.; pork, 3s. 4d. to 5s. 6d. per 8 lbs., to sink the offal.

Newgate and Leadenhall.—These markets continue steady, and prices are well supported.

Beef, from 3s. 6d. to 4s. 6d.; mutton, 3s. 2d. to 4s. 8d.; veal, 3s. 6d. to 5s. 6d.; pork, 3s. 4d. to 5s. 6d. per 8 lbs. by the carcase. ROBERT HERBERT.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6, 1854.

WAR OFFICE, JAN. 6.

2nd Dragoon Guards Lieutenant O. F. C. Bridgeman to be Adjutant, vice Clemenna.

7th Foot: Staff-Surgeon of the Second Class A. P. Lockwood to be Surgeon, vice Mitchell.

9th: Wm. Hall Walpole to be Ensign, vice Hall. 16th: Captain D. Mahon to be Captain, vice Chancellor. 18th: Lieutenant C. E. Preston to be Paymaster, vice Kennedy. 97th: Lieut. W. H. Cooper to be Adjutant, vice Leighton. 30th: Ensign L. Macpherson to be Lieut.-Instr., vice Hepburn; J. S. C. Harcourt to be Ensign, vice Macpherson. 34th: Lieut. J. Wright to be Lieutenant, vice Twemlow. 39th: Lieut. H. Atherton to be Captain, vice Rundle: Ensign T. M. B. Gardyne to be Lieutenant, vice Atherley; F. F. Bisset to be Ensign, vice Harcourt. 41st: Lieut. J. Johnston to be Adjutant, vice Harnard. 46th: Ensign A. Healey to be Lieutenant, vice Gervis; W. Atkinson, to be Ensign, vice Hanley. 49th: Ensign W. P. Byrne to be Lieutenant, vice Grubbe. 70th: Capt. A. Chancellor to be Captain, vice Bernard.

2nd West India Regiment: Major S. J. Hill to be Lieut.-Colonel; Capt. J. Miller to be Major, vice Hill: Lieut. J. Harper to be Adjutant, vice Miller; Ensign E. J. Laughlin to be Lieutenant, vice Harper: C. F. Holt to be Ensign, vice Laughlin.

Memorandum: The Staff-Surgeon of the first class C. Tyler, Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals, vice Shanks; Surg. J. Mitchell to be Staff Surgeon of the first Class, vice Wyber; Assistant-Surgeon J. Bell to be Staff Surgeon of the Second Class, vice Lockwood: F. M. Sen to be Assistant-Surgeon to the forces, vice Laing; T. M. Blockley to be Assistant-Surgeon to the forces, vice Quinody, M.D.; J. Bell to be Assistant-Surgeon to the forces, vice Rosen elected.

BREVET.—Capt. G F Duckett to be Major in the Army.

OFFICE OF ORDNANCE, JANUARY 5.

Royal Artillery: Second Lieut. M. le Par Taylor to be First Lieutenant, vice Mosly. Cadets to be Second Lieutenants—A. K. Hunter, W. C. Ramsay, C. P. Tillard, E. C. Bolton, G. H. A. Nicolls, D. G. C. Macdeehan J Barton C. J. H. Johnstone, R. H. Cleudinnell, E Humphrey, G. W. Wilson, L. B Broughton, G. A. A. Young.

Royal Engineers: Second Capt C. Fanshawe to be Captain, vice Denison; First Lieut. J. Grant, to be Second Captain; Second Lieutenant Lieut. H. C. Savage to be First Lieutenant, vice Grant. Cadets to be Second Lieutenants with temporary rank—The Hon. C. Wrottesley, L. A. Hale. H W. H. D. Dunsterville, R. Lempriere. G. Longley.

BANKRUPTS.

C. R. SMITH, Gloucester place, Newington, Surrey, J. RAYNES, Nottingham, Ironman. J. ALBISTON, Gloucester place, New road, coachmaker. J. W. LE GRAND, Lambeth-walk, grocer. J. EVANS and G. DAVEY, Glamorgan, ironmasters. T. WILKINSON, Exton square, coal-merchant.

TUESDAY, JAN. 10.

WAR OFFICE, JAN. 7.

Royal Marines: Cadet H. H. Nott to be Second Lieutenant.

BANKRUPTS.

J. HART, Borough-road, Southwark, grocer. J. READ, Hart-street, Bloomsbury, licensed victualler. W. H. SPICER, Tidley, Worcestershire, and Wolverhampton, baker. J. THURMAN, Birmingham, woollen draper. T. PITT, Hasebury Plucknett, Somersetshire, garth-wick manufacturer. J. HOWARD, Great Grimsby, Lincolnshire, and Hunmingtree and Hull, shipowner. J. HUTTON, W. P. HUTTON, Lancaster, grocer. W. FALLAS, Holme, Lancashire, builder. J. KAY, Freshwich, Lancashire, calico manufacturer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

J. REID, Cooper Angus, Perthshire, grain merchant. W. BENNETT, Dundee, merchant. W. TREAL WELLS, Port Glasgow, wine-merchant. T. MONTEITH and SON, Devonside, woollen manufacturer.

BIRTHS.

BARNES.—On the 4th inst., at the Parsonage, Biddington, the wife of the Rev. E. F. Barnes, of a son.

BELL.—On the 5th, at Crescent-terrace, Millbank, the wife of Mr. Stephen Bell, of the West-India Docks, of a daughter.

DUNDAS.—On the 5th, at Edinburgh, the lady of Sir David Dundas, of Beechwood, Bart., of a daughter.

GARRIER.—On the 6th, in Upper Harley-street, the lady Caroline Garrier, of a son.

GREENWOOD.—On the 3rd ult., at Gwazdilla, near Ripley, Yorkshire, the wife of John Greenwood, Esq., of a son.

GILBERT.—On the 9th, at Stanton-hall, Lincolnshire, the wife of Joseph Livesey, Esq., of a son.

LIVESEY.—On the 9th, at Stanton-hall, Lincolnshire, the wife of Joseph Livesey, Esq., of a son.

RIPER.—On the 5th, at Tackley Rectory, near Woodstock, the wife of the Rev. L. A. Sharpe, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

AWDRY.—EVANS.—On the 3rd inst, at Rhayader, the Rev. W. H. Awdry, to Mary Llewellyn, eldest daughter of the Rev. W. Evans, Vicar of Rhayader and Cwmtoydd'are.

DRINKWATER.—On the 5th inst., at Bromham Church, Dr. Drinkwater, Esq., of Maddox-street, to Mary Helen Dorothy, eldest daughter of R. Mu pby, Esq., of Hale Lodge, Edgware.

HERRIES.—On the 5th inst., at Bromham Church, Wilts, by the Rev. J. A. Nicholl, Vicar, M.A., J. T. Emmerson, of Stockport, to Susan Skillitter, niece of John Herries, Esq., of Bromham, Wiltshire.

GILBERT.—On the 5th, at Chichester, the Rev. W. H. L. Gilbert, B.A., to Emily Jane, eldest daughter of the Rev. W. Hayley, Rector of the New Church, Chichester.

NEWTON.—CHARLES.—On the 6th, at St. Dunstan's-in-the-West, F. Newton, Esq., of Pleet-street, to Louisa, second daughter of the late J. Charles, Esq.

SCOTT.—HALTOFT.—On the 5th, at Sutton Coldfield Sir F. E. Scott, Bart., of Great Barr Hall, Stafford, to Mildred Anne, eldest daughter of Sir W. Haltoft, Bart., of Four Oaks.

DEATHS.

BANHAN.—In August last, at Beltast, Port Fairy, Australia, to the great grief of his family and friends, Mr. Edward William Joseph Banean, formerly a pupil at Harmony Hall (now Queen's College), Hammersmith, and second son of Mr. Joseph Banean, of Mecklenburgh-square, of the Western Times, Exeter, after a long and painful illness of consumption, which he bore with the truly Christian fortitude and resignation. His cleanliness and abstemious habits, and the simplicity and sweetness of his disposition, and his amiable temper, endeared him to a large circle of acquaintances and friends, who all long and decredly cherish his memory. In him society will have to mourn the loss of a promising young man, aged 23 years

BENCOMBLER.—On the 6th inst., at Greenwich, Reginald Latham, second son of the late Rev. W. Bercomblen, Vicar of Wandsworth, in the 81st year of his age.

BISHOP.—On the 5th inst., at the Grange, St. Sampson's, Guernsey, Charles Brownrigg, Esq., of the Ceylon Civil Service, second son of the late General Sir Robert Brownrigg, Bart., G.C.B., of Nilsland-park, Cumberland, aged 56.

COLLIER.—On the 8th inst., at Peckham, the Rev. William Bruge Collyer, D.D., aged 72.

HARRIS.—On the 8th inst., Mr. Samuel Osborne Harris, of Gloucester place, Park-walk, Chelsea, and formerly of High-street, Kensington, aged 53 years

HOLT.—On the 7th Jan., 1854, Mrs. Elizabeth Cuyler Holt (widow), the sister of Lieut.-Gen. Cuyler, of Cuyler Manor, Cape of Good Hope.

MALTBY.—On the 5th inst., William Maltby, Esq., many years principal librarian of the London Institution, aged 60.

MURTON.—On the 6th inst., at Brompton, Middlesex, Col. Henry John Murton, Royal Marines.

TAYLOR.—At Becombe, Devon, Major-General T. W. Taylor, C.B., Lieut.-Governor of the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, and Colonel of the 97th Lanners, aged 71.

TOWNSHEND.—On the 6th inst., at Chichurch, the Hon. Archelais Townshend.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

No. 664.—VOL. XXIV.] SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 1854. [WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.

THE PRINCE CONSORT.

We have hitherto purposely abstained from making the slightest allusion or giving the least currency to the reports that, for the last six or seven weeks, have been industriously circulated in the Press and in society relative to H.R.H. the Prince Consort. But the time has at length arrived when it is no longer desirable—even if it were possible—to keep silence upon the subject. If, by our notice of them, the accusations of which the illustrious Prince has been the object could penetrate into any wider circles than those which they have already reached, we should deem it a matter alike of delicacy and of duty to refrain from giving their authors the advantage of our pages for the propagation of their slanders, even although the refutation went side by side with the falsehood. But the calumnies against the Prince have been so long and loudly blazoned abroad—from the pot-houses and the pot-house journals in which they originated, to the Clubs and places of public resort, and from thence to the columns of almost every newspaper in the country—that our silence is no longer necessary.

The man who has the high honour of being the husband of a Queen Regnant of a country like England, stands in an exalted, and, therefore, in a perilous position. If any one be obliged to walk warily, it is he. To no individual who stands is the precept that he should "take heed lest he fall," so applicable as to him. Too lofty to be strictly a subject—too powerful in the secrecy of his home, to be safely trusted with power in the Senate or the Cabinet—too nearly allied to the Crown to be quite dependent upon its favour, or to be quite independent of all that concerns its honour and dignity—he is surrounded on every side with difficulties and anomalies. He is placed too high to have any objects of ambition, such as those which captivate the minds or quicken the energies of other men. Wealth and title can have no attractions to his mind. He has the highest of all title; and if he have not wealth enough to satisfy him, no effort he can make, can procure him any increase to it. His pretensions can interfere

DISTANT VIEW OF KALAFAT, FROM THE COURT-YARD OF THE PACHA'S RESIDENCE, AT WIDDIN.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

PLAN OF THE BATTLE OF KALAFAT, AND THE RETREAT OF THE RUSSIANS TO KRAJOVA.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

with no man's advancement. His functions are so entirely non-political and ornamental, that if any office be bestowed upon him, it is that the office may be honoured by his acceptance of it—and not that he may thereby acquire any additional rank or importance. And yet, though so little is allowed him to do, much is expected of him By custom and consent, if not by the Constitution of this country, he is the first and most honoured subject of the Crown. By the Christian law—and by the law of domestic affection—he is the head and chief of the most illustrious family in the land; and the Queen of Great Britain is as much his subject, as every other happy and dutiful wife is the subject of the lord and husband whom she has selected. If his hand be too much seen in social life, and if he manifest too lively an interest in the affairs that take place around him, he will be reckoned a meddler who oversteps his province; if it be too little seen, and if he does not sympathise with the world in which he lives, he will be accounted a simpleton or a nobody. The amiable Prince, whom the Queen of the greatest empire in the world freely chose for her husband, understood all these things. He felt both the delicacy and the difficulty of his position on the one side, and its responsibility and dignity on the other. Of necessity a stranger, he made it his first duty to become an Englishman—to study our feelings, our habits, and our virtues, that he might in all things become a model to English gentlemen and to English society. So admirably did he comprehend his duties, and so gracefully did he perform them, that, next to the Queen herself, he became the most popular person in her dominions. His public appearances were few, but they were always judicious. He never advocated a cause which it was not proper that he should countenance; but always—as in the case of the Great Exhibition of 1851—lent his powerful aid to schemes of utility that were national, but non-political. He felt, as if instinctively, what objects it was his duty and privilege to favour, and what objects it was better that he should leave to other and freer, but less splendid, agencies, to uphold and foster. His remarks, whenever he addressed an assemblage of Englishmen and women, invariably showed that he possessed not simply a good head but a good heart, and gave proofs of abilities that, had he been born in a less exalted station, would have raised him to eminence and honour. No one breathed a syllable in his disparagement. For his own sake, as well as for that of the Queen, he was esteemed and beloved by all classes. It was felt that, whatever the Royal families of other states of Europe might be, England had the happiness of possessing in Queen Victoria and Prince Albert models of domestic virtue and of public usefulness.

But it has pleased some malignant—or, perhaps, merely thoughtless—persons to set rumours afloat with respect to his Royal Highness which have a tendency to diminish his well-earned popularity, if they have not already accomplished that undesirable end. The accusations, at first vague and unmeaning, gradually shaped themselves into something like consistency. It was at first asserted that nothing could account for the dismissal of Lord Palmerston from office two years ago, but the enmity of Prince Albert to that statesman. The whispers, however, did not swell into a roar on that occasion. It was only when his Lordship announced, some weeks ago, his determination to withdraw from the Ministry that they again began to be heard. A certain class of political quidnuncs and pot-house busy-bodies could not imagine anything so preposterous as that Lord Palmerston should be capricious; or that he should be guilty, once or twice in his life, of an error of judgment; but they could imagine easily enough that Prince Albert should have a personal ill-will to the object of their adoration, and that he should forfeit the good opinion entertained of him, and which had been steadily increasing for twelve years, by exercising political power in an underhand and unworthy manner. They, therefore, explained Lord Palmerston's resignation in their own fashion, and without a shadow of proof began to accuse the Prince of unconstitutional intermeddling in the affairs of State. They broadly hinted that the husband of the Queen was the enemy of England—that he betrayed State secrets to foreign Powers; and, that while the responsible Ministers of the Crown were endeavouring to support the cause of Turkey, he, the irresponsible adviser of his wife, was doing his best to betray that cause, and to serve the interests of the Emperor of Russia. The utter improbability of such charges signified nothing to the hot brained partisans who made them. The accusation, once set in motion, rapidly acquired impetus. To journals that administer to the coarse tastes of the tap-room, such slanders against a personage so distinguished were in the highest degree welcome. There is nothing so intelligible and, we are sorry to say, so popular as scandal. It is not every one who can talk politics. Few can converse well upon the drama, the sciences, or the fine arts. Questions involving literary taste and scholarship do not greatly interest the masses; and, though all understand the great and daily topic of the weather, it is a topic that is apt to lose its flavour. Not so immortal Scandal! A piece of slander never tires either the great or the little vulgar. It is always acceptable, either at the club or at the tea-table—at the tavern or in the beer-shop. It taxes no man's brains to grapple with its intricacies; and the more lofty the position of the slandered person, the more keenly it is relished. Besides, as everybody knows, slander is a very marketable commodity to struggling newspapers that desire to thrust themselves into notoriety. The cowardly nature of the assaults against the Prince's character was never allowed to deter the utterers of such stories. The Prince could not reply to them. Had it been Mr. Brown or Mr. Jones, or any other companion of Mr. Doyle's Tour, who had been maligned, the Courts of Law might have been appealed to. Had it even been Lord Palmerston who had been the victim of misrepresentation, his Lordship might have stooped from his lofty eminence and demolished by a breath the flimsy superstructure raised by his assailants. The Prince Consort was not in so enviable a position. He was too far above the anonymous slanderers even to be aware of their existence; and it is likely that their stories had been for many weeks in circulation before his Royal Highness had any knowledge of them. The taunt of the Rev. Sydney Smith's against Sir Robert Peel seems to have been the maxim on which they acted—"Select for your attack," said the caustic wit, "a place where there can be no reply, and an opponent who cannot retaliate, and you may slander in safety." Much may be said for the prudence of such a course of conduct; but can anything be said for its manliness or for its decency?

Upon the general question of the influence which the Prince may naturally be supposed to exercise, it is scarcely worth while to enter. To deny to him all concern and interest in the events which so nearly concern and interest her whom he is bound to solace, to advise, and to protect, would be to deny nature as well as expediency. If a responsible Minister at any time demanded an audience with the Queen, and with the Queen only, Prince Albert would not, of course, be present; but if the Minister demand no such private audience, and have no objection to the Prince's presence, but would rather court it than otherwise, Prince Albert can do no wrong in remaining; or, if any wrong be done, the Minister, not the Prince, is responsible. He is not only the Queen's husband, but a Privy Councilor, and has a double right to give his advice. Those who clamour so loudly against the presumed political interference of the Prince, should ask themselves whether it would be better to increase his private and domestic influence, by degrading and lessening his public importance? That his influence was ever exercised in a manner injurious to the interests of this country, or to the rights of the responsible Ministers of the Crown, we hold to be a falsehood, not the less wicked because it happens to be absurd. It is an insult not only to Prince Albert, but to the Queen, even to suppose it.

THE BATTLES OF KALAFAT AND CITALE:

GLORIOUS DEFEAT OF THE RUSSIANS.

IT will be seen by the interesting letter from our Special Correspondent at Widdin, which appears in another column, that at the date when his communication was despatched, an attack by the Russians upon the Turkish entrenchments at Kalafat was daily expected. The prognostications of the writer have been amply fulfilled. His letter contains the latest intelligence that it has been possible to transmit by the post. For all later information we are indebted to the telegraphic despatches which have been received by the British and French Governments, and published in the columns of our London and Paris contemporaries. As well as we can make out the facts of the case from the fragmentary and often contradictory accounts, the series of engagements which ended in the decisive victory of Citale—a victory still more important than that of Oltenitza—commenced on the 30th of December.

At that date, not a Russian soldier had been seen at Krajova for two days; all had been marched off to assist in the great battles looked for between that town and the Turkish camp. A Krajova correspondent says that the Russian light horse and rifles were sent towards Kalafat, but all the heavy guns were sent towards Karakal. From Slatina, also, heavy ordnance, on its way from Bucharest to Krajova, was diverted to Karakal

The population of five districts composing Little Wallachia had been all the month in a state of indescribable excitement. The Russians had thought it prudent to seize a number of young Boyards, and shut them up in a convent, it being found inconvenient to transport them to Bessarabia, as had, until then, been the practice. At Bucharest, it was thought that the Wallachian militia would be broken up, with a view to the absorption of the men in the Russian ranks, as it was found impossible to do anything with them while they retained their national organisation. Above 500 of the Wallachian soldiers had gone over to "the enemy," that is to say, at the risk of their lives had rallied to the standard of their liege lord the Sultan. A number of the Wallachian clergy had also been bold enough to leave out the name of Nicholas I. from the Liturgy of their Church, substituting that of the Sultan Abdul Medjid.

All these circumstances seem to have prepared the way for an outbreak. On or about the 30th December, several slight skirmishes took place between the Russians and Turks near Krajova, in which the latter were victorious. The news of this event was officially announced to the representatives of the Four Powers as soon as it arrived at Constantinople, whither it was despatched by the Turkish Pacha in command. But nothing of importance occurred till the 6th of January, when a division of 15,000 Turks advanced from Kalafat, with fifteen pieces of artillery to storm Citale, where 10,000 Russians had encamped, in the intention of attacking Kalafat on the 14th. The loss on this occasion appears to have been very great on both sides; that of the Turks is not yet known, but that of the Russians is estimated at upwards of 3000. The triumph of the Turks was completed by the defeat of a new reinforcement of 18,000 (or, as some say, 22,000) men, which had advanced from Karoul to defend Citale. Upwards of 250 Russians are reported to have fallen on this occasion. The news was brought to Vienna by courier, and thence transmitted, by electric telegraph, to Paris and London. There was a report current that the Pacha commanding the Turks was killed, but it has not been confirmed. The battle was renewed on the 7th, with equal success to the Turkish arms. On the morning of the 8th, however, a series of bloody conflicts took place, which ended in the total defeat of the Russians, who, in their own account, admit to have lost on this and the preceding days upwards of 1000 killed and 4000 wounded. Among the latter were Generals Aurep and Tuinot. On the 9th the battle was still raging; and the Turks, who had advanced beyond Citale, drove the Russians back to Krajova with immense loss, leaving four pieces of cannon and a great number of dead upon the field. On the 10th the Turks retired to Kalafat.

The Russians would not tolerate the circulation of any reports in the Principalities about the event, but gave out a lying statement that "they had held all their positions." The Russian hospitals were filling with the wounded, who, to avoid excitement, were brought into the town in the night. This precaution, however, only stimulated the imagination of the people.

The bayonet and the Minié rifle, were, as at Oltenitza, the weapons most in request; although the artillery did great execution on both sides. As at Oltenitza, also, the Russian officers suffered severely.

The frost had broken up, and the ice in the Danube having almost entirely disappeared, no further difficulty was experienced by the Turks at Kalafat in maintaining their communications with Widdin.

We have no further details of these important events, but have been favoured by a Military Correspondent, deriving his information from high official sources, with the plan of the battle-field, which we have engraved on the preceding page. To the right lies the Turkish town of Widdin, connected, by a bridge of boats over the Danube, with the important position of Kalafat, in Lesser Wallachia. Citale, the scene of the Russian defeat, is on the road between Kalafat and Krajova, at a distance of nine English miles from the former place. The forts numbered from 1 to 7 were constructed by the Turks to defend Kalafat, and were attacked by the Russians without success. The forts marked A, B, and C, were taken from the Russians, after a severe struggle.

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

WIDDIN, Dec. 30th, 1853.

WHEN the forces were assembled, in the early part of October, for the purpose of resisting the Russians, it was determined by Saini Pacha Governor of Widdin, to form an entrenchment at Kalafat, opposite and above the town. Ismail Pacha, Commander of the troops, was the first to cross and reconnoitre. Ismail Pacha is well known as a man who is in the front rank in every engagement. He crossed from Widdin to the island opposite the town with five men, and finding no trace of Russians, he sent for two battalions, and then a third, with the help of which he threw up a few entrenchments. The three battalions then crossed over to the mainland, and in ten days had raised defences sufficient for such a body of men to cross as would resist a considerable force of Russians. Such was the commencement of the Turkish march into the Principalities. In the meanwhile Ismail Pacha was superseded in the chief command by Achmet Pacha. The force at Kalafat consists at present of 10,000 men. For ten days after the Danube was first crossed by Ismail Pacha, the communications with Servia, and for several miles on each side of Widdin, were stopped, by order of Saini Pacha; and it was only after a fortnight had elapsed that it was generally known what the real state of things had been; even the Austrian Consul here was prohibited from despatching messengers, and this notwithstanding his remonstrances and threats. Whilst the movements were thus kept a profound secret in Widdin, the inhabitants of Kalafat were moved from their houses, to which they have not since returned; but the peasantry of the surrounding villages carried to Krajova the exaggerated intelligence that 25,000 men had landed and were advancing into the interior of the country. There were at that moment about 4000 Russians in Krajova, who thought fit to retire upon hearing this intelligence; and there was nothing at that moment that could have prevented the Turks from marching with sufficient forces to Bucharest; but prudence restrained the commanders at Widdin, who, doubtless, thought it best to expend the little powder that remained of good weather in fortifying the position at Kalafat The whole army worked with good will at these defences, which, although they are considered to be less strong against comparative numbers than the works at Oltenitza, are stated by the Turks to be sufficiently effective to resist an attack of 50,000 Russians.

It is now daily expected that an attack will be made on Kalaat, which is supposed to be the necessary preliminary before the Russians proceed to cross the Danube; for it is scarcely probable that the Generals of the Czar will peril the existence of a corps crossing at any point between Widdin and Rutschuk, at the risk of a concentration against them from both sides of a Turkish force. It is necessary for them, before crossing, to force the position of Kalafat; and this it is expected daily that they will do. The Turkish forces are distributed as follows:—There are, besides the 10,000 men on the left bank of the Danube, whose outposts are as far advanced as Cef-zajul and Orsikutza; 10,000 men in the town and fortress of Widdin, 5,000 menquartered in the Bulgarian villages; and a reserve of more than 10,000 men advancing from Sophia. Regiments, however, are crossing daily to Kalafat, to reinforce the positions, and this may shortly alter the distribution of the forces; and it may be expected that, in case of a Russian attack, the defence on the left bank will be manned by twenty to twenty-five thousand men. There is no doubt of the intentions of the Russians to make this attack. Twenty-five thousand men are, it is said, at this moment in Krajova, and rumour goes so far as to say that they are commanded by Marshal Paskiewitch in person. I do not know whether it will be new to you to learn that a general movement was made by the Russian army to obtain Paskiewitsch as its General instead of Gortschakoff, and that the prayer of the troops has been heard by the Emperor, who dismissed the latter, and named the former in his stead. However well the Russians may fight under their veteran General, they will meet an enemy at Kalafat who has no alternative but death or victory. The Turkish soldiers know that if they flinch they are lost, and retreat is desperate. It is true a bridge, which joins the left bank with the island, is still open to them, but that is a forlorn hope. The Turks, however, are as confident of success as possible under the command of Achmet Pacha, a General of considerable skill in modern military tactics, Ismail Pacha, whose bravery is impetuous to a fault, and Skender Bey, who is covered with no less than fourteen wounds. There are, besides these, numerous young officers of note, all eager to distinguish themselves; and the whole of the administrations and superior arrangements are directed by Saini Pacha, than whom no man is more capable, by his experience and abilities to do all that can be done to ensure success.

Stores and provisions there are here in plenty. The soldiers are well fed with meat and bread daily; and, notwithstanding the existence of some cases of tertian fever, the troops are generally healthy. One scarcely expects, and one fails, to find in the Turkish regulars the military aspect of European soldiers: with their grey great coats and fez, their musket and sword, they have a look at variance with the spirit of Turkish habits, and Turkish costume. It need scarcely be said, however, that the men are all Turks, and that the Christian is no longer forced to serve, as he used to be, by surrendering himself, when young, to become a Muesulman, and a man of arms. The most picturesque of the Turkish troops are undoubtedly the Bashi Bozouks, literally "men without heads," who form a body of light cavalry of great utility; having the advantage of carrying with them their own arms, in the use of which they are considered and called by the Turks the scourge of the Cossack. It is well known, but may as well be repeated here that the Cossack of the Don is not exactly the same martial Cossack who fights against the Circassians. The latter description of men are not unlike the Bashi Bozouks, trained from their youth in the use of arms, and the management of the horse, which with them is almost as familiar, and stands in the same relation, as his steed to the Arab. But the Cossack of the Don is a man, who is drilled to be a Cossack in the same manner as the rank and file are made soldiers, namely by the knout or stick.

In the meantime, what is the state of feeling and of party amongst the people most concerned in the pending struggle. There are three nationalities at least in presence. The Sclavonians, who people Servia, Bulgaria, and numerous states besides, and who see in the present contest an opening for the assertion of a larger right, and a chance of change; the Roumans of Wallachia and Moldavia, whose language is spoken in Transylvania, Bessarabia, and the Bukowmi, and, finally, the Turks, who levy still from the Sclavons tribute, and who till recently were in receipt of tribute from the Rouman popula ion of Wallachia and Moldavia. The population of these Principalities were, it must be owned, so to speak, ready for use by Russia. Constituted, like Russia, having nobles in the shape of Boyards, who possess the rest of the population as slaves, it was obvious that the country must be an easy prey, if once the noblesse were bribed or brought over by other means to Russia. There may be a national feeling amongst the Roumans, but so long as they were serfs of nobles who were unwilling or too corrupt to have any but Russian tendencies, what could they, an ignorant, though industrious mass, do against intrigues such as Russia knows how to work. Yet the Boyards might well have felt more national pride, and have been stung into exertion by the losses which have successively fallen upon their country. Transylvania, which they once possessed, became the prey of Austria; Bessarabia, which was theirs, was taken by Russia; and the Bukowmi is also lost to them.

Yet all these countries speak the Wallachian tongue. In Wallachia proper there are 2,500,000 Roumans; in Moldavia, about 1,800,000; in Bessarabia, there is a population of 800,000 of the same language; and in the Bukowni, 400,000. Transylvania alone contains 1,700,000 Wallachians, all of whom are perforce Austrian subjects. Even on the Banat there are no less than 2,000 000 of Wallachians. It is true that in Transylvania the old hereditary policy of Austria has colonised the country between Hermannstadt and Cronstadt with about 200,000 Saxons, who speak the German tongue, and are supposed now to have no national element, save the Austrian, it is also certain that the same policy has planted 300 000 Hungarian Szeklers about the Moldavian frontier: nor that a feeble barrier was this against the assertion of nationality by the enormous majority of the Rouman population. A state created from this great element has no doubt been the wish and the desire of some Wallachians. One can scarcely explain the resistance of the Transylvanians against Hungary on the last revolution without supposing it. Nay, of its existence there is ample proof, on the commencement of a revolution which took place in 1848, against the Boyards and against Russia -a movement which was crushed by the entrance into the Principalities of a large Russian force. Turkey was unable to resist that time. The letter of past treaties was against her, and the Russians only retired, after disarming the population, and thus making sure of the futility of any subsequent revolution. The villagers on this occasion were even deprived of the axes necessary for cutting fuel, and one hatchet was left for the use of three families. Still, the occupation did not entirely decimate the country, and in 1853 there was still a large sum in public treasures and private purses, which served to keep up the Boyards and the noblesse. Now, however, Russia has taken everything—robbed the Principalities of fifty millions of francs, quartered her soldiers upon the people, and paid for their provisions in paper—and what paper! Is it extraordinary that, under these circumstances, the sufferers of 1848—the exiles who desired at that time to abolish serfdom and commence reform, and who since have been forced to live in foreign countries should think it probable that a national feeling may at last be raised in the Danubian Principalities; and that if the Rumans have made themselves odious by wrongs in the present and despotic administration in the future, the milder rule of the Turks, who ask only for tribute, and who will grant reforms as soon as they are successful, will be welcomed, at least as the more bearable of two sorts of yoke, in the absence of all chance of present independence. Had England at once declared when Russia threatened her invasion, that the occupation of these Principalities must be a *casus belli*, these struggles might have been avoided—public attention would have been directed as effectually to the wrongs of the Christian population of Turkey, and they would have been sooner redressed, and she would have had as good a chance of laying down with success the terms, without which even now her support of Turkey must be withheld, as at present, when all is left to the arbitration of the sword.

It is more than thirty years since Russia began seriously to intrigue against the Turks in the Danubian Principalities by disseminating agents throughout the country, who, working upon the feelings of the people chiefly on the point of religion, succeeded in rousing a considerable amount of hatred of the authority and creed of the Turks. The people then had had no such experience of Russian friendship as they now possess; and the intrigues of the agents of the Czar were thus tolerably successful. The same system of intrigue which at this moment pursued in Servia that was followed so long with success in Wallachia and Moldavia. Mr. de Fonton, the chief secretary of the Russian Embassy at Vienna, has been making the tour of Servia; and not only visited the chief towns of the Principality, but stopped in every village, speaking to the people, vaunting the power of his master, and intriguing to rouse the hatred of the Servians against the Porte. It must require more talent to persuade these people of the beneficence of Russian rule than was demanded of old to flatter the Roumans. With the example of the Danubian Principalities before their eyes, the Servians are not likely to be deceived by such specious arguments as Mr. de Fonton may have to bring forward. As far as religion is concerned, the Emperor of Russia has been declared the Protector of the Greek Faith in Servia; but the clergy of the Principality are really dependent on the Patriarch of Constantinople; and the present holder of that title is well known to be by no means friendly to Russia. But, even were the clergy to hold directly of the Czar as their spiritual head, they are not, in Servia, possessed of the faculties for domination which other churches possess. For instance, in Bosnia, where, out of a population of 1,500,000, there are 300,000 Roman Catholics, who have no less than five convents and a bishop appointed at Rome; together with an educational school at Vienna. The clergy of that denomination are the lever with which Austria intrigues; but, in Servia, the clergy has been refused the right which it claimed of educating the people. Education there is secular, the teachers being appointed by the state, and the priest only allowed to visit on Sunday, when some species of religious instruction is thus inculcated.

As regards the political state of Servia, it is needless to enter into the history of its last constitution. A *berat*, or firman was forwarded by the Porte, which granted extraordinary privileges to the country; a French constitution with a double chamber was enacted, and it was supposed that such a system would last. The folly of such a thought was soon palpable. The Lower House was abolished about three years ago; and the Government is now carried on by a Senate, which renews itself, and a Prince who is dependent on that Senate. Servia, however, governs itself. Its parishes elect their own Mayors and officers; the only taxes are direct, the Porte levying half as tribute, without requiring the military contingent, which is obtained from Egypt. Yet in Servia every man is a soldier, and bound to serve. This is the only law that can possibly weigh upon him; but it really affects him but little at the present moment. In the vast forests which surround him he leaves the pigs, which are the staple of the country and the source of his wealth, and he hunts them up periodically, and fattens them for sale. One pig pays the tribute of many families. The ground which each bears and sustains from the forest is its property. It is rich beyond description—yielding cent per cent of wheat, maize, barley, and fruits, with apparently inexhaustible fertility. These men are thus free, martial, and lazy; and to fancy that they will abandon the mild rule of Turkey for the dread realities of Russian administration appears such a wild assumption, that one can scarce conceive it. Without any other thought than that of enjoying his present independence, the uneducated Servian is, therefore, likely to remain satisfied with his present lot, and unanxious to substitute the government of Russia for that of Turkey. The educated Servian is more ambitious, and for other causes will hold the same opinion. He hopes that, in course of years, the independence of his country being secure, it may be permitted to extend itself to comprise Bosnia, Montenegro, and the Herzegovine—all of which speak his language, and with whose inhabitants there is community of thought and nationality. Nay, he may be desirous of reuning in the Servian Voivodie, at present under Austrian rule, in the Sclavonian Banat, which extends to the Drave, the same sentiments of independence as animate himself. "The enfranchisement of Italy," said an intelligent Servian, once, at Turin, "will be conquered when Sclavonian independence once asserts itself." Austria feels this, and hence her anxiety to obtain Servia. She cannot forget that for twenty years she possessed that country, from which however, she was compelled to retire. She dreads the extension of her independence, which, indeed, would be a fatal blow to her commerce and she fears beyond all things a change by which the produce of Turkey, instead of making its way to the Adriatic at Trieste, would find a nearer port in the same sea, free from the heavy harbour duties, the transit dues, and vexatious delays, which she has invented to raise her revenue. How important, indeed, would it be for England to obtain an opening such as this—a port where her manufactures can enter free, and her produce fill the Sclavonian territories, under a tariff of from 3 to 5 per cent *ad valorem*, uncurbed by the prohibitive customs of Austria. What an opening there for the corn trade, which by entering the nearer sea, would be freed from the necessity of being carried on exclusively in distant markets like those of the Black Sea. All the efforts of Russia and of Austria have been directed to close these countries, and prohibit their having access to the Adriatic Sea. Turkey possessed one little strip of ground on the Adriatic—and, at the moment of the Bosnian war, such was Austria's anxiety lest she should open a trade communication there, that she sent Prince Leiningen to Constantinople to remonstrate in pretty much as audacious a manner as Prince Menschikoff did. Turkey, on this occasion, yielded, which was a pity; but ought not England to have seen the importance of this question? Bessarabia was only conquered by Russia that she might close the Black Sea to the trade of the Roumans, and possess herself of the mouths of the Danube. That such ideas as these exist amongst the Sclavonian population there is no doubt, and the questions which they involve are, without contest, of the highest interest to England. Napoleon once said, I believe, "Cette vieille Europe m'ennuie," and doubtless the people of Great Britain—occupied by their enormous relations with the two American continents, with Australia, China, and India—do not feel as much interest in the comparatively small results that may accrue from countries nearer to them; but neglect at the present moment may involve enormous losses.

PRINCE ALBERT.

Mr. C. C. Greville, Clerk of the Privy Council, has written the following letter to the *Times*, in reply to the statements of a writer, who dates from the Carlton Club, and whose object is to show that Prince Albert is legally incapable of being a Privy Councillor. Mr. Greville's explanation will settle the point in dispute:

SIR,—Some member of the Carlton Club has put forth a laboured argument to prove that his Royal Highness Prince Albert is legally incapable of being a Privy Councillor; and he further seems to lay some stress on the fact that the Prince was never *sworn*. As I happen to know something of these matters, I wish to prevent any misconception, on this point at least, from taking root in the public mind. An attentive examination of the quotations from different statutes brought forward by the Carlthonian critic, will satisfy any one that they prove the case against himself: I will endeavour, nevertheless, to make it still more clear. The Acts for Naturalising Prince Albert were copied word for word from those for naturalising Prince Leopold, when the latter married the late Princess Charlotte, in virtue of which he was made a Privy Councillor on the 1st of July, 1816, with the sanction of Lord Eldon, then Lord Chancellor. By the 1st Geo. I. it is enacted that no person shall be naturalised unless in the bill for that purpose a clause is inserted declaring that such person shall not thereby be enabled to be of the Privy Council, or [illegible] and Prince Albert, [illegible] Acts for their Naturalisation, [illegible] Parliament [illegible] Council, [illegible] Prince Leopold, when he

"THE HIMALAYA" STEAM-SHIP.

a man's arm, which held her, as if it had been a piece of packthread. Such a ship would cut down a man-of-war to the water's edge. According to the mail contract, she would be bound, in case of war, to carry guns for her defence. But this would be quite unnecessary. She would run away from, or run over any enemy's ship. The largest and most heavily-mounted privateer would be too glad to get out of her way. Her successful performance of the trial trip of 3000 miles to Alexandria will mark an epoch in the history of steam navigation, which will have an important influence on the interest of commerce and the world, for it will show the practicability of again reducing the space between the most distant parts of the earth, and of abolishing almost all the discomforts of a lengthened sea voyage.

The *Himalaya* was constructed by Mr. T. Waterman, jun., at the building-yard of Messrs. C. Mare and Co., of Blackwall; and is fitted with engines of 700-horse power, by the Messrs. Penn and Co. A View of the launch of this vessel, with further particulars, appeared in our Journal of May 28, 1853.

IRON COALING STATION AT THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

The great want of a good Coaling Station at Table Bay, has long been felt; and the importance of this provision is very great, not only to the colony itself, but to the owners of steam-vessels touching at Cape Town; while it is a matter in which a great portion of the mercantile community of England are greatly interested. Accordingly, Messrs. Walton and Bushell, merchants, of the Cape, have had a large iron building erected at the end of the Central Jetty, intended to hold 2500 tons of coals. The Government, seeing the great benefit likely to arise from such a dépôt, have given Messrs. Walton and Bushell every assistance in the erection of the building, by (we believe) a grant of the land on which it stands. Iron tramways have been laid down direct from the interior of the building to the end of the jetty, so that steam-ships can now be coaled in Table Bay, with almost as great facility as in London. The coal is packed in sacks, ready at a moment's notice to be put on board. As an instance of the rapidity with which steam-vessels are coaled, Messrs. Walton and Bushell lately shipped 750 tons on board the Australian Royal Mail Steam Navigation Company's steamer *Sydney* in somewhat less than two days. This is the quickest coaling ever known at the Cape; and would, a short time since, have occupied five or six days at least.

The Coaling Station has been constructed by Mr. Walker, of Millwall It is of corrugated iron plates, fastened by iron tie-rods of great strength with strong girders outside to support the building. The dimensions are 150 long by 50 feet broad; and it is considered one of the completest iron buildings yet sent to the colonies. The cost, including the erection was about £1200.

The Illustration shows the new Station, with Table Bay, from the Central Jetty; the Australian Royal Mail steam-vessel *Sydney* lying at anchor.

IRON COALING STATION FOR STEAMERS, AT CAPE TOWN.

THE FLEET.—SKETCHED NEAR HAMPSTEAD.

THE FLEET SEWER.

THE passenger who rolls smoothly over the well-paved roadway, or hurriedly elbows his way through the dense mass of human beings which throng the foot-pavements of this huge metropolis, rarely thinks of the vast reticulation of subterranean channels by which are removed the liquid refuse of the millions inhabiting the banks of the Thames. Yet, when it is considered that, during dry weather, the aggregate liquid refuse of the metropolitan population, contributed by hundreds of thousands of inlets and minute drains, amounting to about 14,000,000 cubic feet, or 87,000,000 gallons daily, is discharged by sewers, and, for the most part, without inconvenience of any kind, their importance becomes at once apparent.

But this is their dry weather discharge. In times of rain, the utility of the sewers, although, perhaps, not greater, is more striking. The area of the metropolis, according to the boundary of the Registrar-General, is about 112 square miles—the more closely-populated portion may, perhaps, be taken at about 60 square miles; and, if we assume a rain of about half an inch in depth equally over the whole of the latter area in twenty-four hours (a rate of fall not unusual), then, during a considerable portion of the time, in addition to the sewage from the houses, a quantity of water of about 18,000,000 gallons per hour, is discharged by the London sewers. Storms even of half an inch of rain during the hour are of yearly occurrence; and even of two inches in an hour, are within the memory of most men; yet the water of the severest storms is, for the most part, received and carried off by the sewers without injury or inconvenience, and, with exceptional cases, almost immediately; and, at the furthest, within half an hour afterwards, but slight traces of the storms are left. When the great length, the inevitable intricacy of this vast system of subterranean channels is considered, the Sewers of London, which have been plentifully abused of late years, must, with all their faults, take their place among the wonders of this leviathan city; and fully justify the assertion made by the most eminent engineers, that London is the best-drained city in the world.

One of the oldest Sewers, if not actually the oldest, in the metropolis, is the Fleet; once an open river, which, as Stow tells us, "had been of such breadth and depth, that ten or twelve ships' navies at once, with merchandise, were wont to come to the aforesaid bridge of Fleet"—is still a river, although hidden from sight; the waters of the Highgate and Hampstead hills still run through it; the old Bourne (now also a sewer) still delivers its waters into it; but, in addition to this, from running through a dense population, it probably receives and discharges more sewage water than any other sewer in the metropolis.

The Corporation of London early saw the propriety of covering over the open water-courses, which, in the process of time, had become open ditches or sewers. The Fleet north of Fleet-bridge, was covered in when Fleet-market was built; the portion north of Holborn was covered in about eighteen years ago, it being the last open sewer within the City boundary: above the City, the Fleet is, however, in portions still open.

The sizes of this vast arterial drain are as follows:—Near Blackfriars-bridge, it is about 16 feet high and 12 feet wide; in Farringdon-street, the sewer is divided into two branches, each being about 11 feet 6 inches high and 6 feet wide, which join at Holborn-bridge, and connect with a sewer about 12 feet high and 11 feet 6 inches wide.

That portion of the Fleet Sewer which lies south of Fleet-street is now under repair. Our Sketch will give some idea of the extent of the work, and the extreme mechanical difficulties that have to be contended with in carrying it on in such a situation; the only opening to it, as was reported by the engineer to the City Commissioners of Sewers, being but three feet square, and the sewer itself always running vast quantities of water, subject to tidal influence; and, in times of rain, its current being swollen to a vast torrent, capable of carrying almost everything before it; the rain-water of between seven and eight square miles being carried off by this sewer.

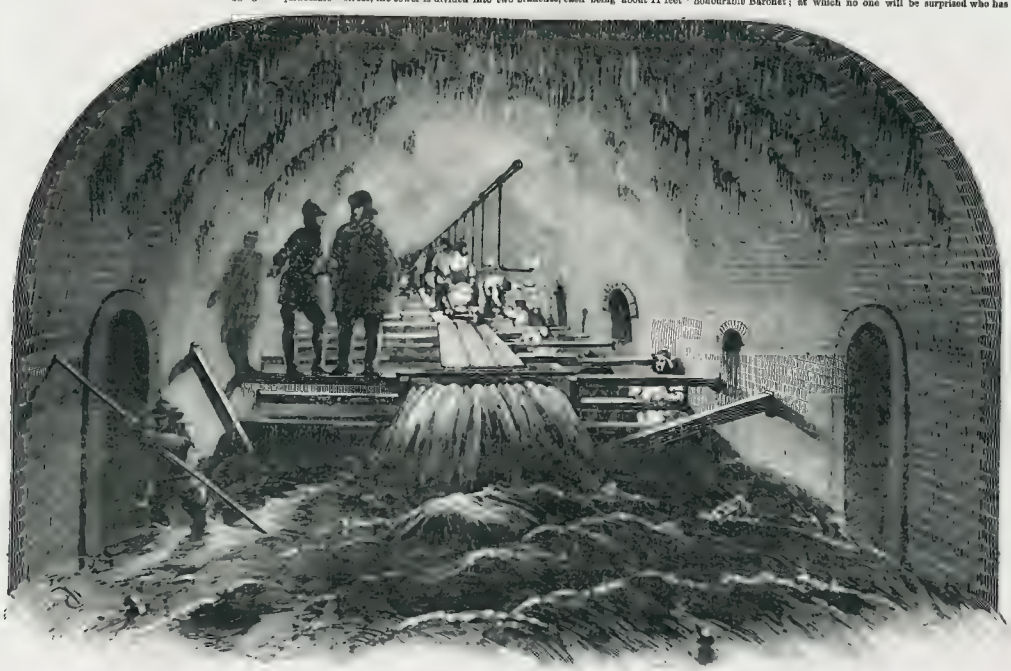
The works are being executed under the direction of Mr. W. Haywood, the Engineer to the Commission; Messrs. Thomas Crook and Son, being the contractors for the work.

We subjoin a few details of the Fleet, as a river:—The small, rapid stream Fleet, which has given name to the prison and street, and the portion of the City Wall ditch from Holborn to the Thames, has its origin in a nursery-ground on the eastern ridge of Hampstead-hill. Here it becomes a sewer; after which it issues from the side of a bank below Well-walk; and then flows down a small valley of gardens and orchards to near the reservoir of the Hampstead water-heads, to feed which the springs of the Fleet were collected in 1689, and were afterwards leased out by the City of London. From Hampstead the Fleet may be traced to the upper part of Kentish-town: after which it is diverted from its original course for the sewage of Camden-town; but its ancient channel may be traced at the back of the Castle Tavern, Kentish-town, and next in the King's-road, near Pancras Workhouse; and about 1825 the Fleet was conspicuous all along the Bagnigge-wells-road, but is now covered over. Its further course is under the walls of the House of Correction, in Clerkenwell-fields, thence to the workhouse in Coppice-row, under Eyre-street (formerly Hockley-in-the-Hole), having here been originally joined by "the River of the Wells," formed by Clerken, Skinners', and other wells; and thus to the bottom of Holborn. Here it received the waters of the Old Bourne, which rose near Middle-row, and the channel of which forms the sewer of Holborn-hill to this day. Thence the united stream flowed beneath what is now called Farringdon-street into the Thames.

SIR ROBERT HARRY INGLIS, BART.

THE announcement that Sir Robert Inglis retires from the representation of the University of Oxford, implies that he has terminated his public life. Declining health is alleged as the cause of this resolve of the honourable Baronet; at which no one will be surprised who has been

SIR ROBERT HARRY INGLIS, BART., LATE M.P. FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD.—FROM A DAGUERREOTYPE BY BEARD.



REPAIR OF THE FLEET SEWER.

habituated to observe of late years this old servant of the Church of England, when fulfilling his public duties. If his friends and admirers could see no diminution of the zeal and fortitude with which he was accustomed to discharge his duties as champion of the "or hodox" party in Oxford University, they could not have been blind to the fact that time had, at least, begun to do his work. The flower he wore on his breast might be as fresh and as bright as ever, but the tint on his reddish cheek was less ruddy, and his portly frame had shrunk from its wonted amplitude. We subjoin a few particulars of the leading incidents of his life

Sir Robert was born on the 12th January, 1788, and is son and heir of Hugh Inglis, Bart., thirteenth and youngest child, and eventually representative of the male line of Robert Inglis of Edinburgh, by ... only daughter and heiress of James Russell, Esq. Her mother was daughter and heiress of Robert Wightman, Esq., of Mauldeslie, Rohs Inglis, Esq., grandfather of Sir Hugh, was member for Edinburgh in the last Parliament for Scotland. Sir Hugh sailed for India in 1762 His father died young, but his mother lived long enough to ... see on his return home in 1775, when he commenced a career ... of unfailing success in England. For many years he was a Director of the East India Company; thrice filled the office of Chairman, and thrice that of Deputy-Chairman. He was created a baronet in June, 1801.

Sir Robert Inglis married at the early age of one-and-twenty; the lady of his choice being Mary, eldest daughter of Joseph Seymour Briscoe, Esq., of Pendhill, Surrey. He had already entered himself as student of Lincoln's Inn; and on the 8th June, 1809, he was called to the bar. He succeeded to the Baronetcy on the death of his father, on the 1st of August, 1820. He first entered Parliament as M.P. for Dundalk in 1824. From 1826 to 1828 he sat for Ripon. On Sir R. Peel's change of opinion as to Catholic Emancipation, Sir R. Inglis was chosen by the clergy and the opponents of Roman Catholic Emancipation to contest the representation of Oxford University with their late member. Sir Robert Peel was defeated by a large majority. Upon entering the House of Commons Sir Robert Inglis became a by no means inactive opposition member, although his principal speeches about this period were in opposition to the recently proposed Roman Catholic Relief Bill. At this early period of his life, his opinions on the subject of Papal encroachment were as decided as at the most recent period; and many of his speeches evinced that thorough Catholic Emancipation to contest

afford more time for the preparation by the Council of State of the various measures which are to be brought forward; and, next, to allow something definitive to be affirmed relative to the Eastern question

M. Thiers lately remarked that the Emperor Nicholas at present finds that Russia has in face of her a far more difficult affair than he had ever anticipated, but that, notwithstanding the difficulty of his position, he is not the man to give way: that, in addition he is subjected to the religious pressure of the old Muscovite party—as by ordinary we are constrained in a certain measure by the Ulemas and the old Ottoman party. M. Guizot is likewise convinced that the Czar will not abandon an iota of his pretensions.

The preparations making in all parts of France show that, as far as the Government is concerned, there is little, if any, hope of the maintenance of peace. The agents for the purchase of cavalry horses have received orders to provide 60 horses per regiment for the present season, instead of 120, which is the number provided for the ordinary service of the year. An order has also been issued by the Minister of Marine, dated the 14th inst., for the arming of twelve additional ships of the line. Besides this, the following ships are at the present moment getting ready for sea at Brest:—*Vis*, the *Trajan* and the *Jemappes*, ships of the line of the second rank; and the *Breslau* and the *Inflexible*, ships of the line of the third rank. The extraordinary levy of sailors for the manning of the navy, ordered in the ports of Brittany, has caused great confusion among the merchantmen of those ports. Remonstrances have already been made to the Government on the subject, by the parties interested in the cod fishing, who complain that they cannot find men sufficient to man their vessels. The Minister of Marine has replied to these remonstrances, that in the present circumstances the service of the country must be provided for before every private interest. General Pelissier, of the army of Africa, is at present at Paris, and stands exceedingly high, it is believed, in the opinion of the head of the State. It is thought that he will certainly be one of the principal commanders of any expedition of French troops to the East; or, should Marshal de St. Arnaud be in sufficiently good health to assume the chief command (as some persons suppose), many think that General Pelissier will then be appointed Minister of War.

An order has arrived at St. Malo to make a levy of all the seamen of from twenty to forty years of age, who have not passed through four years of service. The only exception to this measure is to be such men as have been dismissed from the service within the space of a year. Much disquietude has been spread through the country at this news. The same will be the case at Granville and in the Bay of St. Brieuc. The Chambers of Commerce are about to make a representation to the Minister of the deplorable state in which all the district of the coast of France which is engaged in the cod fishery at Newfoundland will be placed, should a sufficient number of men not be reserved for these expeditions, which constitute the very existence of that part of the country.

The *Courrier du Havre* says:—"The levy of sailors of from twenty to forty years of age, who have not served four years, has commenced at St. Valery. This measure has spread consternation among the boatmen who carry goods from that town into the interior. They are mostly married men, and with their savings have purchased the boats in which they carry on their business, and in which they reside with all their families, like the mariners of the north. These families, deprived of their chiefs, will be thrown into great distress for want of being able to turn the boats to account during the absence of their owners in the service."

Judgment was pronounced on Monday in the sixth chamber of Correctional Police, in the case of the forty-six persons accused of having belonged to a secret society in Paris, whose trial had been going on for the whole of the past week. Another charge against several of the prisoners was that they had had a clandestine printing press. All the prisoners, except four, namely, Schrind, Lebouille, Laurent, and Regnier, were found guilty. Bratiano, Francois, and Furet were condemned to three years' imprisonment, and 500f. fine; whilst all the others were sentenced to one year's imprisonment, and 100f. fine.

SPAIN.

The latest accounts from Madrid state that the Queen was much better, and would be soon well enough to transact business. She had been informed of the death of her child, and was much affected by it. The body of the infant princess had been conveyed to the Escurial with great ceremony. Immediately after the recovery of the Queen, the ministers intend to submit to her measures relative to the press, the electoral and municipal régime, and other important subjects. The Marquis de Turgot had so far recovered on the 11th inst., that his medical attendants had permitted to leave his bed.

There is now a rumour touching affairs at Madrid, the substance of which is, that owing to the prodigacy of the Spanish Court, a party is forming with the view of uniting the Crowns of Spain and Portugal on the head of a son of Don Pedro. The rumour most of course be taken with reserve; but it must be said, on the other hand, that such conduct as that which has lately marked the Spanish Court and Government cannot go on much longer, except at the hazard of some violent reaction.

The *Gazette* publishes a Royal decree instituting a biennial exhibition of the fine arts at Madrid, in the month of May. The works of all artists, both Spanish and foreign, are to form part of that exhibition, but those of the latter must have been executed in Spain.

ITALY.

Government is rendering itself perfectly ridiculous by its persecution of all those whose speak in favour of Turkey. Two boys were arrested some days since for having given an Oriental salute, by crossing their arms on their breast and bending their head. The word "Turkish" has been erased from the signboard of the Turkish Coffeehouse, the word "Coffeehouse" remains. Crowds assemble frequently before the house and hoot it moderately. Several children amuse themselves with wearing a crescent on their breast to annoy the police.

The police authorities in Milan are becoming every day more arbitrary. The inhabitants are forbidden to quit their houses or walk the streets without a pass from the prefect of police: otherwise they are imprisoned and fed on bread and water. There is a special carriage attached to every railway train, which is exclusively reserved for the police, that they may examine everybody who travels. The same vigilance is exercised at the theatres.

An important bill concerning the Jews has been presented to the Piedmontese Chambers by the Government. The Israelite population of the kingdom, now divided into the Universities of Piedmont, Montferrato, Alessandria, and Nice, are authorised to exercise self government in matters relating to their religion and worship, divided into twenty electoral circles, each of which is to elect a representative to a General Assembly, to meet at Turin every third year, or whenever the Minister of the Interior shall convoke it. The General Assembly fixes the duties of the rabbis, the taxes for the use of public worship, the general budget, the stipend of Grand Rabbi, &c. One half of the General Assembly is renewed every three years. The General Assembly appoints a central direction of five members, whose duties consist in executing the deliberations of the Assembly, exercising vigilance over all the Hebrew communities of the kingdom, suspending rabbis, &c. Every University elects a Council of Administration, composed of five members, for the superintendence of local interests and worship.

A letter from the Romagna of the 7th, in the *Patrie*, states that that province is in great consternation owing to the increase of brigandage. People are afraid of being out late at night, and at Faenza the theatre is quite deserted. At the market-place, Indian corn is sold at 58f. 50c. per sack of one hectolitre and 16 litres. At Lugo corn-dealers are forced by the police to sell corn at 8 scudi (42fr. 80c.) per sack. The local authorities at Faenza have forbidden the exportation of corn from their territory.

GERMANY.

On the evening of the 12th a ministerial council was held at Vienna, at which the Emperor presided. It is understood that military preparations were the subject of deliberation. The mobilisation of a corps of from 30,000 to 40,000 men to be sent to the frontier, was again projected, and Field Marshal Coronini and General Schlick were each spoken of as its probable commander.

The *Vienna Presse* declares itself in favour of non-intervention in the Eastern question on the part of Austria, assigning as a reason the state of Hungary, Italy, and her crippled finances. The journal even tenders its advice to the Government against sending a corps of observation to the Danube, "lest Russia might take it ill." It confesses, however, with a very bad grace, that the idea of a war against Russia has become very popular in Austria

The *Cologne Gazette* announces that, on the 14th inst., on the terminat on of a conference with General Count Nostiz, Prussian Minister at Hanover, and one of the relics of Blucher's army, M. Mantuffel, the President of the Council at Berlin, had another conference of extraordinary duration with the French Minister at the Prussian Court.

The *Correspondance* of Berlin announces that, on the representations of the Prussian Government, the interdiction to export articles of food from the kingdom of Poland has undergone an exception in favour of wheat.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

TURKEY.

Telegraphic despatches from Constantinople to the 8th inst. bring news of the fleets from the Black Sea. The British and French ships have been seen in the direction of Sinope, but some have been detached and have gone towards Sebastopol. Some of the Turkish vessels had gone to Varna. The Russians had shown themselves by sea before Batoum. Another despatch announces that a division of three Russian men-of-war had appeared in sight off Trebizond on the 31st ult., in the morning, where they made a *reconnoissance*; and that two other ships had been cruising the very day before off Soukoom Kali.

The *Moniteur* of Monday announced officially that the combined fleets, under Admirals Dundas and Hamelin, entered the Black Sea on the 3rd of January. Despatches from Constantinople of the 5th, state that the English, French, and Turkish fleets were in the Black Sea at that date. The Turkish troops and ammunition destined for Trebizond and Batoum, were conveyed in five Turkish war steamers. The following is the list of vessels now in the Black Sea:—

English: Britannia, Queen, Bellerophon, Rodney, Albion, Vengeance, Londonderry, Agamemnon (screw), Sanspareil (screw), Terrible, Retribution, Furious, Tiger, Firebrand—steamers.

Turkish: Taif, Feizi Bahri, Medjidié, Chaiki Chadi, Muhbri Surumsteamers. These convey ten thousand troops and warlike stores under cover of our ships.

French: Ville de Paris, Friedland, Jéna, Jupiter, Jemappes, Henri IV., Charlemagne (screw); Gomer, Mogador, Sané, Magellan, Descartes—steamers.

The correspondent of the *Lloyd* writes from Constantinople, under date Jan. 2, that large stores of coal have been purchased, and Turkish vessels hired to transport them to Sinope, where a dépôt for the French fleet is to be formed.

The following is a translation of Lord Redcliffe's and M. Baraguay d'Hilliers's message to the Governor of Sebastopol:—

Conformably with the orders of my Government, the British [French] squadron, in concert with that of France [England], is on the point of entering the Black Sea. The object of this movement is to protect the Ottoman territory from all aggression of hostile act. I apprise your Excellency thereof with a view to prevent all collision tending to disturb the amicable relations existing between our Governments, which I am desirous of preserving, and which, no doubt your Excellency is equally anxious to maintain.

To this end, I should feel happy to learn that your Excellency, animated by the same intentions, had deemed it expedient to give the requisite instructions to the Admiral commanding the Russian forces in the Black Sea, so as to obviate any occurrence calculated to endanger peace.

RECLIFFE,
[BARAGUAY D'HILLIERS].

The letters of both Ambassadors were precisely in these terms, and with the last word underlined as above. The *Retribution* conveyed them to Sebastopol, with a French officer in charge of his own Ambassador's despatch.

A letter from Constantinople, in the *Cologne Gazette*, states that the French Ambassador, in a private audience, had handed to the Sultan an autograph of the Emperor Napoleon, which expressed in the warmest terms of sympathy his regret respecting the massacre at Sinope. The Emperor declared in it anew that no violation of Turkey's integrity should take place; and he expressed the hope that the Emperor of Russia would show himself more conciliatory, being now enabled to convince himself of the union existing between France and England.

Lord Dudley Stuart left Constantinople on the 27th ult., and proceeded to Schumla. Several distinguished Englishmen accompanied him.

THE WAR IN ASIA.

A private letter from Trebizond of the 18th ult. furnishes some new and interesting particulars of the situation of affairs in Asia, which show what opportunities have been unimproved by Abdi Pacha, but which still offer themselves to his successor, to whom the Porte has just sent a reinforcement of ten thousand men. Schamyl (says the writer) having been disappointed of quarters at Vidis through the want of energy of the Turkish commander (Abdi Pacha), is once more in Daghestan, mustering forces for a new expedition, as he has done many a time before. From this point he extends his operations into all the countries between the Black and Caspian Seas The Abasians, who have hitherto maintained their independence against Russia, have come to an understanding with him, and will follow his plan of the campaign. The Poles who Russia had foolishly condemned to serve in the Caucasus, have joined him, furnishing him thus with some excellent officers, and the arms which he has obtained from Constantinople, have enabled him to arm a corps of fifty to 60,000 strong, compose for the most part of Polish deserters, excellent soldiers, ready at their weapons, the enemies of Russia, and in every way well able to render great service in the mountains. He has also constituted regular reserves of soldiers, arms, and ammunition; and thus, to the advantages previously at his command for a special war, he has added that of a more regular organisation. We may shortly expect to hear that things in Asia have taken a new turn.

It is stated in some of the foreign journals that the Polish and Hungarian officers who had been waiting for months at Constantinople to be employed, had at last been taken into service. Gen. Kmety is off to the army of Asia in the Turkish vessels which sailed on the 2nd. The chiefs of their chiefs had been created Pachas, and nominated Generals of brigade. General Klapka had declined to go to Asia, saying that he preferred serving in Europe.

A Mecklenburg captain, who met the Russian fleet, as it was returning from Sinope to Sebastopol, relates that two of the ships of the line were so much damaged, that although all the guns had been removed, they were in great danger of sinking. The Russians had lost one of their trophies of war. One of the crew of the Turkish steamer which was taken some time ago by the *Bessarabia*, had been left on board. One day the man found an opportunity of getting into the hold, and succeeded in scuttling the vessel. The water poured in so fast that she went down, with everything that was on board her.

The news from Batoum is looked for with interest, as it was thought that an attack might possibly be made on the vessels lying there. On the 2nd information was forwarded from Constantinople to the *Osservatore Triestino*, that a considerable number of Russian vessels were blockading Batoum; and the *Hamburger Nachrichten* learns, from St. Petersburg, that the Turks are much alarmed about five ships-of-war which they have lying in the port of Batoum. This looks as if mischief were in the wind in that quarter.

RUSSIA.

The St. Petersburg *Court Gazette* of the 9th inst. publishes a most violent article against England. Great Britain, it is said, is the moving cause of all European commotions, and the mischievous tone of meddler who has filled the barren fancy of the Turk with an absurd idea of "national honour," "independence." M. de Reinst and the "note" had not reached St. Petersburg on the 9th.

Letters from St. Petersburg to the 7th reflect the uncertainty and hesitation reigning in the Russian capital on the all-absorbing question at that date. According to some the enthusiasm for war had much subsided. One letter mentions a rumour that Count Nesselrode had ventured to suggest to the Emperor that it would be prudent to receive the propositions of the Conference in a friendly spirit, and that the nobility generally at St. Petersburg are anxious for a settlement of the Eastern question, in order to prevent the possibility of war in Europe Another writer despairs of peace, and points to the extraordinary preparations for war which were notoriously carried on throughout the year 1852 and 1853 as a proof that any pacific considerations presented to the Emperor's mind would have to contend with a long cherished contrary design.

The inspections of the fleet, frequently made in 1852 (says this correspondent) as well as those of the army, and the busy activity of commissariat commissions were very significant as to the intentions of the Government; and, as persons about the Court expressed it, an "important" move was about to be made. Against whom? that was the secret of the Cabinet. The late alterations in the Council of Ministers, out of which the grey-headed members retired to make way for younger and more energetic successors, were used as points of combination for the conjectures of many, who found their suppositions often confirmed subsequently by facts. As soon as the last inspections of the army were over, Menchikoff began, and not till then went from Odessa to Constantinople. Prince Gortschakoff, Governor of Poland, was summoned to St. Petersburg; and not till the absence of the High Admiral had failed at Constantinople was the former Prince appointed to the command of a corps and a half, destined for the occupation of the Principalities. In proportion as the Eastern question became more embroiled, the Russian Government proceeded to take the measures required to meet all eventualities. The Emperor reviewed once again the three divisions of the Baltic fleet, and a part of Lüders' corps (13th division) was sent by sea to Asia Minor, as a reinforcement to the troops already there. The militia was called out at the Caucasus. Then the corps of Osten-Sacken was ordered off to the Principalities; the Russian provinces contiguous to the theatre of war declared to be under martial law, and placed under the controul of the respective generals; the recruiting, that is a regular annual occurrence, was renewed by a special ukase, for it was only in Poland that the conscription was no longer last year than usual. Lastly, General Tchodojeff received orders to mobilise the active army, by raising each and every branch of it to its full complement of men. It was in the month of November last year that the General had carried out this command, for the zealous performance of which he was rewarded in an extraordinary manner by the Emperor. From all this it is concluded that the Czar's resolution is not a thing of yesterday, to be changed with the varying temper of any other Cabinet or State

THE SULTAN PROCEEDING TO MOSQUE, AT CONSTANTINOPLE.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

THE EMPEROR NICHOLAS, THE GRAND DUKE ALEXANDER, AND STAFF, AT ST. PETERSBURG.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

THE EMPEROR NICHOLAS, AND THE HOUSE OF ROMANOFF

[illegible] precedents could, in some measure, operate as salutary lessons [illegible] to those whom chance has invested with arbitrary [illegible] the people we propose offering to our readers of the [illegible] vicissitudes which have within the last hundred years [illegible] the Imperial dynasty of Russia, would fully prove the instability of thrones, and show how easily conspiracies, involving loss of crowns and life, may be concocted in those barbarous regions.

From the time of Peter the Great down to the present Autocrat, not one Emperor of all the line (with the exception of Alexander) has died even his dissolution at Taganrog—a small town on the banks of the Black Sea—has been the subject of various versions) has quietly breathed his last in an Imperial Palace.

Between the [illegible] of the Empress Elizabeth, Iwan Iwanowitch, the rightful heir to the throne and a lineal descendant from Peter the Great, was [illegible] and a foul conspiracy among the nobles, was cruelly incarcerated, as an idiot, in a dungeon (something like the Maison de Fer in the time of Louis XIV.), where, after lingering many years in fearful sufferings, he died at last miserably.

On the accession of Peter the Third, his successor—consort to that demoralized and voluptuous woman, Catherine II., whom, in some flatterers have wrongfully designated as the [illegible]—and [illegible], at the instigation of the wife, was fomented by several courtiers, at the head of which was Alexis Orloff and his brothers, to dethrone and murder the unfortunate Czar, and place Catherine at the head of Government. Accordingly, upon a given signal, the unsuspecting monarch was violently seized in one of his palaces, and simultaneously attacked by his assailants; and, after a stout and heroic resistance, at length overpowered; and, *sans cérémonie*, strangled in the most barbarous and dastardly manner. Thus perished Peter III., by the instrumentality of an ambitious and criminal woman—a real Messalina. After the perpetration of the foul deed, Catherine was immediately proclaimed Empress; and on the assassins, particularly the family of the Orloffs, wealth and titles were profusely lavished.

As far as the character of Peter is known, he is represented as having been of a mild and generous disposition, and likely to have conferred many benefits on the Russian people, had he been allowed to live.

We now come to the Emperor Paul I., son of Peter III. and Catherine, and father of the late Emperor Alexander; of Nicholas, the present reigning one; of Constantine, deceased; of the Grand Duke Michel; and of the present Queen Dowager of Holland.

As the melancholy end of the misguided Sovereign may probably still be within the recollection of a few of our readers, our notice of his boisterous career shall be brief, and merely relate to a few incidents in connection with his short reign of four years—from 1796 to 1800.

Paul, though exhibiting from his early youth symptoms of great eccentricity, irritability, and unbounded despotism, which his mother (Catherine) tried in vain to curb, had, nevertheless, at times, moments of a kind disposition, which the following anecdote will fully illustrate:—

Scarcely had he arrived at power, when his attention was drawn to the fate of the brave but unfortunate Kosciusko, the illustrious Polish hero, who, at the last struggle for the independence of his country, had been made prisoner, sent to Russia, and, by order of Catherine, was strictly confined at Schlisselburg, an isolated castle on the banks of the Ladoga Sea, suffering from a number of wounds received in battle. Paul repaired to his dungeon in person, and, after staying with him for a considerable time, in the most graceful manner (reports state that he even shed tears), restored the Polish veteran—the friend of Washington and Lafayette—to liberty, with permission to proceed wherever he liked. Kosciusko returned to the United States, the first field of his glory, where he remained a few years, but subsequently repressed the Atlantic, and took up his final abode at Soleure in Switzerland, where he was visited by the late Emperor Alexander, and there closed his eventful career at an advanced age.

The politics of Paul were as inconsistent as his general conduct was eccentric. To the French Revolution of 1789 he manifested the most decided abhorrence: none excited his anger in a greater degree than the doctrine of the Jacobins. He fancied he could discover a member of that association in dress, gesture, speech, and general behaviour. So intense was his impression in this respect, and so fearful was he of contagion, that hardly a day passed in St. Petersburg during his reign, but some unfortunate individual was dragged into prison, sub-tantially knouted; was, often sent to Siberia, for the mere offence of wearing cropped hair, light pantaloons, a coat cut *à la Provençale*, a hat of a Republican shape, or sharp-pointed boots. These, and an infinity of other rifles, were considered as sure signs of Jacobinism, and incurred severe punishments. Whenever the Emperor was perceived, even at a great distance, it was instantly known to every one, male and female, and however inclement the weather, to prostrate themselves in the dirt, on pain of being immediately arrested, and receiving a due proportion of knout. The public at length got so terrorstricken, that few ventured into the streets, and a deep depression to get rid of the tyrant, was now the order of the day. It was secretly whispered that his intellect was impaired; that leaving arbitrary power in such hands was to run the risk of existence every moment; and that the only remedy was the immediate sacrifice of his life, and to place Alexander, his eldest son, on the throne.

It has been said, but we do not warrant the truth of the assertion, that the latter was perfectly privy to the plan, and that he gave his unqualified assent, with the reserve only, that the person of his father should not be in the least hurt. The promise was given, but how far it was kept will be seen in the sequel.

Seeing the storm gather round him, and fearing that an explosion might sooner or later take place, the Emperor Paul determined to guard against the danger of surprise as far as he could. With this view, he built, in the heart of St. Petersburg, near the Fontanka, a branch of the Neva, a splendid palace, surrounded by water on all sides. He caused the strongest fortifications to be erected, and mounted them with ordnance. It was occupied by a formidable body of troops, commanded, as he conceived, by faithful officers. Everything was calculated to make a stout resistance, in the event of an attack. Within the precincts of this fortress, the Czar, at the moment of the counter-revolutionary movement in his capital, intended to retire and defend himself to the last extremity. But the walls which were intended as his protection became his grave. The name of this palace was, and is, Michaeli-wsky, for it still stands, as a monument of folly and imprudence.

The plan of acting having been duly matured by the conspirators, some of the most resolute—among which may be mentioned Zouboff, Panin, Beningsen, &c.—fixed on the day when their design was to be carried into effect. Armed cap-à-pie, they repaired, one morning in the spring of the year 1800, to the Michaelowsky palace, demanding to see the Emperor. Admittance was refused, as strict orders had been given to let nobody pass unless properly authorised. Upon which Zouboff, seizing the larger dagger, laid the guard prostrate at his feet in like manner they killed several others on their passage to the Emperor's apartments, and before any alarm could be given. Paul, on seeing these grim faces enter, all of whom he knew to be his sworn enemies, with an energy, and action, inquired what had brought them into his presence, what they wanted, and by whose authority they ventured to make their appearance.

Without taking the trouble of satisfying his curiosity, the conspirators, in the most insolent and peremptory manner, replied that they were come to insist on the abdicating the crown; that the nation was completely tired of his misrule; and that he had better submit to his fate with resignation, instead of attempting any resistance, which would be unavailing. Paul was of an athletic figure, possessed of herculean strength, and by no means deficient in courage. He listened to their proposal in silence; and, after a pause—whether inspired by the dignity of his position, or conceiving that his bodily strength was equal to [illegible] thwarting any violence that might be offered to his person—he, with the most determined accent, declared that, so far from resigning his authority, he would severely punish all those who had the temerity to propose it. At the same time he commanded them to withdraw, and attend to their respective stations, as a traitorous scheme, [illegible] by means of which he intended to join his guards. But even in this he was foiled by the conspirators, who, with daggers in their hands, told him to do so at the peril of immediate death.

This conversation, or rather altercation, which has been recorded, did not, however, discourage Count Zouboff, Panin, or any of the other conspirators. They resumed that he must, *bongre, malgré*, abdicate; and that they would have recourse to force if he persevered in his refusal. High words and abuse ensued: at last it came to blows. [illegible] by his muscular power, felled several of the assailants, and, for a time, the issue of the struggle appeared [illegible] Zouboff, [illegible] a man of the most powerful physique, having taken hold of the Emperor by the throat, threw him to the ground, and, hastily drawing a pocket-handkerchief from his pocket, strangled him after the most determined resistance.

Such was the melancholy fate of Paul I., Emperor of All the Russias. Detested among all classes of his subjects, on account of his cruelty, tyranny, and despotic rule, little or no sympathy was felt for his untimely end; on the contrary, it was looked upon as an act of grace rather than as a crime. On the following day his death was announced as having been produced by a fit of apoplexy, and Alexander was proclaimed Emperor. As in the case of the murder of Peter III., none of the assassins of Paul were punished, but rewards heaped upon them.

With regard to the foreign policy of the late Emperor Paul, as we have before observed, it was as inconsistent as eccentric. Wishing to curb the power of England, he concluded treaties, under the denomination of "Armed Neutrality," with the Courts of Denmark and Sweden, the object of which was to secure the inviolability of their flag against the encroachment of Great Britain, establishing the principle that their colours should protect ship and cargo. The treaties, moreover, enacted that in the event of England objecting to these stipulations, the Sound and all the Baltic ports should be closed against her shipping.

The British Ministry, far from approving a coalition which so materially affected English commerce lost no time in dissolving this unexpected alliance. They despatched without delay Admiral Lord Nelson with a con-iderable fleet to fit out a powerful armament, and, in the month of April, 1801, fought before Copenhagen one of the hardest battles in which he had ever been engaged. From that day the Northern Confederacy was put an end to.

We have before remarked that the progress of the French Revolution of '89 was a source of continued uneasiness and ill-humour to the mind of the Emperor Paul. He had given an asylum to Louis XVIII.; he now fancied that he had the power, and was destined, to restore the Bourbons to the throne of France. Impressed with this idea, he formed a formidable army of 80,000 or 90,000 men, headed by the celebrated Souwaroff, known to Europe by his sanguinary proceedings in Poland, and by his relentless slaughter of the Turks, to march into Italy, then occupied by the French. His orders were, moreover, that, having scoured, or rather re-conquered, that country, he should forthwith enter France, and, supported by the combinations of the Royalist party, effect a counter revolution, occupy Paris, annihilate every vestige of Jacobinism, and seat the Bourbons on the throne of their ancestors. Such were the instructions confided to the hitherto invincible Souwaroff.

The Russian commander, *alias* the "savage"—a cognomen by which he went—after many forced marches, reached Italy at last, with a well-equipped army, the chief of [illegible]. In every battle which he fought with the French, he was triumphant, particularly at that of Novi, where Joubert, General-in-Chief of the Republicans, was slain, and nearly the whole of the French army destroyed. Discouraged by so many defeats, the Republicans fled in every direction, which Souwaroff pursued his victorious career with unrelaxing activity. By so many consecutive successes, the whole of Italy was at length cleared of the enemy, and the Russian commander now contemplated the invasion of France, in obedience to his instructions.

He chose, as the preferable point, the Passage of St. Gothard, with a view of attacking Massena, one of the greatest captains of the age, who occupied a strong—almost impregnable—position in the neighbourhood of Zurich. But here good fortune forsook the Russian chieftain, Souwaroff and his Russians were completely beaten. Heart-broken, and unable to bear up against a defeat, he fled precipitately and in despair into Germany, ordering his remains in arms to bury him where, but none would obey. With the sorry remnants of his legions he returned to Russia, where not long after he closed his extraordinary career in disgrace.

Having now given, as succinctly as we could, a narrative of the deplorable end of the three Emperors—Ivan, Peter, and Paul—(in the course of which we could not avoid introducing a few incidents in connection with their reigns), which we hope have not been unacceptable to the reader, we now pause. We have purposely abstained from touching on the various political crimes committed by Catherine and Alexander, such as the partition of Poland, the clandestine and treacherous invasion of Finland, and an infinity of others, on which public opinion has already passed condemnatory sentences. Perhaps the day of retribution is not far distant.

Upon the preceding page we give an Engraving representing the Emperor Nicholas and the Grand Duke Alexander surrounded by their suite, as they appear on the occasion of military reviews in St. Petersburg. The Portraits and equipments are all from authentic sources.

THE DUCHESS OF ORLEANS AND THE FUSIONISTS.

The Duchess of Orleans, who was said to have given her sanction to the foolish, unprincipled "Fusion" movement, has met the rumour to that appeal with a most distinct contradiction, by the publication of a letter to the Duke de Nemours, of which the following is a translation:

Eisenach, Dec. 19, 1853.

My Royal and Dear Brother-in-law—I have received your last despatch, by which you engage me again to enter frankly into the [illegible] which you have concluded by your visit at Frohsdorff.

If I enter it at all, I should surely enter it frankly, and I would, by the principle of peace, which is one of the Christian religion, advance at once with the proposition which you make me this time with so much earnestness: but the same motives which have hindered my consent which that relation was declared to be one of our saint and dear sister in Caremont, must again engage me to persist in my reflections, and thus to retard my entry, or rather that of my sons, into this union.

I will again submit them myself.

I well know that you, my dear brother-in-law, as well as others, will tax me with obstinacy. If I and the family peace were the only questions here I should at once consent; I have not sworn disunion, and it would therefore be easy to me to co-operate for peace. But here the question is that of the sacred rights of my sons, they are orphans, they have only myself for their maintenance; and, in defending their rights as much as possible, I defend in them the principle of elective Royalty, which took its birth in the Revolution of 1830—a principle, which was the salvation of Portugal, my poor husband, whose memory will always be dear to me, and by the maintenance of which he knew, as well as by his natural affability, to conciliate the opinions of the great majority of Frenchmen.

To enter into this union—into this *political pact*—is nothing else but an acknowledgment in fact and entire, of Legitimacy; and whatever respect I may individually feel even, on my birth, profess for that principle, it is impossible that, consequent with myself, I can forget the circumstances under the influence of which your father became King, and under which also, I, a woman, ventured, in bearing the dangers of a momentary insurrection, to present myself in the midst of the Chamber of Deputies, to claim there the crown which I dreamt of for my son, and what do I say? which I dreamt of for Henri, my poor husband, whose miserable Providence shows, after the time of trial, its wise and eternal justice at the day marked in advance on its golden pages. I have sustained without any fault of ours, &c.

(Signed) HELENE, Duchesse D'ORLEANS.

WILLS.

Special letters of administration with the will and codicils of the Right Hon. Countess of Newburgh, Heath of Hassop-hall, Derby, wife of Colonel Leslie, have been granted to the Colonel, as sole executor, and, as the husband, being entitled to all property over which she had a disposing power. The will is dated July 30, 1853, devising her real estate in the counties of Sussex, Gloucester, and Northumberland, to Colonel Leslie; the estates in Derby, to the Hon. George Fraser, third son of Lord Lovat, and to Lady Fraser her daughter at Paris; and her home Colonel Leslie to obtain the Royal license to use, take, and bear the names and arms of Radclyffe and Eyre, and the devisees of the Derby estates the name of Radclyffe only: legacies to the residuary real and personal to Colonel Leslie. The two codicils were made on the day of her decease, the 23rd November, 1853, bequeathing £2000 for the benefit of Hassop Chapel, the surplus for the charity schools there; and any other charities to be attended to as the Colonel might judge fit, to be given in her name, and bequeathing to his Steward and Hassop, with all their properties and everything she possessed. (Signed) DOROTHY, Countess of Newburgh.

The will of Sir Richard Kellett, Bart., of Mespil Parade, Dublin, has been proved in Dublin by the only executrix in the residuary real and personal there being £2000 personalty in this country and within the province of Canterbury. Probate was granted to the son, Sir William Henry Kellett, Bart., the sole executor. To his widow, Lucy Kellett, he leaves the interest of his Long Annuities for life, and £2000 absolutely, together with the furniture, the residue, real and personal, to his son, Sir William.

Miss Margaret Creak, late of the city of Norwich, died possessed of funded and personal property to the amount of £5,000; leaving also other estates and effects, which are to be applied for building an hospital for destitute foreigners, men and women, under sixty-eight years of age; they are to be provided with a peculiar dress—the men to wear blue coats and black buttons and the women purple stuff, shot with orange, checked aprons and handkerchiefs.

The late Mr William Maltby, Librarian to the London Institution, who died on the 5th inst., at the age of ninety, has bequeathed a legacy of 300 guineas to the said institution, to which he was also honorary secretary.

Putney Mein, Esq., formerly surgeon in the 73rd Foot, and late of North Britain, has died, leaving personal property in this country amounting to £150,000.

COTTON IN INDIA.

The fear has been often expressed that a war with an empire so vast as Russia, extending from Germany to the frontiers of China, may possibly bring us into collision with it in Asia as well as in Europe. There is no room to doubt that whenever disaffection has been excited against our rule on our Indian frontier, Russian emissaries have had something to do with it. As yet, however, all the efforts of Russia to endanger our dominion in the East have proved abortive. But we may be sure that a Government whose policy is so deep rooted, is not to be finally deterred by small difficulties or by repeated failures. Its plans of aggrandisement and aspiration have long been formed, and steadily pursued. For 150 years it has been watching Constantinople, eager for the arrival of the favourable moment which should allow it to take possession of the rich and coveted prize. For thirty years it has been regarding the British empire in India, with motives quite as sinister, and with a policy as pernicious. It behoves us, therefore, to be prepared on all points when we have to face so wily an enemy. Not that we imagine there is much danger. The Allies upon whom the Czar might be supposed to reckon are not to be trusted. They may dislike England much, but they dislike Russia more. The Mahometan Princes of India do not look upon England as the enemy of their faith, but the war which the Czar has declared against the Sultan has a religious character impressed upon it by the Czar himself, of which the Mahometan States in our Indian possessions, and on our frontiers, are quite aware, and which they are far more likely to resent and to combat than to approve. Besides, they are not at all convinced that Russia is not a more formidable enemy to their political independence and existence than England. Even Persia has, upon second thoughts, deemed it more prudent to remain the friend of England than to become the ally of Russia. It will, for many reasons, be no easy matter even to assail us in that quarter. But a wise Government ought not to rely too much upon the difficulties which may beset an ambitious or revengeful assailant; neither should it rely exclusively upon its own might in the battle-field, to maintain its power in a conquered country. The possible revolt of the native population and the hostile inroads of dissatisfied or greedy neighbours, may be guarded against by other means than standing armies. Hitherto we have maintained ourselves in India by the strong arm; but it is beginning to be recognised by the inhabitants of India that our Government has, upon the whole, been beneficial to their country, and that a movement has at last been made for the development of its material resources, which it would be vain for them to expect, if the English were driven out of India, and a native or alien government established in their stead. In a country so vast and so fertile, it is impossible to predict what great summit of prosperity may not be attained during the next twelve or twenty years, if railroads are constructed, as in all probability they will be, to connect all the principal towns and cities, and if its great agricultural wealth shall thereby be transmitted with cheapness and regularity from province to province, and from every part of the interior to the sea-coast. Long before the present difficulty arose between Russia and the Porte, the busy but thoughtful men of Manchester were of opinion that much and lasting benefit would accrue both to England and to India, if we could draw a portion, if not the whole, of our supplies of cotton from that magnificent dependency. If India supplied us annually with only half as much cotton as we now import from the United States, we should have a security for the permanency of our power quite as valid, and far more profitable, than the armies that we have hitherto been obliged to maintain. But, can India grow cotton enough for us? British India grew cotton before America was discovered, and vastly excelled Europe in the arts of spinning and weaving. The beautiful products of Hindostan were chiefly consumed in England—a trade which excited the bitter condemnation of Daniel De Foe, who wrote in favour of protection to our own woollens and silks. But about the year 1821, English cotton twist invaded the markets of India, and its manufactures speedily declined.

Desirous, for purposes of their own, to ascertain whether India could supply this country with a sufficient quantity of cotton—and what circumstances, political or social, or merely physical, prevented the possible supply from being raised, and if raised, from being transported from the interior to the coast—the late Mr. Alexander Mackay was appointed by the Chambers of Commerce of Manchester, Liverpool, Blackburn, and Glasgow, to visit India, and there collect information. "He was instructed," says Mr. Bazley, in the introduction to a recently published volume,* "to elicit the truth without fear or favour, and to send to this country only such reports on the condition of India as could be implicitly relied on." Of his fitness for this mission, Mr. Bazley speaks in the highest terms. "To the personal merits of Mr. Mackay, to his truthfulness and untiring industry, a higher tribute of praise is due, than could with propriety be introduced into a work of commercial and political elucidation." This appears to us an over-strained forbearance in the writer of the preface, more especially as the author is dead. We have read the work through carefully, and bear willing testimony to its varied excellence. Mr. Mackay was not only a laborious collector of facts, but he weighed them cautiously, and his discrimination was equal to his diligence. He was eminently cautious in examining witnesses; and avoided the too frequent error of drawing general conclusions from particular statements. His descriptions of the various systems of landed tenure prevalent in India are full of learning and research. He points out, with great clearness, the defective state of the roads, and the imperfect modes of irrigation, and suggests remedial measures. The volume is illustrated by diagrams, maps, and statistical tables, and may be studied with advantage by the merchant and the legislator. Mr. Mackay's premature death was not only a sad affliction to his friends, but a loss to society; and Mr. Bazley, than whom no one is more competent to form a correct judgment, has observed "that his reports afford ample evidence that he faithfully discharged his duty; and from their tone and contents it is most probable that if he could have been spared, to have entirely completed all his intended in-

* "Western India," by the late Alexander Mackay, Esq. Edited by James Robertson, Esq., with a Preface by Thomas Bazley, Esq. Nathaniel Cooke.

vestigations, there would have resulted from his labours revelations beyond the anticipation of his employers."

Mr. Mackay's inquiries were principally directed to British Guzerat, comprising the four collectorates of Surat, Broach, Kaira, and Ahmedabad; but he also investigated the agricultural and revenue system of the Southern Mahratta country, and has given some account of his researches on what is called "The New Survey." The view that he took of his mission will be best stated in his own words:—

I have been sent hither (writes Mr. Mackay) to inquire into the obstacles which prevent an increased growth of cotton in India. The capabilities of the country for increased production here taken for granted, the only question is, why is such production checked? But a demand exists in England, and why is it not supplied? A demand, then, exists on the part of England, and the means as well as the resources for the supply of production existing in a large part of India, to a greater extent than are brought into action, why do not the capabilities of the one meet the wants of the other? In this inquiry, as regards cotton, resolves itself into two questions for consideration, the capacity of India to produce, and her ability to export those produce cotton in greater quantities than she can consume, or than she now produces? If no, why are not her exports greater than at present? If she has productive powers, which have not hitherto been called into play, why do they lie dormant? Is the cause to be attributed to the intervention of circumstances remediable, or the reverse? and if so, what are the circumstances which intervene?

With the single exception of the salt tax, the revenues of the East India Company are derived from the rent of land, and the subsidies paid to it by tributary princes. The Company is the territorial proprietor of the soil, the sole landlord of every acre within its dominions. There is no race of really free cultivators; but a disguised system of serfdom, under a nominal liberty. The rents are high, the tenure is uncertain—two conditions fatal to agriculture. No inducements are held out to improved tillage, for no man is stimulated by the prospect of accumulation. If he render his holding more productive, the benefit is not enjoyed by himself, but is transferred to the Company, in the form of augmented rent. Thus, the reward of the cultivator is never allowed to exceed the barest means of subsistence. He is always indebted to the money-lender of the village for the means of purchasing seed; his growing crops are security for repayment of the loan, for which he is often charged an interest from forty to fifty per cent. Till very lately—only just before the renewal of the late Charter—the mode of collecting the land-tax was most oppressive.

Of the excessive exactions of the Company in the shape of rent, Mr. Mackay gives the following summary, after having minutely submitted all the details to a critical examination:—

I have shown that the Government rent does not always indicate the full amount which the ryot has to pay for his lands that the average Government rental of the British collectorates is 62 per cent of the produce; that the average Government rental of Broach is 50 per cent, and that of Kaira is about 50 per cent, and that of Surat about 75 per cent, and that that of the actually cotton producing lands of Broach is 43 per cent. I have shown the additional sums paid by the cultivators to the Bhagdars and other upon the average assessment; still further, I have shown that the larger rent charged upon the alienated lands brings up the average rental of the collectorates to about 67 per cent, and that upon the cotton-growing lands of Broach to about 50 per cent. And, in addition to all this, taking a still wider range, and embracing the native as well as the *British* districts—the high rent of the former being maintained by the high standard at which those of the latter remain. I have shown that the average rental of the whole province is about 60 per cent of its gross produce. I have likewise explained, taking Broach as an example, how the farmer realises scarcely more than the wages of a labourer in an average year; how the land has no saleable value the evils incident to a system requiring constant remissions; and how, in most years, maximums fixed at scarcely attainable points, are but an imperfect protection to the ryots against the ignorance, recklessness, or indiscretion of a collector.

One of the most delicate and difficult points in Mr. Mackay's inquiry is the competition of America, where the quality of cotton is decidedly superior. Mr. Mackay devoted much labour to elucidate this branch of the problem; and, in his fourth chapter, the reader will find elaborate statistics, of which we can only condense the substance. Some of the richest soils of Mississippi and Alabama excepted, the lowest average remunerating price to the American planter at the port of shipment is computed at 3½d. sterling per lb.; but Guzerat cotton at the port of shipment must realise 3¼d. The selling price of American cotton at Liverpool, merely to cover expenses, is put down at 4¼d.; that of Indian at 4d. So far the difference is only ¼d., or scarcely six per cent; but the difference of value, as determined by the relative qualities of the two cottons, is generally estimated at 25 per cent.

To enable Guzerat cotton (says Mr. Mackay) to sell at its cost price—that is, merely to cover expenses—American cotton must be selling at from 18 to 20 per cent above its cost price; in other words, realising a profit. When the price of American cotton is beyond this, that of Guzerat cotton rises to a profit-paying point, but when, on the other hand, the price of American cotton is below this, that of Guzerat cotton necessarily falls below the point at which it will cover expenses; and, again, when American sinks to its cost price, the importer of Guzerat cotton is losing from 18 to 20 per cent upon the article.

With these facts before us, it is evident that the main point to determine is whether the cost of producing Indian cotton can be reduced? and Mr. Mackay gives his reasons why that can be accomplished. He considers that the cost per pound at Bombay, the shipping port, may be lowered to 2d., but we must refer to the volume for the details of the calculation. At Liverpool, then, the cost of Guzerat cotton would be 2¾d. instead of 4d.: so that, compared with the price of American cotton at the same place, the difference in the relative prices would be 35 per cent. But the quality of the latter still remaining 25 per cent superior—which must, of course, be taken into account—the difference in price still remains 10 per cent in favour of India. This effected, Mr. Mackay is decidedly of opinion that the quality would be rapidly and greatly improved, and the consumption in England greatly increased.

In taking leave of this highly instructive volume, we can cordially recommend it to our manufacturers, and indeed to all who feel an interest in British India, the brightest jewel in the English Crown. There need be no fear for British rule in India if justice be done to the native population. Already they enjoy more freedom than they could expect under a Government of their own, or under that of any other which could be substituted for that of Great Britain. The development of their vast agricultural, mineral, and trading resources, is the one thing needed to secure our dominion. The mere threat of a Russian attack will not prove useless, if it lead to a more earnest attention to the subject than it has hitherto received. With railroads constructed by British capital and skill, and cotton produced in all the cotton districts of that noble Empire, we may bid defiance to Russia and rest secure of the attachment of the Indian population.

LITERATURE.

A SKETCHER'S TOUR ROUND THE WORLD. By ROBERT ELWES. Hurst and Blackett.

This is a clever and a remarkable book. Mr. Elwes was as erratic, though not so short, as *Puck* proposed to be; and really circumvented the globe (from March, 1848), in two years and a quarter, travelling 36,000 miles in that elongation of the sprite's forty minutes. In his preface he states that his travels were undertaken for no purpose but his own amusement. But Mr. Elwes was in earnest nevertheless. He started for Madeira, and ran on via Tenerife, to the Brazils; and, after that, it seems to have mattered little to him which way the first ship that sailed was going: he sailed in her, and went wherever she went, however the vessel happened to be directed or driven. Thus, at Honolulu, he tells us, "I here were two or three schooners in harbour, one a nice-looking craft, of about 100 tons, bound to Tahiti; so, thinking I might just as well go there, I went on board, looked at the accommodation, and saw the captain." She was from California and was on her way to Hobart-town, "probably calling at New Zealand;" and as this suited our author very well, he took his passage accordingly. It was the same throughout his whole journey. He was ready to go anywhere and everywhere; for he was sure there must be something to sketch wherever he went.

His principal points may be thus enumerated. Rio Janeiro, an excursion into the interior, Bahia, the mission, Monte Video, Buenos Ayres, passage à la Head across the Pampas, cross-ing the Andes, Santiago, Lima, the Sandwich Islands, Australia, Hobart Town, Melbourne, &c.; Manilla, Hong-Kong, Macao, Shanghai, Singapore, Sumatra, Ceylon, Aden, Cairo, Malta, Sicily, Italy, Switzerland, Holland, home. The remarks upon most of these "sights" are natural and easy. There is no fine or laboured writing, and no scientific profusions, and, except when a grand landscape, striking sea-view, or splendid waterfall occurs to be drawn, very little enthusiasm. All else is described like every-day work; and, but for the novelty of some of the places visited, and a sprinkling of anecdotes and incidents connected with them, we could have fancied going round the world resembled going to Hampstead, Erith, or Sydenham, where the Crystal Palace is.

The twenty-one sketches present beautiful scenery remarkable scenes, and add a chief interest to the handsome volume of the literary contents of which we shall select a few specimens of the briefest and most popular charac-ter, leaving the travel at large to be perused in *loco*. In the forests of Brazil, Felix, the writer's guide, is described as knowing the properties of the different trees: "One with leaves something like an oak, and a smooth bark (supposed to be a sort of *Jatropha*) stung like a nettle. Another (*cagoo*) was announced to be good for tanning, another for making ropes, another for curing the bites of poisonous snakes; and it is said that the Armadillo, when wounded by fighting with snakes, runs to this tree, and eating some of the leaves, renders the bite harmless; but no other animal can possess this important knowledge. Commerce will probably not be long in ascertaining the qualities of the Brazil nut trees, and turning them to good account; as for our traveller, his toils and researches were rewarded by the magnificent Falls of Paulo Affonso, of which we owe to the pencil an excellent representation

The Amazon River, as is well known, traverses a region on which another new world of men may be planted and supported. But we must quit its vast expanse of waters for the vast expanse of land, the Pampas, over which Mr. Elwes rode as if his life depended on ease and speed. "As we proceeded (he tells) we found the country was a perfect sea of thistles, and from a slight elevation you could see over their tops for miles. The wind whistled mournfully through them, and eddied the downy seed like snow across the road. They had had notice to quit; the powerful November sun had scorched them up, and they were waiting to be swept down by the first *pampero*. Their height was not more than six feet; so that you could generally see people riding in them, but not catch in some places were many biscacho holes, with their attendant owls, which stared and bowed at us as we rode past, or rose, screeching, perpendicularly in the air, if we came close, whilst the biscacho dived into the ground."

Scotland's famous thistle-land must yield the palm to the Pampas, as its mountains must yield to the giant Andes; and the mind of man must almost sink in the contemplation of these enormous features of inanimate nature. How small the most concentrated atom of humanity would appear on the interminable expanse of plain; how insignificant in climbing, pismire-like, the prodigious chain that stems the Pacific Ocean from his sight! Mr. Elwes's journey is into enemy throughout; and his subsequent voyage to and trip among the Sandwich Islands, yet more curious and novel. The American missionaries are much censured and ridiculed:—

We lived (he says) very well at Kailua (a village on the sea shore) We generally sat down about sixteen to dinner, the king sitting at the head of the table—on his right hand, the Prince on the left. Our dinners were partly in the native style, comprising a good many dishes of different sorts of fish some cooked, some dried, and some raw; pork dressed in several ways, and, what in Hawaii is considered a great delicacy, a large dish of dog. This was dressed in the native way, wrapped in leaves, and put in the ground with a fire over it, and then served up in a large calabash. I generally ate some of it, and found it very good. It was fat, and tasted something like pork. The dogs bred up for the purpose are fed on nothing but poi, potatoes, cocoa-nut, and vegetable substances; so there is no reason why they should not be good.

Yet no other dog (says Mr. Elwes) will taste it. This latter fact is curious, if true.

But Mr. Elwes's track is too long for us to follow it out, even with the most prudential reticence, and we must only mention a few matters which may be new to readers. For example, that eating a raw onion is the best cure for the effects of rarity of air at great elevations (let all future Cockney excursionists to Mont Blanc try it), and that the fruit of the passion-flower is extremely pleasant. In Rio, Mr. Elwes saw a beggar who had two slaves to carry him to his regular begging place, where they left him all day and returned for him in the evening. There are curious stories of strolling actors and their troupes—horse and foot, as well as of the famed jugglers of the East, with an anecdote relating to whom we shall conclude:—

In Canton one day some Englishmen saw two men quarrelling; and, at last, one, overcome with rage, rushed at the other, and cut his throat. The blood gushed forth in torrents, and the man fell down as if dead. A large crowd had collected at the spot, but no one interfered; and the Englishmen, struck with horror, were debating whether they should seize the murderer, when, to their astonishment, the man who had his throat cut, jumped up, with a grin on his face, and went round with a plate to collect money.

Other performances are even more wonderful, but our tale is told, and we have only to recommend Mr. Elwes's "Tour Round the World" as one of the most amusing and instructive books ever brought under our notice.

LETTERS OF LAURA D'AUVERNE AND OTHER POEMS. By CHARLES SWAIN. Longman and Co.

Poetry and Manchester! A votary of Apollo, a votantary denizen of the city of smoke and steam? A dreamer of Arcadia, content to dwell beneath the grim shadows of gigantic chimneys, and amid the whirl of ceaseless wheels? A bard among money-makers? Music, and sweet music, too, soaring heavenward above the din of machinery, and the clamours of the market-place? Even so. And wherefore not? Is the poet so dependent upon outward things that he must needs tabernacle among "hills which look eternal," beside "streams that lucid flow for ever," and under skies which utter a starry "thus far and no farther" to the "Lo, ... witness is at hand. Stand forth, Charles Swain, of Manchester, and make our assertion good: a witness, truly, who had before spoken in those "Dramatic Chapters" and "English Melodies" of his, which the discerning world has already learned to honour by, and who now speaks again, not less potently, in his "Laura D'Auverne," and lyrics of peculiar grace and sweetness. Question him, reader, examine him again and again, and we know the result must be a confession that even Manchester may nurture poets for Charles Swain is one.

Very heartily do we commend Mr. Swain's latest publication to all true lovers of his art. The letters of "Laura" develop an interesting domestic history, in stanzas, at once remarkable for their harmony and passion. The story is simply and earnestly told, and is something more than a mere strain of pleasing melody or strong emotion. There is an object in it beyond its music. The poet teaches while he sings. Laura's fate, however, occupies little more than a fourth of the book. The remainder is made up of "Poems and Songs." Most agreeably so, for Mr. Swain's power is eminently lyric; and this volume contains some of his choicest efforts. Quotation would only mangle them; they must be read in their entirety to be appreciated. "Work," "Faith," and "When the Heart is Young," occur to us, as we write, as among the most notable: but all of them are excellent. Nor must we forget to give our author one praise especially his due. He has avoided the besetting sin of modern times. He is no mystic. He perpetrates no affectations of language, and is guilty of no tricks of art. He does not make himself obscure in order that he may be thought to be profound. He is neither conceited nor oracular. He indulges in no morbid fancies or sickly humanitarianisms. He does all like a man, full of genuine impulses and high imaginings tempered and toned by sound common sense and a practical moral purpose.

DOD'S PEERAGE, BARONETAGE, AND KNIGHTAGE OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND, FOR 1854. Whittaker and Co.

The new edition for 1854 of this valuable work sustains its ancient reputation. It contains an account, arranged in alphabetical order, of all the peers, peeresses, bishops, baronets, knights, and Scottish judges. It adds to these a list of the widows of the nobility of all grades—from dukes to knights, of the sons, daughters, &c., of peers, bearing courtesy titles; a brief view of titular distinctions and terms relating to ranks, paragraphs on the formal modes of addressing letters to persons of title; and lists of the members of the various orders of knighthood and the Privy Council. It is, besides, embellished with twenty-four illustrations, including the insignia of the various orders of nobility, introduced by an interesting essay on precedence. Mr. Dod's notices of the several individuals who figure in her work are so many biographies. The similar task which equals it. But "Dod" is a household word—now a-days. To be accurate as Hansard, is small, of any praise—as Mr. Macaulay can testify; but to be correct as "Dod" is something to be proud of.

FINE ARTS.

CAPTURE OF THE SAN JOSEF. By T. J. BARKER.

Mr. Barker, the painter of the large picture entitled "A Lesson of Humanity," illustrative of a striking episode in the career of the great Napoleon, has just completed a work of equal magnitude, embodying one of Nelson's most dashing achievements, the boarding of the Spanish Admiral's ship, *San Josef*, at the Battle of St. Vincent; or rather his receiving the swords of the vanquished officers on the quarter-deck of that ship, after its surrender, Feb 14, 1797. The story of this memorable event is one of the brightest in the annals of our great naval hero. He had already taken the *Minerva*, and was preparing to board the *St. Josef*, when a Spanish officer looked over the quarter deck rail, and said they had surrendered. The rest shall be told in Nelson's own words:—

From this mest we come intelligence it was not long before I was on the quarter-deck, where the Spanish captain, with a bow, presented me his sword, and said the Admiral was dying of his wounds. I asked him, on his honour, if the ship was surrendered; he declared she was; on which I gave him my hand and desired him to call on his officers and company and tell them of it: which he did: *and I then, on the quarter-deck of a Spanish first-rate, extravagant as the story may seem, did I receive the swords of vanquished Spaniards which, as I received, I gave to William Fearney, one of my boat-keepers, who put them, with the greatest* sang froid, *under his arm*. I was surrounded by Captain Berry, Lieutenant Pierson of the 69th Regiment, John Sykes, John Thompson, Francis Cooke, al. old *Agamemnons*, and several other brave men, seamen, and soldiers. Thus fell these ships.

The artist, in his treatment of this subject, has evinced an admirable appreciation of the diverse passions which the event would excite in the bosom of the various actors—the self-possessed dignity of Nelson, the *nonchalant*, seaman-like, buff demeanour of William Fearney, and the boisterous enthusiasm of the other old *Agamemnons*, contrasting well with the subdued, but gentlemanly bearing of the vanquished Spanish officers, one of whom is suffering severely from a wound in the arm. In more than one of the pictures we still more painfully realise the duties of a hot, though brief engagement, as are represented with wonderful effect. The figure of the sailor in the agonies of death, over whom a priest holds a crucifix, is, indeed, a striking study. We may add that all the details of rigging, armament, costume, &c., are strictly accurate, and represented with remarkable textural truth; and that the general tone, and especially that dependent upon atmospheric influences, is most satisfactory. This fine picture is on view at messrs. Leggatts and Co's, Cornhill, and we look to produce a large sized engraving of it, to be executed by C. G. Lewis, in his finest manner.

THE MEETING OF WELLINGTON AND BLUCHER AT WATERLOO. By T. J. BARKER.

This is another work from the same hand, which, though the painting was, we believe, completed some time back, has only been published in the course of the last few months. It favourably illustrates the artist's intelligence for equestrian subjects; and by the interest attaching to the individuals represented, claims honourable mention from us, as an addition to our long list of "Wellington Portraits and Historical Pictures," which we published shortly after the Great Captain's death. The meeting of the Prussian and Prussian heroes took place at the farm of the Belle Alliance just after the eventful struggle was over The meeting was sudden and unexpected by both; and it has been described by the few persons who happened to be present at it as a most affecting scene; Blucher rushing forward and embracing the Duke; or, as Wellington himself states—"When Blucher met me, he brought up his horse alongside as close as he could, and put his arms round me and kissed my cheek." Mr. Barker has not attempted to realise the more impassioned circumstances of the incident;—probably he was afraid they might be dangerous on cold canvass; but he has, perhaps, gone a little too far into the opposite extreme, giving the group somewhat of the formal character of a general officer surrounded by his aides-de-camps. The unrivalled fame of Wellington, to some extent, marks the peculiar circumstances of the case; but his figure, as well as that of his horse, is stiff and wooden. Still, in other respects, this picture is a very successful realisation of a most interesting historical event.

ROYAL WINDSOR THEATRICALS.—Sir E. B. Lytton's comedy of "Money" was performed at the Castle on Thursday week; on which occasion four managers of as many theatres sustained principal parts:—Mr. Wigan, *Captain Dudley Smooth*; Mr Kean, *Evelyn*; Mr. Webster, *Graves*; and Mr. Buckstone, *Stout*

THE MARYLEBONE FREE LIBRARY.—At the meeting of the Marylebone vestry, on Saturday last, Mr. Grote made the following statement with regard to the Marylebone Free Library, which was opened in the public rooms, on Monday, the 9th of January. On Monday there were 92 readers, viz., 91 males, and 1 female, and the number of books used was 92. On Tuesday there were 102 readers, 100 being males, and 2 females, and 100 books used. On Wednesday in there were 148 readers of 139 books, 130 being males and 9 females. On Thursday the number of readers reached 173, all males, and the books used were 184. On Friday there were 171 readers, 162 being males and 8 females. There having been in the five days 667 readers, 655 being males, and 14 being females, or an average of 133 daily. He was happy to state also that the number of readers being a total of 667 books. In all those there was not gratifying; and, seeing the advantages which must result from such an institution, he hoped that these statistics would go forth to the public, and that they should have the aid of benevolent individuals desirous of improving the moral and social condition of their fellow-creatures. On Friday evening the number in the room, reading at one time was 66.

HORSE'S REVENGE.—A farmer, of Requista, near Rodez, was in the habit of cruelly ill-treating his horse. A few days ago the animal, being at liberty, rushed on him, threw him down, trampled on him, and bit him severely. He uttered loud cries, but it was some time before they were heard, and when at length some persons ran to his assistance he was quite dead.

OPENING OF THE CANADA GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.—LONDON STATION.

CANADA GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

THE opening of the Central Section of the Great Western Railway of Canada, which took place at London, Canada West, on the 15th December, was hailed by the inhabitants with an expression of popular gratification suited to an event which is calculated to exercise an important influence on their town and the adjacent district.

Not many years have elapsed since the site on which the town of London now stands was a wilderness, and it is not more than ten years since it was little more than a village; but in the general impetus which has been given to the progress of Canada within the last few years, London has received its full share: handsome brick buildings are rapidly displacing the wooden shanties of the original settlers: and, by the event just mentioned, the town is put in connection, by railway, not only with the shores of Lake Ontario, but also with the Atlantic.

In England, even previous to the time at which railways were first brought into operation, the travelling was comparatively good: but in Canada, although the road from Hamilton to London, eighty miles distant, is esteemed one of the best in the province, travellers, at certain seasons of the year, must make up their minds to be twenty hours in performing that distance by the stage, besides running the risk of being upset, perhaps more than once, by the way. Under such circumstances it is little to be wondered at that the opening of a railway in that province should be an event of general rejoicing.

After the arrival of the train, the Directors were entertained at a public dinner. The Mayor of the town—who is also a Director—and has taken a very active part in pushing forward the undertaking—presided. Numerous appropriate toasts were drunk. The health of her Majesty was received with great enthusiasm; but the festivities of the evening were not more remarkable for anything than the very good feeling expressed towards the mother-country by the American gentlemen who were present. General Clarke from the States, in responding to the health of the President, expressed his sentiments to the effect that if any nation should lift a finger against the parent country, her children from this side of the Atlantic, would be seen flying to her relief.

It would not be doing justice to the Great Western Railway, were these remarks on that great work to be limited to the benefits which it is likely to confer on the London district: the unfinished portion of the line from London to Detroit, opposite Windsor, which will very shortly be completed, will there connect with the Railways through the Western States of America, and in continuation of some one or other of those lines westward, as far as the Pacific—a gigantic undertaking, which many people, now living, may see completed: there is therefore nothing extravagant in assuming as a probability, that at no very distant date, trains from the Atlantic and the Pacific may meet on the railway which has just been opened through the town of London.

The Sketch represents the Train passing the Company's Engine-house and Workshops, and approaching the Passenger Station. The Engine-house, next the square building, partly lighted from the top, on the left of the Sketch, is well arranged, and capable of containing seventeen locomotives.

THE BREAD RIOTS AT EXETER.

IN the Exeter riots of 1847, as well as in those of last week, in the same place—of which we gave an account in our last Publication—the most active portion of the mob seems to have consisted of women, several of whom were of mature years, and the mothers of large families. Had the military not arrived promptly, the amount of damage by the rioters would have been much greater. Fortunately, their violence did not extend much further than destroying the shops of a number of bakers, hurling flint stones through the windows of obnoxious individuals, and smashing everything they could reach.

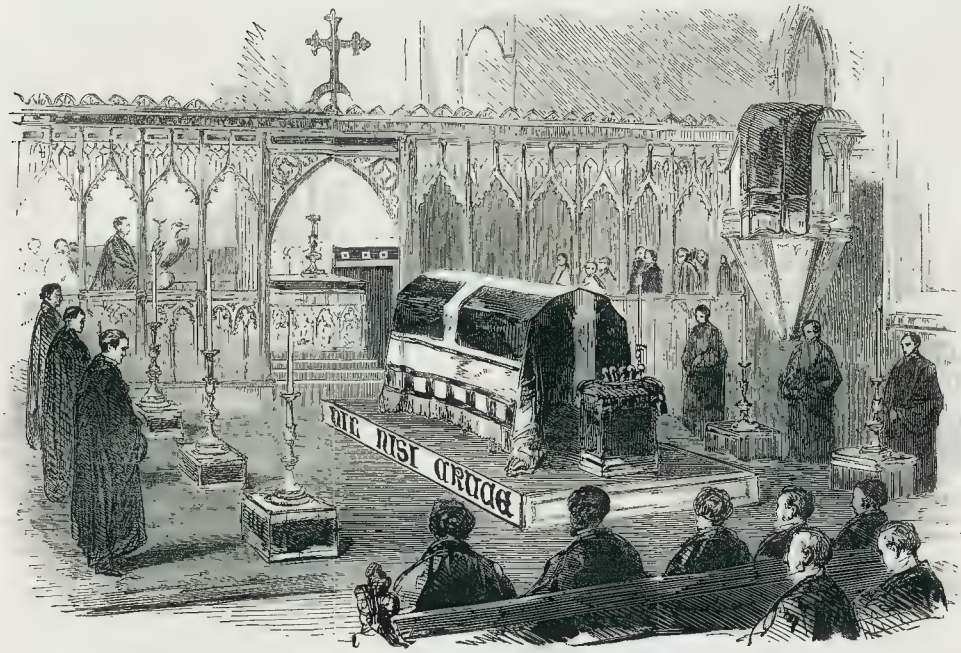
At the commencement of the riot the police made an attempt to disperse the mob, but it was all in vain. When they were turned away from one place, they made their way through back streets to some other baker's shop at a distance, and instantly began to pillage it. The Mayor, finding that the disturbance was becoming serious, proceeded to the barracks, and obtained the assistance of a troop of the 3rd Light Dragoons, by whom it was speedily put down. The soldiers proceeded to the Guildhall at once, in front of which a portion of them remained to protect the building from any attack, while the rest of them went in pursuit of the rioters, who had gone to Alphington and Exminster, two villages in the neighbourhood. At the latter place the mob broke into one or two houses, drank a quantity of cider, and were threatening to set fire to the premises, when the military arrived, and took two of them prisoners, and dispersed the crowd.

Lord Palmerston has written to the Mayor of Exeter inquiring as to the accuracy of the reports which have been published respecting the riots. His Lordship also requests to be furnished with the particulars of the outbreak, and the result of the investigations which have been going on before the local magistrates. A similar communication has been addressed by his Lordship to Mr. M. B. Bere, a county magistrate, who accompanied the troops from the boundaries of the city into the county, and rendered so much assistance in quelling the outbreak, and in apprehending the rioters. In both instances the noble Lord's request has been promptly complied with. The business at the Exeter Spring Assizes is likely to be more heavy than has been known for years, in consequence of the large number of prisoners who have been committed for trial for being concerned in the late riots. In Exeter and the vicinity alone there have been no less than forty-four convictions; while arrests have been made at Crediton and other towns in the north of Devon. The vigorous manner in which the authorities acted has prevented the repetition of any similar outbreak; and the change in the weather has enabled the men to return to their work.

SPURIOUS GOLD-DUST.—Persons are attempting to dispose of spurious gold-dust, by offering it to money-changers in London. It consists of small pieces of some hard kind of earth electrotyped so as not to be discoverable by chemical tests. A parcel was taken on Tuesday to Messrs Spielmann, in Lombard-street, which was completely undistinguishable from genuine gold-dust, except by its friability and want of weight.

BUYING STEAM-VESSELS.—A report has been prevalent that the French Government have purchased six vessels belonging to the fleet of the General Screw Steam Navigation Company, and three of the Australian Mail Company, but it is incorrect. A purchase of the kind is, however, understood to be in negotiation by the French company for establishing a Transatlantic line of mail steamers.

"BREAD RIOT" AT EXETER.



FUNERAL OF VISCOUNT BERESFORD, IN KILNDOWN CHURCH.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

CONSECRATION OF ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, ISLINGTON.

PROBABLY, neither of our metropolitan suburbs exhibits more gratifying evidence of public improvement than the locality, but a few years since, known as "the Caledonian Fields" and "Barnsbury Fields," now the district parish of the Holy Trinity, Islington. Scarcely more than a dozen years since the site was little better than a mere waste, dotted with cottages and huts, as stunted in their proportions as the majority of their inmates were in moral character. The "Fields" were notorious as the scene of brutalising sports, and the habits of the population were generally of that low cast which is common upon the borders of an overgrown city. As if to scare such evil-doers, the Model Prison rose in terrible extent. A more direct clearance, however followed; the cottages and huts were swept away, and houses for the respectable classes were built upon the sites of wretched rurality. These improvements necessitated provision for the spiritual welfare of the newcomers; and, accordingly, a church has been built here, which was consecrated on Monday last. The new edifice, which is dedicated to St. Andrew, is situated in Thornhill-square, on the east side of the Caledonian-road, and is one of the largest churches lately built in the suburbs. Hard by is the new City Cattle-market, now in course of erection.

NEW CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW, THORNHILL-SQUARE CALEDONIAN-ROAD, ISLINGTON.

The Lord Mayor, Mr. Alderman and Sheriff Wire, with the Under Sheriffs, attended the ceremony in state; the Rev. D. Wilson, Vicar, the Rev. W. Vincent (in whose district the Church is situated, and to whose exertions and those of an active lay committee its erection is mainly due), and a large number of the parochial clergy, being likewise present.

The usual consecration service having been gone through—in which the Bishop of London was assisted by his chaplain, the Rev. T. H. Greene, and Dr. Shepherd, the Registrar—the prayers were read by the Rev. S. J. Altmann, the Incumbent of the new Church, and an impressive and eloquent sermon was preached by the Bishop, his Lordship taking his text from St. Matthew, ix., 37: "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; pray ye, therefore, the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest."

At the close of the consecration service, the Rev. Thomas Huntley Greene, M.A., the Bishop's chaplain, read the Offertory sentences, and a collection was made on behalf of the Building Fund.

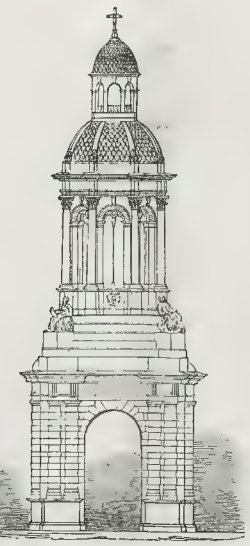
The Bishop, the Lord Mayor, the Sheriffs, and a large number of persons, afterwards partook of luncheon at the vicarage.

St. Andrew's Church is cruciform in plan, being that best adapted for a large congregation. It is built of Kentish rag and Bath stone, and is of the middle pointed period of Gothic architecture. It consists of nave and aisles, chancel and aisles, north and south transepts, with a tower and spire at the west end of the south aisle. The large number of persons for whom accommodation was required, rendered galleries necessary; but these, by being confined to the transepts and west end, are so managed as to interfere but little with the church-like character of the interior. The pulpit, of Caen stone, is correctly placed, adjacent to one of the piers of the chancel arch, and sufficiently advanced westward for the purposes of sound; and we are enabled to state, that not a word uttered by the Bishop at the Consecration, either at the altar or pulpit, was lost in any part of the Church, notwithstanding its large size.

The foundation-stone of the building was laid by the Bishop of London, in October, 1852. It accommodates upwards of 1600 persons; and has been executed, at a cost of £6000, by Messrs. Francis B. Newman and John Johnson, architects; Messrs. Dove, of Islington, being the builders.

The Church has been erected by subscription—the Bishop of London, Lord Robert Grosvenor, M.P., the Rev. Daniel Wilson, the Rev. Wm. Vincent, Sir James Tyler, Mr. W. Dennis, Mr. Cubitt, and the late Mr. Thornhill, M.P., being the principal contributors. Mr. Thornhill also gave the site.

The Bishop of London, in his consecration sermon, on Monday, remarked that police measures, sanitary arrangements, poor laws, and all attempts to better the condition of the labouring classes, important as all these undoubtedly were, would be of no advantage unless immediate measures were taken to extend the influence of the Church. As this was the surest way to reform the population, so in the end it would be found to be the cheapest. He spoke in high terms of praise of the architectural beauty of the Church, and expressed the gratification he felt in consecrating another building in the parish which approximated very closely to the perfection of the parochial system, and which was an example to the diocese at large. His Lordship concluded with an eloquent appeal for a liberal subscription towards paying off a heavy debt of £2,250, which still remained upon the Church.



NEW CAMPANILE, TRINITY COLLEGE, DUBLIN.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

THE LATE M. VISCONTI.

M. VISCONTI, the architect of the Louvre, who has been so suddenly taken away from the profession in which he had achieved for himself so distinguished a name, was the son of an eminent Italian antiquary, Ennius-Quirinus Visconti, his father, having been obliged to leave Italy by the political events of 1799, took refuge in France, where he found

THE LATE M. VISCONTI.

a new country, and was soon afterwards appointed Conservator of the Antiquities of the Louvre, and Member of the Institute. It was in the midst of that sanctuary, then enriched with the precious spoils carried off from Italy, that the young artist spent his early years. In the extensive knowledge of his father he had every encouragement to devote himself to the study of archæology, the hereditary glory of his family; but his vocation led him to architecture, and in that art he studied under the illustrious M. Percier, of whom he became one of the most distinguished pupils.

While under the tuition of M. Percier, young Visconti received five medals at the School of Architecture, in addition to the Department prize in 1814, and the second prize for the plan of a library. When

twenty-six years old he left l'Ecole des Beaux-Arts, and was employed for some time as an Inspector of Public Buildings. He then became architect-surveyor of the third and eighth arrondissements, the duties of which office he performed for twenty-two years. In 1839 he was appointed architect of the Grande Bibliothèque; and, returning to those studies, which had witnessed his earliest successes, he devised no less than twenty-nine plans for making that edifice in harmony with its importance. At one time he thought that he should be at last entrusted with the fulfilment of that noble task. That hope, though dispelled then, had been revived of late years, and he had it still at heart as much as ever; because there, at least, in an independent design, he would have been able to inscribe his thoughts, to display his invention and his taste unshackled; whereas, in the completion of the Louvre he was obliged to bring himself down to the level of gene al data—to adopt even the details devised by others. Death has rendered him from seeing the completion of the Louvre, but the plan which he has traced will be followed. All the parts of that vast structure are now above ground, and that portion of it which runs along the Rue de Rivoli, with its façade at right angles, is already completed to its full height. The plan of M. Visconti has the merit of simplicity in a matter which has given birth to many extravagant projects. He has succeeded in combining the difference of level between the two corridors. In remedying the defect of parallelism between the two palaces, it can hardly be expected that the same success will be attained.

Among the great works with which the name of M. Visconti has been associated, the tomb of Napoleon stands most prominent. The grandeur advanced to the architect during the performance of this task provoked the attention of those members of the Chamber who are accustomed to maintain the credit of France in discussions on the Budget. As to covering for the coffin Visconti procured from Finland an enormous block of porphyry, of which the French nation will long tell the name. Many persons took pains to show that far finer stone for the purpose could have been obtained in France at much less trouble and expense But, although hindered by such opposition, the work was accomplished at last.

M. Visconti was also the architect of various funeral monuments to Generals of the Empire. For example:—those of Marshals Lannes, Sa nt Cyr, Suchet, Soult, &c. In temporary structures erected for public fêtes, his marvellous fertility of invention was a constant subject of admiration. His faculty of conception and his great activity enabled him to accomplish all those public works, without neglecting those of his numerous patrons. Numerous hotels and palaces were constructed from his plans. Among the various monuments which he erected, those which attract most attention by their elegance, and which will be preser ed as the best proof of his taste, and the versatility of his talents, are he three fountains—Gaillon, Molière, and De la Paix Louvo s. In the fountain in the square of saint Sulpice, the sole architect, as we have before been less happily inspired, and not to have impressed upon the work that character of majesty and dignity which the monument of Servandoni deserved.

M. Visconti was an officer of the Legion of Honour, President of the *Société des Architectes*, member of the *Conseil des Bâtimens Civils*, and of many foreign learned and artistic societies. At the Institute he belonged to the section of Architecture, which consisted of only eight members, five of whom died in 1853. Visconti was seized, on the 29th of December, with an attack of apoplexy, caused, apparently, by overworking, from which two previous attacks, and the remonstrances of his medical advisers, had been unable to restrain him. His funeral took place on the 3rd inst., at the Church of Saint Philippe du Roule, and was attended by a crowd of eminent men, many of whom he had numbered among his friends.

TRINITY COLLEGE, DUBLIN.

THE Campanile, which our Engraving represents, is in course of construction in the spacious quadrangle of Trinity College, Dublin. It is intended for a bell-tower, of which the College stands in great need; for it possesses a very fine bell, but has no suitable structure for its proper suspension. The Archbishop of Armagh, the Primate of all Ireland, and Chancellor of the University, has liberally furnished the funds for the construction of the Tower, the estimated cost of which amounts to £4000—a liberal donation to his *alma mater*.

The extreme height of the Campanile will be about 95 feet, and the style of the architecture corresponds with the adjoining buildings of the quadrangle. The two most prominent features in the structure are the Corin hian portico es, which harmonize with the Examination-hall and Chapel, and the four figures which represent Law, Medicine, Science, and Divinity, placed at each angle of its base. The remainder of the tower is truly classical in proportion, in character of ornamentation, and in chasteness of design. The basement is composed of granite, and the superstructure of that fine oolite, the Portland stone.

The architect is Mr. C. Lanyon, of Belfast. The four colossal symbolic figures are executed by Mr. Joseph Kirk, a sculptor of Irish origin.

FUNERAL OF LORD BERESFORD.

(Abridged from the Morning Chronicle.)

ON Tuesday the mortal remains of Lord Viscount Beresford were committed to the tomb. One of the most distinguished of the many captains who were trained to arms and glory under the Duke of Wellington, the man in whom he trusted most, and whom he emphatically designated his successor in case of any accident befalling himself—he has not been long in following his chief to the grave.

Lord Beresford sheathed his sword at the close of a war which he had materially con ributed to bring to a triumphant close; and, after a comparatively short experience of public employment, ultimately retired to the quiet scenes of country life and domestic repose became the foremost in agricultural improvement, and the most beneficent of his district—and sought his highest pleasures in contributing to the moral and social elevation of the peasantry around him. The appropriate close of such a life was, that his remains should be laid amid the rural scenes which he loved so well, beside the humble villagers in whose welfare he had been so interested.

The church of Kilndown, where the remains of Lord Beresford were entombed, is a distinct church, severed from the old parish of Goudhurst, and was built by subscription in 1839, Lord Beresford being the principal subscribers. Soon after the erection of the edifice Mr. A. J. Beresford Hope munificently presented to the church a set of windows, in richly-stained glass, made at the Royal factory of Bavaria. The chief screen is a beautiful piece, of high Gothic design; and is as well as the pulpit—which is designed from an old pulpit in Beaulieu Abbey, by Mr. Carpenter, the architect, to whose designs the church generally is indebted for most of its ornamentation, and who directed the details connected with the funeral.

It had been arranged that the body should lie in state in the boys' school-room, which closely adjoins the church, and which, with another school for girls, was built and endowed by the late Viscountess Beresford. The room was suitably decorated for the occasion, having been hung round with black cloth; the family motto—"Ni nisi crucem"—being repeated round the room, worked in white letters in the med æval character. In the centre was placed a dais for the reception of the coffin, with a pedestal for the ornament of the deceased, and lighted by six large wax candles, which threw a softened light over the whole, and contributed much to the general effect of the solemn scene.

Precisely at eight o'clock the funeral procession left Bedgebury-park, the seat of his Lordship, which is about a mile and a half from the church—two mutes preceding the *cortège*; then the Bedgebury tenantry, to the number of between twenty and thirty, on horseback; and these were followed by coaches with the servants, after whom came the hearse drawn by six horses. Another coach, containing Mr. A. J. Beresford Hope and Sir John Kirkland—the former chief mourner, and both executors of the will of the deceased. Other two mourning-coaches brought up the procession, which arrived at Kilndown about half-past eight; and the coffin was removed from the hearse and conveyed to the dais in the school-room, where Mr. Beresford Hope and Sir John Kirkland took their station as mourners at the head of the coffin, and where they remained during the whole time of the ing in state. The inhabitants of the district were admitted, as were also the servants and the tenantry.

At about half-past twelve the funeral procession to the church was formed. The way was led by two mutes, after which followed the body, preceded by the coronet of the deceased, borne on a cushion by James Dod, for many years the confidential valet to Lord Beresford.

The mourners were—Mr. Alex. J. Beresford Hope, chief mourner; Mr. Henry T. Hope, Lord John Beresford, Rev. J. R. Beresford, Capt. D. Packe, Earl Talbot, Mr. Lumbar, Lord E. Bruce, Baron de Cetto, Rev. A. Hammond, Right Hon. W. Beresford, Sir John Hamilton, Lord Cranborne, Sir John Kirkland, Mr. Adrian Hope, Mr. Beresford Peirse, Capt. Packe, Mr. D. Willoughby, Capt. Eden, Sir John Anson, Duke of Montrose, Rev. A. Armstrong, Col. Windham, Mr. Ladbroke, Mr. E. Johnson. Among the invited guests were Count de Lavradio, Count de Villa Real, Sir R. Harvey, Dr. Watson, Lord Hardinge, Lord Downes, Mr. Vanzeller, Sir John Herschel, Mr. Walton Roberts, &c. A large number of clergy were also present.

The procession, thus formed, moved off from the school-house, through the churchyard, to the west door of the church, were the funeral was met by the officiating clergy preceded by the chorister boys. The clergymen, in their robes, preceded the body into the church, where, as it was slowly borne up the aisle, the organ played the Dead March in "Saul." The clergy took their seats within the chancel, while the mourners and friends ranged themselves in the body of the church. Meantime the coffin was deposited in front of the chancel screen, about a fourth of the seats in the church having been removed for that purpose; and in their place a dais was erected for the reception of the bier, with a pedestal for the coronet. The entrance to the church, the chancel, and the walls round the dais, were all hung with black, ornamented with white borders, in medieval character. Tall standard candles were placed on each side of the bier, and the church was lighted with candles on the altar, coronas of lights over the screen, &c.

When the mourners and invited guests had taken their seats, as many of the inhabitants of the district were admitted as the church could possibly accommodate. Several ladies were also admitted to the organ-loft, at the west end of the church.

The Rev. Mr. Harrison read the Psalms and Lessons set apart for the burial of the dead; after which the procession was again formed, and moved out of the church, the organ pealing forth Mozart's "Dies Iræ."

The vault in which the remains of the deceased were deposited is on the south side, and immediately adjoining the church, and is surmounted by a mausoleum of singular beauty, and almost unique in its design—the only one like it being the tomb of the Scaglia family at Verona. It was erected by Lord Beresford on the death of his lady, a few years ago: it consists of two altar tombs,—both surmounted by a sort of canopy, borne by light columns of polished granite.

When the body was lowered into the receptacle thus prepared for it, the remaining prayers were read by Mr. Harrison, and the earth was sprinkled on the coffin by John Blunt, a veteran soldier, who fought under Lord Beresford's command at Albuera, and lost a leg on that fiercely-contested field, and who has resided for a long time past at the neighbouring village of Horsmonden. The prayers were then concluded, the mourners took their farewell look, and slowly retired; after which the people took a last look at the remains of him who had so long been moving about familiarly among them.

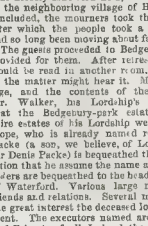
The guests proceeded to Bedgebury-park, where a luncheon had been provided for them. After refreshments, it was intimated that the will would be read in another room, and that those who felt an interest in the matter might hear it. Many availed themselves of this privilege, and the contents of the will were read over to them by Mr. Walker, his Lordship's solicitor, from which it appeared that the Bedgebury-park estate and the Staffordshire and Derbyshire estates of his Lordship were bequeathed to Mr. A. J. Beresford Hope, who is already named residuary legatee. To Captain Denis Packe (a son, we believe, of Lord Beresford's old companion-in-arms, Sir Denis Packe) is bequeathed the Carlow estates, on condition of his that he assume the name and arms of Beresford. His Lordship's orders are bequeathed to the head of the house of Beresford, the Marquis of Waterford. Various large money bequests are made to different friends and relations. Several memoranda attached to the will, show the great interest the deceased lord took in the servants of his establishment. The executors named are his Grace the Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of all Ireland, the Marquis of Waterford, Sir John Kirkland, Mr. A. J. Beresford Hope, and Mr. Drummond, banker.

The details of the funeral were executed by Mr. Banting, of St. James's-street (who had charge also of the funeral of the Duke of Wellington), under the direction of Mr. Carpenter, the architect.

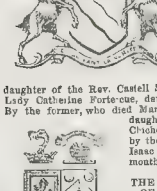
OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

THE EARL OF PORTSMOUTH.

BRIEF, indeed, was his Lordship's enjoyment of the family honours. His brother, the third Earl, died only on the 14th of July last.



The deceased, whose death we record as having occurred on the 9th inst., was second son of John, second Earl of Portsmouth, by Ursula, his wife, daughter of Coulson Fellowes, Esq., of Eggesford, and assumed the surname of Fellowes on succeeding to Fellowes his Lordship sat for some time in Parliament as Knight of the Shire for Devon. He was born June 6, 1772, and married, first, January 30th, 1795, Frances, fourth daughter of the Rev. Castell Sherard; and secondly, June 21, 1820, Lady Catherine Forte-cue, daughter of Hugh, first Earl Fortescue. By the former, who died March 15, 1819, he leaves one surviving daughter, Henrietta-Caroline, wife of Joseph Chichester Nagle, Esq., of Calverleigh; and by the latter, three daughters and one son, Isaac Newton, present and fifth Earl of Portsmouth, who was born Jan. 11, 1825.



THE HON. JAMES HOPE-WALLACE, OF FEATHERSTONE CASTLE, NORTHUMBERLAND.

THIS gentleman, the uncle and heir-presumptive of the Earl of Hopetoun, died on the 7th inst. at Featherstone Castle. He was born 7th June, 1807, second son of the fourth Earl, and assumed the additional surname of Wallace on succeeding to the property of the late Lady Wallace, who had married his aunt. By the Lady Mary Frances, his wife, sister of the present Marquis of Westmeath, he leaves three sons and four daughters.

MAJOR-GENERAL TAYLOR, C.B., OF OGWELL, DEVON.

THE death of this gallant officer, Lieutenant-Governor of the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, and Colonel of the 17th Lancers, occurred on the 8th inst., at Hacnoture, Devon, the seat of his son-in-law, Sir Walter P. Carew, Bart. He had attained his 71st year.

General Taylor was actively engaged in the last war, and served at Waterloo. He was elder son of the late Pierce Joseph Taylor, Esq., of Ogwell and Denbury, Devon, by Charlotte, his wife, fifth daughter of the Rev. William Cooke, Dean of Ely, and great grandson of Joseph Taylor, Esq., of Denbury, M.P. for Ashburton, by Rebecca Whitrow, his wife, heiress of the Reynells of Ogwell, a very distinguished branch of the great Devonshire family of Reynell.

He married, 14th January, 1819, Anne Harvey, daughter of John Petrie, Esq., formerly of Gatton, Surrey; and by her had four sons and five daughters.

LOSSES FROM SHIPWRECK.—The late storms, which committed so much devastation on our own coasts, appear to have extended over a large surface of the Continent. Constantinople has been the great mart of a fleet of nearly 60 merchant vessels, the majority have sustained more or less injury to both ship and cargo. From Spain, Portugal, and France, the letters report damages; and from the United States and North Seotia, the accounts received give the particulars of many casualties. The most recent and severe losses sustained on our own coast, is that of the total destruction of the *John o'Gaunt* clipper, with a valuable cargo of tons from China. She went ashore near Holyhead, and a total wreck. In order to give some idea of the fearful loss of ship ping lately sustained, it may be here observed that there are accounts since the 1st inst. up to last Saturday of 10 ves sels (an 104 British and foreign vessels having been totally wrecked. This return does not include the still greater number on vessels which have been run on the coast, and have received serious damage, and which entail upon the shipowners a further fearful sacrifice of property.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

The Earl of Derby, as leader of the Protectionist party in the House of Lords, will give a dinner to a large party of his political friends on the 30th instant, preparatory to the meeting of Parliament.

General Prim has arrived in Paris from Marseilles. He intends shortly proceeding to Madrid, to render an account of his mission. He hopes to be able to return to the East in the spring, should political affairs continue of a warlike character.

A Government return has been issued describing the results, so far as they have yet been ascertained, of introducing Chinese immigrants to compete with Coolies and Africans as labourers in Guiana and Trinidad. The experiment is considered successful.

The Barmoore estate, late the property of the Duke of Hamilton, has found a purchaser in Mr. Alderman Thompson, M.P., for the sum of £58 000.

Part of the roof of the Church des Carmes, at Montpellier, fell in on Sunday week, just after evening service was concluded, but fortunately no person was injured.

Upwards of £400 has been received towards a fund for rewarding the four brave fishermen, the crew of the *Emerald Isle* fishing-boat, who so gallantly rescued the survivors of the *Ecos* steamer in the Irish Channel, a few days ago.

The herring fishery on the coast of Holland was unusually productive last season. In 1851 it produced 3,100 000 fish; in 1852, 3,500,000; and in 1853, 16,370,000 which is the greatest number that has been ever caught.

A man named Holdman has been committed for trial at Crowan, in Cornwall, for killing his wife with a hatchet.

Mr. J. T. Perkins (violinist), aged 18, of New York, has been recently admitted as a pupil at the Conservatoire Impériale, at Paris, over more than twenty "concurrants." This is the first instance of an American violinist being admitted.

The Earl of Durham has become a member of the Newcastle, Shields, and Gateshead Chamber of Commerce.

A person named imagined Australian feed; Count de Strzelecki and Mr. Clarke ascertained it by examination; Sir R. Murchison deduced it from theory; and Mr. Hargreaves re-discovered it, and gave it publicity and a practical form.

The Dunbarton borough police have adopted the moustache.

Abd-el-Kader has turned agriculturist at Broussa, and engaged a number of Arabs from Syria, Tripoli, and Tunis. He has also taken into his service several Polish and Wurtemburgian agricultural labourers.

Mr. Latrobe, M.P. for Worcester, has intimated his intention to devote £50 per week to the relief the destitute poor of that city during the severe weather.

The Academy of Fine Arts in Paris decided that the prize of M. Lepoitevin shall this year be awarded to M. Alex. Cabanel, author of a painting representing the "Death of Moses," which was noticed in one of the recent exhibitions.

Sir Robert Peel has consented to deliver in Birmingham and other towns in the Midland district, a lecture on "The Progress of Society, Social and Intellectual," on behalf of the Mid.and Counties Association of Mechanics' Institutes. The lecture will be first delivered on the 31st inst., in the Birmingham Town-hall.

On the 23rd ult., the roof of the barracks at Malaga, in Spain, fell in, killing and wounding twenty-four persons.

The *Cologne Gazette* states that the negotiations for commercial relations between Belgium and the Zollverein have been broken off.

The admirers of Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton are to entertain him at dinner during his approaching visit at Edinburgh.

The French Government has just ordered the necessary surveys and examination to be made for the construction of a railway from the confluence of Cramaux to Alby (Tarn).

The *Freeman's Journal* states that a "commission has been sitting for some weeks, under order, to prepare a report on the proposed transfer of the heads of the Irish Post-office department to London."

Dr. Sutherland, one of the medical inspectors attached to the Home Office, has been seriously indisposed from the effects of inhaling the gases proceeding from decaying corpses in a vault visited by him in the discharge of his official duties. Dr. Waller Lewis is also suffering from a similar cause.

A decree has been published at Parma, by which the Grand Duke grants to his Prime Minister, Baron Ward, the privilege of constructing a railway from Piacenza to the Mountain of Penna, partly for locomotives and partly for horses.

The Countess of the Duke and Duchess of Northumberland have this year been more than ordinarily munificent, on account of the inclemency of the wea ther. The deserving poor on their extensive estates, have received liberal supplies of clothing and food.

No less than 1,230,000 letters passed through the London district post on saturday last. This is the largest number ever known, even upon Valentine's day.

The *Correspondance* of Berlin announces that, on the representations of the Prussian Government, the interdict against the importation of articles of food from the kingdom of Poland, has undergone an exception in favour of wheat.

One of the *troupe* belonging to Isabel's circus was personating the character of the "Flying Indian" at Rotherham; and, while rapidly galloping round the arena, the horse stumbled, and threw its rider with such violence as to dislocate an left knee and elbow.

Letters from Berlin state that the marriage of Prince Frederick Charles of Prussia with the Princess of Anhalt-Dessau is decided on.

The following is the official return of the revenue of the port of Dublin for the last four years 1853, £242,750; 1852, £222,686; 1851, £204,250; 1850, £238,800; showing an annual increase of nearly £20,000.

Notwithstanding the thaw of last week, the ice on the upper part of the Serpentine became strong enough to bear again last Saturday morning, when several gentlemen ventured upon it in the course of the day.

Mr. Murray, the British Minister, has quitted Berne on leave of absence. The Secretary of Legation, Mr. Christie, has returned to take charge of the Legation.

In the tract distribution case, the Queen *v.* O'Brennan, the Court of Queen's Bench decided that the proceedings in the police-office and the judgment of Mr. Cuffe had been bound de novo into the Court.

The annual oration in honour of the memory of John Hunter is to be delivered in the theatre of the Royal College of Surgeons on Tuesday, Feb. 14.

The celebrated China trader *John o'Gaunt* was wrecked on Monday evening, off Holyhead. Her cargo (a most entirely of tea) was valued at about £30,000. The ship and cargo were both fully insured.

The price of corn continues to rise in Paris, and in all the departments of France. The high price is a veritable visitation in time of trade, and the movement reason, creates great suffering among the people; and it is feared disturbances will take place.

There are already, as appears by a Parliamentary document, 38 notices of motions in the order-book of the House of Commons for the ensuing session, commencing on Tuesday week, the 31st inst.

Lord Wrotesley, at his half yearly rent day, on the 6th inst., liberally returned to his tenantry 10 per cent upon their rental.

Letters from Australia state that Captain Sir Everard Home, of the *Calliope*, senior officer on the Australian station, was very ill. He had been on an exploring excursion to some unhealthy islands, contrary to advice.

The commercial advices from the United States show that the year has opened with every prospect of an improving money market, and an extension of trade even beyond that which was experienced in 1853.

Mr. John Brady, M.P. for Leitrim, has undertaken to move for leave to introduce a Medical Registration Bill into the House of Commons, at an early period of the approaching session.

The East India Company have forwarded to the Manchester Commercial Association, samples of some fibrous grasses grown in Assam and other districts of India. One of these samples is the same as the fibre known as China grass, and has been valued at £48 to £56 per ton.

A few nights since, a house in the village near Bexley (Moselle), fell to the ground, in consequence of the heavy weight of snow on its roof. A man and his two children were got out without injury, but his wife was killed.

The Duchess d'Aumale was confined on Thursday week of a second son, which received the title of Duke de Guise.

While the Town council of Elgin has unanimously resolved to petition for a Secretary of State for Scotland, the Town council of Inverness has, by a majority of twelve to four, refused to adopt a similar petition.

The elder Didot, the celebrated Parisian printer, has just died at the age of ninety-three.

It is computed that 20,000 of the Irish militia are to be enrolled.

A Frenchman has invented a kind of paper mache from gutta percha, which is considered to be superior to all other kinds for shoeing horses and carriages.

Among the lecturers announced for the year at the Manchester Athenæum, are the following members of Parliament:—Lord Stanley Mr. Napier, Mr. Walter, Mr. Keogh, Lord Goderich, Mr. Isaac Butt, and Mr. Monckton Milnes

THE THEATRES.

"THE HOPE OF THE FAMILY," AT THE HAYMARKET.

OUR Artist has chosen the most pathetic scene in Mr. Sterling Coyne's new drama—that in which *Penny* (Mrs Fitzwilliam) undertakes the instruction in elegant accomplishments of the quondam *Joe Wadd* (Mr. Buckstone), whose omnibus habits had not fitted him to shine in the drawing room. She has to adjust his neckcloth and to arrange his shirt-front, as well as to regulate his fashionable pose, all which the poor girl performs with a true artist instinct, until she converts her awkward protégé into a true and living "portrait of a gentleman." There he stands, fit to receive company and command attention, the one object of his faithful instructress's admiration. All this is done with exquisite feeling by Mrs. Fitzwilliam, who, by her admirable acting, awakens an answerable sympathy in the audience. One touch of nature like this is worth all the stage-artifice in the world; and the conception of the character does infinite credit to Mr. Sterling Coyne, as well as to its skilful representative. The play will, doubtless, do much to advance the fortunes of the Haymarket Theatre; and it is a gratifying circumstance to reflect upon, that it is not only a "new," but an "original" one. While some other theatres are living by translations of Continental pieces, Mr.

SCENE FROM THE NEW DRAMA OF "THE HOPE OF THE FAMILY," AT THE HAYMARKET THEATRE.

Buckstone pursues the more honourable and manly course of encouraging native talent, and fostering the dramatic genius of the country. Why should the English become a mere province of the French stage? Behold it, Shakespeare! and the long line of poets to Knowles and Talfourd. Let Mr. Buckstone follow faithfully out the course of management that he has successfully commenced, and he will win for himself a imperishable laurel.

The pantomime at this theatre, founded upon Southey's story of "The Three Bears," deservedly increases in popularity; for it is one of the most pleasing pieces of nursery literature ever placed upon the stage, and its humour must delight children of every growth.

PARIS PLAYS AND PLAY-GOERS.

Among the many differences which exist between English and French, etween London and Paris life, that which extends itself to all that relates to the theatre is not the least striking. There is no doubt but that e influence and position in the latter capital are infinitely stronger than ith us; and this fact, with its causes and effects, we will endeavour to emonstrate without offence to our nation and compatriots, assuring hem of our perfect impartiality in judging the matter, and declaring hat our sapient observations are founded on an experience of some ears, and that we do not take the question in hand in the spirit of the renchman who, writing a voluminous work on England, devoted to ave ten minutes' conversation with Lord Brougham, in order to make imself acquainted with the system of English legislation. The love of musement, the facility of being amused, the more excitable nature, the reater capabilities of the French as a people to lend themselves to and o comprehend what is addressed to the imagination, are doubtless the rimary causes of this fact. The sprightly turn of their wit, ith its disposition to ridicule and criticise, their love of *per-tinge*, eir quickness at repartee, with a peculiar grace and, if we may so use e word, flexibility of language, which lends so much expression to omparatively insignificant phrases, also go for much in the affair; while, aterially speaking, the mode of life, earlier hours, and somewhat wer prices, tend not a little to facilitate matters, as far as the audience e concerned.

There are in Paris far more grades of rank and importance in the eatres than in society, and each of the best known has its particular yle of literature, acting, and decoration—its *specialité*, as it is termed. Here is about the order in which the theatres stand—not as to excelnce (for, as we have just stated, nearly each has its peculiar style and der of merit) but as to position and importance:—Opéra, or Académie Musique, French operas and ballets; Théâtre Française, comedy, agedy, and drama; Opéra Comique, French operas and operettas; péra Italien; Odéon, same as Théâtre Française; Gymnase, comedy d vaudevilles; Théâtre Lyrique, operas and ballets; Vaudeville and riétés, vaudevilles; Palais Royal, comic light pieces; Porte St. Martin, drama, spectacle; Ambigu Comique, principally drama and melonama; Gaîté, drama and vaudeville; Cirque National, or Imperial litary drama; Folies Dramatiques, Délassemens Comiques, Luxemrg, and Beaumarchais, vaudevilles; Théâtre Comte, *féeries*, vaude-le (principally frequented by children); Funambules, vaudeville and ntomime; Théâtre Lazari, drama and vaudeville.

In addition to these, there are the spectacles, concerts, Robert Houdin, ntoccini, &c., and the Cirque Napoléon and the Hippodrome, for feats horsemanship, gymnastics &c.

The three Opéras, the Français, and the Gymnase boast, as a whole, eidedly the most aristocratic audience; the others are more mixed; d most of the Boulevard theatres, except the first-class ones, enjoy a ry extensive piece, are principally attended by inhabitants of their *arties*. To ladies in general we should decidedly say that the Français d the Gymnase were the best places for them. Possessing probably two best *troupes* or company in Paris, they have a certain *cachet* of tinction—an elegance, a tone of society, in addition to their unl histrionic merit, that claim the sympathies of a well-bred audience and make them feel at home. Not so the Palais Royal. Here ad farces, coarse jokes, and allusions, *double entendres* of the most ppearent order, render the presence of young women generally inadsible; but, when these are "left out by special desire"—as in some y pieces they are—the inimitable comic actors of this theatre, Ravel, assot, Sainville, Levassor, render it one of the most amusing in Paris.

The pieces in general are of so slight a character as to be merely a canvas which these irresistible comic players embroider with their jokes, expressions, gestures, and looks, which provoke peals of laughter, for which the spectator can render no account, and of which we can give neither description nor imitation. For the lovers of the horrible, the Ambigu Comique (strange misnomer) has the strongest charms. The amount of mimic atrocities committed within those walls; of fearful dangers and perils nightly encountered; of ghosts of murdered wives, mistresses, rightful heirs, and wrongful offspring; with the occasional intervention of ghouls vampyres, and other things that be not, is enough to give the whole *quartiers* a chronic nightmare. The Porte St. Martin possesses, after the Opéra, the best mise en scène of any of the Paris theatres, and is consequently in general the one where fairy pieces, and such as require a brilliant display of decoration, are most successful and effective. It has also a reputation for dramas and melodramas; and was long the scene of the triumphs of one of the greatest actors in Europe, Frederick Lemaître. The Cirque comes next, and is the *locale* (more especially within a couple of years) where all the glories of the *grande armée*, the *vieille garde*, the Consulate, and the Empire, have been restored, amid unlimited discharge of firearms, thundering of horses, and smothering of smoke, with the occasional diversion of the shrieks of a terrified child. The influence exercised by the representations of some of the Boulevard theatres, especially the dramas of the Ambigu and Porte St. Martin, among the *ouvriers*, who form the chief portion of the inhabitants of those quarters, is remarkable, as showing to what good or evil its effects may tend. We have been assured, by one who has made the study a business, that in the *ateliers* where these men are employed, the pieces at these theatres form the principal theme of their thoughts and conversation; that the plots and characters are dwelt on, studied, and discovered—not as may be imagined, in the light of literary productions—but as real events and real beings.

MUSIC.

THE performance of "The Messiah," by the Sacred Harmonic Society, on Friday the 13th, for the first time this season, attracted one of the greatest audiences ever assembled in Exeter-hall. Hundreds of persons, we understand, were unable to obtain tickets. The reception of the most sublime musical work that ever emanated from human genius, by a public to whom it has been rendered familiar by innumerable repetitions, is most honourable to the English people, by whom a one the greatness of Handel has been through years felt and appreciated. The oratorio was performed in the usual manner, both in respect to the principal singers and to the magnitude and strength of the orchestra and chorus. We are much inclined to think that the Sacred Harmonic Society have been gradually enlarging the numbers of their performers, till they have considerably exceeded the proper limit. Beyond a certain point, the accumulation of voices and instruments produces, not power, but weakness. An orchestra of 700 persons is an unwieldy machine, even supposing all its component parts to be unexceptionable; but when (as is known to be the case) many of the chorus-singers and instrumental performers are amateurs, imperfectly educated, and not very amenable to discipline, it is impossible for the ablest conductor in the world—and there is no abler conductor than Mr. Costa—to make such a machine move with steadiness and precision. Much as we are always pleased and impressed, on the whole, by the performances of the Sacred Harmonic Society, we are often (in common with many others) disappointed by the execution of the grandest choral passages. In the most striking fugal points, for instance, when all the singers of a part should strike the note as if they had but one voice and were animated with one soul, we hear them come lagging in, one behind another, as if they durst not hazard a sound till they heard it from their neighbours. And even when the passages are sung with tolerable precision, there is often a lack of the *chiaro oscuro*, the light and shade of music, the due contrasts between alternate force and delicacy. It is by such means—not by mere physical loudness of sound—that musical strength is manifest. Why will trained voices and practised performers not form five hundred good, bad, and indifferent; and, indeed, the advantages of these resemble those that is one of the *oft captanchum* devices of the day; the public being too apt to suppose that what is very *big* must necessarily be very powerful. We have heard that the society are contemplating some reforms in their choral band, by clearing it of incompetent singers, and insisting on regular attendance at rehearsals. We should be glad if they would, at the same time, diminish their chorus by above a hundred voices. Such a diminution of its number would be a real augmentation of its strength.

MR. AGUILAR, one of our most eminent composers and pianists, has commenced, at his own residence, a series of Chamber Concerts of classical and modern pianoforte music. The first took place on Saturday evening, when the rooms were crowded by a fashionable and musical assemblage. Mr. Aguilar, with Herr Janda and Signor Piatti, played a trio for the piano, violin, and violoncello, composed by himself—a masterly work, admirably executed, and warmly applauded. He also showed his powers as a pianist by performing a charming sonata by Clementi, Beethoven's famous sonata called "Les adieux, l'absence, et le retour;" and a selection from Mendelssohn's "Songs without words." Several elegant vocal pieces were sung by Mr. and Mdme. Ferrari.

THE CREATION was performed on Wednesday evening, at St. Martin's-hall, under the direction of Mr. John Hullah. This beautiful oratorio was got up in a very satisfactory manner. The solo parts were sustained by Miss Birch, Mr. Lockey, and Mr. Weiss; and the choristers were selected from the pupils of Mr. Hullah's singing classes. The performance, on the whole, was steady and correct, and the principal choruses—especially "The Heavens are telling," and "Achieved is the glorious work" were grand and impressive. The finest song in the piece, "In native worth," was admirably sung by Mr. Lockey, and loudly encored. The hall was crowded.

A NEW vocal entertainment, called "Songs and Sayings of Samuel Lover," was given at the Musical-hall, in Store street, on Monday evening. The performer was not Mr. Lover himself, but a young vocalist, Mr Hime, for whom Mr. Lover wrote the entertainment. It consists of songs and ballads, of which both the poetry and music are Mr. Lover's, set in a frame-work of recitation, in a light, gossiping strain; but very lively and agreeable. The songs, as might be expected from Mr. Lover's well known talent, are excellent—graceful and elegant verses united to sweet and expressive melodies. Mr. Hime acquitted himself exceedingly well. He has an uncommonly fine voice, and a pleasant style both of speaking and singing. The hall was full, and the entertainment was received with much favour.

HARMONIC UNION, EXETER-HALL.—Mendelssohn's "Elijah" will be performed on Monday next, when Signor Belleki will make his first appearance in London.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK, ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

A CURIOUS and in every respect valuable discovery has just been made among official papers—nothing more nor less than the accounts of Grinling Gibbons for the works executed by himself or his assistants at Windsor, Hampton Court, Kensington, and Whitehall. The accounts are especially valuable, inasmuch as they mention the particular apartments for which the work was, the precise nature of the work, the periods when executed, and the amounts paid. When Walpole sighed over the destruction of official papers, he had no idea of the existence of records of this nature. We shall now (for the accounts are too curious to be longer concealed from the public) be enabled to trace with exactness, as we walk through the stately apartments of Windsor and Hampton Court, the works which Gibbons actually executed, and shall be able to contrast the amounts paid with the present auction value of such works, and the market value of the labours of living carvers in wood.

Who, it is asked, now that Sir Robert Harry Inglis has retired from public life, will succeed to the British Museum duties, which he attended to in the House with so much zeal and assiduity. It will be in the remembrance of our readers that Sir Robert Peel was ever watchful of the votes for the British Museum. Whenever a question about the Museum was asked by Mr. Hume, or others, the reply was invariably made by Sir Robert Peel. When Peel died, Sir Harry Inglis succeeded to this duty. Now that Sir Harry has retired, who will undertake it? The duty—and it is an important one (to become still more important) must necessarily be entrusted to a trustee, and that trustee a person who takes an active interest in the Museum. If we examine the list of trustees with the list of the House of Commons, we shall find the only available men are Lord Seymour, Sir Philip Egerton, Mr. Macaulay, and Mr. Goulburn. The public would willingly entrust the duty to Mr. Macaulay; but Mr. Macaulay has other public duties, not inaptly described by himself "as the business and pleasure of his life," and it is not fair, therefore, to charge him with any duties that will withdraw him from his History. Of the other three we have our great misgivings. Lord Seymour has taken an interest in the Museum, and was an active member of the recent Committee of Inquiry; but his labours were directed rather to assist Mr. Panizzi than to advance the interests of the Museum. We have little confidence, therefore, in Lord Seymour. Sir Philip Egerton is in no way connected with literature; and Mr. Goulburn will shortly, no doubt, imitate Sir Harry himself, and retire from public life.

In electing a new member, the members of the University of Oxford should endeavour to bear in mind that the successor to Sir Harry Inglis should be a gentleman who can succeed to the many important duties performed by Sir Harry with that strict urbanity of manner, influence of character, and position among the members of his several learned professions, which Sir Harry exhibited and possessed in a very remarkable degree. They should seek to elect some one who can not only (and, in the first place) represent the University itself within its walls properly, but can represent it among literary, scientific, and artistic classes. Of the many candidates named as likely to succeed Sir Harry, no one, it appears to us, seems to possess such singular qualifications for the trust as Lord Mahon. His Lordship is not at present a member of the House, and he is at present a trustee of the British Museum. His literary abilities are undoubted; his business habits were recognised by Sir Robert Peel, in the literary trust he has entailed upon him, His suavity of manner, and other essential qualities for good government, are felt at the Society of Antiquaries, of which he is Pres dent; nay, he graduated at Oxford, and Oxford should return him to Parliament.

The bitter and perhaps unhandsome octave just published against Mr. Disraeli has met with two notices of moment; one in the *Press*, from the pen, it is understood, of Mr. Stafford O'Brien; and one in the *Times* of Tuesday last, from the writer of the "Essays from the *Times*," published by Mr. Murray. The *Press* article discloses some little anecdotes of moment in Mr. Disraeli's life, and is written with skill, though not with vigour. Of vigour, however, there is more than enough in the article in the *Times*. Mr. Disraeli's opponents exclaim, "Here is Junius again: of this article Johnson never could have said that 'it had more of the venom of the shaft than the vigour of the bow.'" Mr. Disraeli's friends declare it, on the other hand, to be all venom. It is, indeed, a masterpiece of invective.

One of the choicest of tiny cabinets of coins in the three kingdoms is about to pass under the hammer of Messrs. Sotheby and Wilkinson—that of the late Christopher Edmonds, a famous judge of coins, and one who was liberal with his purse when good things were to be procured. Of the nature of the collection some idea may be formed from one lot—a gold Mithridates, for which in 1838, at Mr. Stuart's sale, Mr. Edmonds gave £115!

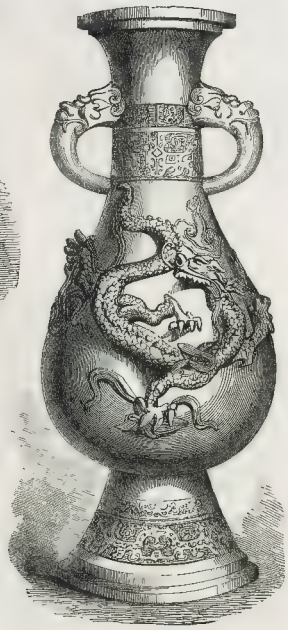
The only article of literary interest in the new number of the "Edinburgh Review" is that on Thackeray's works. It is by no means a pro ing article; the writer has read, and in some respects understands Mr. Thackeray's writings, but he does not analyse with a knowledge of human life, so essentially requisite to the due appreciation of an author like Thackeray. Yet the writer has had great experience in adjusting novels. His criticism in the "Edinburgh," on Thackeray, is from the pen of Mr. Senior, the writer in "The Quarterly" of many over-rated articles on the "Waverley Novels," as they appeared from time to time.

Literary conversation has taken a retrospective turn, through a discovery first made public by Mr. Bell, in his recent "Life of Dryden," though known to more than one literary antiquary. Mr. Macaulay, in his History, brings a foul charge against Dryden, of selling his conscience for a pension. A serious charge this; but then Dryden was the great satirist of Mr Macaulay's friends the Whigs. The accusation is founded by Mr. Macaulay on the grant of a pension made to the poet by James II. at the period of his conversion, and Mr. Bell's denial on the discovery of the grant of the same pension to the poet before his conversion, and by a different Sovereign. The grant of James II. was only a renewal of the grant of Charles II. Mr Bell founds his denial on an Exchequer document, dated in 1684; to which we may add that we have seen Dryden's own receipt for this very pension, dated June 18, 1680, for the quarter ended the Feast of the Annunciation, 1678-9. "Upon Lees," says Dryden, in a noble passage, "is the royalty and prerogative of every private man. He is absolute in his own breast, and accountable to no earthly power for that which passes only between God and him."

THE MUSEUM OF ORNAMENTAL ART.

GERMAN TANKARD.

VENETIAN GLASS.



HER MAJESTY'S BRONZE.

THE Museum of Ornamental Art, at Marlborough House, to which additions are occasionally being made, already comprises a numerous and varied collection of specimens in almost every department of ornamental manufacture—metals, pottery, glass, carving, and woven fabrics, of all periods and countries; which may be studied with advantage as illustrations of the history of various mechanical processes. In the present Sheet we engrave a few subjects which struck us, on a recent visit, as worthy of particular notice.

The *Chinese Bronze Vase*, exhibited by gracious permission of the Queen, forms part of the ornamental furniture of Buckingham Palace. It is noble in form, and an extremely fine specimen of metal-work; the principal device upon it, the favourite dragon of the Chinese, being represented as attached work.

The *German Tankard* is a curious example of the metal-work of the middle ages. The material is a composition of pewter and silver. The tankard stands nearly two feet high, and weighs as much as a strong man can well lift with one hand—full, it would certainly require two. It is supposed to have been one of the prize "cups" which used to be given by various cities on the Continent, at archery-matches, and other similar trials of skill. The arms engraved upon the shield in front are those of the city of Nuremberg. Round the rim and base are figures playing upon instruments of music, or engaged in agricultural pursuits.

The three subjects in Enamels which we have formed into a group, are curious, as illustrating the European and Oriental practices in this branch of production. The small Vase on the right is of Oriental (perhaps Japanese or Chinese) manufacture; and the only example in the Museum of this kind of enamelling executed in that part of the world; all the others being of the nature of Champleve's enamels. As a specimen of brilliant, and at the same time harmonious colouring, it is well deserving of commendation. The prevailing colours are blue and green, judiciously blended with rich yellow; and the pattern is small, and well intermixed. The large Ewer in the centre, is of Sèvres manufacture—porcelain enamelled upon copper—and is remarkable alike for the beauty of the form and for the artistic excellence of the subjects designed upon it: the prevailing colours are blue, grey, and white. The Vase on the left is also of French manufacture, being a specimen of enamelling in Sèvres porcelain upon common earthenware. This process is an extremely interesting and important one, as producing the most highly-finished results of ornamental art by the aid of base and comparatively economical materials.

The group of Venetian Glass is selected from a case near one of the windows, the contents of which many a virtuoso will gloat over, and, upon technical grounds, are extremely curious. The Venetians were

SÈVRES AND ORIENTAL ENAMELS.

ITALIAN CARVED PANEL.

JOHN WESLEY'S TEAPOT.

ITALIAN CARVED PANEL.

g celebrated throughout Europe for their manufactures in this material; and were the first who attempted the fabrication of crystal rrors, which they produced by blowing, and afterwards flattening. s of course very small affairs they were compared with the enormous ces now produced, which may be measured by acres instead of feet. t it was chiefly in drinking-glasses, and various ornamental objects the table that the Venetian glass-blower excelled; and so quaint and iginal were the forms and devices in which his fancy revelled, that scimens of such objects will always be collected with avidity, and be hly esteemed. In the midst of various-shaped drink ng-glasses shown our Engraving, is a flower-glass, for bulbous plants, very cunningly ingeniously contrived—the upper part being shaped to support the wer, whilst a second tube descends to the base for the purpose of sup ying the roots of the flower with air. Venetian glass was wonderly light; it was, however, not so clear and transparent as that of dern manufacture, owing to incomplete admixture of the constituent aterials.

Amongst other specimens in the fictile art is an extremely rich and ll-selected collection of the wares of our own incomparable Wedgood and of these, a tea-pot, with a portrait of the Rev. John Wesley on the side, and an acrostic to him on the other, may be pronounced a ritable curiosity. We engrave the portrait side. The acrostic runs follows:—

AN ACROSTIC.

Humbly Inscribed to the Rev. Mr.

J ehovah reigns—let saints, let men adore;
O bey, ye sinners, and proclaim His pow'r!
H ail! exalted Prophet, kindly stoop and hear,
N or money bring, nor price, nor doubt, nor fear.

W ide as creation—deep as sin's recess,
E xtend the merits of redeeming grace!
S o Wesley speaks—the wondering angels taught"
L ove, peace, good-will to all in Christ are brought.
E xalt-ired thousands hear the joyful word,
Y ield to conviction, and confess their Lord.

he portrait, acrostic, and other decorations are printed on the ware by e transferring process.

The two carved Oak Panels are, we think, undoubted specimens of the naissance period. The freedom of device, the fine sweep of outline, d the delicate undulations in the relief surfaces, show the hand and e feeling of a perfect artist.

Amongst the more gorgeous productions exhibited is a coffer which as presented by the French President to the Earl Granville, in recogtion of his eminent services in the management of the Great Exhibion of 1851. This magnificent article is made of ebony and ormolu, th tablets of Sèvres porcelain, richly painted; the subjects being ents in the life of Rubens. The largest picture—on the lid, and the ise of it—is a composition of many figures, representing the great tist painting the portrait of his illustrious patroness, Marie de Medicis, intr oduced in one of his numerous mythological designs illustrative of r career.

THE CORPORATION COMMISSION.

The Commissioners have been occupied this week in the examinaon of the various officials of the Corporation. Mr. Serjeant Merewether, own Clerk, gave some interesting evidence as to the claims of the Corporation to the conservancy and ownership of the Thames—a claim, however, which is contested by the Crown. As regards the police of London, e learned serjeant contended that there is a greater number of police to given area in the City than any other part of the metropolis; that the ount of valuable property is greater than in any other district, and yet at the cost is no higher, while the protection of property is very satisctory. There are some parishes, in London, where the people still maintain their own watchmen. In the Temple, which is extra-parochial, the nchers have private watchers of their own. The Temple is the only ce which does not admit the City police, but when a robbery takes ace there, the City police are appealed to.

Mr. Tyrell has held the office of City Remembrancer since 1832, when e succeeded his father in that office. His business is to watch the Parmentary proceedings affecting the interests of the Corporation in both uses of Parliament. The emoluments of his predecessors were about 6500: his average only about £1400 per annum. He conducted the position to the Smithfield Removal Bill, which cost the City about 2900 for getting up petitions against the bill, for counsellor's fees, witnesses, and other incidental expenses.

The Right Hon Mr. Stuart Wortley, Recorder of the City of London, ives an account of the duties of his situation, which he has held since 850. He is the principal legal adviser of the Corporation, he presides at sessions to the Crown, attends the Courts of Common Council and Alderen, advises the Lord Mayor, is a Commissioner under the Central riminal Court, and, in the absence of her Majesty's Judges, is considered the principal Judge, and has to charge the jury. For these serces, and many others, he receives £3000 a year. He entered at some ength into the dispute between the City and the Crown regarding the ght to the Thames.

Mr Charles Pearson, City Solicitor, with a net salary of about £1750 r annum, advises the Corporation on any question that arises in their ite and prosecutions, attends committees, and on all occasions gives em his best advice and assistance. There is no law officer of the orporation whose duty it is to conduct the whole of the legal business; e advice of the most eminent counsel is always taken before they ring or defend a suit. The Town Clerk and the Recorder are also nsulted in such cases, and he, as City Solicitor, considers himself bound state what the law is, leaving the policy of proceeding in the nds of the Corporation. As regards the dispute with Messrs. ow, Winchfield, and Company, he remembered that it began eighteen years ago, when the legal profession was more disposed to encouge litigation than it is now. There is, however, a negotiation now nding with the members of the corn trade to put the matter on a tisfactory footing.—At the close of Mr. Pearsons's examination, the quiry was adjourned till Thursday.

SOLDIERS' FEMALE ORPHANS.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

Chatham, 18th Jan., 1854.

Sir,—Having read with much satisfaction, on several occasions, articles n the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS warmly advocating the cause of the oldier's wife—and for which I think the married portion of the army ust ever feel your debtor—I trust, Sir, an old soldier, who has served his ountry at home and abroad many years, will not have presumed too far pon your kindness, and feel that in drawing your attention to the ircumstance of the recent arrival of H.M. steam-ship *Falcon*, with no ess than 135 soldiers' widows and children (mostly orphans), their parents nd victims to the yellow fever in the West Indies, it is unnecessary for me to remark on the foul, pestilential climate which the ritish soldier is called upon to serve; nor will I dwell upon the many ears of toil and anxiety passed by the soldier parent, who, after many ears of service in various climates, with the prospect of a long and honourable career before him, finds himself at an early age shrunk from the effects of service in various climates, with the ecessary addition of a large family—sometimes four-fourths of hem, perhaps, females—left totally unprovided for; destined (as in ase of the majority of the poor children above alluded to) to the care of he cold and in many cases, heartless keeping of Poor-law guardians, who so often care but little as to their moral culture or industrial education.

I hope I am not drawing too largely on your valuable time; but I would ain express with surprise that in a country like England, that owns so much f her exalted position to the exertions of her army, that no suitable establishment should exist for the reception of the soldier's female orphan. I feel that I am quite incompetent to place on the light that I would wish; but, should you, sir, be further disposed to raise your powerful oice in their behalf, I do think that it is a subject that cannot but find interest with all your lady readers; an institution wherein they may receive good moral teaching, together with suitable industrial training, itting them for domestic employment; or, should they feel disposed to enter the army, as a proper age, as the wives of soldiers, what more tting instruments, if properly instructed, to improve a rising generation, r to offer, by her rectitude of conduct and religious habits, a good exmple to those about her, and thus remove the sting too often justly cast pon the soldier's wife? And I feel assured, were such an establishment a existence, it would not lack the support of the army at large.

I am, Sir, &c., C. J. H. S.

A STILL IN A CHURCH.—Considerable sensation has been reated in the neighbourhood of Preston, by the discovery of still in uxton Church. A few weeks ago some workmen were employed in making some repairs in the church, when they discovered, concealed beneath the pulpit, a perfect still. The minister of the church, whose arsonage is adjoining, was apprised of the circumstances, and the still as removed from the pulpit into the vestry. The fact having become nown to the Board of Excise, Mr. Peacock and Mr. Bently, excise fficers of inland revenue, obtained a search-warrant from Captain Atterton, of Euxton-hall, and, proceeding to the parsonage first, found part of the still in the pantry, another portion was found in the coachouse, and, on searching the church, the remainder was found under a heap of other things in a cupboard in the vestry. The still, thus contested, was taken to Chorley, and the particulars of the seizure communicated to the Board of Excise.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

PHILOS.—1. The annual subscription to the St. George's Chess-club is three guineas for town members, but a few grades for country members. 2. There is no entrance fee or other expenses of any description.

COUNTRY MEMBER.—Judging from the list sent us we should say that the St. George's Chess-club, with the advantages of its present situation, will this year number more members than any other society ever established.

R. V.—The splendid saloon formerly belonging to Crockford's Club-house, which is to open as Grand Chess and Smoking Divan, will be ready for the public, we are told, by the opening of Parliament. For further particulars you should apply to the superintendent of the establishment, Mr. Dyer, on the premises.

KARL.—1. Pawn at the first move may be played two steps; but, if the adversary (having a pawn on the third can take it) should he may take it in passing. See the "Chess-Player's Handbook," or any modern many treatise on the game.

B. G.—Our solution of Problem No. 512 is perfectly correct; and, as we remarked last week, checkmate can be given in one more move. We regret the solution, although we grudge the space.

K to Kt 8th 2. R to Q B 8th 3. B to Q R 2nd

Black has now three moves. If he

K to Q R 3rd K to Kt 4th

take the Kt or play his King to R 3rd, the Bishop mates; and if he play K to Q B 5th, it is Kt mates at Q 6th.

PERSIA.—It does not appear so; for the Chess Society of St. Petersburg already counts upwards of 600 members from the élite of Russian society.

S. H. Leamington.—Thanks; by no means.

ALPHA.—It has been in type for three months, but we could never spare room for it, the games of the Match engrossing so much space. Now we are less pressed, it shall appear.

DUBOITCH.—Certainly it can. Why do you not procure the "Hand-book?" published by Bohn, and learn the moves of the game?

A. L.—You can have two or more Queens in play on the board at once.

E. F. H. Newport.—The game should be drawn.

A THIRD-RATE MAN.—Look at the position again attentively, and you cannot help seeing that Black can win in a few moves.

R. N.—A gentleman of Edinburgh has written to us to say that he has a new and, as much is said in perplexity as can be gained in conclusions. A taste of the opening, very similar to the Evans gambit, was published three or four years ago, by the late Mr. Allardyce, of Edinburgh.

GUINEVER, Rome.—You should join the Richmond Chess-club, which is rapidly increasing in numbers, and is likely, in a year or two, to be one of the most influential chess societies out of London. The secretary is Mr. Harris, chemist and druggist, of Richmond, and from him you must procure the information required.

CASTLE. Accompanied are concluded, we understand, for a match by correspondence, between the Oxford and Cambridge Universities.

HORTA.—A Piece does not lose its castling power by being "pinned." In the position you send, White is, therefore, checkmated.

M. G. J. T.—No. Problem 516 cannot be solved in the way you suggest.

E. H.—I want problems you already! You give us more every week.

H. W. J. cannot possibly be solved in less than five moves. Your variations are both wrong.

C. E., Gravesend.—The lawyer have to do with "professional players" in the latter. There are many amateurs who will be glad to play you a game by correspondence on the terms you propose.

BRUTUS.—A player must not Castle after having once moved his King.

DRAMATICUS.—Middleton's political drama, called "A Game of Chess," was first acted in 1624, at the Globe Theatre, on the Bankside, and met with unprecedented success during the short time it was permitted to be played. After running nine days, in which period the players are said to have shared £1500 (!) among them, it was suddenly prohibited by Royal mandate, and the author and actors were summoned before the Privy Council. The cause of these extraordinary measures, as set forth by Mr. Secretary Conway, was, that "His Majesty hath received information from the Spanish Ambassador of a very scandalous remedy, acted publicly by the King's players, wherein they has him boldened and presumption, in a rude and dishonourable fashion, to represent on the stage the persons of his Majesty the King of Spain, the Conde de Gondomar, the Bishop of Spalato, &c." The upshot was that the play was interdicted, and the players bound in heavy penalties "never to act it again."

ARTHUR.—Such a style of criticism, from a confessed novice, on the productions of the most accomplished three Problem composers of the day, is not very becoming. A Problem, of course, is valueless if the Mate is not *forced*, and the difference between your Solution and the Author's of the position in question turns on that point: his forces the Mate within the stipulated number of moves; and yours permits Black to prolong the game.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 516.—Hollands, H. F. N., Walsall, W. R. of St. David's, Agnes Mrs. Pilfoddy, Tom Boddy, W. H. R. Liverpool, are correct.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No 517, by Deveron, J. P., J. M. of Sherborn, E. F. H., Jack of Worcester, Ajmeric, Kate B., Davenport, Hollands, P. S. of Streatham, J. Z. of Hanwerth, P. R. of B., H. F. N., J. D., J. K. B., T. T. Y., Annie, Manchester, M. F. V., Negs, Stubbs, G. P. of Pool, S. C., Mercator, Fabiliera, Signa, Humpty-Dumpty, L. R., Malvern, C. S. of Kent, A. B. H. T., Tynne Regis, are correct.

SOLUTIONS OF ENIGMAS BY F. L. G., F. P., R. S. J., MUS., F. R. S., Onyx, E. F. H., Deveron, ARGHARI, J. W. S. of H., are correct. All others are wrong.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 515.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. Q to K 6th (ch)	K takes Q (best)	3. R to K 5th (ch)	P takes R
2. R to Q 5th (dis ch)	K takes B orinterposes	4. P to Q 5th (ch)—Mate.	

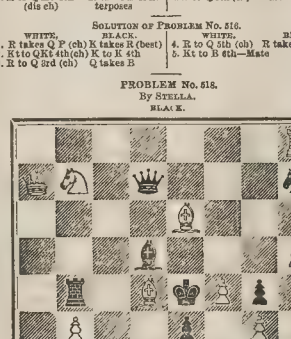
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 516.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. R takes Q P (ch)	K takes R (best)	4. R to Q 5th (ch)	R takes R
2. K to Q Kt 4th (ch)	K to K 4th	5. Kt to B 6th—Mate	
3. R to Q 3rd (ch)	Q takes B		

PROBLEM No. 518.

By STELLA.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White, moving first, to checkmate in five moves.

CHESS IN BELGIUM.

Game between Messrs. HEYDEBRAND and STAUNTON.

(Allgaier Gambit.)

BLACK (Mr. H.)	WHITE (Mr. S.)	BLACK (Mr. H.)	WHITE (Mr. S.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	16. P takes B	P to Q 2nd
2. P to Q 4th	P takes P	17. P to K B 4th	Kt to K 3rd
3. Kt to K B 3rd	P to K Kt 4th	18. P to Q 5th	Kt to K Kt 2nd
4. P to K R 4th	P to K Kt 5th		(c)
5. Kt to K 5th	P to Q 3rd	19 Kt to Q 4th	Castles Q side
6. Kt tks K Kt P	B to K 2nd.	20 K to K to K 4th	K to Kt sq
7. P to Q 4th	B tks K Kt P (ch)	21 B to Q 3rd	K to K to Kt sq
8. Kt to K B 2nd	Q to K Kt 4th	22. K to B 3rd (d)	K to K B 3rd
9. Q to K B 3rd	B to K Kt 6th	23 P to Q B 4th	Q R to K Kt sq
10. Kt to Q B 3rd	Kt to K B sq	24. Q Kt to K B sq (e)	Q R to K Kt 2nd
11. Kt to K 2nd (a)	B to K Kt 5th	25. B to K B 5th	R to K Kt sq
12. Q R takes P	B takes Q	26. Kt to K 2nd	R to K R sq
13. B takes Q	B tks K Kt (ch)	27. Kt to Q 4th	R to K Kt sq
14. K takes B	Kt tks K P (ch)	28. Kt to K 2nd	
15. K to K 3rd (b)	Kt takes B		

And, by mutual consent, the game was given up as a *remise*.

(a) The "Chess player's Hand-book" gives—11. B to Q 3rd, which seems the best move.
(b) Unexpected, and a better move than taking the Bishop with the King.
(c) White has a Pawn more than his adversary, but, to preserve it, he is driven to an abject and tedious defence.
(d) Taking the K R Pawn would have been highly imprudent.
(e) Mr. H. thought, afterwards, he should have played Q R to K sq.

THE MATCH BETWEEN MESSRS. STAUNTON AND HARRWITZ,

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

Sir,—I have been engaged in a correspondence, for the last five or six weeks, which has involved me in some half score of letters, with a view of bringing about the proposed Chess Match between Mr. Staunton and Mr. Harrwitz. It is, of course, impossible in your limited space, that you should find room for these productions, which are inclosed for your perusal. Suffice, however, ought to be made aware of the fact that Mr. Harrwitz, having originally accepted Mr. Staunton's challenge, now declines the encounter. The gentleman who acted as his representative (Captain Evans) has refused to continue the correspondence further; and the party with whom a deposit of £25 was made, as a guarantee of Mr. Harrwitz's good faith, has virtually declined (by not replying to a letter I have addressed to him for that purpose) to hand over the above sum, which has been fairly forfeited by the articles of agreement.

It is surely time, sir, that these public Chess challenges and public "acceptances" should cease, if they lead to such miserable disclosures as the accompanying correspondence exhibits.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

Enfield, January 12, 1854. E. SHEPPARD.

RELIGIOUS WORSHIP.—CENSUS TABLES.

(Continued from page 44.)

It is obvious, from the great number of Dissenters' places of worship from which returns have been obtained—20,390 (nineteen-twentieths of which have come into existence since Wesley began to teach)—that the Dissenters have gone far and fast ahead of the Church, within the century, in providing places of religious worship. The whole number of places of worship returned in England and Wales is 24,427. To what denominations they belong is stated in the first table given in our last. Of the whole, 14,077 belong to the Church of England, which possessed 9,667 before the beginning of the century; 11,007 belong to the Wesleyans, which, a century ago, had hardly come into existence; 2244 to the Independents; and 2783 to the Baptists, which have been known as sects, though latterly increased, from the time of the Commonwealth; and the rest to sects which, except the Presbyterians, have come latterly into existence. Sittings are provided by the Church of England for 5,317,915 persons, or 29·7 of the population; by the Wesleyan Methodists, for 2,184,298 persons; by the Independents, for 1,067,760; and by the Baptists, for 752,245 persons. Including all the denominations, it is calculated that, on the whole, sittings are provided for 10,212,563 persons, or for 57 per cent of the population; and supposing, with Mr. Mann, that 58 per cent of the population should be able to attend religious worship, which is 10,338,013 persons, there are sittings provided for the whole, or church accommodation for all who can be expected to attend church, except for 125,450. But the sittings are not always where the population is; and in some places—as in North Wales, North Riding of Yorkshire, and Rutlandshire (where they are, in proportion to the population, respectively, 91·3, 91·7, and 84·5 per cent)—there are much more numerous than in others—as in Middlesex, Lancashire, and Warwickshire (where they are, in proportion to the population respectively as 29·3, 40·3, and 46 per cent). Thus, while there is nearly church and chapel room for all, it is not all equally within the reach of the people; and many churches and chapels must be comparatively deserted; while others, though crowded, cannot contain all who may wish to frequent them.

We must now copy from the Report two paragraphs, which describe the local distribution of Churchmen and Dissenters throughout the country:—

Dissenters most abound in Wales, Monmouthshire, Yorkshire, Cornwall, Cheshire, Lancashire, Derbyshire, Northumberland, Nottinghamshire, and Bedfordshire; in all which counties their sittings exceed in number those provided by the Church of England; while in Wales and Monmouthshire they are more than double. In all the other counties the Establishment has a proportion of more or less preponderance in Herefordshire, Sussex, and Oxfordshire, where the sittings of the Church are more than double those of the Dissenters. The two parties are very nearly balanced in Lincolnshire, Staffordshire, Leicestershire, Cumberland, and Cambridgeshire. On the whole of England and Wales, for every 100 sittings provided by the Church of England, Dissenters furnish 92.

The above paragraph shows the distribution of Dissenters in reference to Churchmen; the following shows their distribution in reference to one another:—

The Wesleyan Methodists are found in greatest force in Cornwall, Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, Derbyshire, Durham, and Nottinghamshire; their fewest numbers are in Middlesex, Surrey, Sussex, Essex, Warwickshire, and Herefordshire. The Independents flourish most in South Wales, North Wales, Essex, Dorsetshire, Monmouthshire, and Suffolk; least in Northumberland, Durham, Herefordshire, and Worcestershire. The Baptists are strongest in Monmouthshire, South Wales, Huntingdonshire, Bedfordshire, Northamptonshire, Leicestershire, and Buckinghamshire; weakest in Cumberland, Northumberland, Westmoreland, Cornwall, Staffordshire, and Lancashire.

Perhaps there is nothing in the first table given more surprising than the small number of congregations which in England acknowledge Cardinal Wiseman and the Pope. The whole number of places of Roman Catholic worship is 570, and the sittings in them are 186,111; but service in Catholic churches is much more frequent than service in other churches, and thus there may be participants in the service than sittings in proportion to other churches. This is, however, extremely doubtful; and it is far less the positive number of Roman Catholics that has of late excited attention than their increase. At the beginning of the century, the number of Roman Catholic chapels was somewhat more than 200; in 1824, 346 were enumerated; and in 1853, 616. Their chapels have increased, therefore, threefold since the beginning of the century; while the churches of the Church of England have augmented in the proportion of 9 to 14.

Another important matter is the extent to which the church and chapel accommodation, already provided, is used. Mr. Mann states, the attendances at public worship on the Sunday, when the census was taken, were—in the morning, 4,428,338; in the afternoon, 3,030,280; in the evening, 2,960,772: total attendances, 10,836,056. Of these, 5,292,551 were in the Established Church; 1,214,059 in Independent chapels; 980,190 in Baptist chapels; and 2,418,350 in Wesleyan Methodist chapels. The attendances—morning, afternoon, and evening—in the Roman Catholic chapels, was 383,630. The whole attendances at every variety of church and chapel, exclusive of the Church of England, was 5,603,515, or 1,064 more attendances at all other places of worship than in the Church of England. Each Dissenter, on the average, bestows 2½ hours; each Churchman 2½ hours on his public religious duties. Of all the Dissenters, the Wesleyan Reformers make the most use of their chapels; the Friends the least. The attendance of the former, in proportion to their sittings, having been 45 per cent; of the Friends, only 8. It may be mentioned, as illustrative of the habits of the different religious denominations, that the members of the Church prefer the morning service; the Dissenters prefer the evening for their worship. Of every 100 sittings, 48 are occupied in the morning by Churchmen, 36 in the afternoon, and only 16 in the evening; while of every 100 sittings amongst the Protestant Dissenters, 40 are occupied in the morning, 26 in the afternoon, and 34 in the evening. It is observed, however, that Sunday schools are held in the Dissenters' chapels, of an afternoon, which explains, in part, their absence from chapel at that time, and their attendance in the evening.

With reference to the general question of attendance on religious worship, Mr. Mann suppses that 58 per cent of the population, or 10,212,563, could attend on the Sabbath. But he estimates, allowing for persons attending more than once, that the number of *persons* present at religious worship on the Census Sunday was only 7,261,033. On this estimate there were 2 951 531 absent from religious worship, who ought to have attended. If we assume with him, that this, or even a much greater number, according to another calculation he makes, is in supposition to the number of persons who have a religious object to attend public worship, we shall not form a very high idea of the attendance at church of our people, as a whole. On the lower estimate, which we have adopted—the greater making the improperly absent amount to 3,802,294 persons—or that is, fourth, but less than a third of the persons capable of attending public worship neglect it. Remembering the number of services in the Roman Catholic Church—of feast days, and saint days, and holidays (each and all of which attract to the church different classes of votaries) we may venture to doubt—though in Catholic countries the Sabbath be less strictly observed than in England—whether in any of them such a large proportion of their population habitually, continually, and totally sever themselves entirely from religious worship.

We have only referred very briefly to a few of the curious facts contained in this elaborate Report. Many of them, however, are very minute, and can scarcely be comprehended, and certainly not appreciated, by the great mass of readers. By dint of close and long study, men come to see the bearings of such minute facts, just as a watchmaker sees all the bearings of the many little parts of the curious machine he puts together; but the uninitiated do not perceive, and cannot feel at once, the use of the little parts of the machine or all the minute facts of painstaking statisticians.

REFORM BANQUET AT SHEFFIELD.—A Reform banquet is to be held at Sheffield on Thursday evening, at which the following gentlemen have signified their intention of being present:—R. Cobden, M.P., Thomas White Ramsay, John Bright, M.P. for Manchester; Lord Goderich, M.P., Huddersfield; W. Brown, M.P., South Lancashire; L. Heyworth, M.P., Derby; E. Crossley, M.P., Halifax; I. Barnes, M.P., Bolton; G. Hadfield, M.P., Sheffield; S. Oliveira, M.P., Pontefract; J. Pilkington, M.P., Blackburn; J. Kershaw, M.P., Stockport; C. Hindley, M.P., Ashton-under-Lyne. Mr. J. A. Roebuck, in reply to an invitation, writes:—"Milton, Jan. 7, 1854. My Dear Sir,—The weather and the state of my health make a long journey dangerous to me at this time. I must, therefore, decline your kind invitation to Sheffield. I intend being present at the opening of Parliament, and am nursing myself for that labour—for a labour it will be to me—as, though I am much better, I am not well. Accept my best thanks for the hospitality you offer, and for your kind expressions as to myself.—Believe me to be yours very truly, JOHN ARTHUR ROEBUCK.—To Ald. H. E. Hoole."

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CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, Jan. 22.—3rd Sunday after Epiphany. Lord Byron born, 1788.
MONDAY, 23.—William Pitt died, 1806. Duke of Kent died, 1820.
TUESDAY, 24.—Frederick the Great born, 1712.
WEDNESDAY, 25.—Conversion of St. Paul. Robert Burns born, 1759.
THURSDAY, 26.—Brazil discovered, 1496. Jenner died, 1823.
FRIDAY, 27.—Mozart born, 1756. Duke of Sussex born, 1773.
SATURDAY, 28.—Admiral Byng shot, 1757.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING JANUARY 28.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
M h m 7 30	A h m 7 49	M h m 8 8	A h m 8 25	M h m 8 39	A h m 8 50	M h m 9 2
A h m 8 12	M h m 8 31	A h m 8 47	M h m 9 3	A h m 9 15	M h m 9 25	A h m 9 35
M h m 9 46	A h m 10 4	M h m 10 23	A h m 10 41	M h m 11 5	A h m 11 25	M h m 11 48
A h m New Tide	M h m 0 25	A h m 0 50	M h m 1 15	A h m 1 38	M h m 2 1	A h m 2 20

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT,
AND THE
WAR BETWEEN TURKEY AND RUSSIA.

On SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4th, will be published, a Splendid
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Containing Engravings of Scenes and Incidents in the War, received from Artists expressly despatched by this Journal, with Full and Accurate Description of the various Encounters of the Two Armies. Also, Reports of the Debates in the Houses of Parliament; the Queen's Speech, &c.; with a
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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 1854.

FOR the last four months it has been a matter of intense anxiety in every civilised country in our hemisphere, to know whether the war between Turkey and Russia were to become a general one, or to be put an end to. The best efforts of the foremost statesmen of four great nations have been steadily directed during that period to preserve the inestimable blessings of peace, and to extinguish the local conflagration that has unfortunately broken out. Diplomacy has been slow in its operations; but it has at last brought the various questions at issue to a point on which the Emperor of Russia must declare himself. He can no longer delay his decision. Peace or war remains in his hands. Further procrastination will neither serve his purposes nor those of Europe. Two intelligible issues are before him, upon either of which his declaration will be conclusive. The British and French fleets are in full possession of the Euxine, and their Admirals have notified in courteous, but imperative, terms to the Governor of the Russian naval station in the Crimea, that their object is to protect the Turkish territory from Russian aggression; and that, if Russia would avoid a collision, she must keep her fleet within the harbour of Sebastopol. The world will speedily be informed whether the Emperor has chosen to interpret this proceeding as an act of war. The Emperor has also received an official note declaratory of the terms which Turkey is willing to accord as the basis of a pacification. This important document has received the adhesion and the signature of the representatives of Great Britain, France, Austria, and Prussia. To this note the Emperor must give an immediate reply, or incur the penalties of a state of hostility. That reply is doubtless on its way to Western Europe at this moment. It is commonly believed that it will be warlike. The reason for this belief rests upon the fact that, throughout these unhappy transactions, the Emperor has never listened to reason and common sense; that he has played the part of a man rendered insane by the long possession of arbitrary power; by the fulsome, if not blasphemous, flattery of every person around him; by the prompting of a wild ambition, and by the uncontrollable lust of dominion. Were he a sane man, swayed by the ordinary motives that actuate the rest of mankind, he would long ago have paused. He would have weighed his chances of success; and, finding all Europe against him, he would have withdrawn, while he could do so with safety, and with the least possible loss of character and credit. Even if he had been ignorant of the temper and resolution of the four great kingdoms and empires whose sense of justice and whose interests forbid them to tolerate his projects of aggrandisement, he might have found, in the unexpected strength and resources displayed by Turkey, a sufficient reason for desiring peace, rather than war. That none of these considerations has hitherto acted upon his mind is quite sufficient to justify the belief so commonly entertained in all civilised countries that his pride and passion are stronger than his reason, and that the only means of dealing with him are the means which we employ towards the lunatic and the savage. Coercion by the strong arm—which is the course he adopted towards Turkey—is the course which in all probability Europe will have to employ against a potentate so unreasonable. If he should at the last moment awake to the conviction that the task upon which he has entered is too mighty for his powers, and that the result of his efforts to domineer over Europe may be the loss of the Crimea and all the Mahometan provinces of his empire, and perhaps the loss not only of his throne but of his life, it will be well that prudence has retained such wholesome mastery over him. But we must confess that we know nothing in the Emperor's history or character which can greatly justify such hope. Like other tyrants, he is a greater slave than any man in his dominions. He is the slave of those evil passions which tyranny invariably fosters in the hearts of tyrants. He is the slave, also, of the traditional policy of his family. He is the slave of Peter the Great and the Empress Catherine, and in his wildest pretensions acts upon a cunningly-contrived and pertinacious system derived from those Sovereigns. It is for Europe to show him that his system, and that of his predecessors, is a public nuisance; and to take the proper measures—after he shall have been defeated in the coming struggle, as he assuredly will be—to prevent any further outbreaks, either on his own part or that of his successors. We do not fear that the struggle will be a long one. If we must strike, let us strike heavily and effectually. In mercy even to the Czar, the war must not be protracted, if skill, energy, and determination to succeed can by any possibility make it short and decisive. War at this moment is distasteful to every one of the Allies. Each has its own reasons for desiring peace. There is no knowing to what mischiefs, if not dismemberments, a war might subject the German Powers; and Great Britain and France have suffered so much by previous wars, and have so many material interests to develop and strengthen, that they cannot but consider war as the greatest calamity that can befal them next to the loss of their national honour. It is because their national honour would be sacrificed if the Emperor of Russia were allowed to succeed in his projects, that the people of these great countries are ready to accept war, and to fight it out to the utmost.

THE largest state in the Old World is very likely to be foiled in its efforts to "annex" to itself the coveted territory of its neighbour. The largest state in the New World, which has always some project of annexation on hand, is likely to be successful in a similar design. The Governor and people of the United States seem as if they were determined never to rest until they have annexed the whole of Mexico. Texas is annexed, though not amalgamated, and Upper and Lower California have one after the other shared the same fate, if it be not more proper to call it the same honour. But these annexations, mighty as they are, do not satisfy the ambitious spirit of the Americans. The whole of the North American continent is considered by many of the most stirring spirits of the Union, as the eventual patrimony of the Anglo-Saxon race. To expel the people of Spanish blood from all territories between Panama and the wilds where the trappers of the Hudson's Bay Company hold a divided dominion with the Red Indians and the furry animals of the forest, is the "mission" which they openly advocate. Sooner or later it is likely that they will succeed to the extent of "annexing" Mexico. But by bit they will accomplish their end—or Brother Jonathan is not acute in business, or greedy of a bargain. The United States have so large a surplus of revenue over expenditure, that the Government does not know what to do with its money. In this *embarras de richesses*, it has bethought itself, and not for the first time, of purchasing dominions, which it would be unwise at present to attempt to subdue. The latest intelligence from Washington asserts that a bargain has been made with General Santa Anna for the cession of a large tract of country, by which the United States will acquire "the whole of Lower California and Sonora, and a practical route to the Pacific," for the sum of 50,000,000 dollars. Santa Anna is described by some authorities as having declared that he would rather "sacrifice fifty thousand lives—his own included," than agree to any such proposal; but those who know his character, and the urgent necessities of the Mexican Treasury, do not believe in this patriotic fervor. But this is not the only project of annexation that is ripening. What is called the Clayton-Bulwer treaty has been formally brought before Congress at Washington, and earnest debates have already ensued upon it. By this treaty it is pretended that Great Britain consented to abandon her rights and claims over the colony of Honduras, and all other portions of Central America. The United States are anxious to obtain exclusive possession of these territories, that they may thereby exercise exclusive control over the ship canal, or railway, that is to be made through them to connect the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. The British Government, as we learn from the despatches of Lord Clarendon, and Sir J. D. Harding, the Queen's Advocate-General, resist this interpretation—especially as far as Honduras and Belize are concerned, and as regards the Protectorate which Great Britain exercises over the kingdom of Mosquitia. We do not expect, however, that the difference of opinion which has arisen will lead to any great difficulties. The rights of this country over her colonies are not likely to be assailed by the Government of the United States; and there is no reason why one of the grandest and most useful enterprises ever conceived—the junction of the Atlantic and the Pacific—should not be supported by every civilised state for the common advantage of the civilised world. As in the case of Mexico, the acute Yankees do not wish to trust entirely either to force or to diplomacy for the accomplishment of their views. The all-potent dollar is the weapon on which they most rely; and they have already purchased from the King of Mosquitia a tract of country covering several millions of acres, to which they have given the name of Nebraska, and which is to be forthwith colonised by the "Anglo-Saxon." Then there is the kindred project for the annexation of Cuba—a project that never will be dropped while Spain is a weak and the United States a strong Government.

We do not envy our brother Jonathan his prosperity; but we think he might with advantage show himself a little less grasping. There is danger in being too rich and too mighty; and the possession of an unsatisfied and insatiable spirit leads both men and nations into danger.

SIR STEPHEN LAKEMAN.—THE TURKISH WAR.

WE are glad to learn that Sir Stephen Lakeman, late the gallant commander of the Waterkloof Rangers, whose valuable public services were lately so highly approved of by the British Government, has left England for Constantinople, having accepted an important command of troops in Asia Minor. We have no doubt that the gallant officer will not only sustain, but augment, the high military reputation which he earned at the Cape of Good Hope. Owing to Sir Stephen's recommendations, a portion of the troops under his command will be armed with Dean and Adams's five-barrel revolving rifles. These destructive weapons, combined with Sir Stephen's system of warfare, as practised by him so advantageously in the late Kaffir struggle, will, no doubt, render his corps formidable adversaries to the Don Cossacks, or any other enemies of the Sultan, that may arise in that quarter. We look forward with much interest to the results that this gallant officer may produce in aid of the just cause in which he has so nobly volunteered his services.

It may not be uninteresting, in connection with this subject, to state that Messrs. Dean and Adams have been instructed to despatch a special agent to Constantinople to make arrangements for a general use of these formidable arms in the Turkish army.

WINE DUTIES.—We are informed that a public meeting, to consider the subject, is to be held on a very early day after the meeting of Parliament, and that the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor has consented to preside. The committee that has been formed to support Mr. Oliveira's motion for a reduced duty amount to more than 700 persons of different professions and commercial eminence; amongst them, about 100 members of Parliament; and we understand that, at the public meeting in question, the various questions of revenue, reciprocity, and moral considerations, will be carefully discussed.

THE COURT.

The favourable change in the weather has enabled her Majesty and the Prince Consort to enjoy their usual out-door exercise during the past week. The Queen has walked in the grounds adjoining the Castle almost daily, and his Royal Highness Prince Albert has generally gone out shooting.

The Queen and Prince, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Princess Alice, and the Duchess of Kent, the ladies and gentlemen of the Court, and the domestic household, attended Divine service on Sunday morning, in the private chapel of the Castle. Viscount Jocelyn was also at the service. The Hon. and Rev. G. Wellesley read the prayers, and the Rev. Dr. Philpott preached the sermon.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent dined with her Majesty on Monday. Col. the Hon. C. R. Phipps, and Capt. the Hon. Dudley and Lady Elizabeth Fitzgerald De Ros, had the honour of joining the Royal party.

On Wednesday, the following distinguished personages arrived at the Castle, on a visit:—The French Ambassador and the Countess Walewski, the Duke of Newcastle, the Marquis and Marchioness of Westminster and Lady Agnes Grosvenor, the Earl and Countess of Shaftesbury, the Earl and Countess Delaware and Lady Arabella Sackville West, Viscount Canning, Lord Ernest Bruce, the Right Hon. Sidney and Mrs. Herbert, the Right Hon. Spencer and Mrs. Walpole, and Major-General Wetherall.

Her Majesty intends keeping her wedding-day (Feb. 10) at Windsor Castle; and in a few days afterwards the Court will leave for Buckingham Palace.

On Thursday a dramatic performance took place at the Castle, which a distinguished circle were invited to witness. The pieces selected were Tobin's comedy (compressed into three acts) of "The Honeymoon," and the farce entitled "The Camp at Chobham."

Viscountess Canning has succeeded Viscountess Jocelyn as Lady in Waiting to her Majesty; and Lieut.-General Sir F. Stovin, Major-General Berkeley Drummond as Groom in Waiting. Colonel Wylde has succeeded Lord George Lennox in attendance on the Prince.

Lord John Russell has arrived in town from Pembroke-lodge, Richmond-park, with Lady John Russell and family, for the season. The noble Lord has issued cards for a grand Parliamentary banquet on the 30th of this month.

The Speaker and Mrs. Shaw Lefevre and family will arrive in town on the 27th inst., from Heckfield-place, Hants.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—*Rural Dean:* The Rev. A. Bayley for Peterborough. *Rectories:* The Rev. H. A. Barrett to Chedgrave, Norfolk; Rev. B. G. Bridges to Blankney, near Sleaford: Rev. R. Goldham to Caldecote, Hertfordshire; Rev. G. Harrison to Suttcombe, Devonshire; Rev. J. B. Sparrow to Offton, with Little Bruett annexed; Rev. S. Revell to Clifton-upon-Dunsmore, Warwickshire; Rev. J. L. Prior to Papplewick, Nottingham; Rev. J. Rutherford to Egdean, near Petworth; Rev. G. M. Sykes to East Hartley, near Caxton; Rev. S. Gamlen to Grafton Underwood, Northamptom. *Vicarages:* The Rev. H. Nicholson to Weston-cum-Sutton, Northampton; Rev. S. Cooke to Fersfield, Norfolk; Rev. J. Gratrix to Kensworth, Hertfordshire; Rev. D. T. Hobson to Beckingham, near Gainsborough; Rev. S. B. Maughan to Widdrington, near Morpeth. *Incumbencies:* The Rev. W. Hooper to Mansfield, near Southampton; Rev. W. L. Morgan to Bradshaw, Yorkshire; Rev. R. S. Philpott to Christchurch, Epsom; Rev. W. E. Richardson to Lisalade, near Leighton Buzzard; Rev. W. Morton to Penkhull, near Newcastle-under-Lyne; Rev. J. Harvey to Trent Vale, Stoke-upon-Trent; Rev. C. J. Penny to Hunmanham, Warwickshire; Rev. J. Mitchell to St. Paul's Church, Newington; Rev. R. Allen to St. James's Church, Halifax; Rev. J. Anderson to Lea Marsten, Warwickshire; Rev W. Wilkinson to St. Mary's Church, Sheffield; Rev. J. Aldous to Wicker; Rev. J. Miller to Orcop, Herefordshire; Rev. W. Cumby to Beadnell, Northumberland; Rev. E. Mercer to Ecclesfield; Rev. R. Jones to Penmaen; Rev. T. Smith to Osmington, near Newark; Rev. J. Valpy to St. John the Baptist, Lenside, Nottingham; Rev. P. Somerville to Milton, near Ockington; Rev. J. Dennett to Aldershott, near Farnham; Rev. F. B Gourrier to Christchurch, Clapham; Rev. D. Aston to St. Silas, Lozells, near Birmingham; Rev. J. N. Vicland to Christchurch, Turnham-green. *Perpetual Curacy:* The Rev. J. W. Springett to Christchurch, Dunkirk Vale.

TESTIMONIAL.—The Rev. T. Owen, by members of his congregations at Rathby, Newton, Linford, and Groby: Rev. H. Thompson, by the parishioners of Wrington, on his quitting the curacy of that parish, after a residence of a quarter of a century.

THE DUCHESS OF ORLEANS.—A telegraphic message has been received in Paris from the Duke de Nemours, totally denying the authenticity of the letter recently published under the name of the Duchess of Orleans in reference to the fusion of the Bourbon family. We have the fullest reason to believe that the letter in question is an entire and absolute forgery.—*Morning Chronicle.*

OXFORD UNIVERSITY ELECTION.—Sir William Heathcote, Bart., has acceded to the wishes of the requisitionists, and consented to be nominated.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY.—Mr. Godfrey has been elected Esquire Bedell. Mr. Roberts polled 137, and Mr. Godfrey 155.

PLYMOUTH.—The *Thetis*, 42, Capt. Kuper, arrived on Thursday from Valparaiso and Rio. Her news has been anticipated.

HER MAJESTY AND H.R.H. PRINCE ALBERT have contributed £100 to the fund for the relief of the suffering poor at Windsor and the adjoining parish of Clewer, in consequence of the unusual severity of the season, and the high price of provisions and fuel. H.R.H. the Duchess of Kent has also contributed to the fund the sum of £10.

LONDON, BRIGHTON, AND SOUTH COAST RAILWAY.—On Thursday, the half-yearly report of this Company, to the 31st December, was issued. It states the total capital at £7 440,749. The amount expended during the past half-year has been £116,618; and notice has been given of a bill for the next session of Parliament to increase the capital to £7,600,000, which is considered sufficient to cover all expenditure at present foreseen to be necessary, including the £150,000 rendered necessary by the opening of the Crystal Palace. The gross revenue for the half-year has been £264,716; being an increase of £21,284 over the corresponding half of 1852. The expenditure for the past half-year amounted to £148,541, against £127,400 in the corresponding half-year, principally occasioned by the increased traffic and the rise in the rate of wages and price of materials. The dividend for the half year is fixed at £3 4s. per cent, making a total of 6 per cent for the year, leaving £3758 to be carried to the next account.

LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK.—On Thursday the half-yearly meeting of this Company was held at the Banking-house; Alderman Sir James Duke in the chair. The report stated that the accounts for the half year to the 31st ult. showed a net profit for the half year of £50,695 0s. 7d., which was to be added to £7546 2s., undivided profit of the previous half year—making a total of £58,235 2s. 7d. Of this sum the directors proposed to apply £24 000 for a dividend, at the rate of 8 per cent per annum, and £34,000 to a bonus of 11s. 6d. per £10 share; leaving £235 2s. 7d. to be carried to the reserve fund, which now amounts to £151,279 12s. 6d. The report was adopted, and the dividend and bonus (which together amount to 13½ per cent for the year) declared.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

THE WAR IN THE EAST.

A letter from Orsova brings the Turkish bulletin of the engagement of the 6th inst. Selim Pacha directed the movement. It states that the Russians, who were 18,000 strong, were completely routed by the Turks, and had suffered a loss of 3000 killed. The Turks have pushed forward by land, and their movements were supported by cannon-barges sent up the Danube. A combination of the Turkish forces had in this manner been effected near Citatæ.

Letters from Vienna state that it was reported in that city that the division of the Russian army under General Luders had passed the Danube at Braila, and was directing its march towards Schumla.

THE BLACK SEA.

The latest intelligence received relating to the movements of the allied fleets in the Black Sea is that the combined fleets, consisting of 34 sail (the English division being ten ships of the line, one frigate, and seven steamers), encountered a violent wind at the entrance of the Black Sea, and had been compelled to anchor. On the 4th they continued their cruise, under the command of Admiral Dundas. They were accompanied by twenty Turkish sail and five frigates, from which it was presumed that they were about to reinforce the garrison of Batoum.

The instructions to the Admirals of the French and English vessels are—To salute Russian vessels; to warn them to return to a Russian port; to accompany Turkish vessels to different Turkish ports; to cruise off the Turkish coasts; to avoid all collision with Russian vessels, and to prevent the same between the belligerents; not to approach the Russian coast; and, if attacked by Russians, to act simply on the defensive.

The *Prieste Zeitung* reports a Russian fleet of 24 sail to be before Batoum.

The reports from the Euxine are strongly indicative of early hostilities. The Russian fleet at Sebastopol, estimated at no less than forty in number, twenty of them line-of-battle ships, were said to have either actually put to sea, or to be making preparation to do so; and Admiral Dundas, whose first intention had been to disperse his fleet, had in consequence concentrated his force. The arrangement of the combined fleets, said to have been made, is, that one division will observe Sebastopol, another Sinope, and small detachments will serve to escort Turkish vessels along their own coast, or as near to them as the state of the weather shall permit. The obvious purpose of this arrangement is to secure the allies from any surprise, at the same time taking from the Russians any pretext for acting as if their vessels or their ports were menaced with an attack. The facilities for reinforcing the Ottoman armies in Asia thus secured, are rendered more important by the satisfactory accommodation of our late misunderstanding with Persia.

RUSSIA.

Advices have reached Paris from St. Petersburg, of the 19th January, which describe the position of affairs as affording little hope for the maintenance of peace. The Emperor is described by those who have an opportunity of observing his movements, as living in a state of religious exaltation, regarding himself as the chosen instrument under the hand of God, to drive the Moslem from Europe, and only regretting that he should have allowed so many years to pass by without fulfilling his destiny.

The populace at St. Petersburg have worked themselves up to the highest pitch of fanaticism, cheering the Emperor whenever he appears in public with the wildest enthusiasm, and denouncing as traitors all who dare to speak of peace.

The only Minister who is supposed to advocate a peaceful course is Count Nesselrode, and he has entirely lost his influence with his Imperial master. Count Orloff, on the other hand, who is the Emperor's dearest friend, is eager for war.

Letters of the same date we learn that M. de Reizet had arrived with the French categorical note. It was presented simultaneously with the English note of the same character. Sir Hamilton Seymour had received some days previously. The Council of Ministers was in deliberation on these notes, but had not determined on their answer. There seemed little doubt that the object of the fleets into the Black Sea would be regarded as a hostile act by the Emperor Russia, and the state of public feeling manifested great irritation against France and England.

FRANCE.

There was almost a panic on Thursday at the Bourse. The Three per Cents fell again 1 franc, and the shares on railroads, &c., were almost unsaleable. This was caused, no doubt, partly by an announcement by the Minister of Finance that he had raised its rate of discount to 5 per cent; but the political rumours were of a gloomy character. It was declared in the most positive way that the Government had received from its Ambassador at St. Petersburg information that the Emperor Nicholas had expressed a great anger at the notification about the fleets, and seemed disposed to set France and England at defiance. This rumour is declared by persons connected with the Government to be false; but it is admitted that the news from St. Petersburg is not satisfactory, and that some fear is entertained that Omer Pacha will not be able to resist the large force that is concentrating itself with a view to a general attack.

It is said that M. de Kisseleff has received despatches informing him that he must consider the entry of the fleets into the Black Sea as tantamount to a declaration of war. If so, his stay will not be long in this capital; and the French Ambassador at St. Petersburg will no doubt, be soon in Paris. About two o'clock on Thursday the Austrian Minister visited the Russian Ambassador. They remained some time together, and then proceeded to the Foreign-office, and after that to the Tuileries. They appeared, observes a person who saw them, to be in a state of agitation.

It is rumoured in the diplomatic circles that the Emperor of Austria has made another strong appeal to the Emperor of Russia, and that hopes are entertained of its being successful.

A Council of Ministers, held at the Tuileries on Wednesday, resolved on several measures necessary for the embarkation of troops for the East; but the details are not known.

Two private despatches from Vienna and Berlin to Paris, on Wednesday, announce that the Emperor of Russia has positively rejected the propositions as drawn up by the Vienna Conference, and if these be not accepted, there is much less chance of any modification that may have been made in them at Constantinople being found agreeable, and less still of the last communication as explained in the circular despatch of M. Drouyn de Lhuys. In addition to the despatches from Vienna and Berlin, a third, proceeding from Amsterdam, announces that a panic prevailed on Tuesday at that Bourse, in consequence of the receipt of the same unfavourable intelligence. It is now said in Paris that, in case of the rejection of the propositions being confirmed, the Russians will collect their utmost force and attempt the passage of the Danube, invade Bulgaria, and thus counterbalance the entry of the combined fleets into the Black Sea. In a word, the prospects are gloomy in the extreme.

SWITZERLAND.

The Executive Government of Switzerland, in consideration of the probable complications of the Eastern question, proposes to station a body of troops on the German frontier, and is about to demand a grant from the Federal Assembly with this object.

ITALY.

The *Parlamento* of Turin of the 12th announces that all the inhabitants of Brescia detained in the prisons of Mantua have been set at liberty.

RUSSIAN WAR STEAMERS BUILDING ON THE TYNE.—In consequence of information received, the Home Secretary addressed a circular to the Mayors in all the towns on the banks of the Tyne and Wear, inquiring whether it was within their knowledge that any war vessels were building in those waters for the Russian service. In the large ship-building town of Sunderland no such orders are executing, nor have any been received, but on the Tyne, the Mayor of Tynemouth, who is also Lloyd's surveyor, having made careful inquiries, has ascertained that two iron vessels, 140 feet each in the Russian house, but, it is surmised, for the Government of that country—and that Messrs. R. Stephenson and Co., of Newcastle-on-Tyne, are building up the engines for them. Lord Palmerston will be put in possession of the facts, and, no doubt, the whole matter will be inquired into.—*Times*.

THE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.—The Queen will open Parliament in person. The usual preparations for her Majesty's reception are being made at the House of Lords.

A CABINET COUNCIL will be held at the Foreign-office at one o'clock this (Saturday) afternoon.

SIR JOHN FRANKLIN'S CREW.—The *Gazette* of last evening contains the following notice:—"Notice is hereby given, that if intelligence be not received before the 31st March next, of the officers and crews of Her Majesty's ship *Erebus* and *Terror* being alive, the names of the officers will be removed from the *Navy List*, and they and the crews of those ships will be considered as having died in her Majesty's service. Their pay and wages of the officers and crews of those ships will cease on the 31st day of March next; and all persons legally entitled, and qualifying themselves to claim the pay and wages then due, will be paid the same on application to the Accountant-General of her Majesty's Navy."

TROOPS FOR THE EAST.—The 39th Regiment is under orders for immediate embarkation from Dublin for the Mediterranean, and three other regiments there have received letters of readiness. The officers say they believe their destination is to be Constantinople, and are making their arrangements accordingly.

THE SHORTER TIME MOVEMENT.—The directors of the Bank of England have given notice, that on and after the 1st of March the business of the establishment will commence at ten a.m. and close at four p.m. The Transfer and Dividend-offices will be closed at three, as usual.

SIR E. B. LYTTON AT EDINBURGH.—On Wednesday evening Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton was inaugurated into the office of President of the Associated Societies of Edinburgh University, at a meeting assembled for the purpose in Queen-street-hall, of that city. The large hall was quite crowded on the occasion by ladies and gentlemen; and among the gentlemen on the platform were—the Lord Advocate, Lord Jeffrey, Lord Cockburn, Lord Curriehill, Sir Archibald Alison, Bart.; Mr. Stirling, of Keir, M.P.; Mr. Cowan, M.P.; the Professors of the University, and numerous well-known clergymen and gentlemen.

THE POOR-LAWS.—Mr. A Pellatt, the member for Southwark, has given notice of a bill for abolishing the law of settlement and removal of the poor; for establishing a uniform poor-rate in England and Wales, retaining the present mode of collecting and expending the funds through a central treasury in connection with the Poor-law Board; to amend the laws for the protection and comfort of aged and infirm paupers; and for the more just, efficient, and economical management of the poor.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,

TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, JAN. 19.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading.	Thermometer. Lowest Reading.	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure from Mean Temperature. Average.	Degrees of Moisture. Saturation = 100.	Direction of Wind.	Melted Snow and Rain in Inches.
	Inches.	°	°	°	°			Inches.
Jan. 13	29.671	42·8	35·0	39·0	+ 3·5	86	S.S.E.	0.09
" 14	29.880	45·5	30·0	37·4	+ 1·7	89	S.S.E.	0.03
" 15	29.656	41·4	32·6	36·6	+ 0·7	95	N.E.	0.00
" 16	29.847	47·8	35·5	41·4	+ 5·4	91	N.N.E.&	0.08
" 17	29.996	49·4	43·2	46·2	+ 10·0	90	S.	0.01
" 18	30.126	49·9	40·4	47·3	+ 10·8	87	S.	0.00
" 19	30.061	40·0	33·4	36·2	− 0·3	99	S.E. CALM.	0.00

Note.—The sign + denotes above the average, and the sign — below the average.

The reading of the barometer increased from 29.70 inches at the beginning of the week, to 29.37 inches by the afternoon of the 14th; decreased to 29.38 inches by the morning of the 15th; increased to 30.24 inches by 11 a.m. on the 18th; decreased to 30.20 by 2 p.m., and increased to 30.92 inches by 7 p.m. on the same day; and decreased to 29.98 inches by the end of the week. The mean for the week was 29.882 inches.

The mean daily temperatures have varied from 0·3° below to 10.8° above their average values. The mean daily temperature of the 18th was 47°, and is the highest mean daily temperature recorded on that day since the year 1823, when it was 51.1°.

The mean temperature of the week was 40·8°, being 4·9° above the average of the corresponding week during thirty-eight years.

The range of temperature during the week was 19·0°, being the difference between the lowest reading on the 14th, and the highest on the 18th.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 8°. The greatest was 14·2° on the 14th, and the least 4·8° on the 15th.

Rain fell four days during the week to the depth of rather more than one-tenth of an inch.

The weather on the 13th and 14th was fair, and the sky almost cloudless; from that time the weather has been dull, the sky almost wholly overcast, the air has been in gentle motion only, and fog was prevalent on the 19th.

Lewisham, 20th January, 1854. JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—The number of births registered within the week ending January 14 was 1768, the largest number of any in the corresponding week of the preceding nine years; the number most nearly approaching to this was 1692, in 1851, when it was 1580. Of the births 893 were boys, and 875 were girls. The average number of the same week in nine years was 722 and 689 respectively. The number of deaths registered in the same period was 1497; in the ten corresponding weeks of the preceding ten years the average number was 1147, which, increased in proportion to the increase of population, becomes 1262; the excess, therefore, above the calculated amount, is 230.

TESTIMONIAL TO DANIEL WHITTLE HARVEY, ESQ.—The City Police have resolved to present their Commissioner with a piece of plate, as a testimonial to him for his late efforts in obtaining an increase of pay and for his general care of the force.

ENTERING LANDSMEN FOR THE NAVY.—By command of the Lords of the Admiralty, placards were extensively circulated on Tuesday throughout the metropolis, inviting landsmen to enter for the Royal Navy. The description of men to be entered is as follows:—"They must be between nineteen and twenty-four, active, stout, and able-bodied; five feet seven inches high, and in all respects healthy and fit for the naval service; the preference being given to those who have been used to boats. In addition to the Royal Naval Rendezvous on Tower-hill, and the *Crocodile*, moored off the Tower, men will be received and entered by their making application on board the flag-ships at any of the ports, or at the rendezvous at Liverpool and Bristol, and at the agents for transports at Leith." The ships now manning are the *Diamond, Botaneen, Juno, Princess Royal, Pique, Duke of Wellington, St. Jean d'Acre, Medea,* and *Cyclops*.

FURTHER ADVANCE IN THE PRICE OF BREAD.—The bakers of the metropolis made a further advance in the price of bread on Wednesday. Bread of the quartern loaf standard, which was 7d., and 10d. per 4 lb. loaf, cannot be obtained for less than 10d. and 11d. per 4 lb. loaf, respectively; country or household bread (unweighed), 8½d. to 9½d. per loaf. The League bakery increased the price of 10d per 4lb. loaf, and 9d. per loaf, of country bread, unweighed.

FRIGHTFUL ACCIDENT IN OLD BROAD-STREET.—Another accident, attended with loss of life, took place on Monday, on the premises in Old Broad-street formerly used as the Inland Revenue Office. About four o'clock in the afternoon, the people in that neighbourhood were alarmed by a noise resembling the discharge of a park of artillery, repeated three times in rapid succession. On rushing to the spot from which the noise proceeded, it was found that a great portion of the old Excise-office running parallel with Broad-street had fallen; and, as there were 200 workmen employed in the building, it was thought that a great loss of life must have taken place. The rumour was that fourteen persons had been killed, and twenty wounded: and so strong was the impression as to the extent of the damage to human life, that an extra ward was thrown up at St. Bartholomew's Hospital for the wounded. It turned out, however, that the statement on that head had been greatly exaggerated. Two persons were killed, and only five so severely injured as to require to be taken to the hospital. The accident is said to have been caused by the giving way of the supports of the flooring on the fourth story, the timbers of which were much decayed with the dry rot.

FIRE AND NARROW ESCAPE OF MANY PERSONS.—A fire took place on Wednesday night, between ten and eleven, on the premises of Mr. Feroy, hat manufacturer, New-street, Covent-garden, which jeopardised the lives of from twenty-five to thirty persons. When the fire was first discovered, a woman who occupied the second floor—the mother of the children—seeing the smoke rushing up the stairs, caught hold of the two that were nearest, and precipitated them to the ground, with the intention of going back for the other three; but the fire had become so strong that she could not. Fortunately, the Chandos-street engine came up at that moment; and Cooper, the sub-engineer, having learned from the poor woman that three of her children were still in the house, rushed up-stairs through the flame and smoke, laid hold of two children whom he found on the stairs—one under each arm—and was hurrying down with them, when he heard another child crying. He returned back a few steps, made the child jump on his back, and brought all three off in safety. Meryweather's fire-escape was then brought from Bow-street, and a number of persons in the higher part of the house were enabled by its aid to escape from a horrible death. The whole of Mr. Feroy's stock was destroyed, and considerable damage was done to the property of the different lodgers.

THE MEETING OF PARLIAMENT.—The following Ministerial circular has been issued:—"Chatham-place, JAN. 9.—SIR,—The meeting of Parliament having been fixed for Tuesday, the 31st inst., and the present situation of public affairs rendering a full attendance peculiarly desirable, I take the liberty of earnestly requesting your presence on that day.—I have the honour to be, sir, your faithful and obedient servant, J. RUSSELL."

THE SPEECH.—The Queen's Speech will be read by Lord Aberdeen at the State banquet, to be given by his Lordship on Monday week, to a party of Members of the Upper House, comprising all the officers of her Majesty's household that are Peers, the Cabinet Ministers having seats in the House of Lords, together with the mover and seconder of the Address. A Privy Council will be held previously the same day, at which the Queen's sanction of the Royal Speech will be obtained.

SOUTH SEA COMPANY.—On Thursday a meeting of this Company was held, to consider the bill proposed to be brought before Parliament in the ensuing session, for winding-up the affairs of the Company—in consequence of the measures of the Chancellor of the Exchequer—and converting it into an association for the management of trusts. The Sub-Governor, C. Franks, Esq., occupied the chair, and moved a resolution approving the bill. Some discussion took place, in which many of the shareholders expressed their opinion that the bill ought to be confined to the one purpose of authorising the winding-up of the Company. The Sub-Governor assured them that their best interests would be looked to by the Directors; and reminded them that those who wished it, might be paid off at £100 for every £100 stock. An amendment was proposed, confining the bill to the one purpose, which was negatived by 29 to 19—12 of the Directors voting in the majority. The original resolution was then declared to be carried.

TESTIMONIAL.—On Thursday week, Mr. J. Thwaites, of the borough of Southwark, was entertained at dinner, at the Bridge House Hotel, London-bridge, and presented with a purse of 280 sovereigns, and a tea-service for Mrs. Thwaites. The superb gift, which has been manufactured by Messrs. Benson, of Cornhill, is the result of a subscription originated by the Surrey Gas Association, as a testimonial for his valuable services in promoting the movement in favour of cheap gas. The meeting was presided over by Thomas Pocock, Esq.; and amongst the gentlemen present were Messrs. W. B. James, J. Wade, E. Kingsford, and Mr. ex-Sheriff Croll. The latter gentleman stated that the consumption of gas now, in one night, was equal to a week's consumption in 1847.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

PORTSMOUTH.—About 150 workmen are daily employed on the *Marlborough*, 131, new screw three-decker, and are making great progress. The keel of the *Shannon*, screw, 50, is nearly completed; but, from her extraordinary length (25 feet longer than the *Princess Royal*, 91), some alteration will be required in the slip and shed to enable the work to proceed. The new 80-gun sailing ship *Calcutta* is brought down, and placed in the fitting-basin, ready for docking. Sheds to be out and lengthened amidships, to adapt her for the screw. The *Leopard*, 12, paddle frigate, Capt. George Gifford, and the *Frolic*, 12, are at Spithead. The ships preparing, are the *Princess Royal*, 91; *Dauntless*, 24, screw-frigate, Captain Hunter; *Blenheim*, 60; *Basilisk*, 6, paddle-sloop, Commander the Hon. F. Egerton; and *Simoom*, 18, troop-ship, Captain Smith.

CHATHAM.—The *Euryalus*, 50, screw steam-frigate, Captain Ramsay, had her steam up on Tuesday, and worked her engines, of 400-horse power, for two hours, at her moorings. On Wednesday she left Chatham, for the purpose of being tried at the measured distance between the Nore and Mouse lights, and her speed was ascertained to exceed ten knots per hour, the engines working most admirably.

PORTSMOUTH.—The engineer department of this arsenal is engaged in deepening the moats of the fortifications of Gosport, on which side this harbour it is proposed to erect a new barrack for 1000 infantry, with the necessary complement of officers. The site pointed out for this additional garrison for Gosport is near the double gateway within the lines.

THE WESTERN SQUADRON.—Rear-Admiral Corry, in the *Prince Regent*, 90, Captain Hutton, was at Lisbon on the 9th, with the following forces:—*Prince of Wellington*, 120, screw; *Superveuse*, 51, screw; *Arrogant*, 47, screw; *Tribune*, 31, screw; *Desperade*, 8, screw; *Odin*, 16, paddle; *Valorous*, 16, paddle; and *Cruiser*, 16, screw. The *St. Jean D'Acre*, 101, screw, Captain Hon. H. Keppel, was to leave Lisbon to Vigo.

SIR CHARLES NAPIER had an interview with the Earl of Aberdeen on Wednesday, at his official residence in Downing-street.

THE Victualling Department has issued circulars applying for tenders for the supply of 3000 tierces of beef and 3000 tierces of pork, to be delivered within the 31st of May next.

GREAT FLOOD AT DONCASTER.

Owing to the rapid thawing of the snow, the inhabitants of the lower part of Doncaster, lying on the valley of the river Don, were surprised on Wednesday with one of the greatest floods that has occurred in that town for the last 60 years. The water in the river began to rise on Tuesday night; but it was not until Wednesday morning, at about four o'clock, that it began to encroach on the houses in Marshgate, which extends in a right angle to the course of the stream. The inhabitants of that street, mostly mariners and boarmen, then found it necessary to take measures for the safety of their household goods, while the owners of horses and cattle in sheds and pastures in the neighbourhood as promptly removed them. By 11 a.m. most of the houses in the street were flooded—a circumstance which has not occurred at any previous inundation within recollection. The water in some of the cottages was between two and three feet deep. All the inhabitants were in their upper chambers. Their furniture was floating about in the rooms below, or in the street, and communication could only be kept up by carts and waggons and ladders. At two o'clock the water was still rising; it rushed through the courts and alleys in the street with great impetuosity, overflowed the canal lock, against which a large mass of ice was lodged, and was only prevented from rising above the north bank of the river by a number of labourers piling up sods as fast as it rose. Mr. Carr, the resident engineer of the Great Northern Railway Company, had a staff of "navvies" employed in filling up the angles of the pile-bridge at the line over the floodgates, to prevent the water washing down the embankment of the railway. At three o'clock the flood had not begun to recede, though it was hoped the falling of the full tide which held up the stream at Sandal would admit of its passing off from the course of two or three hours. The weight of water above the town, however, was very considerable. In the field in Marshgate it was seven or eight feet deep at the least, and was bursting through the wall next the pavement in countless streams.

BREAD RIOT IN SOMERSETSHIRE.

The borough of Taunton was on Saturday last the scene of a most disgraceful tumult, occasioned by a large number of men and women parading the streets, armed with sticks and stones, and visiting the various bakers' houses for the avowed purpose of reducing the price of provisions. The movement originated among a few fellows, who emerged from a neighbouring beerhouse for the purpose of making a disturbance, which they expressed their determination of doing "like the Devonshire lads." About twelve o'clock they entered the corn-market, where they were joined by a number of women, who had assembled at the corners of the streets for the same high purpose of food. The mob collected round a farmer, who offered a quantity of wheat, of a very inferior description, at 6s. per bushel, and, as he refused to reduce the price for what they considered an extreme scarcity fit ware, they emptied the sacks and scattered the corn about the market. The police were now called upon, but they were totally unable to check the spirit of the rioters. The mob next proceeded to the butter-market, completely upset everything, and forced the market-women to sell their butter at 1s. per pound—reducing the price of from 4d. to 5d. on the original price. The butchers' shambles were also visited, and the greatest confusion prevailed; a number of a ones were thrown at the stalls, and the butchers commenced packing up as speedily as possible. The magistrates interfered, and no further disturbance took place. The women congregated in front of the bakers' shops, and assailed the proprietors with threatening language, but, a large number of special constables having been sworn in, they went with the magistrates to the spot and dispersed the mob.

THE LATE AWFUL GALES.—At the weekly meeting of the committee of the Sh pwrecked Mariners' Society, held on Friday, the 13th inst. the committee considered one hundred and thirty-one cases, consisting of the claims of widows and orphans and shipwrecked mariners applying for relief, on the ground of the loss of their husbands and fathers, and to help to restore their clothes lost in the late gales. Various sums were dispensed to the sufferers; and the secretary reporte t three or four crews a day arriving at the office from different points of the coast, whom he had despatched, and that the property on the society at this time was greater than it had been since it was instituted. Upwards of 36,000 mariners subscribe 2s. 6d. annually in aid of the society's funds.

DESTRUCTION OF THE CATHOLIC SCHOOLS AT TOTTENHAM.—A fire broke out in the Roman Catholic Schools, Lower Tottenham, on Wednesday forenoon, which ended in the complete destruction of the building. By the time the London fire-engines arrived, the flames had seized upon the next house, called Dawson's Academy, and it was with the utmost difficulty they succeeded in preventing it from being destroyed also. Even with all their exertions the roof was burned off the academy, and the rest of the building was considerably damaged. The origin of the fire is supposed to have been the overheating of a stove.

THE CITY CORPORATION.—ITS MARKETS.

Fresh air, pure water, and an abundance of wholesome food are generally considered as essential to human health: it may be a foolish prejudice or weak delusion, but it is, nevertheless, one that has taken possession of the public mind. A dozen different associations have been established, headed by a dozen, or more, of the leading men of the age—Dukes, earls, bishops, bankers, merchants, small tradesmen, and City missionaries, earnestly co-operate to forward what they feel to be necessary for human health and human happiness. Boards of Health, Sanatory Commissions, Dwellings for the Poor, Baths and Wash-houses, are so many indications of the vitality of the principle.

How the Corporation of London has encouraged the introduction of fresh air, is shown by its close streets and blind alleys. How it managed, or unmanaged, its water supply, is proved by its abandonment of all influence or authority over the New River Company; and by permitting, until within a few years, a part of the water supply of the City to be drawn from the Thames near London-bridge: it might as well have been drawn from Fleet-ditch, or any other common sewer of the metropolis. This abomination has, happily, ceased to exist. Our present purpose is to examine the several Markets of the city of London, with the view of ascertaining what provision is made for the supply of wholesome food; and as meat enters largely into an Englishman's notion of good diet, we shall first look at the market of Smithfield.

The historical associations of Smithfield are of the deepest interest; but we pass them over, and refer to it as a market. When the Smith's field, or the field where smiths carried on certain of their work (or the *smooth*-field, according to some writers), was first used as the general cattle-market of the metropolis, is not very clearly known; but it is quite certain that, in 1615, a considerable sum of money was expended there, in the hope that it might become the principal or only cattle-market for the supply of meat to the metropolis. Until then the cattle were indiscriminately taken to the several markets of Newgate, Cheap, or Leadenhall. This was found very inconvenient to those who were forced to traverse the streets; and, therefore, the new market or Smithfield was patronised for the sale of cattle; while Newgate and Leadenhall continued to receive the chief support forcaroases, because the cattle were generally slaughtered in those localities.

Our ancestors were wiser in their generation than we are in ours. They wisely resolved that dangerous oxen, or infuriated bulls, should be removed beyond the ordinary ways of men, to a spot where they could do no mischief, and excite no alarm. In the course of time, the market, which was placed in the outskirts, became the centre of the metropolis. For fifty years, or more, the question of removal was raised and excited considerable interest. All agitation was ineffectual, for after a few stormy meetings, the fever always subsided. How this was managed may be gathered from the evidence of Mr. B. Scott, the late clerk to the Chamberlain, as given on Thursday the 12th inst., when he informed the Royal Commission, that, in its late attempt to retain Smithfield, the City Corporation spent in canvassing, petitioning, newspapers, and the ready pens of literary men to support its cause £2750. But that amount, large as it may seem, falls far short of the sum actually expended. Happily, the pest is doomed, and a year at most will see the area cleared of all its pens, and bolts, and bars. We still suffer from its central position. To get the cattle there is no easy task. When there, what with the goads, the dogs, and flare of light, the animals became so heated with a fever of excitement, that, when killed, the meat will not *set*, and is useless for human food. The cattle are driven from Smithfield into Warwick-lane, Whitecbapel, or other districts, and there slaughtered; after which, the carcasse appear in Newgate or Leadenhall Market. There they are pulled about in a manner most unseemly, hoisted on and off pegs and hooks by greasy, dirty fellows, whose very appearance is loathsome; and, if others feel as we did, when, in the discharge of a public duty, we traversed those very odorous and stifling alleys; they will be unable to eat meat for a month afterwards.

Newgate Market is confined almost to the sale of meat. There are some poulterers, and cheese and butter dealers. But the great poultry market is Leadenhall, which, as all know, lies behind Gracechurch-street and between Fenchurch and Leadenhall-streets; and, excepting from Leadenhall-street, there is no direct entrance, so that anything like a free circulation of air is quite impossible. Both localities seem to have been chosen because of their exceeding inconvenience. Leadenhall Market is in some respects worse than Newgate Market, although, as a general rule, it is cleaner and more orderly.

On certain days of the week, Leadenhall receives into a portion of its area not only the hides produced in the neighbourhood, but also the great mass of skins and hides sent up from the country, for sale in London, to be tanned in Bermondsey. There, in the heat of summer, reeking with the most offensive exhalations, and almost creeping away by the assistance of the myriad legs apparently extemporised by the rays of the unclouded sun, are exhibited, in all their loathsomeness, hides in every stage of decomposition. One would imagine that the hide market at Bermondsey ought to be found the most convenient locality for such displays. Vested rights and ancient customs prevent the introduction of a rational system; and here, as in Smithfield, the powerful duction of a rational system; and here, as in Smithfield, the powerful duction of a rational system; and here, as in Smithfield, the powerful du

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

No. 665.—VOL. XXIV.] SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 1854. [WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.

THE MEETING OF PARLIAMENT.

THE British Parliament, of which the ordinary Session commences next week, will resume its labours under no ordinary circumstances. There is not a member of that august body, however lengthened may have been the period during which he has enjoyed the honour, that can recall to his mind the time when the Legislature assembled with so many and such mighty tasks before it. All other questions that for the last eight-and-thirty years have been submitted for its decision have been inferior to the great question of European war, which monopolises the attention of the world. It will throw into comparative insignificance many urgent questions of internal economy and administrative reform. There is, however, no reason to fear that it will cause their postponement for any lengthened period.

Happily, the nation is unanimous, and the unworthy trash uttered by "the Peace-at-all-Price Party," at Manchester, on Tuesday last, awakes no sympathy or approval in the public mind. The ambition of the Muscovite Emperor is too offensive and dangerous to all Europe, to be any longer tolerated. Even were Turkey as surely destined to fall as Mr. Cobden supposes, and Russia so respectable a nation as he asserts, the guilty ambition of the Czar would require to be restrained, if we expect to enjoy the inestimable blessings of national security and honour. No one can say that our love of peace has not been sufficiently shown, and that our forbearance has not been amply proved by many months of zealous and honest exertions to prevent a great calamity. If war is destined to be the result of the Czar's fanaticism, obstinacy, or lust of plunder, the British nation will enter into it with clean hands and a pure conscience. One uncompromising spirit of hostility to his pretensions animates the whole people; and the same spirit, with more or less of intensity, inspires every other nation in Europe, where public opinion exists. If Parliament have to vote increased taxation to supply the necessary funds, the burden, we have no doubt, will not only be patiently but cheerfully borne. A property and income-tax of three per cent is, as most people know, a sufficient nuisance in ordinary times; but, if it be necessary to increase it to five, or even to ten per cent, there is wealth enough in the country to afford the sacrifice, and patriotism more than sufficient to make it be considered a slight one. Much as this nation detests war, and the authors of war the common sense of the people sees many reasons for thinking it desirable that the Emperor of Russia should persevere in his wickedness a little longer, in order that punishment may more effectually overtake him. Actual war can scarcely do much greater injury than the dread of it has already occasioned. Were the "Lord Orthodox" to yield at the present moment, and to march his armies back again into his own territories, it would only be to renew his project for the dismemberment of Turkey at the first convenient opportunity. Possibly, and indeed most probably, his pretensions would be only allowed to slumber until the alliance of Great Britain and France was less firm and cordial, and until the great German States were less united in their dread and abhorrence of Russian domination; in which case war would again be inevitable, with fewer chances in favour of the rightful cause than there are at the present moment. It has become absolutely necessary that this barbarian encroachment should be chastised, and the task is infinitely more easy now than it is likely to be at any future period. Either in his own person or in those of his successors, the Emperor of Russia must be reduced to his proper level. The great commonwealth of civilised nations can endure no Gengis Khan or Tamerlane among them, for we will not do the memory of the first Napoleon the injustice of comparing him with such a fanatic as the Emperor Nicholas. The pretensions of this monarch are a nuisance, and must be forthwith abated, or Europe will suffer far more from the uncertainty of his future misdeeds than by the exertion necessary at the present time to put an end to them.

The meeting of Parliament, and the sturdy expression of its opinions which we expect, cannot fail to have the most wholesome influence in every part of Europe. By the usage of our constitutional system, the British Ministers have no available means of making known their sentiments in an authoritative manner when Parliament is not sitting; but, as surely as the month of February comes round, the full blaze of publicity streams upon their acts and opinions. After that time, they speak to the whole world. Ere many days shall elapse they will once again break their long silence; and declare not only the physical might of England, but the moral sentiment of the people, in language that we trust will be impossible for any potentate to misunderstand.

The meeting of Parliament will necessarily be the means of removing many false impressions, and of dissipating many errors. Among the very first of these, which a few words of truth will suffice to dispel, will be the mischievous rumours relative to the Prince Consort, which have of late excited so much attention. There is one statesman in the Ministry who, more than any other, seems called upon to declare whether these statements rest upon any foundation whatever, or are the mere calumnies of two extreme parties—intended not so much to injure the illustrious Prince himself, as to create dissensions in the Ministry. We anticipate that the task will be an easy one, and that Lord Palmerston will not allow the session to be two days old before he effectually demolishes the slanders in which his name and that of the husband of the Sovereign have been so unjustifiably intermingled. We do not imagine that the popularity of the Prince has been sensibly impaired by the gabble of the last few weeks; but if it have been, a word from Lord Palmerston will be sufficient to remove all possible pretext for any renewal of the insinuations.

ISMAIL PACHA. MAHOMET PACHA.

(SEE LETTER FROM WIDDIN, PAGE 72.)

No wise man attaches any particular value to mere popularity, dependant upon the changeful humours of a crowd, but every wise man desires to stand well in the enlightened opinion of his contemporaries. It has hitherto been the merit, as well as the good-fortune, of the Prince Consort, to have acquired something better than mob-favour. What he has acquired he will retain. Mob favour, which is often as generous as it is capricious, will again display itself on the side of justice and common sense, and the slanders of which the Prince's name has been the target will go the way of all other tittle-tattle, and cease to be remembered to any one's disadvantage, except to that of the factious politicians, leaders or followers, who encouraged it only that they might trade upon it.

The country has reaped so much benefit from the fiscal and commercial reform which preceded and followed the Repeal of the Corn-laws, that, notwithstanding the exigencies of war, it may still look for an extension of the principles of Free-trade. A war with Russia—which, notwithstanding Mr. Cobden's assertions to the contrary, carries on no very considerable trade with this country—will not materially interfere with our commerce. We have it in our power to trade thrice as much with France as ever we traded with Russia, and the principles of Free-trade show us how we may do so. And while Australia is what it is—and while the United States, and our vast Indian empire—to say nothing of the other portions of the civilised and semi-civilised world—continue to be our customers, the cessation of our trade with Russia will scarcely be felt.

The finances of the nation are in so flourishing a state, that further reductions of all the remaining taxes which impede commerce and industry—such, for instance, as the Excise duty upon paper—might safely be made, even in the face of an impending war. It would be a new and a great spectacle to offer to the world, to be able to reduce taxation and extend commerce at the very moment that we entered upon a war with one of the most formidable nations in Europe. Perhaps it will be found that an achievement so remarkable as this will not be too much for the energies of Great Britain.

The Reform question upon which the men of Manchester have set their hearts, is one that not even an anti-Russian war will throw entirely into abeyance. Reform has been promised by a statesman with whose high name and honourable career the question has become identified; and we see no reason why the destruction of Sebastopol or of Cronstadt should so entirely engross the mind of the nation as to allow a few rotten and decaying boroughs to continue to be as largely represented in the British Legislature as great and thriving cities like Manchester and Glasgow. We may strive to remove the plague-spots of bribary and corruption from our small constituencies, without running any risk of neglecting the mightier interests of the struggle in which we and the rest of Europe may become involved with a semi-barbarous power, that only needs to be boldly confronted to be signally defeated. We may, therefore, expect that the question of Parliamentary Reform will not be lost sight of.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

The report was spread here on Saturday that M. de Kisseleff had received his recall, and was about immediately to take his departure. As may be supposed, this rumour—which, from the advanced state of the Oriental question, and the apparent determination of the Emperor Nicholas to resist all attempts at a pacific settlement of affairs, obtained more credit than it has done on former occasions—caused a lively sensation in all quarters. On Sunday, however, it was contradicted, and another momentary lull succeeded. Few of the Russian families residing in Paris, have taken their departure; but they have suspended, for the most part, their usual receptions and hospitalities, and preserve a discreet and complete silence on their ideas, opinions, wishes, and prospects with regard to the open rupture which has now apparently become inevitable. The authenticity of the letter attributed to the Duchesse d'Orléans being almost universally doubted here, it excited comparatively little interest. You have doubtless heard that the Duc de Nemours has explicitly denied its being genuine. There is no doubt, however, that the Duchesse d'Orléans entertains, and expresses the same sentiments as those contained in the letter in question, and remains wholly foreign to the movements of the fusion.

A measure long talked of, is at last likely to be carried into execution, and cannot fail to be highly popular, as tending greatly to diminish the price of meat. This is the establishment of a free commerce in butcher's meat, instead of the present system of a limited number of licenses being accorded —a system, which preventing, or at least greatly restricting, competition, tended to keep up prices, and to render the public much more dependant on the butchers than they will now be. The butchers, who, according to the existing law, have been compelled to lodge a certain sum as security in the *Caisse de Poissy* (the principal cattle-market for the supply of Paris), will have these sums restored to them, but are to obtain no indemnity for the loss of their privileges.

A ball took place at the Tuileries on Monday night. With the exception of the Court, and a certain number of official fêtes, the utmost dulness continues to reign here; the *corps diplomatique* keeps almost entirely in the background, as far as receptions go, excusing itself, on the ground of its grave preoccupations, and, as may be supposed, milliners and mercers, *coiffeurs* and *couturières*, not only complain loudly but take that occasion to send in an infinity of "little bills," accompanied sometimes by peremptory, sometimes by gently pressing appeals, alluding to "hardness of times," "disappointments," "payments to make," "stagnation of commerce"—all the pleas, genuine and spoonyphal, employed on occasions where money is to be demanded. It appears probable, from a notice addressed by M. de Persigny to the family of M. Armand Bertin, that the *gérance* of the *Journal des Débats* will be accorded to M. Edouard Bertin, brother of the late director; the *rédacteur in chef*, or principal editor, will probably be M. de Sacy.

The Commission, headed by the Prince Napoleon, for the direction of the arrangements of the Palais d'Industrie is actively employed in the exercise of its functions, and has already made one important discovery; namely, that the said Palais is wholly unfitted, from its construction and dimensions, for the purpose for which it is intended; that it is doubtful if the various plans proposed for its improvement and enlargement are likely to make matters much better, and that it is highly probable that it will be found necessary to choose another situation for it! The Champ de Mars is one of the sites suggested. It is to be hoped that if the change is decided upon, the Commission will begin its examination, and make its discoveries a little sooner.

Louis Napoleon has conceded to the town of Versailles the fifty *hectares* of wood bordering the hill-side of Satory, for the purpose of establishing a promenade overlooking the town. The landscape-gardener of Trianon is occupied in drawing a plan for an extensive park or garden, for which the extreme beauty of the site is admirably adapted, to be constructed on the ground in question. The Conseil Municipal of Versailles has voted 10,000 francs for the works.

A meeting of artists has taken place for the purpose of opening subscriptions for the erection of a monument to the memory of the late M. Visconti.

Several provincial journals have received *avertissemens* within the last few days. The *Echo de l'Aveyron* has been struck by a second, which leaves it in a highly critical position.

The Emperor and Empress have sent two magnificent lots for the lottery which has just been organised for the institution of the *Petites Incurables*, established under the patronage of the Princesse Mathilde.

A grand charity ball is to take place at the Italien Opera, on the 15th of February, for the poor of the eighth and twelfth arrondissemens, which are the poorest in Paris. It is expected that this ball will be extremely brilliant and well attended.

A singular spectacle presented itself a few days since to the public in the Champs Elysées. A man, with a contrivance consisting of a sort of network, containing some five or six hundred bladders, filled with hydrogen gas, attached by a band to his waist, descended the great avenue of the Champs Elysées, with an extraordinary celerity, running and bounding frequently a distance of fifteen and eighteen feet, at a time. As may be supposed, this aëronaut in the bud, attracted crowds which followed him in his descent and his course round the Palais d'Industrie; after having performed which, he returned to Beaujon, whence he and his machine had come.

MM. Celestin Nanteuil and August Lemoine, two of the most popular French artists, have taken their departure for Madrid, with the intention of making a collection of lithographic copies of the pictures of Velasquez, Ribera, and Murillo, in that capital.

Mdlle. Cruvelli has had an immense success at the Grand Opéra (for poor Lablache, Parliamentary who, with a Russian plenipotentiary, will finally regulate this affair, and settle the terms of an armistice, in any neutral town at the choice of the Allied Powers—as soon as intelligence is received that the Court of St. Petersburg has acquiesced in these decisions.

In consequence of the many and various relations existing between Turkey and the European States, the Sublime Porte considers itself in every respect entitled to be admitted as a member of the European federation, and conformably with this situation it will be requisite to confirm and complete the treaty of 1841, and this result. It awaits with entire confidence in the good offices and solicitude of the Great Powers.

Forty days ought to suffice to make known the decision of the Russian Cabinet, and the Sublime Porte solicits its august Allies to direct their attention to that object.

Finally, with a view of ensuring to all classes of his subjects the blessings of justice and security, his Majesty the Sultan is most anxious to see in full vigour the enactments of the *Tanzimat*—and to introduce into all departments of state the requisite reforms and ameliorations—and to this end, has deigned to issue orders for considering and completing that most important object. This circumstance I feel most happy to announce, and it will afford, no doubt, the highest satisfaction to the friends and well wishers of the Ottoman empire.

Rolleah, 20, 1270. (Signed) MUSTAPHA RESCHID.

Detachments of recruits were arriving every day at Constantinople, and the preparations of the Turkish Government to carry on the war with vigour were incessant. The Pacha of Egypt has recently sent troops to man four batteries of artillery, of which one will be horse artillery. He has also sent 20,000 muskets; and he holds an additional corps of 12,000 men in readiness, to be sent the moment the Turkish Government chooses to call for it.

On the 8th instant the Serasckier inspected the first battalion of Cossacks. They were to commence their march on Schumla on the following Wednesday, and from thence they will proceed to Dobrodjie, a place colonised by the Cossacks. Their commander, Sadik Pacha, is a Pole. He goes with them, and is to organise thirty squadrons of Cossack cavalry. In his suite is the Roumelian Prince Stourza, who has recently been nominated as a Pacha. He is for the present to remain at Schumla, as hitherto the efforts to call out the Roumelians have not been very successful. General Wysocki, with his two aides-de-camp, Bielenski and Ruzki, have arrived at Constantinople. The formation of the Polish legion is still postponed, and the decision of the Porte will depend on the answer of the Cabinet of St. Petersburg to the collective proposition.

A Constantinople letter of the 9th, in the *Lloyd* of Vienna, states that the Russian ships of war which had been cruising in the Black Sea had entered the port of Sebastopol.

THE FLEETS IN THE BLACK SEA.

Accounts from Constantinople up to the 8th inst. intimate that the news as to the movement of the fleets has not hitherto been very precise. It is known that they have gone in the direction of Trebizond. On the day the fleets entered the Black Sea, they met an Austrian steamer, which, having been examined according to usage by a French steamer, announced that it had seen some Russian ships of war going in the direction of Varna. On this information the French Admiral had detached a division, which he sent towards Varna. All the rest of the combined fleets pursued their route in the direction of Trebizond. This news cannot be of any great importance in respect to the probability of an engagement, for the Admirals of the combined fleets have considered it proper to send notice to the Russian Admiralty of their entry. That fact would appear to show that measures had been taken to avoid the possibility of a conflict. The latest news from the Black Sea states that the French and English fleets sail separately, and that in coasting the Turkish territory they were nearly opposite to Sebastopol; while the Turkish vessels had gone ahead, and had already reached Sinope. The disembarking of the troops is to take place at Batoum, where it is supposed that some Russian ships are cruising. It is feared that they may oppose the disembarkation, and that a collision may then take place. It is probable, however, that the Russians will take the hint given to them by the Admirals, and withdraw to Sebastopol before the arrival of the combined fleets

An Austrian despatch from Hermannstadt announces that Prince Gortschakoff had arrived at Radowan on the 21st. The concentration of General Aurep's corps was completed, and it was expected that a fresh movement against Kalafat would soon be made. The reported evacuation of the Russian lines between Giurgevo & Rent, Matchin, or Silestria, are as yet of little military importance. It is estimated that the capture of Kalafat (if captured, which seems doubtful) will cost the Russians at least 10,000 men. There is much discouragement among the troops in consequence.

A letter from Vienna of the 20th, to the *Cologne Gazette*, says:—

News has arrived here to-day to the effect that on the morning of the 13th, the Russians passed the Danube near Matchin, and engaged in a very brisk combat with the Turks. The result was not known at the departure of the courier at one in the afternoon. Matchin was said to be in flames, and the carnage terrible.

The *Priest Gazette* states that the restrictions imposed by Prince Gortschakoff on neutral vessels on the Lower Danub have rendered navigation there impossible, and that Austrian commerce will suffer more than any other nation.

Private letters from the coast o. the Black Sea announce that the Russians were making very significant dispositions at Sebastopol and along the whole south-eastern coast of Crimea. They were organising on the different strategetic points extensive works and coast batteries for supporting the sea; they had just altered the direction of the lighthouses erected for guiding ships through dangerous passes, and to secure anchorage. Finally, they had just given orders to those battalions which form the vanguard of the military colony, and which has the centre of organisation in the province, to enter the town as a reinforcement to the regular garrison, which had before acquired its complete war complement. The rumour of the last decisions adopted at Constantinople for the entrance of the squadrons has resulted in all the Russian ports in the Black Sea and the Sea of Azoff, where it has produced a regular panic. There are the best grounds for it, since Russia has lavished all her efforts on Sebastopol, and neglected the defence of the other points so eminently useful for her commercial interests.

A Russian war-schooner, surprised outside of the canal, whither it had been driven by stress of weather, was brought into the Bosphorus. It was in quest of the Russian fleet, which, the captain stated, must be somewhere off Batoum. This schooner had ammunition on board, and a crew of twenty-seven men. Either, then, the Russian fleet is separated into two divisions, or one of the two versions above given is incorrect. One thing is clear, that their fleet is at sea, and that the allied fleets will be sure to meet with it somewhere

The reinforcements which are on board the Turkish squadron are an-

TURKEY.

THE SULTAN'S REPLY TO THE NOTE OF THE FOUR POWERS.

The following is a copy of the reply of the Sublime Porte to the collective note of the Four Powers:—

TRANSLATION.

His Majesty the Sultan has perused with attention the British Ambassador's note of December 12, suggesting the bases proposed for a treaty of peace, and identical with those of his colleagues, the representatives of France, Austria, and Prussia, sent in collectively on the same day, and it results therefrom that his Majesty the Emperor of Russia manifests pacific intentions.

The Sublime Porte has waged war solely in its own defence—in defence of its sacred rights and sovereignty—and as there is nothing to affect them in this proposal, it has been deemed expedient to adopt it with a view to the restoration of peace—his Imperial Majesty, moreover, being actuated in this circumstance by the highest consideration for his august allies by an ardent desire of conforming to their wishes, and by implicit faith in their councils.

Accordingly, on resuming the negotiations, the first point to establish will be the evacuation of the Principalities within the shortest possible delay; and the second, the renewal of the treaties, to which the Sublime Porte assents, in deference to the advice of the Allied Powers, and in the unwavering spirit of moderation by which it has been guided throughout in these transactions.

With regard to the religious privileges and immunities of the various non-Mussulman communions, subject to the Ottoman Government, these have been accorded in ancient times by the illustrious ancestors of his Imperial Majesty, and reconfirmed by himself in virtue of a hatti-sheriff recently emanated to that effect. These grants and franchises, moreover, the Sublime Porte has been ever anxious to maintain—and will maintain perpetually—as has been long since solemnly proclaimed to all Europe by the publication of the *Tanzimat*. Moreover, should any one of those communions possess advantages unenjoyed by the others, and these desire to participate therein the Ottoman Government, animated by sentiments of justice and impartiality, will never refuse to dispense equal rights and equal privileges to all. Neither can there be the slightest objection to notify the sincerity and loyalty of these intentions to every Government in Europe, and to furnish each—and necessarily the Cabinet of St. Petersburg with a copy of the aforesaid firmans.

The project of settlement, concerning the measures required to complete the religious relative to the Holy Places, will be accepted definitively.

Hence the Sublime Porte is ready to conclude a treaty of peace, in the manner traced out by its august Allies—and consents, accordingly, to appoint a Plenipotentiary who, with a Russian plenipotentiary, will finally regulate this affair, and settle the terms of an armistice, in any neutral town at the choice of the Allied Powers—as soon as intelligence is received that the Court of St. Petersburg has acquiesced in these decisions.

In consequence of the many and various relations existing between Turkey and the European States, the Sublime Porte considers itself in every respect entitled to be admitted as a member of the European federation, and conformably with this situation it will be requisite to confirm and complete the treaty of 1841, and this result. It awaits with entire confidence in the good offices and solicitude of the Great Powers.

Forty days ought to suffice to make known the decision of the Russian Cabinet, and the Sublime Porte solicits its august Allies to direct their attention to that object.

Finally, with a view of ensuring to all classes of his subjects the blessings of justice and security, his Majesty the Sultan is most anxious to see in full vigour the enactments of the *Tanzimat*—and to introduce into all departments of state the requisite reforms and ameliorations—and to this end, has deigned to issue orders for considering and completing that most important object. This circumstance I feel most happy to announce, and it will afford, no doubt, the highest satisfaction to the friends and well wishers of the Ottoman empire.

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The report was spread here on Saturday that M. de Kisseleff had received his recall, and was about immediately to take his departure. As may be supposed, this rumour—which, from the advanced state of the Oriental question, and the apparent determination of the Emperor Nicholas to resist all attempts at a pacific settlement of affairs, obtained more credit than it has done on former occasions—caused a lively sensation in all quarters. On Sunday, however, it was contradicted, and another momentary lull succeeded. Few of the Russian families residing in Paris, have taken their departure; but they have suspended, for the most part, their usual receptions and hospitalities, and preserve a discreet and complete silence on their ideas, opinions, wishes, and prospects with regard to the open rupture which has now apparently become inevitable. The authenticity of the letter attributed to the Duchesse d'Orléans being almost universally doubted here, it excited comparatively little interest. You have doubtless heard that the Duc de Nemours has explicitly denied its being genuine. There is no doubt, however, that the Duchesse d'Orléans entertains, and expresses the same sentiments as those contained in the letter in question, and remains wholly foreign to the movements of the fusion.

A measure long talked of, is at last likely to be carried into execution, and cannot fail to be highly popular, as tending greatly to diminish the price of meat. This is the establishment of a free commerce in butcher's meat, instead of the present system of a limited number of licenses being accorded —a system, which preventing, or at least greatly restricting, competition, tended to keep up prices, and to render the public much more dependant on the butchers than they will now be. The butchers, who, according to the existing law, have been compelled to lodge a certain sum as security in the *Caisse de Poissy* (the principal cattle-market for the supply of Paris), will have these sums restored to them, but are to obtain no indemnity for the loss of their privileges.

A ball took place at the Tuileries on Monday night. With the exception of the Court, and a certain number of official fêtes, the utmost dulness continues to reign here; the *corps diplomatique* keeps almost entirely in the background, as far as receptions go, excusing itself, on the ground of its grave preoccupations, and, as may be supposed, milliners and mercers, *coiffeurs* and *couturières*, not only complain loudly but take that occasion to send in an infinity of "little bills," accompanied sometimes by peremptory, sometimes by gently pressing appeals, alluding to "hardness of times," "disappointments," "payments to make," "stagnation of commerce"—all the pleas, genuine and spoonyphal, employed on occasions where money is to be demanded. It appears probable, from a notice addressed by M. de Persigny to the family of M. Armand Bertin, that the *gérance* of the *Journal des Débats* will be accorded to M. Edouard Bertin, brother of the late director; the *rédacteur in chef*, or principal editor, will probably be M. de Sacy.

The Commission, headed by the Prince Napoleon, for the direction of the arrangements of the Palais d'Industrie is actively employed in the exercise of its functions, and has already made one important discovery; namely, that the said Palais is wholly unfitted, from its construction and dimensions, for the purpose for which it is intended; that it is doubtful if the various plans proposed for its improvement and enlargement are likely to make matters much better, and that it is highly probable that it will be found necessary to choose another situation for it! The Champ de Mars is one of the sites suggested. It is to be hoped that if the change is decided upon, the Commission will begin its examination, and make its discoveries a little sooner.

Louis Napoleon has conceded to the town of Versailles the fifty *hectares* of wood bordering the hill-side of Satory, for the purpose of establishing a promenade overlooking the town. The landscape-gardener of Trianon is occupied in drawing a plan for an extensive park or garden, for which the extreme beauty of the site is admirably adapted, to be constructed on the ground in question. The Conseil Municipal of Versailles has voted 10,000 francs for the works.

A meeting of artists has taken place for the purpose of opening subscriptions for the erection of a monument to the memory of the late M. Visconti.

Several provincial journals have received *avertissemens* within the last few days. The *Echo de l'Aveyron* has been struck by a second, which leaves it in a highly critical position.

The Emperor and Empress have sent two magnificent lots for the lottery which has just been organised for the institution of the *Petites Incurables*, established under the patronage of the Princesse Mathilde.

A grand charity ball is to take place at the Italien Opera, on the 15th of February, for the poor of the eighth and twelfth arrondissemens, which are the poorest in Paris. It is expected that this ball will be extremely brilliant and well attended.

A singular spectacle presented itself a few days since to the public in the Champs Elysées. A man, with a contrivance consisting of a sort of network, containing some five or six hundred bladders, filled with hydrogen gas, attached by a band to his waist, descended the great avenue of the Champs Elysées, with an extraordinary celerity, running and bounding frequently a distance of fifteen and eighteen feet, at a time. As may be supposed, this aëronaut in the bud, attracted crowds which followed him in his descent and his course round the Palais d'Industrie; after having performed which, he returned to Beaujon, whence he and his machine had come.

MM. Celestin Nanteuil and August Lemoine, two of the most popular French artists, have taken their departure for Madrid, with the intention of making a collection of lithographic copies of the pictures of Velasquez, Ribera, and Murillo, in that capital.

Mdlle. Cruvelli has had an immense success at the Grand Opéra (for poor Lablache, Parliamentary who, with a Russian plenipotentiary, will finally regulate this affair, and settle the terms of an armistice, in any neutral town at the choice of the Allied Powers—as soon as intelligence is received that the Court of St. Petersburg has acquiesced in these decisions.

In consequence of the many and various relations existing between Turkey and the European States, the Sublime Porte considers itself in every respect entitled to be admitted as a member of the European federation, and conformably with this situation it will be requisite to confirm and complete the treaty of 1841, and this result. It awaits with entire confidence in the good offices and solicitude of the Great Powers.

Forty days ought to suffice to make known the decision of the Russian Cabinet, and the Sublime Porte solicits its august Allies to direct their attention to that object.

Finally, with a view of ensuring to all classes of his subjects the blessings of justice and security, his Majesty the Sultan is most anxious to see in full vigour the enactments of the *Tanzimat*—and to introduce into all departments of state the requisite reforms and ameliorations—and to this end, has deigned to issue orders for considering and completing that most important object. This circumstance I feel most happy to announce, and it will afford, no doubt, the highest satisfaction to the friends and well wishers of the Ottoman empire.

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GERMANY.

The semi-official *Prussian Correspondance* publishes an article respecting the excitement of the Money-market. After denying the rumours respecting the recal of the Russian Ambassadors from London and Paris, it states that nothing justifies the supposition that the Cabinet of St. Petersburg had resolved to reject the proposition of arrangement transmitted from Vienna. On the contrary, it alleges that there is good reason for believing that the Czar, out of regard for the friendship and mutual confidence existing between himself and the great German Powers, will not refuse to take into just consideration the conciliatory representations which have just been addressed from Berlin and Vienna to the Court of Russia.

The Berlin *Correspondance* contradicts in the most formal manner, a report which had been current in the capital for some days, that the King intended to abdicate in favour of his brother, the Prince of Prussia.

It is said that the smaller states of the German Confederation have taken steps at Vienna and Berlin to induce Austria and Prussia to bring about a resolution of the Diet expressly confirming the neutrality of the Confederation on the Eastern question; it is even stated that the journey of M de Beust, the Saxon Minister of State, to Berlin, is connected with this affair.

The latest accounts from Berlin state that the Second Chamber had, in recent sitting, adopted the treaty concluded with Oldenburg for the cession of a territory situate on the banks of the Jahde, and destined for the establishment of a Prussian military port. Only the Polish deputies voted against the treaty. It is rumoured that Russia has protested against the establishment of this port.

SWEDEN.

The Royal Bill for reforming the Customs' Tariff was laid before the Diet on the 15th inst. The proposed modifications are in the direction of Free-trade, and have been well received in the Diet.

tended for the army of Asia, and particularly for the garrisons of Batoum and Cheftelli, which are threatened by the enemy. The latter fort, which was captured by the Turks at the commencement of hostilities, is now in great need of provisions and stores. Although it has hitherto victoriously repulsed all the attempts which the Russians have made to storm it, it has lost a part of its garrison in these combats, and consumed a great part of its provisions and ammunition. Open as it now is on the land side, in consequence of the reverses which the Turkish army of Asia has met with, and deprived of all hope of assistance on that side, it would be impatience for the arrival of the reinforcements which have been promised it by sea

A good deal has been said about the respective situation of the two fleets as far as regards the command. This situation is described by the French papers as very simple On ordinary occasions each squadron will retain its independence. In case of an action, the command in-chief belongs by right to the officer senior in rank. If we are well informed, Admiral Hamelin is seven years the senior in rank to Admiral Dundas, and if the squadrons are to engage the Russian fleet, it is the French flag that will have the honour of directing the blows.

The fleets, it is generally rumoured, will return to their stations at Beycos after a cruise of two or three weeks; but this, of course, is to Impossible to determine, and all will depend necessarily on the course of events. The Russian ships will scarcely dare any longer to venture out on their depredations; although, according to the reports of the Consuls at Trebizond, not later than ten days ago one of their steam-frigates entered and sounded the port of Kimisch-Hane (this information be correct, the massacre of Sinope, it would appear, has filled with apprehension and terror the whole coast populations.

It is said that the Governor of Sebastopol contented himself with answering to the notification of the entry of the fleets into the Black Sea, that he was astonished at so unforeseen a communication, that he could not understand what they wanted of him, Russia being at war only with Turkey; and that, consequently, he could not say what he meant to do under the circumstances.

Accounts from Sebastopol of the 10th, received through Bucharest, state that all the Russian ships are kept close in port. Small steamers keep the Russian Admiral well informed of the movements of the French and English fleets. On the 7th two steamers from the fleet brought an official message for the Russian Admiral. Since that date neither the French nor English flag had been seen. There was a violent storm on the 8th.

Letters from Odessa of the 12th state that no French or English war ships had been seen there.

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

There can be no doubt that the Russians have now regularly assumed the offensive along the whole line of operations. On the 13th, the day on which Prince Gortschakoff left Bucharest for Radovan, with two infantry regiments and several detachments of hussars and Cossacks, General Liders attacked Oltenitza and its two forts on several sides. The transport of heavy artillery to Giurgevo leads us to suppose that an attack is about to be made on Rustchuk. On the night of the 12th, the Turks made feigned attempts to cross the Danube at Kalarach, opposite Silistria, and at Hirsova, in the Dobrudscha. According to a letter of the 7th, from Giurgevo, the Russians have now two strong redoubts, armed with 12 36-pounders, on the dam leading to the town. For some time it was feared that the ice would become so thick as to allow of a sally on the part of the garrison of Rustchuk; but now even the floating ice has disappeared. A part of the battering train has been sent from Giurgevo to the west; and on the 5th, a steamer had towed two gunboats up the river It is probable that the Turks at Shtowo did not permit these vessels to pass unmolested, as a heavy cannonade was heard in that direction on the 6th. On the 10th, the whole of the garrison of Sophia left for Widdin. For the duration of the war, the provinces of Bessarabia, Cherson, and Tauris are to be divided into two Governments, separated by the Bug. Prince Menschikoff commands on the left bank of that river, and General Osten-Sacken on the right. Both Governments have been declared in a state of siege, and will be garrisoned during the war by two separate army-corps. It is believed here that the Russians fear that when war is declared, the Western Powers will land troops in the above-mentioned provinces.

The Turkish Government, on the recommendation of General Baraguey d'Hilliers, has decided on establishing a line of electric telegraph from Constantinople to Varna. It is also in contemplation to purchase in Europe a certain number of steam-vessels

The *Augsburg Gazette* contains what it is pleased to call an impartial account of the battle of Citate "in which," it believes, "the engagement is described as having terminated entirely in favour of the Russians; but the following imprudent remark spoils the whole:—

Unfortunately, the Russians have but 26,000 men in Lesser Wallachia, and the Turks, who are twice as strong, fight behind intrenchments backed by Widdin.

The *Vienna Lloyd* of the 17th publishes a letter from the Principalities, of the 10th inst. Its correspondent writes:—

The insurrection of the peasantry in Little Wallachia is at an end; but not without a previous melancholy catastrophe. Some Cossacks were sent to Saltaba, a place not far from Kalafat, to fetch away certain stores of hay and provender wanted for the Russian camp. The peasants, however, and the Wallachian militia (borderers), fired at them and drove them out of the village. Some companies of infantry, accompanied by some light horse, were instantly proceeded to the spot, where everything had been prepared for a serious resistance. the proximity of the Turkish army having been too much relied on. The village was surrounded and attacked. The unequal combat was terminated by the total destruction of the place, and the loss of 60 human lives. The peasants and militia that hastened from all parts to support their countrymen were easily routed and dispersed. After that the neighbouring village of Pojan, although deserted by its inhabitants, was destroyed.

RUSSIA.

Advices direct from St. Petersburg, of the 17th, state that a ukase has been issued calling the seamen of the Baltic fleet to rejoin the ships by the 15th of March. The concentrations are to take place at Cronstadt, Reval, and Sweaborg.

A bulletin published at St. Petersburg on the 17th inst., shows that the Russian troops in Asia are in winter quarters, within their own frontiers. and that at present no military operations are in progress

Letters from St. Petersburg state that it is intended to form a depôt of 150,000 soldiers at Moscow, to leave 100,000 in Poland, station another 100,000 in columns among the provinces of the Baltic and in Finland, and raise the army on the Danube to 200,000 and that of Asia to 100,000. The persons best acquainted with Russian statistics believe that these are merely figures of speech, and that Russia will have great difficulty in bringing together more than half the numbers here set down

The *Berlin Gazette* announces that the Emperor of Russia has demanded twenty-five millions from the Warsaw Bank for the eventualities of war.

The *Vossiche Zeitung* of Berlin is informed that the 50,000,000f. deposited in the Bank of France to the credit of Russia have been withdrawn.

Hamburg letters allude to reports that the Czar is about to issue paper money to the extent of sixty millions of paper roubles, to meet the war expenditure. The *Vienna Lloyd* of the 22nd confirms this statement.

A letter from St Petersburg, in the *Constitutionnel*, relates the reports which were current in political circles in that city as to the attitude of the Czar. On hearing of the entrance of the fleets into the Black Sea, he is said to have evinced the most perfect calmness. In the evening, when talking in his circle of courtiers, composed of the highest personages and superior officers, he is said to have remarked, after announcing to them the entrance of the fleets, "When battle is offered to Russia, she always accepts it: she can wear mourning for a fleet, but not for the national honour. I expected the resolution come to by France and Great Britain; I am not, therefore, taken by surprise: every order has been given beforehand in anticipation of such an act which, by battles, treaties, releases me from the obligations of them." It appears certain, in fact, that the Emperor asked Prince Menschikoff whether he could make head against the formidable squadrons, the movements of which he expected in the Black Sea? The Grand Admiral is said to have replied: "Conquer them? No. Fight and die to the last? Yes." This answer is too characteristic of that haughty personage to be at all doubted. The same letter from which we take these details adds, that the Emperor Nicholas, while showing his resolution not to yield, has testified his regrets at being in discord with the Sovereign who has saved Europe and civilisation from such great perils.

The *Cologne Gazette* publishes the following:—

PETERSBURG, Jan. 19.—Some days ago the Major-General Prince Tchernitcheff and Bogdanowitch, from Moscow, and Prince Woronzoff from Odessa, arrived here The presence of so many military strangers, especially that of the last named general, is supposed to hold some relation with deliberations that are being held daily in the highest quarters concerning the Turkish war. The circumstance of recent official intelligence from the seat of war has produced here a depressed feeling, and given rise to a host of rumours and surmises. People talk, of course with the greatest caution, of new combats, and they believe, since no details whatever are suffered to ooze out, that the issue of them has not been favourable for the Russian arms For the rest, every man here is convinced, that the last project of intermediation has not the remotest chance of being received here.

PERSIA.

The *Independance* of Brussels publishes a telegraphic despatch from Trieste, founded on intelligence brought by the Overland India Mail, in which it is said that the Persian port of Bushire is blockaded by a British corvette, and that a schooner and war-steamer have also been sent into the Persian Gulf.

DENMARK.

It is said that the answer of Russia on the declaration of neutrality arrived on the 16th inst. Russia refuses her consent to it, and demands that Denmark should side with one of the parties. The envoys of Austria and Prussia were sent for by the King. The Ministers of England and France had previously had an audience relative to the same matter

In the sitting of the Danish Folkething of the 17th, the Government announced that it intended adjourning to better times the presentation of the common constitution for the whole monarchy, in the hope that in the interim irritation and prejudices would have calmed down.

SPAIN.

A telegraphic despatch from Madrid, of the 18th inst., brought information of a *coup d'état* in that capital. Generals Concha and O'Donnell had been exiled to the Canaries, and the resignations of a number of generals had been accepted

The Minister of Finance was also said to have left the Cabinet.

These occurrences now banished were the head and front of the Opposition. and had signed their names first to a memorial to the Queen, which also bore the signatures of MM. Gonzales Bravo, Rios Rosas, and Generals Infante and Madon, representing the situation as full of danger, and demanding the immediate assembling of the Cortes.

A despatch on the 19th says:—"New organic measures, remodelling the Senate and the electoral law, are spoken of. A great reform, for good or evil, seems to be determined upon; yet nothing very definite appears to be settled."

AMERICA.

By the steamer *Africa* we have advices from New York to the 11th inst. There had been another large fire in New York on the 8th, by which the Metropolitan hall and Laffarge-house had been totally destroyed. The loss was estimated at £500,000.

A very destructive fire occurred, also, at Portland, Maine, on the 7th ult., the Custom-house, Post-office, and nearly half a million dollars' worth of property having been destroyed

The political news was not of much interest.

From Jamaica our advices are to the 27th ult. The news is not of much importance. There was scarcely any new feature in the political news of the colony, the Legislature having adjourned to the 17th of January. The members of the Legislature had determined to appoint two or three members from the House and one from the Council to form a Cabinet, or Executive Council. by whom were to be proposed all the important measures of finance and general policy.

From the Sandwich Islands advices by the same channel are to the 19th of November. The subject of annexation to the United States continued to be agitated. The mass of the people were favourable to it.

THE OVERLAND MAIL

The steamer *Bombay* arrived at half past eight a.m. on Monday, in 116 hours from Alexandria, which she left on the 17th January. The dates from India are to Calcutta, Dec. 20; Madras, Dec. 24; Bombay, Dec. 29; Hong-Kong, Dec. 11. The political news are of interest. The Resident at Bushire had reported that 60,000 Persians had reached that neighbourhood, with the object of invading the Pashalic of Bagdad. An expeditionary force, it is said, at once is being rapidly organised by the Bombay Government, to carry out any orders it may receive from England or from the Governor-General. The important territory of Herat has lapsed to the British Government by the death of its ruler without issue. The Governor-General of India left Calcutta on the 9th December, for Burmah. A conspiracy at Rangoon was frustrated on the 23rd November, by the foresight of the British authorities.

Perfect tranquillity prevails at Amoy, and the constituted authorities have been restored. The insurgent army had at the end of October reached Ginkee, about sixty miles from Pekin. Shanghai is still in the hands of the rebels.

AUSTRALIA.

By the *Hurricane*, which sailed from Melbourne on November 3rd, we have advices to that date.

The *Hurricane* has brought gold on freight amounting to 54,000 ounces in weight, irrespective of a large quantity in the hands of her passengers, who number fifty-all.

This vessel reports the arrival at Australia of the *Great Britain* and the *Hellespont* steam-ships. The gold-fields were still very prolific in yield. Provisions were very high in price and labour scarce, wages being as high as previously reported.

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

RUSSIAN AGGRESSION.

A crowded and enthusiastic meeting was held in the Town-hall, Southampton, on Monday evening at which the Mayor presided—to "take into consideration the important question of the unprovoked aggression of the Emperor of Russia against Turkey." The first resolution was moved by Mr. T. Falver, who, in a long and able speech, reviewed the origin and progress of Russian policy in the East, and explained its probable future bearing, if unopposed, upon the commercial and political interests of this country. The four first resolutions, all of which appear to have passed without opposition, were to the following effect

That, in the opinion of this meeting, the insolent demands of the Emperor of Russia, to exercise a protectorate over the Christian subjects of the Sultan, are not only incompatible with the honour and integrity of the Turkish Empire, but opposed to the laws of nations and the just rights of independent States.

That the present war in the East has been caused solely by the Emperor of Russia, whose invasion of the Danubian Principalities, in violation of treaties and public law, was an outrage which the Sultan was fully justified in resisting by all the means in his power.

That the four great Powers of Europe—England, France, Austria, and Prussia—who were parties to the treaty of 1841, made for the special purpose of securing the independence of the Turkish empire, having called upon the Emperor of Russia to withdraw his armies from the Principalities, and he having decidedly refused to do so, those Powers are bound in honour and the interests of civilisation to aid the Sultan, if necessary, by force of arms in expelling him; to require that he should pay all the expenses of the war; and also, in entering into any new arrangements, to take measures for securing the future tranquillity of Europe by a well defined treaty, which shall have for one of its conditions the opening of the Black Sea at all times to the ships of all nations.

That the cordial union now existing between the English and French Governments, as well as between the people of those two great nations, affords us the most sincere satisfaction, and that we highly approve the decision by which the combined fleets are now cruising for the protection of Turkey in the Black Sea."

A fifth resolution was passed authorising the Mayor to embody the above resolutions in a memorial to her Majesty; and it was also agreed that copies of the resolutions should be forwarded to the Emperor of France, and to the Sublime Porte.

MEETING AT DERBY.—A public meeting took place in the Town-hall, Derby, on Wednesday, for the purpose of expressing admiration at the noble and determined resistance offered by the Turkish nation to the encroachment of Russia. There were upwards of 1000 persons in the room. Mr. T. Madeley, the Mayor, presided; and was supported by Mr. M. T. Wass, M.P. for Derby; Mr. J. Moss, ex-Mayor, and other influential gentlemen. Letters of apology were read from the county members and Mr. L. Heyworth, the other borough member, all of whom expressed their warm sympathy for the object of the meeting. The chairman, after expressing his belief in the iniquitous tendency of all wars, proceeded to observe that "no stone had been left unturned," to use a homely phrase, by the Governments of England and France to bring about a peaceful solution of this question. On the ground surely the Peace Society would have nothing to complain of. If the English and French fleets had entered the Black Sea when the Russians occupied the Principalities he believed that the massacre of Sinope would not have taken place (Cheers). Mr. Bates, in suitable terms, proposed the following resolution:—"That this meeting, in common with the great majority of the people of this country, has witnessed with feelings of indignation the lawless violence manifested by the Russian Autocrat in his unjust and aggressive attacks upon the rights and independence of our faithful ally, Turkey. That we consider this country bound by every principle of honour and of duty, no less than by an imperative sense of what is due to our own interests, to adopt active, energetic, and effective measures (in conjunction with France) to co-operate with the Turks in destroying the fleets, armies, and fortresses of the aggressor, allowing them to reimburse themselves at his expense for the cost of the war, and affording to those nations which have been, by his former treachery and violence, deprived of their nationality, an opportunity of recovering the same, and re-establishing themselves in kingdoms under their own national Governments. That any temporising policy carried on by the aid of secret diplomacy will tend to dishonour the British nation, be destructive of her material interests and injure the cause of liberty, justice, and humanity throughout Europe" (Cheers). Mr. Park ison, after dwelling upon the topics embraced in the above resolution, seconded it, and it was carried by acclamation. Mr. Bass, M.P., having addressed the meeting at some length, an address of sympathy to the Sultan was adopted; after which the meeting separated.

A FACTORY SNOWED UP.—On the night of the snow-storm, the mill hands of J. Smedley, Esq., Lea, in Derbyshire, left, or rather attempted to leave, at the usual time in the evening; but, owing to the bitterness of the night, the slippery state of the roads and paths that they had to traverse in the dark, and through the blinding snow, numbers turned back to ask shelter for the night. In this dilemma, their kind-hearted employer immediately resolved to scheme night accommodation for all whose homes were more than a mile distant, and to as many of the female hands and aged people as might think well to stop, live where they might, and two beds were immediately improvised under the superintendence of Mr. Smedley. One accommodated thirty men and lads, and the other forty women and girls. A wholesome and satisfying supper was provided for each lodger. On the following day a new difficulty presented itself in the discovery that the roads in some directions were completely blocked, and all communication with distant homes cut off, so that something further had to be devised in regard to the victualling department; and Mr. Smedley having an abundant supply of Scotch meal, kept two persons at work three days in baking oatcakes, which, together with soup and meat, formed the rations at dinner time, the copper and mash tub being in requisition morning and evening. On the fourth day most of the hands got home, but all expressed regret at leaving such cheery winter quarters.

STRIKES IN YORKSHIRE.—We regret to learn that there now exist several strikes in Yorkshire. The linen bleachers of Barnsley and neighbourhood strnck, on Tuesday last, for shorter hours and an advance of wages. The coalliers of Craigleanan have remained out, and those of Weston and Birstal are threatening to strike. At Keighley, the weavers, after a long and painful turn-out, have resumed work at their former wages

STRANGE SCENE IN A CHURCH.—On the publication of the banns of marriage on Sunday, at the village church of Halton, adjacent to the fashionable watering-place of Weston-super-Mare, near Bristol, between a young farmer of the parish and his intended bride, some consternation was created in the congregation by a gentleman rising, and in a quiet, but firm tone of voice, saying, "I enter my solemn protest against the contemplated marriage of the parties. The would-be bridegroom is under promise of marriage to another respectable young woman, who has a prior claim on him." It seems the young man had for some years courted the former schoolmistress of the village, but on her removal to another part of the county, he became so enamoured of the pretty face of her successor, that after a few months' attention he popped the question and was accepted. In addition to this public exposé thus recorded, it is said the faithless swain will shortly be subject to an action for breach of promise of marriage.

SHIPBUILDING IN SUNDERLAND AND NEW YORK.—The following figures show the number of ships built at Sunderland and New York during the past year: Sunderland: Ships, 163; tonnage, 68,736. New York: Ships, 881; tonnage, 46,679. The excess of vessels built at Sunderland over its Transatlantic rival is only sixty five vessels, and 22,256 tons of shipping, actually more than the entire ships built on the Wear in 1853.

A SHAM NOBLEMAN.—A person of gentlemanly exterior, visited Liverpool by the Terminus Hotel, Brighton, one day last week, and after running up an account for £1 3s. 6d., engaged a fly, proceeded in search of apartments in the Marine-parade, and gave orders to the railway officials to forward his horses and groom, upon their arrival from London, to the riding master's stables, upon whom he also called, and engaged a two-stall stable. He then visited the German-place Boarding-house, where he had some refreshment, ordered a private sitting and bed room, and fires to be lighted, and introduced himself as Baron Munes-ter. The housekeeper of the hotel having asked him for a reference, he gave her the name of the Countess of Muncaster, and wrote down the name of his agent, "J. Tear, Esq., 44, Hatton-garden, London," who, he said, had succeeded Messrs Cox and Son, the marine agents. He then borrowed £5 of the waiter for two or three minutes, and left the hotel. But, instead of remaining in Brighton, he went off to the railway and took a first-class ticket for London. He was followed, apprehended, and taken before the magistrates, when he was committed to be only a summoner. The plea of insanity was set up, and a long defence, written by the prisoner, was read, stating that his head became affected while he was serving in India as a Lieutenant, and that he had lost his wife and child within eighteen months. He begged to be allowed to settle with the prosecutor, alleging that if he was sent for trial his future hopes would be blasted; he should lose his commission, and a hundred and friendship would be lost to him for ever. The statement was signed "Lieutenant Pennington, R.T.L.M." An application to bail the prisoner was granted himself in £200, and two sureties of £100 each.

CHURCH STRUCK BY LIGHTNING.—On Friday week, during a terrific storm of thunder and lightning at Cockermouth, the electric fluid struck the tall spire of the new church, which replaces the ancient building destroyed by fire a few years ago, and on the point being opened for the purposes of divine worship. The huge cross and ornamental stonework which surmounted the pinnacle, were thrown through the roof of the edifice into the chancel below, which was decorated with encaustic tiles and sculptured stonework. The building has been so much injured that the necessary repairs will delay its opening for several months.

INTIMIDATION OF WORKMEN.—Symptoms of a lingering disposition among the lower class of artisans to resort to violence, and of the moral intimidation inseparable from trades' unions, are seen in the London police reports of the week. On Monday, at the magistrate at Bow-street had to decide a case arising out of the shoemakers' strike. Cornelius Sullivan was charged with a brutal assault on William Humphries Sullivan had been formerly in the employment of a Mr. Kendal, a shoemaker in Drury-lane, but had joined the strike for wages. Humphries had accepted the work in the old rate. It appeared from the evidence that seven men on strike regularly waylaid the new hands when returning from their work, for the purpose of assaulting them. The policeman called as a witness stated that he saw the prisoner knock down the complainant on Saturday night, several of the defendant's companions joining him in the attack. The prisoner was remanded, the magistrate refusing to deal with the case summarily. William Tanner, a stonesaman in the employment of a contracting firm at the Crystal Palace, Sydenham, was summoned on Saturday, for having used threats and intimidation, in order to compel a workman, named Woolcock, to leave off work at the Crystal Palace, and join the strike. Amongst the witnesses was the foreman of the masons, who was reproved by the magistrate for yielding to the intimidation of the union, and dismissing the complainant from employment.

FOREIGN SOAPS.—The Lords Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury have directed the Commissioners of Customs to be acquainted that, in framing the Tariff of 1853, it was the intention of their Lordships that every sort of such high quality, and in such ornamental form, that it would be classed with perfumery, should be charged with the duty of 2d. the lb.; and that all other soap should be admitted at 4d. the cwt., and a general order has been issued to the several ports throughout the kingdom to that effect.

THE HOSPODARS OF MOLDAVIA AND WALLACHIA.

PRINCE BARBO BIBESCO STIRBEY, Hospodar of Wallachia, dethroned by the Russians a few months ago, is the elder brother of Prince George Bibesco, dethroned during the revolutions of 1848. The brothers are of comparatively obscure origin, their grandfather having been a horse-trainer. Their father entered at an early age into the service of one of the most considerable families in the country, where he soon distinguished himself by his industry and intelligence. Under the protection of influential persons in the state, he advanced rapidly in position, and ultimately succeeded in obtaining a government situation. Previous to the year 1816 the inhabitants of Wallachia received their education through the medium of the ancient Greek, as the Hungarians do through that of the Latin; but, as this practice, when too exclusive, is found to be essentially at variance with the proper development of the mental faculties, the brothers Bibesco were sent to Paris, to go through a course of studies more in accordance with the notions that prevail in other parts of Europe. On their return to their own country they were received with marked esteem, on account of their brilliant attainments, and were employed in the public service under Prince Ghika. They have been accused of taking advantage of this unlooked-for kindness, to betray their patrons, and sell their services to the

PRINCE STIRBEY, HOSPODAR OF WALLACHIA.

PRINCE GHIKA, HOSPODAR OF MOLDAVIA.

Russian Consulate-General. It was also asserted in Moldavia, at the time of the occupation of the Principalities in 1848, that it was chiefly through the instrumentality of Barbo Bibesco Stirbey that Russia was enabled to obtain possession of, and carry sway, the archives of the Principalities. However this may be, neither he nor his brother appears to have gained anything by the treachery of which they were accused, as they became successively the victims of Russian policy.

Prince Stirbey, on learning that the Emperor of Russia had accorded to him an annual pension of 1000 ducats on the ground that he had resigned, energetically protested against it; and he has repeated the terms of the letter which he addressed, at the moment of his departure, to the Administrative Council—a letter by which he formally declared that he only went away provisionally, and until he should receive new orders. At the present moment, the Russians treat Moldo Wallachia as a conquered province about to be annexed to their Empire, and exercise all the powers belonging to sovereign authority.

Prince Stirbey has now attained his sixtieth year. He is tall and slender, and in the enjoyment of robust health. His physiognomy bears the traces of a certain *finesse*; but he has not that refinement of manners which distinguishes high society in his native country. The Prince is, at present, a refugee in Vienna.

PRINCE GREGORY GHIKA is descended from twenty-two Royal ancestors, all Sovereigns of Moldavia and Wallachia. He was educated in Germany and France; and it was the liberal ideas which he there imbibed that brought him into collision with the Beys, or Pachas, whom the Porte, on the perfidious suggestion of Russia, had sought, in the "Phanar" of Constantinople, to impose as Governors on the Danubian provinces. In 1849, however, the Porte restored to the Principalities weary of the yoke of what were called the "Beys Phanariotes"—their ancient right of electing a Hospodar from among their native Princes. Gregory Ghika appeared to the Turkish Government the proper person to fill this high office, and the most capable of obliterating from the minds of the Moldavians the remembrance of the preceding Administrations. He was accordingly invested with the Hospodarate, on the detronement of Prince Michael Stourdza in consequence of the events in 1848. Among the other acts of patriotism which he performed, and which reflect so much glory on his administration, may be particularly cited, the establishment of national schools, with the view of reviving the ancient and not defunct spirit of Roumaic nationality. Animated by an ardent patriotism, and sustained by the purest motives, he had often to struggle against deeply-rooted abuses, which he was not always able to overcome. The ominous mission of Prince Menschikoff to Constantinople, and the unmistakeable signs that were the precursors of a Russian occupation of the Principalities, caused him great perplexity and annoyance. His health, at the same time, received a most alarming shock, which was attributed by his friends to the operation of a slow poison. He was forced to resign temporarily his high functions, and retire from the capital. A trial at law ensued, in which were implicated some of the most important personages in the Principality, and which raised a corner of the veil that had hitherto concealed the wounds of his unhappy country. Three months afterwards he returned to his estates, but it was to witness the entry of the Russian troops—an event which he had foreseen at the first outbreak of the differences provoked by Prince Menschikoff. This disguised invasion created insoluble difficulties to Prince Ghika, who, while the acknowledged vassal of the Porte, was forced to remain passive in the face of an armed invasion of the Muscovites. He finally, however, out of respect for the rights of the Sultan, quitted the soil which he could no longer defend. Prince Ghika is at present at Vienna, surrounded by his family and friends The Prince has been twice married His second wife was the daughter of one of those Boyards, who forestalling events by fifty years endeavoured to persuade Napoleon I. to emancipate Moldavia from the unwholesome, if not fatal, protection of the Czars.

Prince Ghika is fifty years of age. He is the very type of Moldavian elegance and courtesy. He dresses in the European style, in common with the principal Boyards of Moldavia and Wallachia. It is only twenty-five years since this custom was first introduced, when the long Oriental robes of the nobility were definitively replaced by military uniforms. Prince Ghika has worn both costumes with equal honour and distinction.

H.M. STEAM-FRIGATE "RETRIBUTION."

THE *Retribution* steam-frigate having been selected to proceed to Sebastopol to demand the release of the British engineers in the service of the Porte, captured by the Russians at the murderous battle of Sinope, is the first ship of the British squadron which may be said to have earned a historic reputation in the affairs now pending in the East. Nor are we surprised at the selection, the Captain, the Hon. J. R. Drummond, being a good linguist, and a man of conciliating manners and admirable tact. It was for these considerations, mainly, that during the summer after the arrival of the Anglo-French fleet at Besika Bay, the *Retribution* was forwarded to Constantinople, whence she afterwards proceeded to Therapia on the Bosphorus, where she remained until despatched on her present important mission.

We have been favoured, by Lieut. Montague O'Reilly, with a correct drawing of this vessel. The *Retribution* (ominous name for Russian ears) was designed by Sir William Symonds, and built at Chatham in 1844. She is about 1641 tons, and 400-horse power; mounts 28 guns of a very persuasive size, and has a crew of 300—officers, men, and boys included; who appear, like all the other ships under the judicious management of Admiral Dundas, desirous to "prove the mettle of their pasture"

H.M. STEAM-FRIGATE, "RETRIBUTION."

MOLLAHS PROCEEDING TO ATTEND A COUNCIL, AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

MOLLAHS PROCEEDING TO COUNCIL.

ULEMA is a collective name of the learned men in Turkey, who form a corporation, organised as early as the time of Mahomed II., the conqueror of Constantinople. Although, strictly, the term (wise men) is of very wide acceptation, including priests, jurists, and divines of all sorts, as well as the monks, in the sense of the organisation spoken of, it comprehends only the professors of divinity, of law, and of some other sciences, or, rather, of the Koran, which, with the Mahomedan, is the fountain of all knowledge. No one can become a professor (*mudterri*) or judge (*kadi*) except a member of the Ulema. The learned individuals comprising the Ulema are called *Mollahs*. The chief of the Ulema body is called the Mufti, or Cheik Islam, and his political power is very great—greater even than that of the Grand Vizier, inasmuch as a deliberative authority is superior to one merely administrative. No great measure of state policy can be undertaken without his sanction, which he gives as the head of the Council of the Ulema, which he assembles for the purpose of deliberation whenever he sees occasion, as has occurred once or twice during the important negotiations which have occupied the attention of the Divan during the last six or eight months.

SKETCH IN THE STREETS OF CONSTANTINOPLE.

AMONGST other sketches which we have recently received from our artist at Constantinople, is the spirited street-scene which we engrave. In the front are women shopping; on the left is a fair specimen of a small grocery, or tobacco-shop; and in the rear is a Pacha mounted on horseback, and near him a water-carrier plying lustily at his trade. The whole is a scene of bustling untidy confusion, which can be met with nowhere else than in an Oriental city.

The ladies being the prominent features in our present sketch, we will take the opportunity of making a few observations upon their *toilette de promenade*.

The dress of the Turkish females, when going abroad, is by no means becoming; indeed, it is not intended to be so—all the personal attractions of the fair creatures being reserved for home. When they do go forth to shop, or to mosque, or to the bath, they all wear one common shapeless costume; the chief component parts of which are a pair of full—immensely full—trousers, a jacket with large sleeves, a white muslin handkerchief round the throat; and over the back a square and scanty cloak, called the *feridjee*, so ingeniously constructed as entirely to conceal the figure of the wearer, making young and old look all shapeless alike. The colour of the cloak and trousers varies; but for the former, bright greens, oranges, browns, and russet reds, seem to prevail. The face, all but the eyes, is ingeniously concealed by means of a double veil of muslin—the *yashmac*—the upper part of which is bound across the forehead, the under part resting on the nose and under the chin. These muslin helmets are sometimes very thin—the old women very often sporting the thinnest—revealing the complexion and features through them. But the effect is always disagreeable: the nose being depressed and the mouth compressed in a way to distort and harden the expression. When the wearer wants to eat, drink, or smoke, the chin-covering is drawn down. Stockings being unknown here, the feet are invariably plunged into bright yellow shapeless boots, made without soles, which come loosely up a little above the ancles; and over these a sort of goloshe, consisting of a thick sole, with a small tip of yellow leather in front, to balance it on the toe: all this leads to that slovenly slip-shod gait which, to the eye of the European, is anything but agreeable. In very muddy times, such as that which prevailed when our artist took his sketch, a very high pair of pattens are worn, formed of wood, with loop of tin (not leather), to hold the foot: the same description of pattens are also used in the baths, to paddle about the wet floor in.

SKETCH IN THE STREETS OF CONSTANTINOPLE

ARMY CLOTHING.

A writer, signing himself "a Clothing Colonel," has objected to an article which appeared in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of the 17th of December last, under the above head. He asserts that the statements therein made are incorrect; affirming that the profit accruing to colonels of regiments at home from "off-reckonings" is generally less than £600 per annum, instead of being £929. It may be remembered that the estimate published in this Journal had reference to a battalion consisting of eight hundred rank and file, with the due proportion of sergeants, buglers, or drummers. These furnished a total of nine hundred and four men. At the present period, the establishment is fixed at nine hundred and thirteen, being an increase of ten privates, and decrease of one bugler or drummer, thereby making an augmentation of nine soldiers to a corps. This addition gives the Colonel £932 4s. 10d., instead of £929 1s. 4d.

The previous article specified that the saving on clothing was not all clear gain. From that amount the accoutrements must be furnished, the cost being deducted from the emolument reaped by the issue of inferior coatees and trousers. Should the average cost of accoutrements and incidental expenses on the clothing amount to £132 4s. 10d. annually, which would be amply sufficient, there *must* be a saving of at least £800 to the General. Were the sum doubled in favour of the gallant officers who have devoted the greater part both of fortune and existence in the service of their country, they would be far from being too well remunerated. But such recompense should not be bestowed at the expense of the soldier's comfort. Misappropriation of money voted by Parliament for the specific purpose of clothing the British infantry, attaches a stigma to those whose political pusillanimity, when in office, negatives their probable wish to be just.

The clothing-warrant states, that when the articles are not issued, compensation in lieu thereof is to be paid. The sergeants receive £3; and other ranks, £1 13s. It is proverbially known throughout the army that, when given in kind, the cost does not exceed these sums respectively. The said clothing consists of boots, trousers, coatee, and shako. The two first are served out from the regimental store for *less* than compensation price; and the others, although not issued as store articles, can be obtained, if required, at the regulated sums: consequently, whether issued in kind, or paid for in compensation to the soldier, the cost is no greater to the colonel.

That the perquisites of army clothiers cannot be trivial may be surmised, when the names of between forty and fifty of that trade may be counted in the "London Directory." Should the colonel of a regiment offer the clothing of his battalion at the remunerative price of £1 for each private, exclusive of the other ranks, there is little doubt but that the proposal would readily be entertained; if, indeed, such an arrangement does not, in many instances, now exist. The whole system pursued, as respects the clothing of the British infantry of the line, is bad. The colonel engages a contractor, who employs a number of persons, principally women, to execute the work. All these must, of course, share in the profits, but the females less than any, while the non-commissioned officers and privates are the sufferers.

The Board of Ordnance clothe their branch of the service under better management. It is done on the principle of close contract. The colonels of the Royal Artillery and Royal Engineers in no degree interfere with the details; *that* duty devolves exclusively on the Board. The clothing is supplied direct by the Ordnance, without passing through any intermediate channel. The texture of the cloth, together with the sewing, is incomparably superior to that worn by the infantry of the line. A colonel of the Royal Engineers has a fixed pay of £1000; the officer of corresponding rank in the Royal Artillery, £1003, and the colonel commandant of the Brigade of Horse Artillery £1095. These statements are authenticated by the Blue Book on Ordnance Expenditure.

Why is not a general officer holding an appointment as colonel of a battalion of the line similarly placed?

As an instance of the superiority of Ordnance clothing—always excepting the great coats served out to the line—men joining the Royal Newfoundland Companies furnish an admirable case in point. This corps is recruited by volunteers serving in different battalions in the continental provinces of North America. On first joining, they, of course, appear in the dress of the regiments they have recently quitted. An opportunity thus offers for examining the quality of the material in which each man is clad. The inferiority of that worn by soldiers from the line is too palpably obvious to admit comparison with the regimentals of the Royal Artillery, and others not clothed by the colonels. The uniforms for colonial corps, not having colonel-commandants, are supplied by the Ordnance. The Admiralty furnish that of the Royal Marines; and it is more ample, and better in every respect than is the case with the line. The cloth of the infantry coatee is not inaptly designated by the soldiers as *bull's-wool*.

Much more could be advanced corroborative of the inefficiency of the costume now forced upon the infantry; but the limits of a newspaper prohibit a prolonged disquisition on the subject. It may, however, be hoped that sufficient has been pointed out, to banish all doubt as to the desirability of a speedy reform.

MURDER OF A BRITISH OFFICER.—The *Volcano* steam-vessel, commander Robert Coote, has brought home intelligence of the murder of Mr. Carr, a fine young officer, who was turned over from the *Prometheus* steam-sloop to the *Myrmidon* steam-vessel, still serving on the west coast of Africa. The murder was perpetrated on the 26th of November, at an island called Kanzabbe, one of the Bijoogs group. Mr. Carr had landed on some rocks, intending to spear fish. He had not been there ten minutes when he was fired at from the bush, upon which he either tumbled or jumped into the sea. The savages instantly made their appearance, and one of them ran down and stood on the rocks, where he watched till Carr rose, the impression on board the steamer being that he had dived, and the African then shot him through the head. The whole transaction occupied so short a time, that as a gun was fired from the ship the murderer retreated into the bush again. A boat was instantly sent to the rocks, but the tide had flowed so rapidly that no traces of Mr. Carr's body could be seen. On the following day the body was found, when it was ascertained that the first shot had hit him in the abdomen, and would of itself have caused death. The second shot went through the head. The officers and crew of the *Myrmidon* were burning for revenge for the foul and unmanned murder, but they could do nothing, as there are no towns near the sea, and to advance into a country thickly inhabited with armed men, was not warranted with the small disposable force serving in the *Myrmidon*.

The Polish General Wisowski has arrived at Constantinople. He commanded a Polish legion during the war in Hungary.

THE COMMAND OF THE ARMY.

(From a Military Correspondent.)

Lord Raglan is quoted as the probable successor to Viscount Hardinge. The distinguished services of the present Master-General of the Ordnance are well known; and his ready attention to all matters brought before him when Military Secretary are proverbial. Left to his own discretion, just and uncompromising decisions were invariably awarded. But, unfortunately, such power was withdrawn during the recent period of the Duke of Wellington's life. The late Commander-in-Chief scouted the possibility of a soldier becoming old; and, acting on that infatuation, nominated men to responsible posts in consequence of having known them when in the zenith of his unparalleled career.

The results of such hallucination are yet palpable. Bitter injury has been inflicted by obstinate pertinacity in checking inquiry into grievous wrongs. Adherence to prejudices which no argument could shake, cannot be laid to the discredit of others compelled to bow to unjustifiable dictation; yet many have real cause to lament such flagrant malversation of power.

From boyhood Lord Raglan has well served his country, both in the office and the field. Like the present chief of the British army, he has bled and suffered mutilation in an honourable cause; and all would rejoice at the announcement of benefit being awarded to so gallant a soldier. Energetic and inured to the fatigue of business, time, nevertheless, *will* assert his unconquerable right. Lapse of years, in the estimation of England's greatest captain, dwindled into nothingness as the vivid remembrance of heroism and daring cast their flickering gleams across the warrior's mind; but what human will can check abridgment either of mental or corporeal power after a prolonged sojourn upon earth? Honour to him whose grey hairs are surrounded with wreaths of unfading laurel; but wherefore oppress a green old age with cares and disquietude of office, when younger and competent commanders are available?

The Master-General of the Ordnance has himself promulgated a decision that no man is competent for the appointment of barrack-master when past the age of forty-five. Military men rully understand the routine of duty appertaining to that branch of the service! If the average rate of intellectual and physical power is justly computed, it may be asked, by what extraordinary devion from the laws of nature an officer sixty-six years old can perform the laborious functions of Master-General? In the former position superintendence is restricted to certain buildings within a limited district; the latter involves responsibility and command over upwards of 160 barrack-masters, above 80 storekeepers in charge; efficiency of the Royal Artillery in every branch and department; together with innumerable adjuncts—for all of which the Master-General is accountable. A thorough knowledge of such particular demands unceasing vigilance and attention. That to the uninitiated may appear inconsistent, but soldiers are soon made acquainted with such incongruities.

During the administration of his Royal Highness the late Duke of York, the British Army derived immense benefit by the untiring zeal and active beneficence prominent in every action of that illustrious Prince. As a member of the Royal family, the Duke possessed an influence which no subject of inferior rank could attain. Such command should ever be held by some individual allied by blood to the Sovereign of the realm. Happily, no impediment to so desirable an arrangement now exists, and the post thus filled becomes unfettered by importunities of relatives, from whose unceasing persecutions other commanders too frequently escape by ill-judged concession.

The Duke of Cambridge has made the profession of arms his study. His Royal Highness is devoted to the service, and has assiduously laboured to master all the details. The Duke's military knowledge is not confined to the showy evolutions of a field-day or review. At the commencement of his career he submitted to precisely the same routine of drill marked out for the private soldier. Instead of at once leaping to command, he practically learnt the first rudiments; and, in due course, passed through the various gradations, until competent to work a battalion, and from that a brigade and division. During the period alluded to, fortification and gunnery occupied much of his time. A similar course was afterwards pursued in the cavalry, and there are few, if any, general officers so conversant with the minutiæ of each branch of the service, as is the Duke of Cambridge. Nothing relating to the soldier's efficiency and comfort escapes his notice. His Royal Highness's inspection of corps is not a mere ceremony resulting in nothing. His intimate knowledge of even the most trivial matters has oftimes elicited the admiration of both officers and men. Zealous in the discharge of his military duties, unsurpassed in attention to business, courteous to all, highly popular with the army, and gifted with that rare blessing, sound common sense, the appointment of the Duke of Cambridge as General Commanding-in-Chief, would gladly be received by the nation.

The advantage of age over youth has been advanced in opposition to this desirable end. But, those who argue on such untenable ground, should bear in mind that the Duke of Wellington was one year younger than the Duke of Cambridge now is, when the battle of Assaye was won. Napoleon was not thirty-two at Marengo. The most distinguished chiefs who served in the Peninsula reaped their laurels when under forty.

Of the thirty-eight Generals whose achievements yet grace the "Army List," the junior entered the service in 1793; and among the Lieutenant-Generals, none—save an isolated instance—commenced a military career more recently than 1806.

Should her Majesty be pleased to confer the highest appointment in the British army, when next vacant, upon the Duke of Cambridge, the service may hope for speedy emancipation from the thraldom of "ancient custom," having nothing to recommend its perpetuity beyond a leaning towards what was once deemed good, before modern improvement pointed out the fallacy of error. Interminable hesitation would then give place to vigorous decision. Long cherished abuses would be rooted out, and in brief space the advantage of a thorough alteration in system would become manifest when compared with the vacillation of the present day.

ENLARGEMENT OF THE WELLINGTON BARRACKS.—A number of men are engaged in taking down several houses in the rear of the Wellington Barracks, St. James's park, for the purpose of extending its size, and of erecting additional commodious barracks. The necessity for a new barrack has arisen in consequence of the Government being compelled to give up the Portman Barracks, the property of Lord Portman, as the Lords-ship does not intend to renew the lease, which has recently expired, so that the guards which used to occupy it will be stationed at the Wellington Barracks.

THE MAINE LIQUOR LAW.—The Hon. Neal Dow, the originator of the Maine law, with reference to elections in America, in a recent letter says:—"We have recently had very important elections in this county, the point the Maine law, which resulted gloriously. In Baltimore, fourth city of the union, entire temperance ticket elected; in Philadelphia, second city, seven Maine-law men out of eleven, whole number; New York, first city, six Maine-law men; and through the state two to one. In Boston, third city, the rum party, hitherto invincible, has been beaten terribly suffering a net loss of 6000 votes! Everywhere our cause seems to be in the ascendant."

DO RATS LEAVE DANGEROUS PLACES?—A statement made by the mate of the schooner *Dreadnop*, of Whitby, which was wrecked at Arbroath on Wednesday week, would seem to answer the above question in the affirmative. He says that the vessel had for a long time been infested with thousands of rats; but on the night before they left Hartlepool, on the fatal voyage at the vermin disappeared, not a rat being seen where a day before they might have been counted by the dozen.—*Glasgow Mail.*

THE CORPORATION OF LONDON.—ITS DEFENCE.

The defence of the Corporation of London, as elaborated by its ingenious officers, and read by its able Recorder, is one of those documents which clever people occasionally produce, not for the purpose of elucidation, but with the desire to mystify the reader. Length is mistaken for learning, and obscurity for profound reasonings. Before referring to this extraordinary production, we thought it advisable to learn what the special points were which required the support of evidence to bring them more distinctly before the mental eye of the public. We have waded through the prolix statements and antiquarian evidence of Mr. Serjeant Merewether, the Town-clerk, without obtaining much information on the real question at issue. After his declaration that the Municipal Reform Bill was, in his judgment, one of the most unconstitutional measures ever sanctioned by Parliament, we could not expect any very satisfactory opinion to come from him. He wound up his day's examination by giving utterance to the extraordinary notion that, even in its numbers, the Corporation was almost perfect—from which we gather that the machine is so exquisitely balanced and arranged in all its parts that any addition to, or reduction in, its numbers would endanger the entire system. Mr. Pearson, the City Solicitor, who in former days was the foremost reformer of abuses, was expected to declare that he was the foremost reformer of abuses, was expected to declare that he was the foremost reformer of abuses, was expected to declare that he

evil remains. The great facts brought to view, in all their rugged proportions, stand up, in the sunlight of unimpeachable testimony, undisputed, and, we presume, indisputable. After the evidence given by Mr. Scott, the best course the Corporation could have taken would have been to throw up their defence and appeal to the tender mercies of the Commissioners; to acknowledge the *black mail* of the coal-tax, abolish their tolls, pull down Temple-bar, promise new streets and more bridges, and to cover themselves, like repentant sinners, in sackcloth and ashes. No antagonistic evidence has done them half the mischief which their friendly evidence has done: some admit certain slight defects; others can see no defect; while some throw light on matters "confidential," secret, dark, and midnight doings; and have so convinced the public mind of the mischievous tendency of corporate doings, that nothing but a thorough purification will satisfy the imperative demand for reform.

It is amusing to see how the defenders pounce upon a piece of well-doing which all acknowledge, and how much they make of it. What a flourish of trumpets there is in connection with the City School. That establishment has been highly commended, but they must also land it. There is an old proverb about "self praise" which applies here with more than ordinary force. It would have been more discreet in the Corporation to have confined itself to the accusations. When did it discover that the bequest of John Carpenter was not properly applied? Had Lord Brougham's inquiry into charities no moving influence? How long was the letter kept and the spirit broken? See, also, how the Corporation defenders take credit for the liberality and generous sympathy of others. The philanthropy of Mr. Beaufoy, the spirit of the *Times*, the generosity of Alderman Salomons—who have established scholarships in the City of London School—are introduced in the defence as reflecting credit on the Corporation. Such a school does reflect credit, and exercises a beneficial influence on the minds and morals of the youth of the City; but, as the possession of some virtues cannot be held as any excuse for the commission of many sins, neither can this single bright speck in the Corporation cover nor excuse the plague-spots that exist.

THE SUPPRESSED PAMPHLET.

In connection with the charges brought against Prince Albert, for alleged interference with the business of the Foreign office, frequent allusions have been made to a certain pamphlet, which was said to contain the most undeniable evidence of his Royal Highness's guilt. Mr. William Coningham, of Brighton, in a letter to a morning paper, which so taken the lead in filling the public mind with all kinds of rumours of the subject, described the pamphlet as containing "documentary evidence of the Prince's unconstitutional interference in the foreign affairs of Great Britain; and the statements contained in the celebrated letter signed M.P., are based upon it, or upon other equally incontrovertible data." The pamphlet was further said to have been written at the request of Lord Palmerston, who had furnished the materials on which it was founded. As this appeared to involve Lord Palmerston in the matter, a semi-official statement on the subject appeared in the *Morning Post* of Monday, giving the following explanation of his Lordship's connection with the affair:—

We believe the simple truth to have been that, shortly after Lord Palmerston's removal from office, in December, 1851, there were shown to him, while at his seat in Hampshire, the proof-sheets of a pamphlet written with friendly intentions towards him, and containing the writer's views on the subject of his Lordship's recent removal from office; and he was told that the pamphlet was to be published in London the next morning. We believe that he immediately, and without communication with any other person, expressed a wish that the pamphlet should not be published, as being desirous that the matters to which it related should stand over for discussion and explanation when Parliament met, and the pamphlet, accordingly, was not published. So far, Mr. Coningham has been rightly informed; but he has been entirely misinformed as to the supposed communication of documents by Lord Palmerston to a Brother, and by the bearer to the writer of the pamphlet. No such documents were communicated; for the most conclusive of reasons, namely, that none such existed.

The whole of the pamphlet entitled "Lord Palmerston, What Has He Done?" has been published in the *Times*, prefaced by the following letter from the author. So far from containing documentary evidence in proof of the charges, it consists entirely—or, at least, mainly—of an elaborate attack upon Lord John Russell, for having turned out Lord Palmerston to make room for Lord Granville, for the mere purpose of pleasing foreign Governments:—

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "TIMES."

SIR,—When Lord Palmerston suppressed the publication in 1852 of the accompanying pamphlet, he was desirous that the vindication of his conduct should be heard in the House of Commons from his own lips, and not out of doors from the pen of any of his friends. The reason for suppression no longer exists, and I therefore beg you to be good enough, in justice to Lord Palmerston, and to his Royal Highness Prince Albert, whose name has been most unwarrantably introduced in connexion with the pamphlet, to give at once insertion to the entire document in your columns.

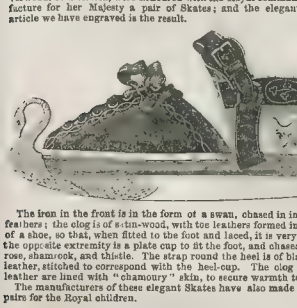
I am most desirous to say that the pamphlet was not written at the instigation of Lord Palmerston, and that his Lordship did not know of its existence until, on its completion, I thought it my duty to ask his permission for publication, when his Lordship at once begged that it might be suppressed. I am, sir, your obedient servant,

THE AUTHOR OF "PALMERSTON, WHAT HAS HE DONE?"

London, Jan. 23.

HER MAJESTY'S SKATES.

DURING the recent severe weather, Messrs. Marsden Brothers, and Silverwood, of Sheffield, were honoured with the Royal command to manufacture for her Majesty a pair of Skates; and the elegantly-finished article we have engraved is the result.



The iron in the front is in the form of a swan, chased in imitation of feathers; the clog is of satin-wood, with toe leathers formed in the shape of a shoe, so that, when fitted to the foot and laced, it is very firm. At the opposite extremity is a plate cup to fit the foot, and chased with the rose, shamrock, and thistle. The strap round the heel is of black patent leather, stitched to correspond with the heel-cup. The clog and front leather are lined with "chamoury" skin, to secure warmth to the foot.

The manufacturers of these elegant Skates have also made four other pairs for the Royal children.

LONDON SOCIETY FOR TEACHING THE BLIND TO READ.—On Tuesday a special general meeting of the friends of this charity was held at the asylum, Avenue-road, St. John's-wood, for the purpose of transacting the usual business of the school. The report stated that the friends of the society would rejoice to hear that their essential object—viz., the completion of the Bible on Lucas's system—had now been accomplished, and also that Mr. Wood, the master, had adapted the characters to musical notation. A wonderful proof of the facility with which Lucas's system can be read is afforded in the history of a clergyman, who having been, twelve years since, deprived of sight, attempted in vain to read by the common alphabetic characters; but, having acquired a knowledge of the stenographic system, now reads with such fluency as to perform his ministerial duties without any assistance—conducting two whole services every Sunday with the same ease and comfort as if he were not deprived of sight. The completion of the embossed Bible is to him a peculiar boon, not only by facilitating his private study, but also by enabling him to read in public the appropriate Church lessons throughout the year. The report concluded with an appeal to the public for support

REFORM MEETING AT MANCHESTER.

The annual meeting of Lancashire Liberals, comprising the members for the two divisions of the county, and most of those for the boroughs, with their influential supporters and friends, was held at the Albion Hotel, Manchester, on Tuesday evening. The ordinary rule has been to hold the annual meeting on a large scale, in the Free-trade Hall; but that building having been taken down, and no public demonstration was given up, and the meeting confined to 200 persons, instead of twenty times that number. Among those present were—Mr. Cobden, M.P.; the Right Hon. T. M. Gibson, M.P.; Mr. John Bright, M.P.; Mr. John Cheetham, M.P.; Mr. William Brown, M.P.; Mr. James Heywood, M.P.; Mr. T. Barnes, M.P.; Mr. Joseph Crook, M.P.; Mr. Pilkington, M.P.; Mr. Montague Fielden, M.P.; Mr. Miall, M.P.; Mr. James Kershaw, M.P.; Mr. George Hadfield, M.P.; Mr. F. Crossley, M.P.; Mr. Lawrence Heyworth, M.P.; and most of the active members of the late Anti-Corn-law League. The chief speakers were Mr. Milner Gibson, Mr. Cobden, and Mr. Bright; but the speech of the evening was that of Mr. Cobden. The first portion of it was devoted to an exposition of his views on the suffrage question. An attempt had been made to show that the working classes were not fit for the suffrage, because "a few thousands of lads and lasses have gone wrong on a question of political economy;" but, as he went on to show the blunder they had committed was not much greater than those which have been often made by the wealthier classes. He was in favour of an extension of the suffrage, but would not say to what extent. All he would say on that point was, that if the Government does not enlarge our electoral pale, their scheme will be received with dissatisfaction by the great body of the people. He was in favour of triennial Parliaments, and strongly in favour of the ballot. Having disposed of reform, he proceeded to the Eastern question. He referred to his first appearance as a pamphleteer in 1835, when Government increased our army 6000 men, in consequence of a cry for war with Russia. He held the fame opinions then as he does now, and yet he was not stigmatised then as an enemy to the interests of England. So far from that having been the case, "whatever notoriety he had acquired in the world not call it fame—was entirely founded on the production of those pamphlets." The sum and substance of what they contained, he went on to say, was simply this—

Those pamphlets, from beginning to end, were in this sense: don't go to war to maintain the independence and integrity of Turkey; America is the only rival you have to fear in England; barbarism won't overturn civilisation in these days. With the improvement in mechanics, and the discovery of gunpowder, there will never be another irruption of the Goths. My arguments went to try to show that Turkey was a decaying country for 150 years; and, by all the authorities that could be quoted, was pronounced a declining and a decaying country. Well, that crisis of the Eastern question blew over. Now we have precisely the same thing over again—here are the same instruments at work, the same arguments used. Now we are called on again, as we were in 1835, to maintain the integrity and independence of the Turkish empire; but we are called upon to do more—we are called upon especially to make war with Russia. But these are two distinct questions. Your hostility to Russia, and your determination to keep Russia within her present boundaries, is a distinct question from that whether you will maintain Turkey and the Mahometans as a permanent rule in Europe.

He could not see any just cause for going to war with Russia. There was no antagonism in England to Russia—indeed, there was no place in Europe where Englishmen exercised more social sway than they did there. Were he asked his opinion as to the aggression upon Turkey, he would admit that it was unjust and unwise; but if he were asked to go further, and interfere on behalf of Turkey, he must then turn round and ask why England is to be the policeman of the world. If we meddle with Russia for its aggression upon Turkey, why do we not meddle with other nations when they commit outrages upon their neighbours? We ought to follow some distinct principle; and, above all, looking to India, we ought to be sure that we have not done wrong ourselves.

But you are afraid that, if Russia goes to Turkey and gets possession of Constantinople, he will become a great maritime power, will absorb all the influence of the Mediterranean, and become dangerous to the influence of England. Very well; how will Russia, when she gets possession of Constantinople, get a fleet? Can any power in Constantinople itself will not give that power, or what have the Turks been doing for four hundred years there? How is it that, in possession of that which you say is so fine a site, the chosen seat of empire, that country has risen to no favourable decrepitude, not capable of protecting its own frontiers—not even able to defend itself against its own satraps. It is not by getting possession of Constantinople that Russia will become the world's rival in power and influence, and a great maritime power; but it is by improving her commerce that she will increase her power, and by that process maintain her industry. Ships will not sail ready built, and be launched, down the Volga and the Danube, because Russia possesses those territories. She must make a merchant navy, as all other countries have done—as the Venetians did, as the Dutch have done, as the English have done—by the prices of labour and industry; by the accumulation of wealth through commercial enterprise, and by the skill and intelligence of her artisans. Well, but before she has those she has ceased to be this barbarous power that you are afraid of, and I defy her to do this, to accumulate wealth, to accumulate power, because she has got possession of Constantinople; it must be by peaceful commercial relations with every other country of the world. How has America become a great maritime country? By being our greatest customer and rival, and because you find her ships in your ports more than any other—half as much almost as all the others. The same process must go on, and when Russia has arrived at this state of civilisation, she will have given bonds for a peaceable career, as America has. She will have something at home that will be a hostage to the civilised world of her peaceable intentions. Therefore, I put aside altogether the idea that a country is to become rich, and great, and powerful, and still remain a barbarous and warlike nation.

A great deal of nonsense had been written and spoken about this Eastern question. We were not bound by any treaty to fight for Turkey. Lord Aberdeen had said very emphatically in the House of Lords that we have no treaty to bind us to maintain the integrity of Turkey. The quarrel between Russia and that country was an old one, it had been going on for 150 years, and now we were asked to fight in future for the defence of Mahomedanism in Europe. In Turkey, in Servia, and the Principalities, he contended that the sympathies of the people are in favour of Russia.

As to the alliance between France and England, he was much afraid of it. No one would suppose that he wished to see an alienation between France and England, but he did not think such alliances were quite safe.

He concluded with a high eulogium on the conduct of the Earl of Aberdeen throughout the whole of the negotiations, the crowning motive of his life has been "to prevent this country from falling into a European war."

Lord Aberdeen remembers that act, that at the outbreak of the last great French war in 1793, we had every Government in Europe with us, or sympathising with us; and that ten years afterwards they were almost all against us. And he knows that the very attitudes which we assumed to our allies on the Continent, were converted into ammunition and accoutrements, and used in opposition to ourselves. Lord Aberdeen knows that when we have assisted for six or twelve months the only people who now cry out for war, will be the first to turn round and denounce him for having brought suffering and distress amongst them. He knows that if he fires a hostile shot against Russia, it ceases to be a war between two semi-barbarians in an almost inaccessible sea. The conflict assumes European dimensions, and you will have confusion, insurrection, and probably war, throughout a great part of Europe. To dispel these are the reflections which sway the mind of Lord Aberdeen, and I am sure there is no more honourable position that a man can be placed in than to be denounced and railed at, and caricatured, for having endeavoured to preserve this great country, and all its mighty influences, from the consequences of a war

Mr. Bright spoke also at great length against the anti-Russian feeling which prevails. According to him, the danger to this country, from the actual conquest of Constantinople, by Russia, is "of the most dim, vague, remote, and doubtful character." Had we not meddled in the matter, beyond counselling, advising, and remonstrating, he believed that Russia would have adopted a moderate course, "because great nations and absolute Governments do not like to be forced to do anything."

Before the meeting broke up, it was resolved that the Liberal members present should select a Committee, who should consider themselves a committee to secure a proper extension of the suffrage.

FALSE DATES IN WATERMARKS OF PAPERS.—Lately, in cutting up some paper for photographic purposes, I found in one and the same quire two sheets without any mark, two of the date 1851, nine bearing the date 1853, and the remaining eleven were 1854. I can imagine a case might occur in which the authenticity of a document might be much questioned were it dated 1853, when the paper would be presumed not to have been made until a year afterwards. I think this is worth making a note of, not only by lawyers, but those interested in historical documents. —From *Notes and Queries*.

TOWN AND TABLE-TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

THE principal sale of the London season, as far as English pictures are concerned, will be that of the late Lord Charles Townshend. The sale, it is said, will not include the once famous Rainham Collection, containing the celebrated "Belisarius of Salvator Rosa," and the highly-interesting series of full-length portraits of English soldiers, who served in the Low Country wars under Sir Francis and Sir Horace Vere. We are glad to hear this, for the Rainham series is the earliest existing collection of English portraits made on the principle of the Waterloo Gallery at Windsor. The Rainham portraits are highly interesting, and though hung, as they are at present, in ill-lighted rooms, they carry the spectator back to times when the pike was trailed by English soldiers in the true spirit of chivalry. At Lord Charles's sale, the leading attractions will be the charming portrait of "Mrs. Braddyll," by Sir Joshua, so exquisitely engraved by Samuel Cousins; and the "Letter Writer," by Wilkie (the last great work of its painter, bought by Lord Charles, at the Wilkie sale (though unfinished), for £446 5s.

Critics of name differ (when do they not differ?) about the merits and proposed site of Marochetti's statue of Richard Cœur de Lion, recently—as the readers of our News will remember—temporarily erected in front of (in our time) the old entrance to Westminster hall. Some exclaim that the pedestal is too low; some, that the site is bad; some, that the hero hardly deserves a statue; some, that the statue itself is not artistic: while others assert (with equal loudness) that the site is excellent, the man essentially a hero, and the statue highly artistic. Cabmen who wait for fares in front of the statue are equally at variance about its merits. The four-wheelers, we observed, are against it, as too energetic; while the Hansoms are unanimous in its favour. Most of our readers will recollect the statue: it stood at the west end of the Great Exhibition Palace, in Hyde-park, as if courting admittance, and when there, seen against the clear blue sky, looked very well indeed. We confess, however, that now it is not seen to advantage. Its present must not be its permanent site. One old lady's remark struck us as particularly good. She had been at George the Fourth's coronation, and thought (not unnaturally) that the statue was put up in honour of Dymock, the King's champion. We must confess that the position of the statue leads naturally to such a notion. Richard seems challenging all deniers of some imaginary right. There is more of Scrivelsby than the Crusade about this, in other respects, clever statue.

Who would wish to be an architect? What father would apprentice his son to such a craft? Truly it is a money-making concern, but we are speaking of a father anxious for the after-reputation of his child. Paint a clever picture, and it must depend for European reputation on the engraver; build a fine house (even such as Mr. Ruskin will admire), and the love of change or Change-alley may, and will, before many years are over, doom it to destruction. Architects seem to be the most unfeeling set of Christians, one to another, that we can readily call to mind. How greedily they prey upon one another. Has not Sir Charles Barry, at the Treasury, re-faced and eclipsed Sir John Soane? has not Sydney Smirke, at the British Museum, thrown even his brother into the shade, to walk himself (not badly, we own)? and what do we now see? Here in the old Carlton Club, scarce a quarter of a century old, gutted at the present moment—a mere carcase—waiting for the magic wand of Sydney Smirke, assisted by his labourers to become a mere nothing. The Carlton front was long one of the well-known stuccoed faces of Pall-mall. It is no longer to be so. We are now to have Sansovina, and not Sir Robert Smirke—a new and elevated Carlton, instead of the old, dowdy, though not unhandsome, building.

What strange alterations have we not seen in sites!

Where's Troy? and where's the Maypole in the Strand? How unlike Pall-mall proper (of 1806, before Winsor lighted it with gas) is Pall-mall of 1854, with gas and clubs, and scarce a vestige of its former self remaining. The only attractive feature in Piccadilly is about to be removed. Who has not seen the advertisement announcing the sale of Burlington House? Yes—one of the finest buildings in London, standing on one of the first sites in London, is doomed to destruction. The temptation is too great—money is about to demolish the best example of the genius and munificence of the Earl to whom Pope addressed his noble epistle on "Taste." Pope had seen Canons rise and fall (a palace in a wilderness—a laboured quarry above ground), but how little did he foresee that the fine mansion in Piccadilly, which the then Vitruvius had erected, would, long before its stones were showing decay, or its bricks had become unset, be doomed to the hammer of the auctioneer. As much, we hear, as £180,000 have been refused for Burlington House, and as much as £250,000 are asked. Several amphitheatre managers are looking longingly at the site, and with their hands in their pockets; but the sum asked is too large. If London is thus marching westward, we shall have the Haymarket some day in clover; and "laughing Ceres" will reassume the ground on which Burlington House now stands, so enviably, and at so high a price.

The trustees of the British Museum have, we are told, just resorted to the nation a very desirable acquisition to its many manuscript treasures. We allude to the papers and correspondence of Sir Hudson Lowe during his service at St. Helena; Governor of that island, and the English officer in charge of Napoleon. The sons of Sir Hudson have been naturally most desirous to have their father's papers deposited in some safe and accessible quarter. Where, then, they are said to have asked themselves, could they be placed to greater advantage than in the British Museum? Large sums, we believe, have been offered for this series of papers by known and rich collectors; but to bury their father's papers has not been the object of the sons of Sir Hudson Lowe; and the "Lowe Papers" have, consequently, been secured to the nation on, as we understand, very reasonable terms. Sir Frederick Madden is not so un-alive to the advantage of securing contemporary papers as some clamourists would lead us to believe. The great secret of cheap buying is to buy in advance. Had some Sir Frederick Madden, of 1660, secured the papers of Cromwell or of Shakspeare, what treasures would he not have obtained for all ages! How many false readings would he not have overthrown? how many false readings would he not have stifled (to our advantage) in their first existence?

The Athenæum is still a literary club; and the Parthenon and the Erechtheum are said to be junior branches of the parent stock. The old tree still flourishes, but the limbs are not alive. The parent club has not vitality enough for two branches; so the two branches have concentrated their strength into, what we are told will be, a noble limb. On the 1st of February the Erechtheum ceases to exist, and what remains of her crew are carried over—not in distress, however—to the apartments of the Parthenon. The two clubs are to be rolled into one; but not without some stipulation on the part of the Erechtheum members they carry their cook with them. We do not regret the stipulation—it was in every respect a wise one.

Mr. Dickens is to commence his new story, or, at least, a new story in his highly-popular periodical, "Household Words." We are not sorry to hear this, though we should feel a great regret, in common with thousands, should Mr. Dickens allow the year to pass by without giving us some numbers of a new work between those two green leaves, for which we have been taught to look with a continued eagerness.

Men interested in literature are observing with pleasure that the *Quarterly Review* has recently resumed a more literary character; that it is more itself again. The present number supports its old literary feature. The article on Gray and his works is evidently written by one who is well-up in his subject, and, what is more, can write. How often is knowledge rendered comparatively useless from want of skill in setting it forth, and making it attractive?

SKETCHES FROM KALAFAT AND WIDDIN.

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

THE BATTLES OF KALAFAT AND CITATE.

(From our Special Correspondent)

WIDDIN, January 6, 1854.

THE turbid waters of the Danube were driving vast floes of ice on the 1st of January, 1854, as I obtained permission to leave the fortress of

HIS EXCELLENCY SAMI PACHA, GOVERNOR OF WIDDIN.

Widdin, and seek in a light bark the frozen and snow-clad hills of Kalafat. The roaring of the ice-fields, as they crunched together, and strove against each other in the tide; the noise they made, as they fringed their sides with heap on heap of icy fragments, rung sharp upon the ear; whilst the bubbling of the rushing water, compressed and hindered in its course, kept up a species of accompaniment to the fantastic rending of the glittering masses. The current of the Danube is so strong that the water cannot freeze; but the stream drives fields of ice from either shore. In their descent, these masses meet and rend each other; and, on the banks, they rear large blocks and strange festoons of icicles, which, as each field goes by, are added to and strengthened, till the stream is narrowed to its smallest limits. Then the ice-fields cease to flow upon the surface. They dive and rise again, and whirl in curious eddies till the stream is full, and then a pause takes place. The frozen pieces come together, and refuse to part; gradually the waters cease to bubble over, and the Danube then is frozen over.

In the midst of the eddying masses which I have described, the little bark that held me, manned and steered by olive-coloured Turks, was manfully launched; and, bumping here through one obstacle, steering round a second, I was landed upon the island fronting the old city of Widdin. There all was movement, bustle, and labour. Boats filled with stores of every sort were coming to the land; and, as they turned and turned their way amidst the fields of ice, they looked like things ingeniously put to other purposes than those for which they were designed. No water was visible, but the rough sides of the bark broke out in strong relief upon the cold and changing masses of the ice, as it wandered through them. The redif, with his grey great coat and hood, his legs encased in every sort of covering as protection from the cold, was shivering on the bank. The swarthy soldiers of the desert mixed here and there amongst the crowd, looking blacker from the frost; the variegated dresses of irregulars; and, passive in the midst, the long-haired Wallachs, with their coats of sheep-skin, and their strange and cone-like hats, imparted to the scene a wild and curious character. How strange, in truth, the chance that brings the dweller in the desert, who in his life before has seen no snow, in contact with the Wallach and Bulgarian, whose life is passed in striving half the year to keep out the cold, the other half to avoid the heat. This Danubian climate is inexorable. It is sometimes fifteen degrees of Reaumur below zero, at others the heat mounts up to 100 Fahrenheit. Such are the alternations of winter and summer. Leaving the landing-place, encumbered by bullock-carts and sledges, horses bearing burdens, and men compelling them to go, an extempore road beaten in the snow soon leads one to the river bank again. Here the Turks have built a bridge of boats, thus uniting main and island. At a distance of about a mile nestles on the side of a hill the village or town of Kalafat. In summer it may be a pretty place to look at, as the sun sets brightly on its houses, and throws long shadows from the masts and rigging of the shipping on the Danube; but the view in winter, when a cloak of snow encases all, has little of the picturesque. With the exception, indeed, of a very few houses, the habitations of a Wallachian village are only visible to a practised eye; and, as I cast my glances over the panorama which spread before me from above the bridge, I wondered where were the 17,000 or 20,000 men whom I knew to be enclosed within the bounds of the intrenchment. As I approached the place the signs of life and preparation for an enemy were numerous. Orderlies were dashing about the

LANDING-PLACE, AT KALAFAT.

trodden snow; soldiers leading horses laden with provisions; Wallachs with their sledges and their oxen, drawing wood; while here and there a working party might be seen starting on its way. The only khan or café of this place was crowded with inmates, drinking raki and coffee, and smoking; some even playing on an antiquated billiard-table. There were six rents, of about six inches each in divers portions of the cloth, and the pockets might have held the head of a Bashi-bozouk. It seemed to me that the rents in the cloth were only artificial difficulties, made, like the intrenchments of Kalafat, to prevent the approach of the balls to the pockets. With the exception of this khan, and about two dozen houses nastly whitewashed, there seemed to be nothing like habitations in Kalafat. It is true, the ground was here and there filled up by ancient maize-ricks and wicker-garners; pigs were moving in the straw; but the houses appertaining, it was vain to look for. Presently, however, I discovered, escaping from an opening in a mound covered with snow, a quantity of smoke; and then only it occured to my bewildered senses that Kalafat after all might be a very large important village, of which the inhabitants lived underground, and so it proved.

Achmet Pacha, who inhabits one of the few houses in the village, received me with great politeness. He is a burly soldier, still young

BLOCKHOUSE OF TEVIK BEY, KALAFAT.

SKETCHES FROM KALAFAT AND WIDDIN.

COOKING TENT, AT KALAFAT

and with the dark smooth skin of the Orientals. He was at that moment in the act of dining with Moustapha Pacha, Ferik, or Commandant of Cavalry, a soldier of the old Egyptian war, whose head is already turning to grey, but who preserves on his large person a considerable *embonpoint*. The two Generals' dinner appeared to consist of a gigantic *pillau* contained in an earthen vessel, into which they dipped their spoons alternately. There was a wooden bench for the use of guests, a wooden chest in a corner of the room, and a little book-case in which I could discover a "Manuel d'Artillerie" and a "Dictionnaire Turc-Français." A little box, labelled in French "*Savon ponce*," was handed round, containing cigarettes; and then the conversation commenced in German, which is the European language spoken by Achmet Pacha. After a few compliments had been exchanged, permission was granted to see the entrenchment, and the interview was at an end. One more formality still remained to be performed, namely, the delivery of a letter to an officer of Chasseurs, with whom it was my intention to examine the works. A chaousch of Achmet Pacha's guard led the way along the brow of a hill, covered sparsely with tents, and presently stopped at an aperture which seemed to lead into the bowels of the earth. Diving after the guide, it appeared that these were the quarters of Tefik Bey. On the left of the passage was a soldier at an earthen oven, cooking; a few kitchen utensils, sabres, muskets, and daggers, were lying about in confusion, together with the saucepans, and a military cloak. At the end of the passage a little door swung open, and a young and exceedingly European-looking officer appeared, who gave me the most cordial reception. Some friends were with him. I send you a Sketch of the interior. The mode of building houses in Kalafat, is this:—The ground-plan of the dwelling is drawn out upon the ground, and then the house is dug out of the earth, those portions remaining alone over this the earth is laid. In general, the only light within a Wallach room proceeds from the chimney, which, like that of Servian houses, is an important part of a domestic edifice; but this being the house of an officer, it boasted of three windows, two of which may be seen in the Sketch subjoined—their frames being stretched with oiled paper, which is by no means a good substitute for glass. The sides of the wall were covered with matting, under which at night the field mice made an incessant noise, and at the end was a slightly elevated part adorned with carpets, on which we sat. Here the daylight passed away, and the night came on in the midst of chat and smoking; and pipes as well as politics made us forget for a moment that Kalafat was a camp, on the attack of which was bent a powerful enemy, and where, within a week or less, a fierce engagement and sanguinary contest might take place. The evening gun had warned the troops that the camp was closed, when an excellent dinner was produced and heartily partaken of. One closing sight, it seemed, that I was destined to be greeted with—namely, a night inspection of the troops within the barracks. Preceded by a lantern, we left the hospitable roof of our host, and marched amidst the snow until we came in sight of a sentry. No call was made, and none of the precautions in use in garrisons appeared to be in practice. The soldier presented arms, and we dived into a passage similar to that above described. But the sight within was curious. Standing up in double rank within this subterranean room were about 200 men all under arms. In front of them were soldiers who held aloft long candles, whose vacillating light brought sparks at times from the barrels of

BARRACK TENTS AND REDOUBT, KALAFAT.

untouched, that are to serve as party walls. A sloping way is made into the hole when it attains a depth of about seven feet. A pole is placed along the length of the aperture on the upper level. Other poles are thrown across, which form a roof. Mats are set upon the poles, and

ARRIVAL AT KALAFAT OF THE WOUNDED FROM CITATE.

the muskets, and dimly showed the forms and olive faces of the men, as they went through the manual exercise. The dimness of the light, the smoke of the candles, and the hoarse call of the drill-sergeants, together with the clank of the sabre of the commanding officer, gave the scene the aspect of a meeting of military conspirators. This dark and hidden drilling and manœuvring in the night is a thing unlearnt or untold in books, as far, at least, as the unmilitary are concerned. It must be owned, however, that the scene was calculated to give a high idea of the cleanliness and discipline of the Turkish soldiers, who went through their exercise with great precision and spirit, and with a determination in their eye which one does not meet with in the drowsy-looking soldier of Austria, or even in our own military barracks.

Sleeping on mats promotes early rising, and the morning gun had hardly shaken with its loud report the walls of our dwelling and aroused the echoes of the hills, before we were on horseback and riding through the works. The village of Kalafat is on the side of the Danube, on a declivity sloping to the bank. The ground upon its sides, as well as in its rear, is hilly, and there the Turks have made their lines. Kalafat is the central point, and in front of it is a long intrenchment. This intrenchment is a ditch and parapet, which, in its course, forms salient angles in front of the enemy, the apex being broken and divided, like the cone of a volcano, by way of giving a flanking defence. The ditch and parapet abut on the right and left upon the Danube, and are defended by forts which line the *enceinte continue*. A second and interior line of forts likewise defends the works and commands the ground in front of the intrenchments. The bridge upon the island is defended also by a work, and the island itself is fortified. It must be remembered that the relative positions of Kalafat and Widdin are incorrect in all the maps, which gene. ally place the two as fronting each other on separate banks of the Danube. Kalafat, in reality, is a mile higher up the river than Widdin. Such, in general terms, is the present position of the Turks. In this intrenchment, which is amply provided with guns and ammunition, a portion only of the Turkish force at present remains, a part being in the villages which form the outposts, and the names of which have already been sent you. Here there have been some slight engagements, and hand-to-hand conflicts of little consequence. The Russians, who were marching out of Krajova, as my last letter informed you, are now at Radowan, Protura, and Karaul. Their numbers are uncertain. It is probable that they left Krajova, which is a town of about 70,000 souls, to make room for a body of 25,000 men, which, we are positively assured, left Bucharest on the 15th of last month. The distance by the road to Krajova is twelve posts of four hours each. It is impossible for troops to march more than one post per diem, one post being about six or seven hours' walk. The vanguard of this force may thus have reached Krajova on the 27th ult., and the rear about the 3rd inst. Under these circumstances, the Turks expect an attack, if not immediately, at least shortly. Three Russian battalions, which were at Czernetz, near Orsova, and which form a body of nearly 3000 men, have advanced to Citate, within five hours' march of Kalafat. Deceived by wrong information, the Turks, on the 1st inst., sent out a squadron of cavalry, which drove off a small number of Cossacks that were with the Russian infantry: but the latter had intrenched themselves with four guns, and the Turks retired with the loss of one man and a horse only. The Russians fired no less than eighty-five rounds, and their cannonade was heard during the day at Widdin, but what they fired at is uncertain, as the only Turk who was killed was shot by a Cossack. The force at Citate is part Russian and part forced Wallach levies. The Danube is still pouring down its ice-fields, but the weather since yesterday is milder, and the floes are smaller. The Danube will probably, therefore, not freeze upon its lower course this year.

P.S. The forces in Little Wallachia which are opposed to the Turks are commanded by General Fisbach, who has under him, it is said, Generals Engelhardt and Bellegarde. General Prince Vasilitchkoff commands the cavalry. Nothing lately has been heard of Osten Sacken's reserve corps, but it is improbable that Bucharest could be *départé* of 25,000 men, unless these troops had already arrived to fill up the gap. The corps of Osten Sacken is stated here to be composed of 40,000 men; that of Lüders, already in the Principalities, at 30,000—a portion of it, to the amount of 10,000 men, having been detached, it is supposed, to the Caucasus. With the remaining army corps, which first entered under Gortschakoff, the total of Russian force in the Principalities would thus be 110,000 to 120 000 men. But a considerable reduction must be made for sick, which are in its proportion of 20 to 25 per cent, and for small detachments, left here and there in Bessarabia, and other places where a feeling not exactly favorable to Russia has shown itself. The available force of the Russians in the Principalities, at present, may thus be calculated at 75,000 men, of which it is possible that at this moment there may be 30,000 in Little Wallachia.

The Turkish force has been strengthened since my last by 3000 men, from Lom, a small fortress below Widdin, on the Danube. The reserves are still on their way between Sofia and this point. The Russian force at Citate is now entrenched with eight guns. It seems a strange war, in which the invader intrenches himself to attack the invaded. In a case like the present, where the invading forces march forward, it is generally supposed that the opposite outposts fall back, in order that the whole of the disposable troops may be available in the trenches.

Jan. 7.

Before daybreak on the morning of yesterday a column of 10,000 men, consisting of Turkish regulars and chasseurs, under the command of Achmet Pacha and Ismail Pacha, 4000 cavalry under the orders of Mustapha Pacha, and 1000 Bashi-bozouks, or irregular cavalry, under Skender Bey, and fifteen guns, moved out of the intrenchments of Kalafat, taking the road which leads through Roman, Golontza Purkuri, Moglavit, Gunia, and Funtura, to Citate. At the same time, in order not to leave the intrenchment of Kalafat too bare of troops, 3000 men had crossed before daybreak from Widdin to the opposite side of the Danube. The Turkish force, under Achmet Pacha, reached Citate at about nine, and immediately attacked the village, which was held by 3000 Russian infantry and some cavalry, who were fortified in the streets with four guns. The village thus occupied by the Russians, and attacked by the Turks, is situated on a declivity, and surrounded almost by trees. Behind, and on the height, was a regular intrenchment, into which the enemy might retire if the village were forced. The Turks boldly attacked the village, which, after they had entered it, and been twice repulsed, they successfully carried, driving the Russian infantry into the trenches behind. Three hours were expended in the struggle, and a vigorous cannonade was commenced against the intrenchment. This second engagement had scarcely commenced, however, when a reinforcement from Karaul was discovered to be approaching to the rescue of the Russians. This reinforcement, which is variously stated at from 5000 to 10 000 men, had marched from Karaul, along the road which intersects the way between Kalafat and Citate at Funtina. It came up at a little after noon, but was not permitted to do much in favour of those who it came to relieve. Whilst the attack on the intrenchment was maintained, and the diminished force within it kept fully occupied, the reinforcement was attacked by the Turks, and, after an hour's combat, completely put to flight, leaving upwards of 250 men upon the field; the ground remaining strewed with muskets, which were dropped loaded on the ground, and meal, which forms the food of the Russian soldier. The intrenchment was then attacked with renewed vigour by the Turks, and carried, with the loss to the Russians of 2000 men, four guns, and a considerable quantity of ammunition and provisions. At half past three the forces of the Sultan were masters of the field, and the main body were distributed in the villages for the night. Ismail Pacha, Tefik Bey, Ali Bey, and Skender Bey, are noted as having gallantly conducted themselves. Ismail Pacha had two horses killed under him, and a bullet cut some curious figures upon his left arm. The loss of the Turks in killed and wounded I am unable to state at present. A few of the latter came into Kalafat about three o'clock in the afternoon. The day had been a splendid one. A change having taken place in the weather, it had rained in the night, and the sun rose splendidly upon a cloudless sky, shining all day with a warmth quite oppressive after so much cold, and laying bare for the first time to view the noble mountains that skirt the Danube below Widdin. It was really a noble sight to see these poor fellows, wounded as they were, make their way still upright on their horses to the landing-place. One poor fellow, a Bashi-bozouk, of about fifty, was lifted off his horse, in presence of Sami Pacha—who was present, and indefatigable in his exertions—and showed three bullet wounds. His shoulder had been shot through, as well as one of his arms, in two places; yet he had ridden from the field, and did not even faint as he was taken off his horse. Other more serious cases soon came up, the poor fellows being stretched on sledges, drawn by bullocks to the landing. Many of them had with them trophies from the field, such as Cossack lances, muskets still loaded, and swords.

The consequences of this victory, at the present juncture, it is not possible for me to appreciate fully; but they cannot but have considerable effect upon the course of pending negotiations.

Jan. 9.

The battle of Citate (and not Citale, as erroneously stated in the first account), is a remarkable instance of bravery displayed without any positive aim in view; and a proof, if any were required, that the Turks are quite equal to cope with a superior enemy in an open field. One great point is clear from the engagement, namely, that the less disciplined courage of the Turks, and the passive and low-spirited steadiness of the Russians, are not what in mechanics are called "two forces exactly equal and opposite." It is necessary for the full comprehension of this encounter that it should be related in some detail; and the facts which I sent you in the first flush of victory, although they may require some slight alteration, will be found to have been correct.

It was on Christmas morning (old style), and at the moment when the Russians and the Christian population of the Principalities, were preparing for a solemn religious festival, that ten battalions of Turkish infantry, partly regiments of the line, and partly *chasseurs*, left the intrenchments of Kalafat, and took the road to Citate. They were accompanied by four regiments of cavalry, under the command of Mustapha Pacha, Ferik, having under him Skender Bey, and 500 or 600 Bashi-bozouks, or irregular cavalry. Two batteries of six guns accompanied the infantry. Two battalions of light field-pieces followed the cavalry, and there were, beside, two howitzers. The road from Kalafat is a continuous ascent, and rises with various gradients to the summit of the hill, on the side of which is Citate. That village itself is a long and straggling one, consisting of a main street of a mile and a half in length, with a church in the centre, and various streets intersecting it. At the lower end of the main street, which was occupied by 3000 men, supported by some cavalry, the Russians had erected a battery; and at the upper end, a distance of two miles, they occupied a large redoubt with 1000 men and four guns. An inland lake, formed by the Danube, which skirts the village on the left, prevented any approach from that side

The Turks, having left a battalion and a squadron of irregulars at Moglavitz, and a similar force at Gunia, to keep their communication open with Kalafat, appeared before Citate at seven in the morning; attacked the battery which defended the lower end of the street, with five battalions; whilst the cavalry made a circuit to the right, to cut off the retreat of the enemy. Achmet Pacha remained a little in the right with a reserve of three battalions and some cavalry, holding a good position on a hill that slopes down to a road leading from Resptsch to Citate. Ismail Pacha, who commanded the infantry against the village, and Tefik Bey, at the head of his regiment of Chasseurs, entered the main street after the Russians had been dislodged from their battery. The latter, however, had recovered by this time from their surprise; and, although many of the men, and even some of the officers, were fighting without their pantaloons, and others without their jackets, they disputed every inch of the ground. The description which I have given you of Kalafat, with its underground style of houses, and mass of maize ricks, will give you also an idea of what is Citate. Concealed in these houses, in holes and corners, and behind the haycricks, they kept up a galling fire, whilst their artillery played down the street. The Turks, however, steadily advanced, and a dreadful *mêlée* soon commenced, the order of the Turkish battalions was broken; every man seemed to fight for himself, and on they went pell-mell, driving back the Russians, who gradually retired and concentrated their shattered force behind the church. At that moment the cavalry, which had moved to the right, commenced firing from a cross street that led direct to the church, with a battery of field-pieces. The Russians finding the place too hot for them, retired further along the main street; and the troops, under Ismail Pacha, continuing their onward course, the same system of defence amidst house and haycrick, was pursued by the enemy. A body of Bashi-bozouks kept charging in the cross streets, and killed a number of men. The battery which had been playing on the church being no longer useful, as the Russians were dislodged, four guns were moved on the right of the village, and directed against the intrenchment which the cavalry entered, and with its guns, held for a time. A battalion of infantry at this point would have enabled them to hold the position, and to destroy the Russians; but the latter, now hard pushed in the main street, cleared the intrenchment of the Turkish cavalry, and then commenced a galling fire of grape and shells, under which the Turks suffered considerably. It was at this moment, when the Ottomans were struggling against an intrenchment, where the Russians had the advantage of commanding the whole of the ground below it, that a Russian reinforcement of three regiments—one the regiment of Odessa, it is said, 3000 strong, and two of the 10th division, 6000 strong—together with 600 cavalry and nine guns, made its appearance on the road which leads from Resptsch to Citate, where, as has been previously stated, stood Achmet Pacha with the reserve. This reserve, meanwhile, had been reinforced by the two battalions from Gunia and Moglavitz. Three battalions were in front, supported by cavalry and a battery at each side, and two battalions remained in the rear, forming a reserve. The position of the Turks was thus critical to an extreme degree; the intrenchment keeping up a tremendous fire, whilst the Russian reinforcement threatened them on the other side. On came the fresh troops to the assault, at first by an attack of cavalry; whilst the Russian and Turkish but exiles exchanged fire. The Cossacks did but little however, and were put immediately to flight, with considerable loss. The Russian infantry then rushed on to the attack, in column; but, seeing some of the guns of the Turks dismounted, and in the act of being removed, they charged in battalions. The Turks, however, so far from having any intention of retiring, met the Russians, and repulsed them, and in a short time the whole of the latter were to be seen flying in every direction, strewing the field with dead, leaving two guns behind them, 700 muskets, and numbers of carts with provisions and ammunition.

The village of Citate had been completely carried at the same time that the troops under Achmet Pacha obtained this victory; but there remained still the intrenchment to take. The Turks, however, feared lest additional reinforcements might come up and cut off their communication with Kalafat. They retired, leaving two guns behind them, which they lost in the retreat of their cavalry from the intrenchment. The Russian provisions and ammunition, which they strewed about, from inability to carry it; and the muskets, of which they broke the locks on the field, to render them useless. Most of the troops bivouacked in the villages between Citate and Kalafat; and at noon, on the 7th, the Turks had returned to their trenches: the Russians, on their side, merely stopping in Citate to bury their dead and carry away what remained fit to remove of their provisions and ammunition. Military men, more skilled in their profession than the Turks, will find much to blame in the proceedings of the day; and doubtless the Ottoman General did not show on this occasion any considerable skill as regards purpose or plan; but the fact still remains a great and glorious one for Achmet Pacha and his troops, that they forced double their number of Russians in an open field, and reduced them to an ignominious flight.

It is a curious circumstance, and one which leads to considerable reflection, that two prisoners only are the result of this engagement. And from the well-known habit of the Turkish irregulars not to spare a living enemy, it is to be feared that many men were massacred in cold blood after they had surrendered. The loss of the Russians in killed is estimated at 1000, and 2000 wounded; that of the Turks is 400 killed, and 700 wounded.

[Sami Pacha, the present Governor of Widdin (whose portrait we have Engraved from our Correspondent's Sketch), is well known in the circles of London and Paris as a man of refined courtesy and gentlemanly bearing, who, having been long the right hand man of Mohammed Ali, is now (Redschid Pacha always excepted) one of the shiest of the Turkish statesmen. The administration of the Pachalic of Widdin is no common task even in the most tranquil times. The Pacha requires to be perfectly informed of what is passing among the Bulgarians, and to act accordingly. He must also be an experienced and punctual man of business, so as to deal with the multifarious military and civil persons crowded here, and manipulate the vast *materiel* converging to this base of communication. In these respects the ability of Sami Pacha is not to be disputed. Sami Pacha was recently described as wearing in divan a sable pelisse of that gorgeous old Oriental amplitude which, in the eyes of the Ulema, is of much more pleasing than the starved scanty Frank cut introduced by Sultan Mahmoud, and so much more suitable to the environs of the Danube and the Balkan. Ismail Pacha was present, a Turk of the old school, but looking what he is every inch of him, a fearless captain.]

WARLIKE INDICATIONS.

THE war-steamer *Banshee* arrived at Lisbon, on the 17th, with despatches for the British Admiral, and immediately afterwards the British squadron was under orders for sea. The destination of Admiral Corry's squadron was unknown.

THE seamen belonging to the *Theseus* were "paid down" on Monday, when they were informed that they shall have their pay and six weeks' leave of absence; and, on their return, if matters wear a peaceful aspect, they will be paid off. Before the seamen left, "all hands" were piped on the quarter deck. In a few minutes Admiral Dundas appeared, and thus addressed the assembled crew:—"My men, I have come down, by request of the Board of Admiralty, to make known to you that we are on the eve of a war, and that war with Russia. My object, therefore, in addressing you is to assure you, by order of their Lordships, is to prepare you for such event; and I am sure you will receive this announcement as becomes Englishmen and British sailors. It is my duty to inform you that the country cannot dispense with your services, however hard it may appear after your having been away for so long a period; yet, the exigencies of the service must be paramount to all other considerations. Instead, therefore, of your being paid off, you will at be paid down. You shall have a few weeks' run, after which I feel assured that you will act as British seamen ever have done in defence of their country. I trust you will receive this communication in the right and proper light, and I make this known to you thus early to prevent any feelings of disappointment. I have earnestly to hope that the evil may yet pass away, but we must be prepared for any and every emergency. 'Pipe down.'"

THE PEACE SOCIETY AND THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.—The *Times* states that a deputation from the Peace Society has just left England for St. Petersburg, to endeavour to induce the Czar to come to an amicable with Turkey. The deputation consists of Mr. Henry Pease, of Darlington; Mr. Joseph Sturge, of Birmingham; and a gentleman from Bristol. The secretary of the Peace Society states that the gentlemen named have gone as a deputation from the Society of Friends.

CABINET COUNCIL.—A Cabinet Council was held at the Foreign Office, Downing street, on Tuesday afternoon. The Ministers present were the Earl of Aberdeen, Lord John Russell, the Lord Chancellor, Earl Granville, the Duke of Argyll, Viscount Palmerston, the Earl of Clarendon, the Duke of Newcastle, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir James Graham, Sir Charles Wood, the Right Hon. Sidney Herbert, and Sir Wm. Molesworth. The Council sat four hours. A second Council was held on Thursday, and a third yesterday (Friday).

ATTENDANCE OF COUNSEL IN CHANCERY.—A very useful arrangement has been come to among her Majesty's counsel, attending the various branches of the Court of Chancery, by which much loss of time will be avoided. Hitherto, many of the gentlemen within the bar have practised in more than one of the inferior courts, and, in some instances, in more than two. Now, however, they have agreed that they will divide themselves into four bodies, to supply a distinct inner bar for the Rolls' Court and the three Courts of the Vice-Chancellors. The effect of this will be obviously very advantageous to the suitors of the Court of Chancery, for the difficulty and delay constantly arising in the hearing of causes from counsel being called on, in consequence of the absence of counsel, had become oppressive. Now, however, the only claim upon the attention of Queen's counsel, away from their several courts, will be the duty of attending before the Lord Chancellor or Lords Justices, on appeals from the interior branches of the Court. The choice among the assigned counsel is understood to be as follows:—Before the Master of the Rolls: Messrs. Bethell, Roupell, Rolt, Kindersley, and Follett. Before Vice-Chancellor Kindersley:—Messrs. Swanston, Cooper, Teed, Campbell, Bailey, and Glasse. Before Vice Chancellor Stuart: Messrs. Walker, Wigram, Bacon, Hall, Craig, and Craig; and before Vice-Chancellor Wood. Messrs. Rolt, Chandless, Willcock, Daniel, and W. M. James. Messrs Lee, Temple, J. Russell, Read an, and Anderson are understood not to have yet made their election of particular courts.

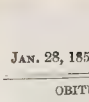
LONDON ORPHAN ASYLUM.—The annual court of this institution, founded in 1813, for the reception, maintenance, and education of destitute orphans, particularly those descended from respectable parents, was held at the London Tavern on Monday. From the report of the board of management, for the year ending the 31st of December, 1853, it appears that there were then 398 children in the asylum, and that it was intended to elect thirty children by ballot, making the whole number of inmates 428. The total number of children admitted since 1813 was 2111, of whom upwards of 1600 completed their course of education, and were afterwards capable of obtaining an honourable livelihood. The total receipts of the charity from all sources during the past year amounted to £11,328 17s. 1d. The expenditure during the same period exceeded that of 1852, in consequence of the high price of provisions, and amounted to £11 340 9s. 6d., leaving due to the treasurer £301 2s. 8d. The average charge for each child for the year was £28 9s. 7d. The legacies received during the past year amounted to £1872. The report was adopted, and the Earl of Harrowby was elected one of the vice-presidents. In the course of the day thirty children were admitted to the institution by ballot.

ESCAPE OF TWO CONVICTED PRISONERS.—Thomas Richardson and John Clark, two convicted prisoners, contrived to escape from the prison-van on Penge Common, on a very singular manner, on Tuesday. Both prisoners were tried at the December sessions for Surrey, and convicted for robberies with violence. Richardson was sentenced to six years' and Clark to two years' penal servitude. The two prisoners so convicted are employed in the prison, chiefly in cutting wood, and tying it up in bundles for sale among the shopkeepers. At present the van, which the turnkeys were about to start for the London prison, was covered over with mats, the rear of the latter being open, and secured in making their escape. They had by some means contrived to make a hole with pieces of spunyarn and wood. A turnkey, one was placed in each end, and Brown over the van, where it was attached to the coach-box. The prisoners have been conducted, for the purpose, to their work. They were four in van, and

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

THE HON. ROBERT HENRY CLIVE, M.P.

THE death of this gentleman, M.P. for South Shropshire, a Lieut.-Colonel in the army, and Colonel of the Worcestershire Yeomanry, occurred on the 20th inst. He was second son of Edward, 1st Earl of Powis, and grandson of the renowned military commander, Robert, Lord Clive. Through his mother, Henrietta Antonia, daughter of Henry Arthur Earl Powis, Colonel Clive descended from the Herberts, the former inheritors of that illustrious title.

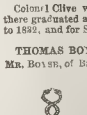


He was born 15th January, 1789, and married, 19th June, 1818, Lady Harriet Windsor, daughter of Other Hickman, 5th Earl of Plymouth, and by her Ladyship (who is co-heir of the Barony of Windsor) has left three sons and three surviving daughters. Of the former, the eldest, Robert Clive, Esq., M.P., is married to Lady Mary Sarah Louisa Bridgeman, daughter of the Earl of Bradford.

Colonel Clive was educated at St. John's College, Cambridge, and there graduated as LL.D. He sat in Parliament for Ludlow from 1818 to 1832, and for South Shropshire since the latter year.

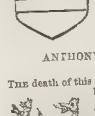
THOMAS BOYSE, ESQ., OF BANNOW, COUNTY WEXFORD.

MR. BOYSE, of Bannow, died at Roebuck House, on the 14th inst., aged seventy-two. He was eldest son of the late Samuel Boyse, Esq., of Bannow, by Dorothy, his wife, daughter of Robert Shapland Carew, Esq., of Castleborough, county Wexford. His next brother, Lieutenant-Colonel Shapland Boyse, C.B., commanded the 13th Light Dragoons at Waterloo. Mr. Boyse, although of late years he took no very prominent part in politics, was, at all times, a firm advocate of Liberal opinions, and of just Government for Ireland. Of Thomas Moore he was one of the most cherished personal friends; and the poet's visit to Bannow, with the popular rejoicings it occasioned, formed an interesting and well-remembered incident in the bard's life. Several members of the Boyse family represented Bannow in the Irish Parliament.



ANTHONY GEORGE WRIGHT BIDDULPH, ESQ., OF BURTON PARK, SUSSEX.

THE death of this country gentleman, the representative of the great house of Biddulph of Biddulph, and formerly one of the co-heirs of the barony of Camoys, occurred at Tunbridge-wells on the 14th inst., after a long protracted illness.



Mr. Wright Biddulph (brother of Mr. John Wright, the banker) was eldest son of Anthony Wright, Esq., by Lucy, his wife, daughter of Edmund Plowden, Esq., and grandson of Anthony Wright, Esq., of Wealside, Essex, by Anne, his wife, daughter and co-heir of John Biddulph, Esq., of Biddulph and Burton, whose mother, Anne, daughter and heir of Sir Henry Goring, Bart., of Burton, was lineally descended from Margaret, sister and co-heir of Hugh, Lord Camoys.

"The Biddulphs do derive themselves," says Erdeswick, "from one Ormus le Guidon, son of Ricardus Forestarius, of Norman race, who held, as appears by Domesday-book, ten Lordships in Staffordshire, which were conferred on him in reward of his services."

The chief line of the Biddulphs was that represented by Mr. Wright Biddulph, of the younger branches the principal are the Biddulphs of Birdingbury, Baroness, the Biddulphs of Ledbury, and Chirk Castle, &c.

The gentleman whose death we record succeeded to the family estates at the decease, unmarried, of his kinsman, the late John Biddulph, Esq., of Biddulph, 2nd August, 1835; and assumed, in consequence, the additional surname and arms of Biddulph. He was born 23rd April, 1785, and married, 15th January, 1827, Catherine Dorothy, eldest daughter of the Rt. S. T. Scrope, Esq., of Danby, by whom he leaves, besides daughters, a son—Anthony John, now of Burton-park.

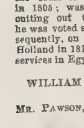
WILLIAM RICKFORD, ESQ., LATE M.P. FOR AYLESBURY.

THIS venerable gentleman died on the 14th inst., at his house, in Green-end, Aylesbury, aged eighty-five. He was a magistrate and deputy lieutenant for the county of Bucks, and represented the borough of Aylesbury in eight successive Parliaments—from 1818 to the close of the session of 1841—when he retired.

He was born Nov. 30, 1768, the only son of the late William Rickford, Esq.; and married, Sept. 28, 1791, Mary Vanderheim, by whom he leaves an only surviving daughter, Harriet, wife of Sir Astley Paston Cooper, Bart., of Gadesbridge Park, Herts.

COLONEL MURTON

COLONEL MURTON, who died on the 6th inst., at Brompton, served in the North Sea and Helder expedition, in 1799; in the Egyptian expedition, in the East Indies, in 1801; and in the West Indies in 1804. He was engaged on the coast of France, and with the enemy's flotilla and batteries, in 1805; was in the Mediterranean in 1806; and took part in cutting out the enemy's vessels from under batteries, for which he was voted a sword from the Patriotic Fund in 1809. He served, subsequently, on the coast of Spain, along the Guerillas; and was in Holland in 1813. He had a medal, as well as a silver war medal for services in Egypt.



WILLIAM PAWSON, ESQ., OF SHAWDON, NORTHUMBERLAND.

MR. PAWSON, who died at Edinburgh, on the 5th instant, deeply lamented, entered the Royal Navy at the time of action of Camperdown as midshipman, on board *The Venerable*. Flag-ship of Admiral Duncan, and subsequently served in her, under his uncle, Admiral Sir George Fairfax. He continued to be actively employed until the peace of 1815, in the Channel, Mediterranean, and West Indian Squadrons; serving in the *Courageux*, *Chesapeake*, and other ships. He was wrecked on the coast of Holland, during the French occupation of that country, and was detained, a prisoner of war, until exchanged into the *Desirée* frigate, and sent home, as acting Prize Master, in a vessel she had taken. On the passage across to Yarmouth, the prisoners attempted to recapture the ship, when Mr. Pawson, by his energetic measures, and with his small crew of a single midshipman and six seamen, succeeded in subduing the outbreak, and brought the prize safe into port.

The Pawsons, a family of great antiquity in Yorkshire, are first mentioned in the reign of Henry IV., anno 1403.

The gallant officer, the subject of this notice, was born in May, 1780, and married, in 1817, Mary-Anne, daughter of the Rev. R. Trotter, of Morpeth, by whom he leaves a son and heir, William John Pawson, Esq., now of Shawdon. In the year of his marriage (1817) Mr. Pawson, by the death of his brother, George Pawson Hargrave, Esq., became possessed of the Shawdon estates; and in 1826, served as High Sheriff of Northumberland.

WILLS.—The late Mrs. Frances Dorothy Hoare, widow of the banker, died possessed of £80,000 stock and effects held to the National school at Dagnall, £500, to the Lying-in and Lock-up Dispensary, £200; and to the Blind Asylum, Exeter, £500, all to be paid by her sole executrix Mrs. Frances Campbell, who is beneficially interested under the will.——The following wills and codicils have also been admitted to proof:—The late Mrs. Louisa Selina Culling Smith, sister of Sir Culling Eardley Smith, has left personal property amounting to £25,000. Mr. John Constable, of Balham-hill, wholesale druggist, personal estate valued at £30,000, which he has bequeathed amongst his family.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

RICARDO.—I No; certainly not. Such a collection, if made at all, must be made by the proprietor of the paper to whom the games, &c., belong. 2 What do you imply by a "substitute"? The challenge was open to any one without exception. 3. The Problem shall have attention.

W. C. S.—They will probably be so published, but we cannot say when. 2 The "Simpleton Chess Man," if we mistake not, may now be procured from Lee or ten guineas the set.

3. Yes: the first edition is very faulty, owing to the haste with which it was brought out.

SIGMA.—Your Problem admits of an easy solution in four moves.

R. D. M.—The game shall be examined. As to the solution, that is palpable failure.

P. F., of Manchester.—Imperious, though somewhat too easy. Tureen.

SENIOR A.—Play shall be reported on next week.

NO NOTICE OF PROBLEM No. 516, by Ernest, Coton, Jack of Worcester, J. K. B., F. R., of B., are correct.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 518.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. K B to K B 5th	Q takes B, or (a)	3. Kt to K 6th (double ch)	K moves
2. Kt to Q B 5th (ch)	K takes B	4. Q to Q 4 (ch)	R takes Q
		5. Kt to Q B 5th	Mate

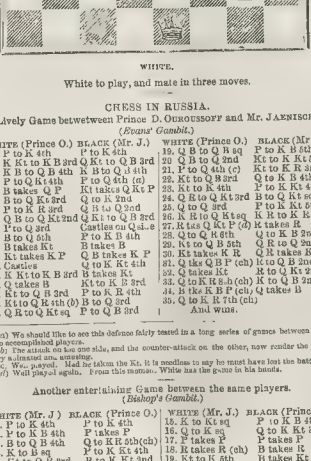
(a) 1 K to K B 5th (ch) K takes B 2. Kt to Q 4th (ch) K to his 3rd 3. P to K B 5th (ch) K to his 2nd

4. Kt to Q B 3rd (ch) K moves
5. Q takes Q—Mate

PROBLEM No. 519.

This beautiful little stratagem is the invention of Mr. W. GRIMSHAW.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in three moves.

CHESS IN RUSSIA.

Lively Game betwetween Prince D. OUROUSSOFF and Mr. JAENISCH.

(Evans' Gambit.)

WHITE (Prince O.)	BLACK (Mr. J.)	WHITE (Prince O.)	BLACK (Mr J.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	19. Q B to Q B sq	P to K B 5th
2. K Kt to K B 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	20. Q B to Q 2nd	Kt to K Kt 5th
3. K B to Q B 4th	B to Q 3 4th	21. P to Q 4th (c)	Kt to K R 3rd
4. P to Q Kt 4th	P to Q 4th (c)	22. Kt to Q B 3rd	Q to K B 4th
5. B takes Q P	Kt takes Q Kt P	23. Kt to K 4th	P to K Kt 4th
6. B to Q Kt 3rd	Q to K 2nd	24. Q R to Q Kt 3rd	B to Q Kt sq
7. P to K R 3rd	B to Q 2nd	25. Q to Q 3rd	P to K Kt 5th
8. Q B to Q Kt 2nd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	26. K R to Q Kt sq	K R to K R 2nd
9. P to Q 3rd	Castles on Q side	27. K to Q R P (d)	K takes R
10. B to Q 6th	P to K B 4th	28. Q to Q R 6th	Q to K B 2nd
11. B takes Kt	B takes B	29. Kt to Q B 5th	Q R to Q 2nd
12. Kt takes K P	Q B takes K P	30. Kt takes K P	Q R takes Kt
13. Castles	Q to K Kt 4th	31. Q takes Q B P (ch)	K to Q B 2nd
14. K Kt to K B 3rd	B takes Kt	32. Q takes Kt	R to Q Kt 2nd
15. Q takes B	Kt to K B 3rd	33. Q to K R 8th (ch)	K to Q B 2nd
16. Q Kt to Q B 3rd	P to K R 4th	34. B the K B P (ch)	Q takes B
17. Kt to Q R 4th (b)	B to Q 3rd	35. Q to K R 7th (ch)	And wins.
18. Q R to Q Kt sq	P to Q B 3rd		

(a) We should like to see this defence fairly tested in a long series of games between these two accomplished players.

(b) The attack on his own side, and the counter-attack on the other, now render the game very animated and amusing.

(c) Well played. Had he taken the Kt, it is needless to say he must have lost the battle.

(d) Well played again. From this moment White has the game in his hands.

Another entertaining Game between the same players.

(Bishop's Gambit.)

WHITE (Mr. J.)	BLACK (Prince O.)	WHITE (Mr. J.)	BLACK (Prince O.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	15. K to K sq	Q to K 4th
2. P to K B 4th	P takes P	16. Q to K sq	Q to K Kt 3rd
3. B to Q B 4th	Q to K R 5th (ch)	17. P takes P	P takes P
4. K to B sq	P to K Kt 4th	18. R takes R (ch)	B takes R
5. Kt to Q B 3rd	B to K Kt 2nd	19. Kt to K 4th	B takes Kt
6. P to Q 4th	P to Q 3rd	20. Q takes B	B to Q 2nd
7. Kt to K B 3rd	Q to K R 4th	21. B to Q 2nd	Kt to Q B 3rd
8. P to K 5th	P takes P	22. Q to R 8th (ch)	B to K sq
9. Q Kt to Q 5th	P to K Kt 5th (a)	23. Kt to R sq	Kt to K 2nd
10. Q to K sq	K to Q sq	24. P to K 6th	Q to K R 4th
11. Q takes K P	Q Kt to Q B 3rd (b)	25. Q to K B 6th	Q to K R 2nd
12. P to Q B 3rd	K Kt to K 2nd	26. Q takes K Kt P	Q to K B 2nd (c)
13. Kt takes K t	Kt takes Kt	27. Q to Q 6th (ch)	P takes K
14. P to K R 4th	P to K R 3rd	28. B takes Q and wins.	

(a) This, according to Mr. Jaenisch (who, probably knows the Bishop's Gambit in all its multitudinous varieties better than any player living), is a better move of defence than the generally accepted one of K to Q sq. See the admirable articles on the subject by this distinguished player in the *Chess Player's Chronicle* of last year.

(b) In case, for P to Q B 3rd, followed, after the retirement of White's Kt, by Kt to K 2nd, &c.

(c) An overnight, we presume; but his game was irretrievably gone, play what he could.

CHESS ENIGMAS.

No. 889. *Schachzeitung.*

White: K at Q 3rd, R at K Kt 8th, B at Q 4th, Kt at K B 3rd.
Black: K at Q 4th, P at Q 2nd.
White to play, and mate in four moves.

No. 890.—By P. M.

White: K at K R 3rd, Q at K Kt 6th, Bs at K 4th and Q B sq, Kts at Q 5th and Q Kt 7th, P at K B 3rd.
Black: K at Q 5th, Q at Q R 7th, R at Q R sq, B at Q Kt sq; Ps at K 6th, Q Kt 5th, and Q R 4th.
White to play and mate in four moves.

A NEW CART.—A Lyons journal states that a new plan of building carts and other vehicles has been discovered, by which a horse can be made to draw a load one-half heavier than by carts as at present constructed. The new vehicle has four wheels, and when the horse is harnessed the foremost pair come to about the middle of his body. The weight is thrown on the axles, and the vehicle is constructed in such a way that part of it covers the horse up to the neck.

A DEVOUT QUEEN.—As Queen Maria Christina was passing along the Calle de Atocha, says a Madrid paper, she met a priest carrying the sacrament to a poor sick man. Her Majesty immediately got out of her carriage, made the priest enter it, and followed the vehicle, with a wax candle in her hand, through the dirty streets to the sick man's residence; after which she proceeded on foot to the parish church.

LAWYERS IN GERMANY.—The *Weimar Cabinet* warns parents and guardians to discuade their sons and wards from the study of law, if they do not possess private means of subsistence, there being now more than one hundred distinguished graduates in the profession who have not the least prospect of getting a place.

NOVEL MODE OF LIGHTING FLEET-STREET.—A scene of a somewhat novel character occurred opposite the establishment of Messrs. G. W. Lees and Co., Fleet-street, between six and seven o'clock on Monday evening. A waggon-load of coke, belonging to Mr. Thompson, of Crown-street, Soho, ignited into flame; and, but for the timely and valuable assistance of Messrs. G. W. Lees and their assistants, the damage would have been considerable. They readily supplied the men with water in buckets passed from one another, which, happily, extinguished the fire before the arrival of the engines.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

Mr. Bromley, Secretary to the Audit Board, and Mr. Stephenson of the Treasury, are engaged upon a Commission of Inquiry into the present state of the Board of Works and Poor-law Commission Offices in Ireland.

Letters from Brussels state that an immediate advance in the rate of discount is expected to be announced by the National Bank of Belgium. Up to the present time it has been as low as two per cent.

The wife of an Irish farmer, named Farrelly, being ill, sent for her sister to visit her; the latter, on her arrival, found her sister breathing her last. The shock killed her; and both were interred in the same grave on the same day.

The committee of the Royal Free Hospital, at its weekly meeting, elected Mr. Thomas Weedon Cooke, of Upper Berkeley-street, Portman-square, to the post of surgeon in that institution, vacant by the dismissal of Mr. Gay.

On Monday Mr. Besley was elected a Common Councilman for the ward of A detegate; and Mr. Stowman was duly elected in the same capacity for the ward of Bishopsgate.

The Emperor Francis Joseph will leave for Munich in the course of next month, on a short visit to his royal relations there.

Lieutenant-Colonel Vickers, and three other engineer officers, have been ordered by the British Government to attend the British squadron in the Black Sea.

In Birmingham, from the 1st January to the 31st Dec., 1853, there was an increase of 2,784 houses, exclusive of warehouses, manufactories, and multitudes of other buildings, springing up on every side and invading the agricultural precincts of Warwickshire, Worcestershire, and Staffordshire.

Mr. E. T. Smith, of Drury-lane, is about to build a new large theatre on the site of the Shadwell workhouse.

Sir Cusack Roney, the active secretary of the directing committee of the Dublin Exhibition, is on a visit to Brussels.

The East Indian Railway is attracting many native chiefs from the interior to Bombay. Among others, the young Holkar has been there; and a Rajpoot, said to be descended from the Porus of classic story.

Should the Russian Ambassadors in Paris and London be obliged to quit their respective courts, they will retire to the Hague, where they will wait for further orders.

Robert Stephenson, Esq., M.P. for Whitby, has distributed coal-tickets among the poor, through the medium of his committee, to the value of £100.

The betrothal of Prince Friedrich Carl Nicolaus, the son of Prince Carl of Prussia, with Princess Maria Anna of Anhalt, took place on the 15th inst., at the Ducal Palace in Dessau.

The barque *Tancred*, of Liverpool, bound for Smyrna, with a cargo of coals, has been lost off Arklow Head; the captain and all hands saved.

The Californian newspapers, in their announcements of births, add to the sex of the child its weight!

Her Majesty's Commissioners of Emigration require four more ships: two for Victoria, and two for Geelong: one to be ready on the 7th, and the other on the 10th March.

The Missouri Legislature (U.S.) has before it a bill providing that no married man shall be allowed to endorse a note without the consent of his wife, and that no endorsement shall be valid in law without such consent.

The Lords of the Treasury have, for the present, refused the application for establishing bonded warehouses in the Isle of Man.

M. Bardi, engraver to the Grand Duke of Tuscany, and justly celebrated in his art, died at Florence on the 15th, in his 70th year.

At the end of 1852, the tonnage of vessels registered as belonging to the British empire was 34,338,000. To navigate this immense marine, 248,812 men and boys are constantly required.

Philip E. Wodehouse, Esq., formerly of Ceylon, and now Superintendent at Honduras, is to succeed Sir Henry Barkly in the government of British Guiana.

Stephen Rice, Esq., has been appointed Treasurer for Prince Edward Island.

In 1852, 6740 boxes and bags of foreign mails were despatched by the Marseilles line. Indo, Brazil, Peninsular, and Alexandrian packets. In 1853, there were 8851 boxes and bags of mails despatched for those packets, the increase being 1021 bags and boxes.

According to the *Impartial de Smyrne*, the Governor of Smyrna is taking energetic measures to prevent further excesses against the Christians.

Twenty-two shipwrights have given notice for leaving Devonport, Sheerness, and Chatham, for the purpose of joining Mr. Mare's yard at Blackwall, where they are to have 6s. per day, and constant work for three years, being an increase of about 10s. per week.

The *Cologne Gazette* states that the dispute between the Government of Baden and the clergy has been brought to a final and friendly arrangement.

The imports of the precious metals last week were large, amounting to about £375,000 according to one authority, and £540,000 by another, which nearly was what we deliver. The exports were £400,000.

Three Polish Generals have been received into the Turkish service, and have been named Arslan Pacha, Shahin Pacha, and Toufan Pacha. They have accepted these denominations without abjuring the Christian faith.

The following notice has been issued by the Postmaster-General:—Australia. The next mails for New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, and Van Diemen's Land, will be despatched from Southampton by the steamer *Bosphorus* on the 4th proximo.

The fine screw-ship *Colombo*, built by Napier, for the Peninsular and Oriental Company, having received some slight damage to her main shaft, will leave Southampton for the building premises of her constructors in Scotland.

On Tuesday last, the imports of precious metals amounted to £467,326—the *Roxburgh Castle*, from Melbourne, bringing £287,328; and the *Africa*, from America, about £180,000.

The *New York Tribune* announces the receipt of private letters from M. Kossuth, stating his intention of leaving on the 23rd ult., for Constantinople.

Mr. Colquhoun, British Consul-General for Wallachia, has arrived from Bucharest, being recalled from that post at Constantinople.

The late Mr. Peter Cooper, of New York, has left nearly half a million of dollars to found an institution for the diffusion of education.

The Cambridge Town-council are about to petition the House of Commons to adopt stringent measures for the more effectual suppression of electoral corruption.

The celebrated swordsman, Corporal Newton (1st Life Guards), who had exhibited his dexterity before the Queen and Prince Albert, and the Court, was buried at Clewer on Tuesday, with the usual military honours.

The extensive flour-mills at Ballycliough, near Limerick, have been destroyed by fire. They had been insured for £200 only a fortnight before.

Advices from Havannah report that five vessels were fitting out there for the slave-trade. It was also reported that a cargo of slaves had been landed on the coast.

The whole amount of insured property in this country is £900,000,000, while the amount insurable, but not insured, is valued at £270,000,000.

According to the advices from Berlin, the Russian Government are said to have resolved upon an increase of 60,000 men in their paper circulation, to meet the costs of the armaments in progress.

Lord Campbell has decided, in the case of the Queen *v.* the Russel Institution, that a society whose chief feature is a new paper reading-machine is not a society for the cultivation of literature, science, and the arts; and, therefore, not entitled to exemption from rates.

Silvio Pellico, the well-known author of "Le Mie Prigioni," is dangerously ill. Since his liberation in 1830 he has led a retired life, and has not taken any part in politics.

In a lecture delivered at Dudley, last week, Mr. S. H. Blackwell, F.G.S., estimated the present annual production of iron in this country at 3,000,000 tons.

An immense railway club, or hotel, is proposed to be formed at Paris, where travelers will find everything they require.

The Post-office, and the whole of the offices of the *Times*, are arranged with cannel-gas, partied on the premises, under Mr. Leslie's patent. The Post-office is now consuming 125,000 cubic feet less per week than before the alteration.

On the 20th, the Piedmontese Chamber of Deputies passed the bill for repealing the impost duties on corn.

The large landed proprietors of Prussia have presented M. Wagner, ex editor of the *New Prussian Gazette*, with 100,000 thalers (£15,000), to indemnify him for the annoyances to which he had been subjected by his devotedness to their cause.

Twenty-two recruiting parties left the garrison at Woolwich, on Friday and Saturday last, and seventeen additional recruiting parties left on Monday—making a total of thirty-nine recruiting parties sent into the country on three successive week days to enlist young men for that branch of her Majesty's service.

SHOEMAKERS' WORKSHOP.

THE LONDON REFORMATORY INSTITUTION,
GREAT SMITH-STREET, WESTMINSTER.

SOME fourteen years ago the attention of Mr. Nash (now the Governor and Corresponding Secretary of this Institution) was turned to the state of our criminal population; and, after much careful investigation, he concluded that, in numberless instances, the pressure of outward circumstances, rather than the inward evil propensity, led to a violation of the law. His attention was especially directed to those who had been already imprisoned, and whose character and circumstances, imprisonment had rendered trebly wretched. In the great majority of instances, the discharged prisoner is without friends as well as pecuniary resources. If he have friends, they have not sufficient influence to help him forward; or, if they be respectable and influential, they generally feel themselves disgraced by his crimes, and abandon him to their consequences. Thus it is that the discharged prisoner seeks the association of his former wicked companions, and is led on, step by step, in folly and crime. In many instances resolutions of amendment are formed; but the individual can rarely place himself in a position favourable for carrying out such resolutions. His character is lost; and without a respectable recommendation he cannot obtain an honest employment.

Mr. Nash is not one of those theorists who propound schemes of benevolence from the desk or study, and leave the performance of them to the public. His benevolence has more of the practical than the ideal. He could not write and make speeches, while his fellow-men were starving; while their present position was becoming utterly wretched, and their future destiny hopeless and irretrievable. But he determined upon a plan, and he immediately and successfully reduced it to practice, by opening a Reformatory Institution for Adult Male Criminals, in 1846, the first establishment either in this country, or the Continent—the first, in fact, of which we have any notice. The prospect of success, at first, seemed very doubtful. Nash's means were limited, so much so, that he has been obliged to pawn his coat, sometimes his only one, to supply the objects of his benevolence with daily food. Some persons averred that his life was in danger, that the reckless and lawless inmates of his dwelling would first rob, and then assassinate him. But he was alike heedless of the suggestions of the fearful and the sceptical. He brought the criminal into contact with the highest and best moral influences. His little household, for it was at first very limited, soon became enlightened, and in their general deportment gave the most satisfactory evidence that a great moral change was working within them.

We have alluded to the early embarrassment of Mr. Nash, but he "lived by faith." He knew his principle was a good one, and he felt persuaded that in time the Christian public would enable him to develop his plans more fully. Among the earliest supporters of the Institution, we find Lord Ashley (now the Earl of Shaftesbury), Samuel Gurney, Esq; Mrs. Schwabbe, of Manchester; Miss Howell, Rev. D. H. Battersby, M.A.; Mrs. Gladwell, Joseph Payne, Esq.; George Hitchcock, Esq.; the late Mr. Merishaw, Lord de Mauley, the late Lord Bishop of Llandaff, H. R. H. the late Duke of Cambridge, Lieut.-Col Douglas, Ernest Bunsen, Esq.; Lord Bishop of Durham, Right Hon. Fox Maule (now Lord Panmure); Lieut. Brickmore, J. E. Willis, Esq; Earl of Carlisle, Lady Radstock, the Ladies Greville, Lady H Russell, Lord Palmerston, the Bishop of Manchester, Miss Portal, Giles Redmayne, the Earl of Ellesmere, &c

For the first two years after the Institution was founded, it was conducted, without a committee, through many struggles and much privation. However, a committee was formed, with the Earl of Shaftesbury as President. The committee is composed of clergymen of the Church of England, of Dissenting Ministers, and of professional and private gentlemen.

The great aim of the Reformatory is not merely to *reform*, but to *regenerate*. Mr. Nash holds two religious services each day, in which he expounds the Scriptures, dwelling chiefly on the love of God as exhibited in the gift of his Son. On Sundays the inmates attend two services in a public place of worship, in addition to the religious exercises of the Institution. The Sunday-School is also held morning and evening; and kind and pious teachers attend, under the able superintendence of Mr. Taylor.

In addition to the moral and religious training, the inmates are taught printing, shoemaking, tailoring, and carpentering; so that when they leave the Institution they can earn an honest living either at home or abroad. Since the establishment of the Institution there have been, of the inmates—

Sent out as emigrants ..	100
Sent to situations	46
Restored to their friends ..	26
Failed [illegible]	31
[illegible] ..	3
Deceased ..	1
Left [illegible]	75
Now in the institution ..	103
	405

Making a total of 405 redeemed from crime and degradation.

The average applications for admission are about 80 per week, or somewhat more than 4000 per year. The want of funds necessarily obliges Mr. Nash to reject a great many applicants, whom he would otherwise receive.

In every instance the application must be voluntary; and, as a proof of the applicant's sincerity, he undergoes a fortnight's voluntary and solitary confinement in his probation-room, on bread and water. This test insures the sincerity of the applicant, and affords an effectual check to impostures.

Letters are being constantly received from former inmates; and these letters are confirmed in their statements by other unquestionable information. The emigrants speak most gratefully of the Institution and its supporters; many address Mr. Nash as "dear Father;" and express their determination, with God's assistance, to persevere in the right way, and to practise the lessons which they first learned from his lips.

The annual expenses of the Reformatory exceed £2500. The annual cost of each inmate is £15, and of his emigration £10—making a total of £25 per annum.

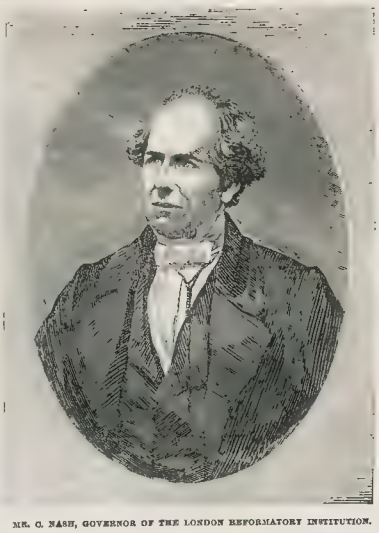
It has been estimated that each criminal, on each conviction, costs the public £63. Therefore, as a pure question of economy in our public expenditure, the Reformatory Institution is entitled to support.

We regret to learn that the Institution is in debt, and appeals to Christian sympathy and help—a call that will, we hope, be liberally responded to.

We may refer our readers to a volume, by the Rev. Samuel Martin, entitled "A Place of Repentance," for a full and interesting account of the origin and progress of the work of reformation so successfully carried out by Mr. Nash.

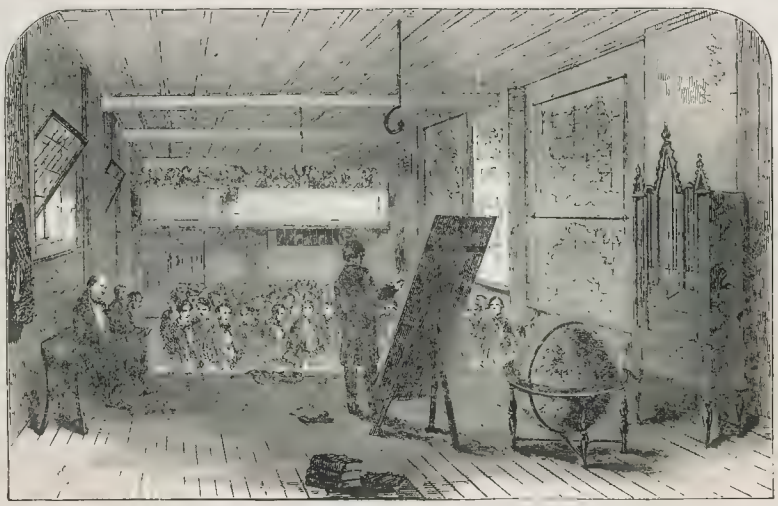
The claims of the Institution are tangible and satisfactory They are based upon the unquestionable success which has hitherto attended its labours. Its supporters can point to its fruits in Australia, America, and England, to demonstrate that much good has already been accomplished—that the lawless and depraved have been won by kindly influences, and moralised and reformed by the Gospel, restored to society, and made useful in their day and generation.

Mr. Charles Nash is a native of Bristol, and is now about forty-two years of age. Some twenty years ago he came to London for the purpose of engaging in commercial pursuits. His attention was early directed to Ragged Schools, and the condition of our criminal population. He became a voluntary teacher at the Ragged School, Justin-street, at a similar institution in the Mint, and in various other parts of the metropolis. He was also for five years a teacher in the Castle-yard Sunday-school, in connection with Surrey Chapel. He next entered the British and Foreign Training School, Borough road, under the able superintendence of Dr. Cornwall. His heart was still with the Ragged Schools; and, on leaving the Borough-road, he was engaged as teacher of the New Pye-street School, supported by Miss Howell. While here, in the very centre of a criminal population, he became deeply impressed with the necessity of making some effort for the reformation of the fallen. You might see him at nine o'clock in the morning with a train of miserable boys and young men whom he had gathered from various quarters on his way to school. He found that he must separate them entirely from their wicked companions, in order to accomplish any good. He accordingly rented a room, and commenced with two boys, who soon increased to [illegible]. Such was the commencement of the present Institution in Smith-street.



MR. C. NASH, GOVERNOR OF THE LONDON REFORMATORY INSTITUTION.

PROBATION-ROOM.



LECTURE ROOM — THE INMATES RECEIVING RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION IN THE GOSPEL HISTORY TAUGHT ACCORDING TO THE MIMPRISS' "GRADUATED SIMULTANEOUS SYSTEM"

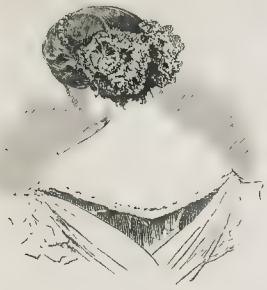
JUVENILE DELINQUENCY.—The annual meeting of the Birmingham Reformatory Institution, established only twelve months ago, was held at the establishment at Saltley on Tuesday, Lord Calthorpe presided, and was supported by Mr. Adderley, M.P.; Captain Stuart, Mr. C. Sturge, Mr. Morgan, and other influential persons of the neighbourhood. A committee of ladies was appointed to take measures for the erection of a girls' reformatory school. Several munificent donations have been made in favour of it, including one of £1000 and a subscription of £100 per annum from Mr. Jonah Mason, and donations of 100 guineas each from Miss Burdett Coutts and Mr. W. Chance.

In digging for a well in the coal mines near Prague, the workmen met with a bed of yellow amber, apparently of great extent. Pieces weighing from 2 lb. to 3 lb. have been extracted.

PARIS FASHIONS FOR FEBRUARY.

The principal, and almost exclusive, topic of conversation in the drawing-rooms of Paris is the recent Reception at the Tuileries, which every one is agreed was much more characterised by its splendour than by its

gaiety and liveliness. Every lady was so much occupied with the long train attached to her dress, and to which all were unaccustomed, that little attention could be given to any thing else. The scene has been pretty freely talked of. The Empress wore a dress composed of one of



those magnificent tissues which were presented to her by the city of Lyons; it was cloth-of-gold, besprinkled with flowers of cherry-coloured velvet. The Princess Mathilde wore a cherry-coloured cloak, very deeply bordered with gold. Madame de Persigny wore a cloak, which is spoken of in Paris as having cost thirteen thousand francs. Several of these cloaks were made of a tissue; but the greater number were simply composed of tissues of which dresses might afterwards be made—the same quantity of stuff serving for both garments. This distinction in the nature of the materials was very remarkable, and made a very costly display. There are only two receptions of this kind to be held each year, and a lady cannot, with propriety, appear a second time in a cloak which has once caused a sensation.

The two dancing-masters most in vogue in Paris are MM. Laborde and Cellarius; and they are considered to be the best instructors for teaching the most graceful manner of wearing the Court mantle. The material most worn for balls on account of the increasing rage for volants, is taffetas. The petticoats are extremely full, and it would be impossible to augment their amplitude, unless hoops such as were worn in the time of Louis XV., should be introduced. This taste is the more difficult to account for, considering that the apartments of our houses of the present day are not particularly spacious; and that it is customary to assemble a considerable number of persons at evening parties and balls.

Head-dresses in gold and silver, recently so much in vogue, are becoming somewhat less fashionable; flowers are increasing in favour, as also feathers: for the Court balls, they are placed very low at the back of the head, in such a manner that the ends fall down on the neck and even on the shoulders. The materials for the dresses of ladies who do not dance, are the same as previously worn. Cloth of gold and silver is much worn, with patterns either of a single colour on the ground, or bunches of flowers of varied colours. Very charming silk gauzes are made, interwoven with garlands of flowers, of the same colour, the fibres of the leaves and the leaves of the flowers being in silver: this material, in white, makes delightful dresses for young ladies: they have three volants, bordered, and the body has also a special pattern for itself. A novel shape for dresses is named a "godet," and which recalls the form of the *tuniques*, which were formerly in fashion.

BRONZE BOWL, FROM NIMROUD.

times it is plain, or ornamented, with a few small flowers towards the lower end; and, in some instances, powdered with pearls, as may be seen in the accompanying head-dresses. The flowers are disposed either in bunches or garlands; the latter are, however, becoming displaced by

gold and silver, and coloured silk ribbons: they are placed far back on the head, and they fall down very low on the shoulders.

At the theatres many head-dresses of velvet are seen, having "toreades" of jet, coral, pearls, or diamonds. Long ends of lace, mixed with flowers, are much worn, and form a very becoming head-dress.

PARIS FASHIONS FOR FEBRUARY.

THE ILLUSTRATIONS.

Dress of taffetas, with embroidery for the volants; the mantle, or wrapper, worn on quitting the ball-room for the carriage, in white cachmere, having cherry-coloured silk embroidery, besprinkled with gold. The shape is that of the mantles of last year: it is the most convenient form, and flattens or crushes the dress the least: it has a hood adapted to it.

Head-dress of flowers, thrown backwards, having a ribbon, which loses itself in the band of puffing: this ribbon is this year added to almost every head-dress, of whatever description it may be—sometimes it is plain, or ornamented, with a few small flowers towards the lower end; and, in some instances, powdered with pearls, as may be seen in the accompanying head-dresses. The flowers are disposed either in bunches or garlands; the latter are, however, becoming displaced by gold and silver, and coloured silk ribbons: they are placed far back on the head, and they fall down very low on the shoulders.

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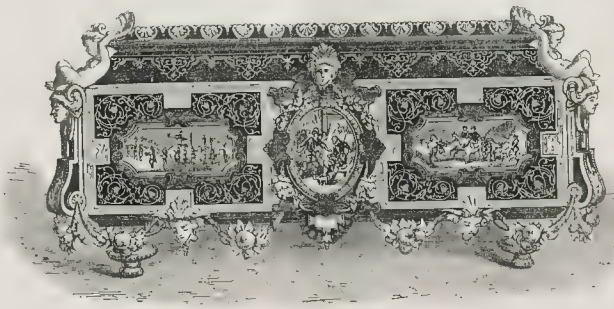
CASKET PRESENTED TO EARL GRANVILLE BY THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT.

Amongst the numerous specimens of ornamental art exhibited at Marlborough-house, the Casket presented by the French Government to Earl Granville, in acknowledgment of his eminent services as one of the Commissioners of the Great Exhibition of 1851, is one of the most remarkable, both for the magnificent character of the object itself and the circumstances under which it reached this country. It is of large dimensions, and is composed of ebony, richly decorated with or moulu, and inlaid with painted tablets of Sèvres china, representing subjects in the history of the great painter, Rubens. The shape of the casket is very elegant.



CASKET PRESENTED BY THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT TO EARL GRANVILLE.

THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

The very interesting collection of Nimroud Antiquities in the British Museum has lately received two accessions of a peculiar character—a bronze Patera, and two Assyrian Bowls, which we have engraved both were procured by Mr. Layard, at Nimroud. These Bowls have been selected as most characteristic of the style of art. They have been made by being punched or beaten up from their outside, so as to produce the figures in relief within. That to the left exhibits a lion-hunt. The one to the right, a lion, sphinxes, and other animals. The Bowl in the centre, which is much flatter, has winged griffins, human figures, and other ornaments; and resembles, in general style Egyptian works of late age, and certain silver vases found in Italy.

BRONZE PATERA, FROM NIMROUD.

BRONZE BOWL, FROM NIMROUD.

Lumley *v.* Gye.—This action, which has been pending for some time, is now drawing towards a conclusion. It will be remembered that, in the present term, the Court of Queen's Bench granted a rule for a new commission, directed to the Royal Court of Berlin, to examine Mdlle. Wagner and others, at the instance of the defendant. The condition precedent of the new commission was the payment of the costs of the former, which terminated in consequence of the parties refusing to give evidence. The rule for the new commission was to have been drawn up within four days, but it was not done; and the result is, that the parties will proceed to trial without the evidence by a commission. Notice of trial has been given by Messrs. Lewis and Lewis for the sittings after term at Guildhall, and the cause is expected to be tried about the 20th of February, before a special jury.

LITERATURE.

THE POETICAL WORKS OF DRYDEN.

THE "revival of poetry" manifests itself at present in various ways. Bookseller vies with bookseller; not, we must say, in the publication of new poetry, nor new poetry, worthy of the name, is rare; but in the republication of standard works, stamped with the approbation of five or six generations. We have not only selections from the writings of all the standard poets, but we have editions of more or less elegance and completeness, of particular favourites—such as Gray, Goldsmith, Pope, and the writers of the last generation—the copyright of whose works has expired. In the growing demand for cheap literature, the magnates of the publishing business naturally love to speculate on the works of the class of writers, who, being in their graves, cannot make any claim upon them for a share of profits. Among the multitude of republications of this kind, which have been lately announced "the annotated edition of the English Poets, edited by Robert Bell," is the most important. This series promises to be a valuable acquisition to our literature. The editor is admirably qualified for his task. He writes like a scholar and a gentleman, like a poet, and like a man of the world. He has a keen spirit of appreciation, and knows, as well as any living writer, that art is difficult, and ordinary criticism easy: but that the true and exalted critic is second only to the poet or "maker." If we search the long and illustrious roll of British writers, we shall find that critics of the highest grade have but seldom appeared in the literary republic: and that, when they did appear, they were always men who had won their own golden spurs in the glorious lists of literature before they took it upon themselves to act as arbiters on the merits of others, or umpires of the public decision. Mr. Bell has commenced his labours with the "Life and Works of Dryden." The reader may not unreasonably ask—were there no poets before "glorious John," that he should thus be thrust into the place of honour? Mr. Bell, in explaining his own design, supplies an answer to the question:—

> An introductory volume (he says) will present a succinct account of English poetry from the earliest times down to a period which will connect it with the series of the poets, through whose lives the history of our poetical literature will be continued to the present time. Occasional volumes will be introduced, in which specimens, with connecting notices and commentaries, will be given of those poets whose works are not of sufficient interest to be reproduced entire. The important materials gathered from previously unexplored sources by the researches of the last quarter of a century will be embodied wherever they may be available in the general design; and, by these means, it is hoped that the collection will be more complete than any that has been hitherto attempted, and that it will be rendered additionally acceptable as comprising in its course a continuous History of English Poetry.
>
> By the arrangements that will be adopted, the works of the principal poets may be purchased separately and independently of the rest. The occasional volumes—containing, according to circumstances, poetry of a particular class or period; collections illustrative of customs, manners, and historical events; or specimens, with critical annotations, of the minor poets—will also be complete in themselves.
>
> As the works of each poet, when completed, will be independent of the rest, although ultimately falling into their places in the series, they will be issued irrespective of chronological sequence. This arrangement will present a greater choice and variety in the selection, from month to month, of poets of different styles and periods, and at the same time enable the editor to take advantage of all new sources of information that may be opened to him in the progress of publication.

Mr. Bell further states that the edition now proposed will be distinguished from all preceding editions in many important respects. It will include the works of several poets entirely omitted from previous collections, especially those stores of lyrical and ballad poetry in which our literature is richer than that of any other country; and which, independently of their poetical claims, are peculiarly interesting as illustrations of historical events and national customs.

There is, therefore, no other reason for commencing the series with Dryden than the good-will and pleasure of Mr. Bell. It suited his taste or his convenience; and, with a plan so unobjectionable and so certain to be made chronologically and historically correct in the sequel, the reason is sufficient. Perhaps, an additional reason might be found in the fact that an edition of Dryden has long been wanted, and that his works are, in reality, scarcer than the e of any other English poet of equal note. To have begun with Gower and Chaucer might have seared a host of readers, who, members of the Society of Antiquaries, have neither relish for nor comprehension of the vernacular language in its uncouth orthography of four hundred years ago. To have come further down the stream of Time, and, to have commenced with Spenser, would have been to risk the popularity of the venture, for Spenser, though deserving of all respect and honour, is not, and never can be, a general favourite; and, to have come nearer still to the age when English literature began to assume its present shape and spirit, and to have issued the poems of Shakspeare and Milton, would have been to run the risk of over-stocking the market with works with which every reader is familiar. But to Dryden no such literary or trade objections applied. He is an author known more to the present generation by his great reputation, than by his works. His unrevailed ode to St. Cecilia, and his translation of "Virgil," are, perhaps, the only compositions with which the bulk of the reading public can be said to be acquainted; and even that limited amount of knowledge is derived from school lessons, rather than from actual study and enjoyment at a later period of life. His plays are dead, beyond all possibility of revival—his occasional writings have passed out of remembrance; but his satirical and other poems will never die, unless the English language precede them in the grave. Mr. Bell's cheap and elegant edition will introduce this patriarch of literature to a larger class of readers, while his judicious and eloquent life of the poet will make them familiar with the characteristics of an age of which no Englishman is ever tired of reading—the age immediately preceding that of Pope and Addison; and forming, in conjunction with it, by far the most brilliant and remarkable period in the annals of English literature.

But though Dryden has to some extent fallen into neglect of late years, he has never lacked enthusiastic admirers. The late Lord Holland is said to have carried his reverence for him so far, as never to use a word, either in speaking or writing, that was not to be found in the pages of his favourite. All the great masters of the English tongue, whether they have written in prose or verse, have been under obligations to him. He was so terse and vigorous, so thoroughly English, so determined to make the right words fall in the right places, that no one who wishes to learn the secret of a good style can peruse his poems without advantage. That he was a great poet we cannot take it upon ourselves to assert. He lacked imagination, though he exhibited fancy; he was deficient in tenderness and grace, but he possessed fire and vigour; and our language and literature owe him a debt of gratitude which it would be unjust either to deny or to depreciate. Whatever he felt he felt strongly; and whenever it suited his purpose to say what he felt, the strength and the earnestness of his expression showed him to be both a master of thoughts and of language. Everything which he wrote was to the purpose, and, to use the words of one of his contemporaries, was "full of mighty sense."

Mr. Bell has been fortunate enough to obtain some original letters of Dryden, which throw new light upon his life. The greatest, it not the only, reproach upon his character was that he changed his religion for a pension. Mr. Bell proves for the first time that the stigma was undeserved. We commend the volumes in this as well as in every other respect to the attention of those who desire to have not only a correct edition of the work, but a correct biography of a great writer.

THE PARABLES OF FREDERICK ADOLPHUS KRUMMACHER. Translated from the Seventh German Edition. With Forty Illustrations, drawn by J. R. Clayton; engraved by the Brothers Dalziel. Nathaniel Cooke.

The great charm and the great power of simplicity are not, as some imagine, a merely negative result; they come from more than the absence of faults, including even the absence of the most displeasing of faults—affectation. Yet such an immunity would itself be of immense importance, and of the highest practical value. But it is not sufficiently remembered that simplicity insures unity of effect. All the conventional parade of writing, its jewels, whether genuine or spurious, cannot furnish an equivalent for the real disfigurement entailed by them, where they happen to distract or to divide attention from the one principal truth or the principal impression, which it may be the end of any work of art (in each particular portion respectively), to bring home.

In these German Parables we find a union of the two advantages, which are distinct from each other, and which are not always certain to result simultaneously from even the merit of simplicity. There is freedom from pretension, from bombast, and from even the risk or possibility of these or any other vices of literary composition. But as the work has good sense, has good feeling, has many truths to tell, many old, homely, and useful lessons to inculcate in new, and often very in genuinating lights,—in fine as the book has an effect to produce, the simplicity with which the author writes, possesses a positive additional value, giving both power and charm, where nothing else could give them. We need but add, on this head, that the translation does justice to the original.

It was at Duisburg, and in the year 1805, that Krummacher's "Parables" first appeared. For the last fifty years their success has been great, and it has been progressive. Fifty years! a long time to maintain popularity—a prodigious time for turning what is ephemeral into what is. After such a test, it will be conceived that the author holds a place among the standard luminaries of German literature. He is still living. This English version is from the seventh German edition (six large editions having been sold); and it contains a few prefatory remarks from Krummacher himself, in lieu of the longer, and perhaps needlessly apologetic, or explanatory, introduction, which had stood at the beginning of the book in the German. It closes with these words:—

> To what purpose, indeed, is a long preface on the construction of parables, when they themselves are unveiled in array? It were better to conclude with an axiom from the Goldon A B C of dear Claudius [surely this ought to be Claudian]:—
>
> The Parables are fair and good;
> But then they must be understood.

Herder may be said, in a sense, to have preceded Krummacher in this branch of literature; but it is as Heslod preceded Homer. Krummacher has made "parables" his own throughout Germany, where his name is so completely identified with them, and where they are so popular, that there is not a class-book in which several of them have not been incorporated.

The following is the parable of Polycarp; it is one of the longest in the collection, where everything is so pregnant and condensed:—

POLYCARP: OR, THE KINGDOM OF TRUTH.

The excellent Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, was obliged to quit the city in consequence of the increasing persecutions; he went with his faithful disciple Crescens to the region in the vicinity of Smyrna.

And in the cool of the evening the Bishop was walking under the shade of the magnificent trees which stood in front of his rural abode. Here he found Crescens leaning sorrowfully on a cedar tree, leaning his head on his hand and weeping. Then the old man said, "My son, why we sat thou?" Crescens lifted up his head and said, "Shall I not mourn and weep, when I think on the kingdom of truth on earth? Tempests and storms are gathering round, and will destroy it in its beginning. Many of its adherents have become apostates, and have denied and abused the truth, proving that on earth men may confess with their lips, though their heart is far from it. This fills my soul with sorrow, and my eyes with tears." Thus replied Crescens.

Then Polycarp smiled, and answered, "My dear son, the kingdom of Divine truth is like unto a tree that a countryman reared in his garden. He set the seed secretly and quietly in the ground, and left it; the seed put forth leaves, and the husbandman grew no strong weeds and thorns. Soon the tree reared itself above them, and the weeds died, because the shadow of the branches overcame them. The tree grew, and the winds blew on it and shook it; but its roots clung firmer and firmer in the ground, taking hold of the rocks downwards, and its branches reached unto heaven. Thus the tempest served to increase the firmness and strength of the tree. When it grew up higher, and its shadow spread further, then the thorns and the weeds grew again around the tree, but it heeded them not in its loftiness; there it stood in calm, peaceful grandeur —a tree of God." Thus said the pious Bishop; then stretching out his hand to his disciple, he continued smiling: "When thou art lifting up thy eyes to the summit of the tree, wilt thou regard the weeds that cling about its roots? Think on Him who planted it."

Then Crescens arose, and his heart was gladdened; for the venerable father walked by his side. Bent was he with years; but his spirit and his countenance were as those of a youth.

One more sample:—

THE TEARS.

On a moonlight night Hillel was walking with his disciple Sadi in the garden of his ancestors.

Then Sadi said, "Behold yonder man in the rays of the moon; what is he doing?"

Hillel said, "It is Zadok; he sits by the grave of his son, and weeps."

"Can Zadok not moderate his grief?" asked the youth. "Men call him the wise and the just."

Hillel said: "Is that a reason why he should not feel pain?"

"But," asked Sadi, "what advantage has the wise man over the foolish one?"

Then the master answered: "Behold, the bitter tear of his eye sinks to the ground; but his countenance is raised to heaven."

We may safely say that these are very poor specimens of the merits of the Parables of Krummacher. But we have quoted a comparatively long fable to show how short those must be which are shorter in comparison; and then a brief and terse instance, that it may be understood how light and easy the general reading must be which is less exacting than that.

It is right, however, to signalise, before we close our brief notice, some of the really superior parables. "The Apple," "The Magnetic Needle," "The Painter and his Master," "The Le-son," and "The Imbecile Child," are full of beauties, though the moral of the last is not logical. The "Sacred Pictures" is truly sublime.

If such be the merits of this work, we have only to add that it is so superbly printed and bound, that it is, in every sense, his "money's worth" to the purchaser.

WALTER EVELYN; or, the Long Minority. In 3 volumes. Bentley.

A broken kaleidoscope, a tangle of bright threads, flowers tossed into a heap, or the Babel of a fashionable reception, stimulated with crowd upon the mind after a perusal of this novel. With a thorough knowledge of life, derived from correct and keen observation of it, considerable literary power, much wisdom, occasional eloquence, and not a little humour, the author of "Walter Evelyn" has given us the rarest and highest literary qualification, patience, to be able to paint a more truthful and amusing picture of modern high life than any author we can at present name. Thoroughly intimate with the manners and characters he portrays, he has succeeded in presenting a dramatic harmony in "Walter Evelyn" which only require to have been well guided through the plot, to have made it a novel of the highest class. His puppets are admirably costumed, they act with remarkable ease and naturalness; but they are tossed about hither and thither with so much confusion, their strings are pulled with so little regard to coherence, that the interest of the reader is wound up and let down with provoking unceremoniousness. He is, however, always amused, and sometimes instructed.

Walter Evelyn is the grandson of a septuagenarian peer, who had a "chirping voice, cheerful and kindly, such as a good-natured sparrow might rejoice in, if he could tell a fat story," and who, "though not very wise, or very generous, or very good in any way (being on the whole as selfish, heartless, and improper an elderly gentleman as lived in the neighbourhood), was not a whit worse, or more heartless, or more selfish, than some others who put a grave face upon matters, and do their naughty things with much self so much good humour and usefulness." Walter Evelyn's father is a sporting, gambling, good hearted, thriftless, unprincipled nobleman, who began life as a spendthrift and pagoon, and ended it as a systematic duper of younger spendthrifts and pigeons. Walter Evelyn's uncle is a stately placeman of the old implacable school, who "had none of the *prens* chivalry which sometimes makes leaders of adverse parties in public very good friends in private life. He used more solid hard words than any member of the House; his weapon of offence was not a foil, glittering while it wounds, but a bludgeon. No wit, no light play of fancy, no brilliant essay ever came from that heavy, stolid mind." Walter Evelyn's guardian, the Earl of Wimmington, is an elderly debau[illegible]al satiric service, who runs every body, except himself, by his intense selfishness, who gets a character for being a profound musician by hiring composers to write music to be published as his own; who keeps an opera-dancer, and neglects his domestic and public duties, and who is preserved from the consequences of his innate silliness by his coronet and extraordinary good fortune.

The history of a long minority passed under such auspices is necessarily eventful. At eight years old the little heir is the messenger between his father in the Queen's Bench and his mother in lodgings in the "rules."

It was a touching thing to see the wives, and mothers, and sisters of these "gay dogs" come in to see them. Elegant and lovely women, upon whose cheeks the very winds of heaven had been never before suffered to blow too rudely—who had ridden in coroneted carriages till they had almost forgotten how to walk—used to come tripping down on their errand of love, through rain and rough weather, and often many a good mile on foot, to bring but one extra guinea to those thankless prodigals, or save ever so little from the wreck at home. I knew one dear lady, one of the best and brightest who ever gladdened the home of a worthless husband —she afterwards wore the coronet of an Irish marchioness; but then she used to bring the Honourable Theodo (her husband), little veal patties of her own making, thinking (bless her innocence!) that he had no dinner. Running into their room, too, one day, I saw her stealthily mending his stockings. I know she kept no servant; and she lived in a quiet, obscure street in Lambeth, full of journeymen cabinet-makers and musicians, where she had a little lodging at seven or eight shillings a week; while the Honourable Phenix had never had so much money in his life as he was then making (to lose it again) by a run of luck at the scoured table.

After Harrow, the hero becomes, for a time, his uncle the Minister's private secretary. Here is an account of the beleaguering army that lays constant siege to Downing-street:—

> Thus, independently of all sorts of private claims, hard to be refused though often made on behalf of unqualified people enough, one man would write to ask for a pension, on the ground of his grandfather's second cousin, he believed, had been coachman to Queen Anne; but, as he was not sure about it, he enclosed his certificate of baptism, with the marriage-register of his father and grandfather, hoping that they might, at least, satisfy "Her Majesty's Government in Parliament assembled" (such words as these were always well spelt, because copied from the newspapers), and "prayeuse him a penaun, chof never so smal."
>
> The letters, however, were the lightest part of my duties, for I was obliged to receive all kinds of people who thought proper to make personal application on subjects equally extraordinary. I remember one foreign Jew who, after looking round the room in a mysterious manner to ascertain that we were alone, made an impudent attempt to bribe me to get him a contract for supplying the Navy with lucifer matches; and another who came all the way from the interior of Russia, with a dirty money bag in his bosom, to endeavour to obtain the removal of the obstructions at the mouth of the Danube by the talismanic influence of its contents. The Government were thought able to do anything, from obtaining a ukase from the monarch of the Tartars to building a bridge from London to New York. I remember too that many foreigners succeeded to obtain their object by some direct or indirect species of bribery, and my wonder soon ceased at my uncle's dislike to presents. This kind of visitors seemed to have no idea of political honesty at all. They would take out their pocket-books and finger the contents whilst talking to you, and looked upon your indignation only as a hint that the bribe was not large enough, or that you wanted gold instead of bank-notes, to escape detection.
>
> The ladies, too! What wonderful schemes they did hit upon, to be sure! One, a piquante little woman, of some six-and-twenty summers, came first to my uncle's house on pretence of buying cast-off clothes from his valet, and then bribed that officer to be shewn up to his master. This being accomplished, and my Lord, who was busy in arranging his speech on the Sugar question, to be delivered that night, having left me to see what she wanted, she opened proceedings by offering me, what she called a very beautiful cabinet picture, if I would only stand aside a minute or two—any thing, in fact, for me. In vain I told her I had no power or means of doing anything; there was no getting rid of her. For two mortal hours she tried the whole battery of her charms upon me; she railed me, piqued me, flattered me (most impudently), laughed at me; and at last, finding every thing useless (though, indeed, I would have made her husband Lord Chancellor to get her to go away), she threw herself in a paroxysm of tears at my feet, and repeated a whole poem of prayers to me to do what was simply impossible.
>
> It preyed upon my health at last. I grew afraid to shake hands with people lest they should attempt to leave a pocket-book with me.

Observation, nicely-discriminated character, tenderness, and healthy sentiment abound in "Walter Evelyn," sufficiently to enrich a half a dozen better-constructed novels. The author seems to have written under a sense of extreme pressure; as if he were performing a literary match against time. Yet, despite several minor mistakes into which his hurry plunges him, he communicates a strong impulse to the reader, who goes on to the end puzzling out the plot, and devouring the incidents in breathless haste. Strangely enough, a subordinate character in "Walter Evelyn" lays down the soundest laws for novel-writing: one of which is, "do not hurry your book; a good novel cannot be written quickly; you should be always thinking about it, and ripening the subjects in your mind."

THE POSITIVE PHILOSOPHY OF AUGUSTE COMTE. Freely translated and condensed, by HARRIET MARTINEAU. Two vols. Chapman.

M. Comte, like M. Fourrier—some of whose works have been noticed in our Journal—is the author of a new science of society; and, like him, was a disciple of St. Simon, if we may not rather say that the opinions of all three, and many other social reformers in France were the natural growth of the extraordinary political circumstances of that country. M. Comte was born in 1797; educated, therefore, chiefly during the supremacy of Bonaparte, and before it had come to an end, was impressed with an idea that a scientific as well as a social reform was needed. After St. Simonism fell into disrepute, and after M. Comte had ceased to be one of St. Simon's most active disciples, he became a teacher of mathematics and a professor at the celebrated Polytechnic School. There, however, he fell into disputes with most of his brother professors, and in the end was dismissed; having no other resource than those of an unpensioned, unplaced, mere literary man, which, in France, are even more scanty than in England. He has passed a very active literary life; teaching and lecturing with great enthusiasm, and almost without intermission, in order to make his opinions known. From continued active exertions of this kind, his works—which were principally delivered as lectures—are more voluminous than terse and correct. He has wanted time and leisure to prune and polish them; and their enormous mass would almost deter any but the hardest students from reading them, and much more from the task of translating them. His collected works amount to twelve thick volumes; and his "Positive Philosophy," the work now condensed into two volumes of 435 and 500 pages, by Miss Martineau, fills six volumes, each of which contains, on the average, upwards of 900 pages. Some of his speculations, like those of Fourier—and from the same cause, a yearning after social improvement—have been very favourably received, though by men of a very different station in society and of a very different degree of mental cultivation, unplaced, unpensioned Fourier. Men of high mark and great literary repute have announced Comte to the world as the greatest living thinker. Miss Martineau shares their opinions. She believes a knowledge of Comte's writings to be needed in England, and hence she has undertaken and has well performed the arduous task of studying them and of condensing—so that nothing of importance is omitted—his six large volumes into two volumes, half as large, of very readable English. Her reputation, and her known mastery of style, make it unnecessary further to eulogise her performance; as a piece of philosophic writing it is worthy of all praise. But her late connection with mesmerism has weakened our confidence in the soundness of her judgment; and the more M. Comte's philosophy is lauded by her and others, the more do we feel ourselves called on, before giving it currency, to subject it to a rigid examination.

The present work, the original of which was published in Paris between 1830 and 1842, contains his whole system, and consists of two parts, to each of which a volume is appropriated. In the first, his plan of classifying all the sciences according to their relations to one another, beginning with those which are supposed to be the most simple and most general, is explained; Mathematics, Astronomy, Physics, Chemistry, &c., are treated of; and the history of the progress of each science is sketched in a very superior way. The whole of this volume relates to abstract and abstruse subjects, which can only be treated in an abstruse manner. Some of his principles of classification are worthy of being followed; but only those who are ignorant of what has been done by some eminent men in different parts of Europe, can adopt the opinion that it was left for M. Comte to assert theoretically, or to show practically, that mental science and the science of organised beings must be studied in precisely the same manner—by observing and comparing facts, and by instituting experiments, and watching the results—as is employed in investigating unorganised and material bodies. In Miss Martineau's pages, M. Comte appears as an eloquent, but not always a correct, expounder (as some notes in her book testify) of the leading principles of the best-known sciences; but personally he has made no discoveries, and he is rated much too high when he is classed with the greatest men of the world for suggesting a doubtful and slight improvement in the classification of knowledge.

The second volume is entirely occupied with M. Comte's science of society, according to the principles of the positive philosophy, or a new science called "Sociology." He shows the short-comings of several other systems; he justly appreciates the perversion of Smith's "Wealth of Nations" into modern political economy; and is not wrong in ascribing to the principles of Smith's work, properly carried out, an antagonism to existing governments. He traces with considerable sagacity the natural progress of humanity, from barbarism to civilisation, but whenever he attempts to expound what is to supply the place of the science of wealth, and of existing social regulations, we are more frequently reminded of Forwier's rambling, confused, unintelligible communications, than of the neat, clear logic of J. B. Say, or the unmistakeable precision of M. Bastiat, or the massive writing of Proudhon. But that M. Comte borrows a phrase from Mr. Mill, to stigmatise pedantocracy, we should suppose that he meant to hand over government to the learned, to men of literature and science. His discursive remarks on the influence of science, of ideas, and of the domestic relations, would lead us to infer that he meant only to place society, as it is now actually placed, under the dominion of public opinion. But M. Comte is an opponent of the private opinion, which alone can build up free and sound public opinion: particularly he is an opponent of that free public judgment in matters of religion which prevails in Protestant countries; and he would have a Government take ahead attempt to remedy all the evils of society, and should provide it with a uniform faith. His system is rather the union of despotism with an infallible Church, than freedom of political and religious opinions: such as exists in England and the United States. From the influence of M. Comte's system, now displayed in engaging language though it have found favour with many clever men amongst us, and recommends itself to all those who dread democracy more than despots, and have more reverence for thepast, than hope in the future—we pray that our people may be saved.

BALDER. Part the First. By the Author of "The Roman." Smith, Elder, and Co.

The failure of a man of genius, when it occurs, is more complete, as well as much more conspicuous in its manner, and much more painful in its effects, than the failure of a person who was merely inadequate to the undertaking which we assume either to attempt. More painful, we say: and this not always to him alone who has failed, or to his personal friends. We should, indeed, be sorry and ashamed if the mortifications, misadventures, and checks of a bright and aspiring intelligence, full of unquenchable emanations of some divine spirit, were shed in pabulum of malicious exultation to mediocrity, and produced no result but that. Few things are more easily travestied, burlesqued, or lampooned, than what contain some noble quality. Ridicule lives on its opposite; and—the talents of the two competing authors being supposed equal—he would back the man who took the "Parad se Lost" for the subject of a pantomime, against the man who selected Mr. Montgomery's "Satan" for the same purpose.

We observe that a morning contemporary has made great fun of "Balder." If the critic has never yet thought of the experiment, we assure him that he will be quite surprised at the probable results which he will realise, by merely placing before him one of the longer poems which have already won a standard place in public estimation, and bringing to an analysis of it, or even to a cursory survey of its parts, the same sportive, reckless animal spirits, and the same fleering, implike nimbleness of flippant sarcasm, which he has levelled so adroitly against passages of this new effusion. Of course, however successful the mock-criticism might be, its author would not wish to publish it now as an exposition of his serious opinions or impressions concerning some work of established repute. But, had the experiment been made immediately after the first appearance of such a work, and before time had had delivered its verdict, would he then have scrupled to record his commentary? Such things have been done—generally with more effect upon the poet himself, and upon his future productions, than upon the particular profusion which may have already appeared. It happened thus to Byron: neither depressing his early fugitive pieces below the tide-mark of fame (for they had never reached it), nor much exalting, nor, indeed, much altering, the value in which they were held; for they had no great merit; and were often, and have not since been, very severely extraordinary in any sense. The result was slight, so far as concerned those poems; but there was a very important result so far as concerned the poet. A similar welcome attended Keats. To Keats this appears to have occurred up some considerable, but it was of no consequence at all to "Endymion," except to make many persons express their admiration with indignant fervour who would have expressed it calmly when occasion arose, or never have felt it necessary to express it at all.

Criticism is powerful, but, like all powerful agents, it has its duties, which are not de-regarded with impunity. Unjust judgments impair the veneration which "hedges in" the Bench; and rash or malignant criticism recoils upon the authority of the "*censores morum et artium*" as a body, and in their entire protective, calling, and functions. For that authority is no chartered right or statutable privilege, but purely moral; and, like all influences laboriously acquired "by many acts," is easily shaken "by one." There is no optional function in the office of the herald who does not come forward to characterise the pretensions of any new competitor in the great *champ clos* of literature. It is a sacred obligation of honour and trust that he should give a fair description, or none; and a full description, where it must be unfair if not full. The reader may easily and rationally conceive that in a long poem, an ingenious mind can generally discover ample materials for ridiculous travesty, by mere selection, or, if that fails, by skilful juxtaposition. And it is, perhaps, allowable enough to make merry thus with the amusing phases of an anxious and prosaic ed labour, provided justice be done, at the same time, to the real merits and real beauties it may possess. But, we have said enough on this head, and more particularly with reference to the poem of "Balder."

We honestly confess that we have seldom looked into an effusion which would lend itself more easily or more liberally to the purposes of any merely depreciatory, or rather derisory, criticism. We are not only confident that the author's most ardent friends would in candour admit the fact, and that they must, at all events, perceive in their own minds the full truth of our remark; but we are sure that the author himself cannot help *feeling* it. We must also add that we are greatly mistaken if the writer be not just the kind of genius to whom a little castigation will do no harm; and were we not anxious to record our appreciation of those poet c powers which he truly possesses, but of which he avails himself with the most egregious want of judgment and of skill, we certainly could divert and entertain our readers far more than we at all hope to do our present observations. The author of "Balder" has already, however, seen a portion of his extravagances rather pungently exposed in other quarters, without any acknowledgment whatever of his claims to compensatory treatment. Partly for that reason, and partly for the considerations just mentioned, we abstain from making a new shaft into the rich mine of ridicule and fun in which he almost seems to challenge the lovers of sarcasm "to come and find." If, indeed, hewer again prove so unfaithful to his own talents and inspiration as to publish another work with the patent, salient blemishes of "Balder," we shall de-pair of him. "Part the Second" is to come: we shall see whether this be a threat or a promise.

In the first place, then, "Balder" is a poem which belongs to no recognised division of poetry. It is not an epic, it is not a drama, it is not a collection of smaller pieces,—each perfect as to its kind, it is not a rhapsody of description, narrative, allusion, and reflection, moving with intelligible plan, in harmon ous orbit, with regularity of measure, and a certain self-consistent unity of character and style. Or rather "Childe Harold," to which (besides the deplorable differences in the very nature of the design, as well as in style and outure execution), it is so stark ugly and immensely inferior in poetical afflatus, that we could easily select many lines from what are considered the worst passages of "The Pilgrimage" for which we should in vain seek any parallel throughout this new poem. Not belonging to any class of poetry, which either the arbitrary rules of convention, or a well-regulated view of what is intrinsically and generally consonant with "the harmony of the spheres," can give us for the array and marshalling of the various kinds of song, "Balder," refusing, we say, all recognised classification, must be accounted and accepted as a "*medley*." We regret to add that it is a chaotic medley. Of its plan, its materials, it is not merely impossible to give any clear statement whatever. Such being the general character, we are reduced for an estimate of its merits, to examine particular passages, and even individual lines. Now, it is not to be denied that it contains many lines which are torrid, absurd, forced, wild, and often (to make a clean breast of it) exceedingly disgusting. There are some, again, of which it is labour thrown away, to try to make any meaning or any sense at all. This will be found to be the fact by every attentive and conscientious reader; and this is not all, for there are lines, which are worse for the meaning they have than they would be if they had none. We allude to some bursts of mingled bathos and profanity, of which one part may be described as consisting of words without significance, and the other of words which ought so to speak, to cry to the hills to cover them.

Yet, with all these special faults, and with a certain pervading arrogance, more resembling insanity than a "fine frenzy;" with all these abatements, we are forced, in common justice and fairness, to acknowledge that there are also in this strange effusion passages of rare and exquisite beauty of idea, contained in most felicitous and powerful verses.

"Balder" never will be popular: that is utterly hopeless: it is out of the question. And, while it never will be popular, its defects, or rather its positive blemishes, are so numerous and so flagrant, that it will never have its right place; or, more correctly, the place which a poem by a man so gifted ought to achieve—even in the estimation of the discriminating few.

We counsel the author earnestly to chastise his own wayward and overwhelming spirit; to select some literary design, full of human interest, however sublime; and to condescend to be popular. Even Dante condescended to charm the earth, and "to witch the world with noble" *poesy*.

MUSIC.

AN addition has just been made to the numerous societies established within these few years, for the purpose of giving musical performances on a great scale, an improvement on the practice which formerly prevailed of such performances being given by individual professors on their own accounts, and for their own benefit. This new association calls itself the "London Orchestra." It appears to have been set on foot in opposition to, or in competition with, a society of precisely the same description which was formed two seasons ago, the Orchestral Union. Each of them consists of a body of instrumentalists, under an able conductor—Mr. Alfred Melson being at the head of the one, and Mr. Frank Mori at the head of the other. Each society proposes not only to give concerts on its own account, but to furnish its services to parties who give great concerts either in London or in the provinces. Both societies may probably do a great deal of good; and the rivalry which must exist between them is calculated to stimulate their exertions. The London Orchestra gave its first concert at the Hanover-square Rooms on Thursday (last week). The band appeared to be about forty strong, and included many eminent performers, among whom were Thirwall, Lovell, Phillips, Baumann, Lazarus, Barret, Prospère, Rowland, and Chipp. The mention of these names reminds us that the Orchestral Union consists entirely of "native talent," while no such exclusive principle has been adopted by the London Orchestra. The concert was exceedingly good. Its great features were Mendelsohn's Symphony in A minor, called the "Scottish Symphony," and the same composer's pianoforte concerto in D minor, in which the principal part was sustained by Miss Arabella Goddard. There was also a trio for the pianoforte, violin, and violoncello, composed by Mr. Ferdinand Praeger, and played by himself, M. Sainton, and Mr. Lovell Phillips—a very pleasing composition, admirably executed. Some vocal pieces, of a superior order, were performed by Madame Amedei, Signor and Madame F. Lablache, Mr. and Mrs. Weiss, and Mr. Land.

THE HARMONIC UNION gave a performance of "Elijah" on Monday evening, at Exeter-hall. Mr. Benedict having returned from Germany (after having superintended the triumphant production at Munh h of his opera of the "Crusaders"), resumed his place as conductor. Much interest was excited by the appearance of Signor Belletti, who on this occasion made his first essay in sacred music, and in the English language. He acquitted himself, on the whole, in a manner not unworthy of his high reputation; though he certainly did one thing which was not worthy of it. In place of sustaining the principal character in this sublime musical drama, he sang only a part of the music belonging to it, leaving the remainder—including some of the finest and most dramatic passages—to be sung by another person. Mr Lefler. This strange and unprecedented proceeding so much surprised us that we inquired into the matter, and were informed that Signor Belletti had refused to sing the whole part, and had persisted in it, actually, notwithstanding the remonstrances of the committee. *Why* he should have done such a thing passes our comprehension. It was injurious to himself, as well as fatal to the dramatic character of the oratorio. His excessively foreign accent and pronunciation, which enough to betray ignorance of the meaning of the words he was attempting to speak, also formed a great drawback on the effect of his performance; and though the beauty of his voice and the high finish of his execution were often conspicuous in its application to her art. On the occasion she manifested not only much intelligence and feeling, but a very considerable degree of vocal power. The choruses were, without exception, performed in a manner which did great honour to the singers, and to their conductor, Mr. Hullah. The audience was very large.

THE WEDNESDAY EVENING CONCERT of this week calls for small notice. It contained a little that was good, much that was bad, and still more that was indifferent. The good was Benedict's fine Pianoforte Concerto in C, extremely well executed by Mdlle. Gräver a young pianist of talent, and Beethoven's noble Overture to "Egmont;" to which, however, the orchestra did not do justice. Among the bad were were Flotow's Overture to "Stradella"—a poor imitation of the weak modern Italian style; an interminable duet on the violin and violoncello, played by Messrs Collins—a mere piece of fiddling, full of unmeaning difficulties; and the insipid quartet, "Mild as the moonbeams," interpolated by the elder Braham into the opera of "Artaxerxes," and very popular with the gods of Drury forty years ago, but far behind the taste of the most ordinary audience now-a-days. It was introduced on Wednesday night for the last, no doubt, of Mr. Augustus Braham, who, however, failed to give it any effect. The rest of the concert was made up of songs and ballads, some of them pretty enough, and agreeably sung by Mrs. Alexander Newton, Miss Poole, Miss Alleyne, Mr. Augustus Braham, and other popular vocalists; but all of them worn threadbare by constant repetition.

MUSICAL PUBLICATIONS.

NINE QUARTETS for two Violins, Viola, and Violoncello By J. L. ELLERTON. Schott and Co.

This is a complete edition, in score, of Mr. Lodge Ellerton's quartets, which have already been published separately, at various times, in this country, and are known and highly appreciated in our best musical circles. Mr. Ellerton is a gentleman of family and fortune, gifted by nature with great musical genius, and enabled by his position and circumstances to cultivate his genius by the highest resources of art. He is one of a daily increasing number of amateurs in this country who do not yield, in extent of attainment, to the most accomplished of our professed artists, and he has distinguished himself by many works of merit in the highest walks of vocal and instrumental composition.

Of all the classes of composition, the chamber quartet or quintet, for stringed instruments, is the most arduous, and demands the largest amount of inventive power and of technical acquirement. This form, accordingly, has been chosen by the most illustrious masters—Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Spohr, and Mendelssohn—for the embodiment of their profoundest and most beautiful conceptions. It has been repeatedly essayed by our own composers; but we cannot name a single English musician who has gained celebrity as a quartet-writer; nor can we name any English composer whose works of this class are either so numerous or so worthy of distinction as those of Mr. Ellerton. From a careful examination of the scores before us, we are led to conclude that Mr. Ellerton has formed his style more upon the older writers than those of a later day—more upon Haydn, Mozart, and Beethoven than upon Spohr and Mendelssohn. But there is no servile adherence to any school. There is great freshness and originality in his ideas, as well as novelty and ingenuity in their treatment. Mr. Ellerton is thoroughly acquainted with the instruments for which he writes, and knows how to turn their powers to account, either singly or in combination. In the slow movements, his melodies are often exceedingly vocal and expressive; and his harmonies, even in the most complicated passages, are pure, clear, and unembarrassed. Among these masterly pieces we scarcely know which to prefer; but we may specify the quartet in E flat, No. 2, of the first set; that in B flat, No 1, of the second set; and that in G minor, No. 2, of the third set, as being preeminently beautiful, and worthy of companionship with the works of the greatest masters.

TWO SONGS: "Spring is Coming" and "Summer." Composed by JOSEPH ROBINSON.—DUET "In dreams when sleep falls o'er me." By the Same. Chappell.

These are compositions of very superior merit, though by no means free from faults. In the two songs the melodies are sweet, flowing, expressive, and varied by smooth and happy modulations. Their instrumental accompaniments, too, are ingenious; but Mr. Robinson is much addicted to the ultra modern harmony, and sometimes sacrifices pure and natural chords for far-fetched crudities. In "Spring is Coming," for instance, we may mention in bar 4, page 2, the excessively harsh succession from the major common chord of D to the diminished seventh upon B natural, involving a *false relation* embarrassing to the voice. The beauty of the duet, too, is impaired by similar attempts at singularity. The modulation is so restless that it is difficult to discover the predominant key. It is meant to be G minor; but the very opening bars of the melody are really in B flat major, and the G minor harmony given to them is quite forced and unnatural. There are some crude intervals, too, in the vocal parts, particularly the leap, downwards, by a seventh, from D to E flat, which deviates sadly from the line of beauty, without any compensating meaning. The conclusion, in unison, on the fourth below the key-note, is a German affectation, sanctioned by the fashion of the day.

THE FIRESIDE OF OUR HOME: a two-part Song for Christmas time. The Poetry by F. W. EDWARDS. The Music by W. R. BRAIN. Cramer, Beale and Co.

This is a seasonable song. Both the poetry and the music are simple and unpretending; but the poetry speaks the home feelings which belong to the Christmas fireside, and the music is well fitted to sing them. It is to be sung by two solo voices, with a chorus in four-part harmony and, so performed, its effect will be found very pleasing.

THE HONEYMOON POLKA and HONEYMOON WALTZES. Composed by P. A. BLOCKSLEY. Addison and Holber.

THE BIRKBECK POLKA. Composed by V. MEDHURST. J. Duncombe

Waltzes and Polkas do not belong to a high class of musical composition. But, when good of their kind, they are not to be despised; for they may possess considerable intrinsic segno, independently of their effect in enliven ng a social evening. Such are the Waltzes and Polkas above named; they are pretty, lively, and well adapted for dancing.

THE THEATRES, &c.

HAYMARKET.

The long-announced re-appearance of Miss Cushman at this theatre took place on Monday. The character assumed was that of *Bianca*, in Milman's painful tragedy of "Fazio." Miss Cushman has lost none of her intensity of action—none of the energy of conception by which she was first distinguished. Her *Bianca* is a part of great power and of unparalleled pathos. We are constrained to pity, where we cannot approve. Her violence of her jealousy, and the suddenness of her revenge, leave her without excuse, or adequate motive, save in the unconstitutional vehemence of her feelings: her emotion is left to be its own justification. Here it is that Miss Cushman triumphs. She gives to it a reality which she feels herself, and makes us feel also. She manifestly suffers what she expresses—the exclusiveness of her love, the whirlwind of the passions, whether of hatred or revenge, and the utter prostration of sense and soul, when the result of her conduct presses upon her in the loss of all she had loved or to secure by it. Never was such humiliation, such despair, as those with which she approaches *Maddalo* when pleading for her husband's life. Nor is this intense gloom relieved by her manner entry on the gay ball-room of the courtezan. Still the same monotonous pale—still the same dull, dead melancholy; scarcely the exposure of her rival affords a gleam of satisfaction, and her heart breaks from the pressure of an unmitigable burthen. All this is wrought out with a consistency of purpose, and a natural expression which testify to the sterling genius. We welcome most heartily this re-appearance of Miss Cushman, with powers evidently not diminished; but, as it strikes us, increased. Mr. Howe was the *Fazio*, and acted with much energy, and great natural expression; Mrs. Stephens made a gorgeous *Maddalia*, though she wanted depth of purpose, and lustrious strength to give due expression to the complex phases of the character. Mr. Chippendale, on the other hand, idealized the brief part of old *Bartolo*, and shed a light on the first act which it has seldom, we think, hitherto received. The scenery and dresses were all in good taste; and, as now acted, the drama of "Fazio" bids fair to be better appreciated than it generally falls to its lot to be.

THE ROYAL WINDSOR THEATRICALS, on Thursday week, were assisted by Mr. Wigan, who was suddenly sent for, and the Olympic Theatre consequently closed for the evening. The indisposition of Mrs. Kean, which was the immediate occasion of the telegraphic message, was attended, we understand, with alarming symptoms, which, we are glad to hear, have now subsided; and hopes are confidently entertained of her recovery.

EGYPTIAN HALL.—MOVING DIORAMA OF CONSTANTINOPLE.—*Apropos* of the state of affairs in the East, a series of pictures have been produced under the above title, accompanied with an explanatory lecture, written by Mr. Albert Smith and Mr. Shirley Brooks, and delivered by Mr. Charles Kenney. That it was both well written and well delivered will be readily credited. The jests told with special effect, and the descriptions were extremely lucid. Indeed, a full practical knowledge of the subject was displayed in a pleasant, off-hand and easy style. The principal scene of the first part was the approach to Constantinople from the Sea of Marmora, by Seraglio Point, with the Golden Horn, and view of Stamboul, Pera, and Galata. There were also the interior of the Mosque of St. Sophia and of the Great Bazaar, which were appropriately grand. The second part was not without interest; the Slave-market; subterranean Cisterns; the Hosphorus, with its various points of association; and the final set-scene (painted by William Beverley), of a Fire in Constantinople, are each and all striking scenes, the last in particular. As the juncture of public affairs, it is to be hoped we should think, will prove attractive and instructive. The sketches were made on the spot, by Mr. Allom, assisted in the subsequent painting by Mr. Desvignes and Mr. Gordon.

PRESENTATION OF VALUABLE PIECE OF PLATE.—We alluded, in a recent Number of our Journal, to the detection and arrest of a fraudulent bankrupt—who had returned from Australia for a short time—by the vigilant exertions of Mr. J. B. Walker (of the firm of Messrs. J. and G. Boyd and Co. of Friday-street, Cheapside). We have now the pleasing duty of recording the fact that many of the leading firms of the wholesale houses of London having decided on offering a splendid present to Mr. Walker, for his services, a meeting was held at the Guildhall Coffee house, at which Mr Foster (of the house of Foster, Porter, and Co.) was chairman, and a very handsome testimonial was presented to the former gentleman, consisting of two silver vases, placed on a centre ornament of six lights and a basket for flowers, and a pair of candelabra *en suite*: the centre stands upon a massive plateau, very richly ornamented with vine and grapes; and upon the base are three figures emblematical of Perseverance, Wisdom, and Justice. The lower part is embellished with Mr. Walker's coat of arms, and bears a characteristic and suitable inscription. The sum Mr. Walker, for his services, received by voluntary subscriptions; and the whole affair displayed a generous feeling on the part of the creditors benefited; and of courage, ability, and perseverance on the part of the recipient—by both of which parties honourable.

IRISH FISHERIES.—The long-neglected fisheries of the west of Ireland appear to be at length in a fair way of being rendered available. Captain Symonds, R.N., has been recently at Clifden and Westport, for the purpose of ascertaining the most proper place of fixing a fishing station, and it is rumoured that Clew Bay is considered most eligible. The *Daily Express* says that "two large new steamers are on the stocks, constructing so as to carry in each the fish alive to market; and at the same time take cattle, corn, butter, or any goods that may offer, to Liverpool. There can be no doubt that in either way this speculation must pay, if properly worked."

THE FLOOD AT DONCASTER.—INUNDATION OF MARSH-GATE.

THE KING OF PORTUGAL.

The young King of Portugal, Pedro V., had barely attained his sixteenth year when the melancholy death of his mother opened to him the nominal sovereignty of the kingdom—the actual powers being intermediately wielded by his father, the King Regent. Dom Pedro is the eldest born of a large family. His mother resembled our own Queen in the care she bestowed on the education of her children—a duty too often neglected by Portuguese mothers. He has been carefully instructed in all the knowledge and accomplishments befitting his station; and he has already attracted towards himself the regards of his subjects by the suavity of his manners and his acquirements, which are above the average of those of Monarchs. Of a person so young there are no facts to record: his life is in the future. But he comes of a good stock. His mother, notwithstanding some faults of character, which did not prevent her being respected by her subjects, was an upright, courageous, and patriotic woman, who set her son the example of personal good conduct, and, in affairs of State, of a firm resistance to the intriguers who abound in the impure moral and political atmosphere of southern countries. It is understood that the young King inherits less of the faults than of the virtues of his deceased mother, and that he possesses all her patriotism, without her overbearing pride. Even had he not had the advantage of so careful a mother, from his father he would have inherited royal virtues. The King Consort, himself a highly-educated man, and coming from a stock which has given to Europe a race of astute Sovereigns and virtuous and accomplished Princesses, has watched over the education of the youthful King, and prepared him for the part he has to play in his country. This may be a more difficult one than might be predicted from the external tranquillity of Portugal. The Miguelite faction is not there extinct; and the chief guarantee of the future stability of the dynasty will be in the personal virtues and conduct of this the first male Sovereign since the throne was conveyed through the female line. The King Regent, who discharges the functions of Government until the coming of age of the Sovereign, is, as our readers are aware, first cousin of Prince Albert, being the son of Duke Ferdinand, who was uncle of the present Duke of Saxe-Coburg, and of our own Prince Consort. The brother of the King Regent is married to a daughter of the late King Louis Philippe. The Regent, who has never pretended to take an active share in state affairs, has the reputation of being an extremely good man as a private individual. As a husband he resembled the Coburgs generally, in setting an example to his subjects. He steered clear of politics; and, although holding a high military command, he avowedly has no taste for a martial life. On the occasion of the last revolution in Portugal he was, much against his will and his better sense, forced by the Queen to command the troops sent against the Duke of Saldanha. His reluctance was justified by the result, for all his men deserted him for the enemy's ranks, and he was obliged to return by stealth to the palace, accompanied by only a few officers. Since he became King Consort, he has devoted himself to the encouragement of the arts and sciences in Portugal. His income, derived from the State, he has applied to the improvement of the roads, especially about Cintra. The Pena Convent in the latter place he has bought, and converted into a palace, with plantations, drives, &c. He resembles Prince Albert in the face; has expressive blue eyes, and a fair complexion, and is rather tall. He is very fond of music and painting; and, in his general conduct, is respected and beloved by all. The best character we can give of the young King is, that he resembles the King Regent in the qualities for which he is most admired. From the evidences he has already given of capacity, the best expectations are entertained of his future conduct. In this respect, he resembles the young Duke of Brabant, whose position and fortunes are so much like his own.

DOM PEDRO V., KING OF PORTUGAL.

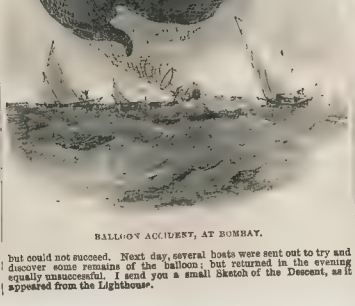
PHOTOLITHOGRAPHIC PROCESS.—In a recent sitting of the Société d'Encouragement pour l'Industrie Nationale, it was stated that a photolithographic process, which has so long been desired, has at length been discovered. It was thus described:—An ordinary lithographic stone is taken, and a solution of *bitume de Judée* (Jew's pitch) is placed on it. A negative photographic proof is then put on it, and is pressed on the stone for a period which may vary from ten minutes to four or five hours. The stone is then washed with pure ether, which soon evaporates. The figure is then found properly marked with its lights and shades; and it may be inked and drawn off as in ordinary lithographs. In the same sitting it was announced that a deaf and dumb man had discovered the means of painting photographic designs with a perfection not hitherto attained.

BALLOONING AT BOMBAY.

The idle taste for witnessing Balloon Ascent, appears to have reached Bombay; and to have induced an aëronaut to peril his life, and it is feared, add to the list of fatal catastrophes. A Correspondent writes from Bombay, Dec. 14, as follows:—

BOMBAY, Dec. 14, 1853.

Mr. Kight, a distinguished aëronaut (distinguished by his former failures), has made an ascent from the Grant-road, in the presence of a large concourse of natives, amongst whom was the Rajah of Dar, who promised Mr. Kight 2000 rupees if he went up and *came down again*, of which the Rajah seemed to entertain great doubts. At half-past three, p.m., all being ready, Mr. Kight stepped into the car; immediately the balloon rose slowly amidst the cheers of the assembled multitude. When about 800 yards up the balloon seemed to enter another current of air; it rose rapidly, and travelled in a north-westerly direction—straight out to sea; about five it had reached its greatest elevation (3000 feet), when it was observed to collapse, and descend at a frightful rate into the sea, about two miles off the Lighthouse. Several native fishing-boats were close by; but they were so terrified that they made the best of their way on shore, and left the poor aëronaut to perish, if he was not already dead, which in all probability was the case. The Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Navy used every exertion to arrive at the spot before dark,



BALLOON ACCIDENT, AT BOMBAY.

but could not succeed. Next day, several boats were sent out to try and discover some remains of the balloon; but returned in the evening equally unsuccessful. I send you a small Sketch of the Descent, as it appeared from the Lighthouse.

PLATE PRESENTED TO THE HON. HENRY BOYLE BERNARD.

At Bandon, on Tuesday, the 17th inst., a deputation from the Bandon tenantry presented to the Hon. H. B. Bernard a splendid Candelabrum, in testimony of his exertions for their benefit on all occasions, and particularly for his kindness to them during years of famine and distress.

The Candelabrum, manufactured by Mr. Hacket, of Cork, is three-and-a-half feet high, and of solid silver. The stems, of olive, pomegranate and fig-trees, support a basket for flowers and six candlesticks. Three dancing bacchante figures surround the stems, supporting a wreath of vines. At the base are three figures, representing Industry, Plenty, and Peace. Above the base are the inscription and two coats of arms.

An address having been read by G. C. Harris, Esq., on behalf of the servants, the party, to the number of fifty, favoured Mr. and Mrs. Bernard by their company at a déjeûner. The company invited to meet the tenantry included the Earl and Countess of Bandon and Lady Harriet

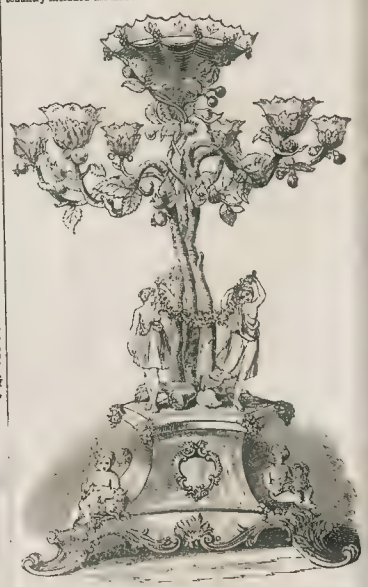


PLATE PRESENTED TO THE HON. HENRY BOYLE BERNARD

Bernard, Viscount Bernard, Col. Turner, Esq., Hon. C. B. and Mrs. Bernard (Kilbrogan), R. W. Doherty, Esq., the Rev. G. S. Swinney, &c. The Engraving is from a drawing by Mr. Stopford, of Cork.

THE FLOOD AT DONCASTER.

In our last Number we narrated the overflow of the river at Doncaster, and the fearful state of the part of the town known as the Marsh-gate. We now give some further particulars of this shocking inundation. As regarded this portion of the town, it may be said, that never was witnessed, on the part of the hundreds of spectators, so deep a feeling of commiseration. It had been previously known that the flood on Mexbro' Ings, about seven miles up the river, was three feet higher than it had ever been known before; and, as the water kept rapidly rising, great fears were entertained that it would be a considerable time before it would subside. This conviction rendered the situation in which the poor people in Marsh-gate were placed, almost overflowed, still more pitiable—a condition still more deplorable by the high price of coals and provisions. Still the waters kept rising, and in consequence of the height to which they had reached in the street, the Mayor gave orders for cabs to be constantly plying along the whole of Marsh-gate, in order to convey passengers to and from the town—a ferry of a very novel and unprecedented character. Fears were likewise entertained that the Mill-bridge would be blown up by the force of the current, which seemed to in-

m impetuosity. This, in all probability, would have been the
ghe thick ice with which the river was bound had not previously
up with little disturbance. Had it been otherwise, the weight
ream and pressure of large blocks of ice would have doomed the
dge to inevitable destruction—perhaps, swept it away altogether.
the Great Northern Railway, crossing to the residence of Mr.
ard, farmer, the road was crowded with spectators, and the
nxiety aroused to be manifested for the occupiers of Marsh-
Vehicles of every description were brought into use, and many
rals were carried through the turbulent stream in carts, on the
t of a penny. The whole of the property in this unfortunate
was under water. It was truly piteous to behold the occupiers
from their fire sides to take shelter in their upper rooms. All
nication was almost entirely cut off from them, as no one van-
nto the yards of the lower parts of Marsh-gate.
ard's lord the people were greatly alarmed, in consequence of
nt rapidity in the rise of the water in so short a time, and all had
refuge on the second floors, without being able to carry with
y fuel and the necessaries of life. Tables, chairs, and other
were floating about in the lower rooms, and sometimes came in
a with the framework of the windows. From Gray Friar's-
ge to the Marsh gate-bridge the road was one sheet of water, and
ble of the houses were inundated to an extent hitherto unknown.
y last morning (Thursday) the Marsh-gate was still impassable.
possible to give an adequate idea of the destruction to property
t has occasioned. During the night the water gradually subsided,
n some places, and less in others, but there was no indication of
ntial subsidence of the water until about eight o'clock this morn-
ten the Bentley bank burst, and the water rushed with fearful im-
ty on the Bentley Ings, and on the lands on each side of the
turnpike, as far as Bentley and Arksey. The circumstance
d an outlet for the water in Marsh-gate, and consequently, from
he above-named, the flood became gradually less. Two large
of railway sleepers, which had been washed down the river, were
up at the Marsh-gate lock; the water also forced its way into Mr.
's, the New River Tavern, and the approach to it was impassable.
the field behind the New River Tavern the water continued
n as furiously as ever over the turnpike and into the Falcon

whole neighbourhood bore marks of the devastating flood; and
privation which the poor people in Marsh-gate experienced was
mentable. From an early hour on Thursday morning vehicles of
description were plying from Grey-Friars-buildings to the Mill,
the inundation being confined within those two points. The water
ral of the courts and yards was as high as the window sills, and all
abitants were house-bound. In the evening fears began to be
ined as to the difficulty of lighting the public lamps in this
; but a small boat was procured, and rowed by two men under-
he gas lamps when one of the men climbed the wall and lighted
No communication whatever could be made with the inha-
s, except by means of ladders, which enabled some of them to
provisions, &c., for immediate wants. Others were quite unable
in anything, either in the shape of food or fuel.
flood has been more disastrous in its effects than any other yet
. The poor people have been deprived of their domestic comforts
ily labour, and their articles of furniture have been damaged and
estroyed. During Thursday and the evening the water in Marsh-
ad so far subsided as to admit of persons walking from one end
treet to the other, and the inhabitants were actively engaged in
rging the water from their respective houses. The banks of the
t Barnby Dun were burst, and the neighbourhood was fearfully
ted; but the waters have since much subsided.
accompanying view of the Marsh-gate, during the flood, is from a
by Mr. H. Tilbury, of Doncaster.

THE LATE REMARKABLE WEATHER.

he last meeting of the British Meteorological Society, January 24, a
was read, "On the Meteorology of the Past Quarter, in connection
Fall of Snow at the Beginning of the Year 54," by James Glaisher,
F.R.S. In commencement, Mr. Glaisher spoke of the value of
ation as afforded by the society, to the members of which he was
indebted for the observations upon which his paper was based.
fferent elements of investigation were treated singly, that the best-
esult upon the other might be clearly shown. "For," observed Mr.
er, "it is correctness of the data and results that in nature's own phe-
on is isolated was never better illustrated than at a time when the
s of the barometer and thermometer, the dense fogs, the heavy
and the protracted east wind formed a combination—one scarcely
abnormal in its departure from the average than the rest."
October, between Jersey and the Lizard, the mean temperature declined
ween lat. 51° and 58°, there was no difference. In November
of lat. 51° and north of lat. 53° it declined about 6°; but between
parallels to 9°, forming a band of cold the greatest that was ob-
ed, and which held its ground during the long period of two
s. Fog was one of the most remarkable features during the
. From November fogs frequently occurred, but not to the same
me, and were of great density. "They chiefly occupied the band of
etween lat. 51° and 53° before mentioned.
ember. A snow took place in the neighbourhood of Chester, in
ber. After Dec. 15, it fell at nearly every place; but more fre-
y between lat. 51° and 59° than elsewhere. On Dec. 16 it was, in
ces, 6 inches deep as at Shrewsbury, the following day, the tempera-
as registered at Manchester, was as low as 6°, but the maximum
or the season took place on the night common to Dec. 28 and 29,
ere recorded as far as meteorological stations, from Jersey to
ath, in the North of Scotland. The extreme severity of Jan. 3rd
ot at all le t south of the parallel of Uckfield, in Sussex. About
ace in this neighbourhood the thermometer fell early in the
ng to 10°, 11°, 13°, and 15°. It had reached the low points at one
k in the morning, and did not rise above them till eight o'clock. It
ot severely felt in the Midland Counties, where the reading was as
zero. By Mr. Lowe it was estimated at 4° this is the lowest read
bserved by any one—it was lower than any in the immediate
bourhood.
number of original communications from various observers were
by Mr. Glaisher, on the fall of snow on January 3, which was
ed over the country, but by far the greatest depth was in the paral-
latitude occupied by the fog and extreme cold. In parts of Corn-
there was none or very little; whilst at Holkham, on the Norfolk
, it was 2 feet deep as the following day, the temperature fell early in the
There had been much snow previously, and it then lay on the ground
depth of several feet. The drifts over England and Wales varied
feet to 10, 12, and 15 feet. They were very deep at Derby and at
th'm, and upon the Norfolk coast.
conclusion, as connected with the severity of the weather as fall-
ereafter, his own observation, Mr. Glaisher stated that several birds,
sheathed with ice for some days, till Jan. 4, when it began to
, and fell to the ground. Beneath a row of trees in the imme-
vicinity of his house, it was literally strewn with large fragments
retaining the curvature of the branch it originally encased.
nals, ordinarily exposed on Blackheath, suffered severely,
were observed frozen to death; also birds, which
fallen dead from the trees, were picked up in the im-
ate neighbourhood. The number of crystallised flakes mingled
the snow was another indication of the low tempera-
nder which it had been formed. Mr. Glaisher laid before the meet-
number of photographic copies of several he had himself observed
nuary 1 of the present year.
the conclusion of the paper, J. C. Whitbread, Esq., rose and com-
upon the value of the paper, and the elaborate nature of the
. A vote of thanks was moved to Mr. Glaisher, and unanimously
d. The meeting was numerously attended.

THE POPE AND THE CZAR.

—The Papal Government is said to
operating on the subject of its Holy Places, which will be a
, supported by facts, to certain historical assertions of the Govern-
of St. Petersburg. It is to be first communicated to the different
Courts, and will probably be afterwards published in the *Univers*
éco. The Pontifical Court's apprehensive that, whatever may be
ue of the struggle between Turkey and Russia, there will result
a fresh condition for the benefit of the Greeks of the whole, or a
portion, of the Holy Places, and it wishes beforehand to throw as
light as possible on the question.

DEBT OF CLERGYMEN.

—Some people talk a great deal about
ters, and the cost of keeping them, paying their house-rent, table
ses, and other items of salary. Did such creakers ever think that
ts thirty-five million dollars to pay the salaries of American lawyers;
twelve millions of dollars are paid out annually to keep our
nals; and ten millions of dollars to keep the dogs in the midst of
ve; while only six millions of dollars are spent annually to keep
housand preachers in the United States? These are facts, and sta-
s will show them to be facts. No one thing exerts such a mighty
nce in keeping this mighty republic from falling to pieces as the
and its ministers.—*New York Recorder.*

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

THE LAST RUSSIAN NOTE.

The latest report regarding the answer of Russia to the declaration of France and England, with respect to the entry of the combined fleets into the Black Sea, is that it arrived in London on the 22nd inst., in order that it might, in the first instance, be communicated to our Government; and that M. de Kisseleff, to whom the same despatch had been transmitted, was instructed to wait for the answer to be given to M. de Brunnow, before communicating the document to M. Drouyn de Lhuys. The Russian note expresses the astonishment felt by the Emperor Nicholas on learning that orders had been sent to the combined fleets to enter the Black Sea; and declares that, before giving a formal answer to the declaration to that effect, he considers it necessary to have some categorical explanations as to the attitude to be assumed by the fleets. He requires to know if France and England are about to abandon their neutrality; or if, on the contrary, they are about to become parties to the war carried on by Turkey against Russia. On these points the Emperor demands peremptory and categorical answers.

The nature of the answer sent by England is the subject of much speculation, both here and in Paris. The Paris correspondent says, it is reported there that "Lord Aberdeen has given an answer so pacific that the Czar cannot possibly take it in dudgeon." On the other hand, the correspondent of the *Chronicle* says, "there is no doubt that the language of the English Government, though equally courteous, is far more firm than that of France." The Paris correspondent of the *Globe*, writing on Thursday evening, says:—

There has been another rise of nearly one per cent in the Three per Cents, and everybody is talking of the peace; but on what information I know not, for the utmost that seems to be known from St Petersburg is, that the Emperor of Russia has not made a *casus belli* of the entrance of the combined fleets into the Black Sea. What is certain is, however, that persons who are supposed to have close relations with the Government, say that peace will be maintained if the English Cabinet will be ordered; but they say that the resolutions come to at the last Council in London were more *belligueuses* than they ought to have been. It was not long ago that these persons attributed the aggressive course of the Emperor of Russia to the excessive desire for peace manifested by the English Cabinet, and the hesitation at joining in the policy of vigorous action proposed by France; now there is quite a lamentation over the energy of the British Government.

The *Times* of yesterday did not venture to give any opinion on the Russian question; the *Chronicle* speaks of "further attempts at negotiation," as within the range of possibility; while the *Post*, in a semi-official looking article, makes the following significant statement:—

"The Emperor of Russia has thought fit to publish, in the *Journal de St. Petersbourg*, an announcement that the Russian Government has required from France and England a categorical declaration with regard to the character and bearing of their action in sending their fleets into the Black Sea, and that upon that declaration will depend the ulterior attitude of Russia.

"The Czar will not be held long in suspense. Before the meeting of Parliament, a definite, and to him most unsatisfactory, answer will be returned to his demand for explanations.

"The courier from St. Petersburg arrived at Paris two days later than at London, and the two Cabinets have had to concert their answer in this, as they have upon all other matters relating to the Eastern question.

"The Emperor would have been wiser to be silent, did he mean to avoid a rupture; for the answer that will be given must be as unpalatable to Russia as it is worthy of the Western Powers, and of the great cause they are united to support."

RUSSIA.

ST. PETERSBURG, Jan. 18.—It is believed that Count Orloff has received a confidential mission from the Czar for the Courts of Vienna, Berlin, Paris, and London. The energetic conduct of the Western Powers has produced that effect, and might lead to an arrangement before wounding too much the national *amour-propre*. The Czar is said to be greatly irritated against those who had urged him on to war, and fears were frequently entertained that he would have an attack of apoplexy. Another rumour says that he has sent to Prince Menschikoff an order for the return of the combined fleets were not there, and to continue the armaments at Odessa.

The Czar seems unwilling to abandon to the last moment the part he has hitherto assumed—not of the wrong-doer, but the wronged—not of the attacker, but the attacked; and he evidently prefers leaving to England and France the initiative in the complete rupture of diplomatic relations. While these notes and counter-notes are exchanged with diplomatic courtesy, private letters from St. Petersburg speak of the existence of an effervescence among the population of which it is difficult to give a just idea. The Czar, whether willingly or not, is afraid of what there stands for public opinion, encourages that general exaltation. His presence is hailed with frenzied shouts by the mob of "Orthodox believers" who throng the public ways and the churches; and even if he would, he dare not arrest that mad excitement. The state of things is alarming, and it seems not unlikely that an explosion of such a kind may take place as shall force the Emperor to publish a formal declaration of war even before his plans are matured.

The Odessa correspondent of the *Wanderer*, who is generally well-informed, wrote on the 12th that the first point at which the fleets were to touch was Sinope. Troops were continually marching through towards Brailla, and it was considered certain that the Danube would be crossed at that spot, or somewhere in the neighbourhood. For some days such tremendous quantities of beams, spars, fascines, and artillery have been forwarded, that it no longer admitted of a doubt that the most important operations were to be undertaken towards the lower end of the Danube. The news from St. Petersburg was anything but reassuring, the commanding officers having received orders to proceed with all possible energy. "The only chance of restoring peace is that the Porte may send a Plenipotentiary direct to St. Petersburg, for nothing less will satisfy the Emperor. The armaments throughout the whole empire surpass all belief." Trade was brisk, but the English and French ships were evidently in a hurry to be off. Perfectly credible advices of the 11th from St. Petersburg confirm the report of a new emission of Bank notes to the amount of 40,000,000 silver roubles. The organisation of all the reserve battalions has been ordered. We learn from Warsaw that on the 6th a part of the infantry corps, under General Luders, received orders to be prepared to march. The strength of the army of occupation in Poland is 45,000 troops of the line, and 24,000 men in garrison. These last are invalids.

AUSTRIA.

The intentions of Austria, in the event of a war, which is now considered inevitable, may be divined from the following short article in the *Oest Correspondens* of the 21st ult.:—

The report, which has run through the papers, that the Imperial Royal Internuncio and the Prussian Minister at Constantinople had protested against the Anglo-French fleets entering the Black Sea, has already been contradicted; but, in order that the exact truth may be known, we add the following:—

"When the representatives of the two great German Powers received the non-official intelligence that the fleets were about to be sent to sea, they considered it their duty to take measures for placing it beyond all doubt that this step had been resolved on without their having any hand in it (Zuthun).

"M. de Schreiner, the first dragoman of the Imperial Royal Embassy, was therefore sent to Redschid Pacha, with written instructions, and was besides instructed to leave a copy of them. The contents of the document were, that the measure in question must be considered as being beyond the agreement which the Allies had, on the 12th December, entered into with the Governments of France, Great Britain, and Prussia."

PRUSSIA.

Letters from Berlin state that the last news from St. Petersburg has greatly excited the Prussian Government. The feeling of the Czar was still against the proposition of France and England, and but little hope was entertained that the note would be accepted. Well-informed persons, however, think that the Czar, while he adheres to his resolution to treat alone with Turkey, without the intervention of any other power, will, nevertheless, give an evasive answer, so as to allow him not to recall his Ambassadors from London and Paris. He will also try to make some new attempts at the German Courts, and throw on the Western Powers all the burden of events in the Black Sea, as regards any new act on their part tending to a declaration of war, and the signal of an open rupture. His overtures with the view of bringing about another interview between the three Sovereigns have been received at Vienna, and still more at Berlin, with great reserve.

FRANCE.

PARIS, Thursday Night.—A private telegraphic despatch from Constantinople, of the 16th, announces that the combined fleets were making sail for Varna; and that the Russian fleet was cruising off Kaifa, at the entrance of the Sea of Azoff.

There was a report that the city of Kars had been taken by the Russians.

The Bourse has to day again shown much firmness. The Three per Cents closed at 70f. 40c. for the end of the month; and the Four-and-a-Half per Cents at 98f. 5c.

SPAIN.

MADRID, Jan. 21.—The Supreme Court of War and Marine has been reorganised and placed under the Presidency of the Captain-General, Villacampa.

AMERICA.

By the screw-steamer *Alps*, which arrived at Liverpool on Thursday, we have advices from New York to the 14th inst. The ship *Three Bells* had arrived at New York with 230 of the survivors from the wrecked steam-ship *San Francisco*. There was no news of importance from Washington. The New York Stock-market was depressed, but there was no alteration in the Money-Market. Flour was in good demand, at slightly advanced price. Wheat was also dearer. The ship *Chauncey*, Jerome, Jun., from Liverpool, for New York, was ashore near the Islands below New York, with her back broken and badly bilged. Crew and passengers saved.

THE ADDRESS.—The Address will be moved in the House of Lords by Lord Carnarvon and seconded by Lord Ducie. In the Commons it will be moved by Lord Castlereose (son of Lord Enamare), and seconded by Mr. Thomson Hankey.

GENERAL LORD GOUGH is to be the Colonel-in-Chief of the 60th Royal Rifles, vice Beresford, deceased—and not the Royal Duke who it was expected would have the appointment.

SIR RALPH LOPES, Bart., one of the members for South Devonshire, died on the night of the 24th, at his seat, near Plymouth.

THE screw-steamer *Olinda*, Captain Haram, which left Liverpool on Thursday, for the Brazils, has been wrecked on the Furlong Rocks, near Holyhead. The message announcing the circumstance states that the crew and the passengers were saved. The *Olinda* had a large and valuable cargo of fine goods. The *Lauriston*, from Liverpool for Ancona, was totally destroyed by fire in Holyhead Harbour on Thursday: her cargo was all lost.

ROYAL WESTMINSTER OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL.—We have much pleasure in stating that the proceeds of the performances on Wednesday even ing next, Feb. 1, at Exeter Hall, will be devoted to the funds of this charitable institution. A strong array of talented both vocal and instrumental, will be displayed on the occasion; and we trust the charity will reap much advantage from the evening's entertainment.

CROYDON PRIVATE THEATRICALS.—Three very clever amateur theatrical performances have recently taken place at Croydon, whereby the "Coal Fund" was benefited to the amount of £20, and the "Croydon Institution" received double that sum. A capital orchestra gave great zest to the performances.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE

PORTSMOUTH.—The utmost activity prevails in every department of this dockyard and its dependencies; and the Royal Clarence victualling establishment, Gosport, is in full work, baking and storing provisions for the fleet. The *Simoom*, 18, screw troop-frigate, Capt. Smith, is ordered to be ready for sea on the 15th February; *Bastlisk*, 6, paddle, Commander Egerton, by the 1st; and *Dauntless*, 33, screw, Captain Hyder, by the 3rd. Repairs are also to be immediately made in the steam troop-ship *Vulcan*, Captain Von Donop, as she will be required for service forthwith. Drafts of gunners have been ordered from the *Excellent*, for service in the *Cæsar*, 91, and *Dragon*, 6 (steam-ships), are ordered to be commissioned; the former by Captain Robb, and the latter by Captain Wilcox. Her Majesty's ship *Pelobe*, 16, Commander Nolloth, has sailed from Plymouth Sound for Sydney, South Australia. The *Apollo*, store-ship, has sailed for the Black Sea, with provisions, &c., for the fleet under Admiral Dundas. The *Cleopatra*, 50, was commissioned on Saturday for the Australian station.

PLYMOUTH.—The screw steam-ship *James Watt*, 90, has been commissioned by Captain George Elliot. The screw steamer *Nile*, 90, having been fitted with a screw propeller, will be taken out of dock on Monday, the 30th inst. The *Algiers*, 90, new screw steamer, was launched on Thursday.

PEMBROKE.—The new Royal steam-yacht, the *Windsor Castle*, is to be completed in six months from the present time. She will be built of solid Mahogany, upon the diagonal planking system. The principal dimensions are:—Length over all, 215 feet; breadth, 40 feet; and depth of hold, 22 feet. Tonnage, 2400 tons. She will be 20 or 30 feet longer than the *Duke of Wellington*.

ASSISTANT ENGINEERS.—It has been communicated to the young men in the factories at the dockyards, that any of them desirous of entering the Royal Navy as Third class assistant engineers will be accepted, if under twenty-eight years of age, on their passing the necessary examination as to their qualifications for that service.

THE ROYAL DOCKYARDS.—All classes in her Majesty's dockyards, artificers, labourers, &c., are now placed on job stock-work, and all earn, according to a revised scale of prices, as much money as their skill and industry can secure them.

THE ROYAL STEAM FORCE OF GREAT BRITAIN.—The progress of our Royal steam navy is wonderful: England possesses more marine steam-power in her Royal navy than all the steam fleets of the world combined could furnish. A few years since, we possessed only some 14,000-horse power; but, on the 1st of January, 1854, the British navy included no less than 762 steam-vessels of all classes; whilst the nominal steam-power of machinery in those ships represented more than that of 55,300 horses, with a reserve of 2800-horse power available for other Royal ships.

SOUTH-WEST DISTRICT.—The remainder of the 20th Foot have left Winchester by railway for Plymouth. The 36th Foot is expected to move from Portsmouth to Chatham, to embark for India in May. The 2nd battalion of the Coldstream Guards, at Chichester Barracks, has been instructed in great gun drill by the Royal Artillery. It is stated that this battalion of Foot Guards will exchange to Winchester Barracks.

READY FOR SERVICE.—It is rumoured that the 60th Rifles, the 79th Highlanders, and some of the Guards, are to hold themselves in readiness for instant departure.

NEW SUMMER TROUSERS FOR THE INFANTRY.—The texture of these trousers is the same as of those hitherto in use, the colour only being changed to dark blue, with a red stripe down the seam.

ENLISTMENT FOR THE ARMY AND NAVY.—A great many young men, varying in age from eighteen to thirty years, have arrived in London during the week from various parts of Somersetshire and Dorsetshire. They have come to town for the purpose of enlisting in her Majesty's service, and from the description given by them, many others will follow in a few days. It is expected that a strong levy will be made in the provinces, as there seems more reason now-a-days to believe that the promises held out to the men of bettering their condition will be fully carried out.

LONDON AND BRIGHTON RAILWAY COMPANY.—On Thursday the half-yearly meeting of this company was held at the Bridge House Hotel—Mr. Laing, Esq., in the chair—when the dividend of £3 10s. per cent (making 8 per cent for the year) was declared, and the arrangements for working the West-End and Crystal Palace Railway Company approved. In the course of the proceedings the chairman expressed his confidence that, should there be no unforeseen disturbing causes, the dividend of 5 per cent would continue to be maintained; though, from the high price of labour and materials used on railways, their expenses must of necessity be increased.

COSMOS INSTITUTION.—On Thursday a meeting was held at Exeter-hall to promote the establishment of a society under this name for the diffusion of education and science, on the great globe in Leicester-square to be purchased for the purposes of the society. Sir J. Dorat, M.D., took the chair; and resolutions approving of the establishment of the institution were unanimously passed.

ROYAL PANOPTICON OF SCIENCE AND ART.—On Thursday a special meeting of this corporation, which has for its object the diffusion of science and of taste for the fine arts, was held at the institution, Leicester-square, when the directors received authority to apply for a supplementary charter, in confirmation of the original one—a step rendered necessary by their late solicitor having neglected to lodge a copy of it at the offices of the Board of Trade within the period prescribed by law.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, January 29.—4th Sunday after Epiphany. George III. died.
MONDAY, 30.—King Charles I. beheaded, 1648.
TUESDAY, 31.—Hilary term ends. Guido Fawkes executed, 1606.
WEDNESDAY, February 1.—Pheasant and Partridge shooting ends.
THURSDAY, 2.—Purification. Candlemas Day.
FRIDAY, 3.—St. Blaise.
SATURDAY, 4.—Stoppage of the United States' Bank, 1840.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,

FOR THE WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 4.

Sunday.		Monday.		Tuesday.		Wednesday.		Thursday.		Friday.		Saturday.	
M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.
h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.
2 20	2 45	3 10	3 35	3 55	4 20	4 45	5 10	5 35	6 0	6 25	6 50	7 15	7 40
8 0	8 25	8 50	9 15	9 40	10 5	10 30	10 55	11 20	11 45	0 6	0 30	0 55	1 20

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

RUSTICUS.—We cannot spare room for your long letter on the British Museum, for the reform of which there seem to be as many plans as for its Library Catalogue.

ALPHA says that on the tomb of Charlemagne, at Aix la Chapelle, the bee is represented as embroidered on his mantle; and that Napoleon, in imitation of his illustrious predecessor, adopted it as his emblem.

A. CORRESPONDENT, 13, Birchin lane.—Motto of Nicholl: "Nil falsi audeat."

S. A. P.—The Beresford Viscountcy has become extinct. It was conferred on the distinguished soldier the late Marshal Beresford and the heirs male of his body, and ends, consequently, with his Lordship, who has died without issue.

Z. Y. (in reply to a letter of three sides) is recommended to consult the "Paris of Hackney Carriages," just published by authority of the Commissioners of Metropolitan Police.

M. E., Weymouth.—Any manufacturer of papier-mâché will supply you with imitative mother-o'-pearl.

T. R. H.—Hints for the Management of Gold Fish are appended to Bechstein's work on Cage Birds.

W. H. T.—See "Maunder's Treasury of Natural History."

E. F. T. S.—"To err is human; to forgive, divine;" is line 525 in Pope's "Essay on Criticism."

INVENTOR; Goswell-street.—The Lancashire Sewing-machine may be seen at the Company's Office, 2, Lawrence-lane, Cheapside.

G. H. L.—The verses are ineligible.

A PRESIDENT, Ren-ington, is thanked.

I. S. J., Camelford.—The sketches will be engraved.

J. D. C.—Specimens of stained glass may be seen at Wilmshurst's works, Foley-place.

A CONSTANT SUBSCRIBER.—The *North British Mail* is published in Glasgow.

COMMON THINGS.—Our correspondent will doubtless procure the information he seeks, on application to Lord Ashburton.

A CONSTANT SUBSCRIBER, Gatton, Dorset.—We do not find Woodsford among the Dorset castles destroyed in the Civil War; but we have not "Hutchins's History of Dorset" at hand.

A SUBSCRIBER, Norton Hall.—See "Short Short-Hand."

TALGARTH.—Mr. J. R. Wiffen, the translator of Tasso, has been dead many years.

J. M. T., Nottingham.—Received.

G. R. A.—The price of the beautifully-illustrated edition of Gray's "Elegy," lately published, is 7s. 6d.

J. D. D., Ball's Pond; and M. M. D., Liverpool.—The lines are inadmissible.

C. E. J. is thanked; but we have not room for his suggestion.

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT,
AND THE
WAR BETWEEN TURKEY AND RUSSIA.

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 1854.

THE Emperor of Russia has asked for information on the subject of the entrance of the Allied fleets into the Euxine. He does not treat the mere fact of their entrance as a declaration of war; and M. Brunnow will therefore remain in London, and M. Kisseleff in Paris, until the Governments of Great Britain and France shall officially declare to the Emperor, that their fleets are not to be passive spectators of, but active participators in, the struggle between the Emperor and the Sultan. The notification conveyed to the Emperor, was sufficiently explicit, one would think, to have left no room for doubt. They were not only conveyed to himself at St. Petersburg, but to his Admiral, at Sebastopol; and, by the aid of the Allies in the Euxine, the Turks have been enabled to convey troops and warlike stores to their Generals in Asia Minor. If, however, his Imperial Majesty desires more explicitness, there can be no reason why the two Governments should not re-state their intentions in the plainest terms consistent with courtesy. But Europe does not appear to be in any doubt as to the real meaning of this new demand. It is not considered probable that the Czar has changed his mind, or that he is less bent than before upon the conquest of Turkey. To gain time seems more likely to be his object. The motive is quite intelligible in itself, and quite consistent with his character. If he could prolong negotiation on any pretext until March or April, he could bring all his forces to bear on the line of the Danube, and at the same time operate against Schumla and Varna. If successful in so bold a scheme, his armies might once again cross the Balkan, and Constantinople would be at his feet. It is to be hoped, however, if time be the Emperor's object, that he will not be allowed to succeed in it. The Allies have as many reasons for promptitude as he has for delay. To negotiation in good faith, there can be no objection; but to negotiation as a mere sham and make-believe, there is every objection that wisdom and policy can urge. We therefore hope that the Emperor will be allowed no chance of mistaking what England and France mean in this business. They mean to have peace, and they mean to secure the independence of Turkey; and they mean to try whether they cannot attain both, by the compulsion of Russia—by moral compulsion, if possible; by physical compulsion, if no other will answer. They are thoroughly in earnest, and never were more so than at the present moment.

THE annual gathering of the Manchester politicians is, no doubt, intended to exercise an influence upon public opinion, preparatory to the meeting of Parliament. There was a time when these displays accomplished their object; but that time has gone by. With the repeal of the Corn-laws came a simultaneous repeal of the usefulness of Mr. Cobden and his coadjutors. It is possible that those leaders of the League who bewildered their minds in the misty mazes of the Peace controversy may have preserved in foreign countries some portion of the authority which they have lost in their own. It therefore becomes necessary, for the sake of English character abroad, that Englishmen should protest against the supposition that Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright represent public opinion amongst us. If, by any unlucky fatality, the Emperor of Russia should get it into his head that the sentiments of those gentlemen meet with any large approval or sympathy, the last slender hope of peace would be destroyed, and the war which Mr. Cobden so anxiously desires to prevent, would devastate all Europe. His policy, if fairly carried out, would reduce England to as low a level as Spain, and lead, at no distant day, to the utter extinction of that commerce which he seems to think the one thing needful, and to the destruction of those liberties of which he has been no undistinguished champion.

We confess ourselves unable to see the value of Mr. Cobden's arguments. He is of opinion that it is no part of the business of this nation to interfere in the quarrel between Russia and Turkey—because the upper classes of Russia imitate the manners of the English—because Turkey is a decaying country, which does not encourage commerce, and has no carriage-roads where four wheels can run—because, if Russia obtained possession of Constantinople, she could not turn the possession to any account, unless she became a great trading country, in which case she would of necessity be obliged to trade very largely with England—and because (which seems Mr. Cobden's principal reason) Turkey is Mahomedan. Ancillary to this line of argument, he asserts that we cannot interfere in such a quarrel with clean hands, because, however odious and unjust the aggression of Russia against Turkey may be, the British Government has been guilty of as great, if not greater, aggression in India. We are not to talk of protecting Turkey, "because we have knocked over Mahomedan dynasties like ninepins in India, and because we have shut up the Great Mogul in Delhi, although he once had 100,000,000 of subjects." We will put a parallel case to Mr. Cobden and those people—happily, we believe, few in numbers—who are likely to be swayed by his arguments. We will suppose Mr. Romanoff to have a large house, and to desire to obtain forcible possession of the house of his neighbour, Mr. Solyman, who is a man whose religion is different from that of his assailant, and is, moreover, old and paralytic, and not likely to live many years. But shall Mr. Romanoff be allowed first to plunder and then to murder Mr. Solyman? And shall a policeman, who detects Mr. Romanoff in the act of plunder, not interfere to prevent the consummation, because Mr. Solyman is a heretic, or an unbeliever; because, if left to himself, he cannot long survive; and because the policeman himself, at some previous period of his individual history, may not have been, in all respects, a model citizen? Is a man to be plundered with impunity, because he may offend our notions of the moral law—and may he be murdered because he is weak? Mr. Cobden, we are certain, would not for a moment support a doctrine so monstrous. The same morality which regulates the intercourse between man and man presides over the government of nations. Europe is one great Commonwealth, of which every king and ruler is a citizen. But Mr. Cobden attempts to meet this argument by asserting that he knows of no law or right by which this country can claim to act as the policeman of the nations, and to interfere in behalf of the oppressed. We can inform Mr. Cobden of the law that he ignores. It is the great and paramount law of necessity. We are bound, and France is bound, and Germany is bound, and we are all bound to interfere in such a case; because, if we do not interfere, we ignore the great morality of nations, and do our best to reduce Europe to the dominion of brute force—to make it a den of thieves or of wild beasts, in which force is the only ruler, and selfishness, in its most repulsive form, the only motive of action. Mr. Bright may imagine that, if the great Powers of Europe had never interfered, the dispute between Russia and Turkey would, in all probability, have been settled long ere this. There cannot be a doubt of it. The Russian armies would have been in Constantinople, and a fierce struggle of Mahomedan against Christian would have been raging in the fairest portions of the world—a struggle that would throw into the shade all the horrors of the most horrible war that ever desolated humanity. We have a proof of this in the treacherous and brutal massacre of Sinope—of which it is somewhat remarkable, and very suggestive, that Mr. Cobden does not choose to make the slightest mention.

We thank Heaven that Englishmen are not such men as Messrs. Cobden and Bright appear to wish them to be. If they were, this nation would be effectually relieved from the trouble of interference in the affairs of Europe. Our independence would be extinct, our power would be destroyed, our trade would be annihilated; we should be a seventh-rate people—a mere horde of miserable and spiritless slaves, the easy prey of the first despot who thought it worth his while to extend his dominion over us. Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright have no monopoly in their detestation of war; but few will wish to invade their monopoly of love for the principle of peace-at-all-price. It is not the principle of men, but of sheep, and leads direct to the undisputed supremacy of the wolf in the government of the world. War is as hateful to every sensible man as it can be to the orators of Manchester; but there are many things infinitely worse than war; and, among the chief of these, is the loss of honour.

But Mr. Cobden is right in one thing. He is grateful to the British Ministry for having done so much to preserve the peace of Europe. But the Ministry have only been so far successful because they had a large fleet at their disposal, and because they showed that, however loth to employ it, they were ready to do so, if arguments were unavailing to bring the aggressor to reason. We, also, are grateful to the Ministry, and are rejoiced to think that they have at their command such first-rate members of an effective Peace Society as Admirals Dundas and Sir Charles Napier.

THE COURT.

The Queen and the Prince Consort have received a succession of distinguished visitors at Windsor Castle during the past week. The company invited to witness the dramatic performance in the Rubens-room, on the 19th instant, separated on Saturday; and on Monday the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Earl and Countess of Clarendon, and Viscount and Viscountess Hardinge, arrived at the Castle on a visit.

On Tuesday the Duke and Duchess of Argyll, and the Earl and Countess of Bessborough, were added to the Royal circle.

On Wednesday his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge arrived at the Castle on a visit. The Royal party was also increased by the addition of the Marquis and Marchioness of Exeter and Lady Mary Cecil, the Earl of Malmesbury, the Earl and Countess Bruce, Viscount and Viscountess Palmerston, Viscount Drumlanrig, and the Speaker and Mrs Shaw Lefevre.

On Thursday a dramatic performance took place in the Rubens-room. The pieces selected for representation were a comedy, in one act, by Mr. T. J. Serle, entitled "Tender Precautions;" and a farce, in one act, by Mr. Charles Dance, called, "The Bengal Tiger." The principal characters in both pieces were filled by Mr. and Mrs. A. Wigan, Mr. and Mrs. Keeley, Mr. Howe, Mr. Robson, Mr. Addison; Miss Murray, and Miss Marston. In the course of Thursday her Majesty honoured Mr. J. E. Jones with a sitting for a bust, about to be executed, by her Majesty's command, for Mr. William Dargan.

Her Majesty and the Royal children have taken their accustomed riding and walking exercise daily, and the Prince Consort has generally enjoyed the sport of shooting in the Royal preserves.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent has dined at the Castle several times during the past week.

Viscount Torrington has succeeded Colonel Wylde in attendance on Prince Albert.

The Duke and Duchess of Bedford have arrived in Belgrave-square, from Windsor Castle. His Grace dined with Sir Charles and Lady Mary Wood, on Wednesday.

The Marquis and Marchioness of Exeter have been entertaining a distinguished party of the aristocracy at Burghley. The noble Marquis and her Ladyship came to town on Wednesday, having been honoured with her Majesty's commands to pass a couple of days at Windsor Castle.

The Earl Granville, as Lord President, will give his annual official banquet to the great Officers of State and the Clerks of Council this evening (Saturday), when the roll of Sheriffs for the ensuing year will be arranged.

The Countess of Strathmore has left the St. George's Hotel, to join the circle visiting the Earl and Countess of Hardwicke, at Wimpole Hall.

The Earl and Countess of Verulam have been dispensing their hospitality to a large and distinguished circle, during the past week, at Gorhambury.

The Earl of Eglinton and youthful family have arrived in St. James's-square, from Eglinton Castle.

Viscount and Viscountess Combermere arrived in Belgrave-square, on Monday, from Combermere Abbey.

Viscount and Viscountess Newport are entertaining a select party at his Lordship's hunting seat, at Melton Mowbray.

Lord and Lady John Russell received at dinner, on Wednesday, his Excellency the French Ambassador and the Countess Walewski, the Excellency the Austrian Minister and the Countess Colloredo, the Count Stralytsky, his Excellency the Sardinian Minister, the Duchess of Inverness, Lord Castlereagh, M.P., Miss Russell, Hon. Miss Lister, Hon. G. Byng, Mr. R. Grey, Her Ladyship subsequently had an evening party, which was attended by a select circle.

The Right Hon. B. Disraeli and Mrs. Disraeli have arrived at Grosvenor-gate for the season.

The Hon. Charles A. Murray, her Majesty's Minister at Berne, arrived in town yesterday from Switzerland.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—*Rectories:* The Rev. W. R. Brown to Cottered, with Broadfield annexed; Rev. J. Crofts to Little Tey, Essex; Rev. J. W. Doran to Beeston St. Lawrence, Norfolk; Rev. C. Jenkin to Herringswell, near Mildenhall; Rev. W. L. Jeffray to Ashford, near Chester; Rev. H. Price to Kilybebill, Glamorganshire; Rev. C. J. Vernon to Grafton Underwood, Northamptonshire; Rev. E. Whitehead, to Godmanstone, Dorchester. *Vicarages:* The Rev. J. W. Hull to North Muskham, Nottinghamshire; Rev. G. K. Weston to Toller Fratrum, with Uruford Eagle annexed, Dorsetshire. *Incumbencies:* The Rev. W. M. Beresford to Walton, near Aylesbury; Rev. W. Burns to Grimsargh, Lancashire; Rev. J. R. Dakers to Hawick; Rev. W. Doyle to St. Oswald's, Churton-upon-Medlock, Lancashire; Rev. J. Graham to St. Chad's, Lichfield; Rev. R. Hill to Mansell Lacy, Herefordshire; Rev. W. Hulme to Corfe, near Taunton; Rev. W. Fennefather to Christ Church, Barnet; Rev. G. D. Thompson to Queenborough; Rev. J. M. Valpy to St. John's, Nottingham. *Perpetual Curacies:* The Rev. J. M. Hawker to Earley, Berks; Rev. W. Hulme to Corfe, Somerset.

TESTIMONIAL.—The parishioners of Swaffham Bulbeck have presented the Rev. L. Jenyns, on his resigning that living, with a valuable collection of divinity books.

CANONS OF ST. PAUL'S.—The Minor Canons of St. Paul's have published a protest against the course recently pursued by two of their brethren—namely, the Rev. R. C. Packman and the Rev. James Lupton—in the appeal they have recently made to the Bishop of London, as visitor of the Cathedral.

NEW CHURCH, KENNINGTON-COMMON.—A large and handsome church has been for some time past in course of erection in Lorimer-square, a few yards north of Kennington-common, and will be ready for consecration in a few weeks. It is cruciform in shape; and, according to ecclesiological nomenclature, in the Gothic style of architecture of the Middle-pointed period.

PROPOSED REMOVAL OF THE CHURCHES IN THE CITY.—At the meeting of the board of guardians of the Holborn Union, on Monday, an address was agreed upon to the Lord Bishop of London, on the spiritual destitution existing in that union, and praying that the population of the parishes comprising the union to be 46,971; and with very inadequate amount of church accommodation. The guardians pray his Lordship, in the event of the City churches being removed, to take the state of their union into his best consideration.

THE BOURBON FAMILY.—We are requested to state, on positive authority, that the Princes of the Bourbon family have no accredited organ in the press of France, or of any other country; and that the opinions which have been attributed to them on the important questions now agitated in Europe are as unfounded as the hopes they have been supposed to entertain.—*Times.*

THE ORLEANS FAMILY.—The following letter has been addressed to the editor of the *Morning Herald*:—"Sir,—A letter purporting to have been addressed by her Royal Highness the Duchess of Orleans to the Duke of Nemours appeared in your columns of the 16th instant, and as the authenticity of that letter has obtained some credit, I received his Royal Highness's commands to acquaint you that such a letter has never existed. I am, sir, your obedient servant, T. GAUTHIER. Claremont, Jan. 21, 1854." A letter declaring the letter published by the *Morning Herald* to be fictitious has also been addressed to that journal on behalf of the Duchess of Orleans.

EAST INDIA TROOPS.—To-day 150 men, of the East India Company's service embarked at Pilbury Fort, from Warley Barracks, on board the ship *Lanconia*; and on Tuesday next the same number of men will also embark on board the ship *Malabar*, for conveyance to Madras.

LOSS OF "THE TAYLEUR" AUSTRALIAN PACKET-SHIP, OFF LAMBAY ISLAND.

WRECK OF THE "TAYLEUR," IN DUBLIN BAY.

ur publication of November 26 we gave an engraving and a de-tion of the new iron clipper-ship *Tayleur*, then recently launched, largest sailing merchantman ever built in this country. The l was designed expressly for the Australian passenger trade, to one of Messrs. Pilkington and Wilson's celebrated White Star . She was 2500 tons new measurement, and was capable of ying 4000 tons of cargo. No expense had been spared in her con-tion and fitting up, and the general opinion was that she would o a fast and safe sailer. Had justice been done to so fine a vessel, expectations would, probably, have been realised; but, if the pre-ng statements are correct, the ship was undermanned when she Liverpool, and to that fatal error the sad catastrophe we have this to relate, must be mainly attributed.

e *Tayleur* sailed from Liverpool for Melbourne, at five minutes to e, on Thursday, with 652 persons on board, including the crew, about eight p.m. was off Holyhead. After nightfall it began to strongly, and during all next day the ship struggled with an ad-wind. By that time the more intelligent of the passengers became sed on account of the evident incompetence of the crew to manage vessel. A number of the men were Chinese and Lascars, who y knew the English language, and were consequently unable to stand the orders given by the captain. Throughout the whole of y the weather was thick and hazy also, so that no observations be taken. Early on Saturday morning the ship was under full for which the captain was blamed by some of the passengers, who rked that the crew could not take in so much sail on an emergency. e day wore on the weather became boisterous, and about ten a.m. was in sight. In order to avoid any possible danger hip's course was altered about half-past eleven, and she was d up two points to windward. It was whilst on this course, and in half an hour after, that the man in the bows on the look-out cried Breakers on the starboard bow." It was then blowing heavily, and a sea running. The helm was put hard to starboard, the sheets of ead-sails let go, and every means taken to bring the ship round on rse free from the threatened danger. It was then impossible to see le's length from the vessel, and in about twenty minutes more she e with great violence on a reef of rocks running out from a creek to the eastward bluff of Lambay Island. The shock was tre-ous, shaking the vessel from stem to stern. She rose on the next and drove in rather broadside on; and when she struck again eaving, the sea made a clean breach over her amidships, setting ishing on deck afloat. After two or three more shocks, the ship began k by the stern, and the scene of confusion and dismay that ensued all description; the passengers rushing up the hatchway—hus-carrying their children, and women lying prostrate on the deck their infants, screaming and imploring help. The ship's quarter d on towards one side of the creek; and one of the cook's assist-a black man), two Lascars, and three seamen, contrived to jump on shore, and thus saved their lives. A rope and a spar were ead got across, and by this means a number of lives were rescued, through the activity and devoted gallantry of two or three young passengers, whose exertions in saving the lives of their fellow-rs deserve the highest praise. Those who attempted to escape by ws of the vessel all, or nearly, met a miserable fate; the moment ll into the water, the waves caught them, and dashed them vio-against the rocks; and the survivors on shore could perceive the manate creatures, with their heads bruised and cut open, struggling the waves, and one by one sinking under them. A first-cabin ger, who managed to get on shore, gives the following account of scenes which followed:—

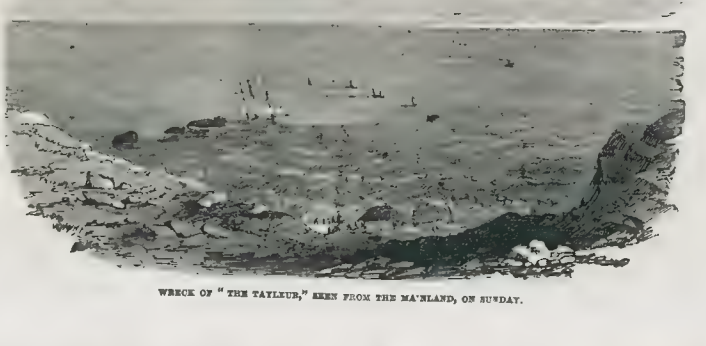
ng some of the earliest of the females who attempted to get on were some young Irishwomen. Most of them lost their hold of the and fell into the sea. The doctor of the ship, a most noble fellow, ed hard to save his wife and child, he had succeeded in getting half way to the shore on a rope—holding his child by its clothes in th—but just then the ship lurched outwards, by which the rope was d from the hands of those who held it on the lower rocks, and was by those above, thus running him high in the air, so that the ellow could not drop on the rock. Word was now given to lower e gently; but those who held it above let it go by the run, and the low, with his child, was buried in the waves, but in a short time appeared above the water, manfully battling with the waves and tions of the wreck that now floated about him. He at length swam der hanging by a rope alongside the ship, and got upon it. After he en there a minute or two he skulled close to him, he immediately id of her, and dragged her on the ladder, tenderly parted the hair r face, and appeared to be encouraging her, but in another minute washed from his hold, and sank almost immediately. He then got n into the ship and tried to get his wife on shore, but they both d. He deserved a better fate! The scene was now most truly The most desperate struggles for life were made by the wretched ers, great numbers of women jumped overboard, in the vain hope of g land; and the ropes were crowded by hundreds who, in their se, terror, and confusion, frustrated each other's efforts for self-ation. Many of the females would get half way, and then become to proceed further, and, after clinging to the rope for a short time, would be forced from their hold by those who came after them. Three women only, out of 200, were saved. One of those had got part of the way across when her legs fell, and she hung some time by her two hands over the foaming waves; her husband then came on the rope, and managed to assist her to the shore. Two men came on shore with children tied to their backs; but of the whole who fell into the water not above five were saved. I saw one fine girl, who, after falling from the rope, managed to get hold of another one, which was hanging from the side of the ship, and which she held on to for more than a quarter of an hour, the sea every moment dashing her against the side of the ship: but it was impossible for us to lend her any assistance. Some one got a spar out, by which several got on shore; but it soon broke; and now might be seen hundreds hanging to the bulwarks of the ship, each struggling to get on shore. I saw one young woman hanging on the middle of the rope for some time by her two hands, but those pushing to get on shore soon sent her to her doom. The ship's stern now began to sink; the ship made a lurch, and all the ropes were snapped asunder. The scene now was most harrowing. Every wave washed off scores at a time—we could see them struggle for a moment, then, tossing their arms, sink to rise no more. At length the whole of the ship sunk under water. There was a fearful struggle for a moment, and all, except two who were in the rigging, were gone. The coast-guard, who had been apprised of the wreck, now came up; but all they could do was to attempt to save the two who were in the rigging. They managed to get a line to one of them, by fastening two lines, at the end of each of which was a piece of wood, to a single line, and guiding it from the rock to the spot where the poor fellow was, so that he could reach it. They then dragged him ashore. There was one fine young man left on the top, but they could not reach him, and when he saw them going away his cries were heartrending. About two o'clock the next morning the coast-guard managed to reach him, after he had been in the top fourteen hours: you may fancy the poor fellow's joy at his deliverance. We found we were on Lambay Island, three miles from Rush, and about thirteen miles from Dublin.

Out of the entire number of persons on board only 282 individuals were saved, so that 370 lives must have been lost altogether. News of the wreck having been taken to Dublin, the steam-packet *Prince* was sent to Lambay Island on Sunday afternoon; and next morning the whole of the passengers and crew who had been rescued were taken to Dublin, where comfortable accommodation was provided for them.

Later accounts state that nearly 50 bodies have been found, and that an inquest is to be held. The *Liverpool Mercury* adds the following statement:—

We learn that a letter has been received from Captain Noble, but it conveys nothing like an accurate account of the cause of the disaster. It appears that he had two sails blown away in the gale of Friday and Saturday morning. His rudder—a patent one—is complained of as difficult to work, and his compasses were wrong. This is the sum of his statement. It appears that there were a little over 100 females on board, only three of whom are said to have been saved. The vessel still holds together; and, as there is a large quantity of timber on board, she may continue to do so.

A subscription list has been opened in Liverpool in aid of the unfortunate sufferers by this deplorable wreck. It is headed by Mr. Charles Moore, one of the owners, with £150, followed by the names of Messrs. Pilkington and Wilson (the Liverpool agents), £100; Mr. James Baines (of the Black Ball line of Australian packets), £100, &c.



WRECK OF "THE TAYLEUR," SEEN FROM THE MA'NLAND, ON SUNDAY.

THE LOSS OF THE 'SAN FRANCISCO."—The following abridged narrative of this disaster was supplied by Lieutenant Winder, U.S. Artillery, one of the passengers saved. "We sailed from New York on the 21st of December last. The *San Francisco* had on board about 800 troops, and 10 officers with their families, together with a crew, amounting in all to about 750 souls. On the night of the 23rd of December the vessel encountered a severe gale. We were then in the Gulf Stream. The vessel worked nobly until about three o'clock of that day, when the engineer reported the piston of the pump to be broken. The wind was then blowing hard from the north west. In a short time afterwards, the heavy sea which was running swept away all the boats. The ship was in the most imminent danger, and the greatest alarm prevailed. The passengers were then formed into gangs to pump the vessel, and all laboured to the utmost extent of their ability, and the ship was kept afloat. On the 24th, the barque *Ashby*, of Boston, hove in sight, and hove-to, and took off about 150 of the passengers. She was chartered to the nearest American port. On the 26th, we fell in with the British ship *Three Bells*, bound for New York. She lay by us, but the sea ran so high that we were then unable to communicate for several hours. On the 3rd of January the *Ashby*, Captain Stoddet, from New York to Liverpool hove in sight. She immediately bore down upon us, and when the weather moderated, the passengers and others on the wreck were embarked. The embarkation continued on the 3rd and 4th instant and on the morning of the 5th, all being completed, the two vessels set sail and left the wreck. The *Three Bells* sailed for the nearest American port, and the *Ashby* for Liverpool. When the *Ashby* left, the *San Francisco* was fast settling down. Her captain was the last man to leave her, and had to lower himself down by a rope from the bowsprit. The *Ashby* on Monday arrived all safe at the Mersey, and the rescued crew of the United States Government chartered the steamer *Arctic*, one of the Royal Mail steamers, to convey the troops rescued to Boston. The *San Francisco* was an entirely new and very fine steamer, capable of being used for war if required.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,
TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, JAN 26

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 61° A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading.	Thermometer. Lowest Reading.	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches
	Inches.	°	°	°	°			Inches.
ec. 20	29.952	52·1	31·7	43·6	+ 0·3	91	E.S.E.	0.00
" 21	30.178	51·0	32·3	42·3	+ 0·8	88	S. & S.E.	0.00
" 22	30.108	50·9	32·0	39·7	+ 2·9	91	"	0.00
" 23	30.103	51·1	35·7	42·0	+ 0·1	89	"	0.00
" 24	29.724	46·9	38·6	43·7	+ 1·7	92	"	0.06
" 25	30.144	48·9	29·2	38·8	+ 1·7	83	"	0.00
" 26	30.347	51·4	33·5	43·5	+ 0·3	76	"	0.00

Note.—The sign + denotes above the average. The numbers in the seventh column are isolated on the supposition that the saturation of the air is represented by 100.

The reading of the barometer increased from 29.98 inches at the beginning of the week to 30.32 inches by the morning of the 21st; decreased to 29.88 inches by the afternoon of the 24th; increased to 30.17 inches by the morning of the 26th; decreased to 30.12 inches by the evening of the same day; and increased to 30.47 inches by the end of the week. The mean for the week, at the height of 82 feet above the level of the sea, was 30.073 inches.

The mean daily temperatures have varied from 42° to 46° above the average value. During the time they have been above their averages, on every day from 20th to the 26th (except on the 25th, when it was slightly below)—the average excess was 2·3° daily.

The mean temperature of the week was 43·3°, being 6·4° above the average of the corresponding week of 39 years.

The range of temperature during the week was 22·6°, being the difference between the highest reading on the 20th, and the lowest on the 25th.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 16°. The greatest was 20·4° on the 26th, and the least 8·8° on the 24th.

Rain fell on two days during the week to the depth of 0·07 inch (nearly an-tenth of an inch).

The weather on the 20th and 24th, was dull, and the sky almost wholly overcast; on the 21st, 22nd, 23rd, and 26th, very fine, and the sky almost cloudless; and the 25th was fine during the former part of the day, but overcast and damp during the evening.

JAMES GLAISHER.
Lewisham, Jan. 27, 1854.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—In the week ending January 21, the births of 1700 children were registered in 845 weeks, and 855 were females. In the average number in the corresponding week of nine years was 1798 boys and 723 girls. The number of deaths registered in the week was 1195: in the preceding week it was 1192. This favourable check has been caused by the milder atmosphere, as shown in our weekly Meteorological Table. In the week ending Dec 23, and in the week ending Jan. 5, the mean temperatures were 35° and 29·2° respectively; in the week ending Jan. 19, and in this week, the mean temperatures were 40·6° and 42·3° respectively; and this increase of about 12° has been followed by a decrease of mortality of nearly 300 weekly. The average numbers of deaths caused by different diseases were only those of their average. The deaths referred to diseases of the respiratory organs, exclusive of phthisis and hooping-cough, amount to 250, and these produced by zymotic complaints are about the same number: of these, no less than 72 deaths were caused by hooping-cough (exceeding its corrected average by 27). Fatal cases of bronchitis have declined from 98 in the previous week to 133 in the last: pneumonia, from 114 to 75. The former complaint is less, but is still above the average; the latter is now below it. Bronchitis existing in the chronic state in aged persons, and stimulated to increased activity by the chronic state in aged persons, continues its course when the atmosphere has become warmer: the natural powers in advanced life are nearly exhausted, and its mortality has not yet declined. A different effect is observed in young persons liable to pneumonia and other acute diseases from exposure to cold: when the cause is removed, its fatal consequences almost immediately cease.

CORPORATION INQUIRY.

The Royal Commission continues its inquiry into the working of the Corporation. Among the witnesses examined this week was Mr. H. W. Harvey, who gave some interesting evidence regarding the City police, of which he has been commissioner since 1839. He is not in favour of an incorporation of the City police in the general metropolitan system. If there is to be only one police force for the whole metropolis, he contends that its real heart and centre ought to be in the City, and not in Scotland-yard. Where one detective case is brought before the Metropolitan police, there are ten such cases brought before the City police. Last year the City police force consisted of 579 men, at an annual cost of £44,341, or £74 17s. 1½d. per man. The metropolitan police consisted of 5,402 men, at an annual cost of £391,928, or £71 5s. 1d. per man. The area of the former is a mile and a half: that of the metropolitan districts 700 square miles. But the mere size of the City is no fair criterion of the amount of work performed by it, or of the number of its inhabitants a proper test. From careful observation, it has been ascertained that although the residents in the City number only 128,851, the number of daily persons who pass in daily for business is 316,000, making a total of 444,851. After giving a number of statements to show the greater efficiency of the City police, he wound up by remarking that no pecuniary inconvenience to the ratepayers of the metropolis out two police jurisdictions with it, as on all great public emergencies, the two separate forces act in conjunction.

REFORMATORY ESTABLISHMENT.—At the last Quarter Sessions for the county of Somerset, held at Wells, the grand jury, on bringing in their last presentment, handed a petition to the honourable chairman, Mr. W. Miles, M.P., pointing out the necessity for providing a reformatory establishment for the treatment and education of youthful criminals, and requested the honourable chairman to present it to the House of Commons on the meeting of Parliament. Mr. Miles, after reading the petition, said that he entirely concurred in the prayer of it, and would be most happy to present it to the House. It urged "that the common goals and houses of correction do not generally provide suitable means for the educational or corrective treatment of young children, who ought, when guilty of crime, to be treated in a manner different from the ordinary punishment of adult criminals; and that penal reformatory establishments ought to be founded and supported entirely at the public cost, and to be under the care and inspection of Government."

THE AUSTRALIAN EXPLORING EXPEDITION.—A general meeting of the Fellows and friends of the Royal Geographical Society was held on Monday night, in the Royal Horticultural Society's Rooms; the Right Hon. the Earl of Ellesmere, the president of the society, in the chair. The secretary read a paper in connection with the Australian Exploration Expedition. It appeared that some time since a committee of the Royal Geographical Society had taken into consideration the propriety of an expedition being sent to explore Australia, from Perth to Shark's Bay and the Cambridge Gulf, across the great interior of the continent to the Darling or the Murray. The result of the deliberations of the committee recommended to the council an exploration from Perth (in the south of the colony) to that of the Albert, on Gulf of Carpentaria—the means of transport to be bullocks and dr-ays and horses, procured at Moreton Bay, where the expedition was to be organised. According to the estimate sent to the Colonial Office, on Nov. 24, recommending the adoption of the expedition, at a cost of £2200, and the submission of an estimate to Parliament for a grant for that purpose. Subsequently a deputation from the council of the Royal Society, consisting of Captain Sir Edward Belcher, Captain Collinson, and Mr. Hodgkin, waited upon the Duke of Newcastle, at the Colonial Office, which they did on the 18th inst., when his Grace was so kind as to state that, on account of the growing importance of the colonies, the Government had determined to assume the whole responsibility of the expedition, and that the offer of the command would be made to Captain Stokes. In the meanwhile, Capt. Start and Mr. Eyre have kindly sent in estimates and memoranda for the benefit of the expedition.

CITY SEWERAGE WORKS.—During the year 1853 sewers were constructed in twenty-five different places, their aggregate length being about 4 981 feet. Nearly the whole of those sewers were in substitution of ancient sewers originally intended for surface drainage only, but temporari y used for house drainage until more efficient sewers could be built. The ancient sewers in Lombard-street, formerly the only City Ditch, have received the houses on the south side of Hosier lane and in John-street, Minories, Coleman-street, and other places, have been abandoned and filled up, and the house drains entering them have been connected with the new and deeper sewers in these streets. The length of ancient sewers abandoned and filled up exceeds that of the new sewers constructed, and the total length of existing sewers within the City remains, therefore, about the same as last year, or 49 1-3 miles. In the course of the year an extensive reparation of that portion of the Fleet sewer which is south of Fleet-bridge was commenced. Nearly every gully within that district has been re-trapped with traps of improved construction within the last five years.

THE CITY POLICE.—Chief Commissioner Harvey has declined the present of a piece of plate, designed and executed by the members of the force over which he presides. He says:—"If I was about to leave a service in which I have laboured incessantly well-nigh fifteen years, the toil and anxiety of which are greatly soothed by the remembrance of my successful efforts to obtain for all the members of the force a well-earned increase of pay, the proposed memorial would be most acceptable to my feelings. But when I consider that it may be my painful duty to admonish with severity or instantly to dismiss some members who have contributed to the proposed testimonial, I cannot consent to encounter the painful impression which such a necessity might provoke."

NATIONAL SPORTS.

OUNDEL STEEPLE-CHASES.—MONDAY.
Farmers' and Tradesmen's Handicap.—Harry, 1. Ben Lomond, 2.
Handicap Sweepstakes.—Pipaulboy, 1. Topsy, 2.
Selling Race.—Sailing Painter, 1. Nom de Guerre, 2.
TUESDAY.
Free Handicap.—Nom de Guerre, 1. Old Rake, 2.
Vochsuters' Stakes.—The Beaver, 1. Harry, 2.
Fairplay.—The Linnet, 1. Ivanhoe, 2.
The weather on Monday was mild and sunny, but the following day was cold and wet. Altogether the meeting was most creditably conducted.

WESKIRK RACE STEEPLE-CHASES.—WEDNESDAY.
Willtehouse Handicap, Dist 1 Sir Philip, 2.
Westbury Free Handicap Selling.—Countess, 1. Chester, 2.
Scramble.—Iodine, 1. Vesta, 2.

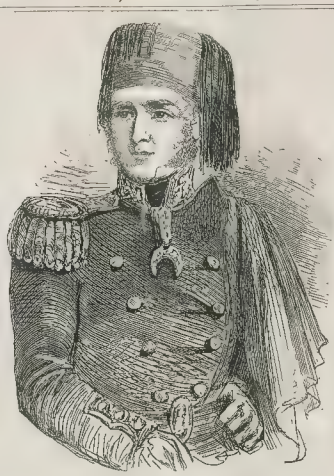
LATEST BETTING AT TATTERSALL'S ON THURSDAY EVENING.
LIVERPOOL STEEPLECHASE.
9 to 1 against Miss Mowbray (3k 10 st 10 lb) 20 to 1 against Lord George (off)
CHESTER CUP.
25 to 1 against Newminster (3k and off) | 40 to 1 against Wadi (6) | 50 to 1 against Jack Frost (5) | 50 to 1 — Llanforda (5) | 50 to 1 — Star of Surrey (4)
DERBY.
5 to 1 against Account (3k [illegible]) | 20 to 1 against Ivanhoe (3k) | 25 to 1 against Ben Brace (3k) | 25 to 1 against Ellington (3k) | 25 to 1 against Mincemeat (3k) | 25 to 1 against Rataplan (3k) | 25 to 1 against Sir Hugh (3k) | 25 to 1 against Sir Tatton Sykes (3k) | 25 to 1 against Wolfe (3k) | 25 to 1 against Wolfe (3k) | 25 to 1 against Wolfe

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

No. 666.—VOL. XXIV.] SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1854. [WITH TWO SUPPLEMENTS, 1s.

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

IT may be doubted whether the civilised world ever offers so grand a spectacle as the opening of the British Parliament by Queen Victoria in person. The muster and parade of armies may be more brilliant, and, in many respects, more attractive to the taste of Continental Sovereigns and their people; but the annual assemblage of the Legislature of this free country is an event that appeals to higher faculties and emotions. It rises far above such merely physical displays as these. Despotic Monarchs are obliged to surround themselves with troops of armed men, and to mimic, even in peaceful ceremonials, the rude scenic effects of warfare, whenever on any great occasions they desire to make their royalty appreciated by a show-loving and hero-worshipping multitude. The scene when her Majesty, surrounded by her Court and by the Great Ministers of State takes her seat upon the throne in the House of Lords, is one of great beauty and magnificence in itself, but it has a moral significance and importance which vastly enhance its splendour, and make military parade of the most imposing kind appear vulgar and poor in comparison. It not only pleases the eye and fills the imagination, but it satisfies the judgment of the spectator. It may be said to do even more than this; for, rightly considered, it should increase his proper self-esteem and elevate in his own estimation the dignity of his citizenship. Those who witness a sight so brilliant, and even the countless thousands who read of it in the public journals, cannot but reflect, when her Majesty addresses the assemblage before her, that the speaker is the Sovereign of the greatest, and one of the most ancient empires in the world; whose fleets are in every sea, and whose power and commerce pervade the earth; that the individuals to whom her words are more immediately directed are a rich, intelligent, and popular aristocracy—who, by themselves, or their ancestors, have always proved themselves the friends of the liberty of the people; and the members of the House of Commons—the most illustrious legislative body that ever existed in any country. They cannot but remember that the few and well-considered sentences which fall from the Royal lips are intended not only for the ears of those who are privileged to listen, but for the great English people in every part of the world—and, next to them, for the consideration and criticism of all civilised nations that can by any possibility be involved in our politics or interested in our progress.



ADMIRAL SLADE (MUCHAVER PACHA), OTTOMAN NAVY.
(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

The circumstances of Europe gave to the usual State ceremonial of Tuesday last an importance which no similar anniversary has had at any period within the recollection of the present generation. The great question of peace or war did not, it is true, depend for its solution upon the words which the responsible Ministers of Queen Victoria advised their Sovereign to utter; but the anxiety of the nation was excited in the highest degree to know whether those words would assert the dignity of the British Empire; and the determination of its Government to do its best to maintain the equilibrium of Europe, by peaceful means, as long as peaceful means were both honourable and possible; and by warlike means whenever it became evident that the public disturber was not to be influenced by any other. The Speech has not belied expectation. The Emperor of Russia—who never appears to have believed that Great Britain and France were in earnest until their squadrons were in the Euxine—will understand, and, it is to be hoped, appreciate it. The immediate increase both of our military and naval armaments which the Speech, in its opening paragraph, so significantly announces, if it do not help the Czar to a pacific conclusion, will show the wavering Courts and Cabinets of Europe which side they had better take, if they wish to preserve themselves intact amid the impending crash, which is certain to follow on every point against which the united forces of Great Britain and France shall be directed. The result of the war—if war is to come—will be loss of power, of prestige, and of position to Russia; but to Austria, if she prefer a Russian alliance in a wrongful cause to a British

ADMIRAL SLADE'S (MUCHAVER PACHA'S) FLAG-SHIP "NUZETIEH," "VICTORIOUS."—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

and French alliance in a right'ul one, it may be dismemberment and destruction. A similar fate may also await Prussia. If those Powers had the proper sagacity, they would see, ere too late, that participation with Russia is ruin to their true interests. If they had sagacity, even in a minor degree, they would see that their neutrality in such a cause is a voluntary abdication of their rank in Europe, which sinks them to the status of second-rate Powers, and fixes the date of their own decline.

In all the topics connected with Home Politics, the Queen's Speech is as satisfactory as in its short but pithy mention of Foreign Affairs. Deficient harvests no longer produce turmoil and sedition in this country. They cause the Government and the wealthy classes to sympathise with the people, but not to dread them. For this happy result the nation is indebted to the wisdom of the statesmen and legislators who recognised and affirmed the great principles of Free-trade. The allusion to this subject in her Majesty's Speech was as just as it was graceful; and the promise of a further extension of the principle to articles and interests not yet subjected to it will meet the public approval. Perhaps, too, in connection with the gratifying increase of Income over Expenditure which has accompanied the emancipation of trade from so many fiscal trammels it may induce other nations to ask themselves whether it would not be wise to imitate our example.

The reforms which the Ministry have promised are many and comprehensive; and, even without the more engrossing topic of a Continental war would have sufficed to render the Speech a remarkable one. The educational systems of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge are to be improved; the efficiency of the Civil Service of the Crown is to be increased; the Ecclesiastical Courts—so antiquated, so cumbrous, and so costly—are to be relieved of their jurisdiction in testamentary and matrimonial cases; the practice of the Courts of Common Law, to which these cases are to be transferred, is to be amended; the Law of Settlement—which interferes with the freedom of labour, and prevents the working classes, especially the peasantry and farm labourers, from turning their industry to the most profitable account—is to be reconsidered, and, if practicable, amended; and the House of Commons is once more to be reformed. The Speech designates the direction of the reforms which are contemplated. They include the suppression and punishment of Bribery and Corrupt Practices at Elections, which is rather a purification than a reform; and an extension of the principles of the Reform Act of 1832. This may mean a further disfranchisement of small boroughs, and the transference of their privilege to new and rising towns; and may possibly include an extension of the franchise. Upon these and other points the public will be more fully informed as the Session advances. The importance of most of them is not easily to be overrated; and if only one-half of the reforms which are thus shadowed forth, be successfully carried through Parliament during the Session of 1854, it will be memorable in English history for other reasons than for the war against Russia. In the meantime the imminence of that war is the topic which most interests the nation. The significant language of the Speech, and the equally significant cheers of the multitude when the Turkish Ambassador was recognised on his way to the House of Lords, show that the Government and the people are of one mind. We doubt whether, after the lapse of a few months, the Emperor of Russia and his people will be in the same enviable position.

ADMIRAL [CAPTAIN] SLADE.

Captain Adolphus Slade (Mushaver Pacha), a Post Captain in the Royal Navy, is the fifth (third surviving) son of General Sir John Slade, Baronet, of Maunsell Grange, in the county of Somerset, G.C.H., and Colonel-in-Chief of the 5th Dragoon Guards. His eldest brother, John Henry, Lieutenant-Colonel in the 1st Dragoon Guards, died in 1842: his second brother, Major in the 3rd Light Dragoons, died on his passage home from India in 1838; and a third, but younger brother, Albert Robert, a Lieutenant in the Royal Navy, died at sea in 1828, from fever caught on the coast of Africa. He is also brother to Frederic William Slade, Esq., Q.C., and to Colonel Marcus Slade (twin with Frederic), who commanded the 90th Light Infantry during the Kaffir war, and is now Inspecting Field Officer at York.

Captain Adolphus Slade is a remarkable, but not uncommon, instance of what talent and energy will effect, even against the withering influence of the system of favouritism and patronage, which at one time so extensively prevailed at the Admiralty.

This gallant officer owes little to the Admiralty, still less to party. His promotion has been tardy, and every step deservedly but hardly won. He commenced his career at an early age as a pupil in the Royal Naval College, at Portsmouth, where he carried off the gold medal; but had the mortification to see many of his competitors promoted to the rank of Post-Captain, while he yet remained a Midshipman. He entered the navy in 1817, and first went to sea in the *Tyne*, 26, Captain Gordon Thomas Falcon, with whom he served three years in South America, returning in 1820. The remainder of his professional life may be said to have been passed in the Mediterranean, for we next find him on board the *Revenge*, flag-ship of Sir Harry Neale, with whom he was present at the demonstration against Algiers, in 1824. He passed his examination in 1822, and on the 27th November, 1827, shortly after the battle of Navarino, (at which he was present, in command, we believe, of the *Hind* cutter), obtained his first commission. In 1828 he went upon half-pay, and war having then declared itself between Turkey and Russia, he proceeded to Constantinople as a private traveller, but wisely availed himself on all occasions of his position as a British officer. In this capacity he was on board the flag-ship of the then Capitan Pacha (Achmet Fayzugli), and accompanied him with the whole fleet on a cruise in the Black Sea. He was also on board the *Blonde* frigate, Captain (now Sir Edward) Lyons, and visited Sebastopol, Odessa, and Varna in that vessel. After the peace of Adrianople he traversed the whole line of the Russian army from Varna to Widdin, and thence to Adrianople, concluding with an extensive tour in Asia Minor—a full account of which he afterwards gave to the public under the title of "Records of Travel in Turkey, with a cruise in the Black Sea with the Capitan Pacha."* Lieutenant Slade remained unemployed until 1834, but not idle; he placed himself as a student at the Royal Naval College at Portsmouth, in the senior department; and, under the able superintendence of the professors there, made himself master of the highest branches of scientific knowledge. In January, 1834, he joined the *Caledonian*, 120, flag-ship of Admiral Sir Josias Rowley, as additional Lieutenant, selected by the Admiral himself as an officer most competent to assist him in the delicate negotiations which he might have to transact as Commander-in-Chief in the Mediterranean. Lieutenant Slade served in the *Caledonia* until 1837, and during that time was constantly employed by the Admiral in matters of the most confidential nature connected with Constantinople and our policy in the East. He was twice, we believe—certainly once—again at Sebastopol, and furnished a most valuable report to his Admiral upon the state of the defences of that great naval arsenal of Russia, a most important document, and one which we trust is yet to be found in some pigeon-hole at the Admiralty. He again published an account of his travels during these years under the title of "Turkey, Greece, and Malta," and remained unemployed and unnoticed till 1841; at the close of which year (when Lord Auckland was First Lord of the Admiralty), after being twenty-six years in the service, he was at length promoted to the rank of Commander. Having attained this rank, he placed himself in the Arsenal at Woolwich, for the purpose of studying steam, where he obtained a first-class certificate; and, in 1846, (July 2nd), was put in command—not of a steamer, but—of a sailing-vessel, the *Recruit*, 12-gun iron brig, of a new construction: and for which he found the greatest difficulty in obtaining volunteers. He remained in this vessel till she was paid off, at the close of 1847, employed upon particular service on the coast of Spain and at the Azores, and in the performance of which his conduct was highly approved.

On the 1st January, 1849, the Earl of Auckland, First Lord of the Admiralty, died suddenly; and it was during the interregnum which occurred between his death and the appointment of his successor that Commander Slade obtained his post rank. The power was in the First Sea Lord. Admiral Sir James Dundas, the gallant Admiral who now commands the English fleet in the Black Sea, was the First Sea Lord; and on the 10th January, 1849, Commander Slade's name, with that of William Peel (son of Sir Robert), appeared in the *Gazette* as promoted to the rank of Post Captain.

Captain Slade has held no actual command in the British service since attaining his post-rank. At the close of 1849, he was again at the Naval College at Portsmouth, when the rumour of probable disturbances between Turkey and Austria, on account of the asylum which the former Power had granted to the Hungarian refugees, made it desirable that some officer should be sent out to the Mediterranean, whose knowledge of the language and customs of the Ottomans might be of service to the Admiral Commanding-in-Chief: Captain Slade was selected by the Foreign-office to discharge this important duty; and at their suggestion, we believe, was appointed by the Admiralty Second Captain of the *Queen* flag-ship, in the Mediterranean. He proceeded to join that ship within twenty-four hours of his appointment; and, after a very short service as additional Captain thereof, was lent (we believe the term is) to the Turkish Government; and, under these circumstances, is now serving in their fleet, with the rank of full Admiral, and the title of Mushaver Pachs (which means, consulting or advising Pachs).

Captain Slade is one of the most scientific officers in the service; in addition to which he is familiar with the principal languages of the Mediterranean, viz., French, Spanish, and Italian; and also with Turkish—and is, perhaps, the only English officer who is well acquainted with the latter language.

The Portrait upon the preceding page has been engraved from a family picture. We have also engraved the Admiral's Flag-ship, which bears the Turkish name *Nusrethi* (in English, *Victorious*). She was built in the Turkish waters, in 1838, by Mr. Rhodes, an American: she is a noble specimen of naval architecture, and will, no doubt, should her services be required, prove herself a powerful and dangerous antagonist. Her dimensions and armament are as follow:—

DIMENSIONS.

Length between perpendiculars	..	..	..	..	..	202	feet
Beam	..	..	..	..	..	48	,,
Displacement	..	..	..	..	..	4200	tons
Draught forward	..	..	..	..	..	21½	feet
,, Aft	..	..	..	..	..	23	,,

ARMAMENT.

Main deck	..	..	..	..	36	32-pounders	
Lower deck	..	..	..	..	36	45	,,

All nine feet guns.

Our Engraving is from a sketch with which we have been favoured by Lieut. Montague O'Reilly, of H.M.S. *Retribution*.

WARLIKE INDICATIONS.

THE RUSSIAN EMBASSY.

We are enabled to announce that diplomatic relations between Great Britain and Russia are broken off. His Excellency Baron de Brunnow, Ambassador of the Czar at the Court of St. James's, leaves London at an early hour to-morrow morning.—*Morning Post*, Thursday.

Yesterday his Excellency the Russian Ambassador, Baron Brunnow, gave notice to the servants not immediately waiting on his Excellency, that their services were no longer required, as the Baron was about to leave the country. Every preparation has been made to enable his Excellency to leave at once. The hour or day of departure depends entirely on the completion of the arrangements necessary for the Ambassador to leave. The passports requisite to enable his Excellency to leave are going on with the greatest rapidity.—*Globe* of Thursday.

Mission to Constantinople.—Sir John Burgoyne is about to proceed in company with, it is said, Colonel Ardent to Constantinople: these officers being commissioned by their respective Governments to proceed there on duty connected with military engineering. Several military councils have been held at the Tuileries with respect to this subject, at which the most eminent French military engineers have assisted. The Emperor has been present at all, and has taken great interest in their labours.—*Post*.

Sir Joseph Trackwell.—The *Cork Constitution* states that, on Monday, a telegraphic message was received in that city, summoning Sir Joseph Thackwell over to London.

Important Despatches to Constantinople.—On Monday night the Government sent off to our Ambassador at Constantinople, and to the Commander-in-Chief of the fleet, the official answer to the formal question of the Emperor of Russia, as to the reason why the British naval forces have entered the Black Sea. Mr. Tucker, the bearer of the despatches, proceeds at once to Marseilles, and thence by the *Cavador*, despatch steam-vessel, to the Bosphorus.

Crutches and Bandages.—About fifty tons of medical stores were sent out from Southampton yesterday week, by the Peninsular and Oriental Company's Constantinople steamer, *Delphi*, to the British fleet in the Black Sea. These stores were contained in nearly 250 packages, and their contents comprised everything that would be necessary after a great naval battle, such as bandages, knee-caps, bandages, &c., and in struments for surgical operations, every requisite for gun-shot wounds, &c. The whole of these stores were sent from Haslar.

Admiral Corry's Squadron.—It is stated in letters received from the fleet of Rear-Admiral Corry, that the vessels of the western squadron at Lisbon are ordered home, for the purpose of being stationed at the Nore and on the anchorage ground off the port off Sheerness, and are to be kept in a state of readiness for service, emergency, and in case their services should be required in the North Seas.—*Times*.

Prudent Precautions.—We are informed by a correspondent that a number of Russian ships that were at Liverpool have been sold to British subjects, and that the Russian flag will no longer be the navigated under the British flag. Information on the subject, we understand, has been forwarded to the Board of Trade.—*Shipping Gazette*.

The greatest activity is being used in all our naval arsenals: new ships, principally screw steamers, are being launched, and others are being equipped with the utmost despatch. The offices at the Horse Guards, and the military stations in connection therewith, are unremitting in their exertions.

Increase of our Army.—The army estimates for the ensuing financial year provide for an increase to the forces of no less than 10,000 men.

Royal Navy and Marines.—The active forces of the Royal navy are also to be increased by an addition of 10,000 seamen and 2000 marines.

A Disappointed Suitor.—The Madras *Athenæum* states that a native suitor was committed one day last month by the Chief Justice for contempt of court, under rather novel circumstances. He had brought an action against certain persons, which was unsuccessful, and when the verdict was pronounced he took out a knife and began to cut his throat before a l the public. Of course he was instantly seized, and Sir Christopher sent him off to gaol, for an attempt to perpetrate a felony. "I am act of authority which will tend to confuse still further the native notions as to what a man may do with his own."

Across the Atlantic in Five Days.—The *New York Tribune* says:—"The new steamer *W. Norris*, which is to make the passage to Europe in five or six days, is rapidly approaching completion. Her outside is nearly finished, and she may be afloat in a fortnight. This vessel is simply cut and sharp, with a good model for running fast in smooth water. She is made unusually strong, by having her timbers strapped diagonally with bars of iron, and by an iron kelson extending from the keel to the deck, excepting in the central part of the vessel, devoted to the engine. This kelson is composed of two parallel sheets of iron near half an inch in thickness, less than a foot apart, and so fashioned and connected as to form a water tank. On either side of this kelson are bilge kelsons, formed in the same manner, also connected with the deck. It is expected that these unusual supports will give such an amount of strength and solidity to the steamer as to make her excel all other vessels of similar dimensions."

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Paris, Thursday.

The apparent impossibility of any pacific termination of the Oriental question seems to reconcile people here to the idea of war, to a considerable extent. Among the military the desire to be engaged in it is decidedly marked, and to such an extent, that all seek to take places in the army which it is supposed will be sent to Turkey. So numerous, indeed, are the demands, that it is found necessary to take measures to prevent the Bureaux being encumbered by the number of military men who come to seek enrolment. The Minister of War is more than ever averse to according leaves of absence. M. de Kisseleff, last week, at a soirée, in the house of M. G——, at Beaujon, made no secret of his opinion of the impossibility of an amicable arrangement of matters; and expressed his deep regret at the impending necessity of his departure from Paris, where he is so generally popular, and where he has for so many years led a mode of life so agreeable to him. M. de Kisseleff's habitual circumspection is so great, that there remains little or no doubt of the result of an affair of which he speaks so unreservedly.

The Russian Government entertains the greatest jealousy of permitting the entrance of strangers, whom it regards as spies. A Frenchman recently quitted Paris, with a passport duly signed by M. de Kisseleff, for Southern Russia and the Crimea; and, having gone to Sebastopol, he was, on visiting the Place d'Armes, accosted by a Russian officer, who demanded his business. Our traveller replying that he merely came as a *voyageur*, and producing his passport, the officer informed him that his passport was for Southern Russia; that he was forbidden only to enter Sebastopol or the Caspian Sea; and, without further parley, put him on board of a vessel starting for Odessa, where, however, he received all due attention and politeness, the Captain refusing even to accept passage money.

Prince Napoleon took his departure on Monday, for Brussels, where he is gone on a visit to the King of the Belgians. It is not supposed that this step has any particular signification beyond the general desire of establishing a continuation of the good understanding subsisting between the two countries, at a moment when the prospect of a war which concerns all Europe renders it doubly desirable that allies should strengthen the links already existing between them.

A brilliant ball was given at the Palais Royal, on Thursday, by M. de Cambacérès, Grand Master of the Ceremonies. On Sunday, a ball (non official), at which the Emperor appeared, was given by the Prince Jérome; and the Prince Murat followed the example on Wednesday. Fêtes at private houses continue to be as few and far between as ever.

The ball at the Hôtel de Ville, on Saturday night, was, as was expected, very brilliantly attended, and, though crowded, was more select than these entertainments are in general. The appearance of an *ouvrier*, in his working costume, in the midst of the guests, excited among the authorities, as well as among the *invités*, no small degree of astonishment, the greatest strictness having been observed in the examination of the tickets.

A commission has been formed, and a subscription opened, for the erection, by the Communs de Rusil (in which she lies buried), of a monument to the Empress Josephine.

The apartment called the *Salle de l'Empereur*, at the Hôtel de Ville, has just been decorated by the completion of the ceiling painted by M. Ingres. This work is of an allegorical character, representing the Emperor Napoleon I. mounting to the skies, attended by Victory and Nemesis. Notwithstanding the very doubtful and now happily nearly exploded taste, in which the ridiculous rarely fails to mingle with the sublime in these compositions, when treating of modern personages and events, the execution of the work in a great measure redeems this primary defect; and it is whispered in the artist circle that there is a probability of its bringing its author to a seat in the Senate—such an act having its precedent in the case of David, the painter, under Napoleon I., who had his place at the Luxembourg.

The statement contained in our last of the probability of the destruction of the present Palais d'Industrie, and the erection of a new one in the Champs de Mars, is not, it appears, to be carried out: the loss of time, money, space, and labour, that such a plan must necessarily entail, being too formidable to be encountered; more especially when the state of affairs is so menacing all over Europe as to render it likely that the number of objects sent from the different nations to furnish it will be much diminished. The mattresses for the purpose for which it is designed, however, none the less unquestionable, and various plans are being considered for making alterations and additions, so as to obviate, as far as may be, its defects.

It appears that, notwithstanding the agitated state of the country, the projects for demolitions, alterations, and buildings in Paris are no less active than ever. A plan is now proposed for the opening of a new boulevard in the Faubourg St. Marcel, occupying a length of two kilomètres, and calculated at an expense of four millions of francs (£160,000). The improvement to be effected by such a measure, in one of the worst and most unwholesome quarters of Paris, is unquestionable; but, undertaken at this moment, it must, of course, add to one of the crying evils of the day—the expense and difficulty attending the lodging of the poor and working classes in this city, whose sufferings from this cause, when added to the dearness of provisions, are already most severe.

A charity ball, for the benefit of an excellent institution—the Asile-Ecole-Fénélon—is to take place on Monday, at the Italian Opera-house.

At this moment is taking place the sale of one of the most singular and interesting collection of autographs that could be brought together. It contains not mere specimens of the handwriting, but in innumerable instances long and most interesting letters from some of the most celebrated characters of all classes (principally French) of the last two or three centuries. Among the naval illustrations are Jean Bart, Duquesne, Duguay-Trouin, the Comte d'Estrées, Tourville, Vivonne, and François de Vendôme, Duc de Beaufort—all highly interesting historical documents. Among the military celebrities figure the Princes de Condé and de Conti, Wellington, the Maréchaux Villeroy and Villars, Chamillart, de Bayard, Biron de Gulse, Massena, Berthier, Gouvion, St. Cyr, Desaix, Championnet, &c. Voltaire and Rousseau, Marmontel and Buffon, Mesdames du Châtelet, du Deffant, Geoffrin, de Staël, &c., represent literature. There are also letters from our Queens Anne and Elizabeth, and from Charles the First; from Marie de Medicis, Anne d'Autriche, Henri IV.; Louis XIV., XV., XVI., and XVIII.; Napoleon; and from almost all the principal actors in the Revolution—St. Just, Robespierre, Marat, Barnave, Condorcet, Collet d'Herbois, Mirabeau, Vergniaud, &c. These, however, are but a few of the names, taken at random from among those contained in this most precious collection, which is well worthy the attention of all persons of education and intelligence.

At the Odéon was celebrated last week the 233rd anniversary of the birth of Molière. "Les Femmes Savantes" and the "Bourgeois Gentilhomme" were represented on this occasion; and Randoux declaimed an ode composed by M. Philogène Boyer for the event.

It was reported in Paris on Wednesday that Russian transports, which had been sent from the European to the Asiatic ports on the Black Sea, belonging to Russia, having been fallen in with by the united squadrons, were at once sent back to the Russian ports, with a warning not to come out again. This is at once an answer to the demand for explanations made by the Czar. Russia is positively interdicted from making use of the Black Sea.

* We are happy to say that this work, which has been long out of print, is just republished.

The French Government has given unequivocal evidence of its intention to increase the army. The *Moniteur* of Sunday contained a decree calling out 40,000 men of the class of 1851, whose services have hitherto been dispensed with. The decree does not say, to be sure, that the object of the new levy is to enable the Emperor to fight the Russians; but the fact is as clear as if it had been stated. The first levy of the class of recruits of 1851 was called out by a decree, dated the 22nd of August, 1852. The second levy of the same class was not called out till the 28th of January, 1854. And why called out then? The decree says, "to fill up the vacancies created by the liberation in the special arms." It would be much as well to say that ten new battalions of the Chasseurs de Vincennes having been recently created by picking men from all the infantry of the line, it is found necessary, in presence of the impending war, to fill the vacancies thus created in the different regiments; and the remaining 10,000 men are consequently to be called out for this purpose. The effect, necessarily, is to add 40,000 men to the standing army.

The maritime preparations of France proceed with undiminished activity. A body of 700 sailors and carpenters have just been despatched from Boulogne for Brest and Toulon. Brittany also furnishes great numbers of men. The port of Rochefort has furnished 600 men. Fortunately for the requirements of the present conjuncture, the various naval stores and dock-yards were amply provided; and it is by drawing largely on these accumulated supplies that M. Ducos has been able, with his reduced budget, to provide for present wants.

A contract has just been taken at Rochefort for the equipment of 15 000 men; they are to be furnished within one month, independent of 20,000 more, which number is nearly complete.

At a council of general officers, summoned to the Tuileries by the French Emperor on Monday, the eventual expedition of a French land force to the East was discussed in its strictly military bearings. It is understood that the general opinion was that a larger force than was originally contemplated should be sent, and that it should consist of four divisions of 20 000 men each.

The *Times* article of Tuesday, in anticipation of the Queen's Speech, was telegraphed to Paris so incorrectly that the expressions of the writer were attributed to the Queen. Much sensation was excited, and the consequent fluctuations in the Bourse were serious. One rather amusing story relative to this matter has been in circulation. It is said that before the Royal sitting, the English partner of a great banking-house of European reputation sent a telegraphic despatch to the head of the firm in Paris, saying, "I have just seen what the Queen's Speech is to say. It contains expressions of great gravity. Sell 1,500,000f. of Rente." Towards three o'clock another telegraphic despatch was sent, saying, "The speech which has just been read differs very materially from what I had seen. Buy 3,000,000f."

ITALY.

The *Armonia* of Turin, the organ of the clerical party, publishes an address to the King of Sardinia, signed by all the bishops and nearly the general of the ecclesiastical provinces of Turin, Genoa, and Vercelli (except the Bishop of Novara, who is absent), in which they complain of the tenor of various circulars emanating from the Government, and representing the ministers of the state as abusing the influence over their flocks, in order to instil hatred towards the Government in their minds. They disclaim all hostile feeling towards the Government, and throw all the blame on the misrepresentations of the organs of the anti-clerical parties, and conclude with a remonstrance against a circular from the Minister of Grace and Justice, relating to certain pecuniary rights of the curates

The military commendant at Genoa has been lately engaged in putting all the batteries on the coast in a proper state of defence, by replacing the old guns by new and more efficient ones.

The *Milan Gazette* of the 22nd January publishes a decree from the Austrian Minister of Finance, announcing that, in consequence of the fall in the value of paper money, it will not be received at the Custom-house unless at a discount of 17½ per cent.

SWITZERLAND.

The Swiss Federal Assembly has voted a sum of 300,000f. to defray the expense of assembling troops in Eastern and Western Switzerland. The first corps is to be placed under the command of General Ziegler, a member of the National Council, and one of the best officers in the Swiss army. The other is to be commanded by the Federal Colonel Bontempo. Both these officers commanded divisions during the war against the Sonderbund.

GERMANY.

The bulk of the news from Berlin and Vienna, this week, consists of speculations regarding the nature of Count Orloff's special mission to these two Courts. It seems to be generally admitted that his main object is, if possible, to overthrow the existing Ministries, by working on the sympathies of the young Emperor of Vienna, and by bringing the strong Russian *prestige* to bear upon the personal feelings, habits, and tastes of the King. Another part of his mission to Vienna, at which place he arrived on Saturday last, is said to be, to obtain permission to send, under certain circumstances, a Russian corps from Warsaw, by way of The Sprouish the Danubian seat of war. His business, at Berlin, it is said, will be to obtain a corps of 100,000 men to occupy Poland in the name and interest of Russia, and thus set the garrison there at liberty to march to the south for the protection of the Principalities. In the event of this not be correct, both Prussia and Austria will find themselves obliged to come to a decision. The news of the departure of the Russian Ambassador from London will, perhaps, assist them in deciding

Austria, Bavaria, and Saxony have hitherto made no communication whatever to the Germanic Diet concerning the position they intend to assume in the Turko-Russian quarrel.

The *Gazette of Cologne* publishes letters from Vienna of the 28th January, which state that the disposition of the Austrians is not unfavourable to the Turks, even in military circles, and that Count Orloff will find great difficulty in succeeding in his mission. As it is, no State has hitherto suffered more than Austria from the disturbance caused by Russia.

SWEDEN.

Sweden continues to arm, according to the latest accounts, and on a great scale; yet no one knows which side will be taken. Private letters and the public press agree in stating that Russia is to be the ally. In this case, plain hints are given in the great papers that, if the Court allies itself with Russia, the people will ally itself with England. In fact, if this absurd step should be taken by King Oscar, no reasonable man, it is said, would give a brass button for his crown. The Swedish papers bitterly attack the document-secrecy system patronised by England, and now introduced by the Swedish Government, which has not yet made public the Neutrality Act, although it is of the last importance for its own subjects, especially the shipowners, several of whom are making arrangements to transfer their vessels under the English flag.

RUSSIA.

The *Journal de St. Petersburg* of the 20th ult., thus announces the course adopted by the Russian Government respecting the notification of the entrance of the combined squadrons into the Black Sea:—

The public have been informed already by the foreign journals of the orders given by Great Britain and France to their combined fleets to enter the Black Sea. As this order has been notified only verbally to the Imperial Cabinet, it has thought proper, in the first instance, to demand in London and Paris categorical explanations as to the character and extent which the two Governments give to the measure. On the result of these explanations will depend its ulterior attitude.

A letter from St. Petersburg of the 19th ult., in the *Cologne Gazette*, says:—

The Emperor has addressed a letter to the merchants of Moscow, thanking them for the readiness with which they have supplied articles for the hospitals of the armies who are fighting against the enemies of Christianity. The Count on the strength of Count Nesselrode, has confirmed the entrance of the combined fleets into the Black Sea as a measure hostile to their entrance into Sevastopol. There is, therefore, a hope that peace will be maintained. The Emperor, besides, has not received any note rejecting the propositions for peace to be drawn up. It is probable that the difference with Turkey will be adjusted without any intervention.

The *Hamburger Nachrichten*, in a letter from St. Petersburg, Jan. 21 explains the financial operations now resorted to by the State. For the facilitation of the circulation in the Imperial credit institutions, the creation of credit notes to the amount of 30,000,000 of silver roubles was ordered by a manifesto dated July 13, 1841. Of this sum 20,000,000 were carried to the reserve fund. Of that amount 10,000,000 have since been made use of, in virtue of the ukase of March 22, 1849. A new ukase of the 10th inst. orders the issue of those remaining 10,000,000, and in their place orders a new reserve fund to be formed by the creation of notes to the extent of 40,000,000.

General Schilder, chief of the Engineers, suddenly left Warsaw on the 19th ult., by order of the Emperor, for Wallachia, together with several superior officers of the same department. General Schilder is said to be charged with throwing bridges across the Danube, and directing the passage of that river.

At Cronstadt the assembling of officers and sailors, absent on leave of indefinite duration, had already begun. Other ports at which the same concentration is now going on are Revel and Sweaborg: this is under the Imperial Ukase of December 23rd.

Mr. Bell, the English engineer, who was taken prisoner at Sinope, has been released at last. Count Nesselrode, in reply to Sir H. Seymour's interference in the matter, asserted that Mr. Bell had entered the Russian service. That turns out to be false, like many other Russian statements. A letter from our Foreign-office arrived at St. Petersburg last Saturday week, and within twenty-four hours Mr. Bell was at liberty.

THE BLACK SEA.

There was a rumour, in the early part of the week, of a naval engagement having taken place off Batoum; but the latest intelligence from Constantinople, which comes down to the 19th ult., brings no account of it. The following letter, from an officer of Admiral Dundas's fleet, gives a brief notice of the expedition to Sinope, Trebizond, and Batoum:—

SINOPE, January 13.

We left Sinope on the morning of the 8th—*Agamemnon*, 91, screw, Captain Symonds, flag of Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons, G.C.B.; *Sanspareil*, 71, screw, Captain Dacres; *Terrible*, 21, Captain M'Geverty (paddle); a French steam two-decker-battle-ship with Rear-Admiral Hamelin; the paddle steamers *Gomer* and *Descartes*; and a Turkish Admiral, accompanied by six steamers of war, the latter all laden with ammunition to be distributed at Trebizond and Batoum. After steaming along the southern coast of the Black Sea, keeping all together, we arrived at Trebizond early in the morning of the 10th, and the Turkish steamers immediately commenced discharging part of their ammunition. Here they are very indifferently prepared to resist any attack from sea or land, having only a couple of miserable forts, and those scarcely supplied with cannon. We sailed from this place in the evening for Batoum, the nearest anchorage to the Turkish frontier, the whole squadron having shouted and loaded all their guns in readiness for action, having heard at Trebizond that a Russian squadron of four battle ships and four steamers had been seen off that place. The next day we arrived at Batoum. Saw nothing of the Russian squadron, which disappointed a good many who were really in hope of having "something to do." Assisted the Turkish steamers in landing all their ammunition for the army, which was encamped about fifteen miles from the on the frontier, which we succeeded in doing by two p.m. Batoum is a mere village, with a single fort on a point. General Guyon commands the Turkish force, which consist of 20,000 at Fort Nicolai, which is still held by them, notwithstanding frequent attempts on the part of the Russians to retake it. The people at Batoum are in great force; every man well armed, and wanting nothing but what we took them—powder. We left Batoum on Wednesday, the 11th, at four p.m., and reached this place this afternoon. The *Fury* leaves at once for Constantinople. The following is a letter from an officer on the fleet:—"We weighed anchor at two p.m., and all steamed together towards the Turkish frontier (twelve miles), where we got a distant peep at the Turkish encampment. We then turned about, and made the best of our way to Sinope under steam, where we have just arrived, January 13th, and found the fleets of Vice-Admirals Dundas and Hamelin here as we left them. The *Terrible* and the *Fury* leave this evening (13th) for Constantinople, to convey the six Turkish steamers there, I believe, accompanied by two French steamers also. We remain here (Sinope) for a short time, and shall all, after the arrival of the *Cornelos* with despatches, return to Constantinople, unless anything new turns up. Three Russian steamers were on this frontier three days previous to our arrival, trying the range of their guns at some of the Turkish forts.

Another letter of the same date, from an officer on board the fleet at Sinope, states that the harbour is much better sheltered from the north wind than was expected. The bottom of the anchoring ground is mud and sand, and the anchors hold admirably. The position is excellent for watching the movements of the Russian fleet at Sebastopol, and for preventing them from sending supplies to the Russian army of the Caucasus. The mountains of the Caucasus shelter the coast from Batoum to Anapa from the north and north-west winds. The north winds prevail as far as Varna, and blow with great violence. The currents, fogs, and snow render the navigation of that portion of the Black Sea during the winter dangerous, if not impossible.

The likelihood of a hostile collision had increased in consequence of the more recent instructions forwarded from home to the commanders of the allied fleets. When the fleets left Beicos Bay, on the Bosphorus, on the 4th of January, the Admirals sailed, in pursuance of orders they had received, to prevent any fresh aggression by the Russian fleet on the Turkish coasts. But at that time the orders subsequently despatched had not reached Constantinople. They did not arrive there until the 12th of January, and they were immediately despatched to the fleets by the French steamer *Caton*, which would probably find the Admirals on the 15th in the roads of Sinope. Those despatches ordered the two Admirals to announce to the Russian naval forces that they were not to cruise in the Black Sea, and that they must remain in the Russian ports; and the combined fleets would, if necessary, enforce that intimation. The *Valmy* and *Trafalgar* had left Constantinople to join the fleets. If it be true that the chief part of the Russian squadron left Sebastopol on the 12th, and has since then been cruising in the Black Sea, it seems highly probable that a collision will take place, unless Admiral Nachimoff has received instructions to obey such orders as the French and English Admirals may choose to give him.

The proclamation of the Russian naval authorities, that every merchant ship laden with war-stores in the Black Sea will be considered good prize, does not seem to be much heeded by the English merchantmen. The majority of these vessels, according to reports from Galatz, of the 18th, have gone to Constantinople with the design of serving as transports between the capital and the various Turkish ports on the Black Sea. Among other English vessels thus engaged, the steamer *Phæbe*, had been chartered to take 500 soldiers and 1500 sacks of flour to Trebizond, for which place 800 Egyptian gunners were also on the march, with some foreign officers who have gone over to Islamism.

On the 16th ult. five Turkish steamers, after having landed their troops and stores at Batoum, arrived at Constantinople from the Black Sea, in company with the *Samson*, the *Fury*, and the *Terrible*. They were about to proceed, without delay, again to the Black Sea, with provisions and other necessaries for the fleets, which were then cruising off the roadsteads of Sinope. These ships, on their return, saw nothing of the Russian fleet; but nine or ten vessels are cruising in some direction.

THE WAR IN ASIA.

Private letters from Kars, bearing the date of December 24, state that General Guyon, at the head of 20,000 men and 21 guns, was to cross the frontier on the 3rd ult., to besiege Akutchick, and that General Stein, with 25,000 men, was to march against Bayazid. Zarif Mustapha Pacha and Selim Pacha, with 18,000 regulars and 9000 irregulars, were on the Georgian territory, and with the first fine weather intended to attack Chirvan. The Russian army, consisting of 40,000 regulars and 9000 Cossacks, was in its winter quarters. The bulletins published by the Russians are all false. The battle of Baiander was gained by the Turks and at Soubattan the latter remained in possession of their ground. All accounts received from that direction are unanimous in their relations that the Ottoman troops gained the most brilliantly; but that, on retreating to their winter quarters, they disbanded, and were considerably harassed by the enemy. General of Brigade Tahir Pacha, who has received an English military education, has received orders to proceed to Kars.

Further letters from Trebizond confirm the news that Russia had met with a political check in Persia, where the councils of the English Minister have prevailed. Ahmed Wefik Pacha had obtained from the Shah an order to the Persian authorities to furnish whatever supplies the Ottoman troops might be in want of. M. Khanikoff, the Envoy Extraordinary of Russia to the Persian Court, had not arrived at his destination. The latest accounts left him in Russian Armenia, where he intended to wait for fresh instructions from his Government.

WAR ON THE DANUBE.

From the Danube we have news of frequent skirmishes between the outposts of the two armies, but no engagement of any whatever import had taken place up to the latest despatches. Accounts vary as to what the Emperor Nicholas means to do. One report is that he has given orders that no offensive measures shall be undertaken on the Danube till the spring. Another account, which seems more probable, is that he intends to bring forward his troops to that point as rapidly as possible, with the intention of overwhelming all opposition. The Russian reinforcements, which have been so long expected, have partly arrived at Krajova, but they are in a most wretched condition.

A despatch from Orsova, of the 24th ult., states that Omer Pacha was then at Rustchuk. Selim Pacha had received a reinforcement of regulars at Kalafat, and a number of irregulars had been sent to Sophia in charge of the Russian prisoners. Nothing of importance had taken place at Orsova; but, on the Lower Danube, the Turks had returned the visit of General Engelhart and his marauders.

TURKEY.

Lord Dudley Stuart returned from Schumla to Constantinople on the 14th ult., having come back by Adrianople. Omer Pacha, though slightly indisposed, received his Lordship with every attention, giving him a guard of honour, placing his horses at the disposal of his Lordship, and sending him dinner from his own kitchen. Lord Dudley Stuart visited all the fortifications of Schumla, and was present at the manœuvres of a body of 14,000 redifs, whom Omer Pacha had exercised purposely. At Adrianople, Mehemet Pacha, the Governor of the town, who not many years ago was Turkish Ambassador in London, and knew his Lordship there, placed his house at his disposal. Since his return to Constantinople, Lord D. Stuart has been actively engaged in furthering the interests of the Poles who are desirous of entering the Sultan's service.

AMERICA.

The steam-ship *Canada*, which arrived at Liverpool on Monday, brought news from New York to the 18th ult. The treaty between Mexico and the United States had been agreed to, although it had not been ratified. Mexico agrees to concede 40,000,000 acres of land (the Mesilla Valley) to the United States, while the latter power undertakes to pay to Mexico 20,000,000 dollars as an indemnity or equivalent. Resolutions had been offered and adopted by both Houses of Congress, by the New York Common Council, and by the merchants of the Exchange, complimentary to those ships who had so opportunely and gallantly assisted in rescuing the troops and crew from the ill-fated steamer *San Francisco*. The ship *Lucy Thompson* arrived at New York on the morning of the 16th ult., with 140 of the passengers from the *San Francisco*, which she took from the barque *Kilby*, which was crowded and in want of provisions. The *Kilby*, with the remaining passengers, arrived at Boston on the 17th.

LIVERPOOL, Thursday.

The United States mail steam-ship *Baltic*, Captain Comstock, arrived in the Mersey this morning, with advices from New York to the 21st ult., bringing fifty passengers, and a small quantity of specie on freight. The letters and papers announced the arrival of the *Cambria* at New York.

Mr. Clayton had given notice that if Lord Clarendon's letter were not modified, he would move that the naval and military forces of the United States be placed at the disposal of the President, to compel England to keep the treaty.

Senator Gwyn had moved for a naval force at San Francisco, to restrain Filibusterism.

MARKETS.—Money is easier; 7 per cent on call, and from 10 to 12 on good bills. Stocks dull, and declining. Sterling exchange, 109 for bankers. Flour had receded 6c., with fair sales. Cotton had moderate sales, at previous rates.

INDIA.

The letters and papers in anticipation of the mail which left Bombay on the 29th December, contain much interesting intelligence. It appears that the Bombay Government had received intelligence of certain hostile movements on the part of Persia, in concert with Russia. The army of the Shah, which had been concentrated on the north frontier, for the purpose of co-operating with the Russian forces in Georgia and Circassia, had marched southward, and was threatening Bushire. On the arrival of the Persian army (reported to be 60,000 strong) in the neighbourhood of Bushire, the Resident immediately sent despatches for the home Government to Bombay, with copies for the Bengal Indian Government, and summoned the officer commanding the Indian naval squadron in the Persian Gulf to Bushire, and his ship, the *Clive*, is now anchored there. The Resident of Bushire's despatches arrived at Bombay on the 20th December, and the steamer *Constance* was immediately despatched to the Gulf with instructions for the Resident. The steamer *Auckland* was ordered to get ready for sea, and was despatched on the 24th to the Gulf to reconnoitre and obtain information on which the Government could act. The communication between England and Bombay is as rapid as that between one extremity of our Indian empire and the other. The Bombay Government have, meanwhile, taken energetic steps for carrying out, without loss of time, any orders that it may receive. Leave has been stopped in the Bombay army, and the troops (about 7000) composing the camp of instruction at Poonah are ordered to stand fast, and preparations are being made in the army list as well as in the military department for the despatch of a powerful expeditionary force, if necessary. During the last Afghan war a force was despatched from Bombay that occupied the island of Karrack, close to Bushire, for two years, and while the means the Persians were kept for the time from involving themselves in Russian intrigues in Central Asia; but stronger measures may possibly be required in the present instance.

The seaports and coats of Persia are completely at the mercy of the Company's cruisers, and, if requisite, her Majesty steamer *Vixen*, now at Bombay, might be sent to increase the naval force in the Gulf. Bussorah might easily be defended by two or three light armed vessels belonging to the Indian naval Gulf squadron, and, were the Arabs about Bussorah subsidised, their hostile zeal would find ample occupation for the heretic army of Persia.

The news from Persia has greatly excited the Arabs, of whom (owing to our having left the Persian Gulf) there are always great numbers at Bombay. They are devout Sunnites, and hate and despise the Persians as heretics. One of these, Shaik Abdool Ettoo, said to possess great influence near Bussorah, declares that, if the Bombay Government would advance £2000 to start with, he would undertake to raise 25,000 Arab horse at Bussorah, in twenty-five days, and with these would account for the Persian army and plunder Bushire

The news from Madras still gives sad accounts of the famine which prevails in the northern districts of that presidency, consequent on the scantiness of the recent monsoon. From Peshawur we learn that the Afreedees have given in, the blockade of the Kohat pass having starved them into submission. The construction of the fort at Hazeed Khel proceeds briskly, and by the latest accounts all was peaceable. A plot had been discovered at Rangoon for surprising the garrison of that place, and massacring the British. It was to have taken effect on the 23rd of November, but was divulged by one of the accomplices in time to admit of precautions being taken, which precluded all possibility of its success. The court of Ava is said to have been at the bottom of it.

Lord Dalhousie is endeavouring to establish vernacular schools throughout India for the instruction of the masses of the people. Dr. O'Shaughnessy is to receive a salary of £2400 a year as superintendent of electric telegraphs in India, with £30 a month travelling expenses. His assistant, Mr. Sheppard, is to receive £600 a year, and £15 a month extra when moving about.

CHINA.

The accounts from Shanghai report most unfavourably of the condition and conduct of the Imperial forces. As to the progress of the rebellion we have no reliable information. The rebels are reported to have reached within fifty miles of the capital, and as they had broken down all the bridges in their rear, there was nothing left for them but death or victory. Trade still continues to be carried on under the protection of the cannons of the Consuls of Great Britain and America. The accounts from Shanghai state, that the exports of tea and silk from all parts of China are now considerably greater than at the same period last year.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

By the *Propontis* mail steamer, which arrived at Plymouth on Monday evening, letters and papers from the Cape, to the 23rd December, have been received. The news is little more than confirmatory of that brought by former arrivals. Everything is quiet and orderly in the colony. In the sovereignty, considerable apprehension is expressed in consequence of the withdrawal of British authority. A scarcity of money at the Cape had affected the landowners to some extent, as the banks were not discounting as freely as usual. There had been some fresh skirmishes amongst the chiefs on the frontier, and the stealing of cattle from one another was complained of. A very important mining company had been formed, with a capital of £50,000. The whole of the capital had been taken up. Copper had been discovered of quality of the richest description; and it was reported that gold and silver had also been discovered.

PRISONERS IN IRELAND.—It appears from a Parliamentary paper, issued on Tuesday, that the total number of prisoners in the Government prisons in Ireland, on the 13th of September last, was 3902: of this number, 222 were members of the Church of England, 2 Presbyterians, 3 Catholics, and 44 Presbyterians or Dissenters. To all of these establishments a Roman Catholic chaplain is appointed, and in the majority Protestant and Presbyterian chaplains. In event, however, of there not being any of the latter appointed, every facility is given for the admission of any recognised minister. In the Irish gaols there were confined, on the 10th of September last, 601 Protestants, 137 Dissenters or Presbyterians, and 3263 Roman Catholics.

A GROUP OF RUSSIAN PEASANTS.

It would be impossible to be certain, within a thousand miles, what was the precise part of Russia in Europe to which these peasants belong, from their wintry costume. The sheepskin is a cheap dress, which the rigours of a part of the year make precious to the common people from Archangel to the sea of Azov. Their boots are of untanned leather; their hats of fur; shirts or stockings they have generally none.

Yet, faring with enforced abstemiousness, labouring hard in a stern climate, for permission to live—so strong is the physical constitution of this people that, at the very first glance, they impress the stranger by their tall, broad-backed, straight-limbed, and stalwart figures. Their natural temper is equally good; crushed by burdens, drafted into murderous conscriptions, the serfs of unfeeling and short-sighted nobles, they seldom think of violent measures, hardly ever quarrel among themselves, and are a cheerful people, inclined to religion, and fond of sharing the last loaf of bread, or the last pipe of tobacco, with a comrade. But, ignorant and oppressed, the very immensity of the empire over which they are scattered, and the number and diversity of their own tribes, render political combination or moral resistance equally impossible. The present Emperor is to them an object of peculiar veneration; for, on his own estates he has enfranchised the serfs—a fact carefully promulgated all over Russia.

COSSACK STATION NEAR THE CASPIAN.

The post represented in our Engraving is less wild in its immediate aspect than the broad steppes adjacent, which stretch away from the borders of the Caspian Sea. Though a sterile view, it is what the French call *accidenté*, and full of the peculiar life of the spot. The camel, the wild or half wild horse, the gaunt wolf-like dog, the woodsman, the group of women, the rude wooden post-house, the Government flags, the speeding courier, and the young Astrak dame (who rides "not sidewise, but otherwise"), the cloudy but lofty sky, and the undulating, boundless, sea-like plain, all speak of the region.

In time of peace serving regularly as a mail-post, and convenient, occasionally, as the wandering trafficker's stage—in time of war a halt for troops whom the march is to collect from far-separated cantonments at some distant point of concentration, the little station is characteristic in the midst of its desolation.

In spite of much that is Asiatic in the faces of the women, and the Georgian compactness of the men, we are in Europe. Not far rolls the Don towards the south; and not much farther, south-eastward, the rushing Volga thunders under the walls of Astracan, into the tideless Hyrcanian Sea. Though tideless, it is full of currents and choked with shoals; impossible of navigation to large ships, and dangerous to the only vessels which can venture on it, those of shallow draught; dangerous, we mean, in calm weather, and, like all inland seas, it is further liable to sudden and violent storms. Few of the inhabitants of its borders, whether on the Volga, or its own waves, but have had occasion to become hardy seamen; and in this particular locality they are almost equally ready and daring on the deck of the Caspian boat, and the back of the imported Khirgish horse. They live chiefly on flesh and wine. The wine is carried in greasy pig-skins (the original of the *hog's head*, in various countries), from the vineyards of the Crimea, and from those near Azov. The meat is principally mutton, of which there is such abundance in its live form, through the pasture steppes, spreading far around Astracan, that there are hardly shepherds enough to tend the scattered flocks. If an Englishman, who has, we will suppose, sailed down the Volga to the great Caspian metropolis, just as Tancred, in Mr. Disraeli's novel, threatened to do, when he supposed himself slighted in love; if such a stranger, tired of the bad imitation of French cookery in St. Petersburg, and of the cabbage, soup, and ogourtsi, on which he had too frequently fared, during his subsequent journey from the North—if, understanding that fresh mutton was so plentiful in this neighbourhood, the supposed visitor wished to enjoy some dish more English in character than any he had tasted of late, and, accordingly, ordered a mutton-chop—he would be told that, in order to have a mutton-chop, he must buy a sheep. However scared he might be by this intimation, he would be tranquillised on inquiring the price of the animal; although his first surprise would be changed into astonishment. He might have a sheep for a sum—fluctuating, of course, with the times (and, moreover, tending every year to grow more exorbitant)—for a sum, we say, ranging from sixpence to one shilling and sixpence. The beef is neither so good nor so plentiful. The wine, at its best, would hardly be relished by an English palate; and it is rendered exceedingly disagreeable by the filthy state of the receptacles in which it is ordinarily carried. They do not, in general, wait till the skins are thoroughly dry, or till they have exhaled all the animal matter which adheres to them.

The Cossack woman, who is represented on horseback, and setting off in a hand gallop with her male countryman from the station, possesses, as it will be perceived, something of the type of countenance for which her not very remote Circassian neighbours are celebrated. The men, too, between the Lower Volga and the Lower Don display in their whole organisation much in common with the Georgian race. In both countries, the compact and slim, not tall, stature; the features rather delicate; the fiery, quick-glancing eye; the loftily-arched eyebrow, denote either some kinship of origin, or an early intermixture of races, subsequently severed by the revolutions of politics and conquest.

The two canine specimens in our Engraving would be ill spared. For this people (of whom a group is presented, with their usual accompaniments) are the children of those ancient Caspii, of whom Herodotus can find few more remarkable particulars to record than that they were immemorially famous for the strength and ferocity of their dogs. So long, in some instances, do national peculiarities cling to the same localities. Happily, we hear no more of another characteristic of the ancient Caspii, among the Cossacks of the Don and Volga. Their progenitors, or, more correctly, their predecessors, allowed no person to commit the impiety of living beyond the seventieth year; after which day, all men and all women were scrupulously starved to death. They could be but a profitless incumbrance to a commonwealth of hardy barbarians.

Some of the most effective light cavalry in the Russian army are derived from this district; where, in truth, horses are so plentiful and so serviceable, and where men are so universally good riders, from boyhood, that one might imagine that the old cavaliers of Parthia (divided from these wild tribes by the Caspian Sea) were not also divided from them by so many changeful centuries, but were here alive again on the opposite side of the same great inland lake.

RUSSIAN PEASANTS.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH, BY FENTON.

THE STEPPES OF THE CASPIAN.

Here stands the broad and desolate land—entrance to the most primeval parts of Asia. Less severely condemned by nature than the central solitudes of Africa or of Australia—less terrible than even the great Libyan deserts or the Arabian wildernesses of sand—here stretch that series of enormous Steppes, which belts the north of the oldest of continents, and is limited at last only by the Eastern Ocean. Into Asia and out of Europe—into Asia, but not out

COSSACK STATION, NEAR THE CASPIAN.

STEPPES OF THE CASPIAN

of Russia. This least attractive portion of the Muscovite empire is, after all, the back-bone of its strength—the original muster-ground of the Calmuck and Scythian horde, where (Antæus-like), it must seek recovery, if repelled and overthrown.

The Steppe must not be classed with the Desert. All along the south seaboard of the Mediterranean, for instance, runs a fringe of fertile ground, like a natural guard-n, refreshed by the breeze from the waters. This thin border of delightful habitable land is, on an average, not more than some fifteen or twenty miles deep; and is found to wither and melt into a much broader interior belt, called "the Plain." Yet the "plain" is not the "desert;" but interposes its mitigating barrier between the smiling sea-coast and the real waste of sands—where man passes, indeed, but never hopes to settle. In the "plain" there is a scanty spontaneous herbage—many inches between each blade of grass; and the soil refuses not an occasional crop of rice, or meagre corn, or the wild flowers, from which the bee even there extracts hives of honey, precious to the wandering Kabyle. What the "plain" is to the Desert, the Steppe is to the Plain. It advances more still towards what is necessary to the habitancy of man; and (comforts being out of the question in either), it offers far more varied resources for his wants. Here stray the countless wild horses, which, after passing through a hundred markets, and leaving a profit at each change of hands, are yet cheap, when bought at Moscow. Here, too (in the most southerly districts), the camel thrives; and to the patient labour of "the ship of the desert," great caravans, monthly and weekly, entrust fortune and life. We might detain the reader too long if we yielded to the temptation to speak either of the Tartar horse, or the Tcherkessi camel. Both animals are peculiar in many of their habits, but of very great perfection. Flocks, too, of birds, many of which would not be unworthy of our game-preserves, reward the wanton sport, or relieve the unforeseen necessities of the caravan traveller. We direct the reader's attention to the engraving in which the wild and strange beauty of the scene is well depicted—just as the weary band of chance comrades are nearing the resting-place, where water and refreshment await them, and where there is a sort of city of pelicans, about to be scared from their skilfully-selected place of rest.

All these points raise the Steppe many degrees above the Desert; and, indeed, a wiser and more civilised system of rule would have long since replaced with the dwellings of men, the mute population of birds and beasts, whose home is found in such numerous portions of the Southern Steppes. Observant travellers who have written on the subject, and merchants who have no leisure or inclination to do more than converse about their impressions, have taught us how abandoned to the mercy of nature a vast tract of this region is; and how much could be done for it by that art and that industry, before the application of which to our own country it was an unprofitable expanse of marsh and forest.

Only very little to the south of the unsouth panorama which our Engraving delineates, flocks of excellent sheep, of priceless theoretic value, but of comparatively no market estimate, wander far and free; having owners, indeed, but owners who can turn them to little account. Again, a day's journey south-west, through the Tcherkessi, and you come to the land of vines and wild rose beds. Advance, and you are in the midst of the exuberant wealth of the Crimea—the Magna-Græcia of Russia.

We will not here trouble the reader with further details about the Caspian Steppes; we have touched on some main and salient points; and whoever carries them out in his own reflections will realise this neglected, but essentially transitionary and improvable region, with sufficient exactitude and fidelity.

WIDDIN AND KALAFAT.

Widdin and Kalafat are important towns, and must ever occupy a conspicuous position in the history of the war that has broken out in Eastern Europe. They are both situated on the banks of the Danube, nearly opposite to each other, Widdin being on the right, and Kalafat on the left bank. The Turkish Government has stationed a two gun steamer between these positions, with orders to ply backwards and forwards, and watch all movements on the river.

The appearance of Kalafat from the surrounding hills, with its baths and mosques, and graceful minarets, is very fine. But the interior of the town is dirty and uncomfortable, for its thoroughfares are badly lighted at night, and the filth of the houses, instead of being carried away under ground, flows in gutters along the streets. The population has increased of late, and the village-like quietness that formerly distinguished this little town, has given way to the noise and bustle of active life. Omer Pacha, by his glorious defeat of the Russians, and slaughter of upwards of 5000 of their number, has rendered Kalafat, hitherto scarcely familiar in name, even to the best geographers, a town of the greatest historical interest.

The fortifications and entrenchments surrounding Widdin and Kalafat form an almost perfect circle, with the Danube for its diameter; and for its circumference, a line of defences joining Hugiavitz, Skripetz, Wegvi, and Kolani, on the left bank: and extending in a southerly direction as far as Belgradschick, on the right bank. Within this circle are stationed some 60,000 good soldiers, with 250 cannons of the "heaviest calibre." Towards the south, a tower of considerable elevation has been erected, whence the slightest movement on the part of the enemy can be easily detected. Such fortifications as these are not likely to give way, under even fiercer attacks than any that have hitherto been directed against them.

Widdin—called by the Hungarians Bodon, and by the Turks Winadovan—is said to contain about 30,000 inhabitants. On account of its advantageous position on the Danube, it is, as it were, the key to the province of Bulgaria, and has been for centuries past an object of attack and defence. It was, for a long while, in the possession of Hungary; and it required the utmost vigilance on the part of the Magyars to hold it against the invasions of the Turks. In 1443 the Turks attacked it against Johann Hungady, and were repulsed with a loss of 30,000 men. They were not scared, however, by this defeat; but succeeded shortly afterwards in taking possession of the long coveted stronghold, and held it until the lapse of half a century, when Wadislow, King of Hungary and Poland, entered the town in triumph, over the mangled bodies of thousands of fallen heroes. The Turks made another unsuccessful attempt upon Widdin in 1595, having been forced to retreat with a loss of upwards of 18,000 men. Some time after this event, however, the Turks recovered their position, to be again driven from it in 1689. But in the following year, not by war, but by treaty with Hungary, the Turks finally reinstated themselves in the town of Widdin, and have held it ever since.

But Widdin has ceased to be a mere Turkish frontier. It is now the boundary that separates European civilisation from Asiatic barbarism.

WIDDIN, ON THE DANUBE.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, Feb. 5.—5th Sunday after Epiphany.
MONDAY, 6.—Dr. Priestley died, 1804.
TUESDAY, 7.—Mary, Queen of Scots, beheaded, 1587.
WEDNESDAY, 8.—Half Quarter Day.
THURSDAY, 9.—
FRIDAY, 10.—Queen Victoria married, 1840. Darnley murdered, 1567.
SATURDAY, 11.—Washington born, 1732. Shenstone died, 1763.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 11.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday
M. h. m. 7 15	A. h. m. 7 40	M. h. m. 8 5	A. h. m. 8 35	M. h. m. 9 10	A. h. m. 9 50	M. h. m. 10 35
A. h. m. 11 5	M. h. m. 11 45	A. h. m. Tide	M. h. m. 0 30	A. h. m. 0 50	M. h. m. 1 15	A. h. m. 1 35

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1854.

DEPARTURE OF THE RUSSIAN AMBASSADOR.

As was to have been expected, from the nature of the categorical demand made by the Russian to the British and French Governments, the Ambassadors of the Czar in London and in Paris have received distinct and unmistakeable replies. They have been informed that the Allied Fleets have entered the Euxine, not to prevent the Turks from navigating it with their armed vessels, or from conveying arms and ammunition from place to place, and from port to port; but to prevent the naval forces of the Czar from attacking those of the Sultan, or making any hostile descent upon Turkish territory. If such are not the terms of the answer, there can be no doubt that such is its spirit; though, as was proper and necessary, it has been conveyed with all possible courtesy. Whatever may have been the actual phraseology employed, it is the same in both instances. The British and French Governments use identical language; and their reply is both collective and individual. Baron Brunnow received the reply of the British Government on Thursday; and, having made all necessary arrangements for some days previously, in anticipation of the nature of the communication which he was certain to receive, will take his departure from London this morning. M. de Kisseleff has been instructed to act in a similar manner at Paris. At this moment, therefore, diplomatic relations between the two Allied Powers and the Court of St. Petersburg are at an end. So let it be. The Allies have not sought this war: they have done all that was consistent with honour and wise statesmanship to avert it; and the odium, as well as the penalties of it must rest on the head of the rash Monarch who misinterpreted the signs and proofs of a noble and patient forbearance, into those of vacillation and cowardice; and who refused to listen to any other prompters but his misguided self-will, and his insatiable vanity and ambition. He will now enter upon the realities of the war which he has provoked; and it will not be the fault of Great Britain and France if he do not speedily discover, in his signal defeat, how greatly he has miscalculated his own strength to do evil, and that of his opponents to punish and restrain him.

THE debates on the Address, in both Houses of Parliament, present a remarkable unanimity of feeling on the great question of Peace or War; and as remarkable a multanimity, or divergence of opinion, on the various correlative questions, in which the conduct and capacity of the Ministry are involved. If the Session had commenced a month earlier a vast congeries of misstatements—many of them malicious, and a greater number merely foolish—would never have existed. One night's discussion in each House of Parliament has, however, sufficed to make a clearance of them. The few persons on the Opposition benches of both Houses who think we have nothing to do with the war between Russia and Turkey are in so infinitesimal a minority as to be positively of service as a gauge whereby to measure the greatness of the majority. Lord Grey in the one House, and Mr. H. Baillie in the other, represent this class; and stand almost alone. Earl Grey is by no means a strenuous supporter of the opinion which he emits, for his Lordship merely states that he is "not quite sure whether we have any interest in supporting Turkey at all." Mr. Baillie's reasons seem to have been derived from those of Mr. Cobden and the "Manchester Cossacks." The honourable gentleman thinks that "when Prince Menschikoff presented his ultimatum, we ought to have informed Turkey that she was not to reckon on our aid;" and his reason for being in favour of such a cowardly policy is the alleged fact that the Turkish Empire is a "tottering fabric"—a statement which their gallant behaviour on the banks of the Danube is quite sufficient to overthrow. We are not aware that it is a smaller crime to murder a man with an incurable disease than to murder one in the full flush and vigour of health; but perhaps in the peculiar ethics of the friends of Russia in this country, such an act would amount at the utmost to justifiable homicide. Lord Derby, though he did not approve of the conduct of the Ministry in the proteracted negotiations which have taken place—and it was scarcely to be expected that he should—was earnest in his denunciation of the Emperor Nicholas; and thought, as most Englishmen do, that it is the true policy of England to resist that aggression, and to do its utmost to maintain the independence of the Ottoman Porte. We confess ourselves, however, at a loss to understand why the noble Earl should consider the Emperor of Russia to be an ill-used man, or in what respect her Majesty's Government deceived or deluded him. As the Earl of Clarendon very properly remarked, "a policy of suspicion is never a wise or an expedient policy;" and when, at an early stage of this unhappy dispute, the Czar gave the most positive assurances that he had no desire or intention to aggrandise his empire at the expense of that of the Sultan, when he not only gave direct and positive answers to the questions addressed to him by the British Cabinet, it was not the part of the Government to inform him that no faith was to be placed in his assurances, and to act as if it were necessary to declare war against him. We believe—with Lord Derby, and with many others—that it would have been far better if Great Britain had declared the occupation of the Danubian Principalities to be a *casus belli*. We believe, if this had been done with promptitude, and followed up with vigour, the Emperor of Russia, like bullies and braggarts in general, would have been overawed, and glad to make peace. If Lord Derby had said that the Sultan was an ill-used man, the world might have seen some reason for the assertion; but how the Czar can, under such circumstances, be regarded in this light, is difficult to imagine. A criminal condemned to death for the crowning atrocity of his life might with about as much reason complain that the law of the land and the public opinion of his fellows had ill used him, while he was still a well-behaved man, in not believing that some day or other he would commit an offence deserving of extreme punishment. Mr. Disraeli's objections to her Majesty's Speech were not of much moment, and seem to have been uttered more because he was leader of the Opposition, and because something was expected of him, than because he had anything to say. So far was the right honourable gentleman from fearing a war, or from taking the part of the Emperor of Russia, that he would have been better pleased with the Speech if it had been more decisive, and if it could have announced that Austria and Prussia were as zealous in the cause as Great Britain and France. It cannot be denied that the Ministry has to some extent become unpopular, for negotiating during so long a period, instead of sending a fleet to the Black Sea in July or August last; but the statements of Lord Clarendon, Lord Aberdeen, and Lord John Russell, will, we think, restore the waning confidence of the public. It is proverbially easy to find fault; but the statesmen charged with the grave duty of administering the affairs of a mighty nation like this, should do nothing rashly. It is no light thing at any time, and in these times more especially, to commence a European war. Boldness approaching to rashness, is often wise policy on the part of individuals, but boldness of this kind, is not to be desired in statesmen. The progress of events has proved that those who relied upon the honour of the Emperor Nicholas have been deceived; but it has also proved, in a more striking manner than would have been possible had the occupation of the Danubian provinces been declared a *casus belli*, the justice, moderation, and calm strength of Great Britain and France, and the inherent vitality of the Turkish Empire. Besides, it is idle to dwell upon what should, or should not, have been done months ago. The present aspect and position of the question alone concern us. Whatever errors of omission may be laid at the door of Ministers, there are none of commission with which they can justly be charged. They have brought the question to a simple and tangible issue. They have proved, to the satisfaction of the whole world, and by the acts of the Emperor Nicholas himself, that that Sovereign is utterly and perversely in the wrong; that the two greatest Powers of Europe are cordially united in their determination not to tolerate that wrong; that their power to prevent its consummation is commensurate with their intentions; that no state in Europe, great or small, dares to express sympathy with him or lend him a soldier or a ship; and that Turkey is neither so imbecile or so paralytic as to be incapable of striking heavy blows in her own defence. Messrs. De Brunnow and De Kisseleff may carry to their Imperial master this, among other valuable information, now that they have been recalled from London and Paris. If any one can remove the veil of passion and lust of dominion from the Emperor's eyes, it is they. Delay, after all, has not proved so very injurious; for it has evoked a spirit in Western Europe which will stand us in better stead than another fleet, or an additional army. It has reconciled the people of Great Britain and France to a war. It has even rendered it a war in which they will spend their money ungrudgingly, and in which they will put a heart and an enthusiasm which are the certain forerunners and signs of brilliant, if not speedy success.

We anticipated in our last that the calumnies directed against the illustrious Consort of the Sovereign by the pot-house newspapers, and, for party purposes, adopted by the more respectable journals, which sometimes claim the exclusive right to be called Conservative and loyal, would be effectually demolished on the opening of Parliament. Lord Palmerston did not feel it necessary to speak upon the occasion; but the Earl of Aberdeen, Lord Hardinge, Lord Derby, and Lord J. Russell, bore their high and unimpeachable testimony to the utter falseness of the accusations of which the Prince had been made the object. Lord Derby disclaimed for the Conservative or Protectionist party all participation in those malevolent and—where not malevolent—stupid reports. His Lordship's disclaimer was not necessary. No true and high-minded Conservative could be suspected of encouraging them. It was not denied that the Prince is in the councils of his Sovereign—openly and publicly—as well as in that sacred privacy to which his relationship to the Queen entitles him; but it was affirmed by high authority, that the exigencies of common sense and the ties of nature in this respect are not in opposition to the strictest reading of the Constitutional Law. His Royal Highness, though he has been conversant with all affairs that are brought under the notice of the Queen in her capacity as Chief of the State, never—as we learn by the testimony both of the present and of the late Prime Minister—interfered in the slightest degree with their functions or responsibilities. It was stated in the course of the debate that so far from seeking any other position than that which he holds, the Prince refused to entertain a proposal made by the late Duke of Wellington that he should succeed him as Commander-in-Chief. It was a foolish proposition—which the advanced age and failing energies of the illustrious Duke sufficient to explain; but it is not the less creditable to the good taste and good sense of the Prince, that he was not dazzled by it. We trust that the country will hear no more upon the matter. The vindication of his Royal Highness was complete and decisive.

THE COURT.

The opening of the Session of Parliament by her Majesty in person has formed the leading incident in Court life during the past week. The Queen and the Prince left Windsor Castle for Buckingham Palace at ten minutes before one o'clock on Monday afternoon, attended by the Lords and Ladies of the Royal household. The august party travelled by the Great Western Railway to Paddington, and proceeded thence to Buckingham Palace in three of the Royal carriages, escorted by a detachment of Lancers. At three o'clock the same afternoon her Majesty held a Court and Privy Council, which was attended by his Royal Highness Prince Albert, and the whole of the Cabinet Ministers. At the Council, the Queen's Speech on opening the Session of Parliament was arranged and agreed upon; and her Majesty pricked the list of Sheriffs for the present year for the counties of England and Wales. At the Court, Namik Pacha, accompanied by M. Musurus, the Turkish Minister, was presented to her Majesty at an audience by the Earl of Clarendon, G.C., the Queen's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. The Queen gave audiences to the Earl of Aberdeen, the Earl of Clarendon, Earl Granville, and Lord John Russell.

On Tuesday the Queen went in state to the House of Lords to open the Session of Parliament with a Speech from the Throne. The Royal procession was marshalled in the quadrangle of Buckingham Palace. The Queen and Prince Albert were conducted to their carriage by the Vice-Chamberlain, Lord Ernest Bruce. Her Majesty quitted Buckingham Palace at eighteen minutes before two o'clock, escorted by a detachment of Life Guards. The crown was conveyed to the House of Peers in a state carriage, by Sir William Martins, Gentleman Usher. Her Majesty returned to Buckingham Palace at five minutes before three o'clock; and at twenty minutes past four, left town for Windsor Castle, attended by the Lords and Ladies of the Royal Household. The august party arrived at Windsor at a quarter-past five o'clock.

On Wednesday the Queen took a drive in an open carriage. The Prince Consort enjoyed the sport of shooting during the morning. In the course of the day her Highness the Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess Mary arrived at the Castle, on a visit to her Majesty. The following distinguished personages also arrived on a visit: the Duke and Duchess of Bedford, the Duchess of Sutherland, the Marquis of Granby, the Earl Spencer, the Earl and Countess of Hardwicke and Lady Elizabeth Yorke, the Earl and Countess Grey, Lord and Lady Ashburton, the Right Hon. Pemberton Leigh, and the Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge.

On Thursday evening a grand dramatic performance took place in the Rubens Room. The piece selected for representation was Shakspeare's play of "The Tempest." The principal characters were filled by Mr Charles Kean, Mr. Cooper, Mr. Cathcart, Mr. Ryder, Mr. Webster, Mr. A. Wigan, Mr. Harley, Mr. Bartley, Mr. Graham, and Miss Heath, with Miss Leclercq as *Ariel*.

In the course of the day the Earl Spencer (Lord Steward) and Viscount Drumlanrig (Comptroller of the Household) had audiences of the Queen, to present the addresses from both Houses of Parliament, in answer to her Majesty's Speech

POLITICAL ENTERTAINMENTS.

The Earl of Aberdeen gave a full-dress Parliamentary dinner on Monday evening, at Argyll-house, to a distinguished party of Peers, supporters of the present Administration. After dinner the noble Earl read the Queen's Speech, as agreed upon at the Privy Council, to the company. The health of her Majesty was afterwards drunk by the guests

Lord John Russell gave a full-dress Parliamentary dinner party, on Monday evening, at the Foreign-office, Downing-street. The invitations included the Right Hon. the Speaker, Viscount Canterbury (the mover of the Address), and Mr. Thomson Hankey (the seconder).

The Earl Granville, Lord President of the Privy Council, gave a grand dinner to the Cabinet Ministers and the great Officers of State of the Queen's Household, on Saturday, at his residence, in Bruton-street. At the meeting, the roll of High-Sheriffs for the counties of England and Wales for the present year was settled, preparatory to its being submitted to the Queen in Council.

The Earl of Derby gave a grand dinner, on Monday night, at his Mansion, in St. James's-square, to a party of thirty Peers, supporters of the noble Earl's policy in the Upper House. The Queen's health was drunk after the dinner with all the honours.

The Right Hon. B. Disraeli, M.P., gave a grand dinner on Monday evening, at his mansion, Grosvenor-gate, to a party of members of the House of Commons, supporters of Conservative principles.

We are happy to announce that the Marquis of Londonderry is completely recovered from his late severe indisposition.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,
TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, FEB 2.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading	Thermometer. Lowest Reading	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
	Inches.	°	°	°	°			Inches.
Jan. 27	30.470	47·7	33·0	42·0	+ 4·7	81	S.W.	0.00
„ 28	30.026	51·0	42·7	47·1	+ 9·8	85	S.	0.00
„ 29	29.833	53·0	34·5	46·7	+ 9·3	88	S.W. & S.	0.14
„ 30	30.039	54·8	35·1	47·5	+ 10·1	87	S.	0.00
„ 31	30.319	52·5	42·6	49·5	+ 11·9	89	S W.	0.00
Feb. 1	29.946	51·5	42·5	47·7	+ 10·0	87	S.	0.46
„ 2	30.151	45·8	37·2	40·2	+ 2·5	83	N.	0.00

Note.—The sign + denotes above the average.

The reading of the barometer decreased from 30.51 inches at the beginning of the week, to 29.86 inches by the afternoon of Jan. 29; increased to 30.27 inches by the morning of the 31st; decreased to 29.97 inches by the afternoon of Feb. 1, and increased to 30.26 inches by the end of the month. The mean for the week at the height of 92 feet above the level of the sea was 30.103 inches.

The mean daily temperatures of the 28th and 30th are the highest mean daily temperatures recorded on those days since the year 1840, when they were 52·3°, and 48·6° respectively. During the time they have been above their averages—viz., on every day from Jan. 7, to February 2 (except on Jan. 19, when it was slightly below)—the average excess daily has been 5·3°.

The mean temperature of the week was 45·9°, being 8·5° above the average of thirty-eight years.

The range of temperature during the week was 21·8°, being the difference between the lowest reading on Jan. 27th, and the highest on the 30th.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 13°.

Rain fell during the week to the depth of six-tenths of an inch.

The weather, with the exception of the first and last days of this week, which were fine, has been cloudy, and the sky has been mostly overcast.

Lewisham, February 2nd, 1854. JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—The number of births registered within the week was 1662: the average number in the same week of the preceding years was 1544: making up of 723 males, and 715 females. In the last week 817 boys were born, and 845 girls. The number of deaths registered within the same week was 1178: in the preceding week it was 1189, showing a slight decrease.

MEETING OF CONVOCATION.—The session of Convocation for the province of Canterbury, was formally opened in the Jerusalem Chamber on Wednesday, after which the right reverend prelates with the Dean of Canterbury in the chair, proceeded to the Lower House containing to sit in the Jerusalem Chamber. The Bishop of London reported that the committee appointed in July last to consider the right of stipendiary curates to vote in the election of Proctors, had decided that the evidence was against their right to do so. The Bishop of Exeter alone opposed the adoption of the report. On the motion of the Bishop of London a committee was appointed "to consider and report to the Houses with a view to addressing her Majesty thereon, whether any, and if so what, reforms in the constitution of Convocation are expedient to enable it to treat, with the full concurrence of the Church, of such matters as her Majesty may be pleased to submit to its deliberation." After some other business the synod was formally prorogued till the 20th of June.

THE MURDER AT ACTON.—The thrice-adjourned inquiry touching the death of Richard Medhurst, aged 14, who was found murdered in a ditch in Friar's-lane, was resumed at the Goldsmiths' Arms, Acton, on Tuesday. Sergeant Earthy said the police were using their utmost endeavours to discover the guilty persons. Mr. Wakley, the Coroner, felt sure that the perpetrators of the diabolical deed would not long escape punishment. The jury returned a verdict of "Wilful Murder against some person or persons unknown."

THE MARQUIS OF ANGLESEA.—As his Lordship was taking a morning walk on Wednesday, he was observed to rest against a lamp-post, when a gentleman who knew him by appearance approached, and found that his weakness was the result of an attack of paralysis. He immediately conveyed him to Uxbridge-house, when medical aid was at once called in. It is hoped that his health will be restored in a few days.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

(Continued from Supplement, page 106.)

The Lord Chancellor took his seat on the woolsack at five o'clock.

THE VIENNA NOTE.

Lord LYNDHURST asked the Foreign Secretary whether the description of the transactions connected with the Vienna note, given in the despatch of Count Nesselrode, was correct—viz., was the note sent simultaneously to the Governments of Russia and Turkey for their adoption? or had it been first sent to Russia, and when assented to there, had been sent to the Porte? He also asked whether that note had originated with the Austrian Government alone, or with the Powers generally.

The Earl of CLARENDON repeated the account which he had given on Tuesday of the origin of the note. The note emanated from the French Government; had been, at their strong request, assented to by England, Prussia, and Austria, in succession, and, after protracted negotiations, sent, with some alterations calculated to give it greater strength and clearness, to the CZAR and the Porte, simultaneously. It was accepted by Russia, and when the news of such acceptance reached Vienna, the intelligence was sent after the note to Constantinople.

Lord BEAUMONT asked whether the original French note had been sent to St. Petersburg, and not to Constantinople?

The Earl of CLARENDON could not at present say. It was a question to which only the French Government could reply.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

The Speaker took the chair shortly before four o'clock.

On the motion of Mr. G. A. HAMILTON, a new writ was ordered to be issued for the borough of Ludlow, in the room of MR. R. Clive, who had accepted the office of Steward of the Chiltern Hundreds.

Sir J. PAKINGTON gave notice that he would, on Tuesday, the 7th of February, move for the appointment of a committee to take into their consideration, whether the proceedings of the House could not be facilitated by a better arrangement than at present.

Sir F. KELLY gave notice that, on the 15th inst, he would move for leave to bring in a bill with respect to bribery, corruption, and intimidation at elections for members of Parliament.

In answer to Mr. Pellat, Sir W. MOLESWORTH said it was not the intention of the Government to make the Thames Tunnel available for carriage and heavy traffic.

In answer to questions from Mr. H. Baillie and Mr. French, Lord J. RUSSELL said it was the intention of the Government to introduce Reform bills in the present session with respect to Scotland and Ireland.

The Marquis of BLANDFORD obtained leave to bring in a bill to make better provision for the management of episcopal and capitular property.

Lord J. RUSSELL moved that no warrants for new writs for Barnstaple, Cambridge, Carnarvon, Hull, Maldon, and Tynemouth be issued before the 9th day of March next.—Agreed to.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved for leave to bring in a bill to explain and amend an Act of the last session of Parliament, c. 99, relating to the duties of Assessed-taxes.—Agreed to.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved that the House should go into Committee on Public Revenue and Consolidated Fund Charges.

The House having gone into Committee, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said that the object which he had in view under the notice of the House the subject of the charges which were defrayed out of the revenue before the receipts came into the Exchequer, and it was the intention of the Government by the bill, the introduction of which he moved, to establish an accurate system of public accounts.

Mr. HUME congratulated the House on the introduction of the bill.

After a few words from Mr. W. WILLIAMS,

Mr. DISRAELI expressed his approbation of the bill.

Leave was then given to bring in the bill.—Adjourned.

MUSIC.

The Musical Soirée of the Réunion des Arts, at the Society's rooms, in Hanley-street, on Wednesday evening, was exceedingly elegant and agreeable. It was attended by a large and fashionable assemblage, and was more of the nature of a *conversazione* than a regular concert, though the musical part of the entertainment was of no small interest. A grand trio by Thalberg, for the piano, violin, and violoncello, was a novel and remarkable feature. It was something very different from what we could have expected from this composer, and indeed placed him in quite a new light. It seemed as if he wished to show that he was able to write in another and a better style than that which has rendered him so popular with the million. Instead of being a series of brilliant difficulties and *tours de force*, which nobody but himself could execute, it was modelled upon the classical works of the older masters, regular and symmetrical in form and construction, sober in style, melodious, expressive, and sufficiently easy of execution.

THE THEATRES, &c.

DRURY-LANE.

Mr. G. V. Brooke recommenced a new engagement on Monday, and was enthusiastically received by a crowded house. The piece selected for the occasion was the tragedy of "Brutus," by the late Mr. Howard Payne, and to which the acting of the elder Kean lent much lustre on its original production. We should form a higher estimate of the evidences of Mr. Brooke's popularity, if public attention had not been so strongly solicited by the manager's advertisements. High as Mr. Brooke's merits are, claims are asserted which no critic can conscientiously indorse. We have no temporary purpose to subserve—our object is to guard and promote the permanent interests of art. The *Lucius Junius Brutus* of Mr. Brooke is a striking performance, but exceedingly unequal, and most so in the early scenes. The actor has no skill in the simulation of idiotcy, and not the patience to wait until the proper opportunity for vehement effects. These, however, in the malediction of the third act, and in the popular demonstrations of *Lucretia's* avenger and supporter of his country's liberties, were frequent and powerful. The pathos of the final situation, also, was appreciated, and the house could not fail to be deeply impressed with the sense of the strife between paternal agony and judicial duty. The stream of applause was not, however, so continuous as it should have been; and the refinements required in certain of the more subtle touches of sentiment were altogether wanting. The performance, however, though not a triumph, was undoubtedly a great success—the house being overwhelmingly crowded, and the applause and *bouquets* remarkably abundant.

On Tuesday Mr. Brooke performed *Master Walter*, in "The Hunchback," with his usual felicity. This, in fact, is a part in which he is perfect.

The opening of the Royal Italian Opera is fixed for March 21.

EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYED.—The conference convened by the Society of Arts to discuss the subject of trades unions and strikes, was held on Monday, at the society's rooms, in the Adelphi, and was well attended. Besides the deputations of numerous trade societies, there were present Lord R. Grosvenor (in the chair), Lord Goderich, Lord Stanley, M.P.; Viscount Elmsley; Sir William Clay, M.P.; Mr. Hindley, Mr. Slaney, Mr. George Dawson, Mr. Thornton Hunt, Mr. E. M. Whitty, Mr. Sidney Smith, and a number of other gentlemen connected with the press. The chairman having read the subjects of discussion as laid down by the council, Mr. Ernest Jones proposed a series of affirmatory resolutions, which the meeting refused to receive upon which Mr. Jones, in the name of the "working classes," denounced the whole proceeding as a complete delusion, and withdrew from the Conference. Among the speakers were Mr. Slaney, Mr. Lloyd Jones, Mr. Hughes (barrister), Mr. W. Newton, Mr. George Cowell, Mr. S. Kidd, Mr. Fryone (late Professor of Political Economy at Cambridge University), Mr. Henderson (of the firm of Fox and Henderson), Lord Goderich, Mr. Hindley, and Mr. Robert Owen. Mr. Ainsworth (Secretary of the Preston Masters' Association) was present, but not in a representative capacity, and declined to offer any statement or explanation. The speakers, even those of the same class, differed on the subject of trade combinations; but there was a general condemnation both of strikes and lock-outs, an equally general desire for arbitration in disputes between masters and men, and a unanimous resolution against the law of partnership. Mr. Henderson avowed the readiness of himself and partners to submit to arbitration in any case of dispute; and a letter to the same effect was sent by Mr. Knott, of Sunderland. Mr. Hindley regretted there were so few masters present, defended combinations among men as necessary while masters also combined, and complimented Mr. George Cowell. There was no time to enter upon the question of "wages" and modes of payment; a motion for adjournment being resisted by the committee. The proceedings, therefore, closed with a vote of thanks to the Council and to Lord Grosvenor.

The new Ulster King of Arms, Mr. Bernard Burke officiated, for the first time, among the officers of State, at the recent Vice-Regal levee and drawingroom, on the 25th and 26th January, in the Castle, Dublin.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE gave notice that on Monday he would ask a question of her Majesty's Government as to whether we were at peace or at war; and he would draw their Lordships' attention to the last despatch addressed to St. Petersburg, dated the 24th December.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS—FRIDAY.

Mr. ADDERLEY gave notice of his intention, on Tuesday next, of asking Lord J. Russell a question relative to the intentions of the Government upon the subject of national education.

Colonel SIETHORP gave notice of his intention to renew his motion for the reduction of the duty upon fire insurance.

In reply to Mr. Bentinck, Mr. CARDWELL stated that the Government intended, in the course of this session, to introduce a bill for the better prevention of railway accidents.

In reply to Lord Stanley, Lord PALMERSTON stated that he intended shortly to introduce a bill for the better regulation of burial societies, and for the prevention of abuses connected therewith.

MERCHANT SHIPPING AND PILOTAGE.

The House having gone into Committee upon the subject of Merchant Shipping and Pilotage,

Mr. CARDWELL moved for leave to bring in a bill to admit foreign ships to the coasting trade; and also a bill to consolidate and amend the laws relating to merchant shipping; intimating his intention of seeking advice from all quarters best competent to afford it, with reference to the provisions of the former measure.

Mr. HOUSEALL trusted that ample time would be given before the second reading in order to afford the mercantile community an opportunity for considering the bills.

Mr. HUME highly approved of the measures proposed.

Mr. LIDDELL doubted whether the removal of the restrictions would produce the effects anticipated; and he warned the Government of the danger of weakening our maritime interest by subjecting them to competition.

After some further discussion leave was given for the introduction of the Bill.

Lord DRUMMANRIG, Comptroller of the Household, brought up her Majesty's answer to the Address presented to her by that House, which was couched in the usual gracious terms.

The Lord Advocate obtained leave to bring in a bill for the valuation of lands and heritages in Scotland.

On the motion of Mr. Wilson, it was resolved that, on Monday, the House should go into Committee to consider the oaths taken by members of the House of Commons.—Adjourned.

THE FLEETS IN THE BLACK SEA.

Letters from Constantinople to the 22nd, state that the "combined fleet" had returned from the Black Sea to the Bosphorus, and anchored at Beicos, preparatory to convoying some Turkish transport vessels to Varna. Of course, this must have meant the portion the "combined fleet," the main portion of which was then at Sinope, or on the look-out for the Russian squadron. One of the ship's company of the *Sanspariel* writes, on January 14:—

There is no sign as yet of the enemy; they had left two days before our arrival, and intelligence was given to Admiral Lyons, that a Russian squadron of ten sail was blockading Batoum. The inhabitants of Trebizond were overjoyed to see us; they made us a present of mutton and vegetables, enough to last three days. The French made a signal to load the guns with shot, as we fully expected the enemy was close at hand. We weighed anchor the same evening, and proceeded to land the troops and stores. When we reached there no Russians were to be found; they were safely moored beneath the guns of Sebastopol. They heard the combined fleets were in the Black Sea, and did not like our company. The Black Sea has ceased to be a Russian lake; we can range it from one end to the other at our leisure. We are in number thirty-three sail, eighteen of which are ships of the line, the remainder frigates and steamers—enough, I should say, to sweep the world before it.

THE BALTIC FLEET.

Orders were despatched by telegraph to Plymouth on Thursday for the screw ships *Hogue*, 60, Captain Ramsay, and *Edinburgh*, 58, Captain Hewlett, to proceed eastward. These ships, together with the *Blenheim*, 60, screw, Captain Hon. F. Pelham, fully manned at Portsmouth, are to complete their crews and be ready for active service. They are the best ships we have for Baltic service.

THE FLEET IN THE TAGUS.

The *Sultan* steam-ship, which arrived at Southampton on Thursday, reports Rear-Admiral Corry's squadron as having been still in the Tagus on the 20th ult.; and we see that the chief engineer, of the third-class, has been ordered to proceed from Southampton to Lisbon, on the 7th inst., to join the *Amphion* there.

THE DANUBIAN PRINCIPALITIES.

Letters from Jassy, of the 23rd ult., state that the Russian General, Count Osten-Sacken, arrived in that city on the evening of the 20th, and took possession of the apartments parepared for him at the Government house. It is now ascertained that he will administer the government of the province, in the capacity of vice-president. The Russian troops continue to pour into the plain; that body which came into Moldavia, however, the week before last, by Skuleny, continued their march into Wallachia, not by Jassy, but by Podulolei and Romani.

A Bucharest Correspondent, writing under date of the 21st inst., says, "Giurgevo is being bombarded by the Turks, and great damage is done to the town."

COUNT ORLOFF'S MISSION.

The most contradictory rumours prevail regarding the success of Count Orloff at Vienna. The Emperor of Austria is said to have declared to him that if the Russians cross the Danube he will consider that as a declaration of war.

Letters from Berlin, in the *Weser Zeitung*, say that at the sitting of the Council of State the Prince of Prussia had pronounced himself against all neutrality and tergiversation. "He was ready to do honour," he said, "to the noble qualities of his brother-in-law the Emper Nicholas, but, as a Prussian Prince and heir presumptive to the throne, he did not hesitate to declare that the moment was come for Prussia to assume a decisive attitude, and to notify to the Cabinets of Europe that a refusal to accept the propositions of the Conference would force Prussia to take her stand by the side of the Western Powers, and to follow them to all extremities.

The *Assemblée Nationale* affirms that the proposals tending towards opening new negotiations, of which Count Orloff was the bearer, have not been deemed acceptable either in London or in Paris

The same journal announces that M. de Kisseleff had an interview with the Minister for Foreign Affairs, on Thursday, and that the reply of the French Government to the demand for an explanation made by the Emperor of Russia, was such as to satisfy that Minister, who accordingly demanded his passports. It was understood that he would leave Paris yesterday (Friday).

A LONDON FOG.—From an early hour yesterday (Friday) morning till about two p.m., the metropolis and its suburbs were visited, with slight intervals only, by a thick fog, which put a stop to almost public business, and exposed foot passengers in the main thoroughfares to extreme peril. The navigation of the Thames was also partially suspended; while those who did proceed in their several vessels, either up or down the river, had to use the utmost vigilance to escape accidents.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—*Rectories:* The Rev. R. Dunn to Hunstham, Devon; Rev. J. Stroud to Bondleigh, near North Tawton. *Vicarages:* The Rev. E. P. Brett to Sandhurst, near Gloucester; Rev. J. J. P. A. Morshead to Salcombe Regis, Devon; Rev. C. F. Smith to Crediton, Devon; Rev. E. Smyth to Harling, Essex. *Incumbencies:* The Rev. H. Owen to Llanerchymedd; Rev. J. R. Dakers to Hawick. *Perpetual Curacies:* The Rev. G. Garbett to Accrington; Rev. C. Marshall to Harpurhey, near Manchester; Rev. D. Sigman to Withnall, near Chorley.

TESTIMONIALS.—The parishioners of Rancorn, Chester, took the opportunity of the occasion of a recent visit of the Rev. W. C. Safford, their late Curate, to present him with a very handsome and massive tea and coffee service, as a small token of their appreciation of his former services. To the Rev. G. W. Paul, their Vicar, by the boys of the Finedon Church Sunday School. To the Rev. J. W. Murray, from the congregation of St. Mary's Church, Reading.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK, ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

HERE we are, in 1854, committing alike irreparable folly to one committed in 1840. No nation, it is said (and said truly) has a nobler collection of national records than Great Britain; yet it is remarked, and with equal justice, no nation is so careless of them. If we were poorer we should be more watchful—prodigality of wealth (in this case, at least) has led to indifference. We have not been content with exposing our records to the chances of a magazine of powder (the most curious are still above such a mine of explosive matter), but we hand them over to damp and, worse still, to ignorant persons, to do what they will with. Who (of the thousands interested in English history) has forgotten the important Parliamentary inquiry of 1840 into "the destruction and sale of Exchequer documents"? Let us, however, recal the circumstances as briefly as we can. Some ignorant men about the Exchequer, who knew no more of history and of the value of ancient papers than they knew of the present position of our affairs with Russia, mutilated an immense mass of Exchequer papers of the reign of Elizabeth, James I., and Charles I., and then (carrying the profits into the Exchequer) sold their mutilated mass to a fishmonger of the name of Jay, in Hungerford-market. Jay, though only a fishmonger, knew more about the value of his acquisition than the Exchequer clerks; and the consequence was, that he soon brought autograph dealers and collectors of MSS. about him; turned his purchase to good account; and, in his evidence (modest enough evidence), expressed (not unnaturally) a desire for a second acquisition of the same value at the same price. But the fishmonger was not the only person who profited by the heedless ignorance of the authorities at the Exchequer. The very dealers who bought of the fishmonger sold many of their rarest acquisitions to the Trustees of the British Museum; and thus the public was called upon to pay—and in a mutilated state—for papers destroyed in wretched ignorance by its own servants.

That we are not exaggerating the case (and it is one properly retracting great attention in literary circles at the present moment), it is easy to prove, from the report of the committee. But we will not wander so far as to call up unnecessary proofs. At present, we shall content ourselves (before we state our fresh grievance) by directing attention to a recommendation of the committee:—

The Committee are also of opinion that the practice of selling useless papers from the public offices is mischievous, as affording a cover for the improper and surreptitious disposal of more valuable documents; they, therefore, recommend that in future all papers and parchments, the preservation of which in any public office may be considered unnecessary, should be completely and effectually destroyed.

This, as far as it goes, is sound advice. But has it been acted upon? No, we reply, in two instances within our own knowledge, in the destruction of a portion of the correspondence of the Home-office some six years ago, and in (which has led to these remarks) the ignorant destruction of a mass of Ordnance papers during the present month.

If there is any portion of English history with which it behoves an Englishman to be better acquainted than with another, it is that which Lord Clarendon has called the Great Rebellion. Great men were on both sides, and the whole kingdom was a participator in the struggle. Two centuries have nearly passed since the war ceased, and curiosity is still alive to know more about it. Where, how, and by what means did Charles equip his army? Where, how, and by what means did Cromwell arm his invincibles and Haslerig his lobsters? We turn to printed books in vain, for information on these heads. Where shall we find it? In the British Museum? No! Where then? In the books of the Committee of the State, not publicly known to have been preserved? In a rash order from the Ordnance has doomed them to the hands of another Mr. Jay—to (we believe) a Mr. Waterlow. This rash doom has awakened the curiosity of collectors; and State papers of importance of the age of the Commonwealth, and once the property of the nation, have been secured by private individuals, at, of course, greatly increased prices. Nay (if we are not misinformed) the trustees of the British Museum are on the eve of becoming purchasers of a portion of the papers thus unhappily scattered; and the votes of the House are to be increased by a sum required by the negligence and ignorance of the servants of the public. We have seen some of the papers thus heedlessly lost; can bear witness to their importance; and shall, therefore, have more to say upon the subject before very long.

The literary and political worlds have been greatly amused and amazed, during the present week, by a printed correspondence between Mr. Croker and Lord John Russell, on the subject of "Moore's Diary." Croker and Moore (Irishmen both) were friends of nearly thirty years' standing—as much friends as two satirists and political opponents could possibly be. Croker is a Tory, and Moore was a Whig. One swore by, and wrote in, the *Quarterly*; the other swore by, and wrote in, the *Edinburgh*. Their friendship resembled a sort of armed neutrality, for which they liked one another. Each feared the other; and Moore, it so happened, was indebted to Croker for important advice, and more important official assistance, in his Bermuda business. A satirist who keeps a diary is only too apt to indulge in hits even at his friends; and Moore was not exempt from the sin of saying hard things of Tory friends to Whig allies; but, worse still, was in the habit of writing them down. Now it naturally happened that a constant frequenter of Holland House, and of Lansdowne House, was sure to hear hard, and often untrue, things of Mr. Croker; and some of these, Moore (who was much at both houses) has set down in his Diary; and Lord John has now and then allowed them to appear in print. Mr. Croker is of course not pleased; nor is he altogether pleased with the "Diary" itself, while, so far as the editing is concerned, he is utterly at a loss to understand on what principle of admission and omission its editor can have possibly acted. Thinking thus little of the book itself, of its author and its editor, he inserts a long, bitter, and, we must add, a most readable article, in the *Quarterly* upon it. Lord John is nettled; the widow, a most amiable woman, is greatly hurt. It is now Lord John's turn to reply; and, in a note to one of the new volumes of the "Diary," he does so, and in terms at which Mr. Croker takes offence. Here, then, begins the correspondence: Mr. Croker opening with a letter to Lord John, in which he repels the personal imperfinence of the note, and enters, with his usual skill as fencing and hitting, into the merits of the work itself, the ingratitude of Moore, and the folly of his editor. Lord John replies—in no way giving in; but, if anything, adding to the offence of his printed note. To this Croker rejoins, angrily and yet with temper, ably, and yet at too much length; and the whole correspondence is sent with a note from Mr. Croker to the *Times*.

People are divided about the propriety of the correspondence. Mr. Croker's friends think that he is triumphant, and call the day on which the correspondence was published, viz., the 30th of January, not King Charles's martyrdom, but Lord John's; as if Mr. Croker had done for one Russell what King Charles II. did for another of the same name. The Whigs, again, are unanimous in their belief that Croker has done for himself; that, meaning murder, he has committed suicide a second time. Calmer people, uninfluenced by politics, and only weighing the case judicially, take a different view. Lord John has performed his duty very remissly as an editor, by suffering too many passages to remain calculated to give offence to surviving friends; and he has shown his partiality for his political partisans by inserting whatever he could find recorded in their praise. Mr. Croker, on the other hand, has, in his article in the *Quarterly* shown two little tenderness towards the widow of the poet. As we should have been ashamed to have edited the "Diary" as Lord John Russell has edited Moore's, so we should indeed have been unwilling to have written of Moore as Mr. Croker has written, while his widow was yet alive.

PANORAMIC VIEW OF SINOPE,

REMAINS OF STEAMER, FRIGATES, AND CORVETTES.

GREEK TOWN. HOUSE OF AUSTRIAN CONSUL. FISHING STATION. 60-GUN FRIGATE.

LIST OF THE TURKISH SQUADRON OF FRIGATES UNDER OSMAN PACHA, DESTROYED IN SINOPE BAY, BY THE RUSSIANS, NOVEMBER 30, 1853.

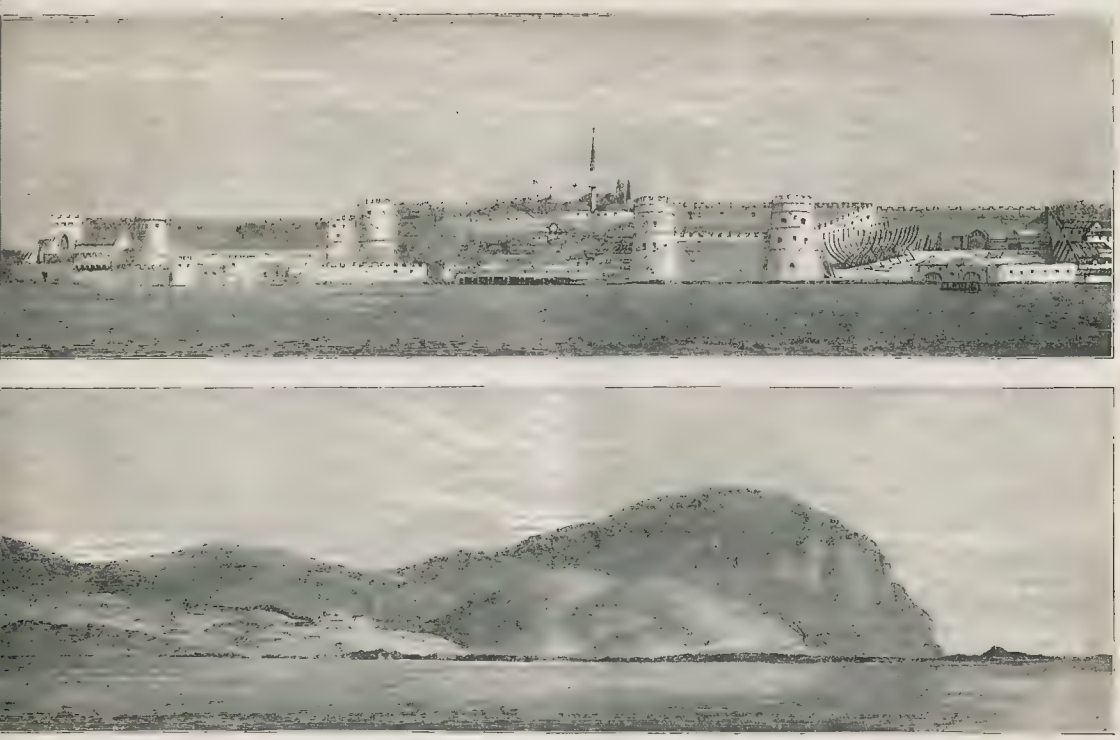
Names of Ships.	Guns.	Crew.	Admirals' Names.	Fate of Admirals.	Captains' Names.	Fate of Captains.	Fate of Ships.	Opposed to.
Navik	52	500	..	..	Edli Bey	Killed ..	Blew up thirty minutes after the action began	A Russian 80-gun ship. Sailed out.
Nesim	52	500	..	..	Hassan Bey	Killed ..	Burnt next day by the enemy	A Russian 80-gun ship. Sailed out.
Faieli Hah	38	400	..	..	Alimahri Bey ..	Prisoner ..	Burnt by the enemy	A Russian 80-gun ship, which lost fore and mizen-top-gallant masts
Gui Sefit	24	200	..	..	Saly Bey	Uncertain ..	Burnt, destroying an English brig.	main and main-top sail yards. Towed out.
Avlimah (flag) ..	56	400	Osman Pacha	Prisoner	Rashed Bey	Escaped ..	Burnt by the enemy	A Russian 120 gun ship, which lost top-gallant mast, and jib boom
D mat (Egyptian) ..	56	500	..	..	Achmet Ibrahim Bey	Uncertain ..	Blew up during the action	A Russian 120-gun ship, which lost fore and mizen-top masts, and
Nedge Jesan ..	24	200	.	..	Hassan Bey	Prisoner ..	On shore, dismasted.	main-top sailyard.
Kaid	50	500	..	..	Ekram Bey	Escaped ..	Blew up.	
Nagainiah (flag) ..	60	600	Hussein Pacha	(Floated ashore) —killed on landing ..	Cadin Bey	Killed ..	Blew up after the action	A Russian three-deck ship.
Fairi Marbout ..	22	240	..	..	Jeel Bey	Uncertain ..	Burnt next day.	
Taif (steamer) ..	16	300	..	..	Gugu Bey	Escaped ..	Escaped to Constantinople.	
E. Kegli (steamer) ..	4	150	..	..	Ishmai Bey	Escaped ..	Burnt next day.	
	484	4490						

Officers and men killed, drowned, and missing, Turkish squadron, 2841.

Two Russian frigates and four steamers remained cruising outside; still the Russians had 198 guns engaged more than the Turks, and of larger calibre.

INSIDE OF THE CORVETTE "NEDGE JESAN," 24 GUNS.

CHED AFTER THE LATE BATTLE.



PANORAMA OF SINOPE.

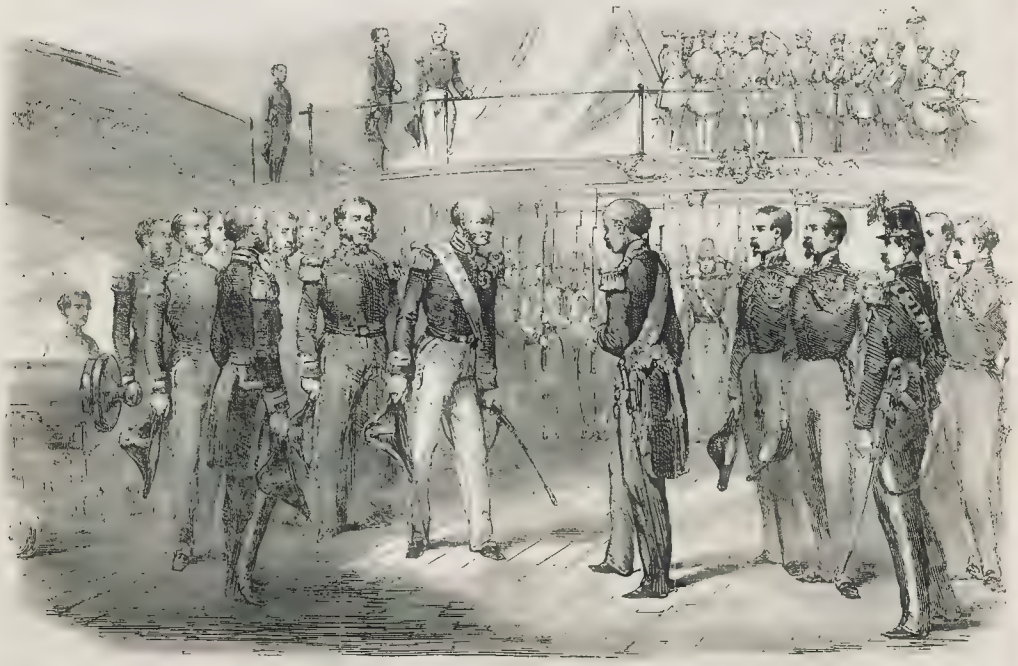
We are enabled, by our obliging Correspondent, Lieutenant Montague O'Reilly, of H.M.S. *Retribution*, to present our readers with the accompanying Panoramic View of Sinope, and the inside of the corvette, *Neiige Jeun*, 24 guns, ashore. The scene of desolation, with what may be termed the *débris* of the vessel, will convey an idea of the force employed in the general action between the Turkish and Russian squadrons, and its disastrous termination. The Panorama is sketched from the anchorage of the *Retribution*.

In the Picture is shown the greater portion of the Bay of Sinope, with the drifted hulls and shattered remains of the destroyed vessels, exactly as they were found by the *Retribution* and the *Mogador* steamships. Lieutenant O'Reilly, under an impression that the Sultan would be anxious to know the condition of his frigates, their positions in the Bay, or any fact of the fate of his devoted adherents, had the honour to send, through Admiral Slade (Muchever Pacha) the plan of these details.

We append a tabular view of the results, which supplies data not to be found in the accounts hitherto published.

THE VISIT OF GENERAL BARAGUAY D'HILLIERS TO ADMIRAL DUNDAS.

The visit of the French Ambassador, General Baraguay d'Hilliers, to the English fleet while at anchor in the Bosphorus, of which we give an Engraving in to-day's publication, took place soon after his arrival in Constantinople. On this occasion the General, who was accompanied, in addition to his staff and the *personnel* of the French Embassy, by Vice-Admiral Hamelin, commanding the French squadron, Rear-Admirals Jacquinot and Le Barbier de Tinan, was received by Admiral



RECEPTION OF GENERAL BARAGUAY D'HILLIERS BY THE BRITISH ADMIRAL DUNDAS.

Dundas, and the officers in command of the English squadron, with the usual military honours—the band playing French and English national airs, and the marines presenting arms.

The latest accounts from Constantinople speak of a military *reconnaissance* which General Baraguay d'Hilliers proposed making in person on all the points previously examined with great attention and minuteness by his Aide-de-Camp, soon after their arrival at Constantinople, with a view to establish, in case of necessity, a line of defence, and thus protect the capital from an attack on the European side. The General was to be accompanied in this excursion by Tefik Pachs, chief of the staff of the Turkish Minister at War. He was to have left Constantinople on the 16th ult., but the preparations for his departure were suspended the same morning; and the reason assigned was the request to that effect of the Ambassadors, who considered the presence of the General at Constantinople indispensable, in case news of importance should be received from the Black Sea.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

LANCASTER.—Mr. Brierley, the originator of the Liverpool Chess-club, and whose long absence still and the Society almost irreparable blow to Chess in Liverpool, we are glad to hear, is on his return to power and has been unanimously elected President of the Society There can be no doubt whatever that, under his auspices and direction, the Club will again become as famous as we remember it ten years ago.

AZEPH, MEDICUS, and Others.—Finding it impossible to obtain any redress for the expense and inconvenience to which we have subjected to by the sham challenges and acceptances of challenges, of the charlatan in question, we are glad to hear that Mr. Staunton has taken the only course left to secure himself from future annoyance, by putting the whole matter into his solicitor's hands

ARNOLD, W. F. F., AN OLD PLAYER. The appointment of Secretary to the St. George's Chess-club rests with the committee. 2. The salary is £100 per annum. 3. We cannot undertake to receive proposals. They should be sent to the proprietor. 4. Preference, we think, would be given to a Fellow of the Club.

STERLING, W. H. L. (Bath.) Is to Play in Part 1 of the *Correspondence Chronicle*, F. B., Liverpool.—1. Get the last volume—that for 1853—of the *Correspondence Chronicle*, which contains all the Chess intelligence of the year, and some 50 games, problems, &c., by the best players in the world. 2. Apply to the honorary or secretary, Morton Sparke, Esq., and you will have no difficulty in being constituted a member.

R. G.—Pray remember that the *second* solution was equally correct.

R. C. J.—See the notice above to J. F., of Liverpool, and procure the magazine there mentioned.

FIN, Manchester.—It shall be examined.

T. A. M., Liverpool.—A reply has been forwarded.

JOHN.—There is, in such a case no liability attached to either King or Pawn.

M. P. L. B. and Others.—Our last problem, as solved by the author, deserves the epithet we applied to it, but, unfortunately, it admits of a very common place solution, in the same number of moves.

HOLLANDER, J. D. B., and others.—The solution of No. 518 was found to be imperfect, and is nowunder consideration.

SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEM No. 518.—I. J., of Hanworth; J. P., of Dalston; Derevon, are correct SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEM No. 519.—I. J., by Ernest. Almaric, R. D. M., Derevon, J. B. of Brighton, Correct; J. P., G. P. C., J. W. B. of Wrexham, Swede, Jack of Newport, D. H. of Dublin, T. T. of Hanworth, A. C. of Leamington, Crosby Docks, F. W. M. C., Dalmeny, are correct.

SOLUTIONS TO ENIGMAS, by Sigma, Ernest, Germanus, J. P., Jack of Worcester, F. R. of D., Derevon, are correct. All others are wrong.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 517.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. R to K 6th	P Queens *	3. R to Q R 5th	P takes R
2. Kt to Kt 6th (ch)	P takes Kt	4. R Mates.	

* Black has many other moves, but none better than this.

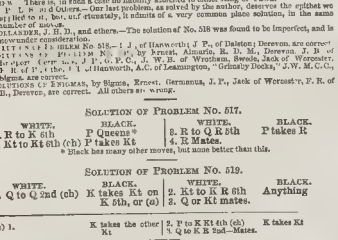
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 519.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. Q to Q 2nd (ch)	K takes Kt on K 5th, or (a)	2. Kt to K R 6th 3. Q or Kt mates.	Anything
(a) 1.	K takes the other Kt	2. P to K Kt 4th (ch) 3. Q to K B 2nd—Mates.	K takes Kt

PROBLEM No. 520.

By W. BIGLAND, Esq.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White, moving first, to checkmate in four moves.

THE REPRESENTATION OF SOUTH DEVON.—The vacancy in the representation of the southern division of Devonshire, by the death of Sir Ralph Lopes, Bart., is likely to produce a severe struggle. Already three candidates, all of long standing in the county, have been named. The three gentlemen whose names have been already freely circulated as Sir Ralph Lopes's successors are his own son, Sir M. Lopes, the present Baronet; Sir Stafford Northcote, Bart., of Pynes, near Exeter; and Mr. Lawrence Palk, of Haldon-house, eldest son of the Baronet of that name. The general opinion at present is, that Sir M. Lopes has by far the most probable chance of being successful. In addition to his own interest in the south of Devon, which is by no means small, it is stated that he can reckon with certainty on the support of Sir John Yarde Buller, the other M.P. for that division. That this is not improbable may be judged of from the fact that the political views of both honourable Baronets coincide; whilst a matrimonial alliance between the two families is expected to take place at no distant period.

REPRESENTATION OF WEST SUSSEX.—Mr. R. Prime, of Walberton, near Chichester, who has represented the western division of the county of Sussex during the last seven or eight years, on the Protectionist interest, has issued an address to the electors of West Sussex, in which he states that the late hours to which the legislative sittings are usually protracted are so incompatible with the requirements of his increasing years, that he feels called on to resign his trust into younger hands. Mr. Henry Wyndham, son of Colonel George Wyndham, of Petworth-house, is spoken of as his successor, and follows in little doubt of the result. West Sussex is, in fact, as much under the control of two or three of the landowners of West Sussex, as ever was Gatton or Old Sarum.

THE WRECK OF THE "TAITLEUR."—An inquiry into the cause of the wreck of *Taitleur* commenced yesterday week, at Malahide, before the Dublin county Coroner. From the evidence, it appeared that the entire crew—including captain, stewards, cooks, clerk, and apprentices—consisted of 71 persons. Of these, however, only 26 were able seamen and 11 ordinary seamen. Of the former, 12 were foreigners; all of whom, except two Chinese sailors, could speak English. The complement of seamen required by the Emigration Act is three men to each 100 tons register. The tonnage of the *Taitleur* was 1677; so that, according to this calculation, the number of men ought to have been 60. Government ships have generally four men to every 100 tons even when carrying ship stores. The captain stated that he had engaged the crew himself about a week before the vessel sailed. The whole of the crew, with the exception of four men, were strangers to him. He had not experienced any obstruction from the want or the inefficiency of hands. The inquest was brought to a conclusion on Monday evening, when the following is the record of the verdict:—"That the parties were drowned by the sinking of the said ship off Lambay Island, and that this deplorable accident occurred in consequence of the highly-culpable neglect of the owners in permitting the vessel to leave port without compasses properly adjusted, or a sufficient trial having taken place to learn whether she was under the control of her helm or not; and we find that Captain Noble did not take sufficient precaution to insure the safety of the vessel by rounding to after he found the compasses were in error; but we consider, from the time the vessel came in sight of land, that he acted with coolness and courage, and used every exertion in his power to save the lives of the passengers.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

SIR RALPH LOPES, BART., OF MARISTOW, DEVON.

THE death of this respected Baronet occurred on the 26th ult. Sir Ralph, the son of Abraham Franco, Esq., by Esther Lopes, his wife, succeeded, in 1831, to the Baronetcy and large estates of his uncle, the late Sir Manasseh-Masseh Lopes, M.P., and assumed, thereupon, by Royal license the surname and arms of Lopes. He was born 10th September, 1793, and received his education at Winchester, and at Brasenose College, Oxford, where he graduated in honours. For several years Sir Ralph sat in Parliament. His first election was for Westbury, in 1814, which borough he represented for a very considerable time. In 1840 he became Knight of the shire for South Devon, and continued as such up to the period of his decease. He was a Magistrate and Deputy-Lieutenant for Devon and Wilts, and was appointed Special Deputy Warden of the Stannaries in 1852.

Sir Ralph married, 8th May, 1817, Susan Gibbs, eldest daughter of the late A. Ludlow, Esq., of Heywood House, Wilts, and leaves several sons, of whom the eldest, the present Sir Massey Lopes, third Baronet of Maristow, was born in 1818.

CHARLES RODNEY MORGAN, ESQ., M.P.

By the premature death of this gentleman—the heir of the great estates of the Morgans, of Tredegar—a vacancy has occurred in the representation of Brecon.

Mr. Morgan had only just completed his twenty-fifth year, having been born at Ruperra House, Glamorganshire, December 2nd, 1828. He was educated at Eton, and entered the Coldstream Guards in 1847. His return from Brecon was the result of a close contest at the last general election.

Mr. Morgan's father, Sir Charles Morgan Robinson Morgan, Bart., of Tredegar, represented the ancient and opulent house of Morgan, which derives its descent from Llewellyn ap Ivor, Lord of St. Clere, by Angharad, his wife, daughter and co-heir of Morgan Mwynvawr, of Tredegar, a descendant of Rhys, Prince of South Wales.

CHARLES JOHN TINDAL, ESQ.

THIS lamented gentleman, whose untimely death, near Sydney, New South Wales, has been recently announced, was the youngest son of the Right Hon. Sir Nicholas Conyngham Tindal, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, and received his education at Trinity College, Cambridge, where his father had, in former years, greatly distinguished himself. Mr. Tindal was, for a considerable time, Marshal to his father; and, shortly before the Chief Justice's death, had conferred on him the office of "Registrar of the Acknowledgments of the Deeds of Married Women," now held by Sir John Jervis's son-in-law, Mr. Bankes.

The deceased was a member of Lincoln's Inn, a director of the South Sea-House, and one of the Commissioners of Lieutenancy of the city of London.

JEROME ADOLPHE BLANQUI (AINE).

BLANQUI (aîne) JEROME ADOLPHE, who died on Monday the 23th ult., at his own residence in Paris, was the leading member of the French Academy of Moral and Political Science. Like the majority of the French *savants*, he was the artificer of his own fortune.

Blanqui (aîne) was born in 1798, the eldest son of a large family at Nice, an Italian city, which at the time was the chief place of a French department called Alpes Maritimes. After having been subjected to the usual routine of education, he was prepared for the Public Instruction Service, in which he obtained his first experience. He gradually rose in the confidence of successive Ministers of Public Instruction, till he was appointed, in 1825, Professor of History and Economic Industrielle in the special School of Commerce at Paris. In 1830, he became director of this institution, and succeeded the celebrated J. B. Say as Professor of Political Economy at the Conservative des Arts et Métiers. In 1838, he was elected a member of the Moral and Political Sciences Academy. In 1846, he represented the department of La Gironde in the Chambre des Députés, an appointment he held up to 1848.

If Blanqui (aîne) had never done more to cause his name to be remembered, than discharging officially as he has done his onerous duties, he would still have been inscribed on the roll of fame. From the nature of his original employment in connection with schools, it might very naturally be inferred that he was of homely and sedentary habits. Such, however, is not the case.

M. Blanqui (aîne) has travelled throughout Europe, in order to study and compare the different processes of industry and social economy. His scientific excursions through the industrial world may be accounted as follows:—Fifteen travels in France, ten in England, five in Italy, two in Spain, many in Germany, Austria, Servia, eastern countries, and Algeria, several of which have been the subject of important books and scientific memoirs. It was but last summer that the indefatigable economist finished his important work on the agricultural population of France * by order of the academy of moral and political sciences.

Above all, the most important work of Blanqui (aîne) is the "Cours d'Economie Industrielle," ably delivered at the Conservatoire des Arts et Métiers: those who heard him, speak of him as an economist of uncommon power and ability, and as one of the most remarkable orators of whom the annals of political science have any record. Fortunately for the scientific world, the valuable "Cours d'Economie Industrielle" has been stenographed and published by M. A. Blaise and Garnier.

WILLS.—The will of Baron Mockletthwait has been proved under £30,000 personalty in this country.—William Edwards, Esq., of Bristol, banker, who died on the 6th ult., has left personalty amounting to £80,000.—His son, George Oldham Edwards, Esq., being the principal legatee.—William Knott, Esq., of Surrey, died possessed of £50,000 personalty, bequeathing to the Protestant Dissenters' School, instituted 1714, at Hoxton-town, now at Mare Fund, Southwark, £100; Baptist College, Stepney, £100; New College, London, £100; Orphan Working School, Hampstead, £50—appointing his daughter and granddaughter the residuary legatees.—Lady Wilmington, of Wimbledon, Worcester, personal estate £20,000—leaving the whole to her son, Sir Thomas Edward Winnington, Bart.—The Rev. William Bengo Collier, D.D., formerly of Christ-church, but late of Peckham, notwithstanding his well-known benevolence, extending over a long period, has been able, by the aid of a legacy left to him some time since, to make an ample provision for his widow: his personal estate being sworn under £5000.

SPRING CIRCUITS OF THE JUDGES.

WESTERN CIRCUIT.—The Hon Mr. Justice Erle and the Hon. Mr. Baron Martin, the Judges appointed to proceed and hold the assizes in and for the several counties comprised within this circuit, have appointed the following days for opening the commission in and for each county; namely—County of Southampton (Hilsea) Monday, March 27, at the Castle, at Winchester. Wiltshire: Monday, March 6, at Salisbury. Dorsetshire: Friday, March 10, at Dorchester. Devonshire: Tuesday, March 14, at Exeter; city of Exeter, the same day, at the same place. Cornwall: Tuesday, March 21, at Bodmin. Somersetshire: Tuesday, March 28, at Taunton.

OXFORD CIRCUIT.—On Monday the Hon. Mr. Justice Wightman and the Hon. Mr. Justice Talfourd, the Judges appointed to proceed and hold the assizes in and for the several counties comprised within this circuit, finally settled the days and times for opening the commission in and for each county, namely:—Berkshire, Saturday, Feb. 25, at Reading. Oxfordshire: Wednesday, 1st March, at Oxford. Worcestershire: Monday, 6th March, the Shire-hall in the city of Worcester, the same day, at the Guildhall of the city of Worcester. Staffordshire: Saturday, 11th March, at the Castle of Stafford. Salop: Tuesday, 21st March, at Shrewsbury. Herefordshire: Saturday, 25th March, at Hereford. Monmouthshire: Wednesday, 29th March, at Monmouth. Gloucestershire: Saturday, 1st April, at Gloucester; city of Gloucester, the same day at the same place.

NORTH WALES AND CHESTER CIRCUIT.—Mr. Justice Williams, who proceeds on this circuit, and joins Mr. Justice Crompton, at Chester, has also finally fixed and signed the precepts for holding the assizes in and for the several counties comprised within this circuit, namely—Montgomeryshire: Tuesday, March 14, at Welshpool. Merionethshire: Friday, March 17, at Bala. Caernarvonshire: Monday, March 20, at Caernarvon. Anglesey: Thursday, March 23, at Beaumaris. Denbighshire: Saturday, March 25, at Ruthin. Flintshire: Wednesday, March 29, at Mold. Cheshire: Saturday, April 1, at the Castle of Chester; city of Chester, the same day, at the Guildhall of the city.

* A book executed after an active inquiry of more than three years and throughout the eighty-four departments of France.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

The collectors and comptrollers at all the ports have received directions to transmit to the Comptroller-General, with all practical despatch, the account of charges of management paid out of the Customs' revenue in the quarter ended the 5th instant.

The Belgian Minister of Finance presented last week to the Chamber of Representatives a bill proposing a credit of 1,736,000f., for the continuation of the defensive works of the country.

The amount of railway calls falling due in the ensuing month, is a little over one million, against £865,981, in last February. The greater portion of the amount called for is by foreign companies, French, Belgian, and Canadian.

The municipality of Madrid has resolved that henceforth the streets shall be lighted with gas during the whole night. Heretofore the lamps have been extinguished on moonlight nights.

The Admiralty have called for tenders for the supply of 14,000 tons of coal, to be delivered at Malta in a short time, for the supply of the fleet.

The Russian squadron returned from Nangasaki, a port in Japan, to Hong-Kong on the 11th December. It brought a report of the death of the Emperor of Japan.

Mr. George Roe, the chairman of the Executive Committee, stated at the meeting of the Royal Dublin Society that Mr. Dargan's losses by the Exhibition amount to little short of £20,000.

The produce of Belgium, the greatest glass producing country in the world, is 50,000,000 feet of sheet glass annually; equal to 22,300 tons, or 25 per cent more than is made in England of both crown and sheet glass.

According to a circular issued by the Custom-house agent, Sydney, the amount of gold shipped from Sydney to England, in 1853, was 1,476,374 ounces; in 1852 it was 990,008 ounces.

The marriage ceremony was performed last month at Rochester (United States) by the "Rev." Antoinette L. Brown, a female preacher.

A Mr. Schietzenbach, a German chemist, of the vicicity of Baden, has lately discovered a means of obtaining a fifth more sugar from beet-root than that vegetable at present yields.

The army in Ireland consists of—Cavalry, 2679; infantry, 17,450; artillery, 1347: total, 21,476. Besides recruiting parties and 13,700 constabulary and staffs of militia.

A letter from Turin of the 13th ult. says that M. de Brenier had continual conferences with Count Cavour, and that a treaty offensive and defensive had been concluded between France and Piedmont.

At a Court of Directors held last week, John Peter Grant, Esq., was appointed a provisional member of the Council of India.

The betrothal of the Princess Maria Anne of Anhalt with Prince Frederick Charles Nicholas of Prussia, only son of Prince Charles of Prussia, took place on the 10th ult., at Dessau. The bridegroom was born in 1828, and the bride in 1837.

Petitions to the House of Commons will be presented from the old-established fire offices, advocating a repeal of the Fire-Insurance duty.

The *Crœsus*, which left Southampton on the 11th ult. for Australia, and which called at Lisbon for the Australian mails of the 4th December last, which were detained there, was to leave that port to proceed on her voyage on the 24th ult.

Lieutenant Poole, R.N., has been appointed Admiralty Agent on the Southampton station.

Letters from Alexandria, in Egypt, of the 17th ult., mention that the export of maize has been again declared free, and the prohibition removed.

Letters from Konigsberg state that Mr. Sturge and his two friends, who have gone on a mission of peace to the Czar, passed through that town on the 26th ult., on their way to St. Petersburg.

The Swiss National Council voted, on the 27th ult., the establishment of a federal university, comprising a polytechnic school, by 58 votes to 40.

John Mitchel's paper at New York, the *Citizen*, is published. Of the first number, containing an editorial article commending "ribbon lodges," 50,000 copies were sold.

The numbers attending the Museum of Ornamental Art, at Marlborough House, during January, were as follows:—11,385 persons on the public days, free: 585 persons on the students' days, on the payment of 6d. each, besides the registered students of the classes and schools.

No less than fifty-six fatal cases of cholera have taken place at Plymouth, where the disease still exists. The town is stated to be in a filthy condition.—*Medical Circular*.

The docks which the Cunard Mail Steam-ship Company commenced, some time since at Jersey city, New York harbour, have been completed. They extend 500 feet into the river. A large covering, extending over the whole pier, has been erected.

The Earl of Carlisle, who has arrived at Malta from an extended tour in the dominions of the Sultan, is expected to return to this country at the end of the month.

The directors of the Crystal Palace at Sydenham intend to open the building in May next.

The Emperor and Empress of France visited, on Monday, the painting-room of M. Ingres, to examine the painting which he has just terminated for one of the ceilings of the Hôtel de Ville.

The East India Company are about to issue a new copper coin, to be designated a "half-piece," and which shall be of the value of 1-128th part of a rupee, but shall not be a legal tender except for fractions of a rupee.

The packet-ship *Continent* has arrived at New York, after a six weeks' voyage from Liverpool, with the loss of fifty-four of her steerage passengers by cholera.

An extensive movement has taken place among the workmen and sailors of the Tyne and Wear, for an increase of wages.

The municipal council of Genoa has just voted 3500 francs in aid of the subscription for the monument to be erected to Christopher Columbus.

A memorial to Lord Aberdeen from the capitalists, merchants, shipowners, and others, of London, on the necessity for the immediate adoption of a system of agricultural statistics, has obtained many influentially signatures.

A "difficulty" about land occurred between Judge Gates and Jonathan Harrold, in Sutter township, California: the luminary of the law settled it by shooting Harrold through the head. The Judge gave himself into custody, and he has been held to bail.

Lord Dalhousie, the Governor-General, is endeavouring to establish vernacular schools throughout India, for the instruction of the masses of the people.

By certain telegraph arrangements now in progress, vessels sighting Cape Clear, Ireland, will be telegraphed to London within an hour.

The Empress Eugénie (of France) having been prescribed exercise, she has a pair of skates made fitted with wheels, and on these she skims the polished floors of the saloons in the Tuileries.

Mr. Michael Beresford has bequeathed his estates in Carlow county, with £15,000 to build a house, to the second son of the late General Sir Denis Pack. Capt. Denis W. Pack, Lord Beresford's godson, is to assume the arms and name of Beresford.

During the past year (1853) the value of the exports from London and Liverpool to the Australian colonies exceeded £13,000,000.

The master of the *Jules*, of Paimbœuf, France, reports that, on 21st October last, when in 34° 30′ S., and 26° 30′ E., he caught a petrel, with a ribbon round its neck, bearing the inscription "Owen Glendower, London."

The lamented Governor of the North-West Provinces of India, Mr. Thomason, has bequeated the whole of his valuable private library to the Government College, at Agra.

A few days since, as a rope-dancer was performing his feats of agility on a rope placed across the market-place at Vence (Var, in France), he fell head-foremost to the ground, and was killed.

Anna Maria Jones, authoress of the "Gipsy" and some other novels of the day, died last week, in Bermondsey, in the most abject poverty.

We are informed by a correspondent that a number of Russian ships that were at Liverpool have been sold to British subjects, and taken over, with the officers and crews, to be navigated under the British flag. Information on the subject has been forwarded to the Board of Trade.—*Shipping Gazette*.

The office of City Comptroller is vacant, owing to the death of Mr. Thomas Saunders. His department embraced all the law business relating to the property of the corporatio nand the completion of the purchases for the new streets to St. Paul's and Clerkenwell.

The last accounts from Asia announce the death of the Russian General Prince Orbelian of the wounds which he received in the affair of Baschkadykla.

The Lord Chancellor has appointed Sir John Eardley Wilmot, Bart., and Mr. Edward Cooke, Judges of the Bristol and York County Courts respectively, in the place of Mr. Arthur Falmer and Mr. E. H. Elsley, who have resigned, on the ground of ill-health.

Mr. Lotius Henry Bland, M.P., Home Circuit; Mr. Richard Armstrong, Leinster Circuit; and Mr. John Thomas Ball, Home Circuit, have been nominated Queen's Council at the Irish bar.

THE BEARD AND MOUSTACHE MOVEMENT.

England is a conservative country in more respects than one. It loves that which is old. An old church, an old ruin, an old tree, an old custom, all receive popular homage. An old law, even although it be very bad and oppressive, attracts to itself a certain kind of reverence, and is never repealed until after long and wearisome investigations. The English preserve their fashions in the same obstinate manner. They will not suffer themselves to be blown about by every breath of caprice, even although the matter be no more serious than one of taste. Yet, as a people, we are by no means deficient in a love of novelty; but it is only a certain kind of novelty which is successful, one which blows lightly and pleasantly, as a breeze upon the surface of society, but which is seldom able to penetrate into the bones and marrow of the inner life. A Mrs. Hayden may set our tables turning, and turn weak heads at the same time by the mysteries of spirit-rapping; but it is beyond the power of a Mrs. Bloomer to shorten by an inch the petticoats of the women of England. Though the fashions are always said to be changing, the changes, in reality, amount to very little. They do not affect essentials. The conservative spirit sets itself sturdily against any but the smallest and most insignificant innovations. The almost hopeless obstinacy of fashion and custom may be seen in the form of the hat and the cut of the coat—two articles of modern costume that fill painters with vexation and drive sculptors to madness.

Upwards of twelve, if not twenty, years ago the Germans, French, Italians, Spaniards—in fact, we may say, all the Continental nations, quietly though suddenly effected a revolution in the personal appearance of the male of the human species. They seem to have come to the conclusion that there was manly dignity in a hairy face, and that the use of the razor was unnatural effeminacy. They threw aside the unnecessary implement, and wore beard, moustache, and whiskers in all that flowing luxuriance which nature intended. To all objectors there was the unanswerable reply, "The beard grows—*ergo*, it ought to be permitted to grow; Nature gave it—*ergo*, it is good." But the English were unconvinced by the argument, and did not imitate the example. They stuck by the custom of their fathers and grandfathers; and underwent the daily martyrdom of shaving, as if it were a point of religion and of duty. The national love for bushy whiskers was never extinguished. The moustache was tolerated, and even admired, in officers of cavalry regiments; but was not endured in any one else. The few who were daring enough to set public opinion at defiance in this respect, ran the risk of being considered members of the swell-mob, or sham foreign Counts and real *Chevaliers d'Industrie*. As for the beard, it was an abomination in English eyes, and was never seen, unless occasionally in aged eccentrics ripe for Bedlam, or on the chins of ancient Hebrews who cried "Old Clo'" through the streets of the metropolis. It was in vain to urge that shaving was a nuisance. Every one admitted the fact; but no one was ready to forego the infliction. The dread of being thought odd, peculiar, eccentric was too much even for the wisest of men to overcome. A learned lady once deplored the misfortune of her sex, and the heavy weight of that primeval curse which declared that "in sorrow women should bring forth children." She envied the happier condition of men. "Ah! madam!" said a still more learned person, in reply; "bewail your fate no more: the evil you lament is not of frequent occurrence, and does not afflict old age. Think of man's misery, who has to shave every day. You may then decide whose afflictions are the greatest." "But man's are self-imposed," said the lady; and the philosopher was silenced.

Within the last few months, however, a considerable change has been effected in the public sentiment. The thick crust of popular apathy, or hostility, has been broken through; and it seems as if the English, after their heavy resistance, were no longer disinclined to adopt the comfortable and picturesque beards of the men of the Continent, and to abolish the civilised barbarism of the razor. The movement was first commenced by gentlemen who, in foreign travel, had learned, not only the beauty, but the convenience of hair on the chin and upper lip. Artists, with that love and appreciation of the picturesque, which might have been expected in members of their profession, were the next to encourage the hairiness of nature, and became the real *prodromoi* and forerunners of change. They gradually accustomed the eyes of the English multitude to the use of the moustache by civilians. Ultimately, a few musicians and *litterateurs* gave in their adhesion, and talked loudly of the comfort they derived from letting Nature have her own way. If a man had a taste for the fine arts, they told him his portrait would be vastly improved by a beard. If he were indolent, they showed him how pleasantly and profitably he might encourage his favourite vice by the discontinuance of his morning exercise with the razor. If he had the tooth-ache, they told him hair would prevent the recurrence of the evil. If he were vain of his beauty, the sop to his vanity was that ladies always admired cavalry officers, not because of their fine clothes, but because of the manly splendour of their upper lips! A portion of the press next took up the subject, and medical men came forward to prove, on satisfactory evidence, that to many artisans the moustache was invaluable as a supporter of health; and that, in conjunction with a beard and whiskers, it prevented the attacks of many maladies that afflicted those whose avocations were carried on amid dirt, dust, grit, filings, and smoke; besides being of great service in neuralgic and pulmonary affections. The result is, that we are now in the very thick and heat of a new agitation, and that the friends and foes of the natural face of man write, speak, and assemble in public meetings all over the country to urge their arguments *pro* and *con.*, and do battle for the beard, or against it. The ladies have been appealed to; but, having no representative or delegate who can express their collective sentiments, a few individual opinions only have been elicited, and these are strongly in favour of the beard, and still more strongly in support of the moustache. The cause has continued to grow; the police force of whole towns have added hirsuteness to their terrors; stokers, masons, gun-barrel grinders, and glass-cutters have adopted the new mode; and Mr. Muntz possesses no longer the sole or even the grandest specimen of the British beard. Whether Sheffield has yet felt any effects of this embryo revolution we are unable to state. At a recent meeting we notice that an Anti-beardite condemned the movement as unscriptural, because he could neither find a command to shave, or not to shave in the Decalogue. The Scriptural knowledge of the objector was barer than his face. Adam must have worn his beard. Abraham is always represented as having had a large and flowing one; and Moses and Aaron are never portrayed, by painter or sculptor, without the manly, and in them, the venerable appendage. The beard of Jupiter is known to every student of art, and that of Homer to every reader of poetry. Even in more recent times, and in our own country, shaving is quite a modern practice. It was not much known in Saxon England; and, if it reached the beard, it spared the upper lip. The practice of shaving came in at the Norman invasion. Among the Saxons none shaved their moustache but priests, and the ploughman ploughed, and the smith wrought at the anvil, with all their flowing hair, both on sconce and chin. Those who have any curiosity to know the history of the beard, and how its shape, and even its existence, was regulated and interfered with by Kings and Popes in the olden time, may read with advantage the chapter "On the influence of Politics and Religion on the Hair and Beard," in "Mackay's Memoirs of Popular Delusions, and the Follies of Crowds." They will there learn that shaving the face was a Monkish innovation; and that Protestantism ought, in reality, to protest against the razor. As far as argument goes, the friends of the Beard and Moustache have decidedly the best case. Nature gave the male face an ornament and a protection; and the male Englishman, from the age of twenty to that of seventy, reckoning that he shave every day, and that the operation of shaving lasts, with all its precursors and accessories, ten minutes, spends 254 working-days of his life in the Sisyphian labour of removing it. It remains to be seen whether Reason or Custom shall prevail, now that attention has been so forcibly directed to the subject. The chances are in favour of Custom; for is not Custom a tyrant? and is not Reason an abstraction which men may respect without yielding it obedience?

Taxes on Knowledge.—Soiree at the Whittington.—The Association for Promoting the Repeal of the Taxes on Knowledge will give a *soirée* to Mr. T. M. Gibson, at the Whittington Club, next Wednesday evening, in honour of the repeal of the Advertisement-duty. The meeting, which will, no doubt, be a large one, will be addressed by Mr. Cobden, Mr. Gibson, and other ardent advocates of a free press. Sir John Villiers Shelley has promised to preside on the occasion.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

NEWTON RACES.—Wednesday.

Handicap Plate for 70 sovs.—Jessamine, 1. Andante, 2.
Golborne Stakes.—Yestick, 1.
Trial Stakes.—Dead heat between Defiance and Royal George.

THURSDAY.

Hurdle Race.—Squire of Malton, 1. Luck's All, 2.
Handicap Plate for 60 sovs.—Sir Rowland Trenchard, 1. Voucher, 2.
Steeplechase.—Maid of the West, 1.

TATTERSALLS. THURSDAY EVENING.

LIVERPOOL STEEPLECHASE.

20 to 1 agst Peter Simple (t) | 20 to 1 agst Bourton (t)

DERBY.

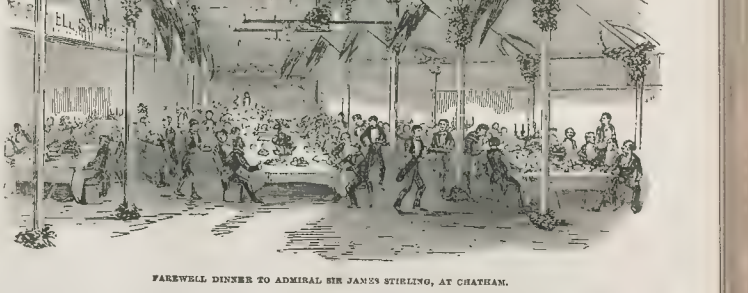
8 to 1 agst King Tom | 20 to 1 agst Acrobat (c)
15 to 1 — Dervish (t) | 33 to 1 — Scythian (t)

CHESTER CUP

50 to 1 agst Jugsy (t) | 50 to 1 agst Star of Surrey (t)
30 to 1 — Nabob | 30 to 1 — Newminster
200 to 3 agst Talfourd (t)

The Coal Trade.—Twenty years ago London was satisfied with a supply of two million tons of coals, but last year it was half-starved with double that amount. Its impatient cry is, therefore, for more coals, and, with the view of increasing the importations, it is proposed to open up the coasting trade to foreign vessels. More carrying power would thus, perhaps, be obtained, but it does not therefore follow that there would be a proportionate increase in the supply of coals to London. The market is extending, and even at present ships have frequently to lie for days before their turn comes to get a cargo. It is obvious, therefore, that until our various shipowners have a much greater quantity of coals at their disposal, the demand will continue to exceed the supply. The retail price of coals in the metropolis was a few days ago 2s. 9d. per cwt. for second qualities, and 3s. for the best, being nearly 150 per cent higher than it was at this time last year. An immense fleet of colliers, about a thousand in number, have, however, left the north-east ports for the Thames during the last ten days, the cargoes of which, and the return of milder weather, will tend to lower the price. Coal freights continue high, being to London 12s per ton from Newcastle, 13s. 6d. from Sunderland, Hartlepool, and Middlesborough, and 15s. from Seaham. *Sunderland News.*

A Way to Find One's Cousins.—Some time since Mr. Russell, a respected inhabitant of Bristol, carrying on the business of a wine-merchant, in Barr's-lane, died, leaving a considerable amount of property. Among the legacies mentioned in the will were several sums of £100 bequeathed by the deceased to each of "his cousins." No names were specified; and, consequently, it was open to the whole of Mr. Russell's cousinhood, immediate or remote, to come in and seek to substantiate their claims. We understand that the decision of the executors was final, and that the legacies were restricted by them within the limits of the first cousins and their children. It was expected that about six or seven claimants might possibly appear, and prove their right to the sum. The actual number of those who have come forward has been 59, out of whom only two have failed in making out a case to the satisfaction of the executors! "Good news flies space," and these cousins have started up in all directions, and from the most remote parts of the globe, including New Zealand, Australia, &c. The post says, "One touch of nature makes the whole world kin," but it would appear that, after all, the most touching test of relationship is a legacy.—*Bristol Mercury.*



FAREWELL DINNER TO ADMIRAL SIR JAMES STIRLING, AT CHATHAM.

FAREWELL DINNER TO ADMIRAL SIR JAMES STIRLING.

On Monday night a farewell dinner to Admiral Sir James Stirling, on the occasion of his departure to take the command of the East India and China fleet, took place in a large marquee, very handsomely fitted up in the grounds adjoining the White Swan Inn, Chatham.

Throughout the afternoon the spacious tent, which was one hundred feet long by fifty wide, was crowded by hundreds of visitors to inspect the decorations, which were arranged with great taste. An immense number of flags, bearing suitable loyal and political mottos, were suspended from the roof and affixed to the sides. Among the guests present were G. Ely, Esq., in the chair, Admiral Sir J. Stirling, the Hon. F. H. F. Berkeley (M.P. for Bristol), W. G. Romaine, Esq., Capt. Baker, Capt. Kains, Capt. Wilson, J. Hulkes, Esq., J. L. Levy, Esq., J. Foord, Esq., Dr. Steele, J. Dulvey, Esq., and a number of gentlemen from Rochester, Strood, and the surrounding neighbourhood. By half-past five o'clock no less than 600 persons had taken their seats, and shortly after that time Admiral Stirling, accompanied by W. G. Romaine, Esq., and a number of other influential gentlemen and political friends arrived. The gallant Admiral's appearance was the signal for a shout of tremendous cheering.

On the removal of the cloth the usual loyal and patriotic toasts were given, and then George Ely, Esq., the chairman, proposed the health of Admiral Sir James Stirling, whom he eulogised as a man of whom it might truly be said that the more they knew of him the more they esteemed him. He had come forward at a time when they were anxious to return a Liberal representative to Parliament; but now he was about to quit them to perform a greater service to his country in a distant part of the world, where he would carry with him the love and confidence of his Chatham friends, and their best wishes for his complete success in whatever his duty should require him to undertake (Loud cheers.)

Admiral Stirling rose amid the most enthusiastic cheering. He could not but feel that the reception he had met with was a very high compliment. He stood there as an unsuccessful candidate for the borough; but that fact had not estranged their sympathies. This was gratifying, because it showed that they had confidence in the principles which he and they advocated. He was a Reformer. He belonged to that party which had always been in favour of improving our institutions. At present all parties were in favour of Reform. The only differences of opinion were as to the extent to which reforms ought to be carried. Even the Tories were now advocates of Parliamentary Reform. Mr. Walpole had a Reform measure for conferring votes upon militia-men; and Mr. Disraeli had another project, which he would, no doubt, bring forward before long. He was anxious, however, to see such a measure of Reform proposed and carried as would remove all desire for change or alteration for many years to come. In conclusion, he referred in very complimentary terms to the conduct of Mr. Romaine during the two contests for the borough. He did not think the electors could have made a better choice; and he hoped, when in another part of the world, to hear of their having triumphantly returned him to Parliament. The time was coming when great events might have to be decided; but—thanks to the advocates of reform in Parliament, and to the measures which have been already adopted for placing our revenue and finances on a secure foundation, and for affording satisfaction and contentment to the people—we were now in a position to defy the world in arms (Cheers). We had nothing to fear, whatever foes we might have to encounter; and it was the proud boast of the Reform party that Reform has brought about the prosperity to which our safety is mainly owning, and to which the happiness and strength of England must be attributed (Loud cheers).

The Chairman proposed "The health of Mr. Romaine," the gentleman who has been invited to stand as their candidate, in the room of Sir James Stirling. The toast having been drunk with all the honours, Mr. Romaine returned thanks; and in doing so expressed his confidence in the wisdom and firmness of Ministers, who were, he was persuaded, determined to redeem their pledges as regards Reform.

A number of other toasts were given and responded to, and the company separated about eleven o'clock.

WRECK OF THE SCREW-STEAMER "OLINDA."

The columns of the newspapers have, unfortunately, for some days past, teemed with the painful details of shipwrecks, not only on our own coast, but in other climes. The fine steamer the *Humboldt*, on the coast of Newfoundland, through the ignorance of an assumed pilot; the *San Francisco*, through stress of weather, in the Gulf Stream; the harrowing and frightful loss of the emigrant ship *Tayleur*, in the Bay of Dublin (the verdict on which will be found in another column); and now is to be added to the list that of the fine new iron screw-steamer the *Olinda*, on the Welsh coast.

The *Olinda* left Liverpool for the Brazils on Thursday week, having on board a valuable cargo of fine manufactured goods and about twenty passengers. At the time of the accident she was under the charge of the pilot, who having been unable to land, had attended to

accompany the *Olinda* to Lisbon. Though the weather was unusually rough, it is reported that he took the ship through instead of round the Skerries. Whether that be so or not, it is clear that on Friday evening, between eight and nine o'clock, she struck on the Harry Furlong Rocks, which lie to the eastward of the Skerries. The first official information, containing a statement as to the position of the *Olinda*, was known by a telegraphic despatch to Messrs. Miller and Thompson, the agents of the *Olinda*, received from Captain Hirst, of the Chester and Holyhead Railway Company; and on Saturday the following letter from the chief officer was received by Messrs. Miller and Thompson. Captain Haram having been prevented from writing by being on board the wreck:—

CEMLYN, Jan. 27.

SIR,—I beg to report the stranding of the *Olinda* on the Harry Furlong Rocks, at 8.45 p.m. yesterday. The ship was in charge of the pilot at the time. Passengers are landed, all safe. Ship was quite dry at low water, and all the crew left the ship. Mails not yet landed. Found the fore cargo-hold full of water. The ship is in a very dangerous situation; if the wind veers to the north-west she will break up in six hours. We have had the steamer *Cambria*, from Holyhead; but she cannot come alongside. Flats will be the best means of saving the cargo, if she holds together. The rudder and propeller are carried away, six feet of forefoot gone, and the racks through her forward. Masts, &c., all standing. Nothing saved as yet, up to eleven a.m.; blowing hard from west. Captain Haram managed to get on board this morning, and has not yet returned. I am waiting for his coming ashore to open a communication with the ship, and take this opportunity of informing you of our position, as Captain Haram may not have an opportunity of writing himself from being on board, and a messenger is about to leave for Holyhead.

Your obedient servant,
JAMES BLOW, Chief Officer.

W. Hadfield, Esq.

The surgeon and one of the passengers arrived in Liverpool on Saturday, and their narrative bears out the impression conveyed in the chief officer's communication, that no blame is attributable to the captain. They state that the passengers were loud in their praises of the calmness and intrepidity which Captain Haram, the chief officer, and the crew, displayed in the trying emergency. They succeeded in lowering the boats without sustaining accidents, and in landing the passengers, although there was a heavy sea at the time. The pilot is an experienced man, having been twenty-five years connected with the port. Before the accident occurred, he stated that he knew the coast accurately, and that there was no danger in running so near the shore.

It is feared that there is little chance of recovering the ship; but there are hopes of a portion of the cargo being saved, three steamtugs, two lumps, fifty men, and diving apparatus having been sent down. Captains Richard and Daniel Green have also proceeded to the scene of the disaster, as well as the representatives of the London and Liverpool underwriters; and Mr. Hadfield, the secretary of the company, has likewise gone for the purpose of attending to the passengers and seeing after their baggage.

A letter from Captain Hirst describes the position and details still further:—

I was called upon by Lloyd's agent at this place, accompanied by one of the officers of your steam-vessel, *Olinda*, at 4.40 a.m., stating that the vessel was ashore on the rocks called Harry Furlongs, and requesting me to send a steam-vessel to her assistance. I lost no time in doing so. Steam was raised in the company's vessel *Cambria*, extra warps and men put on board here, and at 7.40 a.m. I proceeded to the *Olinda*, the weather very bad; wind from W.S.W. and S.W., thick with rain, blowing a gale. I arrived near the *Olinda* at 8.40, and found that she was full of water up to the 'tween decks, apparently fore and aft, and had twisted completely round, with her head to the eastward. She hoisted a signal of distress. I signalled her to send a lifeboat, which I observed alongside, as the sea was heavy. She, however, did not do so. I had the *Cambria* cutter manned, and, with some difficulty, reached the ship, and found her with only the commander, two other officers, a Liverpool pilot, and three men on board. I offered to land her mails and any valuables which my boat was capable of carrying in such a sea. I took ten mail bags (there being only fourteen), with her chronometer; all given up to the post-office here at noon, with the exception of the parcel which I had in my charge. I promised to send a boat for the remainder of the mail bags, and did so immediately but the crew left the ship soon after I pushed off. I sent the boat notwithstanding, but could not get the remaining bags. In the meantime the life-boat was driving to leeward, and could not fetch the shore. I took her into Cemlyn Bay, waited, and saw them all landed in safety. I very much fear she will become a total wreck if the wind comes more westerly, and would urge prompt measures to save the cargo and ship if possible.

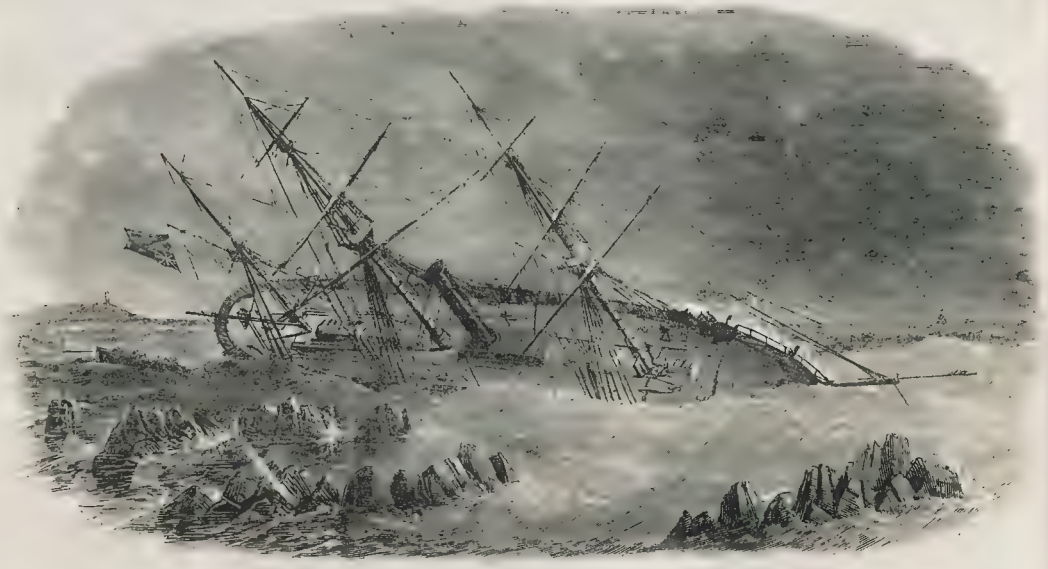
The *Olinda* was an iron vessel, of 1130 tons builder's measurment, and was built at Port Glasgow by Messrs. Reid and Co. She was a fine screw steamer, and was launched only in April last. Her engines were of 300-horse power, made by Messrs. Caird and Co., of Greenock. The *Olinda* was valued at £35,000, and the cargo was estimated at £20,000: both, it is said, were insured.

REMAINS OF THE INFANTA LYING IN STATE, IN THE ROYAL CHAPEL, AT MADRID.

REMAINS OF THE INFANTA OF SPAIN LYING IN STATE.

WE are enabled, by an Artistic Correspondent at Madrid to illustrate this recent solemnity. The Infanta was born on the 5th ult., at half-past ten in the morning; and, next day, should have been baptised with the customary ceremony in the Royal Chapel, but the Infanta being attacked with illness, she was baptized on the 6th, by the Patriarch of the Indies, in her own room, as is usual in such cases of urgency. On the 8th, after having received all the aid which medical science could furnish the Infanta died, at ten minutes past eleven a.m. On the 9th her remains were placed in the Royal Chapel, upon an Imperial bed, the hangings of which are of yellow velvet, embroidered in colours, and fringed with silver. The body was dressed in white cambric, richly worked, and trimmed with costly lace, and a silver girdle. The guard of the corpse was confided to two masteros (grooms) of the chamber, the two major-domos of the week, and two of the Queen's Guards. Thus sumptuously appointed, and surrounded with regal honours, the Infanta lay in state. On the 11th, the solemn Mass of "The Angels" was sung by his Excellency the Cardinal of Toledo; and, at eight o'clock on the morning of the 12th, after the whole population of Madrid had been spectators of the solemn spectacle, the remains were conveyed with great pomp to the Church of St. Lorenzo del Escurial; and, on the 13th, were deposited in the Pantheon of the Monastery.

The accompanying Engraving of the solemnity in the Royal Chapel is from a sketch by M. Benjumea, who has been honoured with a commission by the Queen of Spain to paint a picture of the sad scene.



WRECK OF THE STEAM-SHIP "OLINDA," ON THE HARRY FURLONG ROCKS, EAST OF THE SKERRIES.

ESENTATION OF A TESTIMONIAL TO THE RIGHT HON. G. BANKES, M.P.

s interesting ceremonial took place on the 11th ult., at the Town J, Dorchester, when the Right Hon. George Bankes was entertained a magnificent banquet. The Testimonial consists of a massive silver au-light Candelabrum, from the establishment of Hunt and Roskell design represents branches of the vine, dividing at the base. In the ere is the following inscription:—

resented to the Right Honourable GEORGE BANKES, M.P., by the Magis- ses and Inhabitants of the County of Dorset, a testimonial of their se of his long and distinguished services as Chairman of the Court of arter Sessions. Jan. 11th, 1854.

e Monogram and Coat of Arms of the right honourable gentleman also introduced. The centre of the piece is formed by four infantine ures, in frosted silver, emblematic of Mercy, Justice, Wisdom, and th. Mercy is fondling a dove and a lamb; Justice holds its sword scale—a novel feature in the latter being the substitution of a steel- d and one scale, instead of the orthodox "scales of justice;" the re- ing figures of Wisdom, and Truth, complete the group. The entertainment was presided over by the Right Honourable the t of Shaftesbury, being his Lordship's first visit to the county on any ilic occasion, since his valedictory address to the electors at Pound- y. The Hall, which was tastefully decorated, was well filled with wards of 160 guests.

TESTIMONIAL PRESENTED TO THE RIGHT HON. G. BANKES, M.P.

The right honourable recipient of the Testimonial was, in early life, pointed a Curritor Baron of the Exchequer, which office he still holds. About thirty years since he was appointed Recorder of Weymouth, in the room of Mr. Giles Templeman; and, until the Municipal Reform Act came into operation, he presided at the sessions, where his legal knowledge and ability gave universal satisfaction. In 1828 Mr. Bankes was elected a representative of Corfe Castle, and was also a member of the Duke of Wellington's Government, at its dissolution in 1830; after which he was chosen one of the county members for Dorset. About twelve years since, upon the retirement of Mr C. B. Wollaston, the right hon. gentleman was appointed Chairman of the Quarter Sessions He also received the appointment of Judge Advocate, under Lord Derby's Administration, and became a member of her Majesty's Privy Council.

After the customary loyal toasts had been duly honoured, the noble Chairman rose, and, at the close of an eloquent speech, presented the Testimonial to the Right Hon. Mr. Bankes, whose health was drunk with enthusiasm. Mr. Bankes returned thanks. The health of "The Lord-Lieutenant and the Magistracy of the County, coupled with the name of the Rev. Henry Farr Yeatman," was then drunk; and the rev. gentleman returned thanks. The Marquis of Westminster then proposed the health of "The noble Lord in the chair," for which the Earl returned thanks. Several other toasts were drunk, including "The Ladies, coupled with the name of Mrs. Bankes." Mr. Fyler acknowledged the toast in a few brief remarks. Mr Bankes also returned thanks for the honour done to his lady; and the entertainment concluded with "Rule Britannia."

PRINCE NAPOLEON BONAPARTE.

THIS Prince, who stands next but one in succession to the Imperial Throne of France, in default of heirs to the present Emperor, has, of late years, occupied no small share of attention, even in this country, but more especially on the Continent. Now that the Emperor, Napoleon III., is no longer a bachelor, his grand-cousin is the chief object of speculation to those political gossips who busy themselves in devising alliances for eligible and marriageable Princes and Princesses. A short time ago, when the Queen Christina of Spain visited France, attended by her daughters, one of those beautiful young ladies was unceremoniously allotted to Prince Napoleon. More recently still, when a reconciliation having taken place, after an estrangement of years between himself and his near relative the King of Wurtemburg, this Prince was again married by these political quidnuncs, in the most off-hand manner, to a fair cousin of his, a Princess of that Royal family. Hitherto, he has escaped these imaginary matrimonial toils; but his ever-watchful persecutors are again at their benevolent work, and hints have been thrown out of a still more desirable match than would have been either of those indicated. What is more authentic than the apocryphal arrangements is the very important fact announced in the *Moniteur* of Tuesday, that his Imperial Highness Prince Napoleon, accompanied by Colonel Desmarets, his aide-de-camp, and by several officers of his household, started on that morning for Brussels. The Prince de Chimay left by the same train. Prince Napoleon was received at Quiverain by General Chazras; and at Mons the authorities offered their felicitations to his Imperial Highness, the troops being drawn up as he passed. At the Brussels station, his Royal Highness the Duke de Brabant came to receive the Prince.

In this brief but pregnant announcement, we have evidence at once of the importance of the Prince and of his mission. Of the latter, the exact purport has not yet transpired; but the former may be measured by the fact of his selection for a duty on which the independence of Belgium and her close alliance with France are supposed to hang. It is remarkable that the present chief of the Bonaparte family has sought, by all possible means, to conciliate and keep them together. For a considerable time after Louis Napoleon was the *de facto* ruler of France, there existed, publicly, at least, a misunderstanding between him and his cousin, founded, it is believed, less on personal than on political considerations: but no sooner were their relative future positions defined, than all jealousy appears to have subsided—the Emperor seeking, and the Prince cordially accepting, a reconciliation. One of the first acts of the Emperor was, to determine the position of his cousin in the succession; and the cousin, from having been a Republican and a demagogue of formidable pretensions, at once glided gracefully into princedom and presumptive heirship. It is probable that the Princess Demidoff may have been the mediating instrument in this family re-union. Since that time the young Prince Napoleon has, to all appearance, been a prime favourite. Posts of honour and duty have been liberally awarded him; he came over here on the occasion of the Camp at Chobham; and now he is the Envoy Extraordinary to King Leopold, in a matter too delicate and momentous to be entrusted to less than a Prince of the blood. In point of fact, Prince Napoleon, like his cousin the Emperor, has, in a political sense, sown his wild oats, and Royalty and Napoleonism certainly become him much more than the rampant Republicanism he enacted while chief of the Mountain.

PRINCE NAPOLEON BONAPARTE.

Prince Napoleon Joseph Charles Bonaparte is the son of Jerome Bonaparte, by his second marriage with the Princess Frederika of Wurtemberg. He was born on the 9th September, 1822, we believe at Trieste. He was, in one sense, the child of misfortune; as his father, when he was born, had already for some years suffered adversity. An elder brother, Jerome Napoleon, who was born in 1814, is dead. The youth of Prince Napoleon was passed, sometimes at Vienna, sometimes at Trieste, sometimes at Florence and Rome, occasionally in Switzerland, and, we believe, in America. At a later period, the Prince resided for a short time in Brussels; but, like most of the other members of his family, he did not, until the last revolutionary period, take any active part in political affairs. On the recal of the Bonaparte family from their long exile, Prince Napoleon was elected to the Constituent Assembly, in which, probably, more from policy and

THE JAPANESE EXHIBITION, IN PALL-MALL EAST—(SEE NEXT PAGE)

family motives, than from conviction, he became the leader of the extreme Republican party, known as the Mountain. From the violence which he manifested on many occasions, it was currently supposed that he was either playing over again the part of his uncle Lucien as against the first Emperor Napoleon, or that, from a desire not to lessen the Bonaparte influence in any quarter, he was simulating a zeal for Republicanism in order to associate the two. It was even believed that he and his cousin Pierre Bonaparte were really plotting to supplant the present Emperor in the affections of the French people. All conjectures on the subject have long since been set at rest.

These exhibitions, whether they were real or not, certainly served a purpose at the time, by preventing other democratic leaders from taking a position which might, perhaps, have damaged the interests of Bonapartism. The Prince Napoleon of the present day is a very different person, officially from the fellow chief of the mountain. According to all accounts, he is—always speaking in a political sense—a sort of reformed rake; who ably seconds, in every way open to him, the designs of his cousin the Emperor, while loyally and cordially supporting his authority.

JAPANESE EXHIBITION.

A SINGULAR cargo of curiosities has just been brought to the metropolis from Japan, one of the most sealed countries of the globe; and the rarity of whose productions beyond its own pale, reminds one of the disgust of the Citizen of the World at the meanness of the Dutch merchants, through whose covert dealings we have hitherto been accustomed exclusively to receive *quasi* specimens of Japanese Art and Manufacture.

The Collection was opened to the public, at the Gallery of the Old Society of Painters in Water Colours, in Pall-mall East, on Monday last; and it is said to be the first direct importation that has ever taken place to this country; one European ship, belonging to a Dutch merchant, having permission to trade annually with Japan. The articles consist of tables, cabinets, boxes, &c., japanned upon wood; inlaid with pearl and enamel; distinguished from the paper mâché of this country by its extreme lightness and smoothness, and absence of painting, as much as by the peculiarity of the designs, which are in most cases exceedingly graceful. There are also some embellished with very beautiful designs in coloured straw, a kind of ornamentation peculiar to the Japanese, and of which the cabinet, with the birds in our Engraving, is one of the best specimens. The bronzes are rare and mostly antique: there two largest bronze vases, which are very pure in form, and are shown on the table in our Illustration, we understand, are purchased for the Museum of Practical Art, at Marlborough House; as also a very beautifully ornamented glove-box, some boxes of the red and green lacquer, which are exceedingly scarce, and a small table ornamented with silver. The porcelain, of which there is a considerable show, consists of vases and water-bottles of elegant forms, and some of a grotesque nature, cups, &c., of uncommon lightness and transparency, some of them very nicely decorated; round many a bamboo cabinet has been woven with impervious money, considering the thickness of the cup being no greater than that of an egg-shell. The tall vase waterbottle and cups on the table in our Illustration has been selected as fairly representing this department of the Exhibition. The last-named is fine and ingenious in shape and pattern, and all of it executed in bamboo.

There are also some silk dresses and wrappers, very soft and lightly wadded, which are worn by the Japanese nobles; and on the walls are pictures of Japanese of all ranks—both men and women—in a variety of costumes, of which that of a bride, and a female walking with one of the familiar parasols commonly used in that country will be seen in our Engraving; which also contains one of several screen, on which are depicted the houses and domestic habits of the people. In the left hand ground of the Illustration is an inlaid wardrobe, purely Japanese; the forms only of most of the furniture being evidently of European origin, though the decoration, in all cases, is wholly their own. The table in the centre is one of the best: the top is decorated with a very graceful design, inlaid in pearl; the claw being of a novel form, consisting of a representation of three flying foxes, the wings of which form the support. There are also tables, supported by monkeys and fish; puzzle-boxes of a variety and a quaintness of design, which is far superior to that in general use. Altogether, it forms a very curious collection; and, no doubt, from the interest recently excited by the United States' Expedition to Japan, it will be very attractive.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

The warlike attitude which both England and France have taken in regard to the Russo-Turkish question has given rise to a variety of rumours in reference to the future. We need scarcely observe that the value of Consols has been severely tested, this week; nevertheless, in present low range of prices both for cash and for the numerous account buyers of Stock, the quotations have not suffered to any extent. The leading figure for the Three per Cents has been 90½ ⅞. There has been a steady though not to any great demand for money; as the supply in the hands of the private bankers, as well as in those of bill-brokers, has continued large, no advance has been noticed in the rates of discount. First-class Paper, at from one to two months to run, has been readily discounted at 4@5 per cent. In the Bank of England the rate of discount Bullion is rather on the increase; but, in Paris it is still rapidly declining, although large sums have been lately drawn from that country.

During the week we have received about £280,000 in gold from Australia and two parcels of specie from the United States. It is obvious—when we consider that the balance due to this country from America is little short of £25,000,000 that future imports will be on a liberal scale; but we are of opinion that, owing to the immense supplies of grain and flour which have been purchased for shipment to England, we shall shortly be compelled to forward both gold and silver rather largely to the United States to meet the necessary demands upon us. The whole of the Continental Exchanges are against the country.

On Monday, the Foreign Stock Market was very dull. The Three per Cent Reduced remained at 90½; the New Three per Cents, which were the Account Stock, left off at 90½ ⅞; Three per Cents, 90½; and the New Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 71¾. Long Annuities, 1860, were 5⅛; Exchequer Bills, 5s to 3s. prem. The Bank of England, on Tuesday, was unchanged. The Three per Cents opened at 90⅞ ⅞, the Three per Cents Reduced at 90⅝ ⅝, and the New Three and a-Quarter per Cents at 99⅜ ⅜. Long Annuities sold at 5⅛-16. In the Stock Exchange, on the same day, Consols, South Sea Old Annuities marked 103¾, and India Stock, 255. The amount of business doing was unimportant. The Three per Cents Reduced were officially quoted at from 90⅝ to 90⅞; the New Three per Cents Quarter per Cents, 91½ @ 92¾. India Bonds sold at 3s. to 5s., and Exchequer Bills, 10s. to 13s. premium. On Thursday, Consols were steady, at 90½ ⅝ ⅜ ½; the Three per Cents Reduced, 90½ ⅝ ½; and the New Three and-a-Quarter per Cents, 99 to 99½. Exchequer Bills advanced to 15s. and 14s. premium.

Miscellaneous Securities have ruled dull, but no change of importance has taken place in prices. Australasia Joint-Stock Bank Shares have been done at 75, Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China, 41, London Chartered Bank of Australia, 14½; London Joint Stock, 22, Oriental Bank Corporation, 44; South Australia, 4½; Union of Australia, 71½. Australian Agricultural have marked 37½; Ditto, Royal Mail, 23 ¾; Crystal Palace, 6; Ditto, New, 4¾; London Docks, 104; Netherland Land, 2; Peel River Land and Mining, 4 to 4¼ dis.; Portland Iron Company, 2¾ ex div.; Scottish Australian Investment, 2¼; Van Diemen's Land, 1¼; West London Waterworks, 139; Grand Junction, 72; Southwark, and Vauxhall, 89¼; West Middlesex, 110 ex div.; Hungerford-bridge, 12; Waterloo, 5¼; Vauxhall, 2¼; Albion Insurances have sold at 95; Atlas, 20¾; Crown, 138; Globe, 140¾ ex div.; Guardian, 16¾; Imperial Fire, 270; British Commercial, 20; Pelican, 45; Phœnix, 186; Rock, 74; Royal Exchange, 240; Sun Life, 65; General Screw Steam-shipping Company, 1¼; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, 8¼ to 82.

Foreign Bonds have ruled very little attention. Brazilian Five per Cents have been done at 97; Mexican Three per Cents, 22¾; Peruvian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 66¾; Portuguese Four per Cents, 38; Russian Five per Cents, 103¾; ditto, Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 90; Sardinian Five per Cents, 88¾ to 87; Spanish Three per Cents, 40; Dutch Four per Cents, 92; and Dutch Bonds, 88¾.

Advices from St. Petersburg state that a large issue of new paper money—to the extent of £10,000,000 sterling—is about to take place, to meet the expense of the war.

Railway Shares have been in a depressed state, and prices have further given way. The total "calls" for the present month are £1,021,504. In February, last year, they amounted to £636,146; in February, 1852, £856,911; and in February, 1851, £1,349,830. The following are the official closing prices on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS. Aberdeen, 19¾; Caledonian, 51¼; Dublin and Belfast Junction, 4¾; Eastern Counties, 13¾; East Lancashire, 63; Great Northern, 83¾; Ditto, A Stock, 60½; Ditto, B Stock, 107¾; Great Western, 61¾; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 63; Leeds Northern, 12; London and Blackwall, 7¾; London and Brighton, 97. North-Western, 101¾; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 21¾; Midland, 61¾; Norfolk, 46; North British, 31; North Staffordshire, 11; ex div.; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 39¾; Vale of Neath, 14¾; Waterford and Limerick, 2⅝; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, 63¾; Ditto, Extension, 11; York and North Midland, 45¾.

LINES LEASED AT FIXED RENTALS.—London and Greenwich, 12¾; South Staffordshire, 7¾.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—East Anglian, 2¾ ex new; Great Northern, Five per Cent, 119; Ditto, Redeemable at Ten per Cent prem., 109; Great Western, Five per Cent, 64; Midland, Four and-a-Half per Cent, 104.

FOREIGN.—East Indian Extension, 1¾; Luxembourg, 8; Ditto, Railway, 5⅝; Ditto, Canal, 1¾; Northern of France, 29; Ditto, 220 Bonds, 12¾; Paris and Lyons, 29¾; Paris and Strasbourg, 28¾; Royal Danish, 8¾; Sambre and Meuse, 3, West Flanders, 3¾.

In Mining Shares so little has been doing that the quotations must be considered as almost nominal. Cobre Copper have been 43; United Mexicans, 3¾.

Friday Evening

A full average business has been doing in the Consol Market to-day, and prices have been on the advance. The Three per Cents Reduced have been done at 91¾; the Three per Cent Consols, 90⅝ 91; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 99¾ ⅞. Consols for Account, 91. Bank Stock, 215. India Bonds, 2s. to 6s.; Exchequer Bills, 11s. to 14s. prem.; Long Annuities, 5 3-16. Foreign Bonds and Railway Shares have been firm.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE (Friday). Notwithstanding that the supply of English wheat on offer in to-day's market was very limited, the country and by retail dealers, the demand for all kinds was in a very sluggish state, at Monday's decline in the quotations. We were well supplied with foreign wheat as grainary, and the fresh arrivals are over 9000 quarters. The amount of business done in most descriptions was limited, on former terms. Floating cargoes were dull. Barley ruled heavy, at the depression noticed on Monday last. There was very little doing in malt, on former terms. Good oats were in request, and quite as dear. Damp parcels were neglected. Beans, peas, and flour were unaltered. The imports of the latter continue good.

ARRIVALS.—English: Wheat, 1,040 quarters; malt, 1,370; oats, 1050; flour, 760 Irish: oats, 30 [illegible] quarters; malt, 1 quarter; oats, 1,030 sacks; 1,350 barrels.

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 42 to 45s.; ditto, white, 47s. to 49s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 40s. to 42s.; ditto, white, 44s. to 46s. per 480 lbs. Rye, 30s. to 31s. Barley, 24s. to 26s.; distillers' ditto, 29s. to 32s.; malting ditto, 42s. to 47s.; Lincoln and Norfolk, 44s. to 47s.; Grinding ditto, 34s. to 37s. Kingston and Ware, 50s. to 52s. Oats, Yorkshire and Lincoln, 21s. to 23s.; Scotch, 22s. to 24s.; Irish, 19s. to 20s.; ditto, white, 20s. to 23s.; Cork, 19s. to 20s.; ditto, white, 20s. to 23s.; Youghal and Cork, 18s. to 20s.; ditto, white, 20s. to 23s.; Galway and Sligo, 18s. to 20s.; ditto, white, 20s. to 23s.; potato ditto, 20s. to 22s.; Dublin, Belfast, and Londonderry, 20s. to 23s.; ditto, white, 23s. to 25s.; potato ditto, 22s. to 24s.; grey peas, 34s. to 36s.; maple, 36s. to 38s.; boilers, 42s. to 44s. per quarter. Town-made flour, 42s. to 43s.; Suffolk, 38s. to 40s.; Stockton and Yorkshire, 36s. to 38s. per 280 lbs. *Foreign.* Wheat, 40s. to 44s.; Barley, 26s. to 28s.; Oats, 20s. to 22s. per barrel.

[illegible] Baltic crushing, 30s. to 32s.; Mediterranean and Odessa, 34s. to 36s. per 480 lbs. Rye, 30s. per quarter. Barley, 24s. to 26s. per malting ditto, 30s. to 32s. Beans, 34s. to 36s. per horse ditto, 34s. to 36s. per bushel. English rapeseed, £30 to £32 per last of ten quarters. Linseed cakes, English, 10 to £10 15s.; Foreign, £9 to £9 10s. per ton. Rapeseed cakes, £6 10s. to £7 per ton. Linseed, 54s. to 56s. per quarter. English clover-seed, red, 52s. to 58s.; ditto, white, [illegible]

Trade.—The stock of wheat[illegible] in the metropolis are from 11d. to 11½d.; of household ditto, 9½d. to 10½d. per 4lb. loaf.

TEA.—Our market is firm, and prices have a downward tendency. Common so and congou has changed hands at 1s. 6½d. to 1s. 7d. per lb. The imports continue on a liberal scale.

SUGAR.—Our market is firm, and prices of last week's quotations have given way 6d. to 1s. per cwt. Fine yellow Barbadoes 30s. to 32s. 6d.; mid. to good, 33s. to 33s.; fine yellowish Demerara, 33s. 6d. to 34s. 6d.; fine yellow, 35s. to 36s.; mid. to mid. yellow Jamaica, 34s. to 35s.; fine brown, 33s. 6d.; good yellow Mauritius, 32s. to 33s.; low to fine grey, 30s. to 32s.; fine white Benares, 38s. to 39s. 6d.; fine grocery yellow, 36s.; brown, 34s. to 35s. per cwt. Refined goods are steady. Brown lumps, 44s. 6d.; and low to fine grocery, 46s. to 48s. 6d. per cwt.

COFFEE.—A few parcels of good ord. native Ceylon have changed hands, at 1s. to 30s. per cwt.; but plantation kinds have given way fully 1s. per cwt.

RICE.—This market is firm, and all kinds are lower to purchase.

PROVISIONS.—Both English and Irish butter is dull, and lower to purchase. Foreign qualities are rather dearer, but the demand is by no means active. The bacon market is heavy, at is less money. Lard, and all other kinds of provisions, are selling on former terms.

TALLOW.—Since our last report, the demand has been to a moderate extent. P.Y.C., on the spot, is selling at 63s. to 63s. 3d. per cwt. Town tallow, 63s. 6d. net cash; rough fat 3s. 9d.

OILS.—Linseed is quoted at 34s. per cwt. Cakes are in fair request. Turpentine leaves on scarcity, at 100 late decline.

SPIRITS.—Rum is very brisk, and dearer. Proof Leewards, 2s. 7d. to 2s. 8d.; East India, 2s. 6d. to 2s. 8d per gallon. Brandy is higher. Sales of Cognac, best brands of 1851, 9s. 10d. to 10s.; 850, ditto, 9s. 1½d. to 9s. 3d. per gallon. Genevas continue to command more attention.

Hay and Straw.—Meadow hay, 43 to 85s.; clover ditto, 47s. to 86s.; and straw, 21s. to 30s. per load.

HOPS.—Although the supplies are increasing, dealers generally are firm, as follows: Kent and Essex Pockets, 90s. to 130s.; Sussex, ditto, 84s. to 120s.; Yearlings, 40s. to 140s. per cwt.

SEEDS.—[illegible]; Cosforth, 27s.; Hadley, 28s.; Lambton, 28s 6d.; [illegible] 2 per ton.

POTATOES.—[illegible] being in most kinds of hops, at our quotations. The imports this week are—120 bales from Ostend, and 110 ditto from Glocksandt. Mod and East Kent, £3 15s. to £15 15s.; Weald of Kent, £3 15s. to £6 15s.; Sussex, £2 12s. to £3 3s.; Farnham, £4 4s. to £6 6s.; Sussex, £2 12s. to £3 3s. per cwt.

Smithfield (Friday).—The markets are very moderately supplied with beasts, both as to number and quality. All breeds moved off slowly, at Monday's currency. Prime Downs and sheep were scarce, and in fair request, at extreme rates. Otherwise, the supply of sheep was large, but inferior in point of quality. Calves were in fair supply and fair request, on former terms. Pigs met a slow sale, at our quotations. Milch cows sold heavily, at from £14 to £19 10s. each.

PRICE OF MEAT [illegible] to sink the offals:—Coarse and inferior beasts, 3s 4d to 3s. 6d.; second quality ditto, 3s 8d to 3s. 10d.; prime large coarse woolled ditto, 4s. 2d.; prime Scots, 4s. 4d.; coarse and inferior sheep, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; second quality ditto, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; prime coarse-woolled ditto, 4s 6d. to 4s. 8d.; prime Southdown, 5s.; large coarse calves, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; prime small ditto, 4s. 8d. to 5s.; large coarse pigs, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.; small ditto, 3s. 8d. to 4s.

COAL MARKET (Friday).—About an average business was doing, as follows:—Hetton, 20s.; Lambton, 20s. 6d.; Hetton Wallsend, 21s.; Lambton Wallsend, 21s. 6d.; Eden Main, 20s.; Eden Wallsend, 20s. 6d.; Hetton Main, 20s.; Hetton Wallsend, 20s. 6d.; Lambton Main, 20s.; Lambton Wallsend, 20s. 6d.; Stewart's Main, 20s.; Stewart's Wallsend, 20s. 6d.; Tanfield Moor, 20s.; Tanfield Moor Wallsend, 20s. 6d.; Tees, 20s.; Tees Wallsend, 20s. 6d.; Wylam, 20s.; Wylam Wallsend, 20s. 6d.; Russell's Hetton, 20s.; Russell's Hetton Wallsend, 20s. 6d.; Adelaide, 20s.; Adelaide Wallsend, 20s. 6d.; Kelloe, 20s.; Kelloe Wallsend, 20s. 6d.; Caradoc, 20s.; Caradoc Wallsend, 20s. 6d.; Ord, 20s.; Ord Wallsend, 20s. 6d.; Tyne Main, 20s.; Tyne Wallsend, 20s. 6d.; Tyne Vein, 20s.; Tyne Vein Wallsend, 20s. 6d.; Hartley, 20s.; Hartley Wallsend, 20s. 6d.; Seaton Delaval, 20s.; Seaton Delaval Wallsend, 20s. 6d.; Seaton Burn, 20s.; Seaton Burn Wallsend, 20s. 6d.; Holywell, 20s.; Holywell Wallsend, 20s. 6d.; Tanfield Moor, 20s.; Tanfield Moor Wallsend, 20s. 6d.; Tees, 20s.; Tees Wallsend, 20s. 6d.; Wylam, 20s.; Wylam Wallsend, 20s. 6d.; Russell's Hetton, 20s.; Russell's Hetton Wallsend, 20s. 6d.; Adelaide, 20s.; Adelaide Wallsend, 20s. 6d.; Kelloe, 20s.; Kelloe Wallsend, 20s. 6d.; Caradoc, 20s.; Caradoc Wallsend, 20s. 6d.; Ord, 20s.; Ord Wallsend, 20s. 6d.; Tyne Main, 20s.; Tyne Wallsend, 20s. 6d.; Tyne Vein, 20s.; Tyne Vein Wallsend, 20s. 6d.; Hartley, 20s.; Hartley Wallsend, 20s. 6d.; Seaton Delaval, 20s.; Seaton Delaval Wallsend, 20s. 6d.; Seaton Burn, 20s.; Seaton Burn Wallsend, 20s. 6d.; Holywell, 20s.; Holywell Wallsend, 20s. 6d.

ROBERT HERBERT.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, JAN. 31.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED

D. F. BOWEN, Rawcliffe, Yorkshire, flax spinner.

BANKRUPTS.

H. CHANCELLOR, Great Yarmouth, tailor. J. [illegible], Bishopsgate-street, wine-merchant. W. CHARLTON, Bishopsgate, victualler. M. B. [illegible], Bread-street, wood-turner. T. WAITE, Cassington, Oxfordshire, [illegible]. [illegible], Manchester, waste-dealer and rope manufacturer. M. LEVY, late of [illegible], Dudley, baker and [illegible]. H. F. GOODWIN, Sussex-place, Regent's-park, [illegible]. J. TURNTON, Angel-passage, Cheapside, [illegible]. [illegible], Manchester, waste-dealer and rope manufacturer. J. JENNINGS, [illegible], and W. [illegible], Manchester, [illegible].

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

W. [illegible], draper.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3.

WAR-OFFICE, FEB. 3.

[illegible] Major H. Hanly to be Quartermaster, vice Daniel [illegible]. Lieut. and Adjutant J. Bandon to be Captain, vice [illegible]. Lieut. and Adjutant J. Mayne to be Captain, vice Yerbury. Lieut. and Adjutant J. Mayne to be Lieutenant, vice Cook. Lieut. and Adjutant [illegible] to be Lieutenant, vice Cook. Lieut. [illegible] to be Captain, vice [illegible]. Lieut. [illegible] to be Adjutant. Ensign [illegible] to be Lieutenant, vice [illegible]. Ensign [illegible] to be Lieutenant, vice [illegible]. Ensign [illegible] to be Lieutenant, vice [illegible]

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.—
EVERY MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, and FRIDAY will be given GY MANNERING, written new Scenes per Mr. Merville. Miss Cushman From the HAYMARKET, Tuesday, and Saturday (first and second time), a New Comedy entitled RANELAGH. The Pantomime Every Evening

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.
A MORNING PERFORMANCE of the most favorite FANTOMIME of the Season, the THREE BEARS. LITTLE Scratchair and the Fairies, will take place for the LAST TIME on THURSDAY NEXT, FEB 9, on which occasion children under ten years of age will be admitted to every part of the house at half price. Doors open at Half-past One, commence at Two, and over by Four

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE, Oxford-street.—Under the Management of Mr. CHARLES KEAN. Monday, Sardanapalus. Tuesday and Saturday, The Lancers; or, the Secret Seal. Wednesday, Ghetto Rosayn. Thursday, The Rivals. Friday, The Corsican Brothers; an the Pantomime every evening.

THEATRE ROYAL ADELPHI.—EVERY NIGHT, The TIMES of GOOD, as the Last Season of the World Pioneer of Modern Mirth and Fun, WITH NUMBER NIP; or, the Spoil Sport. New Scenes Dresses, Decorations, and Appointments by Beverley, &c.; Messrs. H Webster beauty Perfect Gentleman Harvey, &c.

ASTLEY'S.—Grand MORNING PERFORMANCE on THURSDAY NEXT, FEB 9th. MONDAY NEXT, and during the week, the Performances of the Days Past; or, the Magic Song. The ARENA; and the Pantomime, as Performed by the QUEEN'S and ROYAL ITALIAN CIRCUS, and Harlequin and the Ladies' Favourite.

ROYAL MARYLEBONE THEATRE.—Mr. and Mrs. J. WILLIAM WALLACK will APPEAR on MONDAY NEXT in Mr. C. N. Talfourd's Tragedy of ION, written and to reproduced with new Scenery, Dresses, and Appointments. HARLEQUIN KING OGLY MUG every Evening, for among the most splendid transformations ever witnessed

GREAT NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE Shoreditch.—On SATURDAY and MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4th and 6, and every evening during the week, To commence with the entirely new drama of the KING OF THE COLD, or, the Gold Rulers of Australia. To conclude with the Pantomime of HALEQUIN DIDDLE and ROAST BEEF.—Prices as usual.

MR. HENRY NICHOLLS' FIRST APPEARANCE on the LONDON STAGE.—Mr. BOWBRAY has the Honour to announce that Mr. Henry Nicholls, the eccentric Comedian Nephew of Mr. Wright, will make his first appearance at the THEATRE Dean-street, Oxford street, on FRIDAY next, FEB 10, in the character of SHYLOCK. Stalls, 3s., Boxes, 2s., Pit, 1s. Commence at Half-past Seven

THE HIBERNIA, next the Polytechnic.—Mrs GIBBS' (formerly Miss GRADDON) Musical and Panoramic Entertainment, THE EMERALD ISLE. Songs, Legends, Traditions, and Anecdotes of the Shores, Isles, and Mountain Scenery of the LAKES of KILLARNEY. Reserved, 2s.; Area, 1s.; Private Boxes, 10s. 6d. Every evening, at Eight. Mornings: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays, at Three

MR. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC, including the BERNESE OVERLAND and the SIMPLON, EVERY EVENING (except Saturday) and Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday mornings, at Two. Stalls, 3s., which can be taken at the Box-office every day from Eleven till Four.—Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s.—EGYPTIAN HALL, Piccadilly

HORN'S ASSEMBLY ROOMS, KENNINGTON.—HENRY SMITH, the celebrated Vocalist, will give his original and popular VOCAL and PANTOMIMIC ENTERTAINMENT, entitled MY FIRST CIGAR, on MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY and FRIDAY NEXT, and the following Tuesday and Thursday, at Eight. Stalls, 2s.; Second Seats, 1s. Stalls secured at the Box-office, 3, Panorama Place, by Messrs. Lee and Co.'s Librarian. Wilson and assistant. Admission to Hall, Front Seats, 2s. To commence at Eight o'clock and for Nonjuror on Monday and Tuesday 13th and 14th February.

SONGS and SAYINGS of SAMUEL LOVER. The Humorous Entertainment of SAMUEL LOVER will be delivered EVERY MONDAY, at the MUSIC HALL, STORE-STREET, by Mr. LOVER, who will sing the following songs:—Rory O'More, Angel Mary, Molly Carew, The Last Goblin, Kitty Green and Grey, and many others. My Old Man—Uncle's First Ride—Fisherman—Mother, he's going away. The Flying Cloud—Fatherland and Mother-land—I'm not Myself at all—Our Own White Calf—Roses and Thistles at Duff and Dixon's—Paddy's Resolution, &c. Commence at Eight. Stalls, 3s.; Body of the Room, 2s.; Half-past Seven, 1s.; Commence at Eight and conclude at Half-past Ten.

ROYAL GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street.—ARCTIC DISCOVERIES. An ILLUSTRATED LECTURE on the NORTH-WEST PASSAGE (the position of which is geographically ascertained by Captain Inglefield), by which precede the Pictures of Constantinople and St. Petersburg, and (for the last month) the Diorama of the Ocean Mail Steamer to India, and Australia, DAILY at 3 and 8 o'clock. Admission, 1s.; Stalls, 2s.; Reserved Seats, 3s.; Children half-price

THE most INTERESTING GROUP ever MODELLED.—Her Majesty the Queen, Prince Albert, Prince of Wales, Princess Alfred, Princess Royal, Princess Helena, Louise, &c., honoured with the highest consideration.—Madame TUSSAUD and SONS' EXHIBITION, Baker-street, Portman-square. Admission, 1s. Napoleon Room, 6d. Open from Eleven till dusk, and from Seven till Ten.

THE ESQUIMAUX FAMILY from Cumberland Sound, having had the honour of appearing by Command before her Most Gracious Majesty the QUEEN, at Windsor, are NOW EXHIBITED at the LOWTHER ARCADE EXHIBITION ROOMS, Adelaide street, West Strand, in their Native Costume, with their Kaia, Canoe, and other articles of Arctic Use. Every Afternoon at Three, and every Evening at Eight. The Instructive Lecture will be delivered by Mr. [illegible] Admission, 1s.; Stalls, 2s.; Reserved Seats, 3s.; Children half-price.

WELLINGTON LYING in STATE, FUNERAL PROCESSION, and ENTOMBMENT.—At the St. George's Gallery, Hyde-park-corner, the 14 GRAND DIORAMAS of LONDON, as it appeared on the day of its Funeral, showing the whole of the scenes connected with this magnificent pageant and ceremonial, ending with Walmer Castle and ending at St. Paul's Cathedral. Admission, 1s. and 2s. Daily at Three and Eight o'clock

EGYPTIAN HALL.—CONSTANTINOPLE is NOW OPEN EVERY DAY at Half-past Two o'Clock, and EVERY EVENING at Eight. The Lecture is delivered by Mr. Charles Kenny, and has been written by Mr. Albert Smith and Mr. Shirley Brooks. Admission, 1s.; Reserved Seats, 2s.

JAPANESE EXHIBITION.—The FIRST DIRECT IMPORTATION from JAPAN is NOW OPEN for Exhibition, at the GALLERY of the SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER-COLOURS, 5, Pall-mall East, for a limited period only. Admission to the Gallery for their Paintings, 1s. Admission after February 4th, 1s.

BRITISH INSTITUTION, Pall-mall.—The GALLERY for the EXHIBITION and SALE of the WORKS of BRITISH ARTISTS will OPEN on MONDAY NEXT, the 6th of February, and continue OPEN DAILY, From Ten till Five. Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 6d. GEORGE NICOL, Secretary.

PHOTOGRAPHIC INSTITUTION.—An EXHIBITION of PICTURES, by the most celebrated French, Italian, and English Photographers, embracing the most perfect specimens and effects of Europe, is now OPEN. Admission, 1s. A portrait taken by Mr. Calvert's Patent Photographic Process, and extra copies for 10s.—Photographic Institution, 168, New Bond-street

MR. CALDWELL'S ANNUAL FULL-DRESS BALL will take place on TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7th, which occasion will be issued the Number of Tickets (as usual) the most recherché of the Season. The Tickets being limited to the occasion, an early application is requested. Tickets, including Supper, 5s. each. Soirée Dansante every Evening. Admission to His Private Lessons, at any hour, £1 1s. Dejeu-dress, Sole.

ADAMS' ANNUAL BALL.—Mr. THOMAS ADAMS has the honour to announce to his numerous Patrons that his EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL BALL will take place at WILLIS'S ROOMS, KING-STREET, St. James's, on TUESDAY, the 21st inst., when the celebrated Orville Band, patronised by her Royal Highness, will be in attendance. Gentlemen's Tickets, 10s. 6d.; Ladies' dito, 7s. 6d., including refreshments. Tickets to be obtained at Mr. Thomas Adams's, Royal Quadrille Offices, 77, John-street, Tottenham-court-road, and at the Rooms. An early application for tickets is particularly requested. N.B. Master of the Ceremonies, Mr. Frank, [illegible]

ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, REGENT'S PARK.—Fellows and Visitors are informed that a Specimen of the GIANT ANT EATER, and an Adult Pair of INDIAN LIONS, have been added to the Collection. Admission, 1s.; Monday, 6d.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC READING and CHESS-ROOMS, 5, CAVENDISH-SQUARE.
Noblemen and Gentlemen are respectfully informed that the Annual Subscription to these Rooms is reduced to Two Guineas, which includes the entire to its Institution.
B. I. LONGBOTTOM, Secretary.

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, Exeter-Hall.—Conductor, Mr. COSTA.—Mendelssohn's ELIJAH will be repeated on THURSDAY next the 9th FEBRUARY. Vocalists at present engaged—Miss Lucas, Pyne, Mr. H. S. Jones, Miss Dolby, Mr. Lockey, Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. J. L. Novello, and Signor Belletti. Tickets, 3s., 5s., and 10s. 6d.; or Subscription, One, Two, or Three Guineas per annum, may be had by immediate application at the Society's Office, No. 6, in Exeter Hall. The next Subscription Concert will take place early in the 17th February.

THE THIRD SERIES of CLASSICAL and MODERN PIANOFORTE MUSIC will take place at his Residence, No. 68, Upper Norton-street, Portland-road, on SATURDAY, FEB 11.—Triple Quartet, No. 1; single quartet, No. 51; to be had of Mr. Aguilar; and at all the principal Music Publishers

WEDNESDAY EVENING CONCERTS.
EXETER HALL.—On WEDNESDAY, FEB. 8th, 1854, MANAGING DIRECTION MR. BENEDICT. Vocalists from Mr. Lucca's Masquillo," "Crown Diamonds," &c., and other popular Operatic Composers. Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. H. Phillips, Mr. Weiss, Mr. Lucca, Mr. Lucca, Mdlle. Lucca, Piano-forte principals, Mdlle. Wilhelmine Clauss, Mr. Benedict. Violoncello, Signor Piatti. Conductor, Mr. Benedict. Miss Louisa Pyne will not appear. Miss Stabbach, Miss M. Wells, Miss Maria Simpson, Madame Lockhart, Miss Lucy Lodger (her first appearance), Mr. Augustus Braham (last night of his engagement), Mr. T. Bouge, Mr. Lodger, and Signor F. Lablache. Solitaire Harp, Mr. Lindley. Violin and Grand Pianoforte, Herr Meyer Lutz. Violin, Mr. Viotti Collins. Clarionet, Mr. Lazarus. Unrivalled Band. Conductor, Herr Meyer Lutz. Leader, Mr. W. Willent. Admission: 1s., 1s. 6d., 2s. 6d., and Stalls, 5s. Programmes and Tickets may be had at the Hall

WHITTINGTON CLUB and METROPOLITAN ATHENÆUM.—Weekly Assemblies for Music and Dancing—Lectures, Classes, and Entertainments During. Coffee, Smoking, and Drawing Rooms—Library, Reading, and News Rooms, supplied with 30 daily and 100 weekly and provincial papers, in this central offering special advantages to Literary Men. Subscriptions: Two Guineas the Year; One Guinea the Half-year. Ladies half these rates. Country Members One Guinea the Year.
No Entrance Fee.
Now Lectures to be given from the 1st of February
A Prospectus forwarded on application.
LECTURE on THURSDAY, February 9th, on the LIFE and GENIUS of SHAKESPEARE. To Commence at Eight o'clock. Members free, with the usual privilege for their friends. Neuchâtel, 37, Arundel-street, Strand. HENRY T. BRIDGE, Secretary.

ADELAIDE, PORT PHILLIP, and SYDNEY.—Passengers and Luggage landed free at Melbourne. Saloon, £45; 1 stem on Deck, £32 and £30; Intermediate, £18 and £25. No steerage. Children half-price, in cabins 2 births, per first-class Ships. Apply to W. BARNETT and CO.'s, 74, Tokenhouse, London.

ENCLOSED BERTHS to MELBOURNE, £16 16s.—Liverpool BLACK BALL Clippers.—These celebrated ships sail every fortnight, for Melbourne direct, and for Adelaide. They are all first class, and have made the fastest passages on record. Cash orders from Australia, from £1 upwards, and parcels forwarded.—Apply to J. Jaffray and Co., 7, Great St. Helens, London; or, to the owners, James Baines and Co., 6, Cook-street, Liverpool.

CARRIES A GERMAN BAND OF MUSIC.
WAITHEW'S LIVERPOOL LINE of AUSTRALIAN PACKETS. Established in 1846.

Ships.	Tons.	Destination.	To sail
JAMES CARSON ..	1500 ..	MELBOURNE. ..	Feb. 20th.
ARABIA	1000 ..	DITTO	To follow.

These A 1 Clipper-ships land Goods and Passengers on the wharf free of extra charge. Fare £16 16s. and upwards.

For further particulars apply to JAMES M. WAITHEW, 46, Chapel-street, Liverpool, or to THOMAS WOOLLEY, 15, Pancharch-street, London

FOR SYDNEY direct, has a great part of her cargo positively engaged, and will meet with quick despatch, the magnificent fast-sailing American frigate-built ship ANN AINSWORTH, 1000 tons register, 1600 tons register. JAMES AINSWORTH, Commander; loading in the London Dock. This ship has very splendid accommodation for a limited number of cabin passengers. For terms of freight or passage apply to J. G. MACNEIL and SONS, Vine street, Minories. N.B. In the event of a European war, ships of the above flag will command a preference

LEVANT SCREW STEAM-SHIPPING COMPANY
GRECIAN, EGYPTIAN,
ATHENIAN, BRITANNIA,
SIDONIAN
LIVERPOOL to SMYRNA, via MALTA, for the Sale of Specie, calling at Marseilles, Syra, Constantinople, and Smyrna. GRECIAN, DAVID CORBET, Commander, intended to sail from Coburg Dock, on SATURDAY MORNING, the 4th FEBRUARY.
For Freight or Passage, apply to JAMES POTTER and CO., 7, Rumford-street, Liverpool. W. FAIRCLOUGH and CO., 8, Tower-buildings West.
Liverpool, January, 1854

AUSTRALIA.—HALL BROTHERS, and CO.'S Line of Packets (established in 1846).—The following first-class Clipper-built Ships, will be punctually despatched. The Cabins fitted up with the latest Improvements, and the Passage-money exceedingly moderate.—

Ships.	Commanders.	Tons Regr.	Tons Burth.	Destination.	Dock.
Africa ..	Pierson	574	800	Port Phillip	Ramsgate.
St. Kilda..	Ingram	104	180	{Melbourne wharf}	London.
Zanker	Smith	1	600	Port Phillip	London.

For terms of freight and passage money, dietary scales, &c., apply to the undersigned, who are constantly despatching first-class ships to the Australian colonies.
HALL, BROTHERS, and CO., 8, Leadenhall-street

STEAM to INDIA and AUSTRALIA.—
PENINSULAR and ORIENTAL STEAM SHIPPING COMPANY
INDIA LINE.—The Company's line of first-class Screw-Steam Ships leave Southampton on the 14th and Plymouth on the 15th of every month, for CALCUTTA, with the Mails, touching en route at St. Vincent (Cape de Verd Islands), Association, Gibraltar, Port Jubiato (Mauritius), Point de Galle (Ceylon), Madras, and Saugor; and at the same Ports on the homeward voyage, with the addition of St. Helena.
SOUTH AUSTRALIAN LINE.—From the CAPE to PORT NATAL every Month, in correspondence with the outward and homeward bound ships to India.
The Natal .. .. 880 tons. The Cape of Good Hope, 680 tons
And Sir Robert Peel, 320 tons.
AUSTRALIAN LINE.—ADELAIDE PORT PHILLIP and SYDNEY direct, touching at St. Vincent (Cape de Verd Islands) only, and homeward by Cape Horn. This service, which has been so successfully commenced by the "Harbinger" and the "Argo," will be continued by the following first-class Iron Screw Steam Ships—
The Harbinger .. .. 1,200 tons. | The Jason .. .. 1,750 tons.
The Crusoe .. .. of 2,000 tons. | The Golden Fleece of 2,000 tons.
And the Prince of 2,000 tons.
One of these ships will leave Southampton for Port Phillip and Sydney on the 21st May, and on every Alternate Month.
Rates of Passage Money from £35 to £80.
Full particulars as to Freight, Passage Money, &c., may be obtained at the Company's Offices, No. 1, Adelaide-place, London-bridge
January, 1854. J. L. O'BRIEN, Secretary.

SHIPPERS to the COLONIES are respectfully informed that RITCHIE and M'CALL are now prepared to execute Orders for DISPATCH to LONDON, LEITH and HULL, HERRINGS, and every variety of FISH, GAME, and SOUPS, ready for immediate use. These articles are in great demand, and yield large profits. Every article of the best description, and guaranteed to keep in preservation for any number of years, in any climate.—187, Houndsditch.

IRON HOUSES, STORES, and DWELLINGS.—JOHN WALKER (son of the patentee of corrugated iron) respectfully informs Merchants, Builders, and Emigrating Director, invites merchants, shippers, and others, to inspect the numerous IRON RESIDENCES, now erected at his Works, Millwall, Poplar; consisting of all sizes, in dwellings, shops, with mahogany doors and plate-glass fronts, equal to many in our best streets in London; stores of all sizes, two, three, and four stories high, and in particular, 300 feet long by 150 feet wide, acknowledged to be the largest ever made, forming wooden houses of all sizes, of most tasteful designs. The Royal French Mint for Sydney, is on bridge 100 feet span, and several other important structures in course of erection for Australia. For cards to view apply at John Walker's offices, corner of Arthur-street West, London-bridge, where the highest testimonials may be seen from most eminent merchants.

LEAMINGTON SPA.—REGENT FAMILY HOTEL and BOARDING-HOUSE conducted by a Proprietary. The Continental system. Suites of Apartments for Families; a Bed and Tariff, at Moderate Charges, including attendance; Table d'Hôte. Terms per week, Board and Residence, £2 2s.; Hunter (fred unlimited), per week, £1 1s.

CANCER HOSPITAL, LONDON and WEST BROMPTON.—His Grace the ARCHBISHOP of CANTERBURY will preach a SERMON on ASH WEDNESDAY, the 1st day of FEBRUARY, for ASH, MARY's PARISH CHURCH, Aveling, Kent, in aid of the Funds of the Cancer Hospital. No. 1, Cannon-row, Parliament-street, Westminster (for Out-door Patients); and West-Room-side (for In-door Patients).
Divine service will commence at Eleven o'clock precisely

ART UNION of LONDON (by Royal Charter).—Every Subscriber of ONE GUINEA will receive an Impression of a Large PLATE of deep national and historical interest, THE LAST POPE (PIUS IX.) ADDRESSING THE CARDINALS, by J. F. Williams, A.R.A., after C. Staufield, R.A. The Impressions will be ready on the 15th inst. Every Subscriber will be entitled to select for himself, as heretofore, a Work of Art from one of the Public Exhibitions.
GEORGE GODWIN } Hon. Secs.
LEWIS POCOCK }
141, West Strand, Feb. 1, 1854

BOSTON, SLEAFORD, and MIDLAND COUNTIES RAILWAY.—Notice is hereby given that the Transfer Books of the above Company will be CLOSED on and after SATURDAY the 18th FEBRUARY next, at One o'clock in the afternoon. The Books for the Register of Transfers of Shares in the Company will be opened from Saturday the 4th to Saturday the 11th day of February next, both inclusive. By order,
HERBERT INGRAM, Chairman
EDWARD WILKINS, Secretary.

Valuable and Well-secured Improved Rents, on the Gross-nor Estate, amounting to £130 per annum, arising from Premises in Gloucester-street, Berkeley-square; and Improved Rents of £30 per annum, arising from Premises in Foubourg-street, Berkeley-square.
MR. BEADEL has received instructions from the Executors of the late Wm. White, Esq., to SELL by AUCTION, at the MART, on TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, at Twelve, in Sixteen Lots, the following very desirable INVESTMENTS; including Improved Rents on the Reversion Estate, amounting to £30 per annum, arising out of the houses and premises Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6a, Davies-street, Berkeley-square, held under the Marquis of Westminster, for an unexpired term of 33 years; also Improved Rents arising from the houses Nos. 1 and 2, Fouberg-st-park-road, Paddington, amounting to £50 per annum, and held under leases for a term of 80 years from the 81 years, from March, 1818, with the Right of Renewal at the Mart; and of Mr. Frosham, solicitor, New Bank-buildings, at the Mart, and Mr. Beadel, 52, Gerrard-street, Soho.

An Annuity of £150, secured upon Freehold Land in the parishes of Finchingfield and Great and Little Hardfield, in the county of Essex, together with a Policy of Assurance for the sum of £1,000.
MR. BEADEL has received instructions from the Executors of the late William White, Esq., to SELL by AUCTION, at the MART, on TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, at Twelve, in one Lot, an ANNUITY of £150, secured upon Freehold Lands on the life of a lady, now in her 45th year, and charged upon Freehold lands in the parishes of Finchingfield and Great and Little Hardfield, in the county of Essex, of the value of at least £1000 per annum. Also, a POLICY of ASSURANCE for the sum of £1,000 effected on the life of the Annuitant with the Anchor Life Assurance Company, under payment of an annual premium of £[illegible] 10s. 6d. Particulars of Messrs. Hoare and Co. and Hesketh and Sons, New Bank-buildings, at the Mart, and Mr. Beadel, 52, Gerrard-street, Soho.

THE CONSERVATIVE LAND SOCIETY.—The Executive Committee have fixed the ALLOTMENT of the CASTLE-HILL ESTATE, at READING, in Berkshire, at the Office, 31, Norfolk-street, Strand, on WEDNESDAY, MARCH the 8th. Plans of the Estate (price 6d.), with full particulars, will be ready on and after the 1st of February, and may be had of the Secretary. CHARLES LEWIS GRUNEISEN, Secretary.

PUBLIC MEETING at READING.—The MODE of ALLOTMENT of the CASTLE-HILL ESTATE, READING, will be explained at a PUBLIC MEETING, at the TOWN-HALL READING, on MONDAY EVENING, the 6th of FEBRUARY, by a deputation of the Executive Committee of the CONSERVATIVE LAND SOCIETY.

THE MALVERN HILLS.—A PUBLIC MEETING will take place at the LECTURE ROOMS, PORTLAND-PLACE, on MONDAY EVENING, the 6th of FEBRUARY, at Seven o'Clock, at which a Deputation of the Executive Committee of the CONSERVATIVE LAND SOCIETY will be present to explain the general objects of the FREEHOLD FRANCHISE undertaking, and the mode of Allotment of the Estate recently purchased at West Malvern, for distribution amongst the Shareholders

AGENTS for the CONSERVATIVE LAND SOCIETY.—The Executive Committee having definitive arranged the appointment of Agents for the application of Shares in every part of the United Kingdom, and an increased remuneration having been fixed, persons desirous of undertaking the [illegible] are requested to apply to the Secretary, 31, Norfolk-street, Strand, London.

Six per CENT BONUS and PAYMENT of INTEREST.—The CONSERVATIVE LAND SOCIETY. The Shareholders are particularly requested to forward the Deeds, without delay, to the Office, 31, Norfolk-street, Strand, [illegible] of the Allotment of the Castle-Hill Estate, Reading, [illegible] in pursuance of [illegible] Rules, the Directors have fixed the Bonus of Six per Cent payable to the subscribing Shareholders on the Shares [illegible] Books of the Society on the 31st January, 1854, [illegible] From the 31st of January, 1854, [illegible] Shares will be entitled to [illegible] Interest at 5 per cent per annum, [illegible] CHARLES LEWIS GRUNEISEN, Secretary.

THE CONSERVATIVE LAND SOCIETY.—The following tables show the progress of this Powerful Society, from its commencement to the Fourteenth Day of January. The number of Shares issued and cash received prior to the first five quarters are as follows

Date.	Shares in Progress.	Shares completed	Total.	Cash.
1st .. Sept. 7 to Dec. 24	1360	187	1547	£13,191 11 0
2nd .. Dec. 24 to Mar. 24	1207	93	1300	6,993 0 0
3rd .. Jan. 21	1402	317	1679	17,401 15 3
4th .. Jun. 24	1218	260	1478	14,426 18 11
5th .. Dec. 24	1547	143	1690	20,304 3 11
Total	7329	784	7491	£72,327 4 7

Shares taken from the 7th of September, 1852, to the 14th [illegible] in excess of [illegible] on the 14th Jan. 1854 4106
Shares on the Order of Rights by completion, by "public draw" [illegible] and by seniority 2221
Last Share Number on the Order of Rights by seniority 714

Subscribed capital	£420 300	9 8
Paid up	72 327	4 7
Bonus realised on shares during the first year ..	6 per cent.	
Interest now allowed on completed shares, and [illegible] payments	5 per cent.	
[illegible] and upwards	5 per cent.	
Estates purchased	16	
Allotted	8	
Ready for allotment	8	

CHARLES LEWIS GRUNEISEN, Secretary.
31, Norfolk-street, Strand, London, Jan 14, 1854

FIFTEENTH PUBLIC DRAWING.—The Shareholders of the CONSERVATIVE LAND SOCIETY are informed, that the Fifteenth Public Drawing of Shares, under the Society's Estates, is fixed for SATURDAY the 11th of FEB., at noon precisely, at the offices, 31, Norfolk-street, Strand. Care will be taken up to the time of placing the final numbers of the uncompleted Shares in the Wheel, and the Wheel will be turned by the Secretary and a Shareholder unknown to him, and the Drawing. Members are respectfully requested in order to find [illegible] Pass Books, or to Give Agents, to be sure that their subscriptions are not in arrear up to the date of the Drawing.
CHARLES LEWIS GRUNEISEN, Secretary.

FIVE PER CENT INTEREST.—The CONSERVATIVE LAND SOCIETY is Enrolled under 6 and 7 Will. IV., cap. 32, and was Established in February, 1852, for the benefit of Working Members of all Classes, in every County, to obtain the Franchise of Freeholders, by the safe and easy investments of the Society. There is not the slightest partnership liability, and the interest of Shareholders wishes to draw out his money, the prompt withdrawal of shares is secured. A completed share, bearing Five per Cent Interest, costs £25 5s. 8d., and is immediately entered on the Order of Rights, to select Lots on the Society's Estates; but the payment of subscriptions is strictly optional. A year's Subscription and Fees on a single share, £1 5s. 8d., bearing Five per Cent interest. Monthly payments, 8s. per share, and in every three months, for quarterage. The first payment of a year's subscription is 12s. 8d., including 4s. Entrance Fee and Pass-Book, and 1s. quarterage. Prospectuses containing the First Annual Report of the Executive Committee, and full statement of the Society may be had of
CHARLES LEWIS GRUNEISEN, Secretary.

LITHOGRAPHY.—Messrs. DAY and SON, Lithographers to the Queen, having built suitable and most extensive premises, large and lofty, more appropriate than any other establishment in the world, are now prepared to carry out with greater perfection and despatch, and more economically, all those higher branches of artistic Lithography for which they have so long been pre-eminent. Colour-printing, as perfected by them, is rendered available, from the rapidity and economy with which it is produced, for every purpose of illustration, either fac-similes of pictures or book plates: likewise to the production of patents-books, show cards, &c. Every description of engraving, drawing, plan work, and all kinds of commercial work executed for professional persons or the trade, with a rapidity and superiority of style hitherto uncombined. Estimates given.—17, Gate-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields.

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Price 3s., postage free,
THE ORPHAN'S PRAYER. By GEORGE LINLEY. This beautiful Composition was written, composed, and presented to the Commercial Travellers' Orphan School, by the Author
Published, for the exclusive benefit of that Institution, by JULLIEN and Co., 214, Regent-street, London.

PASSED AWAY to HEAVEN—JOYFUL, JOYFUL SPRING—THE SUMMER AND AUTUMN OF LIFE ARE PAST—THE WINTER OF MY HEART.—IN THIS BLEAK WORLD OF WINTER.—WALLACE'S three favourite songs, within the compass of a moderate voice, are now among the best English songs that have been published.—Athenæum, No. 1349
CRAMER, BEALE, and CO., 201, Regent-street, London

E. SILAS.—The following DUETS by the most eminent composers are now ready.—La Primavera, 3s.; Duetto No. 1, (Op. 32), 2s. 6d.; Marche Turque (No. 2, Op. 32), 3s. 6d.; Andante and Rondo (No. 3, Op. 32), 3s. 6d.; Duet in A Minor (No. 4, Op. 32), 3s. 6d.—CRAMER, BEALE, and CO., 201, Regent-street, Branch Establishment, 67, North-street, Brighton.

I TRUST NO MORE IN THEE: New Ballad, Music by H. F. HARVEY; words by STEPHEN EBBINGTON, Esq.—Duff, Publisher, published by S. J. PEROTT, Gerrard-street; and may be had at all Musicsellers in London. Post-free, 2s

NEW SONG, "NEVER REPINE." Composed by E. L. HIME, Author of "I look always on the Sunny Side," "Where may most easy," "So Dear art Thou to Me," &c. The composer has much pleasure in announcing that this song by "I look always on the Sunny Side," will, from its effective character, become one of the most popular ballad gems of the ensuing season
London: DUFF and HODGSON, 65, Oxford-street.

NEW SONG—I'VE BEEN THINKING. By the composer of "Will you love me then as now," "Norah Macree," "I'm a Merry Laughing Girl," "You ask me if I love you," &c. Price 2s. (Sent postage free.)
"This arch and pretty song is an agreeable companion to 'A Young Lady's No,' by the same successful composer. Any one who sang the latter ballad, would find 'I've been thinking' equally effective."—Musical World
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CHEER, BOYS, CHEER; Far, Far upon the Sea. These songs have been [illegible] numbers), at 6d. each, To the West, to the West; the Parting Tear; Land, Land, Land. The Wave Sails. Come, who Bids? the Slave Chase; and the African Village, at 8d. each; or the nine songs, neatly bound together, price 3s. Published by the MUSICAL BOUQUET, at the office, 192, High Holborn, and 20, Warwick-lane, Paternoster-row.

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(Continued from page 98.)

rather than to advance its interests; and it would be as a counterpoise to the damaging intervention of such maladroit exponents of Roman Catholic policy that Lord Castlereagh, and some others who resemble him, would become useful to their country as well as to their church. The family to which the noble Lord belongs numbers among its ancestors martyrs to the cause of that church. The holder of the Earldom in the reign of James II. forfeited, for himself and his family, the titles and estates, by reason of his adherence to the cause of James. The attainder, it appears was not reversed; but the fifth Earl from him of whom we speak, was invested with the titles enjoyed by his predecessors. The next holder after him also enjoyed an English barony, but on his death the title became extinct.

MR. THOMSON HANKEY, JUN.,

SECONDER OF THE ADDRESS IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

This gentleman is one of the high mercantile aristocracy of the city of London, of whose position it is remarkable that they should so often find a difficulty in entering Parliament, and then only through small boroughs, while mere pretenders, without a tithe of their power, influence, or character, command the votes of thousands in the boroughs attached to the metropolis. Mr. Hankey is the son of Thomson Hankey, Esq., of Portland-place, by Martha, the daughter of Benjamin Harrison, Esq. He was born at Dalston, near London, in the year 1805; and he married, in 1830, Miss Apolline Agatha Alexander, half-sister of the late Lord Chief Baron Alexander.

He was elected at an early period of his mercantile career a Director

MR. WARNER, M.P. FOR NORWICH.

of the Bank of England; and in 1849 was selected by the Court to fill the office of Deputy-Governor; and, after two years' service in that capacity, he was elevated to the important position of Governor of the Bank of England. The urbanity of his manners rendered him deservedly popular among his colleagues; and his assiduity in business earned for him the respect of all with whom he came officially in contact. During his tenure of office, many important reforms and improvements were introduced in the administration of the Bank; and the great interest which he took in instituting a reading-room and library for the use of the officials and clerks of the establishment, will cause his name to be remembered by those on whom such a benefit has been conferred.

Although devoted to his commercial pursuits, Mr. Hankey has always taken a lively interest in City politics; and his name will occur to the reader in connection with public meetings, but only on very important occasions. He is a decided Liberal, and a supporter of the present Administration in regard to Free-trade and Parliamentary Reform; but he goes beyond them in their collective capacity, in so far as he is favourable to the Vote by Ballot.

Mr. Hankey made an effort, in 1852, to enter Parliament. In June of that year he, together with his near relative, Mr. John Alexander Hankey, contested Boston against Mr Heathcote and Mr E. B. Cabbell. He was unsuccessful, polling only 148 votes, while his relative polled 487—the lowest number of the successful candidates being 490. In June, 1853, he contested Peterborough against Mr. George Hammond Whalley; who had, in the November previously, defeated Mr. George Cornewall Lewis, but was unseated on petition. At the new election, Mr. Hankey polled only 215 votes, to 238 polled by Mr. Whalley but, on an inquiry before a committee, 24 votes were struck

MR. THOMSON HANKEY, M.P. FOR PETERBOROUGH, SECONDER OF THE ADDRESS TO HER MAJESTY IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

off Mr. Whalley's poll, and Mr. Hankey was declared duly elected. It appears, however, that his antagonist is returning to the charge; for, on the opening night of the session, Mr. Bankes presented a petition, setting forth that there had been, amongst other things, an informality in the preceding decision, the usual fourteen days for petitioning not having been allowed; and praying for permission again to present a petition against the return of Mr. Hankey, as if that decision had not taken place.

Mr. Hankey has always supported Liberal politics, and has been a strenuous supporter of the principles of Free-trade. On that account, as well as from his position in financial matters, he was selected by Government to second the Address to her Majesty on the present eventful meeting of Parliament. The speech which he made on that occasion justified the choice of the Government, and gives promise of his proving an efficient and useful member of the Legislature.

MR. WARNER, M.P.

Mr. Edward Warner, who has sat for Norwich since July, 1852, is the eldest son of the late Edward Warner, Esq., of Walthamstow, in Essex. He was born at Walthamstow, in 1818; and married, in 1848, Maria, the daughter of Thomas Carr, Esq., of New Ross, in the county of Wexford, the widow of Mr. Hibbetts.

Mr. Warner was educated at Wadham College, Oxford, where he took first-class honours in mathematics, in 1840, and obtained the two open mathematical scholarships in 1841. In 1844 he took his degree of M.A. He was called to the bar at Lincoln's-inn in the year 1850, but he does not practise. He is a magistrate of the county of Essex.

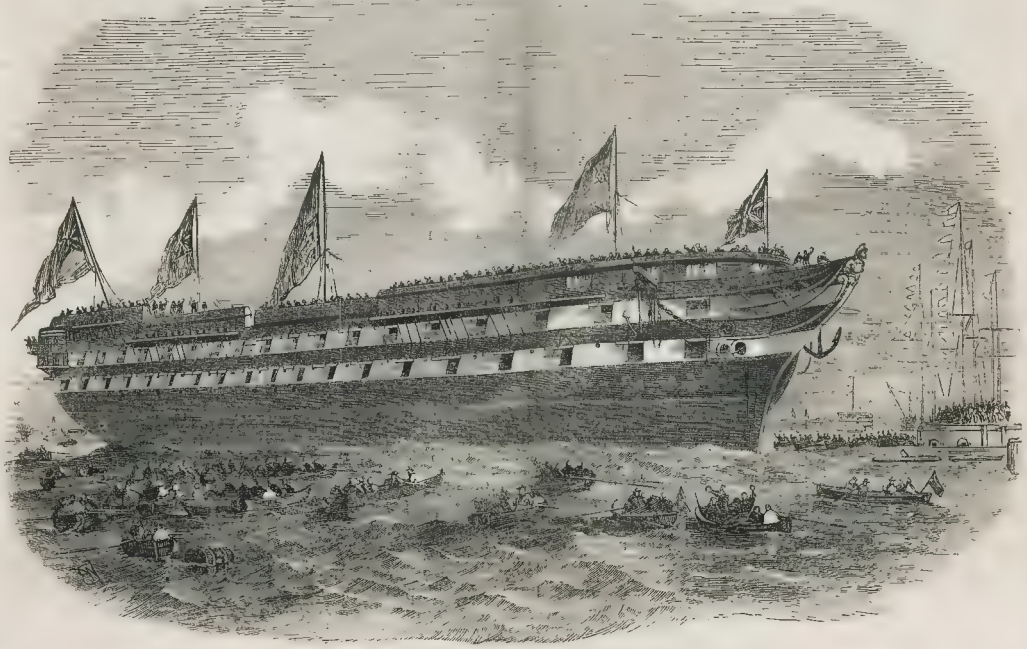
Mr. Warner is a thorough-going Liberal—a Free-trader and financial reformer, and an advocate of an extension of the suffrage, of the ballot, and of a reform of the Established Church.

THE HON. A. G. J. PONSONBY, M.P

This gentleman, who has but little exceeded his majority, has already been in Parliament a year and a half, during which time, however, he has taken but a small share in political discussion. As his name almost imports, he is a Whig, but he carries his Liberal principles within the confines of what is termed Radicalism, in so far as he is not only favourable to the Ballot for electioneering purposes, but has voted for it in the House of Commons. Mr. Ponsonby is the youngest son of the first Lord de Mauley, who was for some years a member of the House of Commons, and was elevated to the peerage in the year 1838. The mother of Mr. Ponsonby is the Lady Barbara, daughter and only child of the fifth Earl of Shaftesbury. Mr. Ponsonby was born in 1831, and is unmarried. He is a Lieutenant in the Grenadier Guards. He is

THE HON. A. G. J. PONSONBY, M.P. FOR CIRENCESTER.

also a Deputy-Lieutenant of Hampshire, to which office he was nominated in December, 1852. With the sole exception of his support of the Ballot, Mr. Ponsonby's political views assimilate with those of the leading Whigs. He is a Free-trader, and prepared to give an extension of the franchise. Although not in the habit of speaking in Parliament he has already given evidence of ability in this respect. He was first returned for Cirencester, in July, 1852, and he continues to sit for that borough.



LAUNCH OF "THE HANNIBAL," STEAM SHIP FROM HER MAJESTY'S DOCKYARD, AT DEPTFORD.—(SEE PAGE 98.)

SUPPLEMENT TO THE

ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

No. 667.—VOL. XXIV.] SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1854. [WITH TWO SUPPLEMENTS, 1s.

OPENING OF THE PARLIAMENTARY SESSION BY HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

THE second Session of Queen Victoria's fourth Parliament was opened, and by her Majesty in person, on Tuesday the 31st ult.

The real importance of that brilliant though sedate spectacle is to be found in the fact that the head of the State was proceeding through the streets of the capital—those streets being crowded by an excited populace—to summon the State to sanction and to strengthen those measures which she had taken, upon the advice of her Ministers, but in the absence of Parliament, to resist the aggression of one of her allies upon another of her allies—those measures leading, in all probability, to a European war, of which, once begun, no man could foresee the result. This great fact is, in our time, a new fact; and in the face of such probabilities, the Session then opened must be pronounced as transcending in importance every other session of the Parliaments called in the present reign. Even were the Russian question not in

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.—THE NORMAN PORCH.—HER MAJESTY PROCEEDING TO THE ROBING-ROOM, PREVIOUS TO ENTERING THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

presence, there are other circumstances which would render the opening of the session of 1854 an epoch. The speech from the Throne which declared conditional war against the Czar, announced, also a Reform Bill —a measure which may produce as great gradual changes as were produced by the Bill (of which this is a complement and a continuation) of 1832—a measure from which undoubtedly we shall date in our constitutional history. We remember the reign of William IV. solely for the Reform-bill, in the passing of which he was the reluctant agent; and, whatever may be the other memorable episodes reserved by fate, it would so far appear to be certain that posterity will principally commemorate Victoria for the measures which made trade free, and the measure which struck a death-blow at the system, peculiar to our Constitution, of electoral corruption and simultaneous party representation. For still other reasons must we regard and record the initiation of the new Session with no ordinary interest. Fortunately for a people threatened with a great war, and to whom the Sovereign appeals to undertake a great struggle, the Parliament assembled on Tuesday is, in the loftiest sense, a "National Council," since it meets at a moment when "party" has for the present disappeared, if it has not been permanently destroyed; and the curious yet gratifying circumstance is noticeable that this Parliament, whom the Queen, with the national approval, has invited to "Reform" itself, is a Parliament in the first place in unusual accord with the Government, and in the next place is a Parliament in which, so far as the conduct of a war would be concerned, the people would appear to [place the most unbounded—it may be said—unparalleled confidence. That is to say, we have not only a coalition Government, but a coalition House of Commons, in which—national danger impending, and national respectability (by the adoption of a Reform Bill) having to be secured—individual differences are indiscriminately suppressed. Perhaps the theory that "government by party" is the only Government applicable to a mixed Constitution like that of England may be quite sound; but at any rate it is obvious that the Ministers of Queen Victoria are not just now in face of any tangible body to be termed "Her Majesty's Opposition." That there are, and will be, varieties of opinions upon varieties of subjects, is as certain as that there are 654 members of the House of Commons. But the House of Commons is, for the present, without any of those party organisations which indicate the continuance of Government by party. We may return to the ancient ways of watching, or waiting for our freedom, and arranging our prosperity; but, for the present, the National Council is unconstitutionally unsymmetrical—there are no "sides." And such a fact is to Englishmen at such a time a subject for congratulation.

All was not, however, *couleur de rose* in the splendours of Tuesday's ceremonies. There were more people along the line of the Royal procession than have been seen on any like occasion since the Queen went to open the Crystal Palace in 1851—certainly a greater number than have attended any opening of Parliament since the inauguration of her Majesty's first Parliament.

This crowd collected partly because of national excitement in the apprehension of a great European war, but chiefly because of the prevalence of what Lord John Russell termed in the evening of the same day, an "honest delusion"—a delusion, however honest, discreditable to the sagacity and good taste of those who encouraged it. It is undoubtedly a fact that all proper precautions were taken in anticipation of a possible manifestation of unpopularity.

The *whole* of the Horse Guards were out—an unprecedented thing, we believe; and every available policeman that could be obtained by Sir Richard Mayne was drafted to duty along the line of the procession. There was no hissing to an extent to render such precautions necessary; and, on the other hand, there being more people than usual, there was an unusual cheering—the few hisses arousing indignant loyalty. The signs of disapprobation were very partial in the Park; but in Parliament-street they were unmistakenly evident, and the cheering which suppressed them enables the loyal to afford to admit their existence.

In other respects, the procession was as usual. The crowd, respected and "chaffed" the Guards; cheered, with ironical cheers, that special Briton, the Beef-eater; admired the horses of the Royal carriages; and wondered at the beautiful women, beautifully dressed, who, in brilliant equipages, flashed past, on their way to the Peeresses' boxes and the galleries in the House of Lords. When the carriage of the Turkish Ambassador appeared, solitary, and attracting all eyes by the peculiar livery of his servants, he was at once recognised, and, of course, heartily cheered. The scene was a complete political ovation, which will be talked about for months to come at Constantinople and by the soldiers of the army on the Danube. "Will the Russian Ambassador appear?" was a general question; but M. de Brunnow showed his tact, and stayed at home. The liveries of the French Minister were recognised, and his Excellency received a gratifying intimation that the Anglo-French alliance is a highly popular one.

The attendance at the House of Lords was both larger and earlier than usual. Long before the hour appointed for the opening of the doors, a protracted line of carriages connected the Victoria Tower with Charing-cross; and numerous ladies, wisely impatient of the delay occasioned by getting the vehicles up in turn, descended in all their full-dress glory, and made their way on foot to the humble entrance provided for them. The Royal Gallery—by which name is known the magnificent hall through which the Queen passes from the Robing-room to the House, and which is lined on each side with seats, row over row—was very soon filled; and lucky was the new arrival whose good looks, or pertinacity, procured her a seat twenty minutes after the doors were opened, though it was then nearly two hours before the Queen would arrive. Nor were the yet more favoured lady occupants of the North Gallery (that usually set apart for less interesting strangers) much later; and this "highly advantageous locality?" was speedily adorned with a goodly show of youth, beauty, and irreproachable millinery. The body of the House filled somewhat more slowly; but the numbers of Peeresses and their friends at length appeared to be much larger than ordinary, and they even encroached upon the single marginal bench reserved for the ermine bars. The gallery to the left of the throne was also completely occupied, but that on the right was not filled. It only remains to remark, with the utmost respect, that the fair spectators, as usual, looked to far greater advantage at the opening of Parliament than at its close, and the fresh faces and healthy complexions spoke of country rides and sea breezes, rather than of the midnight mazurka and the crowded supper-room.

The Peers were late. There was a large assemblage of Judges (who clustered together in the centre of the House), and several members of the Episcopal Bench. The Ambassadors, as they arrived, did not take their places behind the Bishops, but joined in groups near the Throne, and their various uniforms and glittering decorations helped the striking picture presented by the scene. It was, of course, matter of speculation whether the Russian Ambassador would be present; and searching were the glances directed at each bedizened diplomat, to discover the representative of the Power whose misdeeds were expected to be exposed. But Baron Brunnow, if present (which we doubt), escaped observation. The Turkish Ambassador was there, and came in quite radiantly, having been tremendously cheered by the people.

The distinguished assembly seated itself, the ceremony of packing being performed with considerable dexterity, as well as courtesy, by the much-entreated officials; and a few minutes before two the usual signal was given, and scarfs, opera mantles, and shawls, fell with a gentle rustle. A brief pause, and then came the guns, and then the subdued clangour of the military music. A few minutes, and the picturesque procession, with its heralds, and nobles, and pages, entered—and then the Queen. The entire assembly rose, and remained standing until Her Majesty, having taken her seat upon the throne, graciously requested their Lordships to be seated. The Queen wore a splendid tiara of diamonds and a diamond necklace, a white satin dress, and a train of rich claret-coloured velvet. The ensigns of State, borne by the great officers, were duly posted to the right and left of the Sovereign. The Prince Consort took his seat; and word was given to summon the Commons. The ordinary and somewhat protracted delay ensued, but a trampling of feet and cries of "Order" were heard at last, the tall form of the Speaker appeared at the bar, and the members surged up behind him, and, let us add, manifested a strange lack of self-restraint, frequently causing portions of the Speech to be lost by the noise they made. Once, indeed, an enthusiastic member so far forgot himself as to cry "Hear, hear," at a passage which, it may be presumed, strongly reflected his own political tenets.

Her Majesty then read, with her usual clearness and emphasis, the following Speech:—

"My Lords and Gentlemen,

"I am always happy to meet you in Parliament; and on the present occasion it is with peculiar satisfaction that I recur to your assistance and advice.

"The hopes which I expressed at the close of the last Session, that a speedy settlement would be effected of the differences existing between Russia and the Ottoman Porte, have not been realised, and I regret to say that a state of warfare has ensued.

"I have continued to act in cordial co-operation with the Emperor of the French, and my endeavours, in conjunction with my Allies, to preserve and to restore peace between the contending parties, although hitherto unsuccessful, have been unremitting. I will not fail to persevere in these endeavours; but, as the continuance of the war may deeply affect the interests of this country, and of Europe, I think it requisite to make a further augmentation of my naval and military forces, with the view of supporting my representations, and of more effectually contributing to the restoration of peace.

"I have directed that the papers explanatory of the negotiations which have taken place upon this subject shall be communicated to you without delay.

"Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

"The Estimates for the year will be laid before you; and I trust you will find that, consistently with the exigencies of the public service at this juncture, they have been framed with a due regard to economy.

"My Lords and Gentlemen,

"In the year which has just terminated, the blessing of an abundant harvest has not been vouchsafed to us. By this dispensation of Providence the price of provisions has been enhanced, and the privations of the poor have been increased; but their patience has been exemplary; and the care of the Legislature, evinced by the reduction of taxes affecting the necessaries of life, has greatly tended to preserve a spirit of contentment.

"I have the satisfaction of announcing to you that the commerce of the country is still prosperous; that trade, both of export and import, has been largely on the increase; and that the revenue of the past year has been more than adequate to the demands of the public service.

"I recommend to your consideration a Bill which I have ordered to be framed for opening the coasting-trade of the United Kingdom to the ships of all friendly nations; and I look forward with satisfaction to the removal of the last legislative restriction upon the use of foreign shipping for the benefit of my people.

"Communications have been addressed by my command to the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, with reference to the improvements which it may be desirable to effect in their institutions. These communications will be laid before you, and measures will be proposed for your consideration, with the view of giving effect to such improvements.

"The establishments requisite for the conduct of the Civil Service, and the arrangements bearing upon its condition, have recently been under review; and I shall direct a plan to be laid before you which will have for its object to improve the system of admission, and thereby to increase the efficiency of the service.

"The recent measures of legal reform have proved highly beneficial, and the success which has attended them may well encourage you to proceed with further amendments. Bills will be submitted to you for transferring from the Ecclesiastical to the Civil Courts the cognizance of testamentary and of matrimonial causes, and for giving increased efficiency to the Superior Courts of Common Law.

"The laws relating to the relief of the poor have of late undergone much salutary amendment; but there is one branch to which I earnestly direct your attention. The law of settlement impedes the freedom of labour; and, if this restraint can with safety be relaxed, the workman may be enabled to increase the fruits of his industry, and the interests of capital and of labour will be more firmly united.

"Measures will be submitted to you for the amendment of the laws relating to the representation of the Commons in Parliament.

"Recent experience has shown that it is necessary to take more effectual precautions against the evils of bribery and of corrupt practices at elections. It will also be your duty to consider whether more complete effect may not be given to the principles of the Act of the last reign, whereby reforms were made in the representation of the people in Parliament. In recommending this subject to your consideration, my desire is to remove every cause of just complaint, to increase general confidence in the Legislature, and to give additional stability to the settled institutions of the State.

"I submit to your wisdom the consideration of these important subjects; and I pray God to prosper your counsels, and to guide your decisions."

At the conclusion of the Speech, her Majesty retired in the same order in which she had entered the house.

After the delivery of the Royal Speech their Lordships adjourned during pleasure.

Their Lordships resumed at a quarter past five o'clock, when the attendance of Peers was numerous. Among those present were the Earl of Aberdeen, the Duke of Newcastle, the Earl of Carendon, the Marquis of Lansdowne, and Earl Granville, on the Ministerial bench; and the Earl of Derby, Lord St. Leonards, the Earl of Malmesbury, Lord Colchester, and the Earl of Cardigan, on the Opposition benches. A considerable number of Peeresses occupied the galleries.

HER MAJESTY'S SPEECH.—THE ADDRESS.

The Lord Chancellor having read the Speech delivered by her Majesty,

The Earl of Carnarvon, in a maiden speech of great promise, entered at some length upon a review of our foreign and domestic affairs. He lamented the causes which had led to the existing state of things in the East, but he was sure that if it were found necessary to employ force in support of our allies, the country would find men able to defend its interests and its honour upon the principles laid down by such men as Wellington and Beresford. He cordially congratulated their Lordships upon the just and honourable union which prevailed at this moment between this country and France. Recurring to our domestic affairs, the noble Earl reviewed in succession the topics suggested in the Speech, and expressed his satisfaction that they were about to be brought under the consideration of Parliament.

Earl Ducie seconded the Address.

The Marquis of Clanricarde rejoiced that, in the present very critical state of Europe, there was no probability of an amendment to the Address, as moved and seconded by the two noble Earls. For his own part, he rejoiced to be able to concur in many of the topics suggested in the Speech from the Throne, particularly in those relative to Parliamentary Reform; but, with respect to Foreign Affairs, he felt [illegible] upon—however painful it might be to his own feelings—to express opinions he held with respect to the policy of her Majesty's Government. He believed they had made unremitting exertions to maintain peace; but those exertions had not conveyed a true notion of what was the opinion and determination of the Government. Up to this moment these had been concealed alike from Parliament and the country. Even in the Speech itself, not one word was said to show whether we were at peace or war. Were we really at war; and, being at war, why were we afraid to say so? Certainly, it was most unfortunate that the Government had not thought proper to define our position, although they had recommended an increase to the army and navy. He complained that information had not been given to the country upon these subjects until we found ourselves in the position of being at war. He characterised this policy as the result of a compromise for the sake of the Cabinet; and asserted that no policy had ever been attended with more want of success. The people of the Continent had, in consequence, conceived a very low opinion of the character of the English nation—that we were a nation not to be trusted by friends or feared by foes—willing to wound, but yet afraid to strike." We were on the brink of a great war, but a war which a more firm and direct attitude on our part might have prevented. He reproached the Government with not having been more watchful of the aggressive policy of Russia upon Turkey, and contended that they could not plead ignorance, seeing that such had been called for by the public press, and, in February last, by the French Government itself. No man could doubt the real character of Prince Menschikoff's mission to Constantinople. Was not the fact of Colonel Rose having sent for the fleet enough to call their attention to the subject? If a straightforward question had been put to the Emperor of Russia as to his intentions at that time, he had no doubt that a straightforward answer would have been given, and that the answer would have been satisfactory. But if nothing but a "general assurance" was given in reply, he was clearly of opinion that we should not ourselves declare our intentions in a straightforward way. He regretted, therefore, that our Government had not, on this occasion, acted with energy; but, unfortunately, vigour and decision appeared to be the French Government had with respect to this affair, had been checked and discouraged by her Majesty's Ministers. He might be told that Austria was acting with us. He wished to know whether it was under the advice and with the approval of Austria that our ships had been sent into the Black Sea? By the last accounts it appeared that propositions had been sent to St. Petersburg for further negotiation. He did not expect a favourable reply to these propositions; but he must say that if the Emperor of Russia did not accept them he greatly misunderstood his own interests, for that, he believed, to compel Turkey to accept a renewal of the treaties which had led to the present difficulties. But if Russia were mad enough to force us into war, it certainly must not be for the renewal of such treaties, but for placing the relations of the East upon a footing which would secure permanent peace.

The Earl of Clarendon: My Lords, I think my noble friend, who has just sat down, would have acted more fairly—although, possibly, not more conveniently to himself—if he had waited for the production of those papers which her Majesty has promised shall be laid before their Lordships without any delay, and which, before your Lordships separate this evening, it is my intention to place upon the table (Hear). It is only another proof of that inconvenience of which I have so much in the course of the last few months—the inconvenience of not being able to lay all the information on this subject before the country. No one can have felt more that inconvenience more than myself; no one knows better than myself that many misrepresentations might have been prevented by greater publicity. But we thought it right not to depart from the established practice of this country. The Government is amenable to Parliament alone for its conduct. We therefore thought it right to abstain from following the example that has been held out to us of the conduct of other Governments which have no Parliaments to account to (Hear). We thought it better to abstain from producing, from time to time, the information which I am about to lay on the table, although it might have satisfied the public at the time, and to a certain degree have been advantageous to ourselves; but, at the same time, it might have been disadvantageous to the cause of peace. And, although I fear I may stand still lower in my noble friend's estimation than I now appear to do, I am not ashamed or afraid of saying that the maintenance of peace has been a great and the dearest object we have had in view (Cheers). My noble friend seems to think that we have shown an abject determination to avoid war. My Lords, we have done no such thing. But we have felt it our duty to stop short of no sacrifice except that of national honour or of not fulfilling our engagements (Cheers). We have felt that it was our duty to this country, because of those numberless social, political, and commercial interests that have grown up, and have extended for a very great period, during a peace of unexampled duration. We have felt it due to other countries—countries which, like ourselves, had turned to account the blessings of peace, and which must be desirous therefore, honourably to maintain it; for, my Lords, it must be remembered that if this peace, which is of unexampled duration, once broken, be once disturbed, it may be followed by a war almost without parallel (Hear, hear, hear), and as unexampled as it. You must remember that those doctrines which convulsed Europe in 1848 are still cherished by vast numbers; and that they having lost none of their strength, a war now would be no ordinary war. Europe, in such a war, would be the battle-field not only of contending armies but of contending opinions; and we, to whom such mighty interests are entrusted, would have been worthily thought unmerciful of their important trust if we would have disqualified ourselves when we asked for support in a necessary war, if we could not have then shown that we had first exerted and exhausted every means of maintaining the blessings of peace (Hear). But, my Lords, if we are destined to do so, if it is appointed for us that we are to embark on that state of things, then I must say that never was the tranquillity of the world more wantonly disturbed than it will have been in the provocation of that necessity (Cheers). Never, also, I must say, was there a moment when it was the duty of France and England to stand up together, formally to oppose aggression and support the just cause of the weak against the strong (Hear, hear). My noble friend thought that we had placed the most undue confidence in the assurances of Russia (Hear, hear). I admit that we did put confidence in those assurances—because they were not only what we asked, but, in addition, were all that we could desire. We received—not evasive answers, but direct ones. Were we to receive them with suspicion? In my humble opinion, a policy of suspicion is never a wise or an expedient policy; and on this occasion there was no ground for suspicion. The Emperor of Russia had given abundant proof of a desire to maintain the peace of Europe. Over and over again he had affirmed that the Ottoman Empire was a European necessity, and that the maintenance of it was a fundamental principle of European policy (Hear, hear). And certainly, if he had desired the overthrow of the Ottoman Empire, and the aggrandisement of Russia at the expense of Turkey, what a year 1853 would have been suited his designs, and would have been more likely to have seen their attainment. I can assure your Lordships that whatever the noble Marquis may think, that, up to the end of August, we had no reason to believe there existed any other cause of difference between Russia and Turkey, except that connected with the Holy Places (Hear, hear)—a question which closely concerned France and which the Porte, by endeavouring to please both Powers, had given some cause of complaint (Hear, hear). But though the matter could only indirectly affect England, her good offices towards its adjustment were offered, and were accepted; and the difficulty about the Holy Places was settled thereupon. It was only after that settlement that we, for the first time, became aware that other and ulterior objects were sought to be attained by Russia (Hear

r, hear). Not but that it is perfectly true that, during the time pied in those negotiations, rumours of various kinds reached as to treaties which, it was said, had been proposed under nces; and as to large armies which, according to the same rority, were being prepared by Russia. Any person, aware of ficial secrecy with which all affairs are conducted in Rus- and of the still greater exaggerations which distinguish all Constantinople, could tell your Lordships the value of these, with what caution and what distrust they should be received. But ther these rumours were true or untrue, as soon as they reached us y were every one made known by us to the Russian Government; we asked a categorical answer to our inquiries upon them (Hear); e answer we received was a plain and unqualified denial to all the ems we had received (Hear, hear). We were assured that the mis- of Prince Menschikoff had reference to nothing but the Holy ces (Hear, hear)—that he had great latitude allowed him in the ling of that question, and, in fact, might almost settle it in what he pleased; but that it was all he had to settle. Subsequent events ly prove the correctness of these statements; for it may seem that ugh he, in his character as head of the Orthodox Church, had gone her in his demands than the requirements of his mission justified, he , at length, abandoned these particulars, and assented to a note ch, though still unacceptable to the Porte, was certainly much re- ed in regard to its stipulations. When, however, he quitted Con- tinople, he quitted it under circumstances menacing to the ce of Turkey and the interests of Europe. It was impossible us to tell where some of these armies collected on the con- s of Turkey might not be marched to. We, therefore, immer- diately ordered her Majesty's fleet to proceed to Besika Bay, where it remained by the French fleet (Hear, hear). Your Lordships are aware t after Prince Menschikoff had withdrawn, Count Nesselrode sent k his note to Constantinople with a threat that, unless it was signed hy days, the Principalities should be occupied. To that demand are aware that a refusal was the reply, and that thereupon Count selrode's threat was carried into execution. My noble friend seems like with that the fleet had been ordered when the first Russian soldier ed the Pruth, all that has followed, or is likely to follow, might have n prevented. But the noble Lord must consider that, in entering the ncipalities, the Russians were either sincere or insincere in the as- rances and protestations made by them to Europe, that that occupation ld be but momentary that they would hold the Principalities only material pledge for the fulfilment of the demands then made by gia upon Turkey; and that the evacuation of them was the wish desire of the Emperor of Russia himself. In either case, it was in interests of peace, and in the interests of the Sultan, to allow further ortunity for the ascertainment of the real issue, and for the discovery ome form of note distasteful to neither party, and sufficient to carry effect the intentions of both. Austria and Prussia entirely agreed h us as to Russia's occupation of the Principalities, which they con- ved not only unjust and dangerous as a precedent, but as dangerous themselves, and menacing to the peace of Europe. They therefore ed, at this crisis, to enter into the negotiations, and to assist in an mpt at the settlement of these differences; and they earnestly reated any declaration of war on the part of the Sultan l all peaceful means of settling his differences with Russia been finally exhausted (Hear, hear). And, whatever the le Lord may think, I doubt not that your Lordships will own it of great importance that the four Powers should be thus united. Austria and Prussia should join with England and France in ing Russia in her wrong (Cheers), and in leaving Russia no excuse ld she not be able to reckon on that support from Austria which more than one reason, she might have expected (Hear, hear). Her esty's Government never doubted that the occupation of the Prin- ties was a *casus belli* (Hear, hear): but the Government, recognising s a *casus belli*, considered also the declaration with which it was ompanied, and, under the impression that that might be sincere, did advise or press the Sultan to treat it as such, and so end all chance eace. Take the other case, that Russia was not sincere. A declara- of war at that moment would have furnished the Emperor with just very excuse he wanted. It would have absolved him from his pro- se, and from the responsibility of commencing hostilities, and would him in a position to say, "I occupied the Principalities, but I ared it should only be for a short time. I did not desire war. I was dy to accept peace; but my assurances have been disbelieved. War been declared upon me; and I now consider myself bound in honour dignity to accept the challenge" (Hear, hear). I do not say that would be just; but it would be as good an argument as ny others employed in the course of this affair. And your Lordships st be aware that at that moment Turkey was wholly unprepared for istance—her forces scattered, and her army weak and un- ed. Were not these most cogent reasons, on our part for not recom- ending the Sultan to declare war? By our not doing so, he gained time— e for settling affairs peaceably, time for making preparation for war, t before this opinion of her Majesty's Government could be conveyed to stantinople, we found that her Majesty's Ambassador there—who, being the spot, was a better judge than ourselves of what was for the in- st of the Sultan—had tendered the same advice, that the Sultan had epted and determined to act on it; and that, with such a hope of a ceable solution, it would have been most unjustifiable in us to urge Sultan on to war. I trust your Lordship will consider these satis- ory reasons why we did not then press on those more active measures my noble friend considers to have been necessary; and I assure that our not doing so was not from any abject indisposition to war, h as he seems to attribute it to; for I do not think that any Govern- nt in this country, with a just and righteous cause, would be allowed want the support of the people of England in carrying it out. And e, I am sure, you will not think it out of place if I declare my ti- ony to the straightforward, friendly, and perfectly honourable policy the French Government on this question (Hear, hear). The two ernments have been in daily, almost hourly, communication on . They have formed, as it were, but one Cabinet; and I can assure noble friend that there have never been more difference between the Governments than are to be found in the same Cabinet (Laughter— ence that have only increased our respect for each other and dered the harmony more complete. And the union that exists be- en the two Governments is not confined to the Eastern question. extends to other measures, in which, happily, the policy of this country coincides. Nothing, may be now seen to be hazardous regards the Vienna Note, it should be stated that, after Prince menschikoff left Constantinople, the Austrian Government sent h a note as, whilst not unacceptable to Russia, should secure to Tur- the independence of Turkey. In the meantime, the French Govern- nt prepared a note on the same principles, and they submitted it to as did not think it to be successful: but, as the French Government had a manifest desire to send it by way of ultimatum, and as it was considered simply as means of rendering more clear the *bonâ fide* intentions of both parties, were, on that ground, adopted at the Conference Vienna; but they were rejected by Russia. Would not, of course, think the note originally exposed the Porte to the dangers supposed, but the anges made were made on that supposition, and were merely such as re clearly defined the first meaning and intention of the note. A aggrandizement exists on this point as to the part taken by the Four wers. The Four Powers, be it remembered, had merely offered to diate between the two parties; they were not arbitrating, and are to be considered as arbitrating. They were not there to enforce the te, of which the first proofis, that, as I have stated, they at once and hesitatingly adopted the modifications pronounced requisite by the Porte. But her Majesty's Government did not suppose the note to be of the dangerous character supposed by the Porte, till Russia explained the use it might be turned to; then her Majesty's Government said no more in behalf of it. The conference, after having signed the protocol, determined to ask the Porte on what terms he would be prepared to accept it, and the Four Powers offered their bases for the conference at Vienna. By the protocol they affirm that, if Russia does not accept them, it is the sole obstacle to peace, and must be held responsible for war; and that is the present state of affairs as far as negotiations are concerned. No answer has been received from St. Petersburg; but I am inclined to agree that such fair and reasonable proposals as those are not very likely to be rejected. As regards the position of her Majesty's Government, when, notwithstanding that negotiations were going on, that terrible disaster at Sinope happened—when, the Turkish fleet not having been employed that I know of in the way stated by my noble friend, but simply lying peaceably in harbour—when the Turkish fleet was destroyed in the barbarous manner it was (Hear, hear) in the harbour of Sinope, her Majesty's Government with France determined at once to protect, not only the Ottoman territory, but also the Ottoman flag. They determined then to extend their protection, and, as in honour bound, gave us notice of their intention to the Russian Admiral at Sebastopol and to the Russian Government. That is the present state of our communications on this important subject, and, as I have said, I shall refrain now from entering into any details. I have merely endeavoured to meet some of the main charges brought against the Government by the noble Lord, leaving it for the House, when your Lordships have the papers before you, to say whether the interests, the honour, and the dignity of the country have not been well cared for. We may even then, possibly, be charged with having laboured too long, too far, and too hard in the cause of peace, but such will not, I think, be the opinion of the majority of the House. On the contrary, I think that, in the event of war, we shall be able, with all the greater force, to appeal to those pacific efforts, when, if we must, we call for the hearty and energetic assistance of the people of this country in aid of a just and righteous cause (Cheers).

The Earl of MALMESBURY called attention to the fact that the Royal Speech made no reference to the part taken by Austria and Prussia in the recent negotiations and said it as a remarkable omission. The noble Earl then revived the old topic of the speeches at Carlisle and Halifax against the Despotism of the French, and said that these speeches combined with the tone of the coalition press toward Austria had placed the Emperor of Russia under great misapprehension as to the harmony which existed between the two countries. When Colonel Rose sent for the last despatch, we had then the very best opportunity of assuring Russia of the firmness of the British and French alliance. Similar opportunities had been lost on subsequent occasions, and he agreed with the noble Marquis opposite that wiser counsels and greater vigour, at an earlier moment, would have prevented the impending war.

Earl GREY, whilst suspending his opinion upon the whole policy of her Majesty's Government until he had read the papers, must say, that in the speech it appeared to him to stand greatly in need of explanation and vindication. In the first place, he was not sure that we had any interest in supporting Turkey at all: and in the next, if we had any interest in supporting Turkey, it would take much to convince him that we ought not to have interposed earlier. Yet, if we were on the eve of war, let it be carried on with vigour. Let no consideration of ill-timed economy prevent the Government from calling upon the country for whatever sacrifices might be necessary, in order to inflict upon Russia the heaviest blows in every quarter, so that the contest might be closed as speedily as possible. He hoped, too, that they would adopt measures for the employment of young and vigorous officers, known to possess military talent, and for reforming the vicious organisation of the war departments. At the same time he suggested that it would be inconvenient to bring in a new Reform Bill at a time when Parliament would be involved in a discussion of the measures which a state of war would render necessary.

After a few observations from Lord BERNERS,

The Earl of DERBY said there was one subject alluded to in the Speech in which, from the office he had the honour to hold, he naturally felt great interest. He alluded to the subject of University Reform. Whilst there was room for very considerable improvement in the discipline, management, and studies of the Universities, he was bound to say that there was a well-considered determination to adapt their teachings more and more to the requirements of modern life. The alterations and reforms proposed by the Government, in order to be ultimately beneficial, must be made with caution and prudence by the authorities of the Universities and colleges themselves, and not through the wellmeant but not always judicious intervention of the House of Commons or even of your Lordships' House. The measure of her Majesty's Government, he hoped, would be rather of an enabling character, by which the authorities at the Universities might have the means of making such reforms as were necessary. Having noticed several omissions in the Royal Speech, the noble Earl referred to the state of our relations in the East. He asked whether we were in a state of war or not? When the papers were produced, he hoped they would be found to define the exact position of our fleet in the Black Sea. We ordered it to be at Besika while we conveyed the ships and ammunition of one party, and prevented the other from leaving their ports, we were undoubtedly in a state of war. He did not blame the Government for having used their best endeavours to preserve the peace of the world; but he did complain that the means taken by the Government to maintain peace were those best calculated to produce war. The whole policy of Russia for the last 150 years had been a policy of aggression. Such being the character, the mode in which she should be encountered was by a frank and open expression of the point beyond which England would not allow her to go. If this course had been taken earlier we should now have been in a different position to that in which we found ourselves. At the same time, if we were to be involved in war, provided the objects of it were—as he thought they were in this case—laudable, and honourable, and right, then he concurred with the noble Earl opposite (Earl Grey) that it would be inexpedient to introduce a new Reform Bill at such a time, for such a measure was sure to excite much opposition, and to engender a state of feeling which, under such circumstances, might be productive of considerable inconvenience. He recommended, however, that as her Majesty's Government intended to introduce a measure for the prevention of bribery and corruption, they should bring in another for the prevention of intimidation. Before he sat down, he must refer to one question upon which Parliament would neglect its duty if it abstained from commenting. For twelve days the country had been without a Minister for the Home Department. He, therefore, moved the noble Earl at the head of the Government to give some explanation of the cause of the resignation of Lord Palmerston, and to tell the House why, after the expiration of twelve days, the noble Lord was not present. The noble Earl concluded by stating that there was no intention of moving an amendment upon the Address; but that he desired to see the word "intimidation" inserted after the words "bribery and corruption."

Lord ABERDEEN, repeating in the strongest terms all that he had ever said to express his horror and detestation of war, defended himself from the odious imputation that he had been "the instrument and tool of Russia" in the late negotiations; whereas, no man in public life had more strenuously taken part against the Russian Government. He was quite willing to repeat that declaration against engaging in war; but he was unfrequently reproached for having engaged in war, which they have afterwards repented having done. He considered it his duty, and the duty of her Majesty's Government, not, under any circumstances, ever to engage in war without first using every possible effort to check it, even with the feeling was laudable and natural to admire it as it might be in the present instance. There was, at present, he must admit, a popular feeling of indignation against that which appears to be an aggression and an injustice; but still it was the duty of Government to restrain within the bounds of prudence and reason the influence of that feeling. He would remind their Lordships that it was not only the statement and precepts of moralists, and the opinion and declaration of all statesmen, that no war can be justifiable unless it be entertained of war—still he was ready to admit that there might be circumstances when, although there might be no other alternative but war, the country in the war now existing between Turkey and Russia, and in the policy pursued by it, the balance which had been established [illegible] considered in some sense as arming in self-defence, when we seek to preserve the relative position and power of the various states which are necessary to the security and safety of the whole. As regarded the imputation of his having been the instrument of Russian ambition, the same charge had been brought against him with respect to Austria, with which, since he had been accredited as Ambassador to it, forty years ago, he had had no more concern than with Japan. He maintained, in reply to those who would have preferred a more vigorous course, that nothing would have been gained by a game of brag, and that, if we had menaced Russia in the spring of last year, we should only have provoked an immediate march upon Constantinople, which the Turks were then wholly unprepared to resist. He had, too, been accused of indifference to the French alliance—he who had through his long life uniformly maintained the necessity of such an alliance—the author of the *entente cordiale!* It was consolatory, after such calumnies, to see that on the other side, and with at least as much reason, Count Nesselrode was accused of being a traitor to his country, and as bought by English gold. His Lordship briefly described the circumstances of Lord Palmerston's resignation and return to office; and then, in indignant terms, commented upon the monstrous imputations which had been made upon the character and conduct of Prince Albert. He concluded by denying, in the most explicit language, that the Prince had ever interfered in the conduct of the business of the army.

Lord HARDINGE added his personal testimony to the statement of the Earl of Aberdeen as to the utter groundlessness of the charges made against the Prince in connection with the administration of the army.

The Earl of DERBY, while generally concurring with Lord Aberdeen's observations on the subject, complained of the manner in which he had introduced it. Warmly disclaiming any connection on the part of the members of the Conservative party with these calumnies, he denied that the Conservative portion of the press was responsible for them, and ascribed their origin and propagation to the *Daily News* and *Morning Advertiser*. He gave it as his opinion that in this country, where, after all, the Sovereign was not a mere puppet, it was advantageous to the public interest and satisfactory to a Minister, that the Queen should have an intimate and confidential adviser, whose interests were bound up with her own, and who should be possessed of the ability and discretion of the present Prince Consort

Lord CAMPBELL, viewing the question constitutionally, expressed his opinion that not only as a Privy Councillor, but as the husband of the Sovereign, Prince Albert should be consulted upon public affairs.

In the course of the short discussion which brought the debate to a conclusion, the Earl of HARROWBY taunted the members of the Opposition with allowing these unfounded attacks to be repeated in journals

House in carrying out vigorous measures, if such should prove necessary, but ascribed high credit to the Ministry for the forbearance and moderation which they had exercised in their prolonged efforts to avert the deplorable calamity of war. Should this country unfortunately be compelled to engage in war, it would have the consolation of knowing that it will not be a war embarked in rashly, or for the sake of military or naval glory, or through the desire of conquest, but undertaken for the purpose of maintaining those treaties to which the faith of England is pledged.

Mr. T. Hankey, in seconding the motion, selected from the Royal Speech its most important topic, the controversy in Eastern Europe; and considered that topic in its most important bearings, namely, the state of fitness and preparation in which England was found at the arrival of a crisis that seemed to threaten war. For this purpose he compared the financial and industrial resources of the country as they now existed, and as they were left at the close of the last war. Enumerating various facts and returns which showed how much had been done towards diminishing debt, reducing taxation, enacting reforms, developing industry, and extending civil and religious liberty, during the past forty years, the hon. member pointed out that all these vast improvements had been effected in a period of peace, and were rendered possible by it. He contended that the Government, therefore, had done their duty, and deserved well of the country, by labouring indefatigably and making all possible concession for the sake of prolonging peace. He then expressed a belief that those labours and concessions were not yet exhausted; but declared that there was a clear and well-defined limit to them—that assigned by the credit and character of the country. Passing on to other points in the Royal Speech, the hon. member invited the House to sympathise with certain distressed classes, whose sufferings he believed would be only temporary, and to assist in accomplishing the promised reforms in University Education, the Ecclesiastical Courts, the Law of Settlement, and the Representative System.

The question having been put, Mr. H. Baillie said that he should chiefly confine himself to the question of the East. He was not of opinion that it was desirable to wait for papers, as the House had already as much information as it was likely to get out of a Blue Book, carefully prepared for concealments. He did not blame Government for trying to avert war, or believe that a bolder policy at first would have been more successful; but he regretted that they had adhered to the antiquated theory called the traditionary policy of this country, and had thought that its blood and treasure should be expended in maintaining the tottering fabric of the Turkish empire. When Prince Menschikoff presented his ultimatum, we ought to have informed Turkey that she was not to reckon on our aid, in which case we should have no more of war (Disapprol The Prince's propoeals woul been accepted, and the fate Ottoman empire indefinitely poned; and this was all tha be gained by a bloody war from the moment that the ance had been given that E would support Turkey, this became a party to the wa ought to have taken part but the Government had afraid to follow up the polic had announced. He proce say that the war would be pular with religious perso others, and suggested that possessed of Antwerp, migh more dangerous neighbour Russia at Constantinople. to the Reform question, that at a proper time he be prepared to co-operate reforms, but that he should vour to postpone a subject lated to cause internal when we were on the ev dangerous war.

Mr. Blackett describe opening passages of the Speech as meagre and colo and said that to the pol which he complained mig ascribed the wild jealousies a picions that had lately preva

Colonel Sibthorp charac the Speech from the Throne contrivance of Ministers to their own iniquitous practices

Sir R. Peel expressed h approbation of the mean and hypocrisy which had mark conduct of Russia, and cond the factious policy that sou contrast the policy of the E and French Governments, was precisely similar, in on cast discredit on the former acting in union with Franc the only way to maintain the pendence of the Ottoman What had been called an quated policy was that which secure the support of the large of the country. Strongly con ing the conduct of the Czar his pretended sympathy fo Greek Church, he proceede other points in the Speech dwelt with satisfaction on t proved condition of the coun result due, as regarded Englan our free commercial system, as regarded Ireland to the ing of the Encumbered E Act. He hated war, but d that this would be an unpo one, and he gave his genera port to Government, which given proof of a wise and temp judgment in these negotiation

Mr. Hume thought the Or question could not be dis until the documents were prod but concurred with Mr. Bla that Government had shown a of confidence in the people. additional money was asked f the army and navy, he hoped the reforms recommended by mittees would be made in systems, in which case no incr taxation would be necessary.

Mr. Liddell, in reference t paragraph on the Navigation said that he was not prepared so far as others had done in plauding the results of recent lation; and adverted to the be

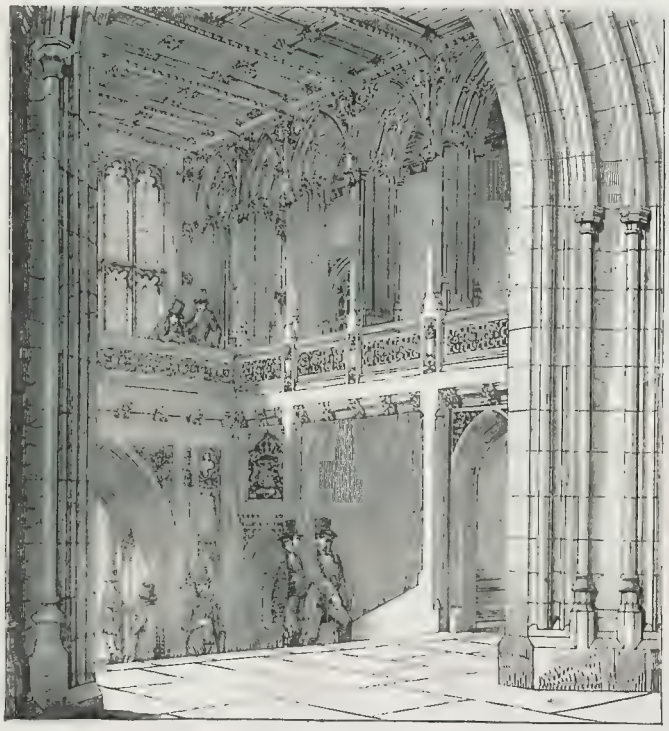
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN ASCENDING THE THRONE IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

PEACE AND WAR.—BAS-RELIEFS OF THE NEW VESTIBULE, AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE.

The Grand Vestibule at the summit of the State staircase in Buckingham Palace has recently received these interesting embellishments, from the hand of Mr. John Thomas, of Paddington, executed by command of her Majesty and Prince Albert. The subjects are Peace and War.

They are very ably designed, and skilfully carried out. The backgrounds of these compositions being a dull red, their effect is greatly heightened; and it harmonises with the richness of gold and co on all sides.

THE NEW HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.—ST. STEPHEN'S PORCH.



STAIRCASE OF ST STEPHEN'S PORCH.

made for the occupation of the House, for he could not believe that a body of statesmen would, on the eve of the complications of a terrible conjuncture, have asked the House to undertake all the great reforms proposed to it. He agreed with Mr. Liddell in the abstract proposition that the measure of Parliamentary Reform was most inopportunely brought forward, if we were going to war; but he considered that Government had only done what it was their duty to do in meeting the question—two Governments having been formed on the basis of the dogma that such a reform was absolutely necessary. It was impossible for the Government to escape from the question without sacrificing all their reputation for political prescience. And there would be the less excuse, inasmuch as last year, when members of the Ministry declared themselves to be in fear of worse than war—invasion—they still were promised reform. It might be madness to bring in the large measure of Parliamentary reform, but the present Ministers must do it. The Bill when produced, should receive due attention from his friends and himself, but he protested against the adroit arrangement that coupled the reform of corruption with the alteration of the franchise. He would support the first (remarking that no party had so little interest in corruption as the landed interest), but would not connect it with measures for reconstructing the electoral body of the country. And why was not intimidation to be suppressed as well as bribery? He went on to say that he deemed it unwise to introduce a measure of Parliamentary reform at the present time, and was disposed to stand upon the measure of 1832, whose injustice time had in some degree softened, and with which it was most undesirable to tamper. But if the new and large measure were produced, he should analyse it to the best of his power, with a view to bringing about a juster relation between parties, and for redressing the injustice which, as he had demonstrated, had been done to the land. He and his friends should appeal to facts and principles, and should demand justice.

Lord J. RUSSELL, while waiting for the production of the official documents, declined to add anything in defence of the Ministry to the vindication already offered by the Member for Tamworth. He defended the secret system of diplomacy, excused the Vienna note, and confessed that slight hope remained that Russia would accept the terms of accommodation last sent; but remarked, in reply to Mr. Disraeli, that the despatch in question fully secured the independence of Turkey, and had received the signature of the Turkish Ambassador. Respecting the co-operation of Austria and Prussia, the noble Lord stated that those powers had joined with England and France in the issue of certain manifestoes, and ventured to trust that they would also unite with equal cordiality, should it become necessary to proceed to acts. Turning to the strictures offered upon other points, Lord J. Russell observed, in regard to popular education, that it possessed the sympathy of Government, but must be made a question of time; and, with reference to Parliamentary Reform, contended that the precedent set by Mr. Pitt, which Mr. Disraeli had adduced, did not now apply, because reform was postponed in 1793 in prospect of a war against democracy, while our present foe was the reverse of a democrat. He could not think that there was any danger in discussing the question of reform during the excitement of a foreign war. The time that really was dangerous for such a discussion was the time of great popular excitement and dissension at home (Hear). It was said that there was no feeling on the

subject—that there was a complete apathy about reform. If that really was the case, was it not the proper time to discuss the question of reform (Hear)? Lest in the course of the war there should be times and periods of distress, when the people should become excited, and large meetings should be assembled in every town, partly crying out for more wages and cheaper food, and partly crying out for an increase of political power—was it not wise to forestall any demand of that sort (Hear, hear)? Supposing we had the calamity of war, and had with it the necessity for increasing the public burdens, was it not a fitting time to enlarge the privileges of the people when Parliament was imposing upon them fresh taxes (Hear, hear), so that in imposing taxes upon the people, it might, as far as possible, impose them upon those who had elected them (Hear, hear)? The noble Lord then alluded to the charges brought against the Prince Consort, noticing what he considered calumnies in deference to the honest delusion with which they were accompanied, stating generally that no Sovereign had ever governed more strictly in the spirit of the Constitution than her present Majesty, and, adding that the Queen had invariably accorded her full and entire confidence to the successive Ministers who had obtained the confidence of the House of Commons, he proceeded to delineate the somewhat undefined position of the Prince Consort, arguing that the presence of his Royal Highness at the Privy Council Board, and his cognizance of all public despatches, were equally sensible and appropriate. When her Majesty came to the Throne, being then only eighteen years of age, and, of course, inexperienced, Lord Melbourne considered what it became him to do when her Majesty was pleased to say that he should continue in the post of First Lord of the Treasury (Hear, hear). It seemed to Lord Melbourne that it was his duty to advise her Majesty on all subjects with regard to matters of domestic interest—with regard to the arrangements of the Palace, as well as to perform the ordinary duties of Prime Minister (Hear, hear). But, doubtful as to whether he had come to a right opinion, he resorted for advice to the highest authority he could obtain; he went to the Duke of Wellington (Cheers). The Duke of Wellington entirely agreed with him, and said that, if he held the office of Prime Minister, he would take exactly the course that Lord Melbourne had pointed out (Cheers). Three years after her Majesty's accession her Majesty espoused Prince Albert. The position in which the Prince Consort should stand then became a matter for consideration. He was, as the House knew, naturalised by Parliament, and naturalised in such a manner that he could be a member of the Privy Council (Hear). Some doubts had been stated on this subject, but anybody who looked into the subject would see that he was not only enabled but fully authorised to sit in the Privy Council (Hear, hear). His Lordship went on to explain as follows:—"Lord Melbourne asked me what was my opinion as to the course that should be pursued with respect to the despatches that should arrive, and all the secret communications of the Minister? I said that I had no doubt whatever that her Majesty should communicate them as she thought fit to the Prince Consort (Hear), and that I did not think, in his relation to her Majesty, it would be fair to have any concealment on the subject (Loud cries of 'Hear, hear,' and cheers). I am not sure from recollection, and do not very distinctly recollect, whether Lord Melbourne at that time mentioned the subject, but I am sure that Lord Melbourne and I thought it our duty to advise that that should be the conduct with regard to public despatches and communications (Hear, hear). I think that any other advice would be foolish and unbecoming (Cheers). It could not but happen that the Prince, after his marriage, should discuss public events with her Majesty (Hear, hear); and that he should only gather his information from the newspapers or public documents, while her Majesty had all the despatches and official information before her, would not only be an absurdity, but it would be impracticable (Cheers). Well then, Sir, such being the position of the Prince, it is quite evident that there is no truth whatever in the colour which has been attempted to be placed upon his Royal Highness's relation to her Majesty in this respect, or in the statement that Lord Melbourne constitutionally debarred the Prince from a knowledge of those state affairs, and that Sir Robert Peel was the first person who introduced the practice (Hear, hear). Why, Sir, I believe, it is true, that in Sir Robert Peel's time, it first happened that his Royal Highness was present during the interview with Ministers, but the House will at once see, that his Royal Highness, according to the advice of Lord Melbourne, was informed of all that was going on, and knew as well as her Majesty all that was taking place, his mere introduction into the closet when the Ministers had their communications with her Majesty was merely a convenience, and established nothing beyond the principle that had been adopted (Hear). If the Prince had not been present when the Ministers were with her Majesty, her Majesty would have communicated with him. That would be a circuitous report of what the Ministers had said, and would be a less convenient mode of proceeding than if his Royal Highness had been present; for in the one case, as in the other, his Royal Highness having, I need hardly say, the intellect (Cheers), the information, and the genius (Hear, hear) which belongs to him, it would have been quite impossible that her Majesty would not have spoken to him on every matter of great importance that would arise (Hear, hear). I am now speaking generally of their relations, without any reference to the constitutional relations which subsist between the Sovereign and her Ministers, because, as I have stated at the commencement, there has never been any complaint that these relations have not been properly recognised (Hear, hear). It was Lord Melbourne and I who advised it, and we thought we were acting entirely in the spirit of the Constitution in giving that advice, that his Royal Highness should be fully informed with respect to all that had passed (Hear, hear). But did Lord Melbourne consider that there was no advantage in her Majesty taking that counsel (Hear, hear). Be it remembered that he had taken upon himself on her accession, during the youth of the Queen, to give her advice upon every subject. At the time that Sir Robert Peel assumed the reins of Government, her Majesty had been already married. It was in the beginning of September, 1841: and on the 26th of August in that year Lord Melbourne wrote in those terms to her Majesty:—

Lord Melbourne cannot satisfy himself without again stating to your Majesty in writing, what he had the honour of saying to your Majesty respecting his Royal Highness the Prince. Lord Melbourne has formed the highest opinion of his Royal Highness's judgment, temper, and discretion; and he cannot but feel a great consolation and security in the reflection, that he leaves your Majesty in a situation in which your Majesty has the inestimable advantage of such advice and assistance. Lord Melbourne feels certain that your Majesty cannot do better than to have recourse to it when it is needed, and to rely upon it with confidence.

That was the opinion which Lord Melbourne had formed of his Royal Highness's ability, and I may say that no one who had had any intercourse with his Royal Highness could form any other opinion (hear, hear), but must appreciate the judgment and ability of this amiable Prince (Cheers)." His Lordship then adverted to another portion of the charges, namely, those connected with the army, and stated that the late Duke of Wellington had apprised Prince Albert that his Grace considered it would be an advantage to the service if, after the Duke's death, the Prince should become Commander-in-Chief; and that the Prince, though appreciating such a compliment, rejected the idea, on the ground that his place was always to be near the Queen; that the Duke urged that the Prince should have his attention to anything concerning the interests of the army, and this his Royal Highness promised—but he had never interfered with its ordinary business, or with its patronage. Lord J. Russell then explained the circumstances connected with the late resignation of the Adjutant-General, and declared that it was entirely false that the Prince had anything to do with the matter. He also offered a refutation of the charge that the Prince had interfered in the Eastern question, in contravention of the views of the Queen's responsible advisers, and had corresponded with foreign Courts; and his Lordship added a hope that the country would entertain what must be the position of a Prince Consort; and declared that there was no harm in telling the truth, namely, that in public and private councils the Queen and Prince were inseparable; and he concluded with an eloquent expression of belief that the people of England, always just, would, on reflection, see in the fact an additional cause of attachment to the Throne.

Mr. WALPOLE said that the House was indebted to Lord J. Russell for his complete defence of Prince Albert, and begged, on his honour, to add corresponding testimony of her Majesty's confidence in the Administration of Lord Derby during its tenure of office. He also expressed satisfaction with various explanations made by Lord J. Russell in reference to the Royal Speech; and, after a few strictures on the Eastern negotiations, adverted to the promised Reform Bill, which he did not think was required, deprecated the mixing up separate topics, and warned its authors against undue change, and the substitution of greater for lesser evils.

The Address was then agreed to, and the House adjourned at ten minutes to eleven.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

The Speaker sat at twelve o'clock

Mr. John O'Connell took the oaths and his seat for Clonmel.

Mr. RAINES presented a petition from the magistrates of the hundred of Lonsdale, South Lancashire, in favour of the establishment of reformatory institutions for juvenile offenders.

Mr. BASS presented a petition from Derby, praying that England would assist the Porte in repressing the aggressions of Russia.

Mr. OLIVEIRA gave notice that he would, on the 14th of February, bring the subject of the Wine-duties under the consideration of the House.

In answer to a question from Mr. W. WILLIAMS, Lord PALMERSTON said he hoped to bring in a bill to alter the present system of sewerage at an early day (Cheers).

Lord J. RUSSELL gave notice that he would, on an early day, move that no new writ should be issued for Cambridge, and other unrepresented boroughs, before Thursday, the 9th of March.

Mr. OLIVEIRA gave notice that on Tuesday, the 7th inst., he would move for a return of the expenses that have been incurred in alterations, repairs, and improvements to the various public buildings in Downing-street, from the year 1830 to the end of the year 1853, specifying what amount has been expended each year, and detailing its application.

Mr. OLIVEIRA presented a petition in favour of a reduction in duty upon wines, numerously signed by the inhabitants of Marylebone.

Mr. INGHAM presented a petition from the Corporation of Tynemouth, in favour of decimal coinage.

Mr. BROTHERTON moved, that if any new business be brought on after twelve o'clock at night, and a member rises to order, and objects to the House proceeding with the debate, a division shall, without further discussion, be immediately taken on the question that the debate be now adjourned, unless the mover of the original motion agrees to its being postponed. He was of opinion that the motion would not cure the evil, but he believed that it would in some degree mitigate it; and, as he had no hope of carrying a motion to remove the evil altogether, he was anxious to carry the present motion, which would enable the House to transact its business more satisfactorily and beneficially for the country.

Mr. W. WILLIAMS seconded the motion.

Sir J. PAKINGTON said the motion was a mere question of hours; but there was another of more importance—that of months. He thought they ought to meet earlier in the year, by which the public business of the House would be facilitated, and would render the long sittings of Parliament, as at present, unnecessary.

Lord J. RUSSELL said that the House had at all times the power of controlling the sittings of the House, and on many occasions measures were necessarily brought forward which, from their peculiar nature, made it necessary to engage the attention of the House under circumstances which could not possibly be foreseen. He could not see that any benefit would be attained by adopting the motion, seeing that it was always in the power of any member who wished to obstruct the business of the House to do so under any circumstances. That House was the model of the legislative assemblies of the United States, because there were State Legislatures, whereas, in this country, all the business might be done in the Imperial Parliaments. He would not, however, object to the appointment of a committee to consider the subject, with a view to the adoption of any agreement which should be thought desirable. He hoped his hon. friend would not persist in his motion, but if a committee were appointed, the Government would willingly consent to it.

Mr. HUME thought that they should commence the session with the determination to finish their business early in July; and if they came to that determination, he was sure the business of the House would be more satisfactorily settled. He thought the question should be settled by the House, and not by a committee. The Government had commenced well as to the business of the House, and he hoped they would carry on the system they had commenced. No human strength could stand against the present system. The time was when he did not care how long he sat up, but he was altered now, and could not keep up as he used to.

Mr. WALPOLE, Mr. E. DENISON, and Mr. NAPIER were in favour of the appointment of a committee, as the best course they could pursue.

After some observations from Mr. HADFIELD,

Mr. NAPIER said, he thought this inconvenience would be remedied by preventing Irish business from being brought on after twelve o'clock at night (Cheers). He was in favour of the appointment of a committee.

Mr. BROTHERTON having made a few observations in reply, the House divided, when there appeared—

For the motion, 88; against it, 54: majority, 34.

Mr. H. G. LIDDELL moved for a return of the time at which the night mail from London is due at York and Newcastle-upon-Tyne respectively, under the present arrangement; of the date when such arrangement took effect; and of the actual time of arrival at York and Newcastle on each day, from that date to the last day of December, 1853.

Sir G. GREY complained of the present delay, but did not think that the adoption of the motion would remedy the evil; and he hoped the Postmaster-General would consider the subject, and give directions for the carrying out of a better arrangement.

After a short discussion the motion was agreed to.

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

The report on the Address, in reply to her Majesty's Speech, was brought up and agreed to.

The House adjourned at half past two.

(For remainder of Parliament see page 91.)

THE REFRESHMENT-ROOMS, HOUSE OF LORDS.

(See page 112.)

THE Refreshment-rooms to the House of Lords are the most luxurious apartments imaginable: the beautiful ceiling—the richly-carved doors, screens, and panelling—the fittings-up, the crimson and green paper-hangings, and the general decorations, being extremely striking and harmonious in their *tout ensemble*.

The Rooms are lighted by windows on one side only, and which look into the Peers' Court; and, on the opposite side, the walls are paneled, and have fireplaces of rich and beautiful design, the spaces between chimneypieces being highly decorated, with boscage and foliage. At present the paneled spaces of the rooms are filled with a very handsome papering; but subjects, groups of dead game, &c., have been suggested as appropriate pictorial embellishments, and will doubtless be carried into effect. An extremely rich and beautiful scroll moulding, surmounted by a pierced trefoil cresting, runs round the upper part of the walls; and above them the ceiling is slightly coved, this portion being filled with elegant tracery, and the flat spaces within the tracery painted with admirably-designed arabesques. Except at the coving just described, the ceiling is flat, divided by massive ribs into square compartments, and these again filled with diamond-shaped compartments, each containing a painting of fruit, very cleverly treated in a conventional style, harmonising admirably with the details of the ribs, beams, and the bosses which spring from the intersections of the ribs. Amongst the carved furniture is a buffet, especially noticeable for its exquisite richness of sculptured detail, and beautiful proportions.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, FROM WITHIN.

IF, as a representative institution, the House of Commons does not give universal satisfaction, there can be no doubt that, as a constituent body, it is an object of interest to the great majority of Englishmen; and there prevails a very natural curiosity to know something of its ways and habits, the place in which it moves and has its being, its modes of doing business, the *personnel* of its members, and all the minutiæ of what may be called its "inner life." Perhaps, as is the case with Freemasonry, although its proceedings may be in themselves no very wonderful things, yet, because they are, in a certain sense, not public, the desire of penetrating the mystery—such as it is—is stimulated and kept up. It is true that the elaborate reporting of the debates in the newspapers gives publicity to all that is said which is worth preserving; but that by no means satisfies a desire to know the daily goings on there; or gives any accurate idea of the peculiarities of the men of whom the House is composed, or of the system by which they are guided. Nothing can be gathered from the reports, of the way of thought and the way of talk of the House of Commons, which are peculiarly its own; and, although it takes a session or two to mould a new man into a business-like member; yet, very soon after his admission within its moral portals, he becomes the "member" in tone and habit, and even appearance, and presents to the initiated very unmistakeable indications of his calling—for a calling, and no inactive and unlaborious one, it unquestionably is.

That the profession of a member of Parliament demands, in those who embrace it, certain adaptabilities—mental and physical—is undoubted; and, if this were the place for a disquisition on such questions, they might easily be pointed out. But, the object is to throw some light into the recesses of the House, as well as its material aspect, and arrangements as the place of business of the busiest and most stirring branch of the Legislature; and to describe such things and places as can only become familiar to its *habitués* proper.

To begin with the beginning. Let it be imagined that some person authorised to enter unchecked into the innermost recesses of the Commons' House of Parliament, arrives at the spot on which a Royal palace has stood since the days of Edward the Confessor, and on which now stands the vast Gothic building, the official name of which is her Majesty's Palace at Westminster. As, by the happy and skilful treatment of the architect, Westminster Hall has been made the grand vestibule of the Houses of Parliament, it will be necessary to enter New Palace Yard—in the centre of which, and opposite the great door of the Hall, Marochetti's statue of Richard I. has been recently erected. Whoever wishes to know anything of Parliament must be prepared to meet with much that is odd and incongruous; and perhaps it will strike the observer that here is incongruity the first: for, whatever may have been Cœur de Lion's merits, there is not any historical record which points to the connection between a memorial of him and the popular action of the Legislature. We must omit, however, all detailed notice of the Building and its several parts, most of which have been already described in our columns, and proceed at once to the "Lobby" of the House.

Pushing that door open, you are at once in the Lobby of the House. This is a fine and rich-looking apartment, about 40 feet wide each way, being square on the plan, having each of its four sides symmetrical, and each containing an archway giving access to those parts of the building appertaining to the House of Commons: that on the north being the entrance to the House itself; that on the south to the Central Hall just described; that on the east to the Libraries, Refreshment-rooms, &c.; and that on the left, to the private entrance for members. Carved open screens, bearing the words, "Domine salvam fac Reginam," on each side of these various archways, part of the Post-office, Vote-office and other apartments connected with the daily business of members, while windows over these, rich with stained glass, bearing the coats of arms of boroughs returning members to Parliament, give a subdued light to the interior. The roof is of dark wood, and massive in its character, while the flooring is paved with encaustic tiling, with the motto, "God save the Queen" introduced, and so, of course, continually trodden under foot by her faithful Commons and others of her liege. At night the lighting consists chiefly of massive and elaborate carved brass gas standards placed in the four angles, which are ventilated on a principle invented by Barry, by means of which all communication between the air of the apartments and the light is cut off, and the deteriorating effect of the gas prevented.

It has been said that the west door of the Lobby leads to the private entrance for members, and that passage is worthy of notice, as it is a restoration of the old cloisters of St. Stephen's, which has been carried out with such skill, that the additions and restorations can with difficulty, if at all, be distinguished from the old work. The fan tracery of the groin is one of the most elaborate and beautiful specimens of this kind of architecture that yet remains in England, and from the richness of this portion it may be gathered what was the splendour of the Royal Palace and Monastery of which it formed a part. The small projecting chapel anciently an oratory, on the west side of the Cloister Court is singularly remarkable for the beauty of its details. The upper story of the Cloister had been entirely destroyed, either by innovation, or the fire of 1834; and only just enough remained to afford an idea and authority for its restoration. An entirely new Upper Cloister has been added, which is reached from the Lower Cloister by a characteristic and admirably-executed staircase. The Lower Cloister is used as a receptacle for the members' cloaks and coats; the reception of their letters, and the usual appendages of the private entrance, which opens into Westminster Hall, and has also an outlet into the Star-chamber Court, the gate of which is in New Palace Yard. The effect of the rich graining of these Cloisters both above and below, heightened by the bright hues of the stained glass of the windows, and the many-coloured tiles of the floor, is most striking; and the staircase with its central clustered pillar supporting the groined stone roof above, is most picturesque, as well as original, in its composition.

Returning to the Lobby, we shall find that, on each side of the arched doorway of massive oak, studded and ornamented, and looking as if the Gordon Riots, when the mob threatened to break in and work their will on the members, was in the mind of the architect when he planned it, there sit enthroned, in large leathern chairs, the two janitors of the House. They are important functionaries (as all door-keepers are), and act as "tylers" their business being to know accurately the person of every member, and to prevent the uninitiated from entering the precincts of the House, which they are taught to consider sacred. One of them is a character: a short, stout, bustlingly-dignified personage, with magnificent silver hair, and a rubicund countenance, indicative of good port as the Bellamy of olden time was wont to supply. He is a relic of the unreformed House; of the times when a good door-keeper was considered to be worth something like £1000 a year; reformers Pitt and Fox, doubtless has original anecdotes of Sheridan, and looks on modern members as a set of innovating boys, over whom he is entitled to exercise a dictatorial authority; evidently believes that he is an important and indispensable part of the Legislature, if not an institution himself. Any one who wishes to know what door-keepers who have a true sense of their duty are, should try to walk into the House, not being a member. The other is a most respectable and civil person, very intelligent as to all that relates to the House, and has risen to his present office by long service and good conduct in other positions in the messenger department, and holds it under the reformed and reduced system of remuneration. He succeeded an official who was, in many respects

cal in character with the elder dignitary above described; he had me silver hair, perhaps a little more abundant, the same rubicund nance; but he was tall and thin; and, although quite as dignified penetrable, perhaps not quite so irascible, as his shorter coadjutor.

sitting together, in their large chairs, on each side of the door, eem to have adopted as their model a poetical notion of Minos Rhadamanthus, in all their sternness and severity of aspect, and did their parts very well.

he Lobby, from about half-past three on every day that the site, the scene is much the same, but that same is very cha- latio of the place. Grouped about, but kept within such bounds leave a reasonable space for the movements of members from ree doors more immediately appropriated to them, by the picked men whose duty it is in the Palace of Westminster, are to be Parliamentary agents, solicitors, a stray Parliamentary barrister , parts a interested in private bills, railway directors and sears- deputations from constituencies who have brought up petitions presented by their members, acquaintances of members looking r orders for the Strangers' Gallery; now and then, two or three smuggled in by members to get a peep at the House, if the digni- oor-keeper is in a good humour; correspondents of provincial, , and Irish newspapers, watching for any decision on a private r the asking of any question in which their localities may be sted, and with which they will rush off to the Telegraph-office; angers on upon members, with hopes of fulfilled promises kindling e countenances (it is astonishing how much a number of persons tly of this kind have to say to the Irish members). Then there uaker and cotton-spinning looking men from Lancashire, on the ut for the northern borough members; agricultural-aspected, well- spirants for a word or two with Mr. Newdegate or Mr. Christo- black-coated and white-cravated individuals, who will inevitably e on Sir Robert Inglis or Mr. Spooner; there are sanitary and cleansing countenances, which may be found in close contact with njamin Hall or Sir De Lacy Evans; while every class seems, at me or the other, to have something to say to Mr. Brotherton, who in and out of the door like one possessed: this is because he the first and second reading of almost every private bill. g in and out of every group, with a self-possessed and smiling ay be seen Mr. Hayter, the "whipper-in" of the Government, ing a word, in passing, or, it may be, giving a significant look ch member of his party whom he encounters; while Colonel ter and Mr. Bateson, who hold similar offices under the Opposi- re equally assiduous, although there may be more of a *laissez-aller* a their manner of proceeding, for they need not be officially se—it is not now their business to see that the Government is not on a division.

the while members are passing in from the private entrance, en- the House, or going to the Post-office, or the Vote-paper Office, or ding to the Library, and, it may be, sustaining nature at the very rranged refreshment-stand which occupies one angle of the Lobby, y by-stander sees his man come in, he pounces upon him, and him, often seeming very loth, into a corner for the intended ence. Sometimes, as a distinguished personage—such as Lord Russell, Mr. Disraeli, or Lord Palmerston passes through ear arose before the door of the House, there is a buzz and a ering, and nudging of the sight-seers, and an eager straining of the st such a glimpse of the interior of the Chamber as the swinging momentarily affords. This sort of bustle, without con- —for everything is kept subdued and decorous—goes on till about lock, when all private bills, petitions, questioning of Ministers, e preliminaries of the business of the night are disposed of, and ote settled down into the orders of the day; the temporary s then clear off, and for the rest of the evening the Lobby is ted chiefly by the privileged and of-right occupants of the House s appurtenances, and those who have business connected with the es on hand.

earliest assembled lookers-on in the afternoon, at a quarter be- our o'clock, are always startled by a loud cry of "Mr. Speaker," nevertheless through the corridor leading to the Library, which en up by the door-keepers in the Lobby, followed by the order Hats off." In solemn procession then passes the first commoner ngland, in flowing wig and silken gown, accompanied by the nt-at-Arms, bearing the massive mace (the same, by the way, Cromwell treated with such little respect), and supported by bearers, and his chaplain—all in that traditional suit of black vay coat, knee-breeches, and buckles, which seem inalienably en- d on the English Constitution. Bowing gracefully, and with a nt smile on his handsome countenance, the right honourable man passes on and enters the House, the portals of which are closed until prayers are over.

ddedly, the House of Commons is fortunate in its choice of a er. It may be absurd, but the association of official dignity a tall figure and commanding presence is very prevalent. Mr. Lefevre is far above the middle height, his figure is straight well set up (he is a distinguished yeomanry cavalry officer), is limbs well made; while, strange to say, he looks better in fficial costume, which would not be becoming to every-body, in his ordinary dress. His countenance is expressive of that he possesses in perfection, good humour, and command of t, while his tact, acquired in the exercise of the duties of ffice, is unbounded, and it is a tradition of the House that ne has ever been offended with him under any circum- es whatever. His voice is good—loud and sonorous, but with effect of a slight indistinctness of utterance. Altogether he is del Speaker, and it will be difficult to replace him, whether as is his perfect knowledge of his duties or his personal qualifi- s. Apart from the mere prestige of a fine-looking man in the a good "physique" is indispensable to such a position in a like the House of Commons, where so much of the physical ht prevails. Indeed, until last session, it was a positive part of the of the Speaker never to be ill, for there was no provision for carry- n the business of the House in his absence, and it is not a House the Speaker is in the chair. Oddly enough, the instances of ab- of Speakers from illness have been so rare as almost to be unheard This question was wisely and indeed mercifully considered last n; and, for the future, arrangements may be made to relieve the ker from the necessity of dying at his post rather than stop the edings of the House.

the right honourable gentleman has been supposed to have into the House; and we will take the liberty of preceding him and finding out what manner of place it is which is awaiting nt emptiness his arrival. The first thing that would occur to a ger on entering the House of Commons, must be that it is the t and most incomprehensible apartment that ever was seen. It is y like nothing that ever was built before. It has no shape. It is quare, and it is not oblong, and if it resembles in its outline y degree any other room in which a number of persons were ssembled, it is the old-fashioned Dissenting chapels, which erected before Baptists and Independents had acquired ectural tastes, and when it was thought that plainness ildings devoted to the worship of God should degenerate downright unshapely ugliness. Look at the House of Com- ns as regards its size, and it will be found that it is positively small; it looks cramped, "cribbed, cabined, caged, confined, bound in." One thinks it must certainly have been built under great pressure and difficulty; there must have been an insurmountable want of space for the ground-plan, and the architect had to do his best to deal with the exigency. But then it may occur to one to remember that the New Palace of Westminster stands on an area of about eight acres, has four principal fronts, and contains within its area no less than eleven quadrangles or courts for the admission of light and air to the numberless rooms, residences, and offices, of which, besides the two Houses and their adjuncts it is made up. Some idea may be formed of the intricacy and extent of its plan, when it is known that it contains no less than 500 rooms of all kinds, with separate residences, some of them of large size, for eighteen different officers of the Houses of Lords and Commons, besides a chapel for the use of the residents in the building; and it was all built because of this particularly small and mean-looking room. If it had not been for this place, there would have been no occasion for a Legislative Palace at all. The stranger cannot tell what it all means. Why such an expenditure of time, money, space, skill, art decoration on this huge edifice, if that part of it which is, so to speak, its very heart, and ought to be its real climax, is so narrow and small, and in spite of some attempt at ornament, which in such a room is but a mockery, bears itself so poorly? The only conclusion one can readily arrive at is, that Sir Charles Barry, in his architectural humourist, and intended the House to be typical of the legislation which is carried on in it—which always is proposed to be comprehensive and expansive, but is practically narrow and circumscribed.

The fact is, that the House is what is called, in naval architecture, a "razee;" that is, a large room cut down to a small one, with much the same effect as is observable in ship-building. It was originally lofty and well proportioned; of the same height, and little less dimensions, than the House of Lords; and would have been—though a more simple—in its way, quite as handsome and imposing a chamber. But, long ere its shell was finished, the initiated discovered that the important question of hearing was involved, and that size and space must be made subservient to that vital point; and then first commenced the reduction of extent. When the House of Lords was opened for business, its vast dimensions were found incompatible with anything like an accurate hearing of the speaker; and, great state-room as it is, even there some alteration was found to be indispensable. When, however, the House of Commons was temporarily fitted for a trial of its capabilities, preparatory to its actual opening, it was ascertained that not one-half of what was said reached the region set apart for the representatives of the Fourth Estate; and, though that might be comparatively of no consequence in the House of Lords—which the Commons are apt to consider a combination of a registry-office and a show-room—here the speaking was intended, if not for the country, at least for the constituencies, and must be heard. There was a perfect panic among honourable members. The architect was commanded, on pain of penalties too tremendous to be named, to accomplish this object, at any sacrifice of appearance or comfort. Hints were given to the House that the faculties of the professors of architecture in this country might be quickened if one of their number was hanged. In fine, Sir Charles Barry set to work: he lowered the roof, cutting the height of the building nearly in two; divided the windows, leaving only the lower part of them visible in the House; the galleries at both ends were thrown far forward, and the length of the room materially diminished; and, at last, he succeeded in locating the Commons of England in a chamber in which, certainly, every word that anyone speaks in a tolerably distinct and audible voice may be heard; but which presents an aspect as comical and eccentric as can be found out of China.

Of the eight acres of the ground-plan of the New Palace at Westminster, there is reserved for the House of Commons a space 75 feet long and 45 feet wide; while the heighth from the floor to the centre of the ceiling is 41 feet. This ceiling is a very singular composition altogether: it is flat in the centre, and the sides slope down to about half-way of the original walls and windows. It is divided into compartments, the prevailing colour being bright oak; and each compartment is ornamented with large roses, thistles, and shamrocks, the cornices being, as usual in all the decorations of the building, mottoes, such as "Dieu et mon Droit," "Domine fac salvam Reginam," &c. Seen by daylight, the flat centre of the roof looks as if it had been washed, and the colour driven out by the process. The fact is, that the whole of it is composed of ground-glass, the pattern and ornaments being very slightly tinted; as it is from hence that, by an ingenious process (the invention, we believe, of Mr. Goldsworthy Gurney), the House is entirely lighted. At night the whole flat centre of the ceiling is filled with a soft, pleasant light, something like very strong moonlight. The effect is not brilliant, and is not intended to be, but the light is quite sufficient for purposes of reading and writing, and avoids successfully all oppressiveness to the eye. There was no other lighting whatever, not a lamp or candle all over the House, until last session, when some burners were placed behind the pillars at the back of the Gallery, to which point the light of the roof does not penetrate. It is not an improvement, and it is understood that it was only done to enable the Speaker to see the members who sat darkling there; and as no one else wishes to disturb their personal or artificial obscurity, it would be better if the plan was discontinued.

On both sides of the House a range of benches, covered with green leather, and having comfortable stuffed backs, rise in tiers from the floor to a point far under the Galleries. At the north end stands the Speaker's seat, a sort of canopied throne, which bears evident marks of an intention that it was to have been a handsome and ornamental appendage to the House, but now appears as if it was pared down to meet the exigency as regards space which prevails all over the building, in which, vast as it is, every room for every purpose is cramped and insufficient. Even in the House of Lords, which alone has any pretensions to size, the principle of paring down has been carried out in the accommodation below the Bar, and it may be mentioned that the artists who were entrusted with the execution of the statues of the Barons who procured Magna Charta, and which fill the niches in the Lords' Chamber, were restricted to a certain width across the shoulders of the figures. The chair itself, in which the Speaker sits, is, however, one of the only things that is too roomy; for, in order to occupy any other position except a bolt upright one, its occupant must loll across it at right angles. Exactly in front of the Speaker is the Clerks' table. This piece of furniture is both too large and too small. It affords scanty room for the three clerks, who always sit in a row, at that end of it which is next the Speaker; and it occupies so much of the floor between the Treasury Bench and the front row of the Opposition seats, that every one who walks by on either side of it to reach the Speaker's chair, or the outlets from the House behind it, causes a movement of the outstretched legs of the sitters on those uneasy benches, who must draw them up close to avoid being kicked.

Exactly in the centre of the House, the seats are divided, and a passage between them reaches up to the last row under the Gallery. This is what, in the parlance of the House, is called the "Gangway." At the southern end, near the door leading into the Lobby, on the right of the entrance, is the raised arm-chair of the Serjeant-at-Arms; and on the other side is a similarly enclosed seat, which belongs to nobody, but is only placed there for uniformity sake; and by the side of it is a small table on which cards and notes for members, sent in by persons waiting to see them in the Lobby are placed. Between these two seats is the "Bar [illegible]," but, when persons are summoned thither, whom the rules of the House do not permit to go beyond that point, two sliding rods of brass are drawn, like telescopes, from both sides, and meeting in the centre, a material "Bar" is temporarily formed. Behind the Bar, and under the South Gallery, on each side of the entrance doors, are two rows of benches enclosed, which are appropriated to Peers, and which on nights of important debates are always filled with noble Lords belonging to the Government, and other distinguished members of the Upper House. Here, too, are constantly perched the Government prompters, and greet up of facts and statistics; and often, during the progress of a debate, a Chancellor of the Exchequer, or a President of the Board of Control, or Trade, or their secretaries, may be seen in earnest conversation with quiet-looking men, who have been sitting gravely observant of the proceedings; and after that, you may be sure, the Opposition member who has at that moment made a hit, will find that the member of the Government who has just glided into his seat, has got a note of the point, with the answer to it ready for his reply.

The Galleries are an important feature in the arrangement of the House, and are divided into several. One gallery, with a double tier of seats, runs along each side of the House, which is set apart for the use of members. Half-a-dozen doors opening into them lead into very comfortable, handsomely-fitted up, and well-lighted retiring-rooms, where reading, writing, and chatting may be carried on by large or small parties with great convenience. These two galleries communicate at the south end. Here, just over the Bar, is a deep gallery, extending a very considerable way back: the front row, which is separated from the rest by the passage by which the two members' galleries meet, is set apart for the use of the diplomatic corps and distinguished foreigners, but is often occupied by Peers. It was here that the Earl of Derby sat, leaning far over into the House, listening to Mr. Disraeli's first budget, in April, 1852, when he astonished every one by the uncompromising testimony which he bore to the benefits derived from free-trade; and on which occasion Lord Derby is reported to have said to the Bishop of Oxford, who was sitting next him, in the language of Scripture, "Behold, we hired this man to curse them, and he has altogether blessed them." In this gallery, last session, two East Indian gentlemen of dignified appearance, and wearing the rich costume of their country, sat, night after night, during the discussions on the India Bill, apparently deeply impressed with the character of the proceedings, principally from their being unacquainted with the language in which they were conducted. Behind this row is a considerable space, called the Speaker's Gallery, which is reserved for those who have orders from the right hon gentleman; and between this and the wall, or rather the ornamented stone screen surmounted by a lattice of brass-work, which separates the interior of the House, is the Strangers' Gallery, to which persons are admitted with members' orders. Over the Speaker's Chair is the Reporters' Gallery.

For the first time in the history of Parliament a specific place has been assigned for the use of ladies; but, as this is still considered against Parliamentary regulations, and as they are only there as it were, by a courteous violation of rule, their seats are placed behind the ornamental brass trellis, in the stone screen, just over the Reporters' Gallery. Nothing can therefore, be seen of them; and their *locale* has been facetiously described by an honourable member as "something between a nunnery and bird-cage." The accommodation for them is, however, very good. Their gallery is divided into three compartments, each containing one row of chairs; and there are commodious anterooms attached. There is no difficulty in seeing, and most probably none of hearing, through the interstices of the trellis-work; but it is to be feared that the arrangements do not quite satisfy the fair occupants of the place; for, painful as it is to record, they are very apt to keep up a continuous chatter during the most important speeches, to the dire confusion and distress of the reporters—a proof that they do not hear sufficiently well to have their attention entirely absorbed; while it is also to be feared that they are not content with the loopholes through which they get a view of the House, for they are continually breaking off leaves of the shamrocks and roses of which the brass lattice is composed, which usually fall outwards, and with their sharp ends downwards, on the heads of the occupiers of the back bench in the Reporters' Gallery. They might, perhaps, be more satisfied if they could compare their present accommodation with that afforded to ladies in the old house, which was in the space above the roof over the chandeliers, which acted as a ventilator.

Although the House of Commons is more plainly decorated—at least, as respects colour and gilding—than the House of Lords, it will be found, on a close examination of the delicate carving with which it is covered, that on every portion of it there has been expended no less an amount of thought and labour. The prevailing oak colour is heightened to a slight extent by the decorated panels of the ceiling, and the emblazoning of the coats of arms, which bear the Royal cognizances of the Sovereigns of England in succession, arranged along the front of the Galleries. It is understood that the architect proposes to decorate, in colour, on a gold ground, the coved under side of the Galleries, emblazoning thereon the armorial bearings of the Speakers, in chronological order, in the same way as has been done with the coats of arms of the Chancellors in the House of Lords; but as yet nothing has been done except to prepare the ground, it being a question whether, by gaining in splendour, the House would not appear to lose its business-like character.

The windows of the House are filled with stained glass, the devices being the armorial bearings of boroughs, beginning with Westminster. The supporters are intensely grotesque, the mediæval designs being carried to the utmost limits. The supporters, in the case of maritime boroughs, are horses with fishes' tails; those of the inland boroughs, a sort of leopardised lions; and those of the Universities are saints. Sundry and manifold have been the gibes and jeers at these strange beasts when members, as they often do, get a fit of abusing their House: so much so that, previous to last session, on one side these heraldic supporters were removed, and the shields and crests were rested on scrolls entwined with roses, thistles, and shamrocks. On the other side, however, up to last August, the fierce animals in question retained their rampant positions.

It should be said that none of the windows about the building are ever opened; the first principle of the ventilation employed being the rigorous exclusion of the external air. That being effected; by a complex and expensive apparatus, an artificial atmosphere is created, which consists of alternate blasts of hot and cold air, infused by imperceptible crannies in the flooring from the machinery below; thermometers are hung in all parts of the House, corridors, and lobbies, and a staff of officials continually visit them, and give notice of the alterations required to keep up an equable temperature. Of course, however, no hot or cold blast can be forced into the rooms without, at least, a temporary sensation of draught going on, and the effect is anything but agreeable. Another consequence of never opening the windows is, that during the day, the artificial atmosphere not being in operation, there is a subsiding of the impure air necessarily generated in crowded and lighted apartments, and a sickly vault-like smell pervades the place which is most unpleasant. In order to facilitate the issue of warm and cold air through the flooring, which, by-the-by, is formed of perforated cast-iron plates; a coarse pervious matting, looking like ill-washed sack-cloth, is spread over the parts of the House. Nothing can have a meaner or more unsightly appearance, while its aptitude for generating dust is immense, and loudly complained of. If the account thus given of the aspect of the Chamber in which the Commons of England assemble, be at all intelligible, there can be little doubt that it will be allowed that the case against it is made out, namely, that it is the oddest and most absurd apartment in the world.

Along both sides of the House are the Division Lobbies: that on the west side being usually appropriated to the "Ayes," and that on the east, to the "Noes." These corridors are plainly and substantially fitted up with oak paneling, the windows being filled with stained glass; stairs at each end communicate with the Members' Galleries above. At the Speaker's end of the House, behind the chair, are two small chambers—one for the use of the members of the Government, to hold conferences with each other during debates, if necessary; and the other is appropriated to the Opposition for similar purposes. The door behind the chair also affords access by means of a long corridor to the Speaker's private rooms, and the official residences of the Librarian, the Clerks, and the Serjeant-at-Arms.

Such being the Chamber, with its appurtenances, we will proceed with an attempt to give some notion of the style and manner of conducting the public business therein.

It is twenty minutes to four o'clock. The House is swept and garnished, and a solemn silence prevails. If the season be so far advanced as that at that hour it is daylight, the place looks like a theatre or Vauxhall by daylight. In truth, it is prepared and got up only for night work. It has been often asked why is all important legislation carried on by night? and jokes have been made about "after dinner" enactments, and statutes smacking as much of the wine-cup as of the midnight oil. But it is really a necessity. As yet no man wholly devotes himself to membership as a profession. The only persons in the House who are paid are those in the Government, and the day is hardly sufficient for the discharge of the duties of their departments and prepa-

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.—HER MAJESTY LEAVING BUCKINGHAM PALACE

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.—THE ROYAL PROCESSION PASSING WHITEHALL.

ration for Parliamentary debates, and by this alone their salaries are fairly earned; so that even they perform their legislative functions in a manner gratis. No other member is paid for his services, and all have some other vocation. There are merchants and professional men of all sorts, who have their own business to attend to; the landed squires are by no means idle men in any sense of the word; and if there are a few members who are idlers by profession, ten to one but they are of that very hardworking set, the "men of fashion," who go to the House because it is the right thing, and during the session is a sort of club, which is really an agreeable change from the regular ones in which they lounge all the rest of the year. Every one of these, persons has very much to occupy himself in the forenoon. Even if he has not, every legislator is condemned "a double debt to pay" in his capacity of member. Private business has demands on one of his functions, public business on the other. The mornings he must give up to individuals, companies, and corporations, who, labouring in commercial affairs, get Private Bills, from eleven to four. The evenings must be devoted to the nation, in the discussion and enactment of public bills, and this for at least six months of the year.

To return, however, to the empty House. If an important and exciting debate is expected, a temporary fit of piety seizes a number of members, and they get into the House at this hour, in order to be present at the prayers with which business always opens—because, if they do, they have the privilege of affixing a card to the back of any seat they may select, which secures it to them the rest of the evening; but no one is allowed to reserve a seat after prayers. It is an ordinary session, half a dozen is a large muster. Next drop in, wigged and gowned, the Clerks, who have seats at the table. At ten minutes to four the doors are thrown wide open, and a loud voice proclaims "Mr. Speaker." All the members present rise and stand uncovered, while the right honourable gentleman passes up the floor, accompanied by the Sergeant-at-Arms bearing the mace, each making three reverential bows—one at the bar, one in the middle of the House, and the third at the table. The Speaker takes his seat in one of the Clerks' chairs on the right side of the table; the mace is duly placed thereon; and, after a solemn pause, the Chaplain enters, makes the three customary bows as he advances, and having performed his duties, retires backwards again, bowing the prescribed number of times. The doors which have, all this time been fast closed—no one being admitted during prayers—are opened; and the Speaker, still sitting at the table, proceeds to count the members present, and those who enter, until, reaching the number thirty-nine, he makes a sort of bow to himself, utters in a loud sonorous voice, the word "Forty!" leaves the table, and takes his seat in his own canopied chair, and technically "the House is made."

It is not a House unless forty members are present. This rule often leads to the phenomenon called "no House," which arises when four o'clock precisely arrives, and forty members are not present. The Speaker immediately leaves his place, the House without ceremony adjourns, and by no possibility can any business be done on that evening. The circumstance called "no House" seldom occurs in the beginning of the session. Then members are fresh, vigorous, and enthusiastic; committees and private business are not in full and exhausting play; the time of the year is unpropitious for afternoon rides; parties of pleasure in the day have not commenced; and in short, the "season" has not begun to exercise its influence on our legislators—every few of whom are quite exempt from its allurements. But when summer is in bloom, and the full-dress debates are pretty well over, while the real work of legislation—the whipping of measures into shape in committee—is in full operation (this being actually done by less than forty members), "no House" may be expected on those nights which do not belong to the Government.

It should be understood that at the commencement of the Session, on Monday and Friday, precedence is given to Government business, while Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, are appropriated to any measures or motions brought forward by private members. In June and July the Government takes Thursdays as well, and usually put their bills advanced a stage on Wednesday also. But these days always remain the inalienable right of private members. Accordingly at the advanced period of the session just indicated, private member and their motions become a bore; it is no business of the Government "Whipper-in" to see that a House is made (his care is for the real nights); nay, perhaps some motion is of a troublesome nature—will require explanations from the Government—which will lead to a debate which "can probably have any result at that time of the year;" and so the said adroit functionary may even employ some of the persuasions with which he is so highly gifted to induce honourable gentlemen to stay away about four o'clock.

It generally happens on "no House" nights that the first motion on the paper is in the name of some member who has not a sufficient number of personal friends to make a House for him, and the subject is one in which no one takes any interest but himself; and, although there is not much behind it a notice of more importance, and with a name of more weight attached to it, the friends of this latter member are, although well canvassed to come down and make a House, may think that the owner of the first motion will do or do not attend punctually, and other members—that forty members at the o'clock—by such occurrence, the evening may be spared a certain something that the appearance of things in the Lobby would they easily interpret. Therefore each member of these classes at the Whipper-in's request or suggestion or command, or under grace, as on the seeing—which he has the "orders of the day" will make a House for themselves. Nay, he is evidently eager and anxious to get together the requisite number of members for the honourable gentleman, who is, perhaps, not able to do it for himself; for he speaks impressively to every one who is about to pass into the House; he is evidently "whipping him in." But, somehow, one after the other, those very gentlemen pause, look about the Lobby for a moment, and then glide gently into the corridor leading to the refreshment rooms, and are seen no more. The doors are opened after prayers; few and far between are the passengers into the House; the clock stands on the stroke of four; there is a stir with in the House; the principal doorkeeper uproariously shouts out. "who goes home?" a schoolboy air of holiday enjoyment pervades the atmosphere; every one looks relieved and happy except the unfortunate gentlemen who have motions on the list; they gather up their papers, dash on their hats, and stride away, looking unutterable things at every one they see in the vicinity of the House; and will perhaps send the names of the Members present at the time of the necessary adjournments to the newspapers, besides bringing the matter indignantly before the House at the sitting next day, by which course, it should be said, they don't improve their chances on a future occasion.

In the last Session it was only on one occasion that there was "no House." It may be accounted for by the fact of its being the first Session of a new Parliament; and besides, the general election resulted in the return of a great number of fresh members, chiefly young men, who were delighted with the House and their new avocations, and many of them with their vigour unabated by their labours in the committee-rooms, were quite ready to rush down to the House on being informed "that the Speaker was at prayers," the technical way of ordering Committees to adjourn.

Assuming, however, that no such misfortune intervenes, and that the Speaker is enabled to get safely into the chair, the business of the evening forthwith commences. The first thing usually, if counsel be required, is the swearing in of new members. The neophyte is waiting in the seats under the Gallery beyond the Bar, when Mr. Speaker cries out, "Who comes to be sworn to come to the table." Whereupon he puts himself at the Bar, and is there joined by the members sent usually on personal friend, and the other the "whipper in" of the party to which he belongs. Supported thus on each side, he advances with the three bows to the table, where, having handed in a statement of his qualification, he takes the oath of allegiance and supremacy, signs the Parliamentary rolls, and, having shaken hands with the right hon. gentleman in the chair, is, to all intents and purposes, a working member.

Although usually a ceremony that attracts little notice; yet, when a man who is popular, either in the House or the country, is sworn in; or when his election has been the result of some party triumph, there is a good deal of cheering, from a House full or than usual, at that hour. The most exciting incidents of this kind of late years have occurred when the Jewish members have presented themselves to take their right to sit in the House. In the first case—that of Baron Rothschild—the proceedings, after he came to the table, were stopped by his demanding to be sworn on the Old Testament—a book which Sir Robert Inglis said he did not believe was in the library of the House; that question was, therefore, to be discussed, in his absence; and it was amusing to observe the effect which the curt formula, "You may withdraw," always used by the Speaker in turning any one out of the House, had upon the richest man in Europe. As is well known, after debate, the Baron was allowed to be sworn on the Old Testament; but on his sticking fast at the concluding words of the oathe, "on the true faith of a Christian," he again heard the loud words of dismissal; and, notwithstanding the strenuous efforts which were then, and have since been, made on behalf of him and those of his persuasion, he has never yet got beyond the seat under the Gallery, where, however, he may often be seen.

The next ordinary proceeding is what is called "Private Business"—that is, the passing of Private Bills through their different stages. It may as well be said that, from the sitting of the House until nearly five o'clock, it presents the appearance of being the abode of a set of unrestrained lunatics.

Every body is talking—everybody is running in or out of the doors in the Lobby and behind the chair—coming up to the table and writing their names on lists for the guidance of the Speaker in the presentation of petitions and notices of motion; and, if the House of Commons might be supposed to have a patron saint, one, at the moment, would unquestional ly fix on St. Vitus as being that saint. From amids the din there rises the voice of the Speaker, shouting continuously, "Mr. Brotherton;" and that excellent and indefatigable member may be seen, at each utterance of his name, rushing from the bar to the table with a paper in his hand. He is, in fact, bringing up and moving the first reading of "Private Bills," of almost the whole of which he is the clerk. His exhausting runs at length concluded he takes his seat on the fre. sary bench, and the clerk at the table calls out in succession the titles of more bills, and the same hon member moves that each be "read a second time," and retires to the Committee, all of which appeared of being the abode of a set of unrestrained lunatics.

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Usually, private bills pass through the first and second read ... out discussion, the ordeal they have to undergo in the Select Committees being mostly sufficient to satisfy the parties concerned. Sometimes, however, the opponents of such a bill endeavour to stop it on the second reading, and in such cases there will be found appended to its title in the list of the day the words "by order." Some member moves that it be read a second time "this day six months" (the Parliamentary parsphrase for "never," or, what is much the same thing, "next session"), and smart and rapid debates, which are sharpened by the influence of local influences and sympathies, ensue, ending in divisions. This is, however, the exception, and Mr. Brotherton may be seen through the first, second, and third readings of his different private bills, which require to be respectively passed through those stages in ten minutes or a quarter of an hour.

Then comes the presentation of petitions, which, of the many Parliamentary forces, is, apparently, the most farcical The Speaker, from a written list, calls out the names of members in succession. At each call some one rises, and mumbles out a few words, of which the only one usually heard is just that which nobody wants to hear, namely the word "petition." In nineteen cases out of twenty, what it is about, or where it comes from, is not heard So unintelligible is the whole affair, that in order to give publicity to petitions an active officer of the House has adopted the plan of spending the greater part of his evenings in copying the subject of each petition, the place it comes from, and the member presenting it, on separate slips of paper, which are sent *en masse* to every newspaper; and thus they appear, to the satisfaction of constituents and members. No power of reporting could effect anything of consequence in the matter. As the substance of the petition is stated, the Speaker desires the member "to bring it up," and puts the question "that it do lie on the table," with the customary appeal for the verdict of the House, terminating with the everlasting "the Ayes have it"

As soon as the presentation is over, a messenger comes in with a couple of carpet-bags, into which he shoves the petitions very unceremoniously, and walks off with them. Supposing as this ceremony is, it is not without its significancy and weight; and, of late years, the withdrawal of more than one important measure has been the result of the petitions presented against it; while, of the strengthening effect of petitions in favour of bills there can be no doubt. Some sessions ago, when a monster petition from the Chartists was presented by Mr. Thomas Duncombe, it was brought in on strong poles by four or five messengers, and occupied a considerable portion of the floor, while much laughter was caused when the Speaker desired the honourable gentleman "to bring it up;" a matter beyond Mr. Duncombe's power, though he has done some wonderful things in his day. The privilege of has the privilege of presenting petitions—not through a member of the House, but the Sheriffs, who appear at the bar in full official costume, and hand in the document.

By the time the petitions are disposed of, it is half past four or a quarter to five, and the hubbub has subsided; the House is full, the Minister and chiefs of the Opposition have come in, and all the notable members are in their usual places. The Speaker then proceeds to call for "Notices of Motion." Notices of Motion do not occupy much time or attract much attention, unless something remarkable is indicated by the Ministry or leaders of the Opposition, and even then the interest is but momentary. Their time will come.

On the proceeding to Orders of the Day follow attention is concentrated, for the Ministry is to undergo a series of questions, on all public subjects, which they are to satisfy as they best may. No moment could be better chosen for a characteristic view of the House of Commons than this. Everybody is in his place, provided with his hat on—a custom originating, most likely, in the want of convenient places where to bestow those incompressible coverings of the head. It looks odd and undignified, but the plan has its merits, too, inasmuch as it makes all the members look profound, and the Ministers impenetrable By-the-by, Mr. Disraeli never wears his hat, but always stows it away under his seat as soon as he reaches his place. The Treasury bench is full, very full; indeed its limits are far too contracted for all its occupants in and out of the Cabinet About the centre sits Lord John Russell, his hat pulled down over his brow and down to his ears, his arms folded across his chest, always seeming very tired and out of sorts. On his left is Lord Palmerston, in the easy attitude so natural to him, with his air of quiet recklessness that anything that is said to him; and on his right is Sir James Graham, his hat placed rather on the back of his head, and a perpetual lazy smile upon his lips. Sir James, despite his still stalwart figure, begins to look old in the face. Beyond Lord Palmerston is to be seen the eager intelligence of Mr. Gladstone's countenance, toned down by the solemnity of his neighbours. Lord Cardwell and Mr. J. Wilson, the Secretary to to the Treasury, Lejond whom, up to the end of the bench next the chair usually congregate, accumulate as many as may be, Mr. Peel, Sir J Young, and the law officers for England and Scotland. Below Sir James Graham may generally be seen Mr. Sydney Herbert, Sir William Molesworth, with his singular hat and *prononce* hair and eye-glass, even at this hour verging from the region of lethargy which appears to think the normal condition of a Cabinet Minister in Parliament. Then comes Sir Charles Wood, who always contrives to have his secretary, Mr. Lowe, next to him; Mr. Strutt, emulative of Sir W. Molesworth in the sleeping department, and Mr. Fitzgerald, the active Under Secretary for the Home Department, and Mr. W. Cooper; then come Mr. Grenville Berkeley and the Earl of Mulgrave, the ready orator of Mr. Secretary to the Treasury, Hayter, in the "whipping-in" business—this latter gentleman never sits down, but is in a constant state of vibration between the Treasury bench and the Lobby. Mr. Bernal Osborne, Mr. Charles Villiers, Mr. Keogh, Mr. Monsell, and Mr. Sadleir, do not appear to frequent the Ministerial bench, except at such times as their own departmental affairs are in progress On the second bench, immediately behind the last Ministerial seat at the "Gangway," is the prescriptive seat of Mr. Hume, the father of every sort of reform; and beyond him, on the Speaker, usually sit Sir Joshua Walmsley, Mr. Ewart, Mr. Aglionby, Mr. Horsman, Mr. Pelo, Dr. Williamore Sir James Weir Hogg, Mr. Oliveira, Sir James Anderson, Mr. Hastie Mr. Glynn, Mr. W. Brown, Mr. Headlam, Mr. Dunlop, Lord Mouck, and Mr. Brotherton, whose labours in the cause of private business, accompanied by advancing years, seem to have somewhat diminished his zeal for moving the adjournment of the House at a reasonable hour; indeed, the sittings of the last session fairly swamped him, and he gave up the task altogether. In the centre of the second bench Mr. Macaulay has taken his place, on the few occasions that he has spoken in the present Parliament. On the third bench, exactly behind Mr. Hume, may always be found Mr. W. Williams, the Member for Lambeth. Near him usually sit his colleague, Mr. W. A. Wilkinson, Mr. Duncan, Mr. John M'Gregor, &c. But about its centre this bench may be observed the fall of the Peel Ministry, Sir James Graham set the fashion of ex Ministers sitting on the third bench; and here, accordingly, we find those members of Lord John Russell's Government whom it was found impossible to include in the arrangement of the present Ministry, comprising Lord Seymour, Mr. Vernon Smith, Mr. Labouchere, Sir George Grey, Sir Francis Baring, Mr. Edward Ellice, and Mr. Tuffnell; and near them—although he evidently does not wish to be thought of the almost the only immediate follower of Sir R. Peel, for whom no place has been found—Mr. Goulburn. The other benches are always well filled but the next not readily pin ant them is that Mr. Thomas Duncombe the greatest tactician, and one of the greatest humourists, in the House and consequently one of its best-latch ... locate himself nearly on the last bench, ... gallery next the gangway, where despite of impaired health and strength, he ever and anon delivers himself of his epigrammatic jocularities, which differ from most jestings, inasmuch as they always bear direct upon the question at issue.

Below the "Gangway" on the Ministerial side, the appropriation and reservation of seats by a courteous prescription, obtains almost as much as on the Government bench itself. In the corner seat in the first row, until now always sat Sir Robert Inglis, one of the members for the University of Oxford; chief champion of the Church; opposer of all religious innovations—the admission of Jews into Parliament in particular. He looked as if intended by nature for a dignified Abbot, his fine smooth bald head, wearing the very appearance of the tonsure (he wore far too old-fashioned ever to keep his hat on in a room); and no one ever remembers to have seen him, no matter what the season of the year, without a flower in his button-hole. Next to him, there shone day by day, as remarkable, but a very different kinds of head. That of Sir Robert Inglis is globular, and without angles, the face placid, and the expression that of repose; while the head and features of Mr. Henry Drummond, his invariable next neighbour, are sharply cut and defined, and the whole expression bearing the aspect of intellect and taste, cultivated to the highest point of refinement. He is the most eccentric speech-maker in the House—the very Cain of debate, for "his hand is against every man." He never rises but to sneer at all public virtue, and to tell the House that it is a mass of corruption; but that, nevertheless, he rather likes them for it. No one can tell what his political creed is, for he alternately supports and opposes all questions; but he is always listened to, for he is always amusing; and, though somewhat bitter, not ill natured a man, for, in private life, he is understood to be delightful. To sum up his eccentricities, it may be stated that he is, by religious profession, an Irvingite; and, consequently, the antithesis of the unbending Church of Englandism of Sir R Inglis. Next to Mr Drummond is generally to be found Mr. Austen Layard, whose Eastern travels—his having been an *attaché* of the Embassy at Constantinople, and his not having been re-appointed under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, an office he held for a short time under Lord John Russell's Ministry—erected him last year into the popular interpellator on the lagging Russia and Turkey question

Beyond him, on this row, down to the Bar, is a knot of the youngest members of the House, the product of the last general election—and ultastic representatives, ready for every subject, and generally taking part in every debate. If it would not be irreverent, one might call this the "Chatter-bench." Here, as at an advanced outpost, unwearied and vigilant, are stationed these dashing young "voltigeurs" of the House: perpetual is the skirmishing, and continuous the "crack," "crack," of the only weapons which they can use there. Here a good deal is said that is smart, showy, sounding well, often brilliant and effective; but, nevertheless, it does not impress the House; and, so, not too much of it is recorded by the reporters, who know well what is worth writing down, which they judge of by the strictest House of Commons standard It, however, temporarily amuses during parts of the evening that would otherwise be dull, and must be agreeable to Mr. Drummond, who was a Parliamentary "trailleur" himself when younger, and whose ensets still rather partake of that style of fighting.

Among those indicated will be found Mr. Blackett, Mr. J. G. Phillimore, Mr. Phinn, Mr. Danby Seymour, Mr. Otway, Mr. Cobbett, Mr. Crawford, Lord Goderich, Mr. J. Bell, Mr. Keating, &c.

On the second bench are compactly arranged the members of the Manchester school, supported and backed by the metropolitan members. There is Mr. Bright, with his thoroughly English look, and who, great as are his powers and abilities, has not brought it beneath with a single peculiarities of the House of Commons, and has transformed himself, without losing one particle of his earnestness, into a first-class declamatory platform orator into one of the soundest and most eloquent debaters of the present extant. Next him is Mr. Cobden, with his shrewd half-sneering expression of face, listening to all the speakers as if he thought they were universally bent on setting political truth in a fog—people of this country" never rising but to command attention; but not affecting to concern himself in the least about the opinion of the House, but speaks to the country: as a proof of which he has often made great speeches about half past six, when every body else has gone to dinner. Flanking him is Mr. Milner Gibson, who, despite of his unmitigated and most outspoken Radicalism, looks too much the *petit maître* really to be of the rough and-ready Manchester school. There is Sir Benjamin Hall, the untiring discoverer of abuses, and who says severe things about Bishops' incomes in the gentlest of voices, and who appears to dine out, or to be dined with, every day in the session; since he always comes down about half-past ten, in the fullest of full dresses; with him is Lord Dudley Stuart, the universal linguist—unwearied exposer of wrong and oppression, foreign and domestic. There is the mercurial member for Westminster, Sir John Shelley, who thinks his questions and motions during a session ought to be about equal in number to his constituents; and the other Member for that city, Mr. Lacy Evans, who seems to have brought with him from Spain a good deal of Spanish slowness and sententiousness. The lower Hamlets and Fin-bury have here reserved for them good places by Sir William Clay, Mr. C Butler, and Alderman Wilkinson, and the phalanx of metropolitan members is completed by Mr. Montague Chambers, the Liberal Member for Greenwich.

In this section of the House sit the Irish Members who support the Government; such as Mr Vincent Scully, a wonderful speaker, for, in order to get rid of a debate on Maynooth, he once spoke from half-past twelve till six o'clock, on a Wednesday (when the House adjourns itself as of course), well knowing that there was not another day for renewing the debate that Session. Beside him are Mr. J. D. Fitzgerald, Mr. Pollard Urquhart, the O'Connells, Mr. F. Scully, &c. In short, what are called the more reasonable Irishmen in Parliament. Here, too, may be found meek and sententious, but earne t, Mr. Miall, who contrives to get his anti-Church-State doctrines listened to, because he puts them forward in so mild and with such an evident desire not to do injustice to any one. Mr. Geach, Mr. James Bell, Mr. A. Anderson, Mr. Base, Mr. Heyworth, Mr. Crossley, Mr. Heywood, and many of the north of England members, congregate in this position; while the remarkable hat and hair of Mr. W. J. Fox (most unlike that of speakers), if not always here, is just on the other side of the "Gangway," in close contact with the knowing "chapeau français," and "Antinous"-like curls of Mr. Thomas Duncombe; near whom also generally flutters Mr. Apsley Pellatt, the new member for Southwark; while from the darkness of the back bench under the gallery near the "Gangway" is seen to loom the magnificent beard, and to tower the grand form of Mr. Muntz, the Member for Birmingham.

Combined with all these—who are more or less constabilities, and who are scarcely to be regarded as separate parties—is the formidable, if not numerous, phalanx of Peelites, who sit on the left side of the chairman of committees, and who, as at present constituted, are, in short are those who do the business of Parliament, as contradistinguished from its talk. You may not see long reports of speeches attached to the names of Mr. Thornley, Mr. T. Greene, Mr. Ingham, Mr. Scholefield, Mr. W. Brown or Mr. Wrightson, on the Ministerial side; and among the Opposition (for in the conduct of the business of the House no one has any politics), Mr. Wilson Patten, Mr. Sotheron, Mr. Bramston, Sir J. Yarde Buller, and Sir John Trollope; but, when party contests and debates are unwelcome out in the middle of July, and a long array of bills, to which nobody has attended, are being passed rapidly through all their stages, the qualities of this sort of men come into play, and mistakes and errors are avoided by their diligence and knowledge of the forms of the House.

All this class of members are the staff of the Permanent Chairman of Committee, an office now filled by Mr. E P. Bouverie, who represents Kilmarnock. The attainment of the office by that gentleman was a delicate piece of Parliamentary tact. On the appointment is made is, when, in a new Parliament, the House goes for the first time into Committee of Ways and Means, for the leader of the Ministry to move that "Mr. So-and-So do take the chair," and if agreed to —which is usually the case—he is conducted to the chair. The necessary qualifications being very few—he retains it permanently during the continuance of that Parliament. Mr Ralph Bernal held the office during Lord Melbourne's Government; was succeeded, when Sir Robert Peel came into power, in 1841, by Mr. Greene, Member for Lancaster; but resumed it after the general election in 1847, Lord John Russell's Ministry being in office. It so chanced that, at the general election in 1852, both Mr. Greene and Mr. Bernal lost their seats; and Mr. Wilson Patten, a gentleman who had long devoted himself with great energy and ability to private business, was nominated by Mr. [illegible] Manners [illegible] early in the spring of 1853, Mr. Wilson Patten's health having failed him, he resigned; and Mr. Bouverie, who had been for some time an active member of the staff for private business above alluded to, was appointed

Just ten days afterwards Mr. Greene (a Ministerialist) was re-elected for Lancaster, his opponent at the general election having been unseated on petition. If he had been in the House at the time of the vacancy, he would certainly have been appointed, for if everybody admits that Mr. Bernal was the best possible Chairman of Committees, everybody also admits that Mr. Green was quite as good as he. The office is the worst paid in the House, relatively speaking, for the work is tremendous and never ceasing, while the salary is only £1500 a year; less than the Serjeant-at-Arms gets for wearing a Court dress and sword, carrying the mace occasionally, and lounging in the only comfortable chair in the House during its sittings; and, besides, more than one-half of these onerous duties are performed by a Deputy-Serjeant at £1000 a year.

However absolute may be the fact of the Ministerial majority when a great Liberal question comes to a division, to the eye of the stranger the Opposition seem quite as numerous, and quite as closely packed when the House is full. The truth is that both sides of the chamber will not exactly alike, and as it only contains accommodation for some 450 or 460 members, those of the remaining 654 who chance to be within the walls, must be floating about in lobbies, libraries, refreshment-rooms, &c., carefully avoiding the inexorable functionary who is perpetually looking out for them. In this case, then, the Opposition looks formidably equal to its duties as a Parliamentary institution; how it may be if examined in detail, is, of course, a matter of opinion.

On the first row next the table, about midway, and near to one of the two green velvet covered, brass-ornamented boxes, which flank a small collection of well-bound books, in front of which the mace reposes sits the ex-leader of the House, and ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Disraeli. Familiar as his appearance has been made by the pictorial squibs of the day, scant justice has been done to him even in caricatures. He has nothing of the hollow-eyed, round-backed, Jew-boy look which has been so liberally bestowed on him. If he be not a handsome man, contemporaries does not come up to the English standard of manly beauty, and if it is strongly indicative of race, and that neither Norman nor Saxon, yet an impartial and candid observer would admit that it has a character striking and even distinguished. He is neither tall nor is he short: he is rather thin; his forehead is high, round, and smooth; he has black eye-brows, clear dark brown eyes, high cheek-bones, lips firmly set, a pointed chin; and black hair, curling like tendrils all over his compact head, of which one curl is intended to drop carelessly over the brow, but somehow seems to have been got into its place with pains. So of his dress it may be said that it is elaborated into carelessness; but the art is not sufficiently artfully concealed. Its details, its minutiæ, are studiously correct. He sits sunk into his seat, his head, always uncovered, reclining forward, so that his eyes appear to be fixed on the ground, or staring at vacancy (which they by no means are), and his whole attitude that of the most rigid repose, till what he conceives the right moment for being aroused arrives, when his listlessness drops, as cloak to the paleness of his complexion, would seem significant of fragility of body or ill-health—is cast off for animation and vigour equal to a sustained speech of five hours and a half.

On each side of him are ranged the members of Lord Derby's Government. There is Sir John Pakington, the most neatly dressed man—not only in the House, which would perhaps need but small effort, but in the country—who was a very fair "private business member," up to the moment when he was called to hold the seats of the Colonial-office, a post of whom it is reported that the late Duke of Wellington, when he was told of his appointment, bluntly said, "Why I never heard of him." He was not the worst of Colonial Secretaries notwithstanding. There is Mr. Walpole, ex-Minister for Home Department, who has the misfortune of him a haunting resemblance to the late Sir Robert Peel—the voice, the manner, the face, and, above all, the sleeves of the coat, are dimly like: he is, in short, a kind of very much diluted Sir Robert. Lord Stanley, heir to the Earldom of Derby, and the image his father, style of speaking, though without the physical vigour, of his sire—a philosophic and inquiring young statesman, who will find his place some day. Lord John Manners—a very emphatic young nobleman, who was always going to do something, but has never done it; not even succeeding in getting up a mediæval May-pole in Kensington-gardens, when he was Commissioner of Woods and Forests. Mr. Henley, whose practical sense and business habits pointed him out as one of the best working editors of Lord Derby; but who failed to fulfil expectation, as Lord President of the Board of Trade. Mr. Stafford, the late Secretary to the Admiralty—handsome, nonchalant, and fluent. Lord Naas, ex-Secretary for Ireland—a fair, stout, good humoured, well-looking young man, who has had good opportunities for his time of life. Major Beresford, whose great services as "whipper-in" of the party when out of office were rewarded with the place of Secretary-at-War, when in; and his delegates—Mr. Forbes Mackenzie (he was unseated for Liverpool on petition); Colonel Forrester, one of the handsomest of a very handsome race; and Captain Bateson, quite a beauty-man, two or three years ago, but on whose looks the House, politics, and fashionable life are beginning to tell. Sir F. Thesiger, the ex-Attorney-General, who was the author of that ill-starred speech; and Sir Fitzroy Kelly, ex Solicitor-General, who was the fiercest of Protectionist talkers on the hustings, and a vigorous, if not very successful, opponent of Mr. Gladstone's financial measures last year. The compliment of the Treasury Bench is completed by Mr. R. J. Dallie—a grave man, and, it is said, a sound adviser of Lord Derby, who had great confidence in him; and Mr. Cumming Bruce, who is one of the comparatively few Scotch members who are not on the Ministerial side.

Behind this rank are ranged Mr. Newdegate and Mr. Spooner, colleagues in the representation of Warwickshire, allies in their unyielding opposition to Roman Catholicism in every shape, and staunch believers in Protection, though they have closed their ostensible connection with any movement in its favour; the Marquis of Granby, a sincere and earnest politician, and whom the House, by their unanimous cheers, once declared to be "a man of the strictest honour." Mr. Malins, an eminent Chancery barrister, but rather too loquacious for a new member; Mr. Edward Bail, the real farmer's friend, which character the tenant-farmers of Cambridgeshire have endorsed by returning him for their county, and giving him, besides, the necessary qualification; Lord Henry Lennox, who was cheered one evening when he, the son of a Duke, brought Mr Disraeli an orange while he was speaking; Mr. Isaac Butt, whose claims to be in the front rank of Protectionists are as undeniable as those of Messrs. Napier and Whitside, who, it should be said, are usually clear neighbours of Mr. Disraeli. Here, too, we find Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton, who left Parliament a Whig, and something more ten or twelve years ago, and returned at the last election a Derbyite and Protectionist, and a prominent one too; and Mr. James McGregor, a railway magnate, and who deserves to be one.

Here and hereabouts congregate the broad-acred squires—Sir John Tyrrell, Mr. Christopher, Sir John Yarde Buller, Mr. Cayley, and Mr. Robert Palmer, the Tollemaches, the Egertons, Mr William Miles, Mr. Deedes, Sir John Trollope, Mr. Henry Seymour, Mr. Henry Baillie, and whose Parliamentary vocations are well nigh gone since Protection has ceased to be the gathering cry of their party. Here, too, are to be found the young scions of nobility who make the House their resting-place, while waiting their flight into the Lords, or their steppingstone to office and promotion. Here is to be found the Marquis of Chandos, who has proved, by his actions, that he is an honest man, as well as a man of business, and has rightly interpreted the proud motto, "*noblesse oblige*." Here is the Marquis of Blandford, a zealous Church reformer; here are the Bentincks, and the Cecils, the Beauchamps, the Hamiltons, the Lascelles, the Lennoxes, the Liddells, the Percies, the Lowthers, the Mannerses, the Vanes, and the Somersets, who may be depended on to fill the House with well-dressed men on late nights, when divisions are expected between two and three o'clock.

On the front bench, below the Gangway, may be seen Mr. Adderley, a steady colonial reformer, and advocate of juvenile reformation also; Mr. Thomas Baring, a great name in commercial circles, and who declined to leave the guidance of the financial affairs of the merchant-world, in order to be the arbiter of the monetary details of Israel, as Chancellor of the Exchequer, under Lord Derby. In a well-chosen position, on a bench near to the Gallery, may often be seen, when the House is most crowded, a young man with a singularly-handsome face, almost Italian in its style, with rich dark hair, and superb moustache and Vandyke beard; dressed in the extremest easiness of the present fashion, leaning one hand on an enormous stick, while the other is in his pocket; and delivering himself of a series of most singular phrases and words, which, though they sound odd, yet have a glimmering of genius in them, taken altogether, are the very personification of the "free and easy" style of oratory. This is Sir Robert Peel, an eccentricity in politics, as he is in appearance, and who appears satisfied with himself so long as he makes a sensation, in which he is generally successful.

From an exalted station, far back under the Gallery, the renowned Colonel Sibthorp still delivers himself of those jerked sentences of denunciation of all political and governmental honesty, and earnest desire for economy and saving the people's money, which, strange and absurd as they sound, are very rarely without a vein of practical sense running through them.

On the second bench below the Gangway are ranged the Irish Brigade. At their head sits Mr. Duffy, whose likeness to Mr. Disraeli is very remarkable; and who would disappoint those who expected something distant in the editor of the *Nation* newspaper for he is a remarkably mild mannered quiet-talking man, whatever strong things he may say, and has, besides, proved himself a capital Parliamentary tactician. There is Mr. G. H. Moore, a fine and eloquent speaker, but who will not condescend to talk in the Houses of Commons way, and who will not condescend to talk in the Houses of Commons way, and the [illegible] newspaper is a loud sounding print, and force of language [illegible] considerable extent; but Mr. [illegible] and the author of a great deal of it. [illegible] among the Irish one he will get earnest, and he will state his opinions, and roundly, too, but he is never coarse, and, being a man of sense, he studies his audience, because he wants to make way with them. There, Mr. Sergeant Shee, with his marked features, of disproportionate size, though he is in the prime of life; a man with much rough and honest power about him. There is delicate and learned Mr. Bowyer, who ought to have lived in the times when lawyers were also ecclesiastics; Mr. Blagden, a steady journalist, who is making his way in the House; Mr. Swift, ex-Sheriff of London; Mr. M'Mahon, who has descended from the Reporters' Gallery to take his place on the floor as member for an Irish county; Mr. Ouseley Higgins, Dr. Brady, and the rest of this band of brothers. Among the Irish one here who may be called unattached, and who sit in this locality, are Colonel Dunne (a nephew of [illegible]), Mr. Sergeant Shee, with his Morgan (an ex-Light Dragoon, who [illegible] on most occasions more or less amusing personal, but yet parliamentary, differences among the Irish members; and Mr. Conolly. These, with many others—to mention whom would be hardly more than stating a catalogue of names—go to fill, and fill well, the Opposition side of the House.

It is in the face of this audience—keen, watchful, and critical that her Majesty's Ministers have every day, about five o'clock, to undergo a series of questionings, in the nature of cross examinations; a kind of parliamentary baiting. Perhaps the question is addressed to Lord John Russell, and requires information on the subject of the war in Burmah, or of the intentions of the Cabinet on the Eastern crisis, or some kindred topic, on which the noble Lord has nothing to say—to the House of Commons. Slowly rising, and swaying himself to and fro over the table, his Lordship delivers himself of a few sentences—half of which being lost, from the low muttering tone in which they are spoken, the reporters, who are responsible for the accuracy of important Ministerial dicta, are driven into temporary frenzy, at the communication that is going on between the leader of the House and the green box on the table. Indeed, since his return to power, Lord John has adopted a tone of reserve towards the Reporters' Gallery, by his inaudible manner of speaking, especially when the subject is of interest. Upon this, up starts Mr Bright (who seems to be a self-constituted guardian of the public), and the following dialogue, or the member of the [illegible] the bill, replies to him, and sums up the debate. At an early hour of Saturday morning, the impatient and expectant House, by a general understanding, comes to a division.

It is on occasions like these that all the characteristics of the House of Commons come out. Now is to be seen the phenomenon of the rapid emptying of the House, when a "nobody," or still more, when a "bore" rises; and the as rapid filling when one of its real speakers gets on his legs. It is peculiar to the House of Commons way of talk; nothing of the debating society style, which existed even as late as the time of Canning, will be tolerated there. Mr. Disraeli tried it when he first got there, and failed; and that to such a degree, that it was a wonder he ever opened his mouth again. But, having promised that "some day they should hear him," he set about acquiring the knack, and has it in perfection now. Even when making a great speech his tone is friendly and familiar, much as if he were holding an impressive conversation with Lord John Russell, sitting opposite to him, and this tone hardly varies when he utters the bitterest sarcasm, except, perhaps, [illegible] he is slower and more careless in manner, the words just dropping from his lips. When he comes to the peroration he gets more serious and solemn; the march of his sentences is grander, a little eloquence is ventured on, and there is a little raising of the voice, and more vehemence of gesture; but to the last he is unexcited, and the great care is to be unpretending, that he may always get cheered at the right place: and his speeches are always hits.

Lord Palmerston has the reputation of having made one of the greatest speeches ever delivered in Parliament (that on the Greek question in 1850); he had a whole night to himself; and, as was said by one who ordered dinner from "the close of one day to the dawn of the next the House hung upon his lips." He is one of the best speech-makers we have. But no one speaks plainer English, or uses plainer words. Terse, pointed, epigrammatic, full of knowledge of his subject, accompanied by a smacking air in the manner which sets like a charm, and yet in such what would be called charming, his addresses never fail to interest and to sway the House; but as to eloquence, as people usually interpret the word, he has not a particle of it.

Lord John Russell labours under positive defects of utterance; he pauses between every word to say "ah!" and he flattens every letter into the most unnecessary breadth; and as to his language, it is usually plain-sailing enough, while his manner is cold in the extreme—and yet who more than he has made more successful speeches in Parliament than he has. He certainly has, on occasions which demand an ascension above the dead routine, risen into something very nearly eloquence, and uttered fine passages; but even these he mechanically ordinary in delivery of his manner has scarcely altered; while no visible excitement has quickened the slowness of his delivery.

Mr. Gladstone has as great a command of words as any man in or out of the House, and he delivers himself with astonishing fluidity of wonderful sentences, which, sounding involved, almost verbose, are yet skilfully brought up to their climax; and they are so complete as to be capable of being transferred at once from shorthand notes to print at intervals. His five hours and a half speech on introducing his Budget last year was, considering [illegible] on, never pausing, right-a-hand rapidity, the best-sustained effort of the kind on record. He has, however, been too long in the House not to know that it won't listen to words alone, but demands figures that indicates things. In short, the House of Commons is a moral despotism which will have its own way of talk, its own way of doing business, and its own standard of everything which innovators and independent Members strive against in vain.

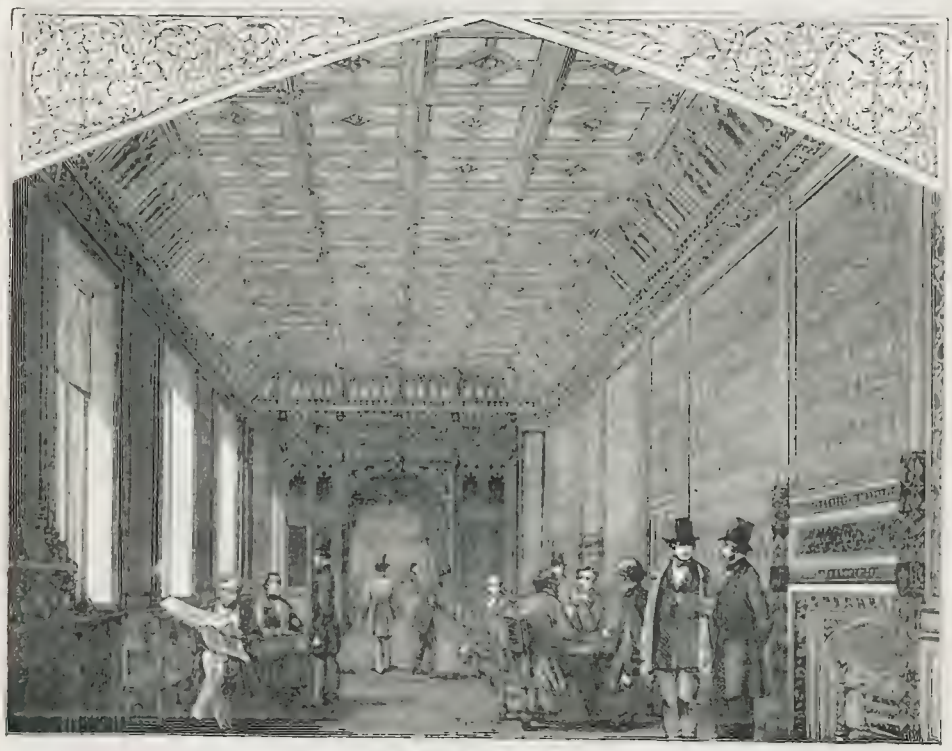
The speaking in Parliament is not so much discussion, which the word "debate" implies, as a series of members delivering their sentiments, or offering advice. There is little hope or expectation of influencing votes or results; and, what every one most wishes is, to get himself individually right with his constituents. It rarely happens that the very numbers on a division on an important question, are not known to within two or three. That test, however, is, nevertheless, still as formally and carefully applied at the end of every debate. The speaking, by universal consent, ceases, and the word "divide" is echoed on all sides. The Speaker cries out in his loudest tones, "Strangers must withdraw." This order, until within a short period of the close of last Session, used to be literally complied with, every one but members and officers of the House being turned out. This occupied some time, and much noise and confusion was caused by the return of the strangers to their places after the division was over. The system was reconsidered, and now no one is actually required to withdraw except the occupants of the Peers' seats behind the bar, and the diplomatic gallery over it, which are considered as in the body of the House, and might lead to their mingling with members.

As soon as the order to withdraw is given, a two-minute sand-glass is turned by one of the Clerks, in order to give time to members in the Library, and other parts of the building, to come in. They are summoned by the simultaneous ringing of sharp and peculiar-sounding bells in every room, which is effected by means of electricity. Those who are in the Library in, and, the sand having run out, the outer doors are instantly closed, and egress or egress being no longer allowable. The Speaker gives the direction.

"The Ayes to the right, the Noes to the left," and the former file out by the door at the back of the chair; the latter pass up the Gangway on the Opposition side, and out at a small door at the end of the House, on the left side, under the Gallery. The Speaker then orders two "Tellers" to each door; one of them reports to him that "the Ayes are clear," and then files off; the Ayes entering at the principal door at the Bar, the Noes by the left-hand door behind the chair. Each member passes between the two Tellers, who count them as they pass; while a clerk, with a list of names in his hand, ticks off that of each man, in order to the immediate preparation of the "Division Lists," which appear every morning, printed with the "Votes." When all have reentered the House, and assumed their places, the Tellers compare notes, and having made up the numbers correctly, all four of them place themselves about the middle of the floor, and advance together, bowing three times, as usual, to the table. The principal Teller then, in a loud voice, declares "the Ayes to the right" to be so many, the "Noes to the left," so many; which formula is immediately repeated by the Speaker, and the fate of the question, for that time, is decided. When the numbers are declared, both parties cheer vigorously for those on their own side the winners, for the victory; and the losers, for having shown a good fight. The machinery by which the votes of individual members are collected, arranged, and made known, may sound cumbrous when it is described, and it may occur to many that a simpler process might be adopted with advantage, but, practically, it is the quickest and most accurate mode of registering votes, and assigning each member his place in the list, for the actual operation from the moment when the clearing of the House begins, to the return of every one, and the declaration by the "Tellers," even when the House is at the fullest, does not take more than [illegible] and six persons are employed, [illegible] a walk out of one door, through [illegible] and in at another—is not an excessive labour.

RECEPTION OF THE TURKISH AMBASSADOR, ON TUESDAY LAST.

usually occur, are in the cases of members getting into the wrong
se, and voting exactly contrary to their intentions; but that is their
faults, they alone are responsible, and must clear themselves in the
way they can, by means of the newspapers.
th the question of voting, the whole system of party manage-
le inseparably connected. It is not the personal influence of
ters, or chiefs of Opposition, the political weight of Cabinets, or the
stions brought to men's minds by great argumentative speeches,
ring members up in a body at the right moment, to give their votes
eir own right sides. If the arrangement were to be left, to be regu-
by such chances, no one could ever reckon on any measure
carried in a single session. Now by a great moral law of the
of Commons, which pervades and acts upon its whole system, like
the atmosphere on the human frame, not the less powerfully because
it is impalpable, every man must more or less yield up his individuality;
no one can be in its integrity that which is called "an Independent
member." On fitting occasions a man may, if he sees fit, show that he
is no blind or bigoted follower of any set of ruling men, but can think
for himself; although the rarer he makes those occasions, the greater
will he find his sphere of real usefulness to be. But do what he
may, the times will and must come when he will be called
on to perform the act of voting, when he will be called on to say "aye"
or "no" on certain questions; and from this position he cannot escape,
and it will only remain for him to decide which is the most in ac-
cordance with his principles.
He will thus be insensibly brought under the influence, and, to a
certain extent, under the control, of a functionary of his party,
called the "Whipper-in." This is a gentleman of great Parlia-
mentary experience, no little knowledge of mankind—political
mankind especially; perfectly acquainted with all the resources
of his party, the machinery of which he works pretty much
himself as Director-General; and who usually has attached to him, as
assistants, two members younger than himself, who are better able to
touch the sympathies, and accommodate themselves to the humours
and tastes of men of their own age; the seniors he keeps to him-
self. It is his and their business to have themselves informed of the
whereabouts of every available man of their party who may be required
on a division on any night; and as regards the Government party, to
see that enough for a working majority are always actually on the



REFRESHMENT ROOM OF THE HOUSE OF LORDS

STATUES IN ST. STEPHEN'S HALL, AND THE CENTRAL HALL.

MATILDA, STEPHEN'S QUEEN.

HENRY II.

ELEANOR, QUEEN OF HENRY II.

KING JOHN.

ISABELLA, QUEEN OF JOHN.

BERENGARIA, QUEEN OF RICH.

HENRY III.

ELEANOR, WIFE OF HENRY III.

EDWARD I.

ISABELLA, QUEEN OF EDWARD II.

EDWARD III.

ANNE, QUEEN OF RICHARD II.

HENRY IV.

HENRY V.

EDWARD IV.

PHILIPPA, QUEEN OF EDWARD IV.

RICHARD III.

ANNE, QUEEN OF RICHARD III.

HENRY VII.

ELIZABETH, QUEEN OF HENRY VII.

EDWARD VI.

ANNE BOLEYN.

QUEEN MARY, OF SCOTLAND.

CHARLES I.

premises, and within hearing of the division-bell, so as to reach the House before the two-minute sand-glass has run out. On nights when a great party debate is expected to terminate (of which every member of the party is informed by circular), of course the interest is strong enough to bring down a full House without much excitement. But, even then, great vigilance and watchfulness is required on the part of "Whippers in" to keep all the men together till the end, as each party likes to turn out as strong as possible at the division list, no matter what the result; and some men will get tired and want to go away, and others are comfortable elsewhere, and don't want to come; and for the management of such subjects much address and skill is requisite. A great deal might be said about the science of "whipping in," but those the adroit and practised sort of intellect and *physique* it requires in its professors. It may suffice, however, here to add that that functionary on the Government side is generally one of the Secretaries to the Treasury, and that the office is admirably well filled at the present by Mr. Adam; and that on the Opposition side the task of overlooking and bringing up is more onerous, as the number of young, aristocratic, and fashionable members is much greater, and it is absolutely necessary for the "Whippers in" to be acquainted with every man's habits, tastes, and haunts—such of the latter as may be able to fix on the exact dinner-table or ball-room, stall at the opera, or corner of a club-room, where he may be found at a particular hour of the night.

In this House, voting becomes anomalous to absurdity. It may be that a motion is being made, or a clause in a bill, or an item in the Estimates being discussed in Committee, as is often the case, with scarcely forty members present: a division is suddenly called; the bell rings, and in rush members in twenties and fifties: they belong to both sides; don't know what has been under discussion—what the question is they are to assist in deciding—except from what they can learn in the sharp two-minutes' run from some friend or official; but, if they fall in that, they will be sure to find the faithful and vigilant Whipper-in pointing to the Lobby where they are to go; and there, as they are having their names marked, they may absolutely learn "what is the question:" "They vote by an instinct which never errs; and all is right. This subject was very ruefully brought before the House by an Irish member last session, on some Tenant-right amendment in a bill which the thinness of the House all the evening had given its supporters some hopes of carrying; and which hopes were destroyed by the unexpected apparition of sixty or seventy Government men in less than two minutes. On that occasion, Lord John Russell gravely justified the custom, and stated that it was founded on the exigencies of our parliamentary system, which necessitated a great deal of voting which rested solely on confidence in party. As English men are very practical, and with good measures to be passed as fast as possible—after that explanation, it is to be presumed that there is nothing more to be said in the matter

It is from February until after Whitsuntide that the show Parliamentary season is in full vigour. It is during this period that the important Ministerial measures have been got through their second readings—that the great party moves of the Opposition have been made—that the clash of hostile debates has rung far into the hours after midnight. But July comes, and Parliament is getting tired of its old habit of reversing the usual order of human tastes, which induces men to seek the country during the heats of summer, and to congregate in cities during winter; and a sensible alarm begins to be felt lest the shooting season should commence before the prorogation. Therefore the process of weeding the long list of measures which still present a prospect of six months' work, is duly entered upon. This is called, in the jocular parlance of the House, "the massacre of the innocents." Day after day some Minister signifies that such a measure will not be proceeded with this session. The Speaker gets some rest, for the House is every day in committee, when the Chairman of Committees presides, sitting in the chair at the right side of the table.

It is when the House is thus constituted that the clauses of bills are considered. The Speaker retires, the mace is removed from its place on, and placed under, the table; and the Chairman reads each clause of the bill, which is then considered, altered, and, perhaps, added upon; amendments are made, or not, as the case may be; and all this is done by a very few working members, for even "the forty" are not always present. A member can speak any number of times in Committee, whereas he is limited to five if he return a matter in before the House. A good deal of tedious talking is carried on, but it is all conversational; nothing is full-dress; and it does not expect—what it would not get—any reporting. When the Chairman leaves the chair, it is on the motion "that he report progress;" the Speaker comes in and takes the chair, the mace reappears on the table, and the Chairman states what has been done. If the clauses are not all gone through, he "asks leave to sit again," but, if the bill is finished, it is reported, and then is ready for the third reading. It is only in the case of the most important and strongly-opposed measures that much debating takes place on a third reading. The process of exhaustion has been pretty well gone through when it comes to that stage; and the official and party strength which has borne the brunt is generally sufficient, and more than sufficient, to tide it safely over the last shoal it has to encounter. Its opponents are generally content with short protests against its principle, and the fine voice of the Speaker has a mellow pleasantness in its pathos when it says, "that this bill be read a third time;" and in the refrain, "the Ayes have it." With even a little more unction does the right honourable gentleman deliver himself of the important words, "that this bill do pass;" which places it beyond the criticisms or control of the Commons' House of Parliament.

It sometimes happens, however, that divisions are taken on the third reading, and even on the question "that the bill do pass;" but they are rare attempts, and very little is ever gained by them. Clauses are often added, and amendments made, on the third reading; but they are mostly such as have been previously agreed upon, and do not excite much discussion.

Very important functions are exercised by Committees of the whole House. All questions of taxation and finance—such as the Income-tax and Succession duties—are disposed of by a Committee of Ways and Means; while the voting away of money for expenditure is conducted by a Committee of Supply. It is in this latter that the Army, Navy, and Miscellaneous Estimates are discussed and voted. Although the number of members attending these latter committees is generally small, the most vigilant, practical, and sensible men in the House are regularly in their places. Every item of money to be voted is printed in papers which are in the hands of members; and every vote is put separately by the Chairman. The most minute discussion is thus effectually obtained; objections are taken, and votes defended and explained; suggestions for the future are made, modes of lessening expenditure pointed out, and the principles of economy and diminution of expense made. The aspect of things on these occasions is much more satisfactory to those who don't think much of your great Parliamentary display, in which all the talk leads to nothing, and influences no result. In Committee of Supply no one thinks of making speeches, or glorifying himself; but sound practical sense and desire for saving the public money, combined with good humour, and a great deal of conversation on all sides, may be said to characterise the proceedings.

It is not meant to be said that every Committee of Supply produces large savings to the country; but in these days there always appears each year a diminution in many items as compared with the previous year, and if the results be not always in figures, yet the tendency is to lop off all that is useless and unnecessary, and to see that for every sum that is spent something worth having is got. It is on these occasions that Mr. Hume, the Nestor of administrative reform, headed by his imitator and follower Mr. W. Williams, is in full force. Here, too, may be found, loudly remonstrant, the vigilant guardian of the people's purse, Colonel Sibthorp, who will not remain to posterity in history (which he does not read) as the man who fought for an allowance to the Prince Consort, but as the man by the means of an annual saving of £20,000 a year. On these occasions the naval and military men, the scientific men, the engineers, &c., are to be found bringing their experience to bear, and saving the country pounds by their pence; and it is to be hoped, probably, some precious time is lost, upon the whole, good is done, and the hearty cheer with which the passing of the last item of the Estimates is always greeted, is the ebullition of feelings of a body of somewhat English gentlemen, who have the consciousness that they have been doing their duty.

It is in July that the Government seizes on the Thursdays for their business—the orders of the day have precedence then as well as on Mondays and Fridays. The bills introduced by private members and to which the Wednesday sittings from twelve at noon till six in the evening are devoted, begin to find their inevitable fate; that is, having advanced to a certain stage, say half-way through Committee, they begin to slip through the fingers of the gentlemen who have them in charge in a most unaccountable way, till suddenly they are one day found to be in so queer a position that the bland suggestion of some Minister (who assures the honourable gentleman that the Government will consider the principle of the measure), to withdraw the bill for the present, is eagerly acceded to, and the half-shapen piece of legislation is consigned to the "limbo of next session." A bill brought in by a private member must have some wonderful inherent strength to get passed through the House. Such was the case of the bill for extending the jurisdiction of the County Courts to £50 brought in by Mr. Fitzroy, then out of office; and in which he beat the Ministry in their decided opposition to it, led on by the Attorney-General of the day. But the fact is, that the whole legislation of the country is passing into the hands of the Government for the time being—a principle which is looked upon with much jealousy and distaste by many members.

From the middle of July the Government has the business of the House pretty much in its own hands. Then commence Morning Sittings, when the House meets at twelve at noon, and adjourns at four till six o'clock. This has of late years been found indispensable to getting through the day. Notwithstanding this, the sittings are often protracted till three, half-past three, and even four o'clock the next morning, when the wearied and sickened legislators wend their ways home to get such sleep as will enable them to come again at twelve o'clock, into the dreary looking and stuffy chamber, which they have left so few hours before, that the heated atmosphere has scarcely had time to evaporate. At the morning sittings they remain mute things in the House—the hats and the cushions look jaded and worn; and the mace is dim, as if time had been allowed for polishing it up.

The Tuesday evenings are, however, still left to private members; and plenty of motions remain which would have excited interest four months before, but are contemplated now with indifference not horror. The possibility of a "no House" is precluded by the fact that the Government has the morning sitting, which is all they want; and the House—adjourning at four, and resuming at six—is constituted, without the necessity of ascertaining the number of members present. There, however, is vested in every Member a power, which, occasionally exercised even early in the session, is now to be expected to be prevalent on Tuesday evenings; and its result is what is called a "count out." If it is found that forty members are not present at any time, a motion may be made that "the House be counted:" strangers are ordered to withdraw; and if the Speaker finds less than forty in the House, an adjournment is the inseparable necessary consequence. If it is wanted to keep a House, a sufficient number of men are hastily caught and brought in before the counting begins; but, as in most cases, the affair is understood, and has even been the subject of pre-arrangement, the motion is usually effectual.

The signs of a "count out" are unmistakeable. The thinness of the benches is palpable; the voice of the member addressing the House, who sees his fate, sounds hollow and hesitating; gradually members listlessly rise from their seats, and lounging towards the Bar and under the Galleries, slink quietly out. The attended mover counts carefully; there are thirty-six present; it would be dangerous to move yet, as three men might come in accidentally before the door were closed. Five minutes more—there are still ty two—nearer, but not near enough; one more count—twenty-seven—a voice is heard muttering something, which causes the member who is speaking to stop suddenly and drop in his seat as if he was shot. Strangers withdraw; the gentlemen of the press grinning delightedly; three minutes more—it's all right, "counted out"—holiday for this evening. This privilege of "counting out" is often the instrument by which Parliamentary "bores" are punished, and is often applied with ruthless severity to the reformation of that unfortunate class. At any rate it is an institution, and a privilege, which is rigidly guarded by members; and complaints to the House and writing to newspapers have little or no influence upon it.

At this period of the session, the House of Lords is vigorously exercising its function as a registry for the bills passed by the Commons, and the business is often interrupted for a few minutes by "a message from the Lords". At some convenient moment the Speaker, who has retired well-wigged, but not enough, the Lords' Messenger, standing under the Gallery calls out "Mr. Serjeant," upon which that functionary comes to the table and states that there is a message from the Lords to be delivered; he seizes the mace, returns to the Bar, places himself on the right side of the Messenger, and they advance, bowing the conventional number of times; the bills and papers are given in, and the Serjeant and his prisoner (for he looks like it) retire backwards.

The Lords will, however, sometimes disagree with the Commons on points of detail in bills; and, if their amendments are not agreed to by the Commons when the bills are sent back, a Conference is desired, and a certain number of members having been appointed to manage it on the part of the House, they go to the Lords' House, sit at the table, and leave the House for the apartment assigned to such meetings. During their absence, all other business is suspended.

About this period, the summonses to hear the Royal Assent given by Commission to bills is issued, and the request [illegible] is accompanied by the Serjeant-at-Arms and other officers, who, [illegible] by "Black Rod," marches stately down the House, [illegible] rank of standing and uncovered members; who, on [illegible] throw themselves in the most graceful attitudes possible, with [illegible] about with their hats on (the custom being for no one ever to [illegible] great without uncovering), and talk loud, and laugh, if they have the [illegible] and spirits, till the potential announcement of "Mr. Speaker!" warns them to "fall in" for the Parliamentary dance.

The month of August has commenced: for the last three weeks there has been speculation and guessing as to what day is fixed for the Prorogation, and bets run high on Tuesdays and Thursdays, according to opinion. The list of "orders of the day" published daily, from a rapidly appalling number of thirty six or thirty seven, first down to reasonable limits, and then gradually diminishes to the vanishing point On a Saturday, the Speaker gives his annual official dinner to the officers of the House, and the Members go down to preside at it to dine on exaggerated whitebait. These signs are conclusive—it must be the next week. On the Monday and Tuesday the House meets in the morning, and the Secretary to the Treasury states, at three o'clock, that he would move the adjournment then, and not give the House the trouble to meet in the evenings; but the Lords have still some amendments to bills, to be considered in Conferences; and, as that body never alters its customs for any reason whatever, and five o'clock is their hour, there must be a House for the transaction of necessary business. On Tuesday evening the House adjourns over till one o'clock on Thursday. On that day fifty or sixty worn and haggard members assemble, to meet the Speaker, who takes the chair in his state-robes of brocade and gold embroidery. The "papers on the table," which, for a long time past, have been a volume, [illegible] a single half-sheet, on which two or three melancholy motions, which have been deserted by their owners, appear. The Ministers come in, one after the other, looking lively and hilarious, positively recovering their health from [illegible] the days' [illegible] Parliamentary labours; that extent of [illegible] enough to revive a regular [illegible] in high [illegible] to contrive him of [illegible] left town a [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

this sanctum no alien was permitted to penetrate, but there was a very small outer landing-place on the top of the staircase, separated from the coffee-room by a slight partition and open door, where a table was hospitably set for the recreation of strangers (principally reporters, who were no strangers' who chose to pay for it; and the finest cold beef in London was abundantly supplied, together with Bellamy's excellent port,* to brace up nature for the approaching toil of listening to and loading memory with the debate Here a good deal of festivity was always going on—often some rare fun and jokes; and the friendly and social intimacies to which we have alluded were cultivated. We should note historically that there were no male waiters: the attendants were all brightly clean and good-looking handmaidens (and most inveterate flirts in coffee room, staircase, or anywhere.) At one of the coffee-room tables we have witnessed Lord Wellesley, Sir Lytton Bulwer (Lords of Wellington), and Mr Canning, taking their lively chop together; and, at another, perhaps Wyndham, Sheridan, Brougham, and other celebrities of the age. Members would sometimes join the company at the table on the landing-place, where six or eight had room to scramble for their meal; and, latterly, reporters or other visitors were admissible to the coffee-rooms, if introduced by members. And so the etiquette continued till all these things were changed and the establishment broken up.

Close upon the period which we are describing, the band of reporters included several young men, who afterwards raised themselves to high public distinction. Among these, the late James Stephens and Serjeant Spankie, and the present Lord Chief Justice Campbell may be mentioned; and later years have teemed a number of hardly less conspicuous characters, through the same instructive discipline of the mental faculties, to deserved consideration in the superior walks of life. And the miscellany also boasted of its variety of wits and humourists, whose whims and vagaries might fill a volume. The story of Mark Supple (a wag of infinite drollery) waking up, and calling upon the Speaker for a song, when the House was drawling through a committee, is well known. The same worthy got an innocent Quaker taken into custody, and hauled out of the Gallery, for an offence he had himself committed. He was the Yorick of the Gallery, and often kept it in a roar. One of his tricks was played off upon a countryman of his own, who, overcome with fatigue, happened to fall asleep at his task of note-taking, at a late hour of the night On being awoke by a loud "Hear, hear," he discovered that Mr. Wilberforce was speaking, and vehemently applied to Supple to supply the lacuna of his dream-land; on which the remorseless joker pretended to consult his own memoranda, and told his friend that Mr. Wilberforce, in alluding to Ireland, had burst out with a splendid eulogy upon the potato. "Had I," he said (Supple) "been a native of that illustrious country, and fed upon that glorious root, I might, in stature and appearance, have been like the honourable and gallant officer on my right (Gen. Mathews), instead of approaching to the resemblance of the stunted abortion of an angry ape. It was for this noble apostrophe the House cheered him;" and the poor, misdirected Paddy got himself into a sad scrape by carrying this absurd invention home to his journal.

Many typographical errors and other peculiarities which have appeared in the newspaper reports, are amusing and whimsical. On the *Morning Post* were a Dr. Fleming, a fine scholar, and a Mr. Fitzgerald, who went afterwards as Governor to Sierra Leone, and died there When a reporter finishes his manuscript he notes upon it who is his successor, so that the printer may join the copy together correctly; and, in this instance, the Doctor being first, wrote, short—

Fits. follows Flem..

which the careful reader corrected to

Fits follows phlegm—

in which orthography it was published next morning, to the great bewilderment of the readers, who got the paper (as in the foregoing Wilberforce case) before the absurdity was discovered and cancelled. On another occasion, the impetuous Dick Martin, of Galway, came in a passion to the editor, to complain of having been misreported; to which the editor replied that he could hardly think there was any thing wrong, as the reporter was one of the most faithful in the Gallery. "D——," retorted the irate member, "do ye mane to tell me that *I spoke in tinkies?*" To which, as Sancho Panza says, there was no reply. One of Dick's most celebrated speeches (and it was a good one though not exactly to the question During one of his speeches an enormous rat or animals (for his exertions in which humane cause, by-the-by, his name is not enough honoured), there was a particular Parliamentary encouragement which did not please him When he had finished, he walked, Galway fashion, across the floor to the quarter whence the (ironical) cheers had come, and, with immense politeness, inquired what gentleman it was who had cried "*Hare, hare*"? "Oh," replied a member, "it was Alderman ——, who called you on." "Pooh!" quoth the disappointed Dick, "only an Alderman, then there can be no more said about it," and returned quietly to his place; as he confessed to the writer of this notice in an after chat, that if he had gone further, he never could have used another argument against Cruelty to Animals.

On quitting the Gallery the Reporters found egress by one of the passages by which Members left the House; and upon an occasion one of the former was met and accosted by a sedulous country attorney, laden with papers. "May I beg to know if you are a Member?" said he. "Not of that House," was the answer. "Oh, my Lord, I beg your Lordship's pardon," rejoined the obsequious applicant with the lowest of his possible bows. This was a neat example of the faculty for jumping at conclusions

The House and the Gallery—or, rather, certain members pertaining to there divisions—occasionally came into collision, and dire was the strife thereof. Mr. Wyndham, at one time, had a serious dispute, in consequence of an offence given by speaking disrespectfully of reporters. But the most memorable instance of the kind was the quarrel between that body and O'Connell O'Connell's acquaintance with the Gallery was far more intimate than that of any other honourable member. He had recommended several of his clever countrymen to morning papers for employment there; and had even scouts among the number to convey to him the information he sought. By this means he got to know who was the individual who had offended him by a report in a morning paper, and addressed a vehement denunciation against him to the editor. The last to other acts of hostility; and the consequence was (as the public may recollect) the entire Gallery tabooed him, and refused to report his speeches. Against this league the supreme Agitator struggled for a while; but the combination was too strong for him, and the damage at the time to great, to admit of his holding out; and so he cried peccavi, and peace was restored

Within the last three years we have witnessed the phenomenon of members noticing that there were strangers in the gallery, upon which, it is the bounden office of the Speaker to order the "strangers" and the Gallery to be cleared. Upon these occasions very large debates have arisen with closed doors, the particulars of which were generally communicated to the excluded reporters by Mr. Hume and other members, friends to the press, and opposed to this ridiculous exercise of an obsolete privilege—a privilege which the country, now accustomed to a full and accurate account of Parliamentary proceedings, would not endure in the hands of any petulant and senseless legislator. It is probable we shall never hear of it again; especially as in the last instance we believe, the gentleman of the press refused to return to the Gallery, when the messenger announced it was open for them, till there was a distinct vote repudiating such inconvenient and obnoxious usage The next step in the right direction will probably be the passing of the bill of Mr Brotherton, the effect of which will be, that the reporters will remain in the Gallery during the divisions; and thus the whole business of Parliament will be patent to the world, without let or hindrance.

Everything of late has been tending to this desideratum; for it stands to reason that if reporting is allowed to be done at all, it is most expedient that facilities should be afforded for having it done in the best possible manner. Towards this consummation the good sense and the good feeling of the Speaker, who continues to be always accessible to any application from the newspaper press, has largely contributed. In constructing the Gallery and its needful adjuncts in the new Palace, he had the condescension to invite, and consult with, a deputation from the press on the subject, and to direc' every attention to be paid to their suggestions. There are now, accordingly, not only free ingress and egress at all times for reporters, and ready access to their places, but rooms provided with every convenience and comfort are appointed for their use; and refreshments are readily within reach at no other exaction but what depends on the purse. This is as it ought to be, for the respectability of the class demands the treatment due to educated gentlemen—some of whom have distinguished themselves in the Universities, others enjoy high professional degrees, and others, again, have made themselves names in the literature and intellectual pursuits of their country.

It is said, *tempora mutantur et nos mutamur in illis*; and, with the altered customs of the House, there have arisen altered habits among reporters. The present body is very unlike the composition of that which we have described as belonging to the earlier years of the nineteenth century. They are not compelled to lead the miscellaneous life of their predecessors; their work is before them, and they have only to go and do it—with rather more than half hour, instead of an hour and a half, or two hours. There is no hanging on for hours, without knowing what resource can be found to fill the idle waste. This is a great advantage, and tends to confirm the free independence which they are fortunately able, and never slow, to assert. The character of their occupation is also considerably changed. In the olden times, the generality of the debates were given from notes, assisted, perhaps, by a few arbitrary signs, the invention of the writer, and there were very few masters of short-hand, as a science, among the whole corps. Memory and judgment were their most efficient qualifications, and by their aid very admirable reports were furnished. As the system is now carried on, short-hand is almost the only medium, and consequently the style of the reports is different. In the former case they condensed, in the latter they abbreviate by omitting the least valuable parts, whilst they give the very words of the speaker, *ipsissima verba*, for the more important points. It is, therefore more mechanical, with some advantages and some disadvantages, as compared with the best examples of the earlier period. For perfect accuracy, when a whole speech is required, the verbatim powers of the short-hand writer possess, of course, a marked superiority: for condensing the pith and meaning in ordinary cases, the other course is not without its merits, and may often be beneficially adopted.

The reporting staff now engaged on Parliamentary proceedings far exceeds in numbers all preceding establishments. The *Times* employs, perhaps, eighteen: the *Herald* and *Chronicle* each about seventeen; the *Daily News* one or two fewer; and the *Post* and *Advertiser* each about a dozen. We approximate the numbers, and do not vouch for their strict correctness But, some years ago, the *Evening Star* resorted to a new and spirited effort to convey the latest intelligence of the day throughout the country; and, as a portion of its plan, began to report the proceedings of Parliament to the last moment which the Post-office allowed. The system is continued; and, we believe, the *Sun* employs six or seven reporters; whilst the *Globe* and the *Standard*, following the example, for second editions, require the services of two or three for each paper.

Both as regards morning and evening journals, and several of our weekly contemporaries, the opportunities of railroad intercourse are from time to time developing the system of throwing off publication after publication; and, what with electric telegraphs and foreign correspondents, it is not easy to foresee where the limits of reporting and the levy of reporters will end.

When we reflect upon the vast importance of the office, and how much depends on the conscientious discharge of its duties, we think we may, from our knowledge of the general body, as well as of special individuals, safely congratulate the empire on the extent of their abilities, the honour and integrity with which they perform their arduous tasks, and the manly independence with which they assert their eminent position among the practical powers of the grand engine which moves and directs the commonwealth

* Bellamy's port was of the right quality, and a considerable temptation to convivial habits among the Reporters, enforced by the rules of the House to be together, as it were in bondage, for so many weary waiting hours. One select party patronised the cellar, with a taste and blood like there, and a certain bin the produce of which was famed for the *Beeswings* it exhibited in its bright liquid flow—and hence the name of the "Beeswing Club;" of which the writer of this notice is the only member now living. At the period referred to, an amusing anecdote of Sheridan was current, for he, too, was a Beeswing man. One day, as the story goes, he went up to Bellamy and asked, "Bellamy, were you ever astonished in your life?" "Yes, sometimes," answered Bellamy, "but, as far as I can remember, never very much." "Well, then," retorted the wit, "I am going to astonish you very much—I am going to pay your bill!" With which fact, it would be difficult to say, whether the old housekeeper was really most astonished or delighted.

THE NEW HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.

With our Illustrations of the Opening of the Session of Parliament, we have the gratification to present to our readers a series of Engravings illustrative of the progress of the New Palace at Westminster.

The Norman Porch.—(*See Front Page.*)

The Norman Porch is at the head of the Grand Staircase, and is a most exquisite bit of Gothic architecture; the rich and beautiful grohs of the roof springing from clustered columns, and intersecting each other in delightful variety. The bosses at the intersections of the ribs are of marvellous richness and intricacy of character. Dwarf pedestals are placed at the clustered columns; and statues will, at some future period, add their elegant forms to the decorations of this spot. In the crown of each arched compartment is a circular opening, with a wreathed enrichment round it; and on the side walls, windows, panels, and arches are lavishly introduced; and, when stained glass adds its coloured glories to the profuse architectural embellishments, there are few parts of the New Palace at Westminster which will be more strikingly beautiful than this truly regal landing to the Grand Staircase.

St. Stephen's Porch and Staircase.—(*See page* 105)

One of the leading objects of the distinguished Architect of the New Houses of Parliament has been, in his grand design, to maintain the memory of the patronymic Saint, Stephen, indissolubly associated with the venerable site. Thus, the public approach to the House is by St Stephen's Porch and St. Stephen's Hall: the latter occupying the precise site of the Chapel of St. Stephen

The Porch of St. Stephen is at the south end of Westminster Hall; for which purpose the noble apartment has been altered, so as to form a grand vestibule of approach from the north; while another flight of steps ascends from the south west angle of the building, nearly opposite Henry the Seventh's Chapel.

The entire building, being singular in composition, more varied, and picturesque. It has the proportions and much of the character of the Town-hall of Louvain, supposing the projections of that fabric advanced, and a sort of transept intersecting its centre, and ending on the south side, with the immense window removed from the end of the building to the centre of the window, in the centre of the new transept. This is filled with nine open arches, with Perpendicular tracery. Looking externally, the small turrets contain a series of sculptured figures—viz., that on the left hand, and adjoining the Victoria Tower, are Edward III., Queen Philippa, St. George, and St. Andrew; and a turret on the right, Henry VII., Elizabeth of York, St. Jack, and St. Stephen. The four canopied niches forming the term nation of the pinnacles contain statues of four monarchs, during whose reign the following buildings were erected, namely, William Rufus with his Palace towards Westminster Hall, Edward the Confessor looking towards St. Stephen's and the Cloisters, William IV. facing westward, and looking to the Victoria Tower. The Royal arms, the supporters Lion of England, Ireland, and Scotland, badges, and names form the sculptured adornments of other parts of the building.

The whole composition has a very fine effect from Poet's Corner (the only place whence its entire form can be seen); and its character of decoration combines well with Henry the Seventh's Chapel, and does not suffer by the comparison.

Ascending the noble flight of steps from Westminster Hall to the Porch, the effect of the lofty arches is exceedingly fine; the bold ribs, the groined roof, the Porch, the crown of the vault is filled. The great window, which is about 45 feet high by 25 feet wide, is filled with stained glass, executed in the establishment of Mr Hardman.

The Staircase ascending from the Old Palace Yard entrance, has a flat ceiling, divided into compartments by ribs, and supported on five arches, on each side. The bosses, panels, and decorative work, are of the most exquisite delicacy of expression; and the general effect of the Staircase is very beautiful—simple in its character, yet rich and elaborate in its details. Where a neat pattern paper-hanging now fills up the space on the walls, will at some future period, be frescoes, to add the charm of colour to the charm of fine architectural proportion and outline.

Royal Statues.—(*See page* 113).

In the Centre Hall, and St. Stephen's Hall, is a series of sixty elaborate niches, forming enriched jambs to the main archways. These were designed by the architect to contain the various Sovereigns of England, from the Conquest to the present time; in which it has been the aim of the sculptor, Mr. John Thomas, to produce a series of Royal personages that would be interesting to the historian, antiquary, artist, and to the public. No pains have been spared to collect the best examples for the portraiture and the costume of every minute detail having been carefully studied; and, as far as the confined and narrow niches would allow, the character of each Sovereign is admirably portrayed—the draperies are well cast; and there is a dignity and ease in the pose of each figure. The statues are executed in Caen stone, which has been slightly tinted, to harmonise with architectoral portions of the interior. Amongst the most striking may be mentioned William I., Henry I., Richard I. and his Queen, King John, Eleanor, Queen of Edward I., Edward III and his Queen Philippa, Henry V. and Queen Katherine, Richard III., Henry VII. and his Queen Elizabeth.

During the recess thirty-six of these statues have been fixed in their places, viz:

William I.	Henry III.	Henry V.
His Queen Matilda.	His Queen Eleanor.	His Queen Katherine.
William II.	Edward I.	Henry VI.
Henry I.	His Queen Eleanor.	His Queen Margaret.
His Queen Matilda.	Edward II.	Edward IV.
Stephen.	His Queen Isabella	His Queen Elizabeth.
His Queen Matilda.	Henry IV.	Edward V.
Henry II.	His Queen Joan of Na-	Richard III.
His Queen Eleanor.	varre.	His Queen Anne.
Richard I.	Edward III.	Henry VII.
His Queen Berengaria.	His Queen Philippa.	His Queen Elizabeth.
John.	Richard II.	
His Queen Isabella.	His Queen Anne.	

of which we have engraved, upon the preceding page, twenty-four. Hereafter, we shall engrave the remaining Statues, so as to complete the chronological series.

KEY TO THE LARGE PRINT

PRESENTED WITH THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS OF FEB. 4, 1854,

ENTITLED THE

MINISTERIAL SIDE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

This Picture represents that side of the House of Commons occupied by the members of the present Administration and their supporters, and contains portraits of most of the members of the Government, together with those of the principal occupants of those benches, as nearly as possible in the places in which they usually sit; while, in the foreground, a characteristic indication of the front seats of the Opposition is introduced.

In order to avoid the stiffness inseparable from a pictorial representation of a number of persons sitting motionless together, the occasion of a very full House has not been chosen.

This, while it enabled the artist to break the figures into easier groups, has also the advantage of giving a representation of the ordinary aspect of the House; the cases of a crowd, filling every seat, being altogether exceptional.

The moment chosen is that when the Speaker, standing up, refers to the "orders of the day," in the printed paper of the business fixed, and calls on the member whose name stands first on the list to proceed.

At his right hand, on the bench nearest the table, extending to the division, running through the seats about the middle of the House, and called the "Gangway," sit the Ministers; while the corresponding bench on the other side is occupied by the chiefs of the Opposition.

The most prominent figure in this latter bench may, without difficulty, be recognised as Mr. Disraeli. Immediately behind him is Mr. Spooner. On the next bench, a little to the left is a back view, but an unmistakeable likeness, of Colonel Sibthorp; on whose right is Colonel Forrester. Passing to the extreme right of the foreground, the figure standing with a hat on is Sir Frederick Thesiger. Behind him, in the space at the back of the Speaker's chair, is Mr. Hayter, the Secretary to the Treasury, and "whipper-in" of the Government; and the three figures in succession behind him, represent Mr. Frederick Peel, Sir Fitzroy Kelly, and Mr. Cowan, member for Edinburgh. On the treasury bench, next to the Speaker, with his head almost under the paper in the hand of the right hon. gentleman, sits Sir Alexander Cockburn, the Attorney-General; and next to him Sir Richard Bethell, the Solicitor-General. The members of the Cabinet then commence in the person of Sir William Molesworth, followed by Sir Charles Wood, Sir James Graham, Lord John Russell, who is in the seat appropriated to the leader of the House; next to him is Mr. Gladstone, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, on whom the Speaker is apparently calling, judging from his own forward movement, as well as from the motion visible in the countenance of Mr. Disraeli, who as an ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer, is supposed to be always on the alert, whenever his successor is in action. Besides this, Mr. James Wilson, the Financial Secretary to the Treasury, is sitting out of the usual place, and is next to Mr. Gladstone, to whom he acts as a kind of adjutant in matters connected with his department. Beyond Mr. Wilson, with his arms folded, sits Lord Palmerston, on this occasion; though usually he occupies a place next Lord J. Russell; Mr. Cardwell, and Mr. Sidney Herbert, complete the members on the Treasury bench. On the second bench, immediately behind Mr. Cardwell, and with a paper in his hand, is Mr. Hume, in the seat which the prescriptive courtesy of the House has long assigned to him. Next him is Mr. Cobden; beyond whom, on his left, are Mr. Oliveira and Sir James Weir Hogg. On the same bench, nearer the Speaker, and just at the backs of Sir James Graham and Sir Charles Wood, is Mr. Macaulay, whose next neighbour is Mr Bernal Osborne; while Mr. Lowe, the Secretary to the Board of Control, is the last sitter on that form. Behind Mr. Lowe is Sir George Grey; next to him, the figure reading, is Mr. Ewart; just at whose back, on the fourth bench, is Mr. Miall, who may be recognised by wearing spectacles. Next to Mr. Ewart is Mr. Peto; and in succession, on that bench, are Sir James Anderson, Mr. Dunlop, Mr. John M'Gregor (of Glasgow), Lord Seymour, and Mr. William Williams, the member for Lambeth. On the fourth bench, just over Mr. M'Gregor, is Mr. William Arthur Wilkinson, the new member for Lumbeth; and, on his left, is Captain Scobell, member for Bath. On the last seat under the Gallery, next to the fourth pillar, is somewhat dimly indicated representation of Mr. Thomas Duncombe; on whose right is a figure standing, which, by the peculiarity of the fashion of wearing the hair, will be recognised as Mr. W. J. Fox, member for Oldham. In passing on to the back benches, the next figure caught by the personage who is rambling promiscuously in front of him, looking somewhat bald, is Sir John Shelley, member for Westminster. Next but one to him, is Mr. Milner Gibson. Before Sir John Shelley, on the second bench, sits Mr. Craufurd; next to whom, leaning eagerly forward, with his hat on, is Mr. Bright; on whose right is Mr. Blackett, member for Newcastle-on-Tyne. In the corner seat of the bench on the floor, with a paper in his hand, is represented Sir Robert Inglis. That seat has been, by custom and the good feeling of the House, always reserved for one of its oldest and most respected members. In the present session, however, it will be vacant, as one of the first acts of the House on the meeting of Parliament was the moving for a new writ for the University of Oxford, the Honourable Baronet having resigned his seat. The immediate neighbour of Sir Robert Inglis is Mr. Henry Drummond, Member for West Surrey; the next seat is filled by Mr. J. G. Phillimore; and the figure next but one to him, with the hands on the knees, is intended for Mr. Roebuck, one of the members for Bath. The person standing at the bar is Mr. C. Forster, member for Walsall. The remainder of the figures do not possess sufficient individuality to require designation.

It may be added that, as regards the three Clerks at the table, the figure on the right hand of the Speaker, with the head turned away, represents Sir Denis Le Marchant, the Chief Clerk; and the other two are the Messrs. Hand and W. Ley, the Assistant Clerks. All the accessories of the House, as the table, with its load of books and papers, and boxes; the Speaker's chair; the Gallery; and the ornamentation of the House, are given with the strictest accuracy. The painted windows are not seen, as the Sketch is supposed to be taken after the House is lighted, when they are covered by crimson velvet curtains. Their presence, however, is indicated by the partial withdrawal of one of the curtains in the centre of the picture. A specimen of the ornamental trellis work at the back of the two end Galleries is given, at the top of the extreme right of the picture.

The accompanying Picture has been drawn by Mr. George Thomas; the architectural portion being by Mr. T. R. Macquoid, the whole engraved by Mr. William Thomas.

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

No. 668.—VOL. XXIV.] SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1854. [WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.

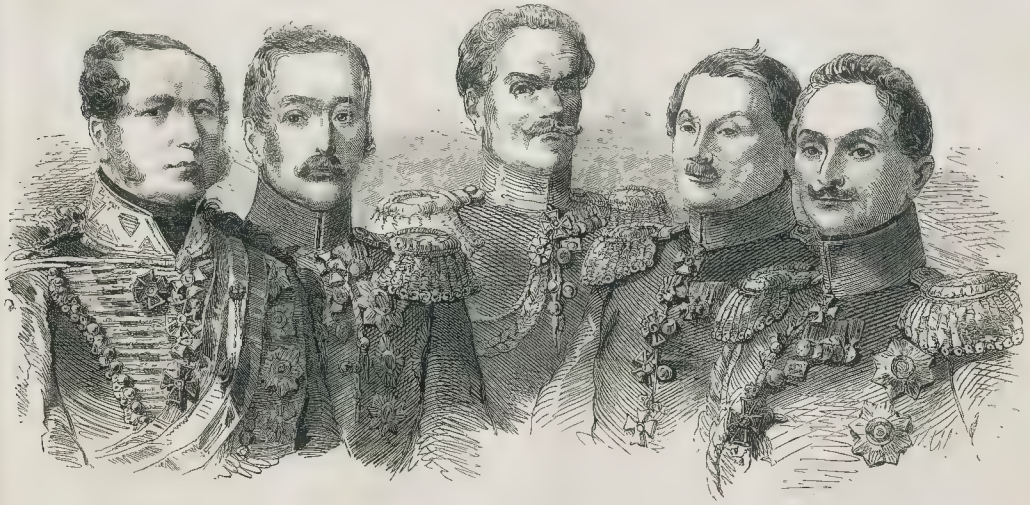
THE WAR AGAINST THE BARBARIANS.

THE opening of Parliament and the publication of the two interesting and important Blue Books, entitled "Correspondence respecting the Rights and Privileges of the Latin and Greek Churches in Turkey," have effectually removed many errors and uncertainties from the public mind. The rise, progress, and present state of the Russian aggression against Turkey have been fully stated. There is no longer any mystery or secrecy about the matter. Englishmen have now no reason to suspect that the Statesmen who have successively administered the affairs of this country from 1850 to the present time ever betrayed the high trust reposed in them. It is proved, at least, that they have never acted with subserviency to the wicked designs of the Emperor of Russia. Their hands are clean; and even party hostility can no longer find a peg to hang an accusation or even an insinuation upon. The correspondence which has been published covers a period of no less than forty-four months, included between the 20th May, 1850, and the 24th January, 1854. The remaining gap will be filled up in a few days—as we learn from a statement made by Lord Clarenden, on Monday night—by the publication of all letters and documents received or despatched between the date last mentioned, and the cessation of diplomatic relations between St. Petersburg and the Courts of London and Paris, on the one hand, and between those Courts and St. Petersburg on the other. More important State Papers were never given to the world. Everything in them is fair and open. From the very first letter—when Sir Stratford Canning (now Lord Stratford de Redcliffe) foresaw (May, 1850) the little cloud of danger, no bigger than a man's hand, to the last despatch, when that little cloud had overspread the whole horizon, and threatened a storm such as the world has seldom witnessed—it is evident that the conduct of the Ministers and diplomatists of England has been prudent yet patriotic. If at any time they may have been liable to reproach, their error has been on the right side. They were slow to believe that a crowned Emperor could say that which was not; and that a man who had given repeated proofs to Europe of sagacity and of moderation, could all at once belie his character, and commence a crusade against Mahomedanism, for the sake of territory, even although the penalty of the act should be a war against all the civilised states of Europe. There was neither necessity nor provocation for such incredible temerity; and wise and honest men may be excused for doubting, as long as doubt was possible. The sequel has proved that their confidence was misplaced; but the day has gone by when it can answer any good purpose to blame them. Their good faith but shows in darker contrast the false devices and shameless ambition of the Czar. Their error, if it be one, has, at all events, placed their opponent so utterly in the wrong as to leave him without the shadow of justification. In every stage of these long negotiations he stands condemned. Wherever such a thing as public opinion exists, public opinion has declared against him. Whatever may be their form of Government, the people of every European State are opposed to ambition so nefarious, and to selfishness so abominable. The instinct as well as the reason of nations is alarmed, and the Czar stands without a friend before the supreme tribunal of mankind.

COSSACK OF THE DON.

There are many names in history that are never mentioned without disfavour and condemnation. In this black list the present Emperor of Russia promises to stand pre-eminent. The memory of the first Napoleon will shine like that of an angel of light in comparison with the blackness of guilt which will enshroud that of Nicholas. The one had many national and high excuses for his ambition, the other has none but the meanest and the most personal. He is the most selfish of war-makers that modern times ever saw. To find his parallel, we must look to the dim traditions of savage ages. Civilised nations show nothing like him.

The question has often been asked, "Is the Emperor Nicholas in his right mind?" If he were a sane man, it is likely that he would yet find means to extricate himself and his country from the perils that a war will bring upon both. The cessation of diplomatic relations between his Court and those of the two great maritime allies would be no impediment in his way, if his counsels were those of reason. Supposing him still to be sane, the failure of Count Orloff's mission, the determination of Austria and Prussia to afford him neither aid nor countenance in his design, and their scarcely-concealed threat that the disapproving neutrality of to-day may be converted into the active hostility of to-morrow, would be sufficient to open his eyes. But a careful retrospect of his actions from a period long anterior to the mission of Prince Menschikoff, leads to the belief that the Emperor, if not actually insane, has reached the dizzy verge where the distinctions between sanity and insanity are too fine and airy to be appreciated. So hopeless is his cause, and so innumerable are the reasons why he should dread a war with such opponents as are now arrayed against him, even were his objects as righteous as they are unjust, that his conduct cannot be explained upon any hypothesis consistent with his sanity. Those who know the Emperor best have no hopes that he will relent. The same faith in Destiny, which sometimes leads good men to distinction, leads bad men to destruction. Every wrong-doer is predestined to be the architect of his own ruin, and every ambitious despot digs the pit for his own downfall. Yet, though it is highly probable that the Em-



RUSSIAN GENERALS.—GENERAL RUDIGER. GENERAL LUDERS. GENERAL PANIUTINE. GENERAL KOUPRIANOFF. GENERAL BEUG.

peror will persevere in his projects, and that the war will be a disastrous one, we cannot imagine that it will be disastrous either to Turkey, or to the Allies who have honestly and fearlessly resolved to fight it out. The Marquis of Clanricarde, having often stood in the dread presence of the Czar, exaggerates the evils which the wrath of that potentate may occasion to humanity. Few people will be found to partake the fears of that noble ex-Ambassador to the Court of St. Petersburg. If the Czar loom large as a demigod in the imagination of those who have enjoyed the high privilege of his smile, or the ineffable discouragement of his frowns, he is a mere man to all others—at least, to all others who are not ignorant Russian serfs. To Russia herself, and to the Emperor more especially, it is likely that the war will be disastrous; and if, by any turn in the wheel of events, Austria should prove false to the rightful cause, which it is so much her interest to aid, the disastrous consequences would most certainly extend to her even more largely than to the original evil-doer. To Great Britain and to France, inconveniences and a few sacrifices are the worst that can result; but nothing that can warrant the name of disaster is to be apprehended for a moment. The Allies take upon themselves the high office of the judges of European law, and the executioners of its justice. In the task thus forced upon them they will be supported, not simply as a cold matter of duty, but with ardour and enthusiasm. It is, therefore, not likely that the war will be a protracted one. Indeed we do not see how it is possible for the Czar to make head against the Allies for three months after the Baltic shall have been cleared of ice. With one of the finest fleets that ever sailed the seas opposed to him in the Euxine, and with another equally splendid and powerful opposed to him in the Baltic, the Czar will speedily find himself without a ship. What the Russians will say to such a catastrophe remains to be seen; but we much miscalculate their temper if their faith in the orthodox Lord-Emperor will not thereby receive a shock which may imperil his crown. The loss of Finland might follow the loss of his Baltic fleet if he still maintained the war; and the loss of the Crimea, and even of Bessarabia and Georgia might not, in the same contingency, be long delayed after the capture of Sebastopol. It must not be forgotten, in the calculation of chances against the Emperor, that the restoration of the ancient kingdom of Poland has long been considered necessary. The dismemberment of that kingdom—a crime in which Prussia and Austria were unwilling agents—has hitherto been all to the advantage of Russia. If Austria and Prussia shared the spoil, they never gained any material benefit which recompensed them, even to the one-hundredth part, for the loss of honour they incurred. To them the acquisition has been nothing but a nuisance and a danger; and it is highly probable that they will be glad to give up their slice of that gigantic plunder (and blunder), if they could thereby be the means of erecting an effectual barrier against their aggressive neighbour.

It is true that it is not so easy to get at the Emperor's armies as at his fleets; but, it should be remembered, that if the armies of the Allies have a difficulty in reaching those of the Czar, the difficulty will be removed as soon as the Russians make the least movement in advance. Neither Great Britain nor France is likely to commit the mistake of Napoleon, and push on to Moscow. The possession of the littoral of the Black Sea, would be quite sufficient for the Allies. We might safely trust the Russians themselves to lend a hand in bringing the war to a conclusion, were our first successes to include even the possession of the Crimea. The lessons of the last ten months have not been thrown away. Both the statesmen and the people of the west of Europe have learned to appreciate the advantages of decision. If Great Britain and France had been as decided in May last as they are now, the growing mischief might have been nipped in the bud. To be energetic and decided at the present time is the only means of making the impending war a short one. To strike rapidly and to strike effectually is alike the policy and the desire of all the friends of European independence. That policy is not only wise, but it is merciful.

It may be urged, that it is possible the Czar will yield at the last moment, and sue for peace on the best conditions he can make. Such a result is possible, but not probable. If the Emperor be so prudent, the prestige of his power will be lost, and Russia will be disgraced in the eyes of a people as proud as they are barbarian. In such a case, Nicholas will never again have it in his power to trouble the peace of the world. A peremptory demand for his abdication would be the least of the perils that would threaten him.

RUSSIAN GENERALS.

GENERAL LUDERS.

THE name of General Lüders has chiefly been known in connection with the Hungarian war, in which he took a most distinguished part. It was on the 27th April, 1849, that Count Nesselrode, in a diplomatic circular, explained to the Powers of Europe the motives that had induced the Emperor to interfere in the contest between Austria and Hungary. A few days after, a Russian army, to the number of 150,000 men, entered Hungary at various points, under the general command of Prince Paskiewitch. The first division, under the command of the Prince himself, went by the way of Gallicia into Northern Hungary. Another, under a general whose name we do not recal, entered by Moravia the north-west of Hungary. The third, which entered Transylvania, was under the command of General Lüders. This consisted of 40,000 men.

It was the good fortune of Lüders that the division he commanded should have been ordered to the scene of the last and decisive conflict of the civil war. Up to this period, the gallantry and military skill of Görgey had carried all before him. He had beat the Austrian General, Wohlgemuth, in several important encounters; and as the arms of Hungary had, of late under Bem, and Dembinski also, been crowned with success, the sanguine patriots indulged in hopes that, notwithstanding the menaced interference of Russia, the cause of the country was not lost.

The advance of the Russian army into Transylvania, however, caused an immediate change in the contest. At the beginning of June not less than 60,000 troops were employed, principally in Transylvania, but also in the Banat, and in Sclavonia. On the 12th July, the Russians joined the Austrians, the latter being under the command of General Lückner. On the 14th these combined forces retook Cronstadt; and on the 16th General Lüders marched to the attack of Hermanstadt, which after a severe battle on his way thither, was taken on the 21st. Clamgallas, the Russian General, beat General Bem, at St. György. The disorganised state of the Magyar army at this moment is attested by the proclamation which Bem, after his defeat, issued at Schaesburg on the 25th:—"At the battle of György," said the General, "the behaviour of the troops did not equal my expectations. I am extremely dissatisfied with the infantry. During the battle the masses got into such disorder that they fired on each other. The confused shouting drowned the voices of the officers. The latter had accustomed their men to silence, this never could have occurred. I therefore prohibit screaming and shouting in the ranks, under pain of death. Every detachment which quits the field of battle without orders shall be decimated. Major Markowsky continually cried 'Forward!' when there was no enemy, and thus, by its disorderly movements, created the greatest confusion. If such things should happen again I will make an example. The roads are covered with stragglers, but I will, in future, bring any man who unnecessarily quits his troop to a drum-head court-martial."

Bem was attacked by General Lüders, at Schassburg, on the 31st, and his forces completely routed. The Hungarian General was wounded by the lance of a Cossack, whilst the Russians were in pursuit, and very narrowly escaped being taken prisoner. In Bem's travelling carriage were found several letters from Kossuth, the publication of which had no doubt considerable influence on the termination of the war. Disclosing the utter bankruptcy into which the Hungarian finances had been plunged, these letters were an offence to General Görgey, who then openly began to swerve from his duty. Bem retreated towards Medüsel, after his defeat at Schassburg. He resolved that place on the 3rd August, at the head of not more than 9000 or 10,000 men. He was joined by about 5000 more, and marched upon Hermanstadt, which place had been left in charge of General Hassford. Bem obtained a victory over the enemy in the streets of the city, and Hassford retreated to Talmatsch, on the borders of Wallachia. General Lüders had made a strong effort to save General Hassford the issue of a battle, but arrived too late. As soon as he came up, however, the Russian General attacked the Hungarians, and completely defeated them. General Lüders afterwards assisted General Rüdiger in driving Görgey into the surrender which soon afterwards closed the war.

When the occupation of the Principalities was resolved on, General Lüders was thought of (as also was General Rüdiger) for the chief command. But the superior claims of Prince Gortschakoff prevailed, and General Lüders was left in command of his corps (the fifth). He is an Aide-de-Camp General.

GENERAL COUNT RUDIGER.

Except that the family of General Rüdiger is of German origin, we are unable to afford any of those personal particulars regarding him which are interesting in a biographical notice, but which are perhaps less necessary in the case of a soldier than of a civilian, because the advancement of the former, especially in Russia, depends more upon his own talents than on family interest or connections.

As a military man, General Rüdiger has, for more than a quarter of a century, held a prominent place among the notabilities of his country. He took an active part in the war of 1828 between the Russians and the Turks in the Danubian Principalities. The corps he commanded was employed in a task of no ordinary difficulty—that of opening the way for the Imperial army to Constantinople; and, in the meantime, of intercepting the Turkish communications. On the 31st of July of this year, Rüdiger, after many ineffectual efforts, succeeded—but not till after much resistance on the part of the Turks—in establishing himself at Eski Stamboul, a position on the road to Constantinople, behind Shumla, where he was able to prevent the arrival of convoys and reinforcements from the capital. This was a service requiring an officer of no ordinary capacity and resources; and, although Rüdiger was not always so fortunate, he, on this occasion, completely succeeded. His position so hampered the Turks, that Hussein Pacha resolved on dislodging him, although the forces of Rüdiger had been strengthened from the main army. Hussein Pacha, on the night of the 26th of August, commenced an assault simultaneously at three points of the Russian army; two of them, however, being only feints to cover the third, which was to dislodge Rüdiger. This last was successful; and Rüdiger, after a severe fight, was compelled to abandon his position, and obliged to re-unite himself to the main body of the Russian army by a circuitous route. In the end, the object of the Turks was fully attained, as the communication between Shumla and Constantinople was not again attempted to be disturbed. These operations were terminated by the surrender of Yussef Pacha, which the enemies of Russia have attributed to treachery and corruption.

In the following year, the war having been renewed, General Rüdiger was actively engaged. When Count Diebitsch re-dived on the march to Adrianople, the right column of the two into which the Russian army was divided for the purpose of crossing the Balkan, was under the command of General Rüdiger. It consisted of fourteen battalions and two regiments of Cossacks, and it took the direction of Kiupriköi. In order to deceive the Turks, these corps had to steal away from before Shumla, their places being supplied by others. The movement succeeded, and General Rüdiger was able to cross the river. As he drew near Kiupriköi, however, he learned that the Turks had collected a body of 8000 men, which must not be dislodged without great exertion. He, accordingly, resolved to turn their position himself, at the head of the main army, while two battalions and a regiment of Cossacks should attack the Turks in front. This operation was perfectly successful. Appearing before Gralova on the 17th July, he surprised 1000 Turks, who dispersed without the slightest show of resistance. In the course of the night he crossed the river, over which he had thrown a bridge, and on the 18th marched against Kiupriköi. The Pacha who commanded at that place endeavoured to check the further progress of Rüdiger; but the Turkish troops, after being drawn up in order of battle, quitted the field without firing a shot. The left column of the Russian army was equally successful in crossing at another point; and, on the 21st General Rüdiger reached Ertekia, General Roth at the same time pushing his advanced guard to Pallabano. Thus General Rüdiger retrieved his past ill-success almost on the very scene of his disasters.

In the war between Russia and Poland in 1831, General Rudiger took a very active part, and, with General Kreuz, was instrumental in checking the successful advances made by the Polish army during the earlier portion of the hostilities. The point at which these generals were enabled to render the most effectual service after the victories gained by the Poles over the Russians in the month of March, 1831. On the 30th of the month the Polish Commander, availing himself of the inactivity of the Russian troops, which followed the retirement of Prince Radzivil as Commander-in-Chief of the Russian forces, commenced active operations against the enemy. From Warsaw he led 25,000 men through Praga, to attack General Geismar at Wawer. Favoured by the facilities of the road and the darkness of the night, he advanced without the knowledge of his opponents. The Polish advanced guard, under the command of Geismar, and consisting of ten thousand men, was surprised at Wawer, the entrenchments of which were stormed, and it was forced to fall back by a precipitate retreat, on the stronger force of General Rosen, posted at Dembe-Wielkie. The Poles improved the occasion, attacked the enemy again, and, after a struggle of many hours, compelled General Rosen to abandon his position, and fall back upon the reserve; the Poles moving northwards after this, and throwing bodies of their troops across the Bug, approaching the position of Marshal Diebitsch himself. These successes on the part of the Poles were accompanied by a partial insurrection in Lithuania, and more especially in the Government of Wilna. This movement was joined by some of the Polish nobility; but the Russian troops were so strong in the disaffected provinces, that a general rising would have been speedily quelled. It was at this crisis that Generals Rüdiger and Kreuz retrieved the reverses of the Russians. After the 31st of March, the Polish General Serawski had been despatched to aid Dwernicki in the south, in raising an insurrection in Volhynia. In the first instance their operations were successful; they cleared the right bank of the Vistula of enemy, and Dwernicki even crossed the Bug. But they advanced too imprudently, and acted too far asunder. The fate of Dwernicki was determined by General Rüdiger in an action fought on the 20th April. The Russian General, having brought the enemy to action, compelled them to retrograde towards Lublin. While the nearly contemporaneous defeat of Serawski, by General Kreuz, set free the troops of the latter, and cut off the retreating army from the Vistula and Warsaw. Rüdiger followed the Polish General in his retreat towards Pulaski, and gradually closed in upon him as he neared the Austrian frontiers. On the 29th April the Russian Generals were prepared to attack him at all points; but Serawski declined the risk of an unequal engagement, and sought refuge in the Austrian territory, where his troops were disarmed.

After the defeat of Dwernicki, in Volhynia, Gen. Rüdiger had again approached the Vistula. A strong corps was detached against him under the command of the Polish general Janowek, while Chrzanowski, proceeding from Zamosa, was to throw himself in his rear. The Russian General would thus be surrounded by troops greatly superior, and the Poles counted on the annihilation of his army. Rüdiger, however, instead of waiting the united attack, suddenly made his appearance before Janowski, attacked him, and compelled him to retreat with the loss of some prisoners and artillery. He then marched to Lublin, which Chrzanowski had reached in the exercise of his part of the design, recovered the town, and compelled the Polish General to return to the left bank of the Vistula. Gen. Rüdiger continued to be actively employed up to the period of the Poles laying down their arms. Just as the war was about to close, the corps of Gen. Rüdiger, now left unmolested by the Polish forces which had watched him at Volhynia, crossed the Vistula above Warsaw, and moved round to the south-west to join the main army. The Polish army had taken up its position a few leagues to the westward of the capital, between Kolo and Lowez, but were driven from it by Gen. Rüdiger without much serious fighting.

The reputation acquired by General Rüdiger in the foregoing operations, led to his taking a prominent share in the war in Hungary. The corps under his command formed part of the army of Prince Paskiewitsch, sent by the Emperor Nicholas to assist Austria in putting down the insurrection in that country. Here he earned fresh laurels by defeating Görgey in a pitched battle at Waitzen, which ultimately led to the final surrender of that General. Rüdiger followed up his enemy towards Lugos, and co-operated with General Lüders in the subsequent movements. Görgey had been appointed Military Dictator; and, in the exercise of his discretion (whether as a traitor or as a sound patriot, it must remain for posterity to decide), he resolved on capitulating. It was General Rüdiger who had the honour of receiving the submission of the distinguished chief whom he had so recently and so signally defeated in the field. It was to him that Görgey, on the 30th August, 1849, surrendered at Villagosh with 30,000 men and 144 pieces of artillery; and thus to General Rüdiger fell the additional honour of having terminated the civil war.

It is said, that the Emperor's satisfaction with his services was so great, that when a war with the Turks, preceded by a seizure of the Danubian provinces of Turkey, was resolved on, he desired to have placed Rüdiger at the head of his armies. But the pretexts of the war being closely mixed up with nationality and religion, a general of purely Russian origin and reputation was preferred. Hence the choice of Prince Gortschakoff (who is of better descent than even the Emperor himself) although he is regarded as being a far inferior general to Rüdiger, who is an Aide-de-Camp General, and General of Cavalry. He is also a member of the Council for the Administration of the Affairs of Poland, of which Prince Paskiewitsch is President.

The five preceding Portraits are from prints recently published at St. Petersburg. Of Generals Lüders and Rüdiger we have given copious memoirs. Of Paniutine, Kouprianoff, and Berg, comparatively little is known; but, as they are Generals of Division, in all probability, should the war proceed, they will hereafter be heard of.

THE "BLUE-BOOKS" ON THE TURKISH QUESTION.

THE two Parliamentary "Blue-Books," entitled "Correspondence respecting the Rights and Privileges of the Latin and Greek Churches in Turkey," which were published at the close of last week, will remove a whole host of misconception with reference to the Eastern Question and to the part which has been played in it by the British Ministry. The two volumes contain nearly 800 folio pages, and include no less than 738 letters, notes, and despatches between the British Government and its diplomatic agents at Constantinople, St. Petersburg, Vienna, Berlin, and Paris. The first letter, from Sir Stratford Canning to Lord Palmerston, is dated from Constantinople, as far back as the 20th of May, 1850; and the last, from the Earl of Clarendon to Sir G. H. Seymour, is dated the 24th of January, 1854. The correspondence thus extends over a period of no less than three years and eight months. The great interest attaching to these documents, and their important bearing on the still pending question of peace or war, induce us to endeavour to present a fair epitome of their contents in as short a compass as is consistent with lucidity. We propose to trace the story from the commencement, when the first symptoms of danger were detected in the East by Sir Stratford Canning. His letter is so remarkable, not only for the announcement of a fact, but for the sagacity of the prediction based upon it, that we reproduce it without abridgment. It is the key that unlocks the whole mystery. It will be seen that an unlucky desire on the part of Louis Napoleon—at that time seeking to place his position on a condition of hereditary Presidency of the French Republic to the more brilliant position of hereditary Emperor—led him to make great exertions to strengthen his cause by the support of the French priesthood. It suited his purpose to ally himself to all the spiritual objects of the Papacy, and to emulate, in this respect, the ancient pretensions of Louis XIV. and the older Bourbons, who always styled themselves "Most Christian Kings." Louis Napoleon was not aware what mischief he was thus the instrument of producing. He discovered his error before it was too late, and has nobly made amends for his mistake by his cordial co-operation with this country in protecting the rights of the Sultan, and in confronting the common enemy of Europe. Sir Stratford Canning (now Lord Stratford de Redcliffe) thus sounded the first note of alarm, on the 20th of May, 1850:—

SIR STRATFORD CANNING TO VISCOUNT PALMERSTON.

Constantinople, May 20, 1850.

My Lord,—A question, likely to be attended with much discussion and excitement, is on the point of being raised between the conflicting interests of the Latin and Greek Churches in this country. The immediate point of difference is the right of possession in certain portions of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre at Jerusalem. The Greeks are accused of having usurped property which belongs of right to the Roman Catholics, and of having purposely allowed the church, and particularly the monuments of Godefroi de Bouillon, and of Guy de Lusignan, to go into decay. The French Legation at this Court considers itself entitled by treaty (the treaty, I believe, of 1740—I take the date from memory) to the alleged rights of the Latin Church. The French Consul at Jerusalem, M. Botta, has been recently here, and returns by-and-by to assist the cause; and General Aupick, who has received instructions from Paris, and to whom I am indebted for a conversational overture on this subject, has applied for a conference, with the probable intention of bringing his case at once under the notice of the Turkish Government. It appears that the Pope has been moved to exert his influence in furtherance of the views adopted by France; and that all the Catholic powers will be engaged by his Holiness to co-operate for the same purpose.

General Aupick has assured me that the matter in dispute is a mere question of property, and of express treaty of stipulation. But it is difficult to separate any such question from political considerations; and a struggle of general influence—especially if Russia, as may be expected, should interfere in behalf of the Greek Church—will, probably, grow out of the pending discussion.

The Porte, I conceive, will do well to abstain from committing itself to either side without the maturest deliberation.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) STRATFORD CANNING.

Fifteen days after writing this despatch, Sir Stratford informed Lord Palmerston (June 5th) that the Spanish, Sardinian, and Neapolitan Ambassadors at Constantinople, had severally sent in notes to the Porte, in support of the French demand, and stating that they had acted by the express command of their respective Governments. His Excellency also announced that the Greek Church was preparing for a vigorous resistance, and the probability that they would be strongly supported by Russian influence. The progress of the negotiations thus commenced by France, does not appear either to have been rapid or satisfactory. In a letter, addressed by General Aupick to all Pachas, on the 23rd February, 1851—nine months after the commencement of these semi-religious, semi-political controversies—the French Government actually threatened war if its demands were not complied with.

France (says General Aupick) desires to know, in plain terms, whether the Porte considers itself still bound to her by the capitulations of 1740, it being perfectly established that no act in which France has taken part has ever annulled their force. The Minister of Foreign Affairs adds, therefore, that he is consequently instructed to press the Ottoman Government to be good enough to explain itself categorically upon this point. If the reply is satisfactory, the Minister of Foreign Affairs adds, there will be no obstacle to the opening of a negotiation in which the French Government will assuredly not refuse to agree to any alterations which may be consistent with its just rights, and with the essential interests of a cause which it is defending on behalf of Catholicism at large. It, on the contrary, the reply should be in the negative, or, what would amount to the same thing, if the Ottoman Government should continue to entrench itself behind

contradictory statements, the Porte will understand that the result can only be a serious prejudice to its relations with France.

But, if negotiations were slow, events were rapidly leading to complications; and, on the 6th of March Sir Stratford Canning officially informed Lord Palmerston that a second Great Power of Europe had set upon the unhappy Sultan, and that Austria had pretended to a right of protection over the interests of the Roman Catholics, similar, in some degree, to that which had been asserted by France. The Porte does not seem to have been inclined to favour any of these demands, probably considering them as impertinent as Great Britain would consider a demand on the part of France, Austria, and the Pope, to exercise protection over the Roman Catholics in Ireland. Sir Stratford Canning, watching events, but in no respect interfering, notified the British Government on the 17th September, that the negotiations respecting the Holy Buildings at Jerusalem had begun to assume a more serious aspect, and that the Russian Government had manifested, of late, an increased interest in the maintenance of the Greek pretensions. The claims of Russia to dictate to Turkey being menaced by so many competitors, Russia thought it high time to interfere, and to prove to the Porte that she was as strong and as insolent as ever, and that she was not going to allow France and Austria to assert claims of interference that might prove fatal to the supremacy which for upwards of a century she had been striving to establish for herself. The state of affairs in November, 1851, twenty months after the Government of Louis Napoleon had first started the question, was described to Sir Stratford Canning by M. de Lavalette, who had in the interval succeeded General Aupick as French Ambassador at Constantinople. Sir Stratford thus reports to Lord Palmerston (Nov. 6) a conversation with M. de Lavalette, in which the views of the French Government and the then state of the controversy were stated with fulness and precision. It will be seen that at that time the aspect of affairs had become somewhat perilous:—

France (says M. de Lavalette) is entitled, by its treaty of 1740 with the Porte, to vindicate the right of the Latins to an exclusive occupation of all the sanctuaries which they possessed at that time. The conferences lately opened here have remained in a clear establishment of that right as applied to the holy buildings—ten, I believe, in number—most of which are now possessed jointly by the two communions, and some exclusively by the Greeks. M. de Lavalette, instead of pushing his right to an extreme, took upon himself the responsibility of declaring his readiness to extend the principle of joint possession to the whole number. In so doing, he would have anticipated the instructions of his Government, and exposed himself to the animadversion of Rome, and of certain parties in France. An arrangement to this effect was unofficially agreed upon between Ali Pacha and himself, when he learnt that the Russian Envoy had sent in a letter from the Emperor Nicholas to the Sultan, which immediately altered the intentions of the Porte, and left him no choice but that of either accepting an inadmissible proposal or appealing to his Government. The proposal, which he thought impossible to accept, was that of including in the principle of joint possession all the sanctuaries now possessed exclusively by the Latins. This proposal was represented to me by the Turkish Ministers as embracing all the principal sects of Christianity; but, whichever may be the correct version, it appears that M. de Titoff was as much opposed to it as M. de Lavalette. The former declared to the Turkish Minister that he and his Legation would immediately quit Constantinople if the rights of the sanctuaries were in any degree unsettled. The Porte has, in consequence, substituted another proposal, namely, that it would reserve its final decision until after a full investigation of the quarrel on which the several conflicting pretensions, including those of the Greeks, of the Latins, and of Russia, are respectively founded. This proposal is scarcely less distasteful to M. de Lavalette than the preceding one. He has acted with moderation throughout: he has been careful not to commit his Government: he has made no written communication except his opening note, and such documents as were necessary for establishing the joint commission of inquiry: and he is anxious to act with moderation to the last; but, at the same time, he thinks it impossible to submit with honour to the present plan of proceedings: his Government, having embarked in the question, cannot, with any degree of credit or consistency, stop short under the dictation of Russia. The national party in France, the Catholic party there and elsewhere, will press for the maintenance of the rights of the Latins, and Louis Napoleon will retire rather than be made the instrument—as he conceives he would be, in the supposed case—of his country's humiliation; nay, more, if it depended on him, he would not hesitate to make use of the great naval force now possessed by France in the Mediterranean; and, by blockading the Dardanelles, bring the question in debate forthwith to a satisfactory issue.

On the day following that on which Sir Stratford Canning wrote in these terms to Lord Palmerston, his Excellency thought it incumbent upon him again to communicate with his Government. Sir Stratford, in consequence of M. de Lavalette's representations, sought and obtained an interview with the Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs; and learned that the Porte thought favourably of the French claim, without admitting it to its full extent, but considered that Russia had no right to interfere. While affairs were in this ominous condition, M. Reculot, the Secretary of the French Legation in Constantinople, arrived in Paris, having ridden express, to detail the circumstances to M. Turgot, at that time (Nov. 20) French Minister for Foreign Affairs. Lord Normanby expressed to M. Turgot his earnest hope that the question would not be pressed at that moment to an extent likely to lead to a diplomatic rupture. Lord Palmerston coincided in this opinion, and wrote to Lord Normanby that it would indeed be lamentable if a serious difference were to arise between France on the one hand, and Russia and Turkey on the other, "upon a matter so unimportant." The Porte, beset by two such powerful enemies, endeavoured to temporise; but no compromise at that time suggested, appeared likely to give satisfaction to either party. On the 17th January, Sir Stratford Canning wrote to Earl Granville (who had succeeded Lord Palmerston as Foreign Secretary) his belief that, although no decision had been officially announced to M. de Lavalette, an arrangement of the question was in preparation, the terms of which would be, a concession to the Roman Catholics of the right of officiating in the Shrine of the Virgin, near Jerusalem, together with keys to the Church of the Nativity, at Bethlehem. This was a concession which, in the opinion of Sir Stratford, Russia, on behalf of the Greek Church, was not likely to tolerate; and he was informed that an equivalent was to be given to the Czar, in the shape of an admission of priests of the Greek ritual to the right of officiating on certain occasions in the Mosque of Mount Olivet. But the Russian Ambassador was not satisfied with this project, and seeking an interview with Ali Pacha on the 11th February, expressed himself with unusual vehemence and no small degree of irritation against any such arrangement. Throughout these transactions the Ministers of the Sultan appear to have conducted themselves in the most courteous and conciliatory manner. They may possibly have wished a "plague upon both churches"—but they took care to give no just ground of offence to either. All this time, M. de Lavalette vied with M. Titoff in violence and unreasonableness; while the Divan was fairly puzzled how to act. Relieved for a moment from the importunities of M. de Lavalette, it sided with M. Titoff; and as soon as M. de Lavalette suspected any advantage had accrued or was likely to accrue to his rival, he was "down" again upon the Divan with renewed demands. A firman, however, was ultimately published, which appeared to satisfy the French Ambassador; and shortly afterwards he quitted Constantinople and returned to Paris, leaving a Chargé d'Affaires to act for him in his absence. From March to August, there is a blank in the history; and Sir Stratford Canning, believing apparently that the affair was settled, left Constantinople for awhile. Colonel Rose remaining as British Chargé d'Affaires.

But the discussions had been highly injurious to the tranquility of the Sultan and his Ministers. Russian intrigue was busily at work, and a new Minister of Foreign Affairs was appointed, and supposed to be more favourable to Russian supremacy. The Russian Ambassador did not leave Constantinople. He had work to accomplish, and speedily obtained a counter firman, more favourable to the Greek Christians than was consistent with the high and almost exclusive rights which had been assumed and conceded to France on behalf of the Latins, or Roman Catholics. M. de Lavalette, as soon as these facts became known in Paris, was sent back to Constantinople with all speed, and returned in a somewhat menacing manner in the *Charlemagne*, a 90-gun ship, in defiance of the provisions of the convention of the Dardanelles. This was in the month of August. Colonel Rose, writing to Lord Malmesbury on the 14th of that month, stated that M. de Lavalette complained of bad faith on the part of the Turkish Government: that he had accepted, in February, the tenth part only of the sanctuaries to which France had a positive right by the treaty of 1740; that he was obliged, at the same time, to give in a nominal protest in favour of that treaty, but he assured the Porte that all appeal to it should be waived for five or ten years, perhaps for ever; but that the Porte, on the very day after he left Constantinople on leave, gave a firman to the Greeks, which made out the treaty of 1740 to be valueless. With the question of the Holy Places was mixed up that of the Turkish Loan, and the combined effects of both were near upon producing a revolution in Turkey, and the deposition of the Sultan in favour of a younger brother. Little of these things was known to the public in London and Paris. The information received from Constantinople was scanty and contradictory; though it was generally surmised that danger to the peace of Europe was involved in the events of that capital. The French Government was loudly blamed as the facts of the case became better understood; and the French Emperor was warned by many public writers in this country, and by this Journal among the number, of the impolicy of doing any thing to weaken the Sultan, when Russia was awaiting the opportunity to profit by the occasion, and carry a step nearer to completion her long-cherished projects of dismembering the Turkish Empire. The French Government seems to have been ultimately convinced of the truth of this reasoning, and of such allegations against its policy; and M. Drouyn de l'Huys, in September, expressed to Lord Cowley his wish that the question should be settled honourably for France without embarrassing the Porte. Hitherto, Sir Stratford Canning and Colonel Rose had been mere spectators of events, and had simply kept the British Government informed of all that was passing. In that capacity, Colonel Rose, under date of the 20th of November, thus stated to Lord Malmesbury the condition in which the Sultan was placed:—

The Porte's position is most disadvantageous. Against all her wishes and interests she has been made to negotiate a most dangerous and difficult dispute between the great Powers, who found their respective claims on contradictory documents, which date from remote and dark ages. The Porte, a Mahometan power, is called on to decide a quarrel which involves, ostensibly, sectarian Christian religious feeling, but which, in reality, is a vital struggle between France and Russia for political influence at the Porte's cost, in her dominions. The Sultan is required to be a judge, and to decide this dispute; but, so far from having judicial independence and immunity, his Majesty is coerced and humiliated before his subjects by menaces, forced to give contradictory and dishonouring decisions, and then accused of perfidy by those who have driven him into it.

The trumpery nature of the differences at this time, when the peace of the world was seemingly threatened by them, appears in a ludicrous but painful light, from another passage in the same letter. Fuad Effendi having asked Colonel Rose to avail himself of his good relations with M. de Lavalette and M. d'Ozeroff (the Russian Chargé d'Affaires), and see if there was a possibility of a reconciliation:—

With the view, therefore, of obtaining exact information on this point, I visited these two gentlemen, discussing into part of a mediator, and only taking the unofficial one of a mutual friend, anxious to explain possible misapprehensions as to details, trifling in themselves, but involving the most important interests. And the mode of proceeding was the more advantageous, because M. de Lavalette and M. d'Ozeroff see each other but seldom, and when they do, never mention the Holy Places. They both received me in the best spirit; and, although I effected no reconciliation, I at least removed two causes of misapprehension. M. d'Ozeroff said that he had not considered the great door of the Church of Bethlehem as so serious a cause of difference as M. de Lavette had represented, adding, that that matter might have been arranged, if M. de Lavalette had not opposed the reading of the firman at Jerusalem.

On the other hand, M. d'Ozeroff thought that M. de Lavalette had supported the claim of the Latins to have a cupboard and a lamp in the Tomb of the Virgin. I assured him that he, on the contrary, had disallowed it. M. d'Ozeroff said that he could not deviate in the slightest degree from the positive orders of the Emperor; that Russia would not go to war; she would only, should the Porte not fulfil her engagements as to the Holy Places, withdraw her Legation from Constantinople; that there are other Courts at which Russia had no representative.

M. de Lavalette said that he could not deviate in the slightest degree from the note of the 5th of February last, but that he was perfectly ready to re-open the examination of France's rights as to the Holy Places, taking as the basis of them the treaty of 1740; that the Latins would seldom pass through the great door—perhaps, for what he knew, never at all.

I said all that I thought most likely to produce a good effect on the French and Russian representatives, and concluded by assuring them that, having visited the Holy Places, and made myself thoroughly acquainted with all the bearings of that matter, I should always be happy to remove, as I had done in the present instance, misapprehensions which might prevent a favourable solution of this unfortunate difference.

Lord Malmesbury highly approved of the efforts made by Colonel Rose in this conversation; but instructed him (Dec. 14) "to abstain from any direct or official interference in a question with which, in itself, her Majesty's Government had nothing to do." This was the first error of judgment which appears to have been committed by the British Government. It is clear, however, that Lord Aberdeen had nothing to do with it.

(*To be continued.*)

THE LAYARD BOX.

AT a Court of Common Council, holden in the Guildhall of the city of London, on the 3rd of March, 1853, it was proposed by Mr. Deputy Bennoch, seconded by Mr. Deputy Lott, and resolved unanimously:—

That the Freedom of this City, in a silver-gilt Box of the value of fifty guineas, be presented to Austen Henry Layard, Esq., D.C.L., M.P., &c., as a testimonial of his persevering and zealous exertions in the discovery of the long lost remains of Eastern antiquity, and for securing them in so perfect a state as to demonstrate the accuracy of Sacred History, and illustrate the early habits of the human race; and for his intelligence, labour and skill, by which this country has been enabled to place such valuable memorials of ancient grandeur amongst the collections of the British Museum.

The superintendence of the Box was delegated by the late Lord Mayor (Mr. Alderman Challis), to his deputy, Mr. Bennoch; who, assisted by Mr. Scott, of the Chamberlain's Office, made certain suggestions, and confided the execution of the design and work to Mr. Alfred Brown, the sculptor, whose brother, Mr. James Brown, made the drawing from which our illustration is engraved.

The design is composed of copies from the Nimroud Marbles, grouped so as to form the decoration of the Box, and also to illustrate the manners and customs of the ancient Assyrians. At each angle of the Box is placed the human-headed Bull and Lion, so peculiar to Eastern art. Between the angles are reliefs of the Lion Hunt, as exhibiting their sports and pastimes; the Assyrian Horsemen chasing and overcoming the Arabs, as indicative of military prowess; the King in his chariot, led through the city with pomp and ceremony, showing something of municipal parade in those early times; and the Wing Reliefs, or Priests, kneeling before the Sacred Roll, as descriptive of their religious faith and practice.

The mouldings forming the ribs have been selected from the mutilated remains of tiles and bricks preserved in the British Museum. On the lid, in an attitude of benediction, is represented the deity of the Assyrians. Inside the lid is engraved the arms of Dr. Layard and those of the City of London, connected by a scroll; and the inscription, which is a copy of the resolution, given above.

This is, we believe, the first practical use that has been made of the Layard sculptures in connection with art. It was a happy thought to take advantage of the result of the labours of Layard, and make them thus contribute to his honour. The effect is excellent, and we shall be greatly mistaken if advantage is not taken of the present work for the introduction of a new style in the designs for gold and silver.

The freedom was duly presented to Mr. Layard at a very full meeting of the Common Council, on Thursday, when the customary oaths were administered by the Chamberlain, Sir John Key, who, in an address of much eloquence, welcomed the Eastern traveller, and admitted him a citizen of London. When the cheering had subsided, Mr. Layard, addressing the members of the Corporation, gave some interesting particulars of his work, and incidentally referred to what is passing in the east of Europe. Our limited space prevents our giving the address at length; but as this is probably the last time that such an honour will be conferred under the present constitution of the Corporation, we sincerely trust that whatever changes may take place in the constitution of the great municipality, they will still retain the privilege of thus acknowledging the services of distinguished men.

BARON BRUNNOW.

THIS old and distinguished servant of the Imperial Court of Russia left London for Darmstadt, on Thursday (last week), having previously had an interview with Lord Clarendon at the Foreign-office; and on the same day he took leave of Count Walewski, as the representative for this purpose of the diplomatic body.

Darmstadt has been chosen as a temporary resting-place, from the connection which exists between the reigning Sovereign of that territory and the Imperial family of Russia, a sister of the Grand Duke having married the Crown Prince

Baron Brunnow has passed more than thirty years of his life in diplomatic employments under the present Emperor and his predecessor. His Excellency is a German by birth, and his connection with the Russian Court was originally formed at the period of the Congress of Aix-la-Chapelle, in 1818. He was subsequently for ten years attached to the Foreign-office at St. Petersburg, as Counsellor, and at the expiration of that period was appointed Minister at the Grand Ducal Court which he now proposes to visit. In August, 1839, Baron Brunnow arrived in London on a special mission relative to the contest which was then raging between the Sultan and his Egyptian subjects. After fulfilling the duties of his mission in a manner most satisfactory to the Court which he represented, Baron Brunnow was despatched to Stuttgardt as the Imperial representative at the Court of Wurtemberg; but, in the course of a few weeks, it was found expedient to establish him permanently as Russian Ambassador in London; and for more than fourteen years he has discharged in a manner worthy of the highest praise the duties of his high position. During five different Administrations, the statesmen of every party, while they have respected Baron Brunnow as a faithful and able servant of his Sovereign, enjoyed his friendship. With the late Duke of Wellington his Excellency was for many years on terms of close intimacy, and he was a guest at Walmer only ten days before the death of our great Captain.

His residence in this country is intimately connected with the history of European diplomacy. In 1840 and 1841 Baron Brunnow signed, with Viscount Palmerston, treaties relative to the affairs of the East; in the following year he signed, with the Earl of Aberdeen, a Treaty for the Suppression of the African Slave-Trade; in 1850 he signed, with Lord Malmesbury, a Treaty of Succession to the Crown of Denmark; and in the same year a Treaty of Succession to the Crown of Greece.

The late Sir Robert Peel, in a speech delivered after a dinner given by the Russian Company on the 2nd of March, 1844, alluding to the pacific relations which at the time existed between the two countries, spoke in the following terms of high encomium:—

This friendly feeling in favour of amicable relations between Great Britain and Russia stands, too, I trust, on a footing too well secured to be dependent upon any accidental circumstance, or upon the personal character of any man intrusted with high office or authority. But this I may be bold to say, so far as the exercise in any one man, or the agency of any single individual, can contribute to the promotion of this good understanding, the two countries are under the deepest obligations to that distinguished nobleman who is present here this day as the representative of the Russian Empire at the Court of Great Britain. There may have been diplomatists occupying higher diplomatic station, but there never was a man entrusted with the confidence of the Crown who discharged the duties connected with his office in a more honourable or exemplary manner than those duties have been performed by Baron Brunnow. I can undertake to say that there never has been a Minister more zealous for the promotion of the interests of his own country, or more unwilling to make any compromise of its honour, or of anything that could justly the obligations of which over the interests of which he is the representative; but, rising above all the petty arts of intrigue, and by the steadily and simplicity of his own conduct, his Excellency has gained the confidence of every Minister with whom he has been called upon to act, and, without sacrificing the interests of his own country, has secured the personal good-will and esteem of all those with whom it has been his duty to act.

Almost all the members of the Imperial family have visited this country during Baron Brunnow's residence in London. The Grand Duke Michael, brother of the reigning Emperor, paid us a visit in 1844, and the Emperor himself arrived in the course of the next year. The Grand Duke Constantine stayed here for a time in 1846; and in the course of the past summer both the daughters of the Czar, and his niece, the Grand Duchess Catherine, have been our guests. The urbanity of the Russian representative, and his thorough familiarity with English life, may probably have conduced in no small degree to create the favourable impression with which, as is well known, our Imperial visitors have left the British shores.

His Excellency Baron de Brunnow finally left the residence of the Embassy, in Chesham-place, on Wednesday, at half past three o'clock, and departed by the 4.30 p.m. express train on the South Eastern Railway for Dover, *en route* to Calais. The authorities of the railway, having become acquainted with the proposed departure of the Baron, made arrangements to receive him with becoming respect. A carriage was set apart for his accommodation, and when the Baron arrived at the station, Captain Barlow, the superintendent of the railway, and Mr. Herbert, the secretary, were in attendance to receive him. The Baron was accompanied from the Embassy by the Baroness and Mdlle. Helen de Brunnow. The secretaries and attachés of the Embassy were also in attendance. Pending the departure of the train, the Baron and the members of his suite were accommodated in the board-room. As he proceeded along the platform, he was received with the respectful salutations of the few persons assembled. The Baroness Brunnow and Mdlle. de Brunnow took leave of his Excellency just before the train started, and returned to the Embassy, whence they proceed early in the ensuing week to join his Excellency at Darmstadt.

On reaching Dover the Baron proceeded direct to Birmingham's Royal Ship Hotel, where he intended to pass the night.

The scene of his Excellency's departure is engraved in the Supplement published with the present Number.

PARLIAMENTARY PORTRAITS.

THE EARL OF CARNARVON.

IT is remarkable that, within less than fifty years, four Earls of Carnarvon, in lineal succession, have taken a distinguished part in the debates of the House of Lords.

The present titles of the Carnarvon family are of comparatively recent date. In 1793 its then representative was created Baron Porchester, and the Earldom was granted in 1793. But the family is a branch of the ancient and noble house of Herbert, the Earls of Pembroke and Montgomery; and it immediately springs from Major-General Herbert, the fifth son of the eighth of those Earls. The first Earl of Carnarvon (Baron Porchester) was a man of high patriotic spirit, and uncommon energy and capacity: the second Earl distinguished himself, as a Commoner, in the debates on the Walcheren Expedition, and on other party questions; and, later in life, in the House of Lords, he strenuously opposed the Reform Bill. The late Earl of Carnarvon, the present Earl's father, held a more than respectable place among the authors of his country. His poems, chiefly on Oriental themes, still have their place in libraries, and there are allusions to him in Byron's writings, as well as in some of the diaries that have been published within the last twenty or five-and-twenty years.

Henry Howard Molyneux Herbert, the fourth Earl of Carnarvon, is the son of the third Earl, by the eldest daughter of the late Lord Henry Howard. She was born in the year 1804, and is now the Dowager Countess. She was also the niece of the twelfth Duke of Norfolk. The subject of this memoir was born at 42, Grosvenor-square, on the 24th of June, 1831. He was educated at Eton, and from that ancient and undecaying seat of learning, carried away, like others of his family, numerous and signal distinctions, and a character not only spotless, but bright with still higher moral and intellectual promise. From Eton he went to Christ Church College, Oxford, where he distinguished himself, and, as we have stated, to Sir [illegible] in classics in the year 1852 himself, Lord Wodehouse, the present Foreign Under Secretary; and the present Marquis of Lothian, being, it is believed, the only years who, after accession to their titles, have ever obtained such an honour. Having closed his academical career with a reputation no less conspicuous for moral excellence than for high attainments, he made an Assyrian and Eastern tour in 1853, with his friend

and fellow-collegian, Viscount Sandon, a young nobleman of kindred virtues and accomplishments. Having previously borne the honorary title of Baron Forchester, on the death of his father, in the year 1849, he succeeded to the family titles and estates as Earl of Carnarvon.

The noble Earl's speech, in proposing the Address to Her Majesty in the House of Lords, on Tuesday week, was, as a maiden effort, of more than usual promise. He spoke with self-possession and sufficient

THE EARL OF CARNARVON.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY BEARD.

fluency; but without that precocious self-confidence which sometimes promises much more than is borne out by subsequent performance. In the arrangement of his topics, and his mode of treating them, he exhibited a comprehensiveness, clearness, and grasp of mind indicative of natural powers, fitting him for future distinction in the arena which birth has opened to him; and those who remember his late father, detected much in his speech that reminded them of the elevated, philosophic, and eloquent character of his oratory. We anticipate much public usefulness from the noble Earl, if, as is probable, he shall hereafter follow the example of so many of our young nobles, of all parties, who have qualified themselves for political life and public service, upon their own personal merits, and irrespective of the aid and influence derived by them from their possession of birth, title, and that greatest gift of all, a favourable *entrée* on the political arena.

Lord Carnarvon is remarkable for self-command, reflection, judgment, and other statesmanlike qualities, that usually belong to a later period of life. Sincere and refined in manners, domestic in habits, courageous in spirit, firm in friendship, and alive to responsibilities of property and station; he is a favourable specimen of a large class which, happily for England, is annually growing larger.

The Earl of Carnarvon is unmarried, and in his twenty-third year. The heir-presumptive to the title is his brother, the Hon. Alan Percy Herbert, who was born in 1836. His aunt, Lady Emily Herbert, is the wife of Mr. Philip Pusey.

His Lordship is a Deputy-Lieutenant and J.P. for the county of Hants, and Captain of the Highclere Troop of Yeomanry, in the well-disciplined North Hants Cavalry regiment commanded by Mr. Lefevre, the Speaker—as efficient in the saddle as in the chair. His principal residence is Highclere, near Newbury, though situate in Hampshire—a domain of the greatest beauty, and in the midst of which the Castle, entirely altered by Sir Charles Barry, records the genius of the architect, as well as the taste and labours of the late lamented Earl. It is of this park that even Cobbett could say, in his "Rural Rides:"—"This is, according to my fancy, the prettiest park that I have ever seen." " " "I like this place better than Fonthill, Blenheim, Stowe, or any other gentleman's grounds that I have seen."

Through his mother (as above referred to), the heiress of the Nottingham Baronet-family of Molyneux, and a daughter of the late Lord Henry Howard, and first cousin of the present Duke of Norfolk, he derives a portion of that immemorial and scarcely-equalled lineage, thus combining the blood of the Howards with the old historic renown and hereditary genius of the Herberts. Amongst his modern female ancestry he can also enumerate the names of Sawyer (Margaret Sawyer, wife of

BARON BRUNNOW.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

the fifth Earl of Pembroke, and sole heiress of Sir Robert Sawyer, the Crown Lawyer, and disinterested advocate of the Seven Bishops), Wyndham (Lady Elizabeth, daughter of the second Earl of Egremont), and Acland (daughter of Lady Harriet Acland, so remarkable for her conjugal devotion in the American war).

In his public opinions, Lord Carnarvon is represented to be Liberal Conservative and comprehensive. Sincerely attached to the political, ecclesiastical, and academical institutions of his country, he desires to extend their usefulness by reforms in accordance with the ends for which they were designed, and by enlargements and gradual reconstructions which shall not impair their foundations, nor divest them of their time-honoured characteristics.

GIGANTIC TREE IN CALIFORNIA.

The discovery of this majestic tree is believed to have been made by the unfortunate Douglas, who, when last in California, wrote thus, in a letter to Sir William Hooker, of a coniferous tree inhabiting that country:—"The great beauty of Californian vegetation is a species of Taxodium, which gives the mountains a most peculiar, I was almost going to say awful, appearance—something which pitifully tells us we are not in Europe. I have repeatedly measured this tree: 270 feet high, and 32 feet round at three feet from the ground. Some *few* I saw upwards of 300 feet high, but none in which the thickness was greater than those I have instanced." "What was that tree?" asks the Editor of the *Gardener's Chronicle*. "No seeds or specimens ever reached Europe, although it appears that he (Douglas) possessed both."

The question, however, appears to have been most satisfactorily answered by Messrs. Veitch, of the Exotic Nursery, Chelsea, and of Exeter, who, about six weeks since, received from their excellent collector, Mr. Lobb, seeds and a living specimen of a most remarkable coniferous tree, also Californian; and of which Mr. Lobb furnishes the following account:—

This magnificent evergreen tree from its extraordinary height and large dimensions, may be termed the monarch of the Californian forest. It inhabits a solitary district on the elevated slopes of the Sierra Nevada, near the head waters of the Stanislau and San Antonio rivers, in lat. 38° N., long. 120° 10 W., at an elevation of 5000 feet from the level of the sea. From 60 to 90 trees exist, all within the circuit of a mile, and these varying from 250 feet to 320 feet in height and from 10 to 20 feet in diameter. Their manner of growth is much like Sequoia (Taxodium) sempervirens. Some are solitary, some are in pairs; while some, and not unfrequently, stand three and four together. A tree recently felled, measured about 300 feet in length, with a diameter, including bark, 20 feet 2 inches, at 5 feet from the ground; at 18 feet from the ground it was 14 feet 6 inches through; at 100 feet from the ground, 14 feet; and at 200 feet from the ground, 5 feet 5 inches. The bark is of a pale cinnamon brown, and from 12 to 15 inches in thickness. The branchlets are round, somewhat pendent, and resembling a cypress or juniper. The leaves are pale grass-green; those of the young trees are spreading, with a sharp acuminate point. The cones are about 2½ inches long, and 2 inches across at the thickest part. The trunk of the tree in question was perfectly solid, from the sapwood to the centre; and, judging from the number of concentric rings, its age has been estimated at 3000 years. The wood is light, soft, and of a reddish colour, like redwood or Taxodium sempervirens. Of this vegetable monster, 21 feet of the bark, from the lower part of the trunk, have been put in the natural form in San Francisco for exhibition; it there forms a spacious carpeted room, and contains a piano, with seats for forty persons. On one occasion 140 children were admitted without inconvenience.

GIGANTIC TREE (WELLINGTONIA GIGANTEA), IN CALIFORNIA.

The Editor of the *Gardener's Chronicle* then illustrates the almost fabulous antiquity of this tree:—

They say that the specimen felled at the junction of the Stanislau and San Antonio was above 3000 years old; that is to say, it must have been a little plant when Sampson was slaying the Philistines, or Paris running away with Helen, or Æneas carrying off good *pater Anchises* upon his filial shoulders. And this may very well be true if it does not grow above two inches in diameter in twenty years, which we believe to be the fact.

The Editor infers the plants of Lobb and Douglas to be identical:—

Douglas reached lat. 39° 45' N., and therefore was within the geographical range of Lobb's discovery. But it is quite as possible that he meant some other tree, also of gigantic dimensions; and it is hardly to be imagined that so experienced a traveller would have mistaken a tree with the foliage of a cypress and the cones of a pine for a Taxodium, and still less for the species Sempervirens. Besides, the slenderness of the specimens he saw is greatly at variance with the colossal proportions of the plant before us. That, at all events, the latter cannot be regarded as a Sequoia we have explained in another column; and we think that no one will differ from us in feeling that the most appropriate name to be proposed for the most gigantic tree which has been revealed to us by modern discovery is that of the greatest of modern heroes. Wellington stands as high above his contemporaries as the Californian tree above all the surrounding foresters. Let it, then, bear henceforward the name of Wellingtonia gigantea. Emperors and Kings and Princes have their plants, and we must not forget to place in the highest rank among them our own great warrior.

In another column of the *Gardener's Chronicle*, we find the vast Tree thus described:—

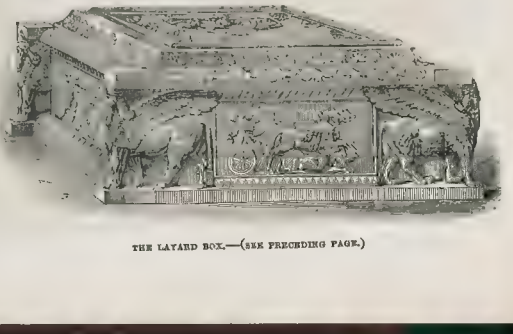
Wellingtonia gigantea.—Gen. Char.: *Strobilus* oblongus, ligneus; squamis numerosis, cuneatis, truncatis, per apophysin transversè (ob bracteam æquilongam omninò adnatam) sulcatis, mucrone in medio. *Semina* 7-cuneque squamæ, supra medium pendula, compressa, utrinque alata. Folia *alterna, juniperina*.

Wellingtonia is a tree with the imbricated scale-like leaves of some Junipers, attached to the branch by a broad base; and when, as happens in the more vigorous shoots, the leaves acquire unusual development, they still are sessile bodies with a triangular section, and no tendency whatever to form a flat lamina. But they are alternate, not opposite. In Sequoia and Sciadopitys, genera also having alternate leaves, the leaves acquire the expansion of a Taxus or Podocarp.

The cones are like those of Sciadopitys in size and form but the bracts, instead of being half free, are so completely consolidated with the strobilar scales as to form but one body, the double nature of which is only discoverable by a transverse furrow along the middle of the truncated terminations, by a mucro, evidently belonging to a bract, situate in the centre of the furrow, and by the double plate of woody matter of which each scale is found to consist when divided longitudinally. In this respect, indeed, Wellingtonia corresponds with Sequoia; but the strobilar scales in the latter are few, unguiculate, almost peltate, and attached slightly to a weak axis; whereas, in Wellingtonia the scales are more wedges, whose double woody interior communicates with an axis so hard and stout, that a sharp chisel and a forcible blow are necessary to separate them.

The seeds of Wellingtonia correspond with Zuccarini's figure and description of those of Sciadopitys, both in form, number, and place of insertion upon the scales. Sequoia is different, having seeds far less thin, with a corky rather than a membranous wing, fewer in number, and originating just within the edge of the unguiculate scales.

These considerations seem to leave no room for doubt that Wellingtonia is an entirely new coniferous form; and, possibly, when its male flowers shall have been seen, still further distinguished by the structure of those parts. In a horticultural point of view, it is impossible to over-estimate the value to Great Britain of such a tree. A lithograph of this tree, executed by Messrs. Day and Son (from which our Engraving is copied), will shortly appear; the original drawing was from nature by Mr. J. M. Lapham.



THE LAYARD BOX.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

THE BURWOOD COPPER-SMELTING WORKS.

THE BURWOOD COPPER-WORKS.

These extensive works adjoin the property of the Australian Agricultural Company, and are situated 65 miles north of Sydney, Port Jackson, and three miles south of Newcastle.

The accompanying Illustrations represent the general situation of the works. Surrounded by hills which shut out every view but that of the ocean, the buildings and grounds comprise one hundred acres of land, and form an amphitheatre that entirely prevents the approach of the vapour evolved by the furnaces to the populous town of Newcastle.

The system of smelting is the same as that pursued at Swansea, except, that from the favourable peculiarities of Australian ore, three processes, instead of eight or ten, produce copper, and that of the purest quality. Some of this copper may be seen at Messrs. Gore and Co.'s Counting-house, London. As the furnace stands within 250 yards of the eastern shore of the Pacific, the proprietors of the works, instead of being incumbered with slag, are enabled to deposit it, without expense, in the ocean; and they contemplate, in process of time, the extension of the tip or bark (as this deposit is called) into a quay, that will enable them to receive and discharge cargoes at the works, without entering the port of Newcastle, to and from which the ore and copper are at this time conveyed in drays.

Not the least singular feature in this property is, that the hills which surround the works contain the richest seams of coal—in some instances eleven feet in thickness, and generally lying somewhat above the level of Newcastle and of the low country. There is already a tunnel, 280 yards long, large enough for the passage of a horse and cart through one of the hills; and the owners of the Copper-Works are driving another tunnel through a seam of coals on the level of their works, which will enable them to convey their produce to and from Newcastle by tram.

Copper mines of extraordinary richness are worked in many parts of the colony, and may be said to abound on the southern and western shores of New South Wales, and throughout the colonies of South Australia and New Zealand. The ores from the latter places, though difficult to smelt by themselves, are admirably suited for reduction when mixed together; and, as coal has not hitherto been found in the places where they are dug, a very large part of the ore must, at no distant date, be forwarded to Newcastle by ships, which could there receive return cargoes of coal.

Owing to the situation of the Burwood Copper-Works, sand and clay to an unlimited extent are found on the spot; and nothing is wanted to make the work one of the most complete and flourishing manufactories, and to enable the proprietors to keep pace with the increasing demands of the colonists, but the erection of rolling mills for converting the copper into sheathing and bolts for ship-building, and the various purposes for which copper is used in the Australian colonies.

The works have been for some time in active operation, and produce from twenty to thirty tons of refined copper weekly; and when the mania for the precarious labours of the gold fields shall have given place to more rational occupations, or an industrious population shall have found in the Australian colonies a refuge from the pressure under which they have been reared, the Burwood Copper-Works cannot fail to become an object of national interest.

"THE PARIS AND LONDON" STEAMER.

This handsome vessel has been constructed for conveying merchandise directly between the capitals of France and England. She was built at Nantes; works by sails, or steam, or both combined; has an engine of 80-horse power, with screw machinery; is 100 feet in length, and of 150 tons burden. By lowering the masts she passes with facility under bridges. She came from Rouen up to Paris, against the current, in twenty-nine hours, stopping at Meulan, at Poissy, and at Neuilly. The commander is Captain Napoleon Briand, with a crew of nine men.

The Paris and London steamed up the Seine, passed the Quai d'Orsay in fine style. When she came within view of the flag on the Tuileries she fired a salute of 21 cannons. Shortly afterwards she passed under the Pont-Royal, and the Bridge of the Carrousel, and cast anchor at the Quay of Saint Nicholas du Louvre.

"THE PARIS AND LONDON" STEAMER.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

THE WAR.

COUNT ORLOFF'S MISSION—THE RUSSIAN PROJECT.

Count Orloff, the Russian Envoy-Extraordinary, has met with an extremely kind reception from the Emperor of Austria, to whom he presented an autograph letter from his Sovereign on the 23th ult. On the same day he dined with the Imperial family, although he was still suffering from a swollen foot, as a consequence of his long and fatiguing journey. The Envoy, who may be about sixty-four or sixty five, is a favourable specimen of Russian nobility, being tall, powerfully built, and of a "majestic presence."

The terms of the Russian project, or rather counter project, brought by Count Orloff, are said to have been:—First, that a Turkish plenipotentiary should be sent either to the head quarters of the army of occupation, or to St. Petersburg, to treat directly with Russia, but to be free to see and advise with the Ministers of the Four Powers. Secondly, free to see and advise with the Ministers of the Four Powers. Secondly, the former treaties between Russia and the Porte to be renewed. Thirdly, Turkey to enter into an engagement with respect to political refuges—to the effect, it is supposed, that they should not henceforth be harboured in the Ottoman dominions. And lastly, a declaration from the Porte, couched in similar terms to the Menschikoff ultimatum, with reference to the protection of the Greek Christians.

According to another statement, the Count demanded that Austria should pledge herself to remain neutral, under any circumstances that might arise. The Emperor is said to have met this demand by asking for a pledge on the part of Russia with respect to the evacuation of the Principalities, and also for a promise that the Czar would not cross the Danube, nor seek any increase of territory at the expense of Turkey. Count Orloff was unable to give any such undertaking; and the Emperor, therefore, reserved to himself full liberty to act as circumstances might dictate, with due regard to the interest and dignity of Austria. The Russian Envoy Extraordinary did not, however, think fit to quit Vienna even after this rebuff, and in the presence of a trifling indisposition, he delayed his departure for a few days. It was inferred from the circumstance that Count Orloff's first proposal was not his last, that he was still trifling with the representatives of the four Courts, and that he might possibly have discretionary powers to treat on a wider basis The latest reports would give no countenance to this supposition Finding that he could make no impression on the Emperor, or his Ministers, it was said that Count Orloff would leave for St. Petersburg on Wednesday or Thursday.

It was supposed at one time that he would have paid a visit to Berlin; but it turns out that the Russian proposal to that Court was made by M. de Budberg, the Russian Minister at Berlin. It was nothing less than a demand that Prussia should conclude an alliance of the most intimate character with the Emperor Nicholas, who offered to protect Prussia from the consequences of such an engagement by sea and by land. To this insolent proposition M. de Manteuffel replied with becoming dignity, that Prussia stood in no need of foreign protection, and would enter into no alliances on such terms; but that, under any circumstances, Russia would not be capable of affording protection to her coasts and ports against the fleets of England, or to the Rhenish provinces against the armies of France.

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE

Accounts received at Vienna on Tuesday, state that a sanguinary action had taken place near Giurgevo, with a great loss on both sides. Three thousand Turks crossed the Danube, drove in the Russian advanced posts, attacked the town, and then retired.

Since the arrival of General Schilder in Wallachia a retrograde movement of the Russian forces has been observed. Preparations have been made to transfer the head quarters from Radovan to Slatina, and engineers have appeared at the latter place to mark out a new camp. Since the battle of Citate the Turks seem inclined to take up the offensive upon all fortified points of the Danube; whilst the Russians, probably awaiting fresh reinforcements, have taken up a rather defensive position. It is reported that 50 000 Turks crossed the Danube near Radowa, but Russian reinforcements having arrived, they returned to their former position. The order to advance however, as mentioned, had not as yet been issued to the Russian troops, as the condition of the soil at the present season of the year is such as to offer almost insuperable obstacles to active operation.

The Russian authorities are said to have ordered the formation of a Greco-Sclavonian Legion, which is to enter Turkey, to excite the Christian population of the empire to revolt. Four offices have been opened at Bucharest to receive enlistments. The advantages offered to volunteers are calculated to allure many foreigners residing in the country where they lead a wretched existence, to take service in the Greco-Sclavonian Legion; but it is questionable whether they can be relied upon when the tug of war comes. Colonels are promised 5 ducats per day; majors, 4 ducats; captains, 2½ soldiers, officers, 2 and sold ers, 2 swanzigs The arms are to be supplied by Russia. At the suggestion of the Muscovite authorities, lists of subscriptions are to be received and the nobility, merchants, and bourgeois will be invited to assist the defenders of the country.

The last letter from the Kalafat correspondent of the *Lloyd* is couched in extremely warlike language. The army of occupation, already reinforced by the corps of General Ostem-Sacken, and expecting the arrival of that under General Teh odoieff, will soon assume the offensive. A part of the 6th corps—General Tschodaieff's—has already reached the Dnieper, and three regiments coming from Moscow have passed the frontiers of Little Russia (including the Governments of Kiew, Tchernigoff Poltowa, Podolia, and Volhynia). The reserve troops are also taking the same road As soon as these forces have reached the frontiers of Bessarabia, the remainder of Osten Sacken's corps will advance to the south, "and it does not admit of a doubt that when the weather be comes milder the Danube will be crossed at two points."

The Russian army in the Principalities and in Bessarabia, is said to consist of a total force of 156,328 men, and 520 cannon, of which 72 are large calibre.

SEBASTOPOL AND ODESSA.

News from Sebastopol, *viâ* Bucharest, to the 20th ult, has been received at Vienna Up to that day the notification on the part of the protecting squadrons, that they had received orders to enjoin every Russian cruiser to return to Sebastopol, had not been officially received. The Admiralty had been informed of it, however, in a private manner, and had instantly sent off couriers to St. Petersburg with a request for further orders

The son of Count Nesselrode, who is Prince Menschikoff's Attaché, has arrived at Odessa. The forts of Sebastopol are being provided with more ordnance. Osman Pacha, the prisoner of war, is now out of danger, but can never hope to be fully reinstated in health. Russian steamers, which, at the beginning of February, transported heavy ordnance from Odessa to Bessarabia for the Danubian army, have since returned, their passage there and back not having been attended with the least risk.

RETURN OF THE FLEETS TO BEICOS.

Letters from Constantinople to the 25th ult., inform us that the fleets were still at anchor at Beicos. Her Majesty's ship *Fury* had just returned from the direction of Odessa, whither she had been despatched to look after British interests, but the ice prevented her from approaching the place.

A memorial, signed by twenty-three British merchant captains, had been presented to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe by two of their number, showing that the present uncertain state of affairs was very detrimental to their employers, and asking whether there was any sufficient reason why they should not proceed to their different destinations in the Black Sea. The substance of the answer was that there was no reason why they should not do so at the moment; but that it was impossible to foretell what casualties might bring forth.

The return of the combined fleets to Beicos, from their cruise in the Black Sea, though contemporaneous with the departure from the shores of a Turkish flotilla for Anatolia, does not seem to have been merely brought about for the purpose of conveying the flotilla, although it is likely that the escort will be offered and accepted. It appears that the Admirals consider that their duty of protection can be discharged at Beicos as well as at Sinope. On Monday, the 16th ult., the *Caton* arrived at Constantinople from the Black Sea, with despatches for Lord Redcliffe and M. Baraguay d'Hilliers, announcing the intention of the Admirals to return with their fleets to Beicos. The Ambassadors met in conference next day in consequence of this information, and the *Samson* started on the 18th ult. for the Black Sea, with their reply to the Admirals, which is said to have been as follows:—

The Ambassadors express surprise at the sudden resolution of the Admirals, more particularly at the present moment, when a Turkish steam flotilla is on the point of starting with ammunition and other stores for the army of Anatolia. The orders of the French and British Governments, which reach d this by the *Caton*, about ten days ago, were formal and precise, respecting the protection to be afforded by the combined fleets to the Ottoman flag and territory, and the attention of both Admirals is again called to the stringent nature of these instructions, which had been duly notified to them. The Admirals, it would appear, consider that the measures suggested to their execution may be equally well effected, while her the force under their command be stationed at Beicos or Sinope. This is a matter which must entirely depend on their own judgment, and on them the responsibility will rest. If the Ambassadors do not interfere in all matters connected with naval experience, and confine themselves merely to those within the sphere of their political department.

According to all accounts the combined squadrons did not encounter bad weather during their stay in the Black Sea, nor did they suffer in any way. The reinforcements preparing at Constantinople amounts to 30,000 men, who will be sent in different detachments, escorted by divisions of the combined fleets (French, English, and Ottoman.

The *Presse*, of Vienna, quoting from *L'Ami du Soldat*, says:—

The consequences of the entrance of the combined fleets into the Black Sea are already showing themselves. Fourteen thousand men have been landed at Hollburgaz, under Varna, from on board transports, which had previously been carefully watched by the Russians; now, the Turks are completely at liberty in the Euxine. These 14,000 men are to move upon Varna, and reinforcements from Constantinople and Adrianople are to take the same direction. The Ottoman forces, from Pregons to Nicopolis amount to 18,000 men, over and above a reserve of 36,000 at Sophia.

MILITARY PREPARATIONS IN FRANCE.

The military preparations in France are being pushed on with great energy. Decrees are expected, calling out the remaining moiety of the contingents of 1849 and 1850, and the whole of the contingent of 1853—a total of 160,000 men; so that in a short time the army will be raised to 550,000 effective men. One manufacturing establishment in Paris has received an order for the supply of 150,000 haversacs, and another for 26,000 shirts, and other minor establishments have similar orders in proportion. An order has been given to an extensive ironmaster in the department of the Pas de Calais for 3,000,000 cannon-balls, of various dimensions

Large orders have also been given for an immense supply of harness and similar equipments for the artillery. Letters from the department announce that the young soldiers are already *en route* for their destination. In some branches of the military service the Emperor does not allow of repose either by night or day General Pelissier has returned to Africa to organise a body of from 20,000 to 25,000 men—the flower of the army of Africa; and a superior officer has asserted that in eight days divisions of the army in France as well as Africa would be ready for embarkation. The exact amount of the force to be sent on that service is not stated; but, in the opinion of persons competent to judge, not less than 70,000 or 80,000 Anglo-French troops would suffice, with the cooperation of the Turkish army to do the work effectively. Caudia has been already spoken of for a depôt; but this island is considered as rather too distant from Turkey, and Mitylene is more likely to be thought suitable.

The French Atlantic squadron, which is stationed at Brest, has received orders to put to sea immediately. The order was received at Brest on the 3rd instant. It is confidently stated that this squadron is to proceed to Toulon, to Algiers, and to Civita Vecchia, for the purpose of embarking the troops which are to form the expeditionary column about to proceed to Constantinople. The provisions for the expedition have already been contracted for.

DEPARTURE OF M. DE KISSELEFF.

M de Kisseleff left his hotel for the station of the Northern Railroad on Monday, and went by the mail train to Brussels. It is said that his absence is not likely to be of very long duration, as he took with him only a small portion of his personal effects; the other part was sent to the house of a friend in the Rue de Suresnes.

Although all diplomatic relations with the French Government are said to be at an end, the Russian Consul General remains at Paris to take charge of certain business, and communications with the subjects of Russia who remain there, but who are not very numerous A few have been recalled by special order of the Emperor of Russia, but no general order has been given. It was stated by one of the papers on Sunday before leaving Paris, M. de Kisseleff addressed a circular to the Russians residing in the capital, requiring them, in the name of the Czar's Government, to leave France within the next month and return to Russia, on pain of imperial displeasure; but this has been contradicted.

A RUSSIAN CONSPIRACY IN TURKEY.

In consequence of the arrest of Father Anastasius, a Greek priest at Widdin, a conspiracy has been discovered, in which Greek and Russian agents are mixed up. It appears that this Father Anastasius disclosed the secrets of the conspiracy He is a man who has travelled through almost every part of the Turkish Empire Bulgaria, Montenegro, and Bessarabia; having also been frequently in Russia, and of late having visited Athens. His capture led to the arrest of Baron Oelsner, a Russian officer, once the aide-de-camp of General Lüders. The Ottoman police are very active in making every research. The object of the conspiracy was to stir up the Greek populations of the empire to revolt, their chief places for meeting being Athens, Constantinople, and Bucharest.

RUSSIAN INTRIGUE IN SERVIA.

The intelligence from Servia declares that the Russians were exerting themselves to prevent the publication of the Imperial firman which Ethem Pacha had carried there. Prince Alexander is made to observe, by the Russian agents, that this confirmation of the privileges of Servia is a dangerous gift, in this respect, that at a later period the Porte could avail itself of this right of confirmation to pretend to that of revocation. News from Belgrade confirm this statement, and state that Prince Alexander had made his reserves in the sense just mentioned. The condition of the Principalities is said to be deplorable, the exactions of the Russians being something worse than those heard of before from these invaders. The inhabitants have neglected to prepare for the sowing of their corn, and see their cattle carried from their farms every day.

RENEWED ATTEMPTS AT NEGOTIATION.

The *New Prussian Gazette* asserts that, notwithstanding all that has passed, and in view of the non-acceptance of the second Vienna project, France and England have made another peace proposal to St. Petersburg. According to the dates given by the paper quoted, the messenger should have reached the Russian capital at the commencement of this week. It is certain, however (says the *Gazette*), that the Emperor has declared, by Count Orloff, that he will insist on the acceptance, by Turkey, of the engagements inscribed in the first Vienna note.

A rumour is revived of an attempted offer at mediation being made by King Leopold, founded on a declaration, attributed to Count Orloff, that his Imperial master would listen to overtures, but upon what basis is not stated.

THE CZAR GIVING WAY.

The *National Gazette* of Berlin, publishes a letter from St. Petersburg, of the 20th ult., in which the writer states that the war party was losing ground, and that Count de Nesselrode has resumed his former influence. He mentions a rumour that the Emperor of Russia has sent an autograph letter to the Queen of England full of professions of a desire for peace He adds that the Emperor has written to General Werewkin, ordering him, as a means of preventing an attack on Hirlis by Schamyl, to march against the Tschetschens. The last advices from St. Petersburg affirm that the Czar is suffering from erysipelas; and that, whether the illness was real or feigned, he had not been seen visible for ten days. With every document of consequence, it was matter of special deliberation whether it should be laid before him or no.

TURKEY

The *Preussische Correspondenz* furnishes some news from Beyrout up to 7th January. At that date it was known there that political events in Persia had taken a very unexpected turn. As soon as the intention of the Persian Government to promote the views of Russia against Turkey became known, the people made its aversion to an alliance against their old allies known in such an unmistakeable manner that the Shah's counsellors, intimidated by the storm, and fearing an insurrection, required further assurances from the Russian Envoy; he was called upon to give the same assurances in writing as he had already given orally. As he was either unable or unwilling to comply with this demand, the Court of Teheran had resumed its diplomatic relations with the English and Turkish Ministers, who had already made preparations for departure. The state of Syria was perfectly peaceable. The regular and irregular troops were on their march to the eastern frontier, with the exception of the Druses' contingent of infantry, which was not yet ready to start. Five hundred men of the sole battalion of infantry now in Damascus, had proffered a written petition, praying to be sent to the seat of war, and a number of young men in Beyrout have, without waiting for their parents' leave, left their homes and followed the troops.

DANGEROUS CONDITION OF ITALY.

The more the probabilities of war increase, the greater is the fermentation throughout the whole of the Italian peninsula. At Naples, the party who desire a change of dynasty, no matter what, provided the Bourbons are overthrown, are in movement, and their emissaries endeavour to gain over the army. The agitation observable in the Romagna and the Marches has prevented the concentration of the Austrian troops. In the towns from which they had retired—such as Ravenna, for instance—disorders immediately occurred. The local authorities have been under the necessity of requesting that the foreign troops shall not quit their garrisons, and the Austrians still occupy the whole of the line from Bologna to Ancona. In the same proportion as the public mind grows excited by the rumours and probabilities of a European war, the governments of Italy become alarmed. The King of Naples, who is body and soul devoted to Russia, ardently desires the triumph of the Czar; for on the success of Russia lies his hope of the restoration of his French cousins, the Bourbons. The Grand Duke of Tuscany, and the Dukes of Parma and Modena, tremble at the name of war; for they have neither moral nor material force to defend themselves. The Court of Rome is divided on the great question of the day. The Pope and several of the Cardinals apprehend the aggrandisement of Russia, because it would be the triumph of the Greek Church—of a schismatic religion, which would aim at the overthrow of Catholicism; while Cardinal Antonelli, the Secretary of State, and all the members of the Pontifical Government who are only interested in the political question, hold good for Russia. The whole of these Governments are indebted for their existence to foreign bayonets; yet if a general war should follow the actual crisis, even foreign occupation would fail to prevent a movement in Italy, and above all in Lombardy and the Romagna.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thur-day.

The departure of M. de Kisseleff has, of course, marked the certainty of the approaching rupture yet more decidedly than any of the preceding symptoms. M. de Kisseleff's preparations were all made to leave Paris, on Friday last, when, a few hours before that settled for his departure, he received a summons to the Tuileries. He there had a private interview with the Emperor of some length—the fact, though not the substance, of which becoming known at the Bourse, caused a temporary rise. We are informed, on what we have reason to believe to be excellent authority, that this interview was almost entirely one of a personal nature; that as little as possible of the question causing the rupture between France and Russia was entered upon, and that both parties expressed their mutual personal good-will, and their regret at the necessity of M. de Kisseleff's departure. This circumstance caused the delay in the Russian Ambassador's quitting Paris, which was a subject of much comment and speculation, though only deferred from Friday morning till Saturday night. It is said that, previous to his departure, M. de Kisseleff despatched circulars to his compatriots residing in Paris, intimating the necessity of their return to Russia, but without fixing any precise period for the fulfilment of the injunction.

It was reported that there was some probability of the Prince Napoleon continuing his journey from Belgium into Sweden: this rumour, which, however, did not receive much credence, is now set at rest by his return to Paris. The probability of his visit to the King of the Belgians being averted by the Duke and Duchess de Brabant, is a good deal talked of here.

Much excitement has been caused here by the false version of the Queen's Speech, published by the *Times*, and translated from thence into nearly all the Continental journals. The phrase of marching against the "common enemy," had already, before the appearance of the real Speech, been the subject of much surprise, almost amounting to doubt, thus employed before any actual rupture or declaration of war had taken place; and yet, notwithstanding this, there were some who asserted that the phrase had been employed, and that the paragraph which contained it had been suppressed by order in the translation published in France.

Of or no war, however, the Court seems resolved to do its best to make up for the general stagnation of society in the way of fêtes and receptions, and ball succeeds ball in rapid succession. The approaching grand *bal costumé* is the subject of much preparation and expectation. Among other quadrilles is one to be led by the Princesse Mathilde—an "Olympic Quadrille," in which, however, the rôle of Venus is to be "left out by particular desire," no lady having been found willing to undertake a part so trying and equivocal. We have heard it whispered—and we pass the whisper on to you, dear reader—that the *Chef de l'Etat* was extremely desirous that an English lady, much admired at the Court, should accept it; but that this desire was overruled by considerations which it is not our province to enter upon. The Princesse Mathilde is to appear as Juno. Another quadrille at this ball—to which dominos are to be admitted, but no other exception whatever to the rule, those who do not choose to appear in costume being at liberty to decline the invitation—is to represent the "Seasons," an easier and more *convenable* style of attire, for a Court ball.

A commission has been formed for the erection of a monument to M. Visconti.

A plan is, it is reported, decided upon for the establishment of a night guard in Paris, on the system of the London watchmen. Why adopt an institution that the advance of improvement has exploded, instead of accepting the substitute that that advance has furnished—the present system of police as established in England? Some such arrangement is much required, and would be found to add much to the convenience and security of the public.

Preparations are being made here, as at Rome, for fêtes for the beatification of the Polish Jesuit Bobola, murdered by the Cossacks, to be held at the houses of the order to which he belonged. Various discourses will be pronounced on these occasions; principally recitals of, and discussions on, schismatic persecutions, which will excite much bitterness, and do, as it appears to us, little good.

The celebrated preacher, the *père* Ravignan, had an interview some time since with Louis Napoleon, the substance of which has but lately transpired. The reverend father, it appears, came to protest against the suppression of the College of St. Michel, closed on accusation of holding Socialist principles. The Emperor received M. Ravignan with extreme courtesy, and is even said to have promised to use the utmost circumspection in the use of such measures in future. He, at the same time, complained much of the existence of such tendencies in various Jesuit colleges, especially in the south, and declared the necessity of the adoption of some mode of repression to the discourses of certain of the preachers.

A plan proposed some time since, is, it is said, shortly to be carried out, for the erection of a new theatre in the Rue de Rivoli, entitled Le Théâtre du Peuple. At this theatre are to be performed only pieces of the most unquestionable morality, and such as are calculated to raise the taste and morals of the public, to excite an admiration for virtue, duty, and true heroism, and to counteract, as far as possible, the vicious tendencies of but too many of the dramatic works of the day. It appears that even the Archbishop of Paris and the high clergy has

warmly interested themselves in the affair, and are endeavouring to obtain the privilege for the theatre, and to find the necessary capital for its erection and support. Already several persons of weight and note are interesting themselves in the matter; and it is expected that in about seven months the building will be constructed. The project is certainly one deserving of all praise and encouragement; but we fear that the vitiated taste of the day, accustomed to highly-seasoned viands, will with difficulty accommodate itself to the purer, plainer, and more wholesome food thus offered it; and that much time, pains, patience, and money must be spent ere the theatre can be made in any degree to attain its object.

The new piece of Madame de Girardin, "La Joie fait Peur," is in active rehearsal at the Théâtre Français, and is expected to appear on Saturday next. The Gymnase having found a *remplaçant* for Bressant (engaged at the Français) in M. Berton, lately arrived from Russia, the representations of "Dans de Lys," have not been interrupted. Berton is an actor of great taste, talent, and spirit, and no mean substitute for his predecessor in the *rôle*. The Opéra Comique is preparing for the representation of the opera of Meyerbeer, "l'Etoile du Nord," of which great things are anticipated.

Two volumes—one original, the other a reprint—from the pen of one of the finest observers of modern manners, and most brilliant of modern writers and conversationalists, Madame Emile de Girardin, have just made their appearance. The former, "Le Marquis de Fontanges," is a fable, a critique on the society of the day, written with all the verve, the finesse, and the purity of style which distinguish the pen of this highly gifted woman. The other, "Le Vicomte de Launay," is a collection of those brilliant and sparkling *Courriers de Paris*, published some few years since under that signature, and which never failed to excite the utmost interest.

The prevailing impression in Paris is, that, in case of such an emergency as the Russians threatening to extend their operations by land against Turkey, England and France will send a force to her assistance. The next question is as to the mode of conveying that force, or the route it would take. The plan suggested by the Emperor, which is said to have been approved of by the military authority, and not rejected by the English Government, is, that the division to be sent to the East shall consist of from 70,000 to 80,000 men; 50,000 or 60 000 to be furnished by France, 15,000 or 20,000 by England. Of the French contingent, 25,000 or 30,000 men, indigenous troops, or of men well hardened to the climate, are to proceed from Africa; the remainder from the army in France. The body thus composed will be transported to Civita Vecchia, and march overland to Ancona. If Austria permit them to land in one of her ports in the Adriatic, so much the better; if not, they will disembark in a Turkish port lower down, then march to Servia, and then to wherever their services may be required, or would be most available. With the Austrians in Italy, where so much fermentation exists at this moment, with Hungary discontented on one hand and Lombardy on the other, the political consequences of such a move would, undoubtedly, be very great.

Prince Napoleon's mission to Brussels is described as having been very successful. In the course of his interview with the King of the Belgians, the Prince expressed the satisfaction of his cousin, the Emperor of the French, that a more friendly feeling had lately grown up between the Belgian and French Governments. He is said to have added that, as hostilities were probable between France and Russia, the Emperor Napoleon wished to be assured of the attitude which Belgium would assume in such an emergency; that his Belgian Majesty had at his disposal 100,000 troops, and in the event (improbable though it be) of Prussia taking part with Russia, 50,000 Belgians might be sent to the Prussian frontier; that the Emperor did not wish any force to be sent to the French frontier, but that the force in question should guard the Prussian. To that proposition it is added that the King assented. With respect to the fortresses along the French line, the wish was expressed that they should be in part reduced; and to that also his Majesty is said to have assented. The Prince suggested that, as King Leopold was a constitutional King, it would be necessary to have the sanction of the Minister for Foreign Affairs to the arrangement. The Minister was sent for, and his approval was given to the proposed arrangement. Such, it is stated, was the object and result of Prince Napoleon's mission.

GERMANY.

In connection with the collective declaration of neutrality to be made by the German Bund, which Russia has so unsuccessfully striven to bring to maturity through the agency, first of Austria and then of Bavaria and the lesser States, attention has been called to Herr von der Pfordten's recent receipt of the Grand Cross of the Holy Alexander Newski Order from the Emperor of Russia, and to the fact that the same honour has also been conferred on Herr von Beust, the Premier of Saxony, who had co-operated with Herr von der Pfordten in the strictly anti-national Russian policy in Germany. This order is the highest but one in the Russian Empire, and is usually conferred only on crowned heads, Sovereign Princes, or the Prime Ministers of the great Powers. Its bestowal on the two above named diplomatists, taken in connection with the recently published work of Herr von Gretsch, throws a light on the present policy of Russia towards Germany. This work, entitled the "European Pentarchy," represents it as the end and aim of Russia's policy to consolidate the interests of the minor States of central Germany, so as to obtain a counterpoise to Austria and Prussia.

SWEDEN

A Russian courier arrived at Stockholm on the 2nd inst., with important despatches to the Russian Embassy on the neutrality question; and the Minister of the Czar (Dascokoff) has had an audience of King Oscar on the subject. The details have not transpired.

DENMARK.

It is announced by the Danish papers that an order has been given to fit out three frigates, three corvettes, three brigs, and five steamers, and that inquiries have been instituted by the Minister of War as to the possibility of providing quarters for a certain number of troops. The Swedish Government have, it is said, in contemplation to send 15,000 men into Gothland, and to establish an army on the western coast.

AMERICA.

Letters and papers from New York to the 25th ult. have been received by the *Europa*, which arrived at Liverpool on Monday. From Washington we learn that Senator Douglas's new Nebraska bill had thrown a large number of Congress men into the greatest state of excitement. Several caucuses had been held, but no definite line of action had been determined upon till the generality of the northern and western members had ascertained the views of their constituents. In the Executive Session of the Senate, the International Copyright Treaty was reported from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without any recommendation, but with an amendment, providing that the protection afforded to foreign authors, shall apply only to their books reprinted in America.

A terrible tornado swept over the state of Ohio on the 20th ult. Its track was about half a mile in width, and it demolished almost everything it encountered. The town of Brandon was almost entirely destroyed. The gale was accompanied by terrific lightning and heavy rain, and followed by such a rapid rising of the streams of water, that the town of Mount Vernon was partly inundated, and several persons lost their lives.

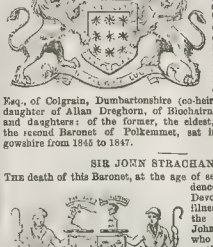
Judah Touro, estimated to have been worth from a million to a million and a half of dollars, died lately at New Orleans. The bulk of his property is reported to have been left to different charitable institutions in that city.

The *San Francisco Herald* of the 31st December, states the registered shipments of gold last year from California to have been 54,906,987 dols., against 45,778,000 dols. in 1852, and 34,492,000 dols. in 1851, showing an annual increase of about 10,000,000 dols; but a great deal is taken away unrecorded by passengers, for the quantity of Californian gold coined at the United States Mint was nearly 36,000,000 dols. in 1851, 54,000 000 dols. in 1852, and nearly 40,000,000 dols. in the first seven months of last year to July 30. Great numbers of Chinamen had gone to Shasta, and the miners there were talking of rising to expel them. There was a growing feeling that some legislation would be necessary to define more clearly the rights of miners and mining companies. The population of California was computed on the 30th of December at 215,000 Americans, 35,000 Germans, 25,000 French, 17,000 Chinamen, 20,000 of Spanish blood, 5000 miscellaneous foreigners, 20,000 Indians, and 3500 negroes. Of these about 65,000 are women, and, perhaps, 90,000 children.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

SIR WILLIAM BAILLIE, BART., OF POLKEMMET.

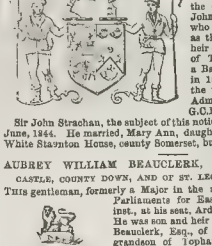
THE decease of this Baronet occurred on the 28th ult., at Perth.



Sir William, the eldest son of the late William Baillie, Esq., an eminent Advocate (afterwards a Lord of Session as Lord Polkemmet), by Margaret, his wife, daughter of Sir James Colquhoun, Bart., of Luss, was born in 1784, and became a Baronet by creation in 1823. He married 25th April, 1815, Mary-Lyon, youngest daughter of J. Dennistoun, Esq., of Colgrain, Dumbartonshire (co-heir of her mother Margaret, daughter of Allan Dreghorn, of Biochairn), and leaves several sons and daughters: of the former, the eldest, now Sir William Baillie, the second Baronet of Polkemmet, sat in Parliament for Linlithgowshire from 1845 to 1847.

SIR JOHN STRACHAN, BART.

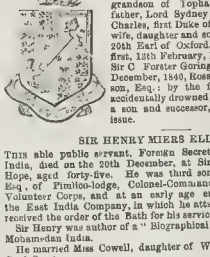
THE death of this Baronet, at the age of seventy, occurred at his residence, Cliffden, Teignmouth, Devon, after a long and painful illness, on the 28th ult. He was the eldest son of the late Sir John Strachan, of Thornton, who succeeded to the baronetcy as the nearest and lawful male heir of Sir Alexander Strachan, of Thornton, who was created a Baronet by King Charles I., in 1625. The sixth inheritor of the title was the distinguished Admiral, Sir Richard Strachan, G.C.B.



Sir John Strachan, the subject of this notice succeeded his father, 9th June, 1844. He married, Mary Ann, daughter of Isaac Elton, Esq., of White Staunton House, county Somerset, but had no issue.

AUBREY WILLIAM BEAUCLERK, ESQ., OF ARDGLASS CASTLE, COUNTY DOWN, AND OF ST. LEONARD'S FOREST, SUSSEX.

THIS gentleman, formerly a Major in the army, and member in two Parliaments for East Surrey, died on the 1st inst., at his seat, Ardglass Castle, aged fifty-four. He was son and heir of the late Charles George Beauclerk, Esq., of St Leonard's Forest, and grandson of Topham Beauclerk, Esq., whose father, Lord Sydney Beauclerk, was fifth son of Charles, first Duke of St. Albans, by Diana, his wife, daughter and sole heir of Aubrey de Vere, 20th Earl of Oxford. Major Beauclerk married, first, 12th February, 1824, Ida, third daughter of Sir C. Forster Goring, Bart.; and, secondly, 7th December, 1840, Ross, daughter of Joshua Robinson, Esq.; by the former of whom he was (accidentally drowned April 23rd, 1838) he leaves a son and successor, Aubrey de Vere, and other issue.



SIR HENRY MIERS ELLIOT, K.C.B.

THIS able public servant, Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, died on the 20th December, at Simon's Town, Cape of Good Hope, aged forty-five. He was third son of the late John Elliot, Esq., of Pimlico-lodge, Colonel-Commandant of the Westminster Volunteer Corps, and at an early age entered the Civil Service of the East India Company, in which he attained to great eminence, and received the order of the Bath for his services during the Sikh war.

Sir Henry was author of a "Biographical Index to the Histories of Mohammedan India."

He married Miss Cowell, daughter of William Cowell, Esq., E.I.C. Civil Service.

SILVIO PELLICO.

SILVIO PELLICO, an able Italian poet, whom a memorable imprisonment has made everywhere a theme of pity, came of a poetic race. His father, Honorato Pellico, who held a situation in the Piedmontese Post-office, had courted the Muses with some success; and Silvio Pellico, Luigi Pellico, rose to note as a popular writer of comic dramas in verse. Silvio Pellico was born in Piedmont in 1789, at Saluces, where his father's appointment was. From his earliest boyhood, Silvio evinced a taste and talent for tragic composition; and he and his brother, when youths, used to recite their effusions on a little stage, which they had constructed in their father's house. Honorato Pellico was removed to the post-office at Turin: here his sons also resided with him—for his was a family bound together by the closest ties of sympathy and affection. After accompanying his mother on a visit to a cousin in France, Silvio Pellico left his home to settle at Milan, where his brilliant verse soon established his reputation. In 1819, he published his magnificent tragedy of "Francesca de Rimini;" and in the same year he translated his friend Lord Byron's "Manfred." He now took rank among the highest dramatic poets of his day, when, unfortunately, not content with the honours of a bard, he engaged in politics as well as verse—a dangerous venture under the Austrian rule that weighs upon Italy. The Imperial Government forbade the representation of Pellico's tragedy of "Eufemio di Messina;" and, moved by this, Pellico set up a Liberal journal, entitled the *Conciliator*, in which, aided by other literary free spirits, he sought to rouse Italy to her regeneration. The Government soon suppressed the paper; and then Pellico undoubtedly became a party to a deep-laid and formidable conspiracy against the Emperor. He was arrested, and was then confined under the leads of the Ducal Palace at Venice; he was afterwards tried, convicted, and condemned to fifteen years' imprisonment in *carcere duro*, at Spielburg. A gaol is ever a terrible place; but, in Austria, it is, of necessity, more terrible than elsewhere. Austria has no penal settlements, like Australia, to export to; its Imperial Government avoids, as much as possible, inflicting the punishment of death, and, consequently, with part of its population ever about to be insurgent, it is obliged to increase the pains and terrors of incarceration. Pellico was a lamentable victim of the system; his long seclusion and sufferings within the dread walls of Spielburg, away from his parents, and brothers and sisters, whom he loved so dearly, would, in any account, have excited feelings of the deepest commiseration; but his own narrative, his beautifully-written "Mie Prigioni," has proclaimed his protracted agony to the world with appalling and undying effect. "Mie Prigioni" has been translated into every language of Europe; it is, therefore, needless here to do more than refer to it for the full account of what Pellico endured in mind and body at Spielburg. Suffice it to say, that Pellico regained his freedom in the August of 1830, and returned, in a month afterwards, to his parental home at Turin. He has since resided in that city in comparative seclusion, and there his death has recently occurred. Of genius the most highly gifted, of disposition gentle and benevolent in the extreme, affable, virtuous, and honourable, Silvio Pellico was the delight and charm of all who knew him. Sad it is to think that such a man should have been the subject of such sufferings and sorrow.

PROBATE of the Will of the Right Hon. William Legge, Earl of Dartmouth, Viscount Lewisham and Baron Dartmouth, D.C.L., F.R.S., F.A.S., who died at Patshall, Staffordshire, on 25th November last, was granted, on the 2nd instant, to the Right Hon. William Heskett Viscount Barrington, the brother-in-law. The Right Hon. William Walter Earl of Dartmouth (heretofore Viscount Lewisham), the son, and the Hon. and Rev. Henry Legge, the brother, are the executors named in the will, bearing date the 5th of November, 1840. It was his Lordship's expressed wish in his will that no batchment should be put up at any of his residences. His mansion at Blackheath he has left for the enjoyment of his three sisters during their respective lives. He leaves to his son, the present Earl, his plate, linen, and jewels; but such of the plate not having the Earl coronet or Viscounts, may be used by his daughters—and from the linen, excepts the table cloth with armorial bearings upon it, which was given to him by the late Earl of Talbot. There are between £6000 and £7000 in pecuniary bequests. Leaves the residue of his property, carriages, and horses, and an estates, collieries, and mines, and all other estates, real and personal, over which he had a testamentary disposition, in trust for all and every his children (not being the eldest, or holding the family title and estates). The personalty was sworn under £180,000.

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

WIDDIN, Jan. 14, 1854.

I FANCY there can be no greater contrast in the world than that of the old Turkish armies and the forces which are now assembled together to resist the aggression of Russia. Mr. X. Marmier, in his book on Russia, describes the tent of Kara Mustapha, the General of the Turks, which Sobieski brought from Vienna after his victory. It stands even now with its draperies of purple, its Eastern arabesques and silken curtains, a trophy in the old palace of its captor—Wilanow, near Warsaw. Irving, in his "Conquest of the Moors of Spain," does not tire of repeating how gorgeous were the tents, the arms, and accoutrements of the Moslems who held Granada. One seeks in vain for a trace of Oriental magnificence in the modern armies of the Sultan. Their Generals wear thefez, and for the rest are dressed like London inspectors of police; their soldiers have many of them accoutrements such as are described to be those of Bonaparte's first army of Italy; their habitations are holes in the earth, covered over with mats; turbans, jewelled scymitars, damask tents, and gorgeous arms are reminiscences of the past. But the Turks have preserved one of the great qualities which made them conquerors; they still possess that brilliant courage which often got the better of served ranks and European discipline. Nor, indeed, is the organisation of the Turks as soldiers so backward before the breaking out of the present war as may have been supposed. Since the foundation of the military schools of Constantinople and Egypt, the Turkish force is commanded by numerous officers who have studied military tactics; and, although too many of those who at present head the companies are illiterate, and sign their names with a seal because they are unable to write, there is a marked decrease in their numbers as compared with those of former armies. Another great advantage which they possess, is that of being regular and orderly in their dealings with the people of the provinces. This description of the Turks will do as much for them here as the cruel conduct of the Russians has done them harm. "The Muscovites," says Voltaire (if I recollect right), "have always treated the Wallachians badly, and both they and the Moldavians have always shown more affection for the Turks than for the Czar." "The domination of the Turks," he adds, in some other place, "is only fatal to the great, and is extremely mild towards tributary nations." So it is in the Danubian Provinces, where the nobles are the only partisans of Russia, whilst the people fear its inhumanity. It appears that since the appearance of Mr. Von Budberg—who, with his coadjutor, the late Consul, Hatchinsky, now rules Wallachia and Moldavia—the villages which are known to have taken part in the Liberal movement of 1848 have been visited with heavy punishment. The Russians have shot the peasants, or forced them to work with their carts and oxen, without remuneration. The Boyards, at the head of their partisans, have gone round and plundered the men who, in their eyes, are guilty of being revolutionary, and thus endeavoured to retrieve the losses which they have themselves suffered from the rapacity of the army of occupation. The Boyards are generally supported in these exactions by the Wallachian and Moldavian clergy, who foresee their death-blow in a Turkish victory. This clergy is known to possess, in land and serfs, more than a third of the entire Principalities; and the Liberals of 1848 did not conceal their intention of depriving these over-swollen despots of a portion of these lands. By making them the property of the State, they intended to enrich the public treasury, and give a proportionate blow to the Russian tendencies of the priests. In the dominions of the Czar the clergy are not so rich as in the Principalities. A few large convents, like Troitza, have money and lands; but the rest are poor, and influence is denied them. Do the wealthy clergy of the Principalities think that they would be long allowed to obey their own Patriarch, and govern their own fat prebendaries, if the Czar once had them fairly in his grasp? Is it not better for them to give up some of their overgrown properties, and remain independent, whilst their country, for the time, pays tribute to the Moslem than that they should fall to the lowest rank of Russian *Popes* and Bishops? But the clergy of the Principalities only see what appears to them instantly *in prospectu*—namely, a diminution of their revenues, they fail to observe, at a greater distance, the far worse consequences of succumbing to Russian influence. They, therefore, join in the cry set up by the Boyards, and exert their utmost influence against the Turks. But in order to do this they must use some other motive power than that which acts upon themselves, and this they find in the fanaticism of the Turks. There is no concealing that in their contests with the Russians the forces of the Sublime Porte are animated less by a feeling of the unjust aggression of the Czar than by the old and time-honoured notion that the Crescent is to triumph over the Cross. The battle-cry at Citate was "Down with the Giaours," "Long live the Sultan!" and this ignorant peasant, who is called by the same name which he drives his bullocks, is slow to comprehend that this fanaticism is directed against the Russians only, and not against all Christians. For this reason, I very much doubt whether the Porte could raise in the whole of Bulgaria—or that part of it, at least, on this side of Schumla—a Christian force on which it could really count for the purpose of opposing Russia; and for the same reason the success of an attempt to raise a regiment of Wallachian volunteers to fight against Russia may be also doubted; but it is possible, on the other hand, that the wrongs which the peasantry have suffered, may overcome all other scruples, and that, from hatred of an oppression to which the Turks have certainly not accustomed them, they may be induced to take up arms in favour of the Porte.

The position of the Christian principalities which have conquered their independence in so far that they are permitted to make their own law, and their own administration is widely different from that of a province like Bulgaria, which still remains a pachalic, and its Christian people rayahs. Under the rule of a good Pacha, Bulgaria has been generally quiet. The peasant holds of the Crown, on condition of paying to the Sultan, through his representatives, the tenth of everything that he produces. In the lambing season—when the vintage time has come—when the fruit is ripening in the orchards—when the maize is yellow in the fields, the tax-gatherer appears, and takes the tenth part of all he finds. The rayah, besides this, pays a capitation tax of 20 to 25 piasters every year; and 5 piasters he voluntarily gives for the support of his clergy. When he is constrained to serve with his cart and oxen, as in time of war, he receives payment—sometimes in money, oftener in bonds upon the tribute of his village, payable in a year or less. His daily pay is 5 piasters for himself, his cart and oxen. This, no doubt, is a small sum, 5 piasters being little more than 9d. sterling. No doubt, also, injustice is frequently committed. If the rayah has a grievance, and goes before the Cadi, he finds a tribunal consisting of six assessors, one only of whom is a Christian: the consequence is that, if he has no Musulman witnesses, he has no chance of justice. His only plan, therefore, is to suborn poor Musulmans, who, for 20 piasters, will give evidence, and swear to everything by the Koran, Mahomet, and Allah. In a case tried here, I am told, not long since, an action was brought before the local tribunal of Widdin for the recovery of a sum of money leat to a Turk by a Christian. The Turk was highly confident of success before his partial judges; but the Christian had brought two swarthy Turks to testify in his favour, and, although the Cadi asserted that these self-same swarthy Turks had but lately arrived from Asia, to doubt the word of a follower of the Crescent, when giving evidence in the case of a Christian, would have

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE MEDJIDIE, AFTER THE BATTLE OF CITATE.

been too bad, and the Christian, consequently, got his money. It is evident that gross abuses exist in the administration of justice, and this denial of it to the Christians of European Turkey, in the provinces still subject to the immediate yoke of the Crown, is one of those grievances which cry aloud for redress—one, indeed, which it was said had met with attention from the Porte at the time when she invoked the aid of England, and one which, I am sorry to find, still remains in full force at this very moment in Bulgaria. I have said, that so long as the rayahs had a good Pacha, they were quiet; they are, in truth, quite content to pay their tenths and capitation-tax; for every necessary of life is cheap—salt untaxed, and no foreign produce subject to exorbitant Customs' duties; but when, in addition to all that the peasant pays the Crown, there comes a Pacha who fleeces him of another tenth, then is there discontent, and disaffection takes a rampant form. It is now scarcely three years since the Bulgarians rose in arms against their governors, for some such cause as this; and they are treated, generally, with extreme distrust. In the fortress at Widdin there are about 8000 Turkish inhabitants; and, although the Christians are permitted to trade therein the day-time, they are prohibited from living within the walls. The consequence is that the suburbs are a far more important part of the town than the fortress, and that 8000 Christians carry on various trades there. Even the Jews are better treated in this respect than the rayahs, for they are tolerated amongst the Musulmans, and live, to the number of nearly 2000, within the walls of Widdin. But although this city is situated on the Danube, and in a splendid natural position, its trade is, on the whole, extremely slight. It is difficult to get anything in the poverty-stricken shops, except the common necessaries of sugar, coffee, salt, tobacco, and meat; butter there is not; milk is to be had with difficulty; and as for luxuries, they are unknown. Every species of manufactured article is of the rudest kind. But what trade, after all, can a city boast of which has only 6000 Turks to satisfy, and a Christian population around enormous in number, but debarred by poverty from possessing aught but the merest necessaries—a hut underground, into which he throws himself, for protection in the summer from heat, in the winter from cold? There is much to be done for those Christian populations. Their country is one of the most fertile and beautiful under the sun; but their social state is most abject and miserable. Mr. Marmier has said, "There are two crimes which call for redress, and those are the oppression of Ireland and the partition of Poland." Let that gentleman visit the Christians of these provinces, and he will find some other grievances to redress, some other members of the human race to improve and care for.

DISTANT VIEW OF PAYANA—ROADSIDE FOUNTAINS.

KALAFAT, Jan. 22, 1854.

THE portion of Lesser Wallachia which is at present open to the Turks is by no means a picturesque one. The Danube takes a sudden bend to the west above Kalafat—another turn, equally sudden to the east, below that village—and encloses, as it were, within an arc of which the Russian positions are the cord, a flat and sandy tract of country, intersected by deeply-rutted roads, and ornamented by nothing save the long, gaunt limb of a swing-beam fountain, or little hillocks and mounds of sand of most exiguous dimensions. Upon the undulating surface of these plains the stacks of maize and straw, which form the outward sign of a Wallachian village, loom in the distance—their apparent size increased by mists, or by the absence of other objects of comparison. Not a tree meets the sight—not a bush is visible; nothing but the rotten stalks of maize, or the stubble of the hay-fields, through which the Wallach

SUMMER RESIDENCE OF PRINCE MILOSCH, PAYANA.

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

WALLACH GUIDES.

clothed in sheep-skins, treads and tends his flock. Large herds of ponies, wild and shaggy, are gathered here and there—sometimes peaceful round a fountain, sometimes scattered and grazing; but

ARABA OF LITTLE WALLACHIA.

flying at the approach of men, and throwing up behind them heaps of sand and mud.

Through the middle of this wild and melancholy country travelling is easy and rapid, either on horseback or in the native *araba*. The Boyards of Wallachia, when they travel, use their own carriages, to which they yoke as many as ten pair of horses. With a postilion to every fourth horse, they start amidst the huzzas of the surrounding crowd and the yells of the riders, at a speed which is not known in any other country. The araba has none of the comforts of the sumptuous vehicles of the Boyards, but it equals them in speed. I travelled in one of them to Payana, on a visit to Skender Bey, commander of the Turkish outposts. A basket large enough to contain one person comfortably, and two with a squeeze, is placed upon four wheels, and four ponies are harnessed to the vehicle. The postilion, with a thong like a boa-constrictor, bestrides one of the beasts, and frightens the team into a gallop by shouts which rise from bass to high falsetto, and drop again, with wild and inharmonious modulations; the mud which covers the road is whirled in clods upon the occupant of the araba; and so one passes over hillocks, into ruts; and jolting, bumping, but going fast, the araba and horses "devour space."

Payana is a large straggling village, about a mile in length, which boasts of three or four houses above ground, and a church with a tin roof and steeple. The sun shining upon the latter, makes it visible at an immense distance, and a nearer approach brings into view a wilderness of maize-stacks and hay-ricks, surrounded by palisades; in the midst of which are the *semluks*, or underground houses, in which the Wallachs now divide the space with some regiments of cavalry and irregulars. The village is the property of Miloesh Obranowitch, the deposed Prince of Servia, who also owns the neighbouring places of Chuperichin and Dessa. The summer residence of the Prince (of which I send you a Sketch) is the head-quarters of Skender Bey. It is surrounded by a court, at present deep in mud, in which stray soldiers and Wallach guides may be seen patiently waiting for orders. A pathway of planks enables one to reach the house without sinking in the surrounding bog.

Skender Bey is the most amiable of commanders, and the kindest and most hospitable of gentlemen. He gave me permission to join a small reconnaissance in front of the Russian outposts; and the day after my arrival I started with a squadron of most warlike Bashi-bozouks. As they gathered themselves together in the court-yard, they sat their horses with martial carelessness, smoking their chibouks, and joking amongst themselves. Some were armed with thongless lances, made of timber and long bamboos: a brazen ball prevents the lance from penetrating further than a foot. With these the soldiers rush at the enemy, and cast them from them, I am told, with unerring aim, at a distance of twenty feet, against their enemy. Others have long Albanian rifles, or small short muskets, after the Anatolian fashion. All have pistols and cangears in their shawls, and stick their crooked swords under their left leg to ride.

The position of the Turks in Little Wallachia, since their victory at Citate, has not been changed; and, should they continue to act on the offensive, they must still pass over the bodies of at least 20,000 or 25,000 Russians before they can reach Krajova. The troops of the Czar appear in no hurry to commence operations against the trenches and redoubts of Kalafat; but, warned by their late disaster, they appear determined to do no more for the present than oppose a fortified front to the attacks of the enemy, should he try to advance into the interior. They have not appeared in Citate once since their defeat; but they have made Motzatze, or Meczetzoi of the maps, the extreme point of their line on their right, and Ballecshti, or Boleschti, the extreme point on their left. Their out-posts are at Rast and at Piski. The Turkish out-posts, composed exclusively of lancer regiments and irregular cavalry, extend in a direct line fronting those of the Russians, from Gunia to Maglavit and Payana. Motzatze has been surrounded by a trench and inner parapet of waggons covered with earth; and the position thus made is considered a very strong one. Ballecshti is defended by a line of the same *en demi lune*, fronting the enemy. The reconnoissance, on the present occasion, was in the direction of Piski; but, after two hours' ride, not a sign of the Russians was visible. From the ground we passed on this occasion, it is evident that Payana was once on the very banks of the Danube. The sandy soil upon its right rises into mounds and hillocks, on which are to be found no traces of vegetation. It gains a certain elevation, and then falls precipitously to the marshy plain left behind it by the Danube, as it stood up that portion of its course. Payana, however, is much nearer the Danube than the maps now place it; indeed, nothing can be more imperfect than the geography of the country.

ACHMET PACHA FERIK, COMMANDER AT KALAFAT.

Leaving the escort, two officers in company with me scoured the sandy grounds for about half an hour. With a telescope, the distant hills were clearly visible; but no traces of the enemy could be seen; and, the object of the reconnoissance being gained, we returned to head-quarters.

On the following day a similar operation, on a larger scale, was resolved on, ostensibly for the purpose of indulging the curiosity of your Correspondent, and satisfying his desire to see the battle-field of Citate; but, perhaps, more probably with the view of ascertaining whether the Russians had extended their line further to the westward than Motzatze. The danger of the operation consisted less in the forward march than in the return, for the road between Payana and Citate can be cut off easily by a force from Motzatze. The troops—which started long before daylight—consisted of 120 Bashi-bozouks, under the command of Yscoub-Aga, an experienced cavalry officer, of European birth. At Maglavitz, which was reached in two hours and a half; a second squadron of Bashi bozouks joined company, with which we started to Citate; whilst the communication was obligingly kept open, during the day, by five squadrons of Lancers under the command of Suleiman Bey.

From Payana to Maglavitz was a cross-road on the flat undulating plain which I have described. On the distant hills might be seen the Cossack videttes cantering off to give notice of our approach; and the sun being overcast did not make the landscape bear a joyful aspect. The Bashi-bozouks, however, seemed in high spirit, breaking out of their long straggling line, and bursting into gallops, brandishing their rifles and lances with shouts, and then returning to the road where the rest were going at the more regular pace of marching cavalry. In front were carried the green and white flags of the irregulars, already ren-

TURKISH ARABA.

in various places by encounters with the enemy. These flags, and two small kettle-drums, are the rallying signs of the Bashi-bozouks, their mode of fighting being the dashing, uncertain one of the old Parthians.

At Maglavitz we entered the road by which the Turks advanced on Citate, and between that and Gunia the ground consists of sand-hills whose precipitous sides descend to the plain and marshes of the river. All the villages—Maglavitz, Unis, Fantina-Banaki, and Citate—are on the crest of these precipitous sand-hills; which attain at the latter place a culminating height of two or three hundred feet above the level of the river. Outside Unis, a splendid landscape burst into view. The course of the Danube was marked for miles by its white and glistening stream, far away to the left the Bulgarian and Servian hills were visible whilst to the right the precipitous heights of sand, cut with deep and dangerous ravines from passing torrents, were crowned by the tin-roofed church of Citate. A ride of an hour took us to the entrance of Fantina-Banaki, which, as I discovered, was but an offshoot or continuation of the larger village. There the Turks first encountered the Russians. The latter were advantageously placed on the brow, and behind a mound, on which were some houses and maize-lofts; their right defended by the precipice towards the Danube, their left by a ditch and parapet. The Turks opened the fire of a battery upon this position, and carried it with the bayonet, after a struggle of half an hour; the Russians retiring up the village with their artillery. The main street, following the crest of the precipice, avoids two or three tremendous gullies of great depth, and gradually rises past the church to an apex, on which was the main defence of the Russians. There are certainly not more than half-a-dozen built houses, besides the church, in the place. The enemy fired at the advancing Turks from behind the maize-lofts and hay-ricks, and from the sides of the gullies; but failed to oppose their advance. It was by the side of the church that the second murderous stand was made. The guns of the Turkish cavalry firing from the side opposed to the Danube mowed down the enemy, whilst the advancing chasseurs and infantry added to the slaughter. Upwards of 400 Russians fell upon that spot; and as they lay—many of them quite dead, but more of them alive, though wounded—whole herds of swine rushed on, heedless of the raging balls and musketry, and devoured the blood and entrails of the living. It is a fearful thing on the field of battle to hear the wounded shrieking when trampled by rushing cavalry, but how much more frightful and terrific to see wounded and helpless men endeavouring to frighten away the swine who already seek to devour them. Numerous officers who can confirm the whole of the details I now give you, have told me that they had been in many battle-fields, where the vulture attacks the wounded, and where the tramp of advancing soldiers produces shrieks from the dying; but such scenes as were visible that day they never beheld. "Verily (said a Turk), was not the Prophet right when he forbade us to eat the flesh of swine?"

At the head of the village, and about 100 yards beyond the last semliks, were the remains of the Russian entrenchment. Half a dozen Bashi-bozouks were turning up remains of half-burnt hay, in which were mingled the torn remnants of Russian caftans and knapsacks. The ground was strewed with the carcases of dead horses, partially flayed and eaten into by swine. Many of the latter were still at their horrid feast. They had even succeeded in violating the graves of the dead, many of whom lay there uncovered and grim in aspect. One poor horse, with a leg shot off, was still limping along the ground, without a charitable person near him to end his suffering with a ball or a knife. Here, from the number of helmets and remains of uniforms, many Russians must have perished. The ground was literally strewed with them, but there was scarcely a trace remaining of the position. The entrenchment was not one of earth and fascines, according to the rules of art, but was rather a sort of natural defence made stronger by a few judicious arrangements. The crest of the sand-hill on which the Russians were posted was the summit of the sand-hill on which is situated the village of Citate. The precipice on the left formed one defence, and was as the side of a triangle, of which the other side was a ditch and a parapet. Within the space was a yard, in which were nine ricks of hay. The Russians took each from a portion of each of them, and formed an inner parapet with the hay. They then dug a trench around, and threw up the earth upon the parapet. By this means they had a defence of tolerable strength. Six gun-being placed at intervals between the hay-ricks. The great fault of the Turks was their suffering the Russians to retain that point to the last. I have no doubt that had they made an attack upon it at the latest moment the place would have been carried; for it was not such a spot as could be defended for any length of time. The non-capture of this redoubt enabled the Russians to retire with their guns, and the two which they had taken from the Turks. This they did on the evening of the engagement—from 600 to 800 only, according to the accounts of the peasantry, remaining of the number who had occupied Citate in the morning. Amongst the dead were found many Russian Mussulmans: a curious commentary this on a battle where ostensibly the Crescent and the Cross were in deadly hostility. These no doubt were officers of Tartar origin—either Musselmans, Poles, or Caucasians. Men of this faith, I learn, are enabled to reach the rank of Colonel in the Russian service; but higher they may not rise unless they become Christians. Amongst the officers lost by the enemy was Colonel Baumgartner.

After examining for a short time the burning remains of the aisles, which had formed the Russian defence, and the remnants of caques and uniforms, which so short a time before had been the ornaments and badge of living men, I turned my horse's head in the direction of the village, and soon cantered into an open space where Yacoub Aga had assembled all that remained of the Citate villagers. The unfortunate devils looked obsequiously on the conductor of some of those intervals had been the subject of judicial report, and four or five were signalled out and placed amongst a band of Bashi-bozouks to be escorted safely to Payana. The latter, with the unerradicable tendency to plunder which characterises them, had scattered themselves amongst the houses, and were robbing the poor people of their geese and ducks for the purpose of an evening feast.

The homeward march then commenced; and leaving on one side the ground on which Achmet Pacha had so signally defeated the Russian reinforcement, we straggled out of Citate, glad enough to escape the stench, and recover from the varied emotions caused by scenes so painful and sights so terrible as those we had encountered. Those Bashi-bozouks who had been plundering the villagers were marching triumphantly with a couple of geese each tied on their saddles. Presently one of them met with a proper reward for his conduct. His geese began to struggle and cackle lustily. The horse, unaccustomed to the noise, shied, and turned with such rapidity that the Bashi-bozouk fell heavily to the ground, and off flew the birds, with a scream of joy, amidst the laughter of his comrades, who, fearful of a similar fate, were soon to be seen decapitating their prey, for fear of accidents. Their plunder was destined, however, not to be of any comfort to them, for Yacoub-Aga, seeing the birds on all sides swinging to the saddles, gave the word of command, on which the whole troop stopped. An orderly went round, and in a polite manner deprived each man of his booty; and the captain having then delivered a little oration in favour of order and discretion, the troop again moved on, the deprived plunderers looking extremely sheepish and disgusted.

We had hardly proceeded a hundred yards from Citate, when a lancer captain rushed up, and gave the chance of the Russian approach; and soon, surely enough, we discovered a squadron of Paskievitch hussars, and a battalion of infantry, about half a mile on our right, crossing the hills in front of Motuzitze. It was soon evident that they were only a reconnoitring party, and passed unmolested by them to Unis and Maglavitz, from whence we returned to Payana the same night, after a hard ride during the day of fourteen hours.

Yesterday and the day before yesterday were full of rejoicing at Kalafat. The guns of the trenches were firing salves all Friday in honour of the victory at Oltenitza; and yesterday the decorations for warded by Omer Pacha as a recompense for the battle of Citate were distributed. The three feriks, Achmet Pacha, Ismail Pacha, and Mahmoud Pacha, had the Medjidié of the second order, together with [illegible] of honour; and the lesser officers received the Medjidié of the fifth order.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Monday.

IRREGULARITY OF THE MAILS.

In reply to Lord Vivian, Lord Canning said that no person could be more sensible than he was of the inconvenience and danger arising to the public from the irregularity of the mail-trains; but the powers given to the Postmaster-General were of little or no avail in respect to checking those irregularities. He had endeavoured, in communication with several of the principal railway companies, to have some regulations established, whereby every fine should be levied upon those railway companies under which such irregularities took place. If this system had not the desired effect, he would feel it his duty to apply to Parliament for further power.

PAUPER SCHOOLS.

In reply to a question by Lord Lyttelton, Earl Granville said he hoped that the Government would be able, in the course of the session, to introduce a measure for the establishment of pauper schools that would give general satisfaction.

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH RUSSIA.

The Marquis of Clanricarde, in respect to the notice he had given that he would call attention to some passages in recent despatches from St. Petersburgh, in order to ascertain whether this country was at peace or war, said that since he had given such notice, he ascertained that there was still going on some semblance of negotiation in respect to the war in the East, which he should be sorry by any motion of his to impede in any degree. He would, therefore, content himself by asking Lord Clarendon whether any answer had been received from the Emperor of Russia to those proposals that had been recently made to him? He wished also to know what was the present state of our diplomatic relations with the Court of St. Petersburg?

The Earl of Clarendon was much obliged to the noble Marquis for the consideration he had shown in postponing a discussion at the present moment, which might to some—though, perhaps, only to a slight extent—prejudice the chance which still remained of arriving at a peaceful solution of the difficulties of the Eastern question. Her Majesty's Government had expected on Friday last to receive officially the reply of the Emperor of Russia; but it was only that afternoon that he had received the official statement. That answer had not as yet been seen by his colleagues, with the exception of the Earl of Aberdeen. Under such circumstances, he would much prefer at that moment not to enter into any details. He might, however, say, that the reply of the Emperor of Russia was unacceptable, and was of a character which would not justify her Majesty's Government to send it to Constantinople.

With respect to my noble friend's second question (said his Lordship), I have to say that, on Saturday evening, Baron Brunnow called upon me at the Foreign office, and placed in my hands a note in which he announced that the answer he had received from me, on behalf of her Majesty's Government, to the inquiry which he had submitted, was not of such a kind as to permit of his continuing any longer diplomatic relations with this country; and that, therefore, the diplomatic relations between the Russian Government and this country must be for a time suspended (his Excellency took care of me on Saturday evening, not to late an hour to permit of his leaving London on that night, but I understood that he would depart early this morning. My Lords, I may observe that it is the earnest desire of her Majesty's Government to give your Lordships the earliest and fullest information upon this and all other important points relating to this question, which is exciting so much anxiety throughout the whole of this country. My Lords, I shall, in the course of this week, endeavour to lay upon the table of your Lordships' house the note which has been addressed to my answer to the last despatch to St. Petersburg (Hear, hear).

The Earl of Ellenborough had never thought that this affair would terminate in anything but a great war; and he hoped her Majesty's Government would not relax their preparations for it.

Earl Fitzwilliam expressed the same opinion, and added that never had any Government entered upon war with more unanimous support on the part of the people.

Lord Beaumont asked whether instructions had been sent to St. Petersburg for our Minister there to withdraw.

The Earl of Clarendon said that both the French and English Governments had sent orders to their respective Ambassadors at St. Petersburg to place themselves on the same footing exactly as the Russian Ambassadors in Paris and London had done.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Monday.

THE MILITIA LAW.

In reply to various questions, Lord Palmerston stated, it was his intention to bring in a bill to consolidate the Militia laws, and also that England, Ireland, and Scotland would be placed on the same footing as regards the Militia.

THE OATHS BILL.

Lord J. Russell, in moving that the House should resolve itself into Committee on the Parliamentary Oaths, laid down the principle that all affirmations required upon such solemn occasions as that of a member taking his seat, or a functionary assuming office, should be imbued with a serious purpose and possess some obvious relevancy to the present state of things. Otherwise, he contended, the ceremony was nothing but a profanation. Declaring that the oath of allegiance as now taken was fit and necessary, he inferred that it was almost, if not altogether, sufficient for all purposes. Passing on to the other two oaths, those of supremacy and abjuration, the noble Lord dissected their respective meanings, recapitulated the well-known historical origin of every separate clause, and pointed out the special danger which they were intended to repel. These dangers, he urged, were now extinct or obsolete. No one now believed that the Pope had authority to depose the English Sovereign; that the interests of the Roman Catholic Church justified rebellion, or could take up arms on behalf of the Pretender's family, whose last scion had died many years since. He called on the House, therefore, to imitate the common-sense proceedings exhibited in the conduct of ordinary life, and abandon practices which the world had ceased. Presenting a single form of oath, which he read to the House, and proposed to substitute for the triple series of affirmations now required, Lord J. Russell proceeded to defend two characteristics in this suggested form of words which it would remain. He had eliminated from it the religious element, believing that the time was come when such simplification was desirable, and urging that the introduction of religious opinions into a Parliamentary or official oath was simply disguising the consciences of some, while it availed nothing to protect the faith of others. He had also omitted the words, "on the true faith of a Christian." That phrase had no other effect than to prevent a Jew from sitting in Parliament. If the legislature desired such a prohibition, let them formally insist on the introduction of the sentence, and then express their intention in an unmistakable manner. If, however, they chose to arrive at the same result in a less direct mode by rejecting his proposal, and retaining his old form, he could not allow the opportunity to pass without warning the House of the importance of the question which was about to be submitted to their consideration. The present were not times when he could feel satisfied to dispense altogether with the oath of supremacy. The honourable and learned gentleman proceeded to contend that the proposition of the noble Lord would invade one of the securities of the Protestant religion, because it tended to weaken the Queen's supremacy, which was one of the keystones of the Protestant religion. He would most certainly not allow the course of the noble Lord on the second reading, and would do all in his power to prevent its passing into law.

The House then went into committee, and a resolution was agreed to on which to found a bill for the alteration of those oaths.

The House having resumed, the bill was brought in, read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time that day three weeks.

SLIGO ELECTION.

[illegible] Mr. [illegible] seconded by Mr. Sadleir, a committee was appointed to investigate the allegations contained in the petition of John Patrick Somers, in reference to the Sligo borough election.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Tuesday.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.

Lord Monteagle complained that the law relating to railway accidents was not on a right footing, and that too long a period was allowed to elapse after a railway accident, before a return was made to the House.

Earl Fitzwilliam said he understood that a bill was about to be brought forward by Government, in the other House, to remedy the evil. He thought it would be better if legislation on such a matter were to begin in that House.

Lord Stanley of Alderley said the President of the Board of Trade would soon introduce a measure which would have the effect of mitigating the evil.

Earl Grey was persuaded that if the applications of railway companies for additional powers were refused by their Lordships in every case where due arrangements were not made for public safety, the effect would be beneficial.

Lord Campbell thought that further legislation was indispensable. He hoped a bill would be introduced and passed which would do justice to the people of this country.

THE NAVY LIST.

The Earl of Hardwicke moved for a committee to examine into the state of the Navy List. He complained of the existing system by which promotions and retirements in the upper ranks of the service were regulated. With reference to the active Admirals, he found that they were twenty-two in number. He had taken the date of the commission of those Admirals when they were made Post Captains, and supposed their age at that time to be twenty-five years, and to that he had added the period which had since elapsed. By this rule he found that the youngest officer amongst them was seventy-five years of age (Hear). On the Vice Admiral's list, it appeared by the same test, that the youngest officer was sixty-nine years of age. Then came the list of Rear-Admirals, and in that list would be found many officers who were capable of taking charge of a squadron and doing service to the country. Captains were now conspicuously placed on the retired list of Admirals, although still young and physically capable of active service, merely because they had not held commands afloat for the prescribed term. The efficency of the navy was thus seriously diminished.

The Earl of Aberdeen saw no reason to change the present regulations, which had been approved by every successive Board of Admiralty since 1827. He doubted whether any system could be devised better calculated than the present one to provide for the efficiency of the service by ensuring the due degree of qualification in the officers entrusted with high command.

After some remarks by Lord Colchester and the Earl of Ellenborough, the motion was withdrawn.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Tuesday.

EDUCATION.

Lord J. Russell (in answer to Mr. Adderley) said it was not his intention to re-introduce the bill of last session in the shape in which it was then before the House. As regards future legislation, it was the intention of the Government to wait and see the fate of the bill to be introduced by the Lord Advocate relative to education in Scotland. When the opinion of the House had been declared on that bill, they would further consider the propriety of proceeding with a general measure of education for England. With regard to pauper schools, that subject was still under the consideration of the Government.

CHURCH RATES.

Lord Palmerston, in answer to a question regarding Church-rates, said he hoped to be able to bring forward a measure on the subject this session.

LIMITED LIABILITY.

Mr Collier asked leave to bring in a bill to extend the jurisdiction of the Stannaries Court to Devonshire, to define and regulate the cost-book system of mining, and to limit, in some degree, the liability of partners in cost-book mines.

Sir J. Cockburn said he would not object to the motion. The question of limited liability was of vast importance; and, in reference to it there was the greatest variety of opinion. The introduction of the bill must not be held as committing the Government either way.

Mr Lowe hoped that, upon so important a question as that of limited liability, the Government would not keep the country much longer in suspense. When the Commission on the subject had closed its inquiry, he hoped no time would be lost in laying the evidence before the House. Until lately he had always been opposed to the principle of liability; but facts which had come to his knowledge had made him a convert; and he now thought it would benefit both the lower and the middle classes.

Mr. Moffatt said the extension of the jurisdiction of the Stannaries Court would be hailed in Cornwall with great satisfaction. The question deserved special attention on account of the vast increase of mining speculations which had taken place within the last century. In 1739 the produce of copper alone in Devon and Cornwall was estimated at £20,000; in the first year of the present century it was £600,000; in the last year it was £1,211,000. All these mining operations were conducted on an uncertain system, and this was one of the evils which the bill was intended to remove. As regarded limited liability, he believed the inhabitants of the west of England were decidedly in favour of the application of that principle to mining operations.

Mr. W. A. Wilkinson had for twelve years been connected with an association in Lambeth, whose object was to improve the dwellings of the humbler classes, and though they had a charter, they had the greatest difficulties for want of the principle of limited liability. The adoption of that principle would set free a large amount of capital, and thereby increase the demand for labour.

Mr. W. Brown was no convert to the principle of limited liability. He was quite convinced that this country owed much of its prosperity to the credit and honour of the British merchant, and he thought its credit would be greatly impaired if it were placed in the same position as France with regard to limited liability. Persons who enjoyed the profits of trade in times of prosperity should be willing to contribute something to make up the losses incurred in times of adversity; and there could be no doubt that in periods of commercial distress, if limited liability had been the law of the land, many would have shielded themselves under it, and the creditor would have suffered. He was willing to admit that in the case of mining concerns, railroads, and other large undertakings, it might be expedient for the Government to grant limited liability; but he would always leave it to the Board of Trade to determine whether or not the principle should be enjoyed in any particular case.

Mr. Vivian thought it highly undesirable to introduce the principle of limited liability generally into our commercial system. There were certain cases to which it might safely be applied, and among these was the case of mining operations.

Lord Godrich said the law of partnership was in a position in which it could not be allowed long to remain. The power now vested in the Board of Trade of granting at its pleasure charters by which special privileges were conferred on some bodies, while they were denied to others whose object was similar, was virtually the power of granting monopolies (Hear, hear). This objection would be removed if limited liability were granted to all who were prepared to submit to stringent regulations. If it were right to suspend the law in favour of large undertakings, how could it be just to enforce it against those who were engaged in undertakings which required a small amount of capital? The present law often operated with very great injustice. There was the case of a man who had made a valuable discovery. This man wanted capital to carry out his discovery. He went into the market to raise it, but could not be met by the law of partnership, and he could not obtain the money which he wanted, because the capitalist would not be satisfied with the legal rate of interest. It was, however, chiefly on account of the hardships of the working classes that he advocated the principle of limited liability. By the alteration of the law which he sought to effect, they would do something towards putting an end to the disputes between capital and labour, which must have engaged the attention of every member of that House (Hear, hear). A law which would enable the master to share a small portion of his profits with those whom he employed, would tend more to bind together the interests of the two class than any other measure that could be passed. And if workmen found it to their interest to combine together to carry on manufacturing operations, whatever might be the opinion of the House as to the result, they ought not to be denied the opportunity of making the experiment.

Mr. Cardwell reminded the House that the question of limited liability was undergoing the consideration of a commission, and stipulated that permission to read the bill a first time must not be construed into an opinion upon the great question of limited and unlimited liability.

Leave was then given to introduce the bill.

DESPATCH OF PUBLIC BUSINESS.

SIR JOHN PARINGTON moved the appointment of a select committee to consider how far, by any alteration in the forms and proceedings of the House, the despatch of public business could be more effectually promoted. He suggested several ways in which the business might be facilitated. One was the shortening of speeches. Last session, fifteen hours and a half were taken up in the delivery of three speeches (the speakers being the ex Chancellor of the Exchequer, the present Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the President of the Board of Control). The two former ran what might be called a dead heat—five hours each—but the President of the Board of Control beat them both. Sir John would not undertake to say which of the speeches of these distinguished persons was best worth the time; but this he could say—and he was confident the House would go along with him in the opinion—that the speeches of all three would have been greatly improved had they been a good deal shorter.

SIR GEORGE GREY cautioned the House against expecting any great result from the proposed inquiry. It was the pressure of private business which caused the difficulty. The best cure would be found in the good sense of members themselves limiting their speeches to matter which bore strictly upon the question at issue.

The motion having been agreed to,

The SPEAKER handed in a manual of Parliamentary practice which he had prepared, and which he thought might be useful to the committee.

THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE.

MR. BRADY obtained leave to introduce a Bill for the Registration of Qualified Practitioners, and for amending the law relating to the practice of medicine in Great Britain and Ireland.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

MR. SOTHERON obtained leave to bring in a Bill to Regulate Friendly Societies.

IRISH BRIBERY.

MR ISAAC BUTT brought under notice an article in the *Times* of Monday last, which he deemed a breach of privilege. The charges made reflected not only upon individual members, but upon the character of the House itself. It was certainly insulting to the Irish representatives. The foundation of the article was thus explained. At a dinner, given at Tuam to celebrate the principle of tenant right, it was stated in the presence of several members of Parliament, that two Irish members had sold for money the patronage which Ministers had put at their disposal in return for their votes. These offices consisted of paid guardianships and stipendiary magistracies. The authorities were Dr. Gray, of the *Freeman's Journal*, and Mr. Kelly. He demanded leave ignition in the name of the Irish members, who had all been included in the sweeping calumny; in the name of the Irish gentry, who had been superseded by paid guardians on the ground that they could not be trusted; and in the name of the stipendiary magistracy. He had a precedent in the affair which occurred in 1834, in which Mr. Shiel was involved. The inquiry instituted in that case arose out of an assertion made at a dinner in the north of England, to the effect that an Irish member, who spoke and voted against the Coercion Bill, had advised the Government to push the measure to completion. Mr. Shiel was the member alluded to, and he was acquitted. Mr. Butt would move that the article in the *Times* be read at the table; and that done, he would move that the charges be investigated by a select committee. He did not mean to proceed in any way against the newspaper.

The article was accordingly read by the Clerk. Founding upon the Tuam declarations, the *Times* spoke of the Irish members as needy persons seeking only for place and position

Mr. BUTT having moved the appointment of a Select Committee to investigate,

Mr. J. O'CONNELL seconded the motion, and expressed a hope that the English members would not oppose the inquiry

Lord J. RUSSELL deemed the inquiry inevitable. The honour of Parliament, the honour of the Government, and the honour of the Irish members, were all involved

Mr. LUCAS mentioned that he was present at the Tuam banquet, and heard the statements referred to. These charges were not new to him, and did not, consequently, surprise him. Such charges circulated freely in Ireland, and Mr. Lucas believed them. He went at great length into the case, and detailed cases of foul play which he had received under the seal of secrecy, and which rendered it impossible for him to give the name of his informant. He thought the inquiry ought to extend beyond the cases instanced by Dr. Gray and Mr. Kelly, so as to lead to the detection of the means by which Ministers have kept themselves in power through the instrumentality of the Irish members. Understanding that the question of inquiry was to be brought on by Mr Butt, Mr. Lucas thought it as well to communicate by telegraph with Dr. Gray, and he had received a message in return, in these words—"I am ready to attend at the bar.'

Mr. THOMAS DUNCOMBE hoped that Mr. Lucas, who knew so much of the matter, would give the committee the benefit of his extensive knowledge. Inquiry however, must not be limited to the Irish members. Something affecting English members has come out recently, in connection with the affairs of the hon. member for Sunderland (Mr Hudson). In the accounts presented to the Court of Chancery, a sum of £3300 is put down as having been distributed in shares to landowners and members of Parliament, to secure their good services. Would Lord John Russell shrink from sanctioning that inquiry? He had given notice that, on Friday, he would ask leave to bring in two bills to prevent bribery and corruption amongst poor electors No doubt those bills would confirm the law which punished a poor man for taking a pot of beer or £3 or £4 for his vote; but, if his vote was criminal, how much more so was that of the man who corrupted the members of the House?

The motion was agreed to.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

MR. HUDSON.

MR. HUDSON complained of the allusions made with respect to him last night by Mr. Duncombe, and particularly because no notice had been given to him of the intention of making such allusions. He had never tampered with any member of the House, and on his honour he denied the charge. He was charged with disgorging, but that was merely by a legal construction. His position was not morally right, but legally wrong; and he defied anyone to show anything against him, from his cradle to the present hour. He had enjoyed the confidence of the world, but he now experienced the bitterness of the reverse. He was ready to unravel everything, and he courted inquiry. The press was against him; he had been the subject of vituperation; but he had the consolation to know that all the works which he had projected or promoted were success ful, and he would leave to posterity to do him justice. If money had been his sole object, he could, with the power he which he had, have accumulated money to any amount. The honourable member was deeply affected

The House adjourned at five minutes to one o'clock.

(*Continued on page* 133.)

THE MACE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

(*To the Editor of the* ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

In your able and interesting article in the last ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS on the House of Commons incidental mention is made of the Mace as to it so unceremoniously treated by Oliver Cromwell. Allow me to rectify this error. The present Mace of the House of Commons is not the "bauble" of Cromwell. That was a very plain-looking affair, the House having resolved to have a new Mace to replace the late Royal Mace ornamented merely with flowers, instead of the cross and ball on the top and the arms of the late King.

In West's famous picture of the "Dissolution of the Long Parliament by Cromwell," the "bauble" is represented as being very plain—that agreeing with the above description

On the Restoration, the House of Commons expressly ordered "That two new Maces to be forthwith provided—one for this House, and the other for the Council of State with the Cross and King's Majesty's Arms, and such other ornaments as were formerly used."

The Mace now used in the House of Commons is thus one of these new Royal Maces and agrees precisely with the foregoing description

In my "History of the Royal Society" I have entered at length into the history of the "Bauble" Mace, which was long supposed to have been in the possession of the Royal Society, and I would beg to refer any of your readers who may be interested in the details to that work.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

Somerset House, Jan. 6, 1854. C. R. WELD.

STATUE OF LIVERPOOL.—Mr. Spence has completed the model of a colossal figure, intended for the Sydenham Palace, representing his native city of Liverpool. The figure is dignified, and grandly draped, and will be easily distinguished from her companions in the row of cities, by the commercial emblems and the legendary bird, the Liver, which was the origin of her name.

THE CORPORATION OF LONDON KILLED BY ITS FRIENDS.

A PARALYZED giant, a helpless and withered beauty, or a broken-down merchant, invariably excites pity; but no sympathy exists for those whose reverse has come through a long course of riotous living, selfish indulgence, or the extravagance of vulgar parade. Fortunately, for every class in England there is an asylum in which the unfortunate or the deserved may receive some shelter for their weary heads—some consolation in their hours of fading life, and at last a decent burial. No such consolation, however, is accorded to corrupt and dying Corporations. How humiliating is the present condition of the Corporation of London! Rejected, scorned, spurned, helpless and friendless, it awaits its dissolution, not with becoming fortitude and resignation, but in the spirit of the gambler who ever hopes that some turn of the wheel of fortune may overcome his difficulty, and restore him to happiness and wealth.

With an air of candour, the Consolidated Committee advised that all books, officers, and facts of every description should be at the service of the Commissioners. Nothing should be withheld—they had nothing to conceal. The more the officers of the Corporation were investigated, the higher they would stand in public estimation. Certain grave charges were made by accusing witnesses in reference to the press having been tampered with or bribed—that articles were written to order, money paid for their being inserted, and then the paper purchased and distributed among its members to prove how public opinion was turning in favour of the retention of Smithfield Market in the centre of the metropolis. The uninitiated believed such matters as impossible as they seemed incredible. Mr. Scott, however, in a manner that did him infinite honour, related every circumstance, and proved the truthfulness of the charge. Yet the Chairman of the Consolidated Committee, with an effrontery difficult to characterise, with Mr. Scott's evidences in print before him, had the assurance to declare in his evidence that, although authorised to spend £20 a week in the manner referred to, their expenditure had never exceeded £170 or £180 per annum. Yet Mr. Scott had testified that more than £500 had been wasted in the vain attempt to establish a trashy paper called the *Citizen*; and Mr. Scott's evidence was confirmed by the Remembrancer. Mr. Wood then asserted that the Committee, as a committee, knew nothing of such proceedings; but it was delegated to a few gentlemen of the Committee to treat with the press. Mr. Wood knows, or ought to know, that every member of the Committee suspected the truth, though they would not divulge the secrets of the prison house. Does Mr. Wood suppose that his paltry excuses will screen the members of that Committee from the charge of having wastefully and wilfully expended large sums of money for the purpose of polluting the springs of public opinion, and, through them, corrupting public taste by the foulest misrepresentations? But take Mr. Wood on his own ground, and to what conclusion are we driven?

Allowing the Corporation to be purity itself, allowing that Mr. Wood's version of the story is the true one, and that Mr Scott and Mr. Tyrell have been guilty of the grossest perjury, it comes to this: The Corporation delegate to a committee certain powers. The committee chooses from among themselves certain *discreet* members to do that which, as a committee, they are ashamed to acknowledge—large sums of money are paid without proper voucher or proper entry in the books. Yet, it is unblushingly declared, that no such things were done, although moneys were absolutely paid by order of the committee; and thousands of pounds were distributed to agents, canvassers, literary men, and lawyers.

Some people are said to live from hand to mouth. The Corporation can hardly be said to live from day to day. The independence of one of their members was enough to make him detested by the general body. Straightforward sturdy pluck was denounced as treachery. He was accused of intentionally speaking what he knew to be untrue. He wisely washed his hands of the whole body, and what has been the result? That he is now proved, in evidence given by members of the Corporation, that, instead of overstating the case, it has been greatly understated. The grave charges referred to last week were to be controverted; yet they have been either passed over, admitted, or confirmed. The officers of the Corporation, who live by the Corporation, and, of course, can see no harm in it, persuaded the Consolidated Committee to leave the defence to them. The Consolidated Committee concurred. Who, in his senses, would leave his defence solely to his lawyer? What confidence can the public repose in such defence? If accused of impropriety of conduct, the lawyer who is engaged to conduct the case is not the person to whom should be committed the sole duty of giving evidence. In a criminal court such a proceeding would never obtain a verdict from a British jury; yet such is the frail reliance on which the Corporation of London depend for their exculpation. The written defence was to annihilate those who had presumed to touch with their unholy hands the sacred vestments of the Corporation. Yet they survive! The evidence in support of the defence was to convince all persons of the hollowness and presumption of those who had the temerity to expose the presumed misdeeds Yet nothing is disproved.

Then they were to have the last word of evidence; and thus, under the smoke of their own fire, leave the people bewildered, and retire with honour. Mr. Labouchere cut this pedestal of hope from under them. Now it appears that the previous Committee had concocted another scheme, by which they intended to hoodwink the Commissioners, and bamboozle the public. Determined to have the last word, they conceived the plausible no ion of drawing up a scheme of reform based on all the evidence given, which they trusted would receive the approbation of the Commissioners, and be acceptable to the public. Such were the plans adopted at a secret meeting, to which, it is said, all were pledged to adhere. It was to come on the Commissioners like a thunder peal, and astonish the world. Beaten from every rallying point, without support and without credit for common honesty, they yet cherished the idea of suggesting some alterations, calculated, in their judgment, to meet the case; and, by assuming a virtue of which they knew themselves destitute, they concluded that, worn out by the tediousness of the defence, the Commissioners might, in a moment of fatigue, adopt their plan. Then what a flourish of trumpets! "Wrongfully accused, we have voluntarily submitted to dissection. We have been cuffed, kicked, and spat upon; yet, phœnix like, we rise from the ashes of our corruption, proclaim a principle, and prove to the world that we are full of vitality, and stand before the universal public the only instance of a self-reformed corporation."

"Whom the Gods wish to punish, they first make mad." The friends and upholders of the Corporation are blind to the danger that awaits them. They seem to have no conception that the gentlemen who are inquiring into, and will report upon, all their proceedings are three of the clearest heads in England. Can the Corporation conceive it possible that a few picked men of their body will be looked upon as a fair sample of the body corporate? No. The Commissioners will have before them some of those ill-used gentlemen who, as chairmen, have been denounced as incapables, while brother members have given it as their profound opinion that the wisest and fittest are always appointed to the chairs of the several committees. We shall see.

All this private scheming and concocting has been divulged by the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor. Opposing, as he did, several of the suggestions that had been made, he, nevertheless, confessed that much was wrong. Looking forward to an election for the City at no distant date, he shrewdly endeavoured to win the support of the Reformers by proposing a plan of reform, which only differed in degree, and not in kind, from that proposed by the ablest witnesses previously examined. He courted the support of the flagrantly corrupt, by desiring to leave the "Livery" untouched, to exercise all their offensive and absurd privileges as at present. This spoiled the whole; but, the exposure of the secret conclave excited great surprise. Alderman Farebrother rushed to the rescue, denounced the opinions of the Lord Mayor as indiscreet and, although he might entertain them as a private individual, they were not those of the Court of Aldermen, neither were they the sentiments of the committee to which had been entrusted the management of the Corporation defence. The squabble was a very pretty one, and well calculated to destroy any little prestige that might still have attached to the character of the Corporation.

The announcement that the Court of Aldermen represented a mass of private wealth equal to £4,000,000 sterling will surprise many; but mere money-grubbing or money-loving is no evidence of the possession of qualification for the performance of high magisterial duties. Besides, that is not the point at issue. It is not a question of poverty or riches, but, whether the Aldermen should continue to have any independent power over the City's cash, whether they should be elected for life, and whether they ought to be reduced in number? Mr. Bennoch considers they ought not to possess any independent control over the cash; that they should not be elected for life; and that they ought to be reduced from 26 to 12, and the Common Council from 206 to 72. The Lord Mayor adopts a similar view. He considers that their control over the funds ought to be limited; that the number of Aldermen should be reduced from 26 to 18, and the Common Council from 206 to 96; but, as is quite natural for an Alderman, he thinks that they ought to be elected for life. We have no desire to depreciate the character of the Court of Aldermen. As a body they are infinitely superior to the Court of Common Council, and on this very question of Reform have been singularly unanimous. Had the other branch of the Corporation been equally faithful to their trust, they, as a body might have been spared the pain of the investigation by which so much discreditable conduct is brought to light. Whatever is the result of this inquiry we sincerely trust in the Commissioners doing their duty faithfully, and we have no fear of their being diverted from the right course by any plausible pretence of the Corporation, or any awakened zeal for Reform as indicated by any scheme they can propose.

FIRE AND GREAT LOSS OF LIFE.

About half-past five on Tuesday morning, as a policeman was passing the house numbered 19, Frances-street, St. Ann's, Soho, he was told by a female, whom he saw at the window in her night dress, that the house was on fire. The constable instantly sounded his rattle, other policemen came, and some of them were sent off for the engines and fire-escape. At Golden-square, where one of the escapes is stationed, the man in charge was absent, so that considerable time was lost; and the result was the loss of several lives.

The shop and parlour were occupied by a man named Reeve, a print and bookseller; in the first floor resided the ostensible landlord, James Jackson, a painter and glazier, with his family; the second floor was rented by an interpreter, named Puzzi, who with his wife and four young children occupied the two small rooms of which it consisted; and in the front and back attics, respectively, an aged female whose name is unknown, and a journeyman tailor of the name of Adams, with his wife.

During the time lost in getting the escapes to the spot a number of the unfortunate occupants made their appearance at the casements, and begged it of those below to procure ladders to rescue them, as they were unable to live in the room heat any longer. The screams of several other persons in the upper rooms became at this conjuncture painfully intense. The inmates of one of the adjoining houses, on looking out of one of the attic windows, perceived the aged widow, and Mr. and Mrs. Adams at the third floor back window, calling loudly for help until the flames entered the room, and completely prostrated the three. Mr. Puzzi also attempted to get his wife and four children out of the second floor front, but the fire became so fierce that they one by one fell to the floor; and at length the fire completely encircled Mr. Puzzi, leaving his wife and children no other means of escape than the last expedient, he jumped out of the window, alighted upon a wooden projection over the shop, but rebounding, fell upon his head on the stone flags beneath. He was forthwith removed to Charing-cross Hospital, and paced under the care of the house-surgeon, but such is the extensive character of the injuries received by the fall and the burns, that not the least hopes can be entertained of his recovery.

The two females, the mother and her daughter, who, it appears, first discovered the fire, as well as Reeves and his family, fortunately escaped, as did Mr. and Mrs. Jackson and child. In spite of the exertions of the firemen every upper room was consumed, the roof was burnt off, and the furniture of the different inmates reduced to ashes.

ALLEGED ATTEMPT TO BREAK INTO WINDSOR CASTLE.—When the south-Western station was erected, some three years ago, a private carriage-road was made at the foot of the Slopes to the Castle. This road is used only by members of the Royal family, and by gentlemen attached to the Royal household. On leaving the train last Monday night, Colonel Hood, Clerk-Marshal to his Royal Highness Prince Albert, proceeded up the Slopes, as the nearest way to the Castle, and was not a little surprised to encounter in his walk seven or eight men, with their faces blackened, and their feet muffled, if he might judge by the noiseless character of their movements. The ruffians fled at the approach of the hon. and gallant gentleman, and have not since been heard of. On inquiry it appeared that the suspected burglars were observed by the sentinel on duty at the corner of the Prince of Wales' Tower (on the basement of which is the guard pantry), and then the man at once, looking down from the terrace, threatened to fire at them. To this they replied that if he so much as fired, or give the alarm, they would blow out his brains. The hostile parley had proceeded thus far when Colonel Hood met by the Lodge gate in Datchet-lane, and the burglars doubtless supposed that he was at the head of a party sent to capture them. This will account for the precipitate flight and subsequent escape. On the arrival of Colonel Hood at the Castle the police were ordered to patrol the Slopes for the remainder of the night, but they could detect nothing likely to excite suspicion, or serve as a clue to the apprehension of the evil-disposed parties. The affair has created a great sensation in Windsor, and will cause the Palace to be guarded more strictly than ever, especially after nightfall.

MORMON EMIGRANTS.—Last week nearly three hundred Mormonites met in Newport, from various parts of the Isle, with the view of starting together for the Great Salt Lake. A meeting of the intending emigrants took place in the long room, at the Sunderland House, Lymington-street, the same evening; and next morning, the eager enthusiasts left the town per the Newport and Here ord Railway for Liverpool—the latter port being the spot at which they intended—with others who would join them on the route—to embark.

THE LAWS OF ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND.—The London committee of merchants and others, associated for the assimilation of the commercial and bankruptcy laws of the United Kingdom, are now in communication with the commercial societies of Liverpool with the view of promoting this important movement. The first great step towards its accomplishment is the bill which was introduced by Lord Brougham last session of Parliament and read a second time, having for its object the assimilation of the bankruptcy system of England and Scotland. Another great step in the direction of assimilation is a bill about to be introduced into Parliament, for the extension to England of the Scottish system of recovering by summary procedure on bills of exchange, by that cheap and speedy method of recovering payment, the holder is enabled, without bringing an action, to sign judgment when the bill is dishonoured, and after six days' notice to issue execution. Nor can the debtor allowed to elapse the bill until he finds two sufficient sureties for debt and costs; and even then, under certain circumstances, a Judge at the outset that he has *primâ facie* reasonable and honest grounds for refusing payment.

AN EXTRAORDINARY FEAT was successfully performed on Monday, January the 30th, at Eastbourne Sussex, by Edward Curtis Grahame, esq., of the Elms, an undergraduate of Trinity College, Cambridge. The undertaking was to perform a walk of eighty miles within the twenty-four hours. The ground chosen was a measured hail-mile on the road which passes the Coastguard place. Mr. Graham started at a quarter past one a.m., and walked the first half of his journey straight off, stopping to breakfast at half-past ten. After an hour and a half of rest, he started afresh, and concluded the fifty-ninth mile, when he stopped again from half-past four till a quarter to six. From that hour he continued his task uninterruptedly to the end, coming in without any sign of distress at twenty-five minutes after midnight. Great interest was excited in the match, and pop ar feeling was strongly in favour of the walker, who was loudly cheered. It may easily be conceived that the office of the umpires and time-keepers was no light one during the darkness of a great part of two consecutive, windy, and sometimes drizzling, nights, especially the first night, when each arbiter sat "alone in his glory," for it had not been made known that the feat was to take place.

RESTORATION OF THE BEAUCHAMP TOWER.

INSCRIPTION OF THOMAS ABEL.

HERE are few places in this country so eminently connected with historical events of the greatest importance as the Tower of London; yet, not many other have been less cared for and more mutilated. The repairs made from time to time have been executed without consideration of the ancient style and features of the architecture, and additions made which offended the improved taste of the present day. The White Tower has been cased and disguised by windows of about the time of James I.; and in later years the beautiful Norman chapel, the details of which are almost as fresh as if built yesterday, has been railed off, like the drying-shop of a glue manufacturer; and the records of the country been kept for years in a place liable to fire, from the introduction of so much wood, and dangerous from being in the near neighbourhood of a mine of gunpowder. It is, however, satisfactory to know that these valuable Records will in a short time be removed, when, no doubt, the interior of the Great Keep of the Tower will be thrown open to the public. Before concluding our short chapter of complaints, we must say a word or two respecting the present condition of the Traitor's Gate—the water entrance to the Tower—and through which so many have passed never to return. Here the Princess Elizabeth sat on the steps in the midst of rain and storm, declaring that she was no traitor. Scores of pages of history and events affording materials for both the poet and the painter come into the memory at the mention of the name of this gloomy portal. We must not, however, be drawn off by these particulars. Many of our readers will remember, when visiting the Tower, looking with intense feeling through the chequers of the door into this archway at the rushing tide, and being led back according

THE BEAUCHAMP TOWER RESTORED.—EAST FRONT.

brother to Lord Guildford. This consists of a shield containing the well known armorial bearings—the bear and ragged staff. The shield is surrounded by flowers, well-designed and cut, and which are probably intended to allude to the names of his four brothers—viz., the roses for the R in Robert; the honeysuckles for the H in Henry; the acorns on the oak sprig from the A in Ambrose; and the plant which resembles a geranium, for the G in Guildford. The inscription at the bottom of the device is as follows:—

You that these beasts do not be behold and see,
May deem with ease wherefore here made they be;
With borders eke within *there may be found*,
Four brothers' names, who list to search the ground

The words printed in italics are unfinished on the

INSCRIPTION OF LADY JANE GREY.

stone, and are added as above by Bayley, the historian of the Tower:—

A reference to Sir Walter Scott's novels of the "Fortunes of Nigel" and "Peveril of the Peak," shows that their distinguished author had made himself acquainted with the various portions of the Tower. The lower right-hand inscription is one of several bearing the name of Peveril. The wheatsheaves are the armorial bearings of the Peverils of Derbyshire. It is by no means unlikely that, on the sight of these stones, Sir Walter Scott formed the plan of his novel. The room, above the entrance of the Bloody Tower, in which the young Princes are said to have been murdered by Richard III., agrees with the account of the place of meeting between Georgina Harriet, his god-daughter, and Nigel. There is here a secret closet near the roof, of no seeming

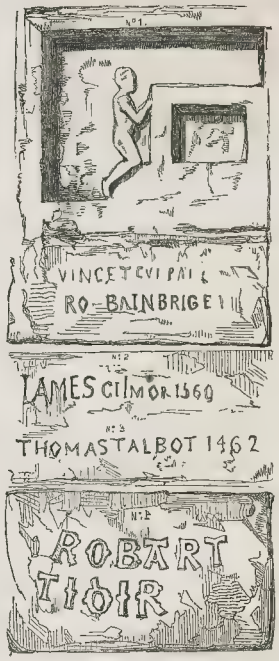
PARAPET WHERE THE PRINCESS ELIZABETH WALKED.

champ Tower was used as a mess-room by the officers of the garrison. many of the inscriptions on the walls were covered with paneling, and the others thickly coated with paint; the windows were disfigured, and the lower room converted into a kitchen. Subsequently a grant of money was obtained from Parliament, and the tower placed in the hands of Mr. Salvin, the architect, for its complete restoration.

The whole of the interior and exterior have been cased, and the inscriptions cleansed by an ingenious chemical process from dirt and paint. During this operation many new names have been brought to light which have been for long hidden from plaster, &c. Amongst these is the first engraved rebus, on the upper left hand. Thomas Abel was educated at Oxford, where he completed his degrees in arts in the year 1516, and became a Doctor of Divinity; he was a man of learning, a great master of instrumental music, and well skilled in modern languages. These qualifications introduced him at Court, and he became domestic chaplain to Queen Catherine of Arragon, wife of Henry VIII., and served her Majesty in the above-mentioned capacity. When the validity of the marriage of the Queen and Henry VIII. became a question, the affection which Dr. Abel bore towards his mistress, led him into the controversy to which it gave rise, and he opposed the divorce both by words and writings. By giving in to the delusion of the "Holy Maid of Kent" he incurred a misprison, and was afterwards condemned and executed in Smithfield, together with others, for denying the King's supremacy, and affirming his marriage with Queen Catherine to be good.

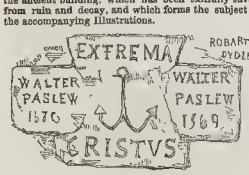
The second of the inscriptions engraved in the right-hand column, is by Robert Bainbridge, who was imprisoned for writing a letter offensive to Queen Elizabeth; James Gilmor, 1560; Thomas Talbot, 1462. This is the oldest inscription which has been found in the prison: this gentleman was in 1464, and kept Henry VI. prisoner at Waddington-hall, in Lancashire. Robert Tidir: no date; nor can we give any information respecting his history. Jane: cut in letters of the Elizabethan style, attracts more attention than those of more elaborate design and execution, in consequence of its associations with the unfortunate Lady Jane Grey. These names are supposed to have been cut by Lord Guildford when confined in a separate prison from the Lady Jane.

Another beautifully-executed carving is the work of John Dudley,



INSCRIPTIONS IN THE BEAUCHAMP TOWER.

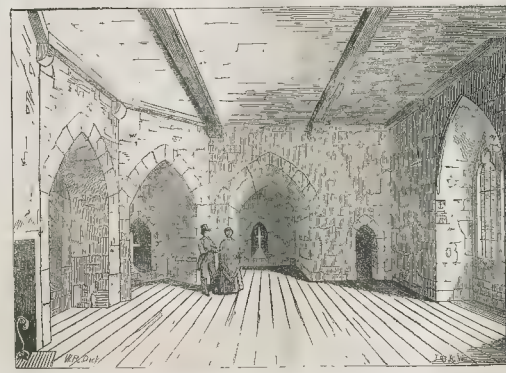
to their information and taste to former times. The apertures of the Traitor's Gate have now for many years been hidden from the public by thick planks of wood. The object in doing so was said to form a bath for the soldiers in the garrison; it has, however, for years not been used for this purpose, and many persons are thus prevented from having the opportunity of inspecting the place, and at the same time it is closed without use or benefit. Trusting that the authorities of the Tower will remedy this, we gladly pass to another part of the ancient building, which has been skilfully saved from ruin and decay, and which forms the subject of the accompanying illustrations.



INSCRIPTIONS OF WALTER PASLEW AND ROBART DYDLEY.

The Beauchamp Tower derived its name from Thomas de Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, who was imprisoned there in 1397. It consists of three apartments, one above the other, besides a few small passages and cells. The lower room is partly below the ground, and must have been a dismal place of imprisonment. A circular staircase leads to the other apartments, in which have been confined so many eminent individuals. Many of these have here endeavoured to shorten the tedious hours by records on the stone walls of their names and sentiments; and hard must be the heart which could look unmoved at many of the inscriptions. Until a short time since the Beauuse, except to conceal an observer from the prisoners, which may have afforded the idea of the "lug" in which James I. ensconced himself.

Many other sad histories might be given of those whose hands cut the markings on the walls of the Beauchamp Tower, which have been made to look almost as perfect as when first executed: even the chisel-marks in the sunk parts are distinctly visible.



STATE PRISON-ROOM IN THE BEAUCHAMP TOWER.

INSCRIPTION OF THOMAS FEVERIL.

Our space, however, prevents us from doing more than to recommend a visit to the place, which will, we believe, be soon open to the public; and, in the meantime, refer them to Bayley's History of the Tower; and to a work containing careful copies of all the carvings and other particulars, just published by Mr Dick, the gentleman who has so ably superintended the work of restoration. The Beauchamp Tower has been used as a prison for male offenders only. A short time since, a door of ancient oak, knotted with iron, was below the plaster: this door opened to the

THE INDIAN LIONS, IN THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, REGENT'S-PARK.

terrace shown in the Engraving, leading to the Bell Tower, in which the Princess Elizabeth, Lady Jane Grey, and other distinguished prisoners were confined. But little change has taken place in so much of the scene as is presented to our readers since that time—when, probably, it was used as a promenade by those celebrated individuals—except that the walls are more begrimed by the smoke of "sea-coal" fires, and that the bustle of the Thames is increased in a wonderful degree. We may mention, in conclusion, that the place pointed to by the figures in the exterior View of the Beauchamp Tower is the spot on which the scaffold was placed for the execution of Anne Boleyn, Lady Jane Grey, and others.

We have omitted to mention the inscriptions engraved at the foot of the left-hand column: and on the left-hand side as you enter the Beauchamp Tower, on the ground-floor. These are, first, an inscription by "Walter Paslew," dated "1569" and "1570:" "Extrema Christus" (my hope is in Christ). "No authentic account," says Mr. Dick, "is given of this person." In 1537, we read of a John Paslew, Abbot of Whalley, in Lancashire, being apprehended for his part in the rebellion called the Pilgrimage of Grace, and executed March 12, 1537. Near to the device of "Paslew," we find "Robart Dvdley." This nobleman was the third son of John Dudley, Duke of Northumberland, who was arraigned for high treason in 1553, was condemned, and beheaded on Tower-hill. At his death, his sons were still left in confinement; and Robert was, in 1554, arraigned at Guildhall, on the plea of high treason, and condemned to be hanged, drawn, and quartered. He lay under this sentence until the following year, when he and his two brothers, Ambrose and Henry, were liberated by command of Queen Mary, and afterwards rose into high favour at the Courts of Mary and Elizabeth.

The historical notices in Mr. Dick's work have been collected with much care from State papers, records, and other authentic sources; and the devices and inscriptions are very neatly lithographed from Mr. Dick's drawings; rendering the publication highly acceptable to archæologists and lovers of historic relics.

THE INDIAN LIONS, AT THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS IN THE REGENT'S-PARK.

Lions were formerly abundant throughout Northern India, but the hunting exploits of the English during the last fifty years have so reduced their numbers, that they now only exist in two or three districts, and even there they are found but rarely.

The Indian Lion is, therefore, one of those animals whose extinction will probably happen in our own time—just as wolves have ceased to live in the British Islands, as the moa has disappeared in New Zealand, and the dodo in Mauritius. Although this destruction of a certain number of the inferior animals seems to be the inevitable result of the extension of human civilisation, we cannot but look with intense interest and some regret upon the creatures which are thus passing, or have passed, out of the catalogue of animated nature.

The Indian or Asiatic Lion has been supposed by naturalists to constitute a distinct and separate species from those which abound in Africa. But as the Asiatic Lions differ among themselves in appearance, quite as much as the different local races in Africa, that question is one which admits of considerable doubt.

The Goojerat race of Lions, to which the present specimens belong is remarkable for the comparative scantiness and erect direction of the mane, the peculiar carriage of the tail, and the large size of the tail-tuft. They are unusually fine specimens, the male being three feet four inches in height at the shoulder; and they are unquestionably a most valuable and interesting addition to the magnificent series of carnivorous animals which have long made so effective a feature in the Zoological Society's collection.

The actual rarity of Lions in India has hitherto interposed insuperable difficulties in the way of obtaining any from that country, although the supposed difference of species rendered the acquisition of living specimens extremely desirable in a scientific as well as in a popular point of view. But difficulties have of late years ceased to interrupt the progress of the Zoological Society; and at last we have a pair of Asiatic Lions, in full health, and in the flower of their age—they being now, according to the account of the voluble old Mussulman who has accompanied them throughout the Overland journey, about four years old. They are perfectly under the control of this man, who exercises an influence over them by no means less remarkable than that which Van Amburgh, Carter, Charles, and the other disciples of Morok used to exhibit to the wondering town. It is probable, however, that the ascendancy of Ferid Khan was obtained in a very different way, for his is simply that of benevolence. At the hunt, in which the mother of these animals was killed, one of the beaters found them in her lair, apparently about three days old. They were there and then placed in charge of Ferid Khan, and he never allowed any other hand than his own to feed them up to the time of their arrival in England.

For this noble acquisition, the Society is indebted to the liberality of Sir Erskine Perry, formerly Chief Justice of Bombay, through whose influence they were obtained from the native Prince who captured them, and at whose expense the animals were brought down some 350 miles from the interior to Bombay.

THE ALLIGATORS IN THE GARDENS OF THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY, REGENT'S-PARK.

There is now an admirable opportunity of seeing the large Alligators belonging to the Zoological Society, which have recently been placed in a spacious tank, prepared for their winter quarters, in the Aquavivarium. During the summer and autumn the Alligators were so frequently under water in the pond which they inhabited, that scarcely one in a thousand of the visitors was fortunate enough to catch a glimpse of them.

The Alligators, represented in our Illustration, are both of the North American species, and were captured in Carolina. Their natural habit is to bury themselves in mud at the beginning of winter, and there to remain in a torpid state until the approach of spring, when they emerge in an emaciated condition to recommence their life of rapine in the rivers and swamps, where they occasionally swarm in almost incredible numbers. In accordance with this impulse of nature, the Society's Alligators, at the present moment, are almost devoid of active motion; and although respiration is certainly not suspended, it goes on but languidly and at prolonged intervals.

It will be extremely interesting to watch the return of vigour to these huge reptiles as the spring sun begins to exercise its influence upon them. Their plump sides speak satisfactorily of the effect of the good cheer which they enjoyed in the autumn; and, as there is now every probability of their surviving the winter, we may hope to see them make rapid advances in size. They are already, by far, the largest which have been seen alive in this country—the oldest of the two already measuring about ten feet in length, and promising, before long, to be at least equal in dimensions to that specimen so "famed in story," on which Mr. Waterton performed his equestrian feat on the Essequibo, and which still adorns, with crowning interest, the admirably-prepared Museum at Walton Hall.

ALLIGATORS, IN THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY'S MENAGERIE.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

The Commissioners of Emigration have given notice that they require three vessels to be ready to carry passengers to Sydney on the 21st, Hobart Town on the 24th, and Adelaide on the 28th March next.

The Royal Commissioners appointed to inquire into the cause of the late outbreak of cholera at Newcastle-on-Tyne will resume the inquiry about the middle of this month.

In its sitting of the 31st ult., the Piedmontese Chamber of Deputies passed the bill for the abolition of the lottery, by a majority of 98 votes to 6.

The shipwrecks that occurred during the last month were greater in number than have been known to have happened in so short a period for the last 18 years. Upwards of 300 losses were announced in Lloyd's book, with the sacrifice of 700 lives.

The Speaker has appointed the following members of the House of Commons to serve on the General Committee of Elections:—Sir G Grey, Mr. Walpole, Mr. J. W. Patten, Mr. R. Palmer, Sir R. Ferguson, and Mr. Bramston.

Sir Massch Lopes, the son of the deceased Baronet, is to marry the daughter of Sir John Buller, as soon as the time for mourning shall have passed away.—*Western Times.*

It is said that the Infante Don Enrique has received permission to return to Spain, and will take up his residence at Valencia.

Mr. Thomas Bazley, the late President of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, having been prevailed on to withdraw his resignation, has been unanimously elected by the new Board.

The night force of the Glasgow police are about to apply to the Police Committee for permission to wear the moustache. During the late inclement weather the men who were least accustomed to exposure to the night air were much affected with colds and ailments of the throat, and it was with difficulty suitable substitutes could be procured.

It is said there are 21,487 blind persons in the whole of Great Britain.

No fewer than 153 coal-laden vessels were entered on Saturday at the Custom house, with cargoes amounting, in the aggregate, to 8600 tons of coals for household consumption. It is said this will cause a reduction of 4s. per ton.

The silk trade is in a flourishing condition at St. Etienne, in France. In 1853 the quantity of silk used was 632,000 kilogrammes, being 20,060 kilogrammes more than in 1852, and 184,000 kilogrammes more than in 1846.

An American dealer in ready-made linen advertises his shirts and chemi ettes under the delicate appellation of "male and female envelopes."

Baron Pennefather is not sufficiently recovered from his late indisposition to go the Irish spring circuit. His place will be filled by Mr. Serjeant O'Brien.

Mr. Goalen, the principal of the audit department of the London and North-Western Railway Company, has been given into custody on a charge of extensive frauds amounting to £6000 or £7000.

A most seasonable relief has been afforded to the poor, by the arrival of a great number of colliers at Portsmouth, as well as a multitude of fishing craft. Coals are now only 20s. per ton, and mackerel are twelve a shilling.

It is now necessary that travellers to France should be provided with passports, verified by the agents of France in England.

M'Kay, the Royal piper, and Smith, the Royal policeman, who both sat mad on Friday week last, are pronounced incurable. The one is sent to Bedlam, and the other to St. Luke's.

The promoters of the Institution of the Guild of Literature and Art have made an application to Parliament for leave to deposit a petition for an act.

The lambing season in the southern division of Wilts has proved, we are sorry to say, in the generality of instances, one of the most unfruitful on record—a result attributed to the badness of the hay, and a variety of other causes.—*Wiltshire Independent.*

A Chinese, by name Aileine Kimeyang, who served in his native dress in a tea-dealer's shop in Leeds, has been committed for trial for stealing £120 from his master, Mr. Richardson.

The national balance-sheet for 1853 has been issued. The income of the year amounted to £54,430,344, the expenditure to £51,174,839; showing a surplus of £3,255,505.

The telegraphic lines between Turin and Lombardy were to be opened to private correspondence on the 10th instant.

The petition from the citizens of London to the Corporation for the removal of temple bar, which was numerously signed, was presented at the Court of Common Council on Thursday last.

The *Limerick Chronicle* says that the family and friends of William Smith O'Brien entertain a well-grounded hope of his free pardon before the end of the present year.

The Municipal Council of Paris have voted the erection of an hospice for young girls in the Faubourg St. Antoine, which is to be under the patronage of the Empress Eugénie.

A refiner in Greenock recently boiled up fifty tons of brown West India sugar, from which he extracted three tons of clay!

There are at this moment in the French navy 2 admirals, 11 vice-admirals, 20 rear admirals, 36 captains of the first class 74 captains of the second class, and 227 captains of frigates in all, 370 superior officers.

Sir George Rose, the Master charged with the winding-up of the affairs of the Marylebone Banking Company, has ordered a call of £8 per share, payable on the 15th of March.

Tapner, the Guernsey murderer, has given the clergyman a paper, stating that he alone was guilty of the crime for which he was condemned.

It is reported that some important alterations are to be made with respect to the admissions to Winchester School. Stricter examinations are to be made, and wealth and power will cease to have such influence in admissions as hitherto.

A recent return to Parliament shows that, from the 1st January, 1848, to the 31st December last, the coinage at the Mint amounted to £32,201,386 1s. 4d. The gold coinage in the six years was £31,216,384 12s. 8d.; the silver coinage, £1,263,139 12s. 10d.; and the copper coinage, £21,351 16s.

The *Piedmontese Gazette* publishes a series of very severe regulations concerning masquerades during the Carnival. No one is to be allowed to walk in the street with a mask, or in masquerade dress without a special license.

The importance of the Australian trade is such, that no less than 1200 vessels, or more, sailed from England and Ireland, averaging 372,000 tons, which probably carried out upwards of 700,000 tons of goods, during the past year.

The grand eight-oared match between the two Universities will take place in the Easter vacation, at Putney. The Oxford crew is partly selected, and some of them have already commenced active training.

Among the recent new patents is one to A. T. Wagner, of Berlin, professor of music, for the invention of "a psychograph, or apparatus for indicating persons' thoughts by the agency of nervous electricity."

The director of police at Milan has issued a notice, dated the 1st, in which, after stating that the enemies of order are again spreading false news, he warns such persons that they are liable to be tried by court-martial.

The heavy contract for rum, just announced by the Admiralty, has sent up the price again. The last contract only sought 10,000 gallons, whilst 30,000 gallons were taken; and now 80,000 gallons are to be tendered for, and probably much more may be taken.

The Baroness of Thomond has recently presented to her Majesty for the Admiralty-house at Portsmouth, three full-length valuable portraits, by Sir Joshua Reynolds, of King George III., King William IV., and one of his late R.H. the Duke of York.

Letters from Madrid state that the young Princess of Asturias, the only surviving child of the Queen of Spain, is dangerously ill. Her death would again open the succession to the Duchess of Montpensier.

It is understood that the large game preservers in the neighbourhood of Maidstone are about to discharge their keepers, and give up the occupation of preserving.

The corporation of Gravesend have purchased a fire-engine, of the same powerful construction as those of London which will be transmitted to the market-place, where already two others are stationed.

Early on Friday week, Mr. R. Leycester, of Cambridge-villas, Cheltenham, while attending the Bachelors' ball, at the Assembly-rooms, was suddenly seized with a fit, and died in about ten minutes.

The Duke of Newcastle is giving employment to a large number of persons, in building cottages for the labouring poor on his estates, and in draining and fencing.

The Edinburgh opera season came to a termination on Saturday, after a most successful campaign

The Darlington Local Board of Health has adopted a memorial to the Earl of Aberdeen, praying that Darlington may be one of the newly-created boroughs under the Reform Bill.

The *Norma*, a Russian vessel, from Lisbon to Ollenburg, with a valuable cargo, was wrecked on the Goodwin Sands on Tuesday.

A measure for the registration of births, marriages, and deaths in Scotland is said to be in course of preparation.

VALENTINE'S DAY.

A POET'S VALENTINE.

BY MRS. T. K. HERVEY.

I have not wooed thee as the many woo;
I have not cast my heart beneath thy feet:
I loved thee with a spirit proud and true,
And if my words have seemed nor smooth, nor sweet,
It is that these poor pulses stay their beat
To pause upon the music of thy tongue!
Silence and Truth, dear love! do oft-times meet:
Even Hope, scarce quickened, falters and dies young,
As chords will sang asunder when a lyre is newly strung.

But hold me in thy patience yet awhile:
The heavens do hear me oft when thou art far—
If far thou canst be where my heavens smile.
I never likened thee unto a star,
O cold thee thou wert what the angels are;—
Angels are pitiful, and thou art not:
The whiteness of thy soul thou wouldst not mar,
And on its stainless mirror 'twere a blot
If love's most noble claim to love, in pity, were forgot.

True souls do ask no guerdon save the bliss
Of purely loving that which is most pure;
It is the virgin's robe whose hem we kiss,
Not the stage mantle, worn but to allure:
And thou in thy heart's singleness art sure
The joy of loving thee may well atone
For all thy coldness calls me to endure.
Right-seated love is likest on its throne
To souls enshrined upon dead lips—that smile, but make no moan.

Freed from its once apparel of the clay,
The wakened soul stands beautiful and mute,
Like to a sun new-risen to the day,
Whose glorious orb puts off night's mourning suit.
The worn husk droppeth from the ripened fruit.
Scant is the earth where mountain pines abound;
So love is best, though starving at the root,
Whose higher life is by the sunbeams crowned:
So larks sing sweet in upper air, though mute on grassy ground.

When, one by one, the silent moonbeams climb
Those airy heights which only lovers know,
And, fainting on the barren steps of Time,
The beggared heart can see to count its woe,
Comfort falls soft as footsteps on the snow!
Then to my side thy spirit steals unsought;
And, heedless how the night-tides ebb and flow,
We two, love-armed, do set the hours at nought,
Watching the quiet stars die out with a most raptured thought.

Thou canst not see me with thine earthly eyes,
Thou canst not feel my hand upon thy brow;
Yet, nestling on my heart thy beauty lies,
More real far than I behold thee now.
My waking life is one unanswered vow;
But in deep dreams, my sweet! this is not so:
My spirit-kiss thy spirit doth allow.
Thou see'st my joy, as those who Northward go
See waters rise among the wolds, yet know not whence they flow.

And thou dost marvel at the quiet thought
Which makes a greenness wheresoe'er I tread:
The summer garlands into beauty wrought,
Do babble not of where their bloom was fed.
Blessèd the dews that are in silence shed!
The flower wherein the wild bee dives at noon,
Will drop its petals when its sweets are fled:
My years would drop so withered and so soon;
The life that lacked love's secret sweet were but a thankless boon.

And now when Love stands crowned among the saints,
For this one day my heart is fain to speak,
Though the pulse trembles and the spirit faints,
To fee how breath is frail and words are weak,
To sum the measure of the wealth I seek!
If I do wrong, O, tenderest soul! forbear
To chide me with the glow upon thy cheek.
I would not owe thy love to my despair:
Love's seed doth root and flourish best sown by the random air.

Go! fling thy tresses on the winds of morn,
And let the stars be mirrored in thine eye;
Better I died, heart-blinded by thy scorn,
Than thou shouldst live the slave unto a sigh!
Like those untrammeled flowers that round thee lie,
Free in their inmost breath, shouldst thou be free:
So, till thy soul to Love's fair shore draws nigh,
True as a billow of the unlashed sea,
No craven wish of mine shall stand 'twixt thy sweet will and thee.

EDUCATIONAL EXHIBITION.—The Council of the Society of Arts have determined to hold an educational exhibition in the month of June of the present year, when the conference of the representatives of its various affiliated societies, now amounting to 326 in number, will take place. The council have already sought the aid of her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs for the Colonies, with the view of obtaining models of the schools of primary instruction approved by the Departments of Public Instruction in France, Holland, Prussia, Switzerland, Denmark, Sweden, Canada, and at Washington, New York, or Massachusetts; and specimens of every article manufactured to be used in the different classes of schools recognised by each State; as well as of the writing, drawing, needlework, printed examination papers, &c., done in the schools. The council have also asked to be furnished with copies of the codes of public instruction in force in each country, and they promise to publish, at the time of the exhibition, an English synopsis of the whole. Letters have also been addressed to the large educational bodies and Government departments dealing with this subject in this country, claiming their co-operation in the undertaking.

POST-OFFICE LETTERS.—The great increase in the last fourteen years in chargeable letters delivered in the United Kingdom is shown by a return issued on Saturday. In 1840 the number delivered was 347,000,000, being an increase on the previous year of 9,500,000. In 1851 the number was 360,800,000; increase, 13,800,000. In 1852 the number was 379,800 000; increase, 19,000,000. And last year 411,000,000 letters were delivered; being an increase of 31,500,000.

ROMAN REMAINS IN THE CITY.—The workmen at the Old Excise-office, Broad-street, came upon a piece of tesselated pavement remaining *in situ* the other day, and, in consequence of the precautions suggested, they were enabled to remove the ruins and rubbish without injury. This pavement has been subsequently cleared out to some extent, and has disclosed work of considerable beauty. It was found about thirteen feet below the surface, and at least eighteen inches below the lowest foundations of the Excise office—one of the very heaviest walls having been built across it. The piece at present cleared out is the centre of the border of a large pavement belonging to an apartment probably thirty feet square. The pattern is a bold representation of leaves and flowers in their natural colours, executed in the usual way.

Since the establishment of the life-boat system in Jutland and Bornholm, a year ago 116 lives have been saved—72 by the help of the rocket; and, so far as is known, not a soul has been lost among the Danish shores.

TOWN AND TABLE-TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

THE great grandson of the illustrious author of "Robinson Crusoe" is alive, and in great poverty—in poverty arising from no misconduct of his own, but from misfortune and its unwelcome ally, old age. It is enough, one would think, to mention the circumstance—and to obtain for him with ease that bare sufficiency which he seeks. He is in his seventy-seventh year, and is the De Foe, of Hungerford-market, mentioned by Wilson, in his painstaking life of the great novelist. His case has been inquired into by Mr. Charles Knight, and a sum of money has been raised by him, chiefly among literary men, that will, with a little more assistance, be sufficient to provide for his very moderate wishes and wants. The great grandson of the man who has given so much to all ages of Englishmen is content and happy at Kennington, with a relief of £2 a month. Mr. Charles Dickens has been (as might be expected) amongst the most liberal subscribers to the little fund. If everybody who has derived delight from the perusal of "Robinson Crusoe" would but contribute a single farthing to his descendant, that descendant would become a wealthy man. When Mr. De Foe was asked, the other day, what he knew of his great ancestor's writings, he answered to the point, and observed (without any intentional comment on the reputation of the great novelist), that in his happier days he had several of De Foe's works; but that he never could keep a copy of "Robinson Crusoe;" "there were so many borrowers of the book in Hungerford market alone."

The gold coin of Mithridates, for which the late Mr. Edmonds gave £115, as we chronicled in a column a few weeks back, was sold at Sotheby's the other day, to General Fox, for £60. The General was a competitor for the coin when bought in 1838 by Mr. Edmonds. A little competition at a sale often carries an article to more perhaps than it ought to bring.

The printed correspondence between Mr. Croker and Lord John Russell has assumed a private character, and has run into some three or four brief paper pellets, in which there is some sharp firing. The paper war, however, is not likely to take a martial turn; nor is the correspondence (from what we have heard) likely to appear for the present in print. Both parties insist on occupying the ground they originally took.

The leading dignitaries of the law have taken an unusual turn of late to notice Mr. Dickens in their speeches. Vice-Chancellor Sir Page Wood, in an after-dinner speech at the Mansion-house, during the late Mayoralty, thought proper to defend the Court of Chancery from the Jarndyce attack in "Bleak House;" and Lord Campbell, in court, the other day (and with his wig on) expressed his regret that Mr. Dickens had not attended to his summons on a special jury. Having finished his Chancery suit, his Lordship observed, Mr. Dickens, by attending, might have added to his knowledge of a suit at common law. The Lord Chief Justice seemed unwilling to fine the distinguished novelist for his non-attendance.

Two sales are about to take place, at which collectors, who *will* possess, will be obliged to bid liberally. The choice collection of old china, of the late Mr. Bidwell, is advertised for sale; and the highly-interesting private library of Mr. Pickering, the eminent bookseller, will be among the scatterments of March. Mr. Pickering's library is especially rich in its illustrations of Walton and Cotton's Angler. Our piscatorial friends must be alive and liberal if they wish to book the choicer articles.

The committee appointed to decide on the pedestal for the Peel Statue to be erected in the city of London, met last week to consider the design which Mr. Behnes, the sculptor, had made and had erected, of the size intended, in the City Green-yard, in Whitecross street. It is no easy task to make a fine statue, and scarcely less easy is it to design an appropriate pedestal. We have very few fine pedestals in London—none, indeed, even ordinarily good, excepting the Charles I at Charing-cross, and the Pitt, in Hanover-square. The committee suggested several alterations, and there will be a temporary trial of the proposed pedestal on the site selected for the statue. This, we think, a wise precaution.

Authors of eminence, in the hurry of writing, or rather, perhaps, in the ardour of composition, often fall into strange errors. Mr. Macaulay, in two editions of his History, placed the execution of Lord Russell on Tower-hill; whereas, it took place in Lincoln's Inn Fields. Sir Archibald Alison, in the volume just published of his "History," talks of the children of Catherine of Arragon, and gravely informs his readers that Locke was expelled from Cambridge; whereas, if there is any one fact about the University of Oxford better known than another, it is Locke's expulsion from Oxford. We will not lay any great stress on these slips of Sir Archibald; but surely they should suggest to these authors some little indulgence to the slips of others.

We have seen some of the recent discoveries about Grinling Gibbons to which we called attention a few weeks back. Two are especially curious. The altar in the Chapel at Hampton Court was the altar of King James's Catholic Chapel, at Whitehall: the "Works Accounts," containing a payment to Gibbons of £130, "for taking down the marble altar-piece, with the columns, ornaments, and figures thereto belonging, in the late King James the Second's Chapel, at Whitehall; and loading the same into barges, and delivering thereof at Hampton Court, according to contract." This discovery will invest the Hampton Court altar-piece with historical interest. Not less curious is the discovery of a payment to Gibbons by Charles II., of £150, "for an extraordinary piece of carved work, made and carved by him for his Majesty, and sent by his Majesty as a present to the Duke of Florence." What was the carving, and where is it now?

The act for the abolition of the present Will-offices throughout the three kingdoms might be made of the utmost service to literature, by the insertion of a clause directing the removal of every will to the London office of the Registrar-General. Our Will-offices abound in matter of great biographical importance, illustrative of the lives of eminent men, of the descent of property, and of the manners and customs of by-gone times. But they are far from accessible, and are hedged in with restraints and fees that render them comparatively useless. Some one called (not unhappily) the Wills preserved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury "our best "Biographia Britannica." Give the charge of all our Wills to Major Graham, our present able Registrar-General, and they will soon be in order, and accessible to all.

DEPUTATIONS TO MINISTERS.—A deputation from the Protestant Dissenting Deputies of the Three Denominations had an interview with Viscount Palmerston on Tuesday, on the abolition of church rates, the Dissenters' Marriage Acts Amendment Bill, and the Places of Religious Worship Registration Bill. On the same day the Home Secretary gave an interview to a deputation from the Military Knights of Windsor, touching certain claims now awaiting the decision of Parliament; to a deputation from the Philanthropic Society for the Reformation of Juvenile Offenders; and to a deputation on the subject of the Militia.

THE COTTON COMMERCE.—Last year the United States of America took an increase of 11½ per cent; Germany, Russia, and Holland, an increase of 7½ per cent, and an increase of 31 per cent went to the shores of the Mediterranean. On the other hand to Great Britain there was a decrease of 1½ per cent, a decrease to France of 2½ per cent, to Spain a decrease of 4½ per cent, and to countries bordering on the Adriatic a decrease of 18 per cent.

RECIPE FOR MAKING CHEAP FUEL.—Get half a peck of clay or stiff loam; make it soft with water; then put one pack of small coal to it, and mix them well together, until you can roll it into several parcels, like pieces of charcoal or long eggs. Any other combustible may be added, and mixed up with the above, such as sawdust, tanners' waste bark, carriers' shavings, &c. As much can be made in an hour as would last several days.—*Chemical Essays.*

MUSIC.

MR. STERNDALE BENNETT has, for the last ten years, given an annual series of concerts of classical pianoforte music, which have been attended by great and yearly increasing numbers of the most distinguished amateurs, of both sexes, in London. They have not only been beneficial to an estimable and virtuous artist, but have been of the utmost advantage to the art itself, by presenting to the public, in the most attractive form, the most pure and masterly compositions for this fashionable instrument. Our amateurs are thus taught to appreciate and enjoy the beautiful works of the great masters, and to estimate at their real worth the glittering frivolities which have so long been in vogue, but which, we are happy to believe, are now yielding to the influence of a better taste. Mr. Bennett's first concert was on Tuesday evening, at the Hanover-square Rooms. An enumeration of its contents will be quite sufficient to give a unusual reader an idea of its nature and quality. It began with Dussek's Quintet in F minor, for the pianoforte, violin, tenor, violoncello and double-bass, performed by Messrs. Bennett, Blagrove, Dando, Piatti, and Reynolds. Then Mr. Bennett played two preludes and fugues—the one by Handel, the other by Mendelssohn. Next he performed, along with Piatti, Beethoven's Sonata in F, for piano and violoncello. These pieces, with Winter's air, "O Glove Omnipotente," sung by Mrs. Lockey, made up the first part of the concert. In the second, Mr. Bennett played, first, some of his own preludes and lessons, composed for the use of Queen's College; next, with Mr. Blagrove, Mozart's Sonata in A, for the piano and violin; and, lastly, Beethoven's Sonata, No. 7, of Op. 27, for the pianoforte solo. Mrs. Lockey, sang two of Mr. Bennett's own vocal pieces, "Dawn, gentle flower," and "Musing on the roaring ocean." Mr. Bennett's attachment to the highest and purest forms of his art is apparent from this selection. He showed admirable taste and judgment in bringing forward Dussek's quintet—one of the finest works of a great master of the last century, whose charming music has long been too much neglected for the ephemeral things of the day; and also in producing Mozart's beautiful Sonata for the piano and violin. Neither of these pieces had been heard in public for very many years; and it was evident, from the demonstrations of pleasure with which they were listened to, that they had all the charm of novelty. Mr. Bennett's own short pieces, composed for the use of his pupils at Queen's College, are truly, little gems, equally delightful to the ear and improving to the taste of the young performer. Of Mr. Bennett's qualities as a performer—his style, expression, and execution—it would be superfluous to speak; and such artists as Blagrove and Piatti stand as little in need of eulogy.

This week's WEDNESDAY CONCERT had one great attraction, the appearance of Miss Louisa Pyne, the most pleasing and popular of all our English singers. Her presence had an evident effect on the aspect of the hall, which was much better filled than it has been at these Concerts for a considerable time. Miss Pyne sang with even more than her usual brilliancy. Her performance of the bravura air, "Ah, je veux briser ma chaine," in Auber's "Diamans de la Couronne," was a marvellous display of voice and execution: and nothing could be sweeter than her warbling of the famous polacca in the "Puritani." Her reception, of course, was enthusiastic. The concert, in other respects, was of a very ordinary kind, without a single remarkable feature.

EXPECTATIONS of an English Opera in London this season have revived; not, however, at Drury lane, but at the Lyceum, for which theatre Mr. Case, it is said, has entered into an engagement with Mr. Allcroft; whilst he is, at the same time, proceeding against the lessee of Drury-lane for breach of the previous engagement for that theatre. On the faith of the treaty with Mr. Smith, we know for certain that Mr. and Mrs. Sims Reeves, Madame Clara Novello, and Miss Louisa Pyne, were all engaged as members of the proposed Drury-lane company.

THE Concerts of the New Philharmonic Society are to be given this season at St. Martin's Hall, instead of Exeter Hall, where they have been hitherto held. Herr Lindpaintner is again engaged as the conductor.

HARMONIC UNION.—EXETER-HALL.—Handel's "Acis and Galatea" is announced for performance next Monday, when Mozart's accompaniments to this favourite cantata are to be heard for the first time in this country. A novelty of great interest.

MADAME GOLDSCHMIDT (Jenny Lind) is not coming to England this season, after all. The reason assigned is the prospect of war, but how this prospect should deter an artist from visiting England just now, we confess ourselves unable to understand.

MDLLE. WAGNER has been appointed Royal "chamber-singer" to the King of Prussia.

A POOR, uninstructed youth, a sand-hawker on the river Arno, is now making a great sensation at Florence. Rossini has heard him sing, and declares that he is the finest baritone he ever heard.

THE THEATRES.

MARYLEBONE.

On Monday evening this theatre, for the first time under its present excellent management, produced a revival, with full accessories—including entirely new scenery and costumes—by way of example of the manner in which it is purposed that the legitimate drama at this theatre shall be produced. In the present instance whether we revert to the getting up, or the acting—we have but to make a report of singular excellence, and a completeness in all points, deserving of general admiration. Mrs Wallack performed *Ion*, as we understood for the first time, and displayed, in the impersonation, a perfect sympathy, both with the poetry of the part and of the dialogue. Voice, action, attitude, were all expressly suited to the character and situation, and presented an embodiment of transcendant beauty. The Temple you'h, with his gloss fancies, and ideal aspirations after liberty; with his love for *Clemanthe*, hatred of tyranny, and pity for the tyrant—all these promptings and imagings of a true and loving spirit—had, in this charming actress, the liveliest expression. All was at once tender and classical: the statue glowed in the sunlight, and filled the air with influence. Mr. Wallack performed *Adrastus*—a part which affords opportunity to a picturesque actor for many effects. Its present representative availed himself of more than the usual number, and frequently with the happiest results. The story of his destiny was greatly told—the assuming of his Royal dignity; his disdainful wrath, on the receipt of the oracle; and the heroic *abandon* with which he submits to destiny, were all amply interpreted and profusely illustrated by the actor. The glir of wild recognition with which he learns that the hand so lately pointed against him is that of his long-lost son, was finely assumed. Altogether, it was felt that this revival of *Ion* is a managerial triumph, and well calculated to advance the reputation of the theatre. It was well and fashionably attended.

HAYMARKET.

Miss Cushman performed *Meg Merrilies* on Monday, with all her usual power and success. The supremacy of the actress in the part has long been acknowledged; and it is one which may be fairly considered as one she has made her own. Miss Cushman has, indeed, to be fairly accredited with the idea, as well as with its interpretation; for the text of the character in the play is not at all suggestive of the peculiar being which Miss Cushman has created for the scene. Wordless and terrible, the inspiring us first with awe, and afterwards causing the heart to thrill with human emotion in the presence of the domestic affections, true to the last, tried by the fiercest ordeal, and suffering death on account of an unbending fidelity—Miss Cushman's *Meg Merrilies* is at once an ideality and a reality, for which she will continue to receive high praise. An ordinary melodramatic character has been elevated to a lofty tragic impersonation by the sole genius of the histrionic artist. Double-less, thereby, the dramatic art receives some gain, and we can but wish that the poet had also been called into requisition. For this, however, the actress is not responsible; but that just system of stage management which encouraged the production of pieces with popular titles, but of no intrinsic merit. We have but to add that Miss Julia Bennett engaged for the part of *Lucy Bertram*, and sang with her usual science and taste.

MR. W. S. WOODIN'S "CARL-BAG AND SKETCH-BOOK."—Mr. Woodin has at length returned to the metropolis, after a successful provincial career, and may now be found delighting his admirers at the Regent Gallery, 69, Quadrant (where we had, some weeks ago, announced he would be). He has added to his entertainment some new hits, some new songs, and some new characters; omitting some old and outworn ones; and, in other respects, has accomplished several improvements. He has also learned to manage more quickly his changes of costume, and has become easier in his assumptions. A new introductory song was much applauded. Among the additional characters are *Professor Foggo*, *Miss Flora Faddleton*, and *Mr. Silberry Brown*. There is also a story of an Irishman at a money order office, which is exceedingly laughable, and which, we believe, is new. With so many fresh claims on public approbation, Mr. Woodin is likely, we think, to renew his lease of popularity, and to retain it for some lengthened period.

MR. LOVE'S NEW ENTERTAINMENT. "THE LONDON SEASON"—Mr. Love, the polyphonist, has, at length, given his new entertainment an airing in the metropolis; and, on Thursday week, appeared at the Marylebone Institution; and has also announced it for other places. It is entitled, as we have said, "The London Season;" and, in a light and elegant manner, and, at the same time, very humorously, describes the different characteristics alluded to. The lecture, which is written by Edward Jopping, Esq., is exceedingly clever, and the wit with which it abounds is not only rich, but of that polished sort which befits a drawing-room audience. The new entertainment includes the assumption, in proper costume, of seven novel and most salient characters. The first is a modern Tuneo, *Mr. Marvlene Perfywhe*, who is most unaccountably surprised with difficulties, having, in his own opinion, managed his matters with such laudable economy. These lead him to a moneylender, and introduce us to *Mr. Moses Mordecai*, whose disinterested regard for his clients is most tenderly displayed. Then *Mr. Benjamin Billows* gives, in nautical phrase, a description of a debate he had heard in the House of Commons—highly whimsical and laugh-provoking. Next *Mrs. Oldstyle* counsels young people about to marry where to purchase their furniture; and *V. B.* 0001, a London cabman, with an extraordinary memory, gives to Mr. Love an opportunity for presenting one of the richest of his portraits. *Mr. Tranquilus Calm* next comes before us, and murmurs against a too-noisy world, the most ordinary business of which is too strong for his weak nerves. *Miss Ickleank* concludes the series, and gives a strange rambling, confused, and inaccurate account of the celebrated spots and sights in London, including a critique on Mr. Love's own performances, conceived and executed in a delicate vein of good-natured raillery—highly refreshing. Some extraordinary ventriloquial feats concluded each portion of the entertainment, which is divided into two parts, and met with the most decided approbation.

THE WAGES MOVEMENT.—The Preston masters, at a special meeting held on Wednesday, resolved to re-open their mills on the following day. In a placard published by them, they state that they have been induced to do so "in consequence of the greatly-increased disposition shown by the operatives to resume work since the meeting of the masters on the 26th of January." They promise that all persons desirous of obtaining employment may depend upon constant work, and remind the men that "the masters are pledged, and are fully determined to protect them against any improper interference or molestation." The operatives held an open air meeting on Wednesday, and pledged themselves not to resume work till the ten per cent advance be granted.

FINE ARTS.

THE BRITISH INSTITUTION.—WORKS OF BRITISH ARTISTS.

THE Fine Art season, according to long-established usage, opens with the Exhibition of the Works of British Artists at the British Institution; and although the leading artists of the day do not condescend to enter the lists there, others—many of considerable merit—appear before us with some of their best efforts, which are seen to good advantage in rooms of moderate dimensions, judiciously proportioned, and admirably lighted. Thus constituted, the Pall-mall Exhibition forms an agreeable lounge to the artist and amateur, who, besides the pleasure of indulging in their critical propensities, after long abstinence, have an opportunity of interchanging much gossip about the doings in the studio, and the prospects of the coming season. To the artist, a further point of no small consideration and interest is this: the purse-strings of the patrons of art now begin to open; and the canvas upon which so much anxious study and patient labour have been bestowed, through a long winter, is now, perhaps, destined to receive that one finishing touch, before which all its other merits fade; that surest proof of exchangeable value—the little word "sold."

As the result of a general survey of the rooms, we should be inclined to say that the display this year presented is not so striking as many previous ones. We say this because, although there is enough of variety, and a fair average degree of merit, in most of the examples, there are no works of such decided interest, as regards the subjects, or such striking merit in the treatment, as to command universal recognition and remembrance as "the pictures (or pictures) "of the room." Of works in the historic school there are none—or none which we would wish to speak of. Landscapes, cattle pieces, still life, domestic and fanciful sketches, form the staple of the display—works all calculated to amuse the general public, and serve the purpose to which art, of late years, has so profitably directed its energies—that of house decoration.

Most prominent amongst the exhibitors are—Inskipp, who has three pictures, one—"The Colmers," in the place of honour; E. W. Cooke, six pieces: Sant, two studies; Sir G. Hayter, "The Arrest of Cardinal Wolsey," and two others: Ansdell, animal subjects; Goodall, "Feeding the Swans;" Smythe, a clever picture—"An Eastern Story Teller," Glass, "A Raid on the Scottish Border." Gilbert, "Sancho Panza Informing his Wife of his Coming Dignity;" W. Wyld, "A View of the Port of Oran, in Algeria;" and, in landscape department, Creswick, Linnell, S. Percy, the Williamses, &c.

[We propose giving a detailed notice of this Exhibition, accompanied by Engravings of some of the pictures.]

DINNER OF THE IRISH INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL, AT BONMAHON, WATERFORD.

IRISH INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS.

Of schools of industry, that for which we were least prepared, was a printing-school! but such has been established, and that with the greatest success, even in the wilds of Ireland: the Rev. D. A. Doudney, a Protestant Curate, seven years resident in Ireland, has proved of what the Irish character is capable, when well directed. We have engraved above a sketch of a dinner scene given in the little obscure sea-washed village of Bonmahon, county of Waterford, upon the completion of six large and closely printed royal octavo volumes,* the composition of which has been effected by "raw Irish lads," who, rather more than two years ago, had not as much as seen a printing-type! These youths have composed upwards of six thousand pages, have been liberally paid from the fifth week of their entrance, and, by the self-supporting establishment, their manners and appearance have undergone the most desirable change. Of this formidable undertaking, a contemporary says:—

"The year 1851, which saw [illegible] the World's Exhibition the gorgeous [illegible] the earth, held, for the resting. [illegible] bearing the *imprimatur* of a remote village school, and a village curate in the wilds of Ireland."

To the above has been added an Infant and a Girls' Working School, from the latter of which [illegible] broidery, wrought by girls, who, four months since, could not handle a needle. On Monday last a purse of 150 sovereigns, and a silver tea and coffee service, were presented to the Rev. Mr. Doudney, in commemoration of the completion of the printing of Dr Gill's Commentary at the Bonmahon school.

* Gill's Commentary, six vols., royal 8vo. Published by W. H. Collingridge, City Press Long-lane, London.

EXTENSIVE ROBBERY OF BILLS OF EXCHANGE.—Louis Montagnard, son of a French merchant in London, went into the Queen's Hotel, Manchester, last Saturday evening, and remained there for about an hour, speaking broken English, but not having any apparently very well-defined object in view. After he was supposed to be gone, a Mr. Garneau, a Canad an merchant, who was staying at the hotel, went up to his bed-room, and found a man about the size of Montagnard, and wearing a moustache as he did, just coming out of the apartment. He asked him what he was doing there, and the man said he was seeking his room, the number of which he had forgotten. Mr. Garneau then went down-stairs, and informed the housekeeper, who went with him at once and searched the room; and they found that a portmanteau had been cut open, and a bill of exchange for £1,000, a set of shirt studs, a purse containing American money, and other property was abstracted. The man had then left the house. Information was immediately given to the police, and Mr. Kerry and Mr. Mark, two of the most active of the detective force, were set upon the search, and on Sunday night they [illegible] in the warehouse of Montagnard, the moustache), as he was [illegible] from for Preston. When they came to search him they found upon him the bill of exchange lost by Mr. Garneau, and bills of exchange amounting in the whole to £7800, which had been stolen from the portmanteau of Mr. Chamberlain, another gentleman who was staying at the Queen's, who discovered on Sunday morning that his portmanteau had been cut open. Other portmanteaus had been cut open in other bed-rooms, and property stolen from them. It was proved that on Saturday night Montagnard purchased a suit of clothes from Mr. Levi, outfitter of Market-street, and paid for them with a twenty-dollar note—no doubt, part of the property taken from Mr. Garneau's purse. Nearly all the property has been recovered. He has been committed for trial at the sessions.

NYPHON,

Formerly Bishop of Bonzeo, and the present Metropolitan of Wallachia, like every Bishop destined to occupy the highest functions of the Wallachian ecclesiastical hierarchy, belongs to the order of monks. He is one of those Prelates for whose spiritual and temporal emancipation the Emperor Nicholas has engaged in what he wishes the world to consider a holy crusade against Turkey; and whom he is, all the while, robbing of their wealth, and despoiling of their prerogatives. As priest, the Wallachian Metropolitan owes allegiance only to the supreme authority of the Patriarch of Constantinople; but the Autocrat of St. Petersburg would compel him to pay fealty to him. As monk, Nyphon claims the right of participating in the administration of the immense wealth of the Wallachian convents; but the Consul-General of the Emperor has handed this power over to the Greek Igoumenes. Lastly, as Metropolitan, the Prelate (whose Portrait we here present to our readers) is entitled, in pursuance of the most venerable traditions of the Roumaine country, to preside over the Council of the Boyards; but the Czar, in remembrance of the rôle played by the Wallachian clergy during the events of 1848, has even excluded him from the Council instituted for the government of the country, during the absence of the Hospodar (now a refugee in Vienna), and the occupation of the Russians. And it is for the religious Protectorate of this same Greek Church that the Czar of all the Russias has disturbed the peace of the world. It would be difficult to define the word *religion* as it is understood by the Russians, and in the name of which so much blood has already been shed.

The revenue of the Metropolitan of Wallachia is 5000 ducats. He lives in Bucharest, in the palace of the metropolis. The Illustration represents him in the magnificent robes of his order. His mitre is after the model of the ancient crown of the Emperors of the East. In his public capacity, he bears the title of Metropolitan of Hongro-Wallachia.

Nyphon is one of the principal characters connected with the great Eastern Question which has aroused Europe from East to West. If any of our readers should desire more detailed information with respect to this interesting subject, we refer them to an excellent treatise published in Paris in 1848, by M. Billecocq (formerly Political Agent and Consul-General of France in the Principalities of the Danube), and called the "Moldo-Wallachian Album."

As an appropriate pendent to this Sketch of Nyphon, we print the following document, which contains historical proof that the monstrous pretensions of Russia date from the remotest times. Russian diplomacy already, in the year 1684, 8th of February, succeeded, at a Council held at Rome, in concluding a secret alliance between the Pope Paul III., the German Emperor Charles V., and his brother, the Archduke Ferdinand, King of Hungary and Bohemia, *in order to effect the expulsion of the Turks from all the European states and isles.*

This document was presented by the Czar Johann to the Roman King Ferdinand, and to the Estates of Germany, assembled at the Diet of Regensburg in the year 1567 (28th February). The original is to be found in the collection of the posthumous works of the famous traveller, politician, and warrior, Sigmund of Herberstein, in his family archives, at Gratz:—

To the Most Serene and Victorious Prince Charles, the Roman Emperor, at all times Possessor of Germany, Spain, both Sicilies, Jerusalem, Hungary, Dalmatia, King and Duke of Austria, the eternal friend of Russia Count of Hapsburg, &c., our dearest Friend and most beloved Brother:

We, Johann, by the Grace of God Emperor and Autocrat of all the Russians, Possessor and Ruler of all Europe and Asia, present to our aforenamed brother our best wishes for his life, health, dominion, &c. Having taken the government, eight years ago, after the death of our most revered father, Basilius, considering the strong friendship and affection which has always united us with our brother, Charles, Roman Emperor, and Ruler of the brave German nation; and considering our innate hatred against the Turk, the hereditary foe of Christendom; and considering our most violent desire for the protection of the Christian Church, we think it our most holy duty to resist the bloodthirsty Turk with money and power. We, therefore, believe that a General Council of the Germans nation, for the aforesaid purpose, ought to be held; for which purpose, we have sent the bearer of this, our theologist and scholar of the Holy Writ. May he inform you as to our religion, our language, and our customs.

We beg, you, further, to send us some men who may make us acquainted with the rites of the Latin Church; and some others who understand the law, and are experienced in police matters, in order to undertake the task of establishing order and police-courts in the provinces we have taken from the barbarians, and among the ignorant peasantry; and especially, also, some masons, in order to erect, on the boundaries of our dominion, strong castles and fortresses, against the invasions of the Tartars, Scythians, and other barbarians. We beg you to comply with our wishes, for the purpose of conserving our old alliance and friendship.

We beg you to answer, in a letter written by your own hand, to the aforesaid requests, whereof you send us an authenticated copy. We do not act for sake of the Christian religion, but only in order to disguise our purposes, and in order to win the support of the German nation; we aim at fortifying ourselves to facilitate the work of suppression. At the same time, we must act so to as gain us the favour of Christianity. We, therefore, unite our religions in such a way that we order in both our Churches the "Symbolum Nicaenum" ("Credo in unam Deum," &c.) to be sung.

Our forefathers already have worked successfully in favour of the Christian name. They have subjugated many barbarian tribes, as Scythians, Benimen, Baskirs, Ceramisses, Thuia, Korelis, and Berussa, worshippers of the sun and the moon, and they have forced them into the Christian faith. We have also subjugated the Tartars, the accursed Mahomedan sects; and we not only have taken from them their lands, but vanquished, too, their army of 80,000 men. We have driven them into Asia, across the water which scholars call Tanais, and have won their territories, not only for ourselves, but for Christ the Saviour, &c.

In consequence of our efforts in the propagation of the Gospel, we have in our Imperial Castle at Moscow sixteen churches, and in our Imperial Neugarden more than days are in the year. This is confirmed by the learned writer Sebastian Munsterus in his "Kosmography." We ought to endeavour to make improvements, in order to rule more securely our extensive dominions, comprising more than 600,000 German miles; and in order to increase in this way our power, whereto we here, with, by our Ambassadors, most earnestly request the aid of the German nation. If we had not hitherto undertaken this work, the only reason was that there were so many obstacles, chiefly consisting in our countries being so very far from each other. We, therefore, have now despatched our Ambassadors, after the fashion of other Potentates, in order to negotiate in our name, in holy as well as in profane matters. Because the city of Augsburg, in Sonabia (Schwaben), is considered the principal city in all Germany, where so often diets are held, money is made, and soldiers are armed, and therefore it is most convenient for successfully arranging different matters: in consequence thereof our Ambassador shall establish posts from there through Livonia, to the frontier of our Empire. Messrs. Fugger, at Augsburg, the richest private persons at Augsburg, have been advised by us to pay you 870,000 crowns (Thaler) for the sake of carrying on the holy war against the Turk, which sum we will advance to the German Empire, on the following conditions, viz:—

That the money be deposited in the hands of Messrs. Fugger for twenty years, and five per cent be annually paid into the hands of our Ambassador, until a common expedition of the German nation against the Turk be undertaken, and until a great and steadfast war against the Turk be carried on. Should no war ensue, during the aforesaid time, the money shall be repaid to us. In the case of war, when the money shall be spent for war purposes—by which, no doubt, with the help of God, many lands and people will be won—it must be repaid, with interest. If a great and powerful expedition be undertaken against the Turk by the German nation and by the Crowns of Hungary and Bohemia, and if your Great Mightiness or your well-beloved son will take the command personally, we beg you to inform us of your so doing, in order that we may send 30,000 Moscovite cavalry or "Ringepferd" to your aid into Hungary, or any other country, where the scene of the war will be; which force we will maintain five years at our own expense. These armed men ("Reisigen"), however, shall be commanded by our own officers; and whatever be conquered of countries, castles, towns, boroughs, by the aforesaid 30,000 horses ("Pferd"), from that we do not require a spot of earth ("Kein Fussbreit"), but only the repayment of our war expenses. If the war should be lost, we are ready to resign all claims.

That we bear so much grace, love, favour, and affection towards the German nation and its chieftains, for the following reasons:—Because we are of the same origin and extraction with the Germans, because we possess so many lands in Scythia and Sovisien, and have conquered them, where, in former ages, the first of the German chieftains had their seat and habitations, and where still the mountains, woods, wells, and castles bear German names. Such are the reasons inducing us to conclude with the Germans eternal peace and friendship. Besides all this, I send you twenty-five sons of princes and lords, as hostages, in order to prove you that I will use the above-named force against no Christian power, but only for the destruction of the hereditary foe of Christianity.*

Past things cannot be undone; and "it is better to improve things late, than that they be not done at all." Therefore, when our empire and the Germans, with right earnestness and good faith, hold together (in which matters there shall be no want in us and our subjects, over whom we are perfectly master, and exercise an absolute power), we have full confidence that, in a short time, the common hereditary foe and tyrannical bloodhound, the Turk, will be humiliated, debilitated, and utterly subdued ("niedrigestossen"). If we have, then, set as strong a foot in Europe as the Turk in the beginning in Europe, then we shall visit the Turk at Constantinople ("Wir werden ihn in Constantinopel heim suchen"), and shall embody again into Christianity the empire taken from it, with all countries formerly belonging to it (restitution of the Byzantine Empire!)

Here the essential part of the document concludes. There follow still some formalities, purporting that the Czar will faithfully adhere to what he has promised; after which there is enumerated a series of presents sent to the German Emperor, consisting of Imperial birds ("Kaiserlichen Voegeln"), foreign white eagles, some Circassian horses, and some tame sables ("Zimmer-Zoebeln"), &c. It is remarkable that still the request is expressed that the Emperor's answer might not be styled in those quaint and elegant terms usually employed in the diplomatical language of Germany, because, it is said in the Czar's letter, German scholars were still rare in Russia. The document coincides with the usual formulas of greeting.

* Here something seems to be wanting in the documents.

NYPHON, METROPOLITAN OF WALLACHIA.

Exploration of Australia.—A deputation, composed of Mr. Moffatt, M.P., Mr. Gregson, M.P., Mr. T. A. Mitchell, M.P., Mr. T. A. Travers, and others, waited upon the Duke of Newcastle, at the Colonial-office, on Saturday last, to urge upon Government the necessity of carrying out the proposed exploration of the interior of Australia, so as to make of Northern Australia, so as to make it connected by way of India. The Duke of Newcastle observed that the deputation was, no doubt, aware that it was his (the noble Duke's) intention to offer the conduct of the expedition to Captain Stokes. The Royal Geographical Society had applied for a further sum of £1000, and if the matter had been left in their hands, he believed the Treasury would not have been unwilling to comply with their request. But it had occurred to him, regard being had to the importance of the service, and to difficulties to be encountered, that the more satisfactory course would be that the Government should themselves take up the matter, so that they might be responsible for the outlay, and carry out the expedition on a scale of which the nation might be proud, and which at the same time would develop the great resources of the country in a manner more efficient and complete than if it had been undertaken by individual association. Under these circumstances, he had communicated with the Royal Geographical Society, who had approved of the alteration in the scheme. He had also told them that, before taking any further steps, he would call upon Captain Stokes to lay before him a detailed plan, showing the course that he intended to take, the point he proposed to start from, the assistance which he would require, the probable time it would take, and an estimate of the expense. He was of opinion that in many instances it was more advisable to leave matters of this sort in the hands of private individuals; but in this instance he believed it would be better to allow the Government to take it up; and, if in any way the Government could take counsel with these gentlemen, they would be glad of their assistance and advice. The great object of the deputation was the internal exploration of the country. The survey of the coast must be made subservient to that. How far it might be desirable to ask the merchants to assist with money or advice and co-operation was a matter for future consideration, and also how far it might be desirable to call upon the Colonial Governments to contribute a portion of the expense, or only to give their co-operation. Mr. Lindsay, in thanking the noble Duke for the attention he had paid to the subject, assured him, that if the Government should require funds to carry on the exploration, in a more extended and effective manner, they might rely upon receiving pecuniary assistance from the merchants of London. The deputation then thanked the noble Duke, and withdrew.

Diplomatic Arrangement with Rome.—Declarations have been exchanged between the Governments of Great Britain and of the Roman States for securing national treatment to the vessels and commerce of each country in the ports of the other. The arrangement is to be in force for seven years; and, further, until after twelve months' notice on one or other side.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

(*Continued from page* 127.)

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

Their Lordships met at five o'clock.

In reply to Lord Torrington, Lord CANNING stated that a great improvement had been effected, both in a sanitary and economic point of view, since the introduction of Mr. Leslie's patent in connection with the lighting by gas of the Post-office establishment. There were now 800 burners fewer than had been used a few years ago; and the saving of cost was no less than £50 a week.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE complained both of the lighting and ventilation of the Houses of Parliament, and expressed a hope that before Easter the recommendations of the Committee, that had sat upon the subject upwards of two years ago, would be adopted.

In reply to Lord Lyndhurst, the LORD CHANCELLOR entered into a long statement respecting a revision of the statutes. There were now one of the greatest importance. A commission had been appointed to inquire into the question, but it had not as yet concluded its labours. When the inquiry had terminated, he would be fully prepared to deal with the subject.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

The House met at four o'clock.

In reply to Mr. Hume, Lord J. RUSSELL said that a remonstrance had been addressed to the Spanish Government on the conduct of the Governor of Cuba in connection with the admission of slaves into that island. The result was, that the Governor had been superseded, and promises were given that a change of conduct would take place.

In reply to Mr. M. Milnes, Lord J. RUSSELL said that he had no objection to produce the correspondence that had taken place between the British Government and that of the Queen of Spain on the subject of a Protestant burial-ground, the complaint upon the subject having been ameliorated.

In reply to Lord C. Hamilton, Mr. GLADSTONE said that no new duties had been imposed upon the police in Ireland in connection with the collection of the Excise revenue there.

Mr. T. CHAMBERS moved that a select committee be appointed to investigate the claims of Yuille, Shortridge, and Co., against the Portuguese Government, for compensation for losses incurred through breach of treaty. The hon. member stated that the firm alluded to had suffered grievous losses, amounting in the whole to about £100,000, in their commercial transactions from the year 1838, through the faithless conduct of the Portuguese Government; and that, as British subjects, they had a claim to protection at the hands of the House.

Mr. HORSFALL seconded the motion.

Mr. D SEYMOUR supported the proposition.

Lord J RUSSELL opposed the motion, and warned the House against acting upon an exparte statement. He was willing to produce all the papers connected with the case, in order that a correct judgment might be formed in respect to it.

Mr. G. BUTT thought the case was one which would best be met by a Select Committee.

After some further discussion, the House divided, when the numbers were—For the motion, 126; against it, 74: majority against the Government, 52.

Mr. CAYLEY moved for a Select Committee to consider the duties of the member leading the Government in this House, and the expediency of attaching office and salary thereto. The hon. member contended that the duties of the office of Leader of the House, now discharged so ably by Lord J. Russell, were exceedingly onerous, and deserved remuneration.

Mr STIRLING seconded the motion.

Sir C. WOOD said he could not accede to the motion, which, if carried, would attach a salary of a Secretary of State to an undefined and indefinable office—an office which really did not exist. The position of Leader of the House was at present an exceptional case, and one which should not be taken as a guide for the future. Besides, he thought that salary ought only to be attached to offices in which there were public duties to fulfil, and to which there was responsibility attached.

Mr. W. WILLIAMS opposed the motion. He thought that the time was very ill chosen for increasing the public expenditure by proposing to attach a salary to an office that was not defined by the Constitution.

Mr. WALPOLE, however indisposed to make any reflections upon the arrangements made by the present Government in respect to the appointment of Lord J. Russell as their Leader in that House, thought that it would be improper to attach salary to an office of the Government who could not be held responsible by the country. There were two great inconveniences attending the creation of an office like that held by the noble Lord. In the first place, the Queen might select a person to fill the position of the noble Lord without such person being compelled to go back to his constituents. In the second place, the person holding such a position might be the chief adviser of the Sovereign, and yet the country would be deprived of knowing, in the ordinary and constitutional manner, who, in fact, this responsible officer of the Crown was. The position of the noble Lord was a most anomalous one—that of being Leader of the Government without holding any particular office. For these reasons he thought it would be a most dangerous precedent for the House to agree to such a motion as was now under consideration.

Lord J. RUSSELL concurred in the reasons advanced against the motion. He, however, saw no constitutional danger in the position which he then occupied; for he held himself to be responsible for any advice which he might give to the Sovereign or the Cabinet, as much as if he held any other public office. At the same time, he thought, generally speaking, the organ of the Government should hold a particular office.

The motion was then withdrawn.

The Assessed TAXES Act Amendment Bill was read a third time, and passed.

Sir J. GRAHAM laid the Navy Estimates on the table of the House; which Estimates, Lord J. RUSSELL intimated, would be taken on Friday week.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

COUNT ORLOFF'S MISSION.

Earl FITZWILLIAM inquired whether the Government could furnish any information with regard to the mission of Count Orloff to Vienna?

The Earl of CLARENDON believed that Count Orloff was the bearer of any counter project, or counter terms to those previously suggested by Austria. He believed that his mission was to state, in the first instance, that it was indispensable that a Turkish Plenipotentiary should proceed either to St. Petersburg, or to the head-quarters of the Russian army, to negotiate for peace; secondly, that, if he came to St. Petersburg, the representatives of the Four Powers might be authorised to advise and to consult with such Plenipotentiary, but that there should be no formal conference; thirdly, that a protocol should be drawn up, defining clearly the recent firman of the Sultan, confirming or bestowing the privileges of the Greek Church in the East, and that the Principalities would be evacuated as soon as possible; and, fourthly, that arrangements should be provided in respect to the system of affording an asylum to agitators or demagogues. The Conference was immediately summoned by Count Buol, to which this counter project was submitted. The Conference compared the terms contained in such counter project with those which had previously been approved of by them, and which had been transmitted by them to St. Petersburg. Finding them to be totally at variance with the propositions agreed to by the Four Powers, the Conference determined to disregard them, as being impracticable; and refused to transmit them to Constantinople. With respect to the other propositions of Count Orloff, he (Earl of Clarendon) was not sufficiently informed upon them to make any statement in respect to them to the House. He believed that the mission of Count Orloff only referred to the relations, or proposed relations, between Russia and Austria; and he believed that the answer given to the proposal of Count Orloff was such as was perfectly consistent with the independence of Austria.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH asked whether the Government had received from Denmark and Sweden any communication respecting the neutrality, or modified neutrality, in respect to hostilities likely to take place in the Baltic?

The Earl of CLARENDON said that her Majesty's Government had received communications from both Denmark and Sweden, announcing their intention of preserving strict and perfect neutrality in the event of such hostilities; and they had sent her Majesty's Government a list of those ports and fortified places into which they have declared they will not permit any ships of war to enter. Her Majesty's Government had stated their approval of that system of policy, and the manner in which it was intended to carry it out. Her Majesty's Government were prepared to respect that neutrality (Hear, hear).

In reply to the Earl of Ellenborough, the Earl of CLARENDON said that exception had been taken by the Russian Government to the determination come to by Sweden and Denmark.

The Earl of DESART expressed his dissatisfaction at the proceedings that were going on in respect to this war, and his misgiving at the result.

Earl GREY asked whether it was really the determination of the Government to proceed with the Reform Bill before Parliament had considered the Army and Navy Estimates. He thought it would be attended with the greatest mischief and inconvenience to proceed as was announced with a measure of Reform, which might involve a resignation of Ministers, or a dissolution of Parliament at a time so perilous as the present to the interests of the country.

The Earl of ABERDEEN said it was the intention of the Government to persevere in the measure of Reform on Monday; but after the House of Commons had read that bill the first time, it would be postponed for a second reading until the Army and Navy Estimates were considered. Although he had heard it asserted by various noble Lords in that House that war was inevitable, he was prepared to deny the assertion. Preparations were, no doubt, going on as if war were inevitable; at the same time, he did not yet abandon the hope that peace would still be maintained.

The Earl of DERBY expressed his regret at the determination of the Government to proceed with the Reform Bill, which was calculated to engender party spirit at a time when it was important that unanimity should prevail. He believed that the noble Earl at the head of the Government was the only person in the country who could express the opinion that war was not inevitable.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE asked whether negotiations for peace were still going on?

The Earl of ABERDEEN disputed the position that this country was as yet actually at war. The negotiations at Vienna were brought to a close, and he was not aware of any others going on at present.

Lord BEAUMONT denounced the continuance of such a state of incertitude.

Earl GRANVILLE complained of those questions being put without notice being given, and the manner in which they were discussed.

After a few words from the Marquis of CLANRICARDE and Earl GREY in justification of their respective inquiries, their Lordships adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

Mr. R. Clive and Colonel Herbert took the oaths and their seats—the former for South Shropshire, and the latter for Ludlow.

In reply to Mr. Wise, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said he hoped to be able to introduce a bill relative to Savings Banks during the present session.

THE COMBINED FLEETS.

In reply to Mr. French, Lord J. RUSSELL stated that the return of the combined fleets to Beicos Bay had occurred in consequence of the Admiral in command being of opinion that to remain in the harbour of Sinope might disable the fleet. The conduct of the Admiral would, he believed, meet with the approbation of the Government. Ships of war would be sent out occasionally, to preserve the command of the Black Sea.

UNIFORM COLONIAL POSTAGE.

Mr. WILSON stated that arrangements were in preparation for the establishment of an Uniform Sixpenny Colonial Postage. It would be proposed to allow one penny for the inland postage, one penny for the colonial postage, and threepence for the occasional conveyance. The remaining penny to be the profit of the Post-office.

THE REFORM BILL.

In reply to Lord Jocelyn, Lord J. RUSSELL said that he would move for leave to bring in a bill for the Reform of Parliament on Monday, but he would not move the second reading until the 13th March.

After a few words from Mr. HUME, in favour of immediate legislation, Mr. DISRAELI observed, on the part of the Opposition, that if the proposed measure should have a tendency further to diminish the influence of the landed interest, already too much diminished by recent legislation, they would meet it with the most determined opposition. They would not, however, oppose the introduction of the bill.

BRIBERY, &C., AT ELECTIONS.

Lord J. RUSSELL then moved to bring in a Bill for the Better Prevention of Bribery, Treating, and Undue Influence at Elections for Members of Parliament; and for the Trial of Controverted Elections: explaining that the earlier clauses of the first bill would define the offences it was intended to prevent; and, provide that any person threatening violence or restraint, or in any way practising intimidation, in order to induce persons to vote, or to abstain from voting, should be deemed to have committed the offence of intimidation, and be liable to a penalty of £50. It was proposed, also, that persons found guilty of bribery should be for ever disqualified from voting in Parliament. Another provision was, that copies of all convictions for bribery and treating should be entered in a book of Parliamentary disqualification. Voters found guilty of bribery were to have their names struck out of the register, and to be published in a yearly list as disqualified. The second bill provided that when a petition, complaining of bribery, treating, or intimidation at an election, was presented, there should be a preliminary committee, in the nature of a grand jury, consisting of fifteen members, who should take evidence on the part of the petitioners. And if, in their opinion, there was a prima facie case made out, then there should be a select committee appointed to try the petition. In the event of the sitting member being unseated, and it appearing that the unsuccessful candidate had obtained two-thirds of the votes at the election, he proposed that the committee should have the power of declaring him duly elected. Should the committee report that bribery had extensively prevailed, then the Speaker was to report the fact to the Home Secretary, and the Crown should be empowered to issue a Commission, and to name the Commissioners, who, he suggested, should be chosen from the Revising Barristers. To obtain uniformity of decision, he proposed that assessors should be appointed, who should be barristers of seven years' standing, one of whom should act on each committee. The Chairman's panel he proposed to abolish, leaving the General Committee to choose the whole of the members of the committee to try the petition.

Mr. M. GIBSON expressed his doubts whether a constitutional principle was not infringed by the proposal that the unsuccessful candidate at an election, if obtaining two-thirds of the number polled by the successful candidate, should be declared elected, at the discretion of the committee, in the event of the latter so reporting.

Sir FITZROY KELLY also expressed his doubts as to some parts of the proposed measure being constitutional.

A discussion then took place as to the merits of the various features of the measure. The result was that leave was given to bring in the bill.

LAW OF SETTLEMENT.

Mr. BAINES moved for leave to bring in a Bill relating to the Settlement, Removal, and Chargeability of the Poor in England and Wales. He said that the abuses and evils under the present system became so great that Government felt itself called upon to grapple with them; and whether this bill he had to submit for consideration was sufficient as a remedy, it must be, at all events, admitted that nothing whatever could be worse than the law as it now stood. After stating the nature of the law of settlement and removal as it now existed, and many of the mischiefs arising from its operation, he said that the Government had come to the conclusion that the only remedy was to be found in taking away altogether the power of compulsory removal on the ground of settlement. With respect to the area of chargeability, the Committee of 1847 thought it would be right to extend it from parishes to unions. Some persons went further, and suggested a national rate, or a charge upon the Consolidated Fund; but to any such propositions he had decided objections, for they would lead to extravagance, waste, and jobbing, by withdrawing the expenditure from the searching supervision of the ratepayer. He was of opinion that the most advisable course to pursue was that recommended by the committee; and that the area of chargeability should be extended to unions instead of parishes; but that the uniformity of rating the parishes within each union should be gradually accomplished—if possible, within the period of ten years' The right hon. gentleman concluded by moving for leave to bring in a Bill to Abolish the Law of Settlement in England and Wales.

After a short discussion, leave was given.

Sir JOHN YOUNG obtained leave to bring in a Bill for the better Paving, Lighting, and Improving Towns in Ireland.

Adjourned.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. S.—Have the goodness to write the question legibly. Your note is quite undecipherable.

MEDICUS.—In a part of our impression last week the Chess column was printed before it had been revised. The two following questions are necessary in the games. 1. White's 4th move: in the first, instead of 6. Q P to Q Kt 2nd, read 6. Q Kt to Q Kt 2nd. In the second game, for Black's 8th move, instead of Q to K B 7th read Q to K B 2nd.

ISK DRAGON.—We shall endeavour to find room for the new regulations of the St. George's Chess-club next week.

VIATOR.—The *Chess Player's Chronicle*, we see, gives every month on its wrapper a list of above fifty British Chess-clubs, all alphabetically arranged, with the time and place of meeting of each. Every chess player about to make a journey should have this list in his pocket, and he will be enabled to enjoy his games, and make some agreeable acquaintances in almost every chief town in the kingdom.

V. G.—Black ought to win easily.

A CHESS PLAYER OF MODERATE SKILL has forgotten to give his address.

R. F., of Hungerford.—There is no mistake whatever; for if Black takes the Rt, White takes Pawn, discovering check with his Queen. Black must then capture the Queen, and White is stalemated. The game is therefore drawn, either by stalemate, or perpetual check.

A SUBSCRIBER FROM THE FIRST.—Your Problem is somewhat neat, but much too easy.

NORA CREINA, of Penzance, although not sufficiently difficult for our columns

A SUBSCRIBER, of Putney, Bath.—It is lawful to Castle under the circumstances mentioned.

J. B. of Pendpool.—We shall be glad to have the games adverted to when you have leisure to write them out. Three such shall not be forgotten.

RICARDO.—Mate in eight moves.

J. B. of Pendpool.—We are obliged by the trouble so kindly volunteered.

HISTORIA.—The error in "Black's 4" problem shall be rectified, if possible.

AN OLD MEMBER.—I feared as the St. George's Chess-club now is, and affording such convenience and advantages as it now does, there can be no reasonable doubt of its prosperity.

J. B. Salem, Box 3.—Three volumes were sent to Town, and One Guinea for Country Members. Candidates for admission should apply either to the secretary, or the Managing Committee, at 53, St. James's street.

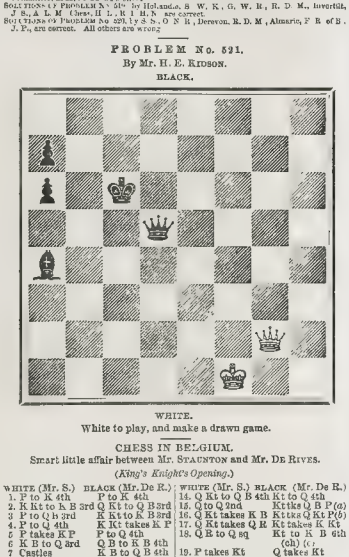
SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 530 by Helianda, S. W. K., G. W. H., R. D. M., Inverlin, J. S., A. L. M. Chess, H. L., R. I. H., and Caro, are correct.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 529, by S., O. N. H., Derevon, R. D. M., Alnarric, F. R. of B., J. P., are correct. All others are wrong.

PROBLEM No. 531.

By Mr. H. E. KIDSON.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and make a drawn game.

CHESS IN BELGIUM.

Smart little affair between Mr. STAUNTON and Mr. DE RIVES.

(*King's Knight's Opening.*)

WHITE (Mr. S.)	BLACK (Mr. De R.)	WHITE (Mr. S.)	BLACK (Mr. De R.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	14. Q Kt to Q B 4th	Kt to Q 4th
2. K Kt to K B 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	15. Q to Q 2nd	Kt takes B P (a)
3. P to Q B 3rd	K Kt to K B 3rd	16. Q Kt takes K B	Kt takes Q Kt P (b)
4. P to Q 4th	K Kt takes K P	17. Q Kt takes Q R	Kt takes K Kt
5. P takes K P	P to Q 4th	18. Q R to Q sq	Kt to K B 6th (ch) (c)
6. K B to Q 3rd	Q B to K B 4th	19. P takes Kt	Q takes Kt
7. Castles	K B to Q B 4th	20. P takes P	B takes P
8. P to Q Kt 4th	K B to Q Kt 3rd	21. P to K B 4th	Q to Q B sq
9. P to Q Kt 5th	Q to K to 2nd	22. Q to Q 7th	Q to Q Kt sq
10. K Kt to Q 4th	Q B to K Kt 3rd	23. P to K 6th	P takes P
11. K B takes Kt	Q takes B	24. B to Q Kt 2nd	And wins.
12. Q B to Q R 3rd	Castles		
13. Q Kt to Q 2nd	K R to K sq		

(a) Hazardous, though well-conceived.
(b) Taking the Kt with his Q would have cost him the exchange, we believe.
(c) He could do no better, bad as this is.

Another Lively Skirmish between the same Antagonists.

(*Giuoco Piano.*)

BLACK (Mr. de R.)	WHITE (Mr. S.)	BLACK (Mr. de R.)	WHITE (Mr. S.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	19 Kt takes B	P takes Kt
2. Kt to K B 3rd	Kt to Q B 3rd	20. Kt to K 6th	P to Q B 3rd
3. B to Q B 4 h	B to Q B 4th	21. K R to K sq	K to Q 2nd (c)
4. P to Q B 3rd	Kt to K B 3rd	22. Q R to K sq	Kt to Q 4th
5. P to Q 4th	P takes P	23. R to K 6th	R takes R
6. P takes P	B to Q Kt 3rd (a)	24. Kt takes R	R takes Q R P
7. P to K 5th	P to Q 4th	25. B to K Kt 7th	P to Q Kt 4th
8. P takes Kt	P takes B	26. Kt to K B 5th (ch)	K to Q B 2nd
9. P takes K Kt P	R to K Kt sq	27. Kt takes K R P	Kt to K B 5th
10. P to Q 5th	Kt to h 2nd	28. P to K B 3rd	Kt to Q 4th
11. Kt to Q B 3rd	Kt takes P	29. R to Q Kt sq	P to Q Kt 5th
12. Castles	Q B to K Kt 5th (b)	30. P to K R 4th	Kt to K B 5th
13. Q to Q R 4th (ch)	Q to Q 2nd	31. Kt to K B 6th	P to Q B 6th
14. Q takes Q (ch)	B takes Q	32. P to K R 5th	P to Q B 7th
15. K R to K sq (c)	P to K B 4th	33. R to Q B sq	Kt to K 7th (ch)
16. P to K 6th (d)	P takes P	34. K to K R 2nd	Kt takes R
17. Q Kt to Q 5th	Q B to his 3rd	35. P to K R 6th	Kt to K 7th
18. B to K R 6th	R to K B 2nd	36. P to K R 7th	P Queens
		37. P Queens	Q to K B 5th (ch)
		And Black surrenders.	

(a) Better to play Bishop to Q Kt 5th (ch). By retreating to Q Kt 3rd, White subjected himself to some needless trouble.
(b) Bishop to K R 6th would have led to many interesting variations.
(c) An embarrassing move for White.
(d) Well played.
(e) Safer, perhaps, than taking the Bishop. In the latter case the game would probably have proceeded thus

21.	R takes B
22 Q R to K sq	Castles +
23 R takes Kt (if Kt to h B 7th, White may	K R to K Kt 3rd
answer with Kt to K Kt 6th, &c.)	
24. P to K R 4th	P to K R 3rd
	(He might also take the K Kt P with his Bishop.)
25. Q R to Q 6th	Q R to K Kt sq

CHESS ENIGMAS.

No. 861.—By FOUZDAR, of Madras.

White: K at his 3rd, B at K 8th, Kt at K 4th; Ps at K Kt 5th, Q 4th, Q B 3rd and 4th.

Black: K at his 3rd; Ps at K 2nd, Q 3rd, and Q B 3rd.

White to play, and mate in five moves.

No. 862.—By F. F. H.

White: K at K Kt 4th, Q at K R 7th, B at Q Kt 4th, Kts at K Kt 5th and Q 6th; Ps at K 3rd and Q B 5th.

Black: K at K 4th, Q at Q 3rd, Rs at Q R 3rd and 8th, B at Q R 6th, Kts at K 7th and Q 7th; Ps at K Kt 3rd, K 2nd, Q 4th, and Q R 6th.

White to play, and mate in five moves.

THE NEW WEST-END CHESS SALONS.—This noble suite of rooms, which have been splendidly decorated by the celebrated Sang, and which form a portion of the establishment now known as "The Wellington," in St. James's-street, were re-opened to the public on Monday last; and, certainly, in the magnificence of their appointments, and the general excellence of all the arrangements, these salons completely eclipse everything of the kind hitherto seen in this country.

ORNITHOLOGY.—The *Boston Guardian*, of Feb. 1, states that an adult male specimen of the Solan Goose (*Pelecanus Cassanus*) was captured a short time since, near Boston. A splendid specimen of the common Bittern (*Ardea Stellaris*) was shot a few days since, by Mr. Charles Brookes, in his crew-yard, at Lenke, and a remarkably fine Bittern was captured about a month since, at Benington, in a field not. Before the inclosure of the fens, the Bittern used to be seen in the neighbourhood of Boston; but now they are very seldom seen.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, February 12.—Septuagesima Sunday.
MONDAY, 13.—Massacre of Glencoe, 1691. Duc de Berri assassinated, 1821.
TUESDAY, 14.—Valentine's Day. Captain Cook killed, 1779.
WEDNESDAY, 15.—National Debt commenced, 1690.
THURSDAY, 16.—
FRIDAY, 17.—Battle of St. Albans, 1461. Michael Angelo died, 1564.
SATURDAY, 18.—Martin Luther died, 1546.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 18.

Sunday	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday	Friday.	Saturday.
M. h m	A. M. h m	M. h m	A. M. h m	M. h m	A. M. h m	M. h m
1 58	2 15	2 35	2 50	3 10	3 25	3 45
A. M. h m	M. h m	A. M. h m	M. h m	A. M. h m	M. h m	A. M. h m
2 20	2 40	3 0	3 15	3 35	3 50	4 10

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. W.—The golden bee was the emblem of the French Kings of the Merovingian race, and was found depicted in great numbers at the opening of the tomb of those monarchs at St. Denis. It is supposed to have been assumed by Napoleon from its antiquity as the symbol of a French dynasty in contradistinction to the fleur de-lis, the comparatively modern one of the Capet an race.

BAM.—Apply for the names to the Secretary, H. M. Vane, Esq., Eaton-place.

SCES.—The appointment of Gentlemen-at-Arms is obtained, generally, by purchase, on the recommendation of the Captain. The price is, we believe, about £1000.

LOUIS DE MONTFORT.—There is no existing Peer of the name of Thompson, or Thomson. The late Lord Wenlock adopted the surname of Thompson; but his son and successor, the present Lord, adheres to the family name of Lawley. In the extinct Peerage occur—Thompson, Lord Haversham; and Thomson, Lord Sydenham.

DOLLYFUL.—Unus Deus et unus rex.

RICHARD AND THE RAVEN is desirous of ascertaining if there was any peculiar badge or heraldic augmentation to the arms of the Lords Mowbray. The only Lord Mareel now remaining, our Correspondent informs us, is the Lord of the barony of Kames, in the county of Pembroke.

A. B. C.—A Captain in the East India Company's Service can scarcely be said to hold her Majesty's commission, or to hold from him his appointment as of right the title of Esquire.

A. Z.—The full pedigree, arms, &c., of Sir Charles Price, Bart., the banker, may be found, elaborately drawn out, in the last edition of Mr. Burke's "Peerage and Baronetage."

*** In our sketch of the life of Admiral Adolphus Slade (Muchaver Pacha), which appeared in our paper of last week, we find, in giving the names of his brothers, that we omitted that of his brother "Ernest Augustus Slade, Esq." This gentleman, a godson of the late King of Hanover, late of the 40th and 54th Foot, served with the latter regiment during the first Burmah campaign, and has received the "Ava medal."

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1854.

THE country, and we doubt not the Ministry and the Parliament, are fully alive to the necessity of conducting the impending war with all possible energy and decision. This great nation avoided rushing into hostilities as long as there was a chance of preserving the peace of Europe by fair and honourable negotiation; but, as soon as it was found that the Emperor of Russia would listen to no reason except that which was thundered in his ears from the cannon's mouth, the mind of the people was made up. Active preparations of every kind have been made within the last few weeks: the Baltic Fleet will speedily be fully manned and ready for sea; and a third fleet—almost, if not entirely, equal to those in the Euxine and the Baltic—will, ere many weeks, be stationed at the Nore. As in all previous struggles, the right arm of British prowess will be her navy. The services of the army, according to all present appearances, are not likely to be called into such immediate or extensive requisition; for while Great Britain will bear upon the sea the brunt of the pending collision, France, which is a military rather than a naval power, will do her part by land towards re-establishing the peace which the Russian Emperor has so unjustifiably broken. Should the last feeble hope transmitted from Vienna—that he will yet yield to reason, or, what is more probable, to fear—not be destined to confirmation, our gallant seamen will know what they have to do; and they will do it. It will be their duty to sweep every Russian vessel off the ocean; and, if need be, to destroy or take possession of Cronstadt, Odessa, and Sebastopol. They will enter upon the task with all the characteristic vigour of their profession and race. All who may have previously doubted the fact, will speedily discover that forty years of peace have not weakened the national stamina, or rendered us unable to justify our proud boast of being rulers of the Ocean. It is currently stated—and, we believe, on good authority—that Admiral Sir Charles Napier is to have the command of the Baltic Fleet. We sincerely hope that the report is well founded. Such an appointment would, in the popular estimation, presage victory; and would be hailed with satisfaction in every part of the country.

THE House of Commons has never shown itself regardless of the individual honour of its members, or of its high privileges as a Legislative Assembly. There is, no doubt, a conviction in some places that the House is venal and corrupt, and it is difficult to persuade the wretched voters of many notorious rotten boroughs, that the gentlemen who offer them bribes, and expend large sums of money in contested elections, make these large pecuniary sacrifices without expectations of an adequate return. They know themselves to be knaves for being bought, and they naturally think that their buyers are as bad as themselves. But this is an unjust estimate of the House of Commons If Lord John Russell's new Reform Bill—which is to be brought forward, notwithstanding the Russian War—shall provide the means for the prevention of bribery, or for its effectual punishment when committed, we are confident that the result will be hailed with unfeigned satisfaction by the members of that Assembly. The House of Commons is, at the present time, more than ever it was, the hope and example of Europe; and the higher its character for personal purity, as well as for deliberative wisdom, the greater will be its influence in the affairs of the world, and the stronger the barrier that it will everywhere offer against the encroachments of Barbarism and Despotism. But the corrupt practices at elections for small boroughs are far more disgraceful to the character of the people than to that of the House of Commons; for, while Venality and Corruption strut openly about in the glare of noon, and are so little ashamed as to think themselves part and parcel of the British Constitution, in scores of places returning each a couple of members to Parliament, they dare not show their faces in the House itself. The new Reform Bill, if it achieve nothing else than the purification of such places, will confer a great public advantage; and Lord John Russell acts wisely in not allowing himself to be deterred from its introduction by the prospects, if not the certainties, of a war.

But the individual purity of members is a matter of a different kind, which it is the bounden duty of the House to maintain—at all times and at all hazards. There are ultra-purists who seem to imagine that Members of Parliament should be cold abstractions, uninfluenced by personal motives, and having no private interests. The ties of family, friendship, and political companionship, cannot be altogether ignored. They are as strong as human nature, and will exert and vindicate themselves, however much purists may think it necessary to condemn them.

But imputations such as those which have been cast upon the Irish members, collectively and individually, and which were brought under the especial notice of the House by Mr. Butt, on Tuesday evening, are of the most serious importance if true;—and, if false, require immediate disproof. When one of the leading journals of the country accuses a member of having openly sold his patronage; and imputes to the Irish members in general that they are traffickers in places and appointments, and will sell their votes to any Ministry for a consideration in money or money's worth, the House of Commons would be guilty of treason to its own majesty if it did not make the charges the subject of the most searching investigation. The charges made in the first place by a Dublin, and reiterated by a London, journal, rest at present upon the personal testimony of two Irish gentlemen, named Gray and Kelly. At a public dinner at Tuam, about a fortnight ago, Dr. Gray, formerly a candidate for an Irish county, stated, in the presence of several members of Parliament, "that at the time when paid guardians were appointed to administer the affairs of the Poor-law Unions in Ireland, a friend of his consulted him as to a proposal made to him by a member of the House of Commons, that that member would obtain for his friend the appointment of paid guardian to the poor, upon consideration of receiving one year's salary for himself." Such was the first charge, aggravated by the insinuation that the inculpated member knew at the time that the office was actually obtained. Mr. Kelly added, "that, on a particular occasion, when the Minister was hard-pressed on the eve of a division, the appointment was conferred; but that the purchaser of the office turned round upon the member who had got him the place, and refused to pay him the second five hundred pounds." This charge, supposing it to be true, is quite as disgraceful to all parties concerned as the first.

Into the general allegations against Irish members it is needless to enter. We believe them to be false, ungenerous, and utterly unwarranted. But the charges of Dr. Gray and Mr. Kelly are specific and tangible; and the House, having had cognizance of them, could not do otherwise than order an immediate and full inquiry. A Committee of Investigation was unanimously appointed; and ere long the country will be in a position to form an opinion upon their truth or falsehood For ourselves, we expect they will turn out to be mere moonshine—post-prandial gossip—attenuated and re-attenuated, by passing through the large and dirty current of *gobemoucherie*, until their original shape and identity have been altogether dissipated. It is no imputation upon the Irish character to say that the after-dinner speeches of Irish patriots are somewhat less discreet than after-dinner speeches in other countries. But we will not do Irish or any other gentlemen the injustice of believing in such sweeping charges without the most rigid and unexceptionable proof. It is fortunate that the charges are so distinct. If not proven, the result to the individuals who have preferred them will teach them how perilous it is to trifle with the character of honourable men, and the privileges of the British Legislature.

THE "ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS" IN JAPAN.—It has lately come to our knowledge that the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS is regularly received at Jeddo through Nagasaki, for the library of the Emperor of Japan. This is an interesting fact, and one that deserves particular mention as an event, though perhaps it may be considered a small one, in the history of civilisation. Here is the despot of a country which has always disdained to have any intercourse whatever with other nations openly, his sleepy eyes to gaze out upon the wide world, and awakening to a sense of his relationship to the rest of mankind. Perhaps, neither the Emperor himself, nor any man in his dominions, understands the English language; therefore an ordinary newspaper would be a dead letter to him. But the langua e of pictures—those beautiful hieroglyphics of modern times—that universal tongue which is intelligible even to savages and babes; this he can understand. And thus, through the medium of our pages, is the panorama of the different countries of the earth made to pass before the eyes of this hermit-King, and helps to make him a wiser man, and, consequently, a better Sovereign.

IPSWICH MAGISTERIAL REFORM.—A petition to the House of Commons, praying the Legislature to appoint a stipendiary magistrate for the town of Ipswich, is in course of signature.

THE HULL CORRUPTION.—The Commissioners appointed to inquire into the existence of corrupt practices at the late elections, report that systematic corruption has always prevailed at Hull. Before the Reform Act there was a general practice of paying the freemen, then the only voters, head-money, at the rate of £4 4s. for a plumper, and two guineas for a split vote. Since that act, the mode and amount of payment have changed, but the system of corrupt on has not been discontinued. It has prevailed at every election. At the election of 1841 each party paid between 600 and 700 voters; and in 1847 about 1200 were bribed; in 1852, of the 2983 who voted, nearly 1400 were bribed. The constituency consists of 1360 freemen, and 3000 occupiers; and the Commissioners state that three of the freemen were bribed once at least and the greater number of them oftener, in the course of these three elections.

A DECREASE OF PAUPERS IN IRELAND.—A return to the House of Commons shows that, on the 1st Jan., 1853, the number of paupers in receipt of relief in Ireland was 161,672; and, the 1st January last, 10 746. The decrease was 41,76in the year. The Poor-law valuation on the both dependent lists, was £11,396,412.

THE COURT.

The distinguished company enjoying the Royal hospitality last week left Windsor Castle on Saturday, with the single exception of the Duchess of Sutherland, who remained on a visit to her Majesty until Monday.

On Sunday the Queen and the Prince Consort, with the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, and the Princess Alice, and the Duchess of Kent, attended divine service in the private chapel of the Castle; the Duchess of Kent received the sacrament of the Holy Communion. The Duchess of Sutherland was also present at the service.

On Monday Mr. J. G. Middleton had the honour of submitting for her Majesty's inspection the portrait he has recently finished of his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of the French. In the afternoon the Queen and Prince drove out in an open carriage attended by the Equerries in Waiting. The Earl of Aberdeen, who had arrived on the previous night from London, left the Castle to-day.

On Tuesday the Queen and Prince walked in the Home-park. Her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert afterwards drove out in an open pony phaeton. The Equerries in Waiting attended on horseback.

On Wednesday her Majesty, attended by the Marchioness of Ely, drove to the Cumberland Lodge School. Major-General Buckley was in attendance on horseback. The Prince Consort rode out on horseback, attended by Colonel the Hon. A. Gordon. The Earl and Countess of Ellesmere and Lady Alice Egerton arrived to-day on a visit.

On Thursday the Queen and the Prince Consort walked in the Home Park. His Excellency the Prussian Minister and Madame Bunsen, Viscount and Viscountess Mandeville, the Hon. C. A. Murray, and the Rev. Professor Sedgwick (of Cambridge) arrived at the Castle to-day on a visit to her Majesty.

The Court will arrive at Buckingham Palace, on Tuesday next, for the season.

Mr. John E. Jones has had several sittings lately for his bust of his Royal Highness Prince Albert.

POLITICAL ENTERTAINMENTS.

The Earl of Aberdeen had a dinner-party on Saturday, at Argyll House. The Marquis of Lansdowne, the Earl of Chichester, the Earl of Zetland, the Earl Bruce, the Earl of Clare, the Earl of Essex, the Earl of Wicklow, the Earl of Ringsll, the Earl of Bessborough, and the Earl of Carlisle were among the guests.

The Earl of Derby gave a Parliamentary dinner, on Saturday evening, at his mansion in St. James's-square, to a large party of noblemen and gentlemen, members of the House of Commons.

The Earl and Countess Granville gave a grand dinner, on Saturday evening, at their mansion in Carlton-terrace, to a distinguished circle, including, among others, the Duke and Duchess of Bedford, the Duke of Newcastle, the Duke and Duchess of Argyll, the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Earl and Countess Grey, Viscount and Viscountess Canning, Lord and Lady Ashburton, &c.

Viscount and Viscountess Palmerston gave a grand dinner, on Saturday evening last, at their mansion in Carlton Gardens, to a distinguished company, comprising the French Ambassador and several other members of the *corps diplomatique*. The Viscountess subsequently had an evening party, which was attended by his Excellency Namik Pacha, and most of the nobility at present in town. Her Ladyship's first grand assembly for the season will take place this (Saturday) evening.

Lord John Russell had a Parliamentary dinner-party, on Saturday, at his residence in Chesham place.

His Excellency Baron Rehausen, the respected representative of the King of Sweden at this Court, has, we are sorry to learn, been suffering severely from an attack of illness, which for some days assumed a serious character. His Excellency is now happily approaching convalescence.

The gallant Marquis of Anglesea is progressing satisfactorily towards recovery from his recent indisposition.

We are sorry to learn that the Marquis of Thomond has had a severe fall, and dislocated his shoulder, at Bath. The dislocation has been reduced, and his Lordship is now doing well.

THE TAXES ON KNOWLEDGE.—SOIREE AT THE WHITTINGTON CLUB.

The soirée given by the Association for Promoting the Repeal of the Taxes on Knowledge, to celebrate the abolition of the Advertisement-duty, and do honour to Mr. Milner Gibson, took place at the Whittington Club on Wednesday evening.

Sir John Shelley, who occupied the chair, spoke strongly in favour of the abolition of the penny stamp on newspapers, in order that the working men might have newspapers as well as the middle and higher classes.

Mr. Samuel Lucas proposed as a sentiment, "The right of free speech, a proper right, and the means of obtaining all others." In doing so he expressed a wish to see education brought home to every man's door. "He would have it laid on like water." He congratulated them on having obtained the repeal of the Advertisement-duty, and exhorted them to persevere till the last rag of those restrictive laws, which prevented education being brought fairly home to every man's door, was abolished.

Mr. Hickson, in proposing "Mr. T. M. Gibson, and his supporters in the House of Commons," said that no member of Parliament had acted more honestly, more energetically, or more successfully in the matter than Mr Gibson; and, therefore, he was entitled to their special and grateful thanks.

Mr. Gibson, after expressing his sense of the compliment paid to him, defended the course which he and his friends had pursued with reference to the repeal of the Advertisement-duty. They had conducted that question in a fair, reasonable, and, he might say, moderate manner. They had not scrupled to accept the aid of Mr. Disraeli and other intelligent Conservatives, whose sympathies with literature inclined them to the Liberal side on that question. For having done so, they had been charged with joining in an unprincipled coalition; but he could not see why such a complaint should be made, so long as neither party abandoned principle. A further complaint was, that they endangered Government by bringing forward such measures; but, if the measure were good, no good Government would be embarrassed by its introduction. He then went on, at great length, to advocate the abolition of the newspaper-stamp, which acted as a heavy tax on the circulation of news among the poorer classes. The pretence on which this most oppressive tax on knowledge was maintained was, that it prevented scandalous publications. There never was a greater delusion. At present, a man may publish sedition, blasphemy, or personal attacks in a penny periodical, without the Stamp office recognising such a paper. But the moment it contains news in any weekly or fortnightly publication, he is immediately pulled up by Mr. Timms for having infringed the law.

Mr. Cobden did not think there would be any use in moving for the repeal of the Paper-duty this year, owing to the war expenditure; and therefore they should unite for the abolition of the Newspaper-stamp. He did not see the justice of the stamp with the idea that he was going to promote a system which would supersede any of our able and well established newspapers. If the peasant took the *Times* and supplement home to his cottage, he could not find what he wanted. Besides, he did not care for advertisements of estates to be sold, nor for information as to the price of Funds, for he had no prospect of having any money to invest; the letters of "our own correspondent" from Vienna or St. Petersburg had no interest for him, because he had never heard of such places. What such a man wanted to see was the news of the place and neighbourhood in which he had been born, lived, and was destined to die; and, if a system of freedom were allowed to prevail in the newspaper press, there would, within five years, be a weekly paper containing such news published in every market town, and sold at the price of about a penny. It was the knowledge that a paper contained the news of his immediate neighbourhood the conviction of any of his neighbours for poaching and so on—which would first stimulate a man to read it, or to get it read by his child when it came from school (Applause). It was because they could not give such news as this—that the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge were unable to obtain for their *Penny Magazine* a circulation in the rural districts. What we all read daily was, not extracts from geographical works, travels, or histories, but the broadsheet of news, and our reason for reading it daily was that the events of one day were connected with another—we got upon a sort of electric chain of sympathy, and read on to see whether the plot would end so. But for this stimulus, how many of us would read at all? (Applause.) The opponents of the stamp wanted to supply a want which never would be supplied so long as this restriction was maintained. They did not keep the class of papers at a rate which pressed heavily upon the great mass of the population in the agricultural districts. And let it be remembered that you could never permanently keep the intelligence of towns above that of the agricultural districts, because it was from the latter that the populat on of the former was constantly recruited. If they were to bring the working class in the country up to a state deserving the name of civilisation, they must let them have cheap newspapers, in order that they might be stimulated to read

The vacated chair having been taken by Mr Cobden, Mr. John Watts of Manchester proposed a vote of thanks to Sir John V Shelley, which was seconded, and carried by acclamation. After it had been briefly acknowledged by Sir John V. Shelley, the proceedings terminated.

THE DEPARTURE OF THE RUSSIAN AMBASSADOR FROM CHESHAM HOUSE.—(SEE PAGE 119.)

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

CHANGE IN THE TURKISH CABINET.

VIENNA, Thursday Morning.

We learn by telegraphic advices from Constantinople, that the Turkish Cabinet has been dismissed, and that one in favour of compromise with Russia has been formed. The Seraskier and Rapudan Pacha have left the Cabinet. Riza and Achmed Pacha have succeeded them.

THE FLEETS IN THE BLACK SEA.

The latest despatches from Constantinople are to the 30th of January. The *Chronicle* correspondent writes:—"One English and one French steamer have started on a cruise in the Black Sea. The Turkish Admiral is preparing an expedition of troops and ammunition for the army in Asia. English and French ships accompany the same to-day. The *Banshee* has arrived with despatches for the English Ambassador."

The *Gazette de Trieste* publishes letters from Trebisond, which state that Russian men-of-war have again appeared off Batoum and Kisch, 20 leagues from Trebisond, since the departure of the combined fleets.

Military operations in Asia are suspended.

General Baraguay d'Hilliers was to have set out on the 26th, on his tour of military inspection.

AUSTRIA AND PRUSSIA NEUTRAL.

VIENNA, Wednesday, Four p.m.

Count Orloff left at nine o'clock this morning, taking with him the positive assurance that Austria and Prussia would remain neutral. Although the Russian Envoy offered to give up the pretension to treat with Turkey alone, his new propositions were rejected. The English Ambassador was very positive, in consequence of express instructions from home on the subject.

AUSTRIAN INTERVENTION.

A letter from Vienna states that public attention has been much excited there by an order which has been given to send an Austrian corps *d'armée* of from 30,000 to 40,000 men to the southern frontier. This corps is, it is said, destined to maintain the independence of Servia, which is threatened on one side by the Turkish Government, and on the other by the Panslavist leaders, who wish to take the upper hand in the country.

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

VIENNA, Feb. 7.—There is a report that on the 5th a small affair took place at Giurgevo, between the Turks and Russians, with considerable loss on either side. It appears that 3000 Turks crossed the Danube, routed the Russian outposts, and attacked the town, after which they retired.

A corps of 800 Dorobanzes (Wallachians) has just passed nearly entire over to the Turks. All that remain are thirteen privates and two sergeants. On hearing this fact, General Fischbach had Major Calinesco arrested, and has decided on sending him to Siberia.

Omer Pacha is entirely restored to health. A Wallachian General, two or three American officers and several French and Swedish officers, have arrived at head-quarters, to take service in the Ottoman army.

Considerable reinforcements are on march from Sophia for Kalafat, where there is already assembled an army of 25,000 men, provided with a numerous and excellent train of artillery.

According to General Schilders's report to the Russian Embassy, the Russian army of occupation is in a patiable condition, the original corps being 85,000 men weaker than when it crossed the Pruth in July last.

The Turkish *corps d'armée* on the line of the Danube, from Pregova to Nicopolis, in Lesser Wallachia, over an extent of four English miles, amounts to 80,000 men, without reckoning 80,000 men of the reserve, who are at Sophia. The Russian corps reckon 41,000 infantry, 12,000 cavalry, 120 pieces of cannon, 3000 Sappers and Miners, and 15,000 men of the reserve.

BUCHAREST, Jan 31.—Prince Stourza has gone to Constantinople. He has offered 200,000 ducats, and has been made a Pacha by the Porte.

General Liprandi has superseded General Anrep in Lesser Wallachia.

Prince Gortschakoff has declined the services volunteered by Prince Milosh.

The last intelligence from Lesser Wallachia, viâ Belgrade, represents that country as in a most disturbed state. The peasants are so harrassed with exactions, that they prefer any fate to their present one. The greater number of the inhabitants of two villages are mentioned as having absolutely refused any longer to comply with the requisitions of the Russians and to have withdrawn en masse to the mountains. Prince Gortschakoff, on hearing of this unexpected act, sent troops to surround the villages, and announced that if on the instant the remaining inhabitants did not themselves surrend, and answer for the return of their companions, fire and sword should be set to work. The peasants refusing to answer for the absent, the villages were burned to the ground, and a great number of persons massacred. This dreadful piece of unnecessary cruelty had excited indignation in the whole country. The mountains were being filled with guerilla corps, composed of the young peasants. Two of these bodies consisted of not less than 1200 men. The fermentation which prevails is such as to excite great alarm amongst the Russians; as, should the country rise at the moment that they are pressed by Omer Pacha, their position would become exceedingly critical. It is also rumoured that the formation of a Roumelian legion by the side of the Polish legion already in arms is not unlikely; and it is remarked that such a step would be a fair answer given to the formation of the Greco-Sclavonian corps imagined by Prince Gortschakoff; but which idea, as yet, he has not been able to carry into execution.

BELGRADE, Feb. 4.—The Turkish firmans confirming the rights of Servia have been published. The diplomatic corps was not present.

THE RUSSIANS IN BRUSSELS.

The Russian Princess Lieven, so many years one of the leaders of the *haut ton* in the French capital, and relict of the former Minister of that title at our Court, has arrived at Brussels (Hôtel de Bellevue), where other Russian families have arrived, or are expected, to wait the course of events. Baron Brunnow and M. Kisseleff, with the *personnel* of their Legations, have also arrived in the Belgian capital, to await the arrival of instructions from Count Nesselrode.

TROOPS FOR THE EAST.

The first portion of the military force to be despatched to the East will consist of four battalions of the Foot Guards and six regiments of Infantry from Ireland. These troops will embark with the least possible delay for their destination, which will probably be Malta in the first instance. It is said that the *Ripon* and the *Manilla*, belonging to the Peninsular and Oriental Company have been engaged for the conveyance of a portion of the troops.

THE FLEET IN THE TAGUS.

We learn by the *Lusitania* steamer, which arrived yesterday (Friday), that up to the 3rd instant the following vessels of war were in the Tagus—*Arrogant, Valorous, Prince Regent, Duke of Wellington, Amphion, Tribune, Imperieuse, Desperate,* and *Odin*—all English; and the French steamer *Newton*.

SWEDEN.

STOCKHOLM, Jan 27.—A Russian courier has arrived with despatches relative to the neutrality of the Baltic Powers. The Russian Minister has been received by the King.

SPAIN.

MADRID, Feb. 6.—A democratic conspiracy has been discovered, and fourteen persons have been arrested, *flagrante delicto*, being portion of a revolutionary club.

General Joseph Concha has been proclaimed a rebel. He has escaped from Barcelona, and is said to have embarked for France.

THE BRAZILS.

The *Lusitania*, from Buenos Ayres, arrived at Liverpool yesterday (Friday)—having left on the 21st December, at which time the differences with the provinces remained in *statu quo*. General Urquiza had been elected Constitutional President of the Thirteen Provinces. In the Oriental Republic, General Flores continued his exertions to suppress dissafection; and several skirmishes of trifling importance had occurred during the month; in one of which Colonel Borez was killed.

THE OVERLAND MAIL.

TRIESTE, Feb. 9.—The steamer *Calcutta* arrived at one o'clock p.m. in 320 hours from Alexandria. By electric telegraph we learn the following:—

BURMAH.—The steamer *Medusa* has been lost between Prome and Meaday. A Dacoit chief had assembled 5000 men near Fonghro: the garrisons at Moolmien and Malabar have been apprehensive of attacks. The Governor-General arrived at Rangoon on the 14th December, and left for Prome.

INDIA.—Madras is threatened with famine. The north-west frontier is tranquil. Exchange at Calcutta, 2s. 1d.

CHINA.—A large portion of Shanghai has been burned down by the Imperialists. A portion of the rebel forces had proceeded Northward, and had taken Teen-thin, about eighty miles from Pekin.

AUSTRALIA.—The Government at Sydney has been officially informed that on the 24th September Admiral des Pointes French Commander in the Pacific, landed at Balade in New Caledonia, and took possession of that island in the name of the French Emperor.

A Cabinet Council will be held at the Foreign Office this (Saturday) afternoon, at two o'clock.

SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE ELECTION.—The nomination of candidates for the southern division of Staffordshire took place on Wednesday. The two candidates were Lord Ingestre and Lord Paget. Lord Ingestre declared himself a Free trader from conviction. He found that the country was prosperous, and therefore he should not by his vote disturb the present existing arrangements. He was an advocate of free toleration, a stanch admirer of the Protestant Church, and in favour of the universal education of the people. The show of hands was taken by the Sheriff, and declared to be in favour of Lord Paget. A poll was demanded on behalf of Lord Ingestre, which will take place to-day.

THE REPRESENTATION OF WINDSOR.—Lord Charles Wellesley has intimated to his leading supporters that he is about to resign his seat for Windsor, on the ground of ill-health. It is said that his Lordship's eyesight is seriously affected, and that he is about to undergo an operation for cataract.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—*Hon. Canonry*: The Rev. W. Procter has been appointed to an Honorary Canonry in Durham Cathedral. *Rectories*: The Rev. H. J. Cummins to the united parishes of St. Alban, Wood-street, and St. Olave, Silver-street; the Rev. H. M. Fletcher to North Stoke, Somerset; the Rev. W. Halton to Branstone, Leicestershire; the Rev. W. Holland to Brasted; the Rev. G. H. S. Johnson to Weyhill, Hants; the Rev. J. B. Smith to Dorsington, Gloucester; the Rev. W. Vallance to Southchurch, Essex. *Vicarages*: The Rev. E. Walker to Bumstead Helion, Essex. *Incumbencies*: The Rev. J. B. Harrison to Walmer; the Rev. H. Owen to Llanbeulan; the Rev. T. Reynolds to Trinity Church, Woolwich. *Perpetual Curacies*: The Rev. H. D. Blanchard to Ribbleton-by-Watton, Yorkshire; the Rev. G. Garbett to Accrington, Lancashire; the Rev. C. Marshall to Harpurhey, near Manchester; the Rev. D. Slyman to Withnell, near Chorley, Lancashire; the Rev. D. D. Stewart to Maidstone, Kent.

ON Sunday last the Archbishop of Canterbury preached a most impressive sermon to a crowded congregation, at the parish church of St. Mary, Newington, in aid of the Cancer Hospital, Cannon-row, Parliament-street, and West Brompton. His Grace referred to the great sufferings from that awful disease for which the institution had been specially established to alleviate, and the good effect which was likely to result from the greater extension of its sphere of usefulness; concluding by a powerful and pathetic appeal for an increase of funds.

TESTIMONIALS.—The following clergymen have recently received tokens of affection and esteem:—The Rev. J. J. Butler, by the congregation of the Sailors' Home, Liverpool; the Rev. H. P. T. Woodington, by the inhabitants of Whitstable and Seasalter, on his removal; the Rev. W. Crowther, who is leaving the curacy of St. James's, Accrington, and about to enter upon that of Rawtenstall, by the members of the congregation; and the Rev. J. Davidson, by the parishioners of Whitby, on his removal. The inhabitants and parishioners of Husthwaite have just presented to the Rev. John Winter a splendid tea and coffee service (manufactured by Messrs. Benson, of Cornhill, London), on the completion of the forty-seventh anniversary of his curacy of that parish, in commemoration of their respect and esteem for his labours in the parish during that long period.

NEW CHURCH IN MARYLEBONE.—A new church is about being commenced between Orchard street and Duke-street, Manchester-square. An ecclesiastical district, formed out of the rectory division of the parish of St. Marylebone, will be assigned to the new church, of which the Rev. C. Molyneux, M.A., formerly minister of Trinity Church, Woolwich, will be the first incumbent.

ELVERTON CHURCH, DERBY.—The Earl of Harrington has just had executed a very handsomely painted window, for erection in Elverton Church, in memory of his mother, the late Countess of Harrington. The window represents the Saviour blessing little children, and has been painted in a very masterly style.

WHITTINGTON CLUB.—On Monday evening, the half-yearly meeting of the members was held at the Club-house, Arundel-street, Strand, when the report was of an unusually favourable character, and Mr. Mechi was elected President for the ensuing year.

IMPORTANT DESPATCHES FOR CONSTANTINOPLE.—The *Curaçoa* left Marseilles on the morning of the 6th. She carries out, it is said, despatches which point out in the clearest manner the line of conduct to be pursued by Lord Stratford de Redcliffe and General Baraguay d'Hilliers.

ANOTHER FIRE, AND LOSS OF LIFE.—Considerable excitement was caused in Clement's Inn, on Thursday morning, about three o'clock, in consequence of violent screams proceeding from the premises of Mr. Harrison. It seems that the younger branches of the family had gone to a party, and that Mrs. Harrison went to fetch them home, leaving her daughter, Sophia Harrison, asleep, and the candle burning on the table. On her return home the room was on fire, and the girl in the midst of the flames. She was instantly taken to King's College Hospital, but she died shortly after her admission.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,
TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, FEB. 9.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading	Lowest Reading	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
	Inches.	°	°	°	°			Inches.
Feb. 3	30.338	45·3	27·2	35·3	— 2·5	84	CALM.	0.00
„ 4	30.004	46·4	27·6	35·7	— 2·2	84	N.E. & S.E.	0.00
„ 5	29.914	52·7	30·0	41·1	+ 3·1	99	S.S.W.	0.13
„ 6	30.023	52·5	40·4	46·4	+ 11·9	83	S.W.	0.00
„ 7	30.028	54·2	47·0	49·8	+ 11·6	82	S.W.&W.	0.00
„ 8	30.118	48·7	37·8	40·7	+ 2·6	71	W.	0.00
„ 9	30.077	46·3	32·4	39·1	+ 0·8	83	W. & N.	0.13

Note.—The sign — denotes below the average, and the sign + above the average. The numbers in the seventh column are calculated on the supposition that the saturation of the air is represented by 100.

The reading of the barometer has varied during the week from 30.37 inches on the morning of the 3rd, to 29.92 inches on the afternoon of the 5th. The mean for the week, at the height of 82 feet above the level of the sea, was 30.058 inches.

The mean daily temperatures have varied during the week from 2·2° below, to 11·6° above, their average values. The mean daily temperature of the 7th was 49·8°, and is the highest mean daily temperature recorded on that day—the register extending as far back as 1816.

The mean temperature of the week was 41·6°, being 3½° above the average of the corresponding week during 38 years.

The range of temperature during the week was 28·3°, being the difference between the lowest reading on the 3rd, and the highest on the 6th.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 14°. The greatest was 22·7° on the 5th, and the least 7·2° on the 7th.

Rain fell during the week to the depth of three-tenths of an inch nearly.

The weather on the 3rd and 4th was fine. The sky was mostly overcast from the 5th to the afternoon of the 9th. The wind was blowing strongly on the 6th and 7th. On the 9th a great darkness prevailed at different times, equally, with heavy pressures of wind. Rain, with snow flakes, fell at two. The afternoon was fine.

JAMES GLAISHER.
Lewisham, Feb. 10, 1854.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—The number of births registered within the metropolitan districts within the week ending February 4, was 1653: of these, 807 were boys and 846 were girls, exceeding the average of the same week in the nine preceding years by 102 boys and 82 girls. The deaths registered within the week numbered 1204: of these, 619 were males, and 585 females. In the ten corresponding weeks of the ten preceding years, the average number was 1091, which, corrected for increase of population, becomes 1200. The actual result of last week agrees very closely with the calculated amount.

CABINET COUNCIL.—A Cabinet Council was held on Wednesday afternoon, at the Foreign-office, Downing street. It was attended by the Earl of Aberdeen, Lord John Russell, the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Lord Chancellor, Earl Granville, Viscount Palmerston, the Earl of Clarendon, the Duke of Newcastle, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir James Graham, Sir Charles Wood, the Right Hon. Sidney Herbert, and Sir William Molesworth. The Council sat three hours.

THE SUBMARINE AND EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH COMPANY.—The usual half-yearly general meeting of the proprietors in this undertaking was held at the London Tavern, on Wednesday. Lord de Mauley, the chairman, read the report, which stated that the telegraph between Dover and Ostend has now been in uninterrupted communication since the 20th of June last, and since that period the agreement between the Company and the Submarine Telegraph Company has taken effect. The Queen's Speech at the opening of Parliament was conveyed to Paris and Berlin before her Majesty left the Palace of Westminster, and experiments have been made which prove that no town in Europe where a line of telegraph exists is beyond the reach of immediate communication by the submarine wires from London. The number of messages transmitted during the month of January, 1853, after the opening of the French line, was 1068; in January, 1854, 2018, and in January, 1854, the number had increased to 3120. This increase has been maintained in spite of active opposition, and the conservative organization of all commercial affairs from the unsettled aspect of the political horizon. The present position of the company's finances enables the directors to recommend a dividend at the rate of eight per cent per annum for the last six months on the capital of £75,000; and a resolution to that effect was carried. A resolution, that £800 be presented to the directors for their past services, and that a similar sum be the annual remuneration for them in future, having been proposed, an amendment was moved, that the sum of £200 from the reserve fund be voted to the directors for their past services, which was carried unanimously.

"LUMLEY *v.* GYE."—This cause is specially fixed to be tried in the Court of Queen's Bench, on Monday, the 20th instant, and is expected to occupy more than one day. The action, it will be remembered, is brought by Mr. Lumley, Lessee of Her Majesty's Theatre, against Mr. Gye, of the Italian Opera, Covent-garden, to recover compensation for the non-appearance of Mdlle. Wagner. The damages are laid at £30 000. For the plaintiff, Sir T. Wilde, Sir Frederick Kelly, Sir Fitzroy, Mr. Cowling, and Mr. Haddeston have been retained; and for the defendant, the Attorney-General, Mr. Willes, and Mr. Creasy will appear. A special jury has already been nominated by Messrs. Lewis and Lewis, for the plaintiff, and will be reduced in a few days.

THE DERBY BERESFORD CASE.

The important case of the Queen *v.* Beresford, which has excited so much attention, was disposed of in the Queen's Bench, on Thursday, before Lord Campbell, in a more summary manner than was anticipated. After Mr. Turner had opened the case, Mr. E. James, Q.C., said that the parties who preferred the indictment, believing that the exposure which had taken place would be sufficient to prevent a repetition of the offence, did not intend to offer any evidence, and a verdict of "Not guilty" was, in consequence, given.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

DERBY RACES. WEDNESDAY.

Match: 20 sovs. each.—Sam Rosello, 1. Queen of Diamonds, 2.
Union Hunt Stakes.—Escape, 1. Newman Nogg, 2.
Maiden Steeple Chase.—Trout, 1. Spring, 2.
Selling Steeple Chase.—Rosello, 1. Jesuit, 2.
Handicap Hurdle Race.—Teddesley, 1. John Bright, 2.
Selling Handicap Hurdle Race.—John Bright, 1.

LATEST BETTING AT TATTERSALL'S ON THURSDAY EVENING.

LINCOLN STEEPLE-CHASE AND HURDLE-RACE.
4 to 1 on the Field (off) on each.

LIVERPOOL STEEPLE-CHASE.

7 to 4 a	Miss Mowbray (off) | 20 to 1 agst Newminster (4 st) | 100 to 5 agst Peter (1 st) | 50 to 1 agst Gipsy Queen (off)

CHESTER.

10 to 1 agst Sir of Surrey (off)	20 to 1 agst Bowstring (4 st) | 30 to 1 agst Peggy (1000 to 30) | 50 to 1 agst Umbriel

DERBY.

8 to 1 agst Actioneer (4) | 10 to 1 — Acrobat (4)	50 to 1 agst Sir to Chanticleer | 100 to 30 agst Alemble (1) | 100 to 1 — Honeysuckle

REPRESENTATION OF CAMBRIDGE.—A meeting was held at the Bull Inn, Cambridge, on Saturday last, at which the Hon. W. F. Campbell attended, and explained his political opinions to the electors at great length. He commenced by adverting to the question of the admission of Jews to Parliament, and to the measures with which the subject was environed. He then referred to the Turkish question, and gave his opinion that if England did not interfere with energy the Ottoman Empire would be destroyed. With regard to Parliamentary Reform, he felt hesitation in surrendering a blind and implicit confidence to the present Government in reference to the forthcoming bill. Mr. Cockerell put some questions to Mr. Campbell, and opposed his election. A motion was then made that Mr. Campbell should be recommended to prosecute his canvass, but to this proposition an amendment of a contrary character was proposed and carried; upon which the meeting was adjourned.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY ELECTION.—A convocation was held on Tuesday at twelve o'clock for the purpose of electing a burgess to represent the University in Parliament, in the place of Sir Robert Harry Inglis, Bart. The Vice-Chancellor stated the existing scrutiny and corruption, and the pains and penalties which a violation of them would subject the parties to. The Warden of New College addressed the house in Latin, and concluded by nominating Sir William Heathcote, Bart., of All Souls College, D.C.L., as a fit and proper person to represent this University in Parliament. No other candidate being proposed, the Vice-Chancellor declared Sir W. Heathcote to be duly elected. The writ was then signed and sealed, after which the Vice-Chancellor dissolved the Convocation. The proceedings—the whole of which, with the exception of reading the writ and bribery clauses, were conducted in Latin—occupied about half an hour. Sir W. Heathcote was not present, as it is contrary to etiquette for a candidate to be on the spot or to take part in the proceedings.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

PREPARATIONS FOR WAR.

From all sides we hear of the most active preparations going forward to render the navy as efficient as possible. At Portsmouth, which has always been the head-quarters of the navy, the preparations become every day of a more warlike character.

On Monday an order was received for drafting one-half of the Coast Guard on board the various line-of-battle ships fitting at Portsmouth and other ports. This step will add to the naval service about 3000 of the most efficient and steadiest men it could possibly receive—all of them well trained in gunnery, and admirably adapted to form the nuc eus of crews for screw line-of-battle ships. With them the newly-raised men can be brought into a state of comp ete efficiency; and a powerful Baltic fleet may be organised without the necessity of resorting to impressment.

THE BALTIC FLEET.

A letter from Portsmouth says:—"Rumour is busy with her hundred tongues as to who shall be the Commander-in-Chief of the Baltic fleet. The name most generally received is that of Vice-Admiral Sir Charles Napier, and that he will hoist his flag in the *Duke of Wellington*, supported by Rear-Admirals Corry and Chads. Certain it is that fifteen sail of the line, with a corresponding number of frigates and corvettes, will be in the Baltic by the 6th of March, or, at all events, ready to enter. We also hear that ten sail of the line (French) will co-operate with the British fleet. Rear-Admiral Chads has hoisted his flag (blue) at the mizen of the *Princess Royal*, 91, screw, Captain Lord Clarence Paget."

Of the fleet thus mentioned, we believe that the advanced fleet will be the *Duke of Wellington*, 131, *Nile*, 91, *Hannibal*, 91, *Edinburgh*, 90, *Leander*, 50, *Immortalité*, 51, *Imperieuse*, 51, *Arrogant*, 46, &c. This division, with the exception of the *Leander*, is about fully manned. The heavier ships will not be ready for sea much before the end of April. The Channel fleet will then be composed of the following ships, which are nearly ready to commission immediately or is to be fitted with engines of 400-horse power.

RECRUITING.—Parties were sent out from the second battalion of the Rifle Brigade, the 34th Regiment, and the 79th Highlanders, stationed at Portsmouth, for recruiting, on Saturday, orders having reached them to fill up to 1000 strong forthwith.

BIVOUAC CAMP.—It is intended, early in the ensuing month, that a camp, consisting of 30,000 English militia, shall be formed either at Chobham, or such other place as the General in Command of the Army shall deem fit.

THE ENROLLED NAVAL PENSIONERS.—PORTSMOUTH, WEDNESDAY EVENING.—The following order has been promulgated:—"All Greenwich pensioners under sixty years of age, *no matter how employed or engaged*, are directed to attend at the Pension-office between this and Saturday next, for the purpose of receiving a printed form to attend on Tuesday, the 14th inst., for inspection by officers from the Admiralty, to ascertain their fitness for service. If this notice is not attended to, they will be subject to loss of pension.—Feb. 8, 1854."

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

The near approach of open hostilities between this country and Russia has been productive of great uneasiness in the City during the whole of the week. The value of National Stocks has fluctuated considerably; nevertheless, no material decline has taken place in prices, owing to the comparative scarcity of stock and the great abundance of money. Rather large operations have been entered into both for a rise and fall; but the leading sale has been one of £100,000 Three per Cents Reduced by the broker employed to effect the purchase. This has led to the conclusion by us to imagine that several of the bondholders have accepted the proposition made to them some time since to the effect that the Directors would take South Sea Stock at par.

Money has been in steady demand. In the rates of discount scarcely any change has taken place, first-class bills of short dates having been done at 4½ per cent. Gold has been in fair supply, and the arrivals continue rather large; but the imports have fallen off considerably. The late arrivals of dollars from Mexico have sold at 4s. per ounce, or 1d. per ounce above the prices previously paid.

The Market, on Monday, fluctuated to some extent. Bank Stock marked 217. The Three per Cents Reduced were 92¾ to 93⅛; the Three per Cent Consols, 93 to 93⅛; the New Three per Cents, Quarter per Cents, 94 to 94⅜. Long Annuities sold at 5 15-16. India Stock was 231. Exchequer Bills marked 18s. to 16s. premium. On Tuesday the Three per Cents Reduced were 93⅛ to the Three per Cent Consols, 93⅛ 94; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 93⅝ to 93⅞. India Stock, 232. South Sea Old Annuities, 101. Exchequer Bills advanced to 14s. and 20s. premium. On Wednesday the Three per Cents Reduced were 93⅛ to 93⅜; the Three per Cent Consols were done at 93⅛ to 93⅜, both for Money and Time. Reduced Threes were 93½ to 93⅝; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 93⅞ to 94⅛. Exchequer Bills were firm, at 17s. to 20s.; and India Bonds, 16s. premium. Altogether, about an average business was done.

Miscellaneous Securities have been in moderate request. London Dock have been dealt in at 105 to 105½; Australasian Pacific Mail Steam, 11; Electric Telegraph, 7¼ to 7⅜; Royal Mail Steam, 57¼ to 57½. Insurance Shares have ruled dull. Albion, 95; Argus Life, 23; European Life, 23; General, 5⅝; Guardian, 3½; Globe, 141 to 140 ex div.; Law Fire, 4½; Palladium, 3 ex div.; Pelican, 45; Phœnix, 156; Rock Life, 7½; Royal Exchange, 204; Sun Life, 65; Union, 220; East London Waterworks, 121 ex div.; Southwark and Vauxhall, 85½; West Middlesex, 110½ ex div.; Grand Junction, 74½ to 75 ex div.; Ditto, New, 75; Hungerford Bridge, 12; Waterloo, 5¼; Vauxhall, 22.

With very few exceptions Foreign Bonds have been dull and drooping. The leading quotations have been as follow:—Danish Five per Cents, 101; Mexican Three per Cents, 22½; Russian Five per Cents, 105; Ditto Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 99; Ditto Small 90; Sardinian Five per Cents, 95½; Spanish Three per Cent Ditto, New Deferred, 19½; Venezuela Three-and-a-Half per Cents, 28½; Belgian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 88; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 61; Dutch Four per Cents, 93½.

Railway Shares have commanded very little attention, nevertheless, prices have been fairly supported. The following are the official closing prices on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Ambergate, Nottingham, and Boston Junction, 8½; Caledonian, 53; Eastern Counties, 13½; East Lancashire, 65; Great Northern, 103½; Great Western, 54½; Hull and Selby, 92½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 65½; Leeds Northern, 18½; London and Brighton, 85¼ ex div.; London and North-Western, 109; London and South-Western, 91; London, Brighton, and South Coast, 97¾; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 22¾; Midland, 63; North British, 32½; South-Eastern, 61½; Vale of Neath, 18½; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, 68; Ditto, Extension, 11½; York and North Midland, 49.

LINES LEASED AT FIXED RENTALS.—Northern and Eastern, 99½.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Eastern Counties New Six per Cent Stock, 12½; London and South-Western, 6 per Cent, 120; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, 96; Ditto, 4½.

FOREIGN.—Luxembourg, 7½; Northern of France, 39½; Paris and Lyons, 23; Paris and Strasbourg, 29½; Western of France, 13.

In Mining Shares so little has been doing, that the quotations have ruled almost nominal.

Friday Evening

The Consol Market has fluctuated to some extent to-day. The Three per Cents have been done at 93½, 93, 93⅛ and 92. The Three per Cents Reduced have ruled steady at 93½ and 93⅜. The New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 93⅝ 8. Exchequer Bills, 17s. to 20s. premium. Long Annuities, 5 to 4½. Foreign Bonds and Railway Shares have been tolerably firm.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE (Friday).—A portion of the supply of Kngl sh wheat in to day's market was the refuse of Monday and is very middling condition. The fresh arrivals were very moderate. There was a slight increase in the attendance of buyers; nevertheless, the amount of business doing in both grown wheats was tuisunderate In prices scarcely any change took place from Monday. The imports of foreign wheat were under 6000 quarters. Most kinds were in moderate request, but we have no decline to notice in the quotations. Foreign barleys were dull. English barley, the show of which was large, was nearly a nominal currency. Malting was in very limited demand, and sold at Monday's quotations. Beans and peas were in fair request, at late rates. Flour was in moderate demand, at Monday's currency.

Arrivals this week:—English wheat, 5,720 quarters; barley, 1,310; malt, 10,820; oats, 4180. Irish oats, 1500. Foreign: wheat, 5720; barley, 940; oats, 1720; flour, 8400 sacks.

Average prices of the week:—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 68s. to 84s; ditto, white, 75s. to 92s; Norfolk and Suffolk red, 72s. to 84s; ditto, white, 84s. to 92s. per qr.; rye, 50s. to 52s.; grinding barley, 36s. to 38s.; distilling ditto, 39s. to 41s.; malting ditto, 42s. to 46s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 65s. to 70s.; brown ditto, 56s. to 64s. Kingston and Ware, 6s. to 70s. Chevalier, 74s. to 78s. Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 28s. to 31s.; potato ditto, 31s. to 33s.; Youghal and Cork, black, 25s. to 28s.; ditto white, 29s. to 32s.; Sligo, brown, 25s. to 27s.; Galway and Limerick, 25s. to 27s.; potato ditto, 29s. to 32s.; Dublin and Belfast, 29s. to 31s.; Scotch feed, 29s. to 31s.; potato ditto, 31s. to 33s.; beans, 40s. to 46s.; Harlings, 42s. to 46s.; pigeon, 42s. to 46s.; tick beans, new, 34s. to 38s. Arrivals this week in Mark Lane:—Wheat, 5720 qrs.; barley, 940; oats, 1720; flour, 8400 sacks. Duty on foreign wheat, 10s. per qr.; barley, 5s.; oats, 2s.; beans, 4s.; peas, 5s.; flour, 3s. per cwt.

The Mark Lane Express says:—Wheat, 79s. 4d.; barley, 41s. 4d.; oats, 24s. 3d.; rye, 49s. 3d.; beans, 42s. 8d.; peas, 43s. 9d.

The Baltic Mercury says:—Wheat, 79s. 4d.; barley, 41s. 4d.; oats, 24s. 3d.; rye, 49s. 3d.; beans, 42s. 8d.; peas, 43s. 9d.

The Irish Farmers' Gazette says:—Wheat, 79s. 4d.; barley, 41s. 4d.; oats, 24s. 3d.; rye, 49s. 3d.; beans, 42s. 8d.; peas, 43s. 9d.

Liverpool Corn Trade.—The arrivals of grain and flour this week are moderate. The demand for wheat is limited, and prices are barely supported. Barley and oats are in fair request, at full prices. Beans and peas are held for more money. Flour is in steady request, at full rates.

Provisions.—For all kinds of Irish butter, the demand is to a sluggish state, at previous prices. The Belgian and Dutch markets are very quiet, and prices are barely supported. Hams are in good request, at full rates. Bacon is in steady demand, at full prices. Lard is in fair request, at full quotations.

Smithfield (Monday).—The supply of beasts on sale was moderate, and the weather favourable for the disposal of the beef trade ruled steady, at fully Monday's prices. Amongst the stock were 240 oxen from Spain and Portugal. Sheep—the numbers of which were limited—sold readily, at extreme rates. We had an improved inquiry for calves, at an advance of 2d. per 8 lbs. The supply was very limited. Pigs sold on former terms. Milch cows met a steady sale, at £14 to £19 each, according to their small calf.

Per 8lbs. to sink the offals:—Coarse and inferior beasts, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.; second quality ditto, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; prime large oxen, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; prime Scots, 4s. 4d.; and prime cows, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d. Coarse and inferior sheep, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; second quality ditto, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; prime coarse woolled ditto, 4s. 10d. to 5s.; and prime Southdown ditto, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d. Coarse and inferior calves, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; second quality ditto, 4s. 8d. to 5s.; prime small ditto, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; large ditto, 4s. 8d. to 5s. Coarse and inferior pigs, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.; middling ditto, 3s. 8d. to 4s.; prime ditto, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; and large ditto, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.

Per stone of 14lbs.:—Inferior beef, 2s. 8d. to 3s.; middling ditto, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 8d.; prime large ditto, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 4d.; prime small ditto, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; large pork, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 4d.; prime ditto, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; small ditto, 4s. 8d. to 5s.; middling ditto, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; prime ditto, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; veal, 4s. 0d. to 5s. 4d.; small pork, 4s. 4d. to 5s. 0d.

ROBERT HERBERT.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7.

WAR-OFFICE, FEB. 7.

17th Light Dragoons—Major-General Sir M. Thomas to be Colonel, vice Major-General T. W. Taylor, C.B.

Royal Foot—Major-General T. E. Napier, C.B., to be Colonel, vice General W. Carr, Viscount Beresford, G.C.B., deceased. 60th Lieut.-General Viscount Gough, G.C.B., to be Colonel in Chief, vice Viscount Beresford, G.C.B., deceased.

OFFICE OF ORDNANCE, FEB. 6.

Royal Artillery—Brevet-Col. W. Reynolds to be Colonel, vice G. Browne; Capt. J. M'Coy to be Major, vice Reynolds; Lieut. and Sub-Lieut. Forster to be Captain, vice M'Coy; First Lieut. G. S. Robertson to be Second Captain, vice Clerk; Second Lieut. R. Keate to be First Lieut. and Sub-Lieut.

ADMIRALTY, FEB. 3.

The following additional promotions have been taken on the Reserved List, consequent on the removal of Admiral James Carthew to that list, with a pension:—Vice-Admiral F Temple, as the Reserved List Half-pay List, to be Admiral on the same list; Vice-Admiral H. Gordon, on the Reserved Half-pay List, to be Admiral on the same list.

BANKRUPTS.

T. J. BURTON, B. I. GABB, and G. F. CHANTLEY, Wigmore-street, Cavendish-square, church furnishers, commission agents, and dealers in works of art. J. CROFTS, Threadneedle-street, stock and share broker. H. HARRIS, Wolverhampton, builder. E. BALDING, Bishopsgate-street Within, and Hackney, tailor. H. HARRIS, Mark-lane, City, and Royston, Essex, corn merchant. J. HARRIS, Bishopsgate-street Without, and Hexham, woollen draper. A. SCHWABE, Leeds, merchant. T. TURNER, Manchester, silk manufacturer and flour-dealer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATION.

C. CAMPBELL, Campbeltown, draper, grocer, and baker. C. H. FAWCETT, Dingwall, merchant and innkeeper.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10.

WAR-OFFICE, FEB. 10.

15th Light Dragoons—Major J. Wemyss to be Lieutenant-Colonel, vice Tritton; Capt. Lord G. A. Beauclerk to be Major, vice Wilkie; Lieut. J. W. Clarke to be Captain, vice Beauclerk; Cornet H. Hall to be Lieutenant, vice Clarke.

4th Foot—Lieut. W. T. Arnold to be Captain, vice Stewart; Ensign B. Winter to be Ensign, vice Arnold. 47th Foot—Lieut. M. Ward to be Lieutenant, vice Brooke; R. Croker to be Ensign, vice Ward. 49th Foot—G. Nott to be Assistant-Surgeon, vice J. C. Purves, M.D. 53rd—A. E. Fraser to be Ensign, vice Brooke. 56th—W. A. Galbraith to be Ensign, vice Ord. 59th—A. French to be Ensign, vice Brooke. 64th—W. A. Galbraith to be Ensign, vice Ord. 76th—Ensign and Lieutenant C. Winter to be Lieutenant, vice Mark. W. S. Prince to be Captain, vice Scobell; Ensign L. A. Boone to be Lieutenant, vice Prince. G. Peddie to be Ensign, vice Minchinton; Ensign L. M. Westropp to be Lieutenant, vice Peddie. Ensign G. H. J. Heugham to be Lieutenant, vice Westropp; Cadet G. H. Best to be Ensign, vice Westropp. 93rd—Ensign N. Fraser to be Lieutenant, vice Johnstone. Ensign G. St. Lawrence to be Ensign, vice Fitzroy. Lieutenant R. E. Henry to be Lieutenant, vice E. B. Weaver. Ensign A. R. Orr to be Lieutenant, vice Hamilton. Ensign F. T. Lane to be Lieutenant, vice Borthwick; G. A. Blackall to be Lieutenant, vice Sinclair. 95th—Ensign J. H. L. Brooke to be Ensign, vice Wynn. 2nd West India Regiment—G. J. Lawrence to be Captain, vice Fraser; D. B. Parry to be Ensign, vice Waldron.

HOSPITAL STAFF.—J. J. Aiderton to be Assistant-Surgeon to the Forces, vice Stewart.]

OFFICE OF ORDNANCE, FEB. 9.

Royal Artillery—Sec. Capt. R. Wood to be Captain, vice Marston; First Lieut. Royal Artillery—Sec. Capt. R. Wood to be Captain, vice Marston; First Lieut. Royal Artillery—Sec. Capt. R. Wood to be Captain, vice Marston; First Lieut. J. S. Gorrell to be Second Captain, vice Ward; Sec. Lieut. T. W. Blackiston to be First Lieutenant, vice Hoste.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

J. S. GORELY, Ewell, Surrey, farmer, brickmaker, contractor, and carrier.

BANKRUPTS.

G. COODE, late of Winwick, Lincolnshire, but now of the asylum proprietor, and lodging-house keeper, but now of Victoria-street, Westminster, patent invigator and hose manufacturer. R. BENTLEY, Bouverie-street, Fleet-street, bookseller and publisher. J. R. GIBSON, Bishopsgate-street Within, and Hackney, wine merchant. W. F. ANSELL (Ansell and Co.), Birmingham, manufacturing jewellers. J. WRIGHT, Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire, and Manchester, manufacturer. J. WRIGHT, Manchester, joiner and builder. J. CARTER, Gloucester, ironmonger and tin-broker. J. COX, formerly of Bristol, but late of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, and Wimbledon, Surrey, builder

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

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THE NEW REFORM BILL.

If the Emperor of Russia be capable of calm and serious reflection, he cannot but be struck at the present moment with the spectacle presented by Great Britain. Though about to enter into a war, such as has not for nearly forty years taxed her energies and resources; though within the last few months she has equipped and made ready for sea fleets of a magnitude and splendour unprecedented in her own history or in that of the world, this great country enters upon the consideration of the question of Parliamentary Reform, as if no such mighty events were in progress, and as if she had no other objects to engage her attention but the consolidation and improvement of her laws, and the elevation of the moral and social condition of her people. Such a spectacle might well make the most haughty and ambitious of despots pause ere he incurred the risk of a conflict with a power of resources so magnificent, and of dignity so majestic. Lord John Russell, speaking in behalf of the Ministry, so far from thinking the time inopportune for the introduction of the new Reform Bill, takes a true measure of the greatness of his own country, and the weakness of her opponent, when he refuses, even on the threshold of a war with Russia, to postpone his long-promised scheme of Parliamentary improvement. Were we about to measure our strength with France, or with the United States of America, a calamity so deplorable would compel us to devote all our energies to the struggle, and to adjourn until happier times the consideration of every question that did not involve the national safety and honour. But a war with Russia is not of the same importance, the more especially when we have an actual ally such as France, proximate allies such as Prussia and Austria, and probable allies in every other State of Europe. Both the people and the Government have gaged and probed the Russian war and all its consequences, and show their estimate of it by proceeding with their new Reform Bill as unconcernedly as if no such event were about to disturb them.

Those who consider a further Reform in Parliament to be unnecessary will, of course, object to its introduction at a time of war. But such an objection from such a quarter is of no real weight. It would have been raised with equal earnestness in a time of peace. If Reform be unnecessary, it is inopportune either in peace or war, but if it be necessary, no time—unless

A TURKISH SCHOOL FOR TEACHING THE KORAN.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

A TURKISH INN.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

it be one of actual peril to life, property, and independence—can be improper to consider it. The opposition, therefore, should the bill be proceeded with, will probably assume the shape of hostility to the measure itself, and not to the period of its introduction. There is no great and overwhelming demand for Reform at the present time, as there was in 1830 and 31. Large sections of the people have not gone mad about it; and do not, as in former days, consider the amendment of the representation as a panacea for all possible evils that can afflict the state. The first Reform Bill, and the repeal of the Corn-laws, swept away whole armies of discontents and grievances. The people know that the Constitution is not perfect, and that the working of our representative system is not, in all respects, what it ought to be, either to satisfy the theory or the practice of free government. Nevertheless, we enjoy a greater amount of solid and useful liberty than is to be found in any other state or country of the earth; and constitutions infinitely more perfect, *upon paper*, have failed to procure for the nations which adopted them one tithe of the advantages which the venerable fabric of British liberty has secured to every class of the people. For this happy state of things we are partly indebted to the fact that, for the last twenty years, Reform has been continuous, and also to the happy accident that the people are prosperous. Wise statesmen look to the future as well as to the present and the past. Lord John Russell foresees that the day may come when unfavourable seasons, deficient harvests, and the derangement of trade and industry, may change our prosperity into adversity, and prepares himself accordingly. It is when food is dear, and employment not to be had, that a large portion of the English people devote themselves to politics. Addicting themselves to the study by the glare of burning towns, or of consuming corn-ricks, they imagine that a reform in the constitution of Parliament is to provide them with a fair day's wages for a fair day's work, and to eradicate all the diseases of the body politic. It is at such times that the anomalies and defects of the parliamentary system are painfully apparent to the merest tyros in social science, and that the voices of Hunger and Despair join in the angry demand for Parliamentary Reform. Lord John Russell desires to anticipate such demands as these, by effecting the reform of proved abuses, at a time of social calm and general prosperity.

The measure is by no means a small one. Many of its details were foreseen, because in any scheme of Reform they were inevitable. The disfranchisement of small boroughs containing less than 300 voters and 5000 inhabitants, should have been effected by the first Reform Bill Lord John Russell only completes his own work by depriving them of their privilege; yet, as the voters in these small places were, as individuals, quite as much entitled to the suffrage as the same class of persons in larger and more thriving towns, the author of the new Reform Bill has acted with justice in giving them a county vote as a compensation for the borough vote of which public policy has seen it necessary to deprive them. As long as numbers are considered a title to representation, it was an anomaly that places containing from three to five hundred voters, and less than ten thousand inhabitants should elect as many members to the British Legislature as such great towns and cities as Liverpool, Manchester, Edinburgh, and Glasgow. It, therefore, will excite no surprise in such boroughs as are included in Lord John Russell's Schedule B, that they are henceforward to return but one instead of two members to Parliament. If such a change excite dissatisfaction in the localities more immediately affected, public opinion in other parts of the country will, on the contrary, consider it not only a wise, but an essential alteration. The distribution of the sixty-six seats which will thus have to be disposed of seems to be equitable. To enfranchise such important places as Kensington, Birkenhead, Staleybridge, and Burnley, is to recognise the growth of new towns as an element in the British Constitution. The additional members that are to be given to several of the most important counties, and division s of counties, and to such places as Southwark, Manchester, Birmingham, Bristol, Bradford, Leeds, Liverpool, Sheffield, Wolverhampton, and Salford, can surely excite no party objections, or be disapproved of by any sound politician. There may be a difference of opinion as to the appropriateness of the selection in some cases. We are surprised, for instance, that the Gorbals of Glasgow, containing—with Tradeston, Kingston, and other adjoining districts—nearly 80,000 inhabitants, has not been considered as deserving of the franchise as Birkenhead or Burnley; or why the thriving and splendid city of Glasgow itself, with a population of nearly 400,000 has not been considered as worthy of an additional member as Birmingham or Leeds. But it is possible that Lord John Russell is not bigotted in favour of all the details of his scheme, and that if the bill proceeds this Session, it will be amended in these and similar particulars. The House laughed at the idea of enfranchising the Inns of Court, but for our parts we can see nothing laughable in the matter. The educational franchises are far too few, and we can anticipate no results but good ones from giving to the legal profession the right of representation in Parliament. There are, no doubt, abundance of lawyers in that assembly; but lawyers do not sit there as the representatives of lawyers, but of the ordinary voters in counties and boroughs. For the same reason that we approve of the enfranchisement of the Inns of Court, we rejoice that Lord John Russell proposes to enfranchise the University of London.

Like every project of Parliamentary Reform, the new bill deals with two branches of the subject. It is not only a question of places, but of men, and takes cognisance, not only of the franchise, but of the suffrage. In the latter respect the views of Lord John Russell are just and comprehensive; and, if the bill should become law, no honest and industrious man need clamour in vain for admission within the pale of the Constitution. Every kind of facility will be afforded him for acquiring the rights of citizenship. If he be not qualified by the rental of his house, by his assessment to the Income-tax, or by the amount of annual salary or wages—either of which is sufficient to admit large classes of voters—a new door will be opened to him, if he choose to enter by it. Any man, though devoid of other qualification, may possess the privilege of a vote if he be a graduate of a British University, or if he possess, and have possessed during three years, the sum of fifty pounds in a savings bank. Those who may be excluded from the suffrage under these circumstances will have to blame themselves, and not the Constitution. It will say but little for their social status, for their industry, or their prudence, if no exertion they can make shall provide them the enjoyment of a right so widely and so variously admitted.

The most distinguishing, if not the greatest, feature of the bill remains to be mentioned. An attempt is to be made to secure, in certain cases, the representation of the minority. In counties, divisions of counties, and great towns or cities returning three members, the simple expedient of only allowing each voter to record votes for two candidates will have the effect of enabling the minority to carry the third member. We confess ourselves unable to discover or to invent a valid objection to this proposal. We have left ourselves but little space to dilate upon one important auxiliary to the measure—the repeal of the Statute of Anne, which renders it necessary for any member accepting office or emolument, under the Crown, to vacate his seat. There is much to be said in favour of, and in opposition, to the working of that enactment. We shall, doubtless, have future occasion to advert to it. In the mean time, the reasons adduced by Lord John Russell for proposing a change seem likely to recommend themselves to the favourable consideration of the House and the country. Upon the whole, the new Reform Bill, whether destined to be carried this year, or to be postponed to a future period, will remain a durable memorial to the fame of Lord John Russell. It is the crown and completion of his first great work. It will neither disappoint by its littleness nor startle by its audacity, but will commend itself to the gratitude of friends and the respect even of party opponents. It is a broad, an equitable, and a safe measure, which will strengthen the foundations of British liberty; and, could it be carried during the present Session—of which, however, we have but small expectation—will afford materials to some future Macaulay for one of the most gratifying pages in British history.

SKETCHES IN TURKEY.

A TURKISH SCHOOL FOR TEACHING THE KORAN.

A TURKISH School of the above description is infinitely more noisy than a similar establishment in Europe; for all are occupied in reading aloud the Koran, which is supposed to comprise all that is necessary for guidance in this world and salvation in the next. The students do not occupy their time with a diversity of letters, but are principally confined to a knowledge of the Koran, and its commentaries, and the pronunciation appropriated for all the words of this book, which is accounted holy by all Mahommedans.

The Koran is usually divided into thirty sections, each subdivided into four parts: these divisions are for the use of the readers in the royal temples, or in the adjoining chapels, where the Emperors and great men are interred. There are thirty of these readers belonging to every chapel, and each reads his section every day; so that the whole Koran is read over once a day in every mosque or mausoleum.

From the limited range of study in the schools and *medressees*, or colleges, it follows that literature, science, and the arts are still in their infancy among the Turks. The principal branches of education are grammar, rhetoric, Persian and Arabian poetry, with the logic and philosophy of the Dark Ages. History, geography, and mathematics, are completely neglected. Baron de Tott, being desired to confer with the chief of the Turkish geometricians, asked them how many right angles there were in the angles of a triangle. The boldest of the State mathematicians, after due deliberation, learnedly replied, that it *depended upon the size of the iron that bound it!*

To make up for this utter ignorance of the exact sciences in the Turkish system of education, judicial astrology is held in high estimation by all ranks; and their physicians are merely pretenders to supernatural skill. In Constantinople there is an officer called *Munedjim Bachi* (or Chief of the Astrologers), who is consulted on all occasions which relate to the health and safety of the Sultan; and also as to the particular day or instant when any important public business is to be undertaken.

These unsophisticated seminaries are generally held in the open air; where, sheltered from the sun by a simple awning, or in the deep shadow of lofty trees, the scholars sit upon the ground cross-legged, like so many young tailors, getting their portion of the Koran with incredible volubility, and casting furtive glances at the master, who, seated on a rug, enjoys his *chibouk* in dreamy gravity; while his assistant, with cane in hand, stands ready to bastinade the soles of delinquents' feet: for thus, in Turkey, they apply that species of punishment which in England is administered to another part of the body.

Such is the system of education pursued at Turkish schools, where the master endeavours to instil into the wayward minds of his pupils knowledge of which he is, perhaps, himself ignorant. It is not, therefore, to be wondered at that even Turkish Ministers of State, who are frequently taken from the dregs of society, should be unacquainted with the statistics of their own country, and that their knowledge of the governments, the diplomacy, and the relations of European states should be very superficial.

A TURKISH INN.

A Turkish road-side inn is generally a very primitive place. In its performance it never exceeds the promise of its name; the visitors or customers establish themselves equatingly on the floor, as the group are seated round the table in the Illustration upon the preceding page. The refreshments are chiefly coffee and tobacco; and the pipe is to be seen in every party. The customers in the picture are of the better class of travellers; and the group of three appear to be discussing with such earnestness as to warrant us in supposing the subject to be the knotty points of "the Eastern Question." The Engraving is from the Sketch-book of a British officer.

FRENCH PURCHASES OF FOREIGN CORN.—The *Moniteur* publishes a report to the Emperor from Marshal St. Arnaud, Minister of War, on the purchases of wheat which he was authorised by decree to make abroad for the army, in order not to increase the demand of corn in the French markets. From this report it appears that 500,000 quintals of wheat, or nearly 700,000 hectolitres (the hectolitre is rather more than 2½ English bushels) have been purchased abroad, 300,000 quintals of them in London; that notwithstanding the high price of corn, the price of the kilogramme of bread obtained from the foreign wheat will not exceed 32c for 1853, and 32c. for 1854; and that, compared to what the expense would have been if the wheat had been purchased in France, the total saving will be 6,060,000 fr. at least. The Minister concludes his report by praising in high terms the ability and discreteness with which the purchases were effected by the house entrusted with the operation.

MAIL SERVICE BETWEEN DOVER AND CALAIS AND OSTEND.—A tender has been accepted for the performance of the mail service between Dover and Calais and Dover and Ostend, by a private company. The contract is concluded for a space of four years, commencing from the 1st of October next, at the rate of £15,0.0 per annum, of er which it may be determined by either of the contracting parties giving twelve months' notice.

EXTRAMURAL CEMETERIES.—The report of the St. Pancras Rural Board states that the sum of £18,289 has been laid out in the purchase of land at Finchley. Contracts for building two chapels and making the main roads have been entered into, to cost £10 464. The laying out the ground, draining, fencing, &c., is computed at £17,144 more. The board have already borrowed £25,000 upon the land, and now require a further sum of £12 900. The parish will receive in return, by the twenty years' payments from the parishioners their proportion towards the chapels, &c., and from the sale of the residue of land for building purposes, £7000, so that the total sum chargeable to the rates will be £30,960. This is proposed to be paid by forty half-yearly or twenty yearly instalments; and for which a halfpenny on each rate will be sufficient.

GENERAL POST-OFFICE.—The Lords of the Treasury have consented to appropriate the fund arising from unclaimed money orders, and from unclaimed property in dead letters, to the payment or part of the premium on the policies of such of the officers of the Post-office, in any part of the United kingdom, as may insure their lives. The fund now amounts to £1800 a year, and there is an accumulation from past years of about £16,000, which is also to be applied to this purpose.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

Several Russian families have left Paris, and are at Brussels *en route* for Russia. The Princess Lieven is among the number; her salon has been closed since the departure of M. Kisseleff.

The Court and official fêtes, notwithstanding the threatening aspect of affairs, have become more numerous than ever, and are almost the only ones of any importance that take place. MM. Fould, Pescatore, Lebœuf, &c., have given brilliant balls; the Princesse Mathilde has followed the example; and the ex-Roi Jerome gave a grand dinner, which is the commencement of a series of banquets. The Emperor so constantly takes occasion to express his desire that the high functionaries of the State should entertain frequently and magnificently, and his dissatisfaction when they fail to do so, that there is no doubt many more will follow in the wake. The *bals costumés* at the Tuileries will take place on the 18th and 27th; as it was desired that those who did not choose to appear in fancy dresses should return their invitations, a certain number have been sent back.

Great preparations are being made for the *bal costume* of the Tuileries, to take place on the 18th. The dresses are being prepared, the quadrilles rehearsed, and, in short, the topic, for the moment, occupies the place of the war and everything else. It appears not yet decided whether the Emperor is to appear in costume or not. The Empress is, it is reported, to wear a Circassian dress; but we do not guarantee the fact. The Ministers will be in the costume of Sully and the other *seigneurs* of the time of Henri IV., and the Generals will wear the uniform of that grade in the time of Henri II. Such, at least, is the statement given out. Four quadrilles are arranged, and in rehearsal—the Mythological, the *Mousquetaires*, the *Gardes Françaises*, and the Hungarian.

The second grand ball is to be given at the Hôtel de Ville on the 21st inst.

The new five-franc pieces of gold have just been brought out; they are the same size as the silver four-sous pieces, but thicker, and are very well struck.

The most tragical events, caused by the fluctuations of the Bourse, are occurring here with a frequency the most awful. The week before last as many as four or five suicides were known to have taken place entirely resulting from those operations. Among the most melancholy was that of a young man of high family and large fortune, married with in a few years to a lady with whom he lived on the most happy terms, and by whom he had a son. Driven to distraction by his losses, he blew out his brains, and was brought home a corpse to his wife.

Valenciennes and Lille have formed an institution which cannot, we trust, fail to produce desirable results in a moral point of view. This is the establishment of a free association for the observance of rest on Sundays and fête days. A similar measure is in preparation at Orleans.

An *émeute* of some gravity took place at Perigueux on the subject of another rise in the price of bread. It was in vain that the *maire* endeavoured to induce the crowd to disperse, that he arrested some of the most prominent among the groups; and that the *préfet*, in his official costume, appeared and attempted to conciliate the complainants by assuring them that the *chantiers* of the railroads would shortly be opened, thus providing well-paid labour in abundance to the workmen. His discourse failing to produce the slightest effect, an armed force was called in to clear the place; but a second assemblage was formed the following evening, which was with some difficulty dispersed. Several arrests took place on both occasions.

One of the most celebrated notorieties of the period, the Abbé de Lamennais, has been dangerously ill, so much so, as to cause great alarm for his life. Perfectly aware of the gravity of his position, he sent for two friends, his executors, and dictated to them his instructions that he should be buried among the poor, and with the same ceremonies, or rather want of ceremonies, as the poor; that no memorial, not even a simple stone, should mark his grave, and that his body should be carried directly from his residence to the cemetery, without being taken to the church. Every attempt was made by those about him to induce him to alter this decision, and we are credibly informed that certain persons used every means short of violence to persuade him to disavow some of his works, but without result. A considerable change for the better has, however, taken place in the health of the invalid, and his ultimate recovery is now looked for.

Two steam-vessels have, on the same day, achieved the enterprise deemed a few years since impossible; but effected, for the first time, last year by the *Sole* proceeding up the Seine as far as Paris. One of these vessels, the *Laromagnère*, ar exceeds the size of either the *Omnibus*—which accompanied it, and which is intended to carry passengers between Asnieres and Chouy-le-Roi—or the *Sole*. The vessel is of 150 horse power, and the cargo consists of upwards of 400 tons of merchandise. The *Lamorignère* was built at Bordeaux, and is to carry on the service of merchandise between Rouen and Paris during the periods of high water, and of steam-tug when the water is low. Much curious interest is excited by the arrival of this vessel, and crowds are daily collected at the port St. Nicholas to examine it.

A new society has been formed in Paris, entitled "La Société Zoologique d'Acclimatation," for the purpose of importing into France, and acclimating, for this and for other northern countries, such foreign animals as may be rendered useful or agreeable for the purposes of agriculture or amusement. The plan is one which merits, and will no doubt receive encouragement.

The Theatre de la Palais Royal has met with a serious loss in the person of one of its most popular actors, Sainville, whose comic powers must be remembered by the frequenters of the St. James's Theatre. Sainville, placed as clerk in a mercantile house, felt the vocation for the boards so much stronger than that for pounds, shillings, and pence, that he began by spending his evenings in acting at a certain little theatre then existing in the Place Beadoyer. His employer, deeming such pastime inconsistent with his diurnal duties, took the first opportunity of requesting him to discontinue his attendance at the office. He then engaged himself in a strolling company; where, being seen by M. Dormeuil, his talents were immediately recognised, and he was engaged at the Palais Royal, where he created, during his career, as many as 286 *rôles*. For many years Sainville suffered acutely from disease of the heart (the immediate cause of his death), and gout, but such was his courage and perseverance, that, constantly, in the midst of the most intense pain, he performed the comic scenes which called down peals of laughter from the audience, without betraying a particle of his sufferings. These at last became so severe, that he was obliged to go to the Pyrenees, where it was hoped his health would be sufficiently re-established to enable him return to the theatre; but in vain; he expired at Pau, at the age of forty-eight. A new opera, the music by Meyerbeer, the *livret* by Scribe, lately received at the Opéra Comique, has been stopped for the present by the Censeur, as containing a portrait of Peter the Great, the court, and country, too flattering to be considered by any means *à propos* in the present crisis. It is said, however, that the *Censeur*, not feeling itself wholly competent to give a final decision in so delicate a matter, has referred to the Minister; who, in his turn, has submitted the question to the *Chef de l'Etat*. The appearance of Bressant, late of the Gymnase, at the Français, has been greeted with almost unqualified applause in the "Femmes Savantes," and "Mon Etoile," a little vaudeville of Scribe. The Emperor and Empress attended the representation. The Théâtre Lyrique is giving an opera-ballet, entitled "Les Etoiles," in which a new dancer M. Chapuis, has great success.

Alphonse Karr, the *spiritual* journalist, who has replaced his *Guêpes* by a weekly *feuilleton* in the *Siècle*, is unfortunately so ill, as to be obliged to spend the remainder of the season at Nice.

THE WAR.

THE FLEETS IN BEICOS BAY.

The *Triton*, despatch steamer, which left Beicos Bay at three p.m. on the 2nd of February, and the Golden Horn at nine on the same night, reached Valetta harbour on the 6th instant, bringing despatches for England from Lord Stratford de Redcliffe and from Vice-Admiral Dundas, which were forwarded next day to Marseilles by the *Vectis*. When the *Triton* left Constantinople, the combined fleets were still at anchor at Beicos, except the *Firebrand* and *Samson* (English), which left on the 27th January to await, at the entrance of the Euxine, the *Retribution* and *Sone*, which left on the 28th. These four powerful steam-frigates have orders to proceed to the offing of Sebastopol, there cruise for twenty-four hours (very much like defying or rousing the bear in his den), and then return to Beicos and report proceedings. Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons was under orders to proceed on the 3rd and 4th February, with the steam force of both squadrons, for the purpose of conveying a number of Turkish steamers and transports conveying 10,000 troops, gunpowder, and other warlike stores, to Batoum.

The *Cornelia* arrived at Malta from Marseilles with despatches for Constantinople from London and Paris on the 4th inst., and having on board General Sir John Burgoyne, Inspector-General of fortifications and military defences, with an aid-de-camp, Captain Cootie, of the 11th Hussars, Captain Fuller, of the 12th Lancers, and Colonel Arderon, of the French Engineers; besides several other distinguished officers of the French army, who all went on in the same vessel the same day.

THE ENGLISH FLEET WANTED IN THE BLACK SEA.

The English merchants at Trebizond have addressed a note to the English Ambassador at Constantinople, praying for the energetic protection of the English navy in the event of an attack from the Russian fleet. They state that the English colony of Trebizond is numerous and flourishing; that its commercial transactions surpass the yearly amount of thirty millions, and that in consequence of the return of the squadrons to the Bosphorus the city may be attacked by the Russian ships, thereby exposing them and the inhabitants to a disaster like that of Sinope.

THE RUSSIAN FLEET AT SEBASTOPOL.

The St. Petersburg journals contain a communication, the object of which is to declare, that in causing the Russian fleet to return to Sebastopol on the day after the visit of the *Retribution*, Prince Menschikoff had only followed the rules and usages observed in that sea from time immemorial, and wholly irrelative to the actual situation (i. e. to the letter conveyed by the *Retribution*. This note explains that the bad state of the sea at this time of the year, and the fear of finding the harbour blocked up with ice, has made it a principle in the service never to leave the harbour in January or February, and not even till the 15th of March.

CAPTURE OF AN ENGLISH STEAMER.

Private letters from Sebastopol state that the English steam-boat *Haydn* (query, a steam-boat carrying English colours), which had run aground, had been seized by the Russians, in conformity with the orders issued at the commencement of hostilities, the *Haydn* having Turkish troops on board.

THE WAR IN ASIA.

The news from the Caucasus comes down to January 18. Prince Woronzoff was still ill. Schamyl had received in safety the arms, ammunition, and supplies sent him by Turkey, as well as a certain number of officers to instruct his men. It was said that a Polish legion was to join Schamyl from Smyrna.

A letter from Trebizond, of the 26th ult., mentions that "3000 Russian troops of the Uruzuhet corps went out on the night of the 19th and posted themselves behind a bridge near Cheffketil, intending to surprise that fortress. The Seraskier, Selim Pacha, having been informed of the movement, ordered them to be attacked at five in the morning by a portion of his troops. The combat lasted five hours. The Russians lost more than 2000 slain and dangerously wounded.

ANOTHER ATTACK BY THE RUSSIAN SQUADRON.

The *Journal de Constantinople* of the 29th ult., gives the following account of the attack made by the Russian ships on the fort of St. Nicolas (Chef-ketil):—

According to letters from Batoum, which reached Constantinople on Thursday last, the Russians, on the 6th, made a fresh attack on the fort of Chef-ketil, with five sail-frigates, and were vigorously repulsed by the Turkish troops. The Russians fired from 4000 to 5000 balls, without ever touching the fort, which is well protected, from its admirable position. The Turkish artillerymen lodged a hundred cannon shot in the hulls of the Russian vessels, which were at length obliged to retire, after taking their most crippled vessel in tow. On the same day, several Russian corvettes and other vessels showed themselves in sight of Batoum, but soon after retired, without making any hostile manifestation.

The date assigned by the letters in question to this attempt is worthy of remark. It is said to have taken place on the 6th. The combined fleets only entered the Black Sea on the 3rd; and it is known that several frigates were detached to Sinope, in order to accompany the Turkish convoy to Batoum. This port is situated very near Chef-ketil. How, then, did they not hear of the attack of the fort by the Russian squadron? If this attack took place at the time mentioned, it was impossible that the Russian squadron could have known of the allied fleets having actually entered the Black Sea.

THE RUSSIAN FLEET IN THE BALTIC.

Letters from Copenhagen of the 6th inst., call attention to the fact that the equipment of the large fleets of men-of-war, lying in the harbours of Helsingfors and Cronstadt, is daily being proceeded with, and that seamen are repairing to them from all quarters. The winter is mild, and these fleets, it is said, can be sawn out of the ice and put to sea at a very early date. No time should be lost in sending our fleet over to seal them up, before it be too late.

THE RUSSIAN SQUADRON IN THE CHINA SEAS.

The Russian squadron, it appears, is still in the China Seas. Under the circumstances it is reported that the Admiralty have ordered the *Fox*, 49, frigate, to remain on the station, and Rear-Admiral Sir George Lambert, K.C.B., will return overland to England. In the absence of the *Fox*, the Russian squadron would be more than a match in size of ship and force, for the largest man-of-war we have there is the *Winchester*, 50, the next-to-last ship; and the only other frigate is the *Sybille*, 50. With the exception of the *Winchester*, 24, the rest of the squadron are small vessels. Rear-Admiral Sir James Stirling goes overland by next mail steamer to succeed Sir F. Pellew, in the *Winchester*. It is not at all unlikely that he may have the honour of capturing the Russians.

THE RUSSIANS AT RIO.

The Admiralty have not lost sight of the fact that there is a heavy Russian frigate at the present moment on the Brazils station, superior in force to anything that we have there, and their Lordships have determined to send out a ship of sufficient strength to prevent any possible mischief. It appears that this Russian frigate is now at Rio, where the few British vessels of war that we have there would become an easy prey in the event of hostilities. The *Trident's* machinery is in such a state that not more than three knots can be got out of her—in short, she is almost useless. The *Centaur's* boilers are leaky, and will not hold water. The *Vixen* is under repairs; and the *Star*, 8, quite rotten. The *Pique*, 40, fitting at Devonport, will, it is said, be sent to look after this Russian.

THE CZAR'S PATERNAL GOVERNMENT IN WALLACHIA.

The atrocious measures recently adopted by the Russian Generals in the Principalities are said to have produced general exasperation. The peasants in the district of Mehedienz had risen against an order commanding men, women, and even young girls, to be employed in the compulsory labour. The villagers at Isvoela having refused to obey the order publish d in the *Wallachian Moniteur*, the General sent a detachment of 200 Cossacks to chastise them. The unfortunate people defended themselves courageously, but, having no arms, they were overpowered, and nearly all murdered. A few who escaped gave the alarm in the neighbourhood. All the inhabitants of the adjacent villages, to the number of 3000, fell upon the Cossacks during the night, and exterminated them. The Russian General was preparing to avenge his loss in the most brutal manner, and to march against the villagers with his brigade. The Russians, moreover, having consumed all their own provisions, had seized upon every description of food belonging to the inhabitants, so that the majority of the latter are reduced to a state of starvation.

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

The latest accounts from Orsova are to the 8th, and from Bucharest to the 4th inst., up to which dates no movement of much consequence had taken place. According to all accounts the Russians do not seem well to know what they are about. On the 28th and 29th ult. there was a general movement *en avant*, and several villages were occupied by the troops; then orders were given to abandon these, and the headquarters were to be removed to Slatina; next, General Soimlders gave an opinion, and other orders were to be issued; and, finally, on the 1st inst., General Anrep was recalled to Bucharest, and General Lüders was installed as his successor. Some letters speak as though the attack might begin any day, weather permitting; while others affirm that it is postponed to the beginning of March. The prevailing impression seems to be that the Russians cannot venture to attempt anything against Kalafat until further reinforcements arrive, and as to their crossing the Danube, it begins to be rumoured that Austria, in spite of her neutrality, would strongly object to it.

Advices of the 3rd, from Odessa, state that the van of the 6th army corps, which left Moscow some months ago, passed the northern frontier of Bessarabia on the 31st ult., under the command of General Skobelityne. The reserve corps under General Tcchodaieff will not be able to follow for some weeks, but still the troops in Bessarabia have received orders to enter the Principalities. The same accounts say that no decisive events will occur until the end of next month, when the Emperor will probably arrive at the seat of war. In the month of March there is to be a general conscription, and the 80,000 recruits, with the invalids, will maintain tranquillity in the interior of Russia, while the garrisons are fighting the battles of the Czar in the Principalities "against the Turks and the Anglo-French auxiliary troops."

Since the 29th the garrison of Kalafat, previously about 20,000 strong, has been reinforced by ten battalions of foot, one regiment of horse, and twelve pieces of ordnance. The number is now estimated at 50,000 men. A considerable Turkish force also stands at Widdin. The present swollen state of the Danube makes it very difficult to maintain the communication between Widdin and Kalafat; and, should an attack take place before the subsidence of the river, the Turks would fight with the consciousness that they must conquer on the spot, as there could be no retreat.

Information of the 2nd from Galatz, states that on the 1st two Turkish steamers and eight gun-boats, commanded by Abdal Halil Pacha, had made a reconnoissance from Matchitze towards Ibrailn. They tried to get from the branch into the main stream, the Russian batteries saluted them at the fork, to which they replied, but retreated after the firing had lasted nearly an hour. Another Turkish reconnoissance was made at the same time from Isakcha against Reni.

The rumour of Prince Gortschakoff's removal from the command of the Russian army is contradicted by the Berlin papers. Letters from Bucharest state that on the 29th ult., Prince Gortschakoff made a grand reconnoissance of the position of Kalafat. The party approached so close to the place as distinctly to observe all the preparations making for its defence. Several cannon shots from the Turkish entrenchments also fell close about them. On the following day the Prince was still at the Russian head-quarters at Boleschti; he had, however, made all his preparations, it was said, for returning to Bucharest on the 31st. The reason why the Russians have not yet ventured to undertake anything important again Kalafat, is said to be the very sufficient one that "an attack on it would be attended with many serious difficulties." Something has been said of an attempt to turn the position of the Turks by taking the route of Nissa, but this could not be done without a violation of the Servian territory. This point is stated to have been touched on by Count Orloff at Vienna, but without success. The Russians now begin to see that the Turkish army is something better than the wild undisciplined mob of fanatics they took them for; that they have something like the valour of a European army; and that Omer Pacha is, at all events, not very much inferior to the Duke Sortschakoff. This conviction may explain the precaution which the various corps of the Russian army observe in their movements, and the impatience with which reinforcements indispensable to resuming hostilities are waited for. The difficulty is all the greater because the Ottoman General keeps the Russians in a state of incessant alarm in the direction of Oltenitza and Giurgevo; and it is not at all improbable that he may attempt something against Bucharest if the enemy should weaken that point by moving towards Kalafat. The Ottomans do not seem to repose on the laurels they have already gathered on the Danube.

THE RUSSO GREEK CONSPIRACY.

The latest accounts from Constantinople contain further particulars of the conspiracy in favour of Russia. It seems to have extended its ramifications through Bulgaria, Bosnia, Montenegro, Albania, Thessaly, and Epirus, and even to Athens, Corfu, the Ionian Islands, and the Morea. Constantinople; also to Smyrna, Samos, and other islands of the Archipelago; but the head-quarters were at Bucharest and Athens. At Constantinople, seven persons, mostly ex-employés of the Russian Government, carried on the principal direction of the plot. Amongst them was a person of the name of Kalmucki, formerly director of the Austrian Post-office at Pera, who left with Prince Menschikoff, but shortly afterwards returned incognito, and who, it appears, found refuge on board the Austrian war-steamer in the Bosphorus, together with some other Russian conspirators. Baron Celasec, one aide-de-camp of General Lüders; an officer of the name of Kanskoff; and two Greek papas (priests), who had travelled through all the above named Turkish provinces, carrying the correspondence and directions of the chiefs of the conspiracy. Letters were found on these persons which throw much light upon the ramifications of the plot, and which compromise some of the Legations at Constantinople, especially that of Austria. Three other men have since been arrested—natives of Bosnia, who stood under Austrian protection. After the first interrogatory, the Turkish police went to their homes in order to seize their papers. They, however, found the Austrian guards already there, who had collected them, and were carrying them away, on the pretence of suspecting these men of having been engaged in manufacturing false bank-notes. The Turkish police in vain declaimed at such unnecessary good offices, and could not get back any of the papers that had been taken away from the houses of these men, who stood under the protection of Austria. The commission appointed to investigate the affair very properly insists on examining these papers. These Bosnians are well known to have been in frequent and secret communication with the *employés* of the Austrian Embassy, of whom they used to receive money. It were of great importance that the trial of the four-and-twenty accused in this conspiracy should be published, as it would throw much light upon the neutrality of Austria in the Turco-Russian differences.

The French Minister at Athens has been instructed to communicate a note to the Greek Government relative to the encouragement given at Constantinople to the parties implicated in the conspiracy in favour of Russia, and that the Greek Government has been informed that if measures are not at once taken to prevent such encouragement from being given to the disaffected subjects of the Porte, that Athens and other towns of the kingdom of Greece will be occupied by French garrisons.

THE CHANGE IN THE TURKISH MINISTRY.

Letters from Constantinople confirm the telegraphic despatch of last week as to changes in the Turkish Cabinet, but qualify the former report by adding that no political importance is attached to it. The Seraskier, Mehemet Ali, the Sultan's brother-in-law, has been removed, and his place supplied by Riza Pacha, who was a short time ago named Capudan Pacha; whilst Kaiserli Achmet Pacha, the chief officer of the arsenal, had been raised to the vacant capudanship. According to one account, there had been serious differences among the Turkish Ministers as to the mode of conducting the war in Asia, where things seem to have been managed badly. As the ex-Seraskier was very popular, some fears of a disturbance were felt at first, and it was deemed advisable to occupy the streets of Constantinople with a military force. This almost looks as if there had been some truth in the first rumour of Russian influence.

MILITARY PREPARATIONS AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

General Baraguay d'Hilliers returned to Constantinople on the 28th, from his excursion to Buyuk Tchekmedje and Kara-Bournou. This little expedition is with reason considered to be connected with the transport of French troops to Turkey; and the object of the French General's visit was undoubtedly to have a look at the country, in case of their arrival. General Baraguay d'Hilliers has visited the country from thirty to forty miles to the east of Constantinople, near the ruins of the celebrated wall of Athanasius. It is now thought that a French force will be placed from sixteen to eighteen miles distant to the east of the capital, behind the formidable natural position which is there, and which was well known and appreciated by the ancients, in order to be enabled to arrest the progress of a Russian army which should be advancing victoriously on the capital, after having forced the Balkans.

This position has been considered impregnable by all who have visited it. To the left it leans on the bridge called Buyuk-Tchekmedje (great bridge), 400 yards in length, and constructed across a canal, which proceeds from an inland lake, formed out of the waters of the river Karasou, and which runs into the Sea of Marmora; whilst to the right it is supposed by Kara Bournou, on the Black Sea.

The *Festo Napio* states, upon the authority of a Belgrade letter of the 27th ult, that French engineers were marking out a camp for 40,000 Frenchmen at Bujuk Ceskmedze. This place is about six hours distance from Constantinople.

THE RUSSIAN CRUSADE.

The idea prevails among the Russian soldiers that they are on their way to the Holy Land, to rescue it from the hands of infidels, in which flattering term are comprised not only the Mussulmans, but the English and French. On the march of one of the early corps into the Principalities, a party of soldiers halted at a house, to beg for a draught of water. After their thirst was satisfied, they asked with great simplicity, but with all apparent sincerity, whether they were far from Jerusalem, for which they were on their march; and that they were told they would reach it in one or two days more.

COUNT ORLOFF'S RETURN TO ST. PETERSBURG.

The Russian diplomatist had an audience of the Emperor of Austria on the 7th inst., to take leave; and, next morning, he left Vienna for St. Petersburg. The *Austrian Correspondence* of the same day contains the following diplomatic article on Count Orloff's mission:—

Count Orloff has again left our capital, after a sojourn of ten days. The distinguished reception which this statesman, honoured with the special confidence of his Emperor, has met with from the Imperial Court, is the best proof how highly the Majesty the Emperor values the maintenance of that friendly understanding which has so happily subsist between both these Sovereigns. If even, therefore, the Vienna Conference did not find the communication, which Count Orloff was charged to make to the Imperial Court, in reply to the conciliatory propositions made to the Russian Government, so far to correspond with the same as to enable them to forward it for acceptance to the Porte, but was rather of opinion that the final decision of the Russian propositions should be left to the respective Governments; yet, on the other hand, the consultations held with the Russian de egate do not exclude the hope that means will yet be found to bring about a satisfactory solution of the Oriental question. We recognise, therefore, in the mission of Count Orloff not only a proof of the friendly disposition which his Majesty the Emperor of Russia entertains for the Imperial Court, but we also trace in the same a new manifestation of the value which the Emperor Nicholas attaches to the maintenance of the peace of the world.

Like Lord Aberdeen, the Austrian journal still clings to the hope that "means will yet be found to bring about a satisfactory solution of the Oriental question."

THE INTENTIONS OF PRUSSIA.

The views of the Berlin Cabinet on the question of neutrality are thus expressed by the *Wochenblatt*. –

Prussia had to give her vote on this European question, like the other great Powers. By so doing she relinquished her position of a total neutrality. As Russia has rejected the propositions of the Four Powers, there can be no doubt that Prussia stands on principle in opposition to Russia. If Prussia acted in concert with the other Powers to obtain a pacific solution, she was bound at the same time—considering the diversity that existed between the interests of the Powers—to consult, above all things, the interests of Prussia. Now, what do the interests of Prussia demand? Prussia has the right to co-operate actively when a great European question is cancelled by war. When the question is to defend European interests, to combat the preponderance of one sole Power, Prussia cannot remain a passive, inactive spectator; it is rather fitting that she should throw the whole weight of her power into the balance on the side of right and of the general interests of nations. To do so, she must have free action; and if she reserves that action, it does not follow that she wishes to remain inactive, but it results that she will act when her interests demand it. And to be enabled to act it is necessary that she should not be bound by engagements with any party.

THE RUSSIANS AT BRUSSELS.

General Jomini, who has had to leave Paris in consequence of the rupture of diplomatic relations with Russia, has arrived at Brussels, and intends to reside there for some time.

It was reported last week that the Princess Lieven had arrived at Brussels from Paris on account of the war premature. Although about to take her departure for the Belgian capital, she was still in Paris at the beginning of this week. The *Ami de la Religion* says:—

The Princess Lieven gave a grand *soirée* a few evenings since. She announced to her friends that, although she had not received the slightest intimation either from the Russian Embassy or from the Czar, that party would, doubtless, be her last. The Russian Princess manifested an intention, future to Russia. M. de Rodachcvi, who was present, replied to her "Madame, if that is the case, no change will take place in our habits, we will come and see you at Brussels as we do in Paris. We will procure leisure-trains on the Northern Railway. It will be, besides, a good affair for the Company." This is what may be called French gallantry.

SPAIN.

Our accounts from Madrid, to the 9th inst., state that Ministers held frequent councils, at which important resolutions were adopted. The political prisoners were still kept in close confinement, and not allowed to communicate with their families or friends. A letter from Cadiz states that the Minister of Marine had ordered Captain Juan de Dios Ramon Izquierdo to proceed to Mobile, U.S., to purchase an assortment of masts of all sizes for the royal navy.

PORTUGAL.

The *National Gazette* of Berlin, of the 10th, says:—"We understand that the young King of Portugal will visit, in the spring, several of the Courts of Europe, commencing by London, and then proceeding to Brussels, here, Dresden, and Vienna. His Majesty will return home by Munich, Brussels, and Paris.

AMERICA.

The steam-ship *Niagara* arrived at Liverpool on Monday night, having sailed from Boston on the 1st inst., and from Halifax on the 3rd.

The United States mail steam-ship *Ohio* had arrived at New York from Aspinwall, with one million of dollars' worth of gold dust. The health of the Isthmus is good. By the news from California we learn that Governor Johnson had reached San Francisco that Walker and his Filli busteros had been relieved by the reinforcements that had sailed from California to aid him and his band.

Another destructive fire had occurred at New York, on the 30th ult. The scene of the catastrophe was No. 81 Pearl-street, and property to the amount of 200,000 dollars destroyed.

The Quebec Parliament House, with the buildings attached, were entirely destroyed on the morning of the 1st February. The fire was not discovered in the north wing until some time after it had broken out, notwithstanding that a sentinel was on duty at the spot. When it was observed it had obtained too great a power to be subdued. Part of the valuable library was saved, but the Historical Society's library and apparatus were almost entirely destroyed.

AUSTRALIA.

The steam-ship *Great Britain*, from Australia, arrived in the Mersey on Tuesday, having made the passage in seventy-two days. She sailed from Melbourne on the 4th of December, and has brought 199 passengers and 165,000 ounces of gold. She is also the bearer of the first shipment of cotton from Sydney. The political news received by her is not of much importance.

A TURKISH ENTHUSIAST.—Letters from Constantinople mention the arrival in that city of a youth of from fourteen to sixteen years of age, accompanied by several hundred warriors. This youth, who is a native of a remote country in the interior of Asia Minor, is the offspring of a woman five years of age, and on that account his mother looked upon him as destined for great things—a feeling which seems to have been shared by her neighbours and all the province. The child was taken to the mosque. On the night arm an Arabic verse has been inscribed, signifying "Thou will die a martyr;" whilst, on the left, the happy prophecy, "Thou will be a great man," is carved in Eastern characters. This youth was from his birth destined for a military career, and generally regarded with feelings of respectful veneration by his fellow-countrymen. He has now grasped a standard, and, surrounded by his followers, is burning to go to the war. His youthful appearance, whilst riding through the streets of Stamboul at the head of his followers, has given rise to the report that a heroine *à la Jeanne d'Arc* had started up for the cause of the Crescent. A warrior-woman has, however, appeared in Anatol a, surnamed Karak-haa (or the Black Girl), and she is the leader of some thousand horsemen.

THE PEACE DEPUTATION TO THE CZAR.—Letters from St. Petersburg mention that the three gentlemen composing the deputation from the Quakers of London, and who reached that city about the middle of January, were received, and were to leave the capital on the 31st of that month, on their return to England.

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DEPARTURE OF THE RUSSIAN AMBASSADOR, M. KISSELEFF, FROM PARIS.

DEPARTURE OF BARON BRUNNOW FROM LONDON.

We last week illustrated the departure of his Excellency from Chesham House, on Wednesday, the 8th instant. We now engrave the Farewell Scene in the hall of the mansion, where Baron Brunnow and the Baroness, and their daughter, took leave of their household, left for the South-Eastern Railway; and in the evening arrived at the Ship Hotel, Dover. On Thursday Baron Brunnow, with the other members of the London Embassy, arrived at Brussels, where it was understood that he would await the arrival of instructions from Count Nesselrode. Later accounts, however, state that he has gone to Darmstadt, and that he is likely to remain there for some time.

DEPARTURE OF M. DE KISSELEFF FROM PARIS.

In our Journal of last week we detailed the circumstances of the departure of the Russian Minister from Paris. Our Artist has represented the scene at his Excellency's Hotel, in the Faubourg St Honoré, which he left on Monday week, for the Northern Railway, *en route* for Brussels.

The *Moniteur* announced the departure in the following brief terms:—"The Minister of Russia left Paris on Monday. M. de Kisseleff was accompanied by all the *personnel* of the Legation. There now only remains at Paris the Consul-General Ebeling, charged with civil and commercial affairs.

The following, which has appeared in the *Débats*, will be read with interest:—

It is stated that, before leaving Paris, M. de Kisseleff drew up a circular to inform all his countrymen residing in France of the resolution which it was his duty to come to in execution of the orders of the Emperor, and to say that, in view of certain eventualities, it was the intention of the Emperor that they should have to quit France. The departure of M de Kisseleff has caused great regret, not only among the political personages who had relations with him, but also in the whole of the society in Paris. He was universally loved and esteemed, and his company was sought after on account of the amusing and safe character of his society. He was an essentially obliging man, most anxious to render service, and avoiding with the greatest care all that could annoy any person. In society he paid no attention to political parties, being intimate with every one, and he was everywhere liked. M. de Kisseleff, though still young, is certainly one of the oldest members of the diplomatic corps of Russia, and one of those who can boast of the greatest number of years of uninterrupted service. He first came to Paris in August, 1829—a few days before the formation of the Polignac Ministry

THE RUSSIAN AMBASSADOR, BARON BRUNNOW, LEAVING CHESHAM HOUSE.

He had been sent here as Secretary of the Russian Embassy, of whic Count Pozzo di Borgo was then the head. But that was not his com mencement, for he had already served in Persia and elsewhere. Nearly twenty-five years have since elapsed, during which time have taken place the revolutions of 1830 and 1848. M. de Kisseleff witnessed these, and beheld the consequences of them successively de velop themselves before him. In 1837 Count Pozzo di Borgo, who had ceased to be Ambassador at Paris, having been sent in a similar capacity to London, asked for M. de Kisseleff as his first secretary, which was accorded him. This latter returned to Paris in 1840, with the title of Counsellor of Embassy; and soon after, Count Pahlen, the Ambassador, being re-called to St. Petersburg, M. de Kisseleff was placed at the head of the mission as Chargé d'Affaires, which post he still held when the revolution of February broke out. In 1849 or 1850 he was raised to the rank of Minister Plenipotentiary, and in 1857 received the title of Envoy Extraordinary. M. de Kisseleff had, consequently, passed among us half of his life, and it may be affirmed that it is in France that he has gone through the various degrees of his career. We shall be contradicted by no one when we affirm that he loves France and the French by taste and by gratitude, and that he saw with real sorrow the difference which arose between the two Governments relative to the Eastern question. He did not at first foresee all its consequences, and he long hoped that European diplomacy would succeed in overcoming all difficulties. We believe that his personal efforts have not been wanting for that object. If the storms which obscure the political horizon clear away, the numerous friends of M. de Kisseleff at Paris, after having accompanied him with their regrets, will be all happy to see him again.

Since his arrival at Brussels, it is said, that he has held long conferences every day with Count Creptowitsch, the Russian Ambassador at that Court, and the latter personage has had frequent interviews with the King of the Belgians. Other accounts state that M. de Kisseleff has been confined to his hotel by indisposition ever since he arrived at Brussels, but that is said to have been published merely to allay suspicion as to his movements.

Another *on dit* regarding M. de Kisseleff is given in the *Cologne Gazette*, which states that the Prussian Government has granted him permission to send certain large trunks by the Berlin Railway, without their being opened—a favour granted to few persons. These trunks, it is alleged, contain many important diplomatic secrets, and are not deemed sufficiently safe in Belgium.

ALEXANDRIA.—THE "HIMALAYA" STEAM-SHIP.

(From a Correspondent.)

After the bustle and excitement attendant upon the outfit and despatch of the Egyptian troops and naval force, who have lately shown that renown is a characteristic of the modern Egyptians as well as those of ancient days, we have here settled down again into our wonted routine of business life. Public works are again progressing rapidly; foremost among these we may mention the railway—forty miles of which are expected to be open for the conveyance of the mails and passengers by the Indian route in March. Mr. Stephenson has recently arrived here in his yacht *Titania*, and is at present at Cairo.

It is not the intention of the Egyptian Viceroy to send more troops to Constantinople at present, above 30,000 soldiers have already joined the Sultan's army from this country. For the last eight or nine days we have had a succession of gales, with heavy squalls of rain and very cutting wind. The Prussian frigate *Gefion*, 42 guns, Commander Schroeder; a corvette, and the 12-gun steamer *Dantzic*, are at present in port here. The monster ship *Himalaya* came in here on the 2nd, after the quickest passage on record from Malta. The Governor of Alexandria, Ibrahim Eiff Bey, and Heireddien Pacha, Minister of Commerce, several of the European Consuls, and principal merchants and bankers of Alexandria, visited the *Himalaya*; she left in the evening for Malta, with 190 passengers and the Indian and Australian mails, which arrived at Suez on the 31st ult.

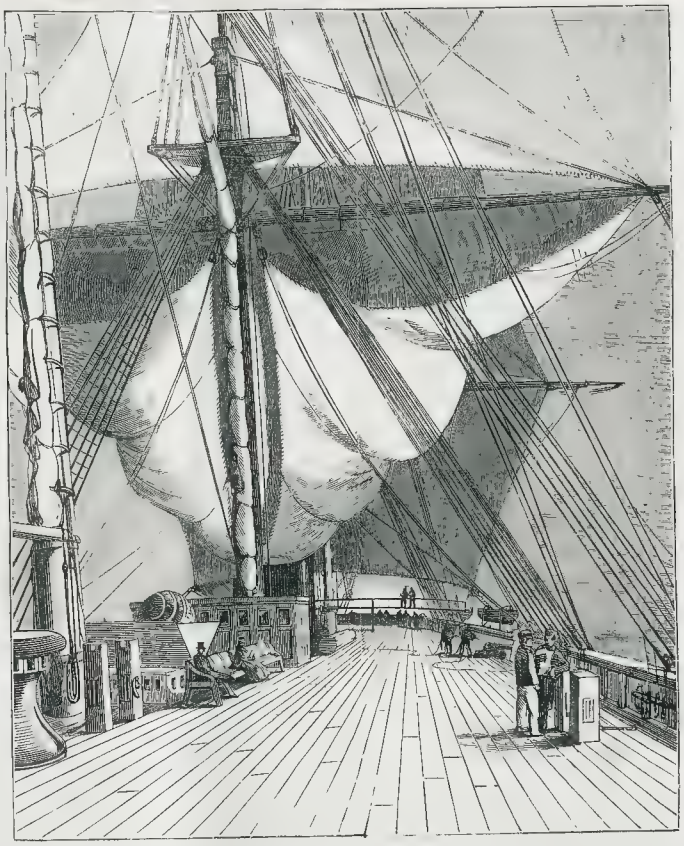
The *Himalaya*, Off Malta, Feb. 7, 1854.

The success of this gigantic vessel is now established. Combining great and unrivalled speed, with splendid accommodation for passengers, and ample stowage for the largest freight, she resembles more a floating city than a ship. On her outward passage, she performed the run from Gibraltar to Malta, a distance of over 1000 miles, in 7¼ hours—the quickest run on record; while from Malta to Alexandria, a distance of 830 miles, she accomplished in 6½ hours, beating the quickest run before made by 7½ hours. During the outward voyage she made 9 knots against a strong gale of wind and heavy head sea. Her best run in 24 hours was 350 miles, with plain sail set, her speed being for some hours 16 knots, or over 18½ English miles.

Returning from Alexandria, she reached Malta in 68 hours, with a continuance of head winds and sea; making 10 knots against a very heavy head sea and strong breeze, and 13½ knots with light head winds and sea.

Her measurements within and without, her palatial saloon and sleeping-cabins, her promenade deck, in short, her multitudinous appliances, the power and speed of her engines, all have been told; and I shall only add that there seems now to be no question as to the superiority of the screw, in vessels of large tonnage, over the paddles, as regards speed, economy of space, and fuel.

(This fine vessel is stated to be engaged for the embarkation of troops *en route* for the seat of war in the East.)



VIEW OF "THE HIMALAYA" STEAM-SHIP, FROM THE QUARTER-DECK.

IRON HOUSE BUILDING.

In our Journal for April 30, 1853, we engraved one of the most remarkable constructions which had, to that date, issued from Hemming's Manufactory of Iron Houses, Clift-house Works, Bristol. In the accompanying Sketch, we obtain a general view of this large establishment, taken at the time the subject of our previous illustration—an iron-built Church or Melbourne—occupied a prominent position in the grounds.

With the growth of the establishment great improvements have been made in the structures themselves. There is greater boldness of style in the buildings, which gives room for some admirable arrangements for ventilation. Foremost in the picture is a villa with rooms twelve feet high, Venetian blinds between the tops of the windows and the ceiling, and hanging window over the door in entrance-hall.

Next is a lofty, two-storied hotel, to make up thirty beds. We understand that a repetition of this structure was ordered for a Welsh town.

A store, 37 by 25 feet, and 12 feet high, fitted up with shelves and mahogany counter, might deceive a practised eye upon entering: the ceiling, with its moulding running round it, looks so like veritable plaster and white lime. The whole is without a nail, and might be packed up in a few hours.

Another of the structures now in progress is a Female Emigrants' Home, intended by the benevolent proprietor as a gift to the colony. It comprises a large common room; four bed-rooms, with twelve comfortable berths in each; detached lavatories and water-closets on one side; on the other, cooking and store-houses, with a separate dwelling for the superintendent—the whole with the best arragements for ventilation.

A church, ready for shipment, and of much greater capacity than its predecessor, towers above the surrounding erections.

It is difficult to describe the impression produced by the busy scene at Clift-house: a town rising and falling in a week; but the *debris*, instead of unsightly heaps of rubbish, are trim packages lying about in all directions, waiting only to be shipped.

We admired much an imposing range of stores, built for a London merchant, two stories in height, with balconies and verandahs, 100 feet in length by 37 in depth. Such a construction removes everything of a "makeshift" character from these buildings, and justly entitles them to take place with those others whose foundations are laid upon parchments and stamps.

CLIFT-HOUSE IRON BUILDING WORKS, NEAR BRISTOL

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

THE EASTERN QUESTION

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE sub-mitted the following the notice he had a ready g on for the d scuss on on the following evening

That an humble ad be presented to her Most Gracious Maje ty, praying her Majesty will be graciously pleased to direct that further information respecting our relations with the Court of St. Petersburg and also respecting the war between Turkey and Russia, may be laid before the House.

THE BALTIC POWERS.

The Earl of CLARENDON, in reply to the Earl of Ellenborough, said there would be no objection to produce the papers relative to the neutrality of the Baltic Powers.

HOUSE OF COMMONS—MONDAY.

THE BLACK SEA FLEET.—COUNT ORLOFF'S MISSION.

Mr. LAYARD regretted to find from the Blue Book on the Eastern question, and from more recent intelligence, that some disagreement had taken place between our Ambassador at Constantinople and Admiral Dundas. It was stated the other evening, by the member for Roscommon, that her Majesty's Ambassador had ordered the fleet into the Black Sea—that Admiral Dundas had returned to Constantinople and that on his way he met a steamer bearing despatches to him from the Ambassador, requesting him to remain there; but he declined complying with the instructions, and proceeded into the Bosphorus. In explanation, Lord J. Russell stated that the conduct of the Admiral, although the Ambassador had asked for an explanation of it, would be found to deserve the approbation of the Government and the country. He (Mr. Layard) conceived that this answer conveyed a very severe censure on her Majesty's Minister at Constantinople. He therefore begged to ask the noble Lord whether the fleet had been placed under the orders of her Majesty's Ambassador, or whether the Admiral had instructions of a different nature, opposed to those given to the Ambassador? Touching Count Orloff's mission, also, he wished to know whether the Government had any official information of its purpose; and, if not, who was in fault for the omission?

Lord J. RUSSELL replied to the first query, that both the Ambassadors and the Admirals had done their duty; the former politically, in sending the fleets into the Black Sea; the latter professionally, by returning when they found the harbour of Sinope unsafe, and the weather tempestuous. No reflection was meant to be cast on Redcliffe when meant by Government Respecting the mission of Count Orloff, that envoy had only terminated his negotiations (which had entirely failed) on the 6th and England had no direct concern in the business. Some despatches relating to the matter had arrived that afternoon; and, when properly selected and prepared, would be laid, at the discretion of the Government, before the House.

RATIONS OF THE TROOPS.

Mr. SIDNEY HERBERT, in reply to a question from Lord W. Graham, explained the regulations now in force regarding the stoppages and provisioning of the troops. The sum formerly paid by each soldier for his rations was to vary with the market provisions, being at the maximum: said, during the war, that amount was always reached. Of late years the cost had diminished; and, although prices were again enhanced, it had been determined to make the stoppage a fixed sum of 4½d., accompanied with much improved bread of quality, especially as the bread supplied, and subject to periodical revisions; so that in no case could the Government profit at the expense of the soldier. During the present year it was estimated that the extra expense to the country caused by this boon to the army would be from £1[illegible] to £130,000.

THE LIVERPOOL FREEMEN.

Mr BRIGHT presented a petition from 3000 householders of Liverpool, praying for an investigation into recent election proceedings in that borough, where votes were sold at from £2 to £60 a piece, and contests had cost £40 000 a side; and urging the disfranchisement of the whole body of freemen electors, as being generally open to the charge of corruption.

THE NEW REFORM BILL.

Lord J. RUSSELL, in introducing the proposed measure for the Reform of Parliament, said he should not follow the custom of some honourable members in seeking to magnify the character of the measure he was about to submit. Its nature had, perhaps, been unduly exaggerated; for the name of a Reform Bill took men back to the days when the House deliberated amid the fires of Nottingham and Bristol. It was in a very different temperament that they might now proceed to improve and complete the former measure. Briefly alluding to the inquiries that impending the measure inopportune, he cited precedents set by Pitt, Fox, and Grey, in which proposals for parliamentary reform were introduced at far more critical periods; and added, that the prospect of war with Russia did not, under present circumstances, so alarm his apprehensions as to induce him to believe that projects of internal reform and improvement should be therefore abandoned, or could not be considered with calmness and security.

Much, Sir, as I abhor war (said the noble Lord), much as I deplore the evils of war, I confess I do not look on a war with Russia with anything like that apprehension which some gentlemen do (Cheers). I cannot conceive that we should not be able to proceed with the means necessary for carrying on that war with vigour—and, if carried on at all, it ought to be carried on with vigour (Loud cheers)—and at the same time have full opportunity for deliberation in our domestic matters which appear to us most to require attention (Hear, hear). Sir, I cannot but think that this apprehension of our being unable to attend to the consideration of questions of this character from the approach of war, if war should be unhappily declared to be inevitable, and, at the same time, to increase our exertions and our efforts to oppose the forces of Russia, appears to be one of those thoughts which are declared to consist of only one part wisdom and three parts cowardice (Laughter). I am not one of those who share in that apprehension.

He then recapitulated the chief changes in the system of representation affected by the act of 1832, and after pronouncing a short eulogy on the practical measures which had been passed by the Reformed Parliament, addressed himself to the immediate object of his present motion. This he characterised as an attempt to secure the more full representation of the people at large. For this purpose he intended to deal with three primary points on which the first Reform Act appeared to be deficient or erroneous.

DISFRANCHISEMENT OF SMALL BOROUGHS.

First came the principle of the disfranchisement of small boroughs, which he now proposed to extend. Not, however, on the ground which some Reformers take, that there ought to be an equal number of electors in every place returning members to Parliament.

My belief (said the noble Lord) is that, although you might get a full you would hardly get a fair representation of the people without some variety of the conditions of our system of representation. If anybody will look at the history of the last few years, he will see that, during the contentions which existed on the subject of Free-trade, if he take up an account of a meeting in some agricultural county, he will find that great applause was given to those who pointed out the selfishness and cupidity of manufacturers, and attributed their efforts to those feelings. On the other hand, at meetings held in great manufacturing towns, the landed aristocracy were held up to odium, and their monopoly of power was denounced as the great cause of evils. But there remained a great number of people who neither listened to nor believed in either of these representations. A great portion of the people—consisting of many of the most moderate and sober part of the country—justly thought that the landed aristocracy were useful to the country—that they constituted an important element to the free and settled institutions of the state; and they thought, on the other hand, that the country derived the greatest benefits from the industry and spirit of the manufacturing class. If nothing but large cities and counties were represented, you would want that mediating principle of the Constitution which is derived from those who are not sent by either of those classes. I think, likewise, it would be impossible to do not say whether it would be desirable to do—for even that would be impossible, in the present social state of this country, with our laws of primogeniture in the great properties that exist, to prevent the influence of great proprietors in counties and boroughs. At the time of the Reform Bill I said there was a certain small number of boroughs which would still have a sufficient number of electors to enable them to make an independent election of members to serve them in Parliament. I find the number of electors which I then stated I thought all boroughs should have at the least, to enable them to send members to this House, was 300. I find, however, there are several boroughs whose constituencies fall below that number. I find, likewise, that there are boroughs which, although they have more than the number of 300 electors, are yet of a population which is not considerable—in fact, falling below 5000. I should propose, therefore, to deal with the boroughs which are in that position (Hear). Going on to some of the boroughs which are not so small, I find there is a certain number of other boroughs which have less than 500 electors, and others which have a population of less than 10,000, though more than 5000 (Hear, hear). Such are the cases I propose to deal with those boroughs by taking away one of their members (Cheers). The number of boroughs—taking the double return of electors and population, which is one under 500 electors, and the others which have 500 electors and a population of 5000—are 19, an I they send 29 members to the House (Hear, hear). The number of boroughs which will come into the next table, which have either less than 500 electors or less than 10,000 population, are no fewer in number than 33. Now, therefore, if the former boroughs were entirely disfranchised, there would be no less than 69 seats by which the number of the House of Commons would be diminished.

REPRESENTATION OF MINORITIES.

The next defect in the Reform Bill, which I have to mention is, that I think it has tended too much to divide the constituencies into opposite camps, so far as they are connected with land or with trade (Hear, hear) I think we have seen what was the case in 1841, when we have seen county members generally exclusively of one party, and members of great manufacturing cities exclusively, likewise, of another party Perhaps I afore I proceed to state the manner in which I propose that the sixty-two seats should be filled up, I should state that I think very great advantage would be derived from a change which has been proposed in bygone days and in part in the present day—I mean the representation of minorities. Of the numbers who have voted at some of the elections for counties, and for some of the great cities, I find that there are two, three, and four thousand who have voted for the unsuccessful candidates; while, perhaps, not more than one hundred, or one hundred and fifty more are to be found on the side of the successful candidates. It appears to us that many advantages would attend the enabling of the minority to have a part in these returns. In the first place, there is apt to be a feeling of great irritation and soreness when a very considerable number of the electors, such as those I have stated, are completely unrepresented in a constituency; and when that is the case, it is obvious that, supposing there be a decided majority of 100 or 500, that majority would, at all events, have two members out of the three, and in the other they would be so close to one in any division which took place. I think, besides, that the adoption of a plan or this sort would have a great tendency in preventing angry conflicts in those places where elections for members of Parliament might take place (Hear).

REDISTRIBUTION OF REPRESENTATION.

I have stated more than once, in answer to honourable gentlemen who complained that there were places of 6.00 or 7000 inhabitants which returned as many members as places having 60,000 or 70,000 inhabitants, that if we were to reform our representation according to the numbers of the people, the towns of 10,000 or 15,000 inhabitants must yield their claim to great consideration to those that had 50,000, or even a million inhabitants. I remember the right honourable Member for Bucks maintaining that argument with great ability, in answer to the proposition which was made in this House during the time he was Chancellor of the Exchequer. It appears to me that that argument is founded in fairness and in justice (Hear, hear). We should propose, therefore, to take population generally as the rule, but to be guided in the instances which I have stated as I have. We take, in the first place, the West Riding of the county of York, which has nearly 800,000 inhabitants, besides the inhabitants of the towns which are represented; and we find in the county of Lancashire, even in the former division of that county, 500,000 inhabitants. We propose to divide these two divisions of the counties, but to each of the divisions we propose to give three members. Proceeding with the counties and towns, we propose to give an additional member to each county or each town which has more than 100,000 inhabitants (Hear, hear). But then we propose that in giving to those places these additional members are to be returned, the electors should vote as they do at present, only for two candidates out of the three, and that when the minority exceeds two fifths of the whole number of electors persons having a right to vote should be enabled to have one of the three representatives which were given. The consequence of this alteration would be to give to the West Riding of the County of York four additional members, and four to the southern division of Lancashire. There would then be, I think, thirty-eight members for the other counties, making forty-six altogether.

ADDITIONAL MEMBERS FOR TOWNS.

With respect to towns having more than 100,000 inhabitants, there are one which come within the category, without including those which the metropolitan boroughs, for we have considered the metropolitan boroughs as forming parts of one great city, and not as separate cities and towns (Hear, hear). There would be, at the present time, eight towns having 100,000 inhabitants to which one additional member would be given; and to Salford, containing upwards of 50,000 inhabitants, one member would also be given, being the only town of 50,000 to which we now require members. We propose also that one member be given to three towns which have more than 20,000 inhabitants, and which are not at present represented; they are Hull, Oldham, Wolverhampton, and Greenock. ("Oh, oh!" from the Opposition benches). Each of these towns contains about 20 000 inhabitants. We then propose to give effect to that proposition which has often been urged in this House—that Kensington and Chelsea should be made into a distinct borough, to which two members should be allotted (Hear, hear).

MEMBERS TO THE INNS OF COURT AND UNIVERSITIES.

There is another kind of representation which has been often spoken of, and to which we propose at least to give some parts of the seats which will be at our disposal. The first which I shall mention of the kind are the Inns of Court (Laughter, and expressions of dissent from both sides of the House). I know that some honourable gentlemen think that already there are a sufficient number of lawyers in the House (renewed laughter); but my persuasion is, that there would be a great benefit, were we put the question to the test in this House—that Kensington and Chelsea should be made into a distinct borough, to which two members should be allotted (Hear, hear).

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EXTENSION OF THE FRANCHISE.

I will now advert to what I believe to be a defect in the Reform Act, and one which still more requires to be remedied. Since the Reform Act has been given, a great deal of alteration was made, and a large amount of information was obtained, even after the bill was brought into the House, be one the Government of the day was ready to bring up the bill and on the subject. It was first proposed that there should be a £10 rating. It was thought at one time that a far higher rating ought to be adopted, but ultimately it was reduced to £10 value. Now, I think that, taking that plan of the franchise, and modifying, as we did, all those intricate franchises which then existed, we too much confined ourselves to one species of franchise, and did not make it as comprehensive as it might and ought to be, consistently comprehensive. We propose, on the present occasion, that there should be several branch es, which should be common to counties and towns—that a person who has lived in the same house for a year should be place in which he resides, and should exercise his vote there, whether he be resident in a county or borough returning a member to Parliament. The first of these franchises is that of occupation, which is now the most common franchise in counties and towns. Now, I think that, taking that plan of the franchise, and modifying, as we did, all those intricate franchises which then existed, we too much confined ourselves to one species of franchise, and did not make it as comprehensive as it might and ought to be, consistently comprehensive. We propose, on the present occasion, that there should be several branch es, which should be common to counties and towns—that a person who has lived in the same house for a year should be place in which he resides, and should exercise his vote there, whether he be resident in a county or borough returning a member to Parliament. The first of these franchises is that of occupation, which is now the most common franchise in counties and towns. Now, I think that, taking a year of salary derived from any employment, whether public or private (Hear, hear). The amount of salary stated must, however, be received half-yearly or quarterly, and in no case should persons be included those persons who are paid by weekly wages. I consider that this franchise will bring in a very large body of able and deserving men who are not householders, and who are at present excluded under the description of householders under the existing system. The next franchise which we propose is one of £10 a year derived from dividends from property either in the Funds or in joint stock companies, or in any company's stock (Hear). The third is somewhat similar, though rather higher than that which we proposed two years since—viz., a 40s. payment either of income-tax or assessed taxes within the year. Those who now pay the income tax will be entitled to the vote, and when they lose the vote in consequence of this part of the qualification ceasing, they will receive as a compensation for their loss the benefit of having got rid of the tax (Laughter). We also propose that all graduates of any university in the United Kingdom—saitable means being, of course, devised for compelling persons claiming this franchise to prove their right—shall have the right of voting, because they may be fairly considered as being persons of education and intelligence. We also propose that any person having a deposit of £50 in the savings-bank (Cheers), and having had that deposit for not less than three years, shall be entitled to vote (Renewed cheers).

THE COUNTY FRANCHISE

With respect to county fra nchise, it may be recollected that, at the time of the introduction of the Reform Bill, the Government did not propose to depart in principle from the general provision of our constitution—that a life occupation gave the right of voting in cities and boroughs, tenants should give the right of voting in counties. The "forty-shilling freeholders" were added to by copyholders and others who had, in fact, smaller properties; but, with the exception of leaseholders holding for twenty-one years, it was not at first proposed to vary the nature of the right of voting for counties. But in the course of the progress of the Reform Bill through Parliament, amendments were proposed and carried, by which a fifty-pound copyhold estate obtained the right of voting in counties. I am far from making any objection to the case of fifty pound copyholders; but it will be seen that it entirely changed the character and nature of the county franchise as it had previously existed, and it certainly tended to diminish the power of that class which I have always considered as the best and most independent in this country the forty-shilling freeholders. Were that principle wholly departed from, great opposition was manifested, and many reasons were assigned why the "occupant franchise" should not be extended further. I believe that which is extensively urged to state the number of electors in towns sending members to Parliament. At the same time, I think it would be a very great advantage if those who live in towns who have not the right of sending members to Parliament should yet have in the counties in which they reside some voice in the county elections. We propose, therefore, to adopt the principle embodied in that motion which has more than once been made in this House, that the £10 occupier should have the right of voting at county elections (Cheers from the Ministerial side). But this county right of voting, with the exception of houses being of no value, shall consist in the voter living or residing in it; in all other cases, the building must be at least of the value of £5 (laughter); of course, I mean £5 a year. Suppose the house and land to be occupied by a tenant of the value of £1 or £2, provided the voter resides in that house, he will be entitled to the franchise. But, if the right to vote should be claimed in respect to any other building or that and—select the building in which the voter resides it may be a cattle-shed, or other erection of that kind—then this check shall apply, viz., that the building must be of the value of £5 a year. This, therefore, is the franchise which we propose to give counties for voters, and the House will see that it has a very considerable bearing upon that question of the increase of members which I have stated we intend to propose for counties. Considering the increase of county members which I have stated, we propose that forty-six should be added to the counties; but as these counties will hereafter include all £10 householders, it is proper that the representation of the counties should be so drawn as to [illegible] interest, or to run down the manufacturing interest, are perfectly foolish and absurd, and that there could be no better representation than that which takes into consideration the whole of the great interests of this country (Cheers), and which considers them all as contributing to the glory and prosperity of a great country (Cheers).

THE BOROUGH FRANCHISE.

Now I come to the question of the franchise for the boroughs. It certainly appears to me that since making a £10 franchise so absolutely as we did in 1831, we did not make a sufficient provision for the admission of the working classes into the right of voting (Hear, hear). It was not intended, as has been supposed, that the middle classes should be exclusively the electors in cities and boroughs; but still it was supposed—as has actually taken place—that the middle classes would have a greater portion of the power in their hands than in effect did exist, and have a great influence upon the future conduct of the Parliaments of the country. I do not shrink from saying that I think the extension of the franchise, as I proposed it two years since, was not too large, but too large in its extent. But at the same time I must own that that proposition has been productive of great objections, and that it was generally admitted that it was not to carry into effect, and that it would not obtain that intelligence and independence which it was desirable to secure. We propose to take all householders above £6, on the condition that they possess that qualification for the space of three years, that is, a term of about two years and a half before they are entitled to be placed on the register, and about two years and ten months before they can exercise the right of voting. By this proposition you would not include the mass of the franchise as would include a large number of working men, and which would not procure those who are most remarkable for the steadiness of their conduct, or for the sobriety and regularity of their habits in their trade, and who are, in consequence, enabled to live in houses of a better character than those which are occupied by the great mass of their fellow-workmen (Expressions of dissent).

ABOLITION OF THE RATE-PAYING CLAUSES.

There is one change, however, which we propose to make, both with respect to this new franchise and the existing £10 franchise in towns. According to the old doctrine of representation, persons paying "scot and lot" were entitled to the right of voting. That payment of "scot and lot" extending even to the lowest class of householders, was accompanied with the proviso on, that the payment of "scot and lot," amounting to a certain sum, which came to be the payment of a poor-rate in modern time, was always insisted upon before the voter could go to the poll. This provision was retained in the before the voter could go to the poll. This provision was retained in the Reform Bill for the purpose of ascertaining the solvency and sufficiency of the new class of voters which were then created. But considering that in the case of the occupation franchise in counties, the person who exercises that right must be rated to the poor's rate on a house of £10 a year in rated value, and that in towns he must occupy a house of the rate and value of not less than £6 a year, and must have resided in such house a considerable time before the time of voting, it appears to us that you have in the way a sufficient test of solvency, and that it is no longer necessary to keep in force those checks of the payments of rates and taxes which have been hitherto considered necessary to impose before the party was permitted to exercise the franchise (Loud cheers).

REGISTRATION OF ELECTORS.

Another change we propose is, with regard to the register of electors. We propose that, in future, the register of electors, as revised by the barrister, shall be final as to the voter's right; and that no question shall be allowed to be raised upon it (Cheers). I should, perhaps, explain somewhat more clearly than I have done, that the ten-pound franchise that now exists—which is a franchise of the House is aware, of £10 rated value—we preserve exactly as it is, but with three exceptions. First, with regard to buildings, which are not dwelling-houses, they must be of the rated value of £5 a year. Another change that the payment of rates and taxes shall be no longer considered necessary. It will, therefore, be one franchise, which, in effect, will be the present franchise with the relaxation I have mentioned. Then we propose to add to this the other franchise I have mentioned as to the £10 occupation. Thus, a person having resided in a £10 house for a year would come in as he does at present, and he would be placed upon the register by the overseer; and, in the other case, the franchise will depend upon the occupation of a house of £5 a year rated value, and residence for two years and a half (Hear, hear).

DISFRANCHISEMENT OF FREEMEN.

There is likewise another change, of very considerable importance, which we have to propose, and that is, previous complaints of bribery and corruption which have come up from certain boroughs in the kingdom, it has, over and over again, been represented that one class of the voters was, in fact, those who were corrupt (Loud cries of "Hear, hear"). We inserted in the last Reform Bill a clause in reference to that class of voters and I shall now propose to insert a similar one in the present bill, viz., that freemen, in right of existing interests, freemen shall cease to have the right of voting; and that, in future, no person shall take up his freedom, by birth, service, or otherwise, shall thereby acquire that right (Loud cheers).

VACATION OF SEATS BY MEMBERS ACCEPTING OFFICE.

There is also another change, not necessarily connected with this bill but connected with our scheme of representation, and bearing upon the alterations we propose to make in it. I mean the provision of the Act of Anne, whereby it was enacted that every member of the House who accepts any office under the Crown, to vacate his seat and go to a fresh election. So long as the House of Commons was unreformed, and so long as the House was not elected by the people, this provision might take up no freedom, by birth, service, or otherwise, shall thereby acquire that right (Loud cheers).

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person who is known to be in a position to secure his re-election though he may not be so well suited to the vacant office, instead of one who may be better qualified, but whose re-election is not so certain. That is an inconvenience for which there is, at present, no equivalent benefit (Hear, hear). If the responsible Ministers of the Crown are to appear in the House, and be answerable for the conduct, they ought to be enabled to use the Crown to give any office that may be vacant to such member who in their judgment is most fitted to perform its duties (Hear). It is obvious that many questions may arise in reference to the conduct of a member quite as important as that of taking office, but upon which he is not required to ask the consent of his constituents. For instance, he may totally change his course of politics (loud cheers, and laughter); and though he may, if he thinks it advisable to do so, go before his constituents, whether he does so or not is entirely a matter for his own breast; therefore, I say that this check is not wisely proposed, nor is it productive of any public advantage. We propose, therefore, to repeal that provision altogether, and, as in the reign of William III., to allow of the acceptance of office under the Crown without vacating the seat in Parliament (Hear).

The noble Lord then read the list of boroughs which the bill would wholly or in part disfranchise, and the counties or divisions of counties which would have additional representation.

My belief (said his Lordship, in conclusion) is that it tends to correct inequalities which sooner or later you must correct, and that, in addition to a number of persons of property who send members to this House, you give a greater basis to the representation, you thereby contribute to the strength and security of your institutions, and give the people greater confidence in them (Hear, hear). With these words sir, I will not do more at present than move for leave to bring in the bills.

Mr. H. T. LIDDELL had heard nothing from the noble Lord to justify the bringing forward at such a moment a measure certain to disturb the peace of society, and, if successful, to lead to a dissolution of Parliament at a most critical period, probably in the summer or autumn of the year.

Mr. E. ELLICE and Mr. GRACE severally defended the freemen of Coventry from the charges of bribery or corruption

Colonel SIBTHORP hoped the freemen of Lincoln would look at this bill with the same contempt as he did. He only wished the occupants of the Treasury bench were half as honest as the freemen of Lincoln.

Sir B. HALL thought that the metropolis was not fairly treated in the new apportionment of members.

Mr. J. G. PHILLIMORE objected to the proposal for giving representation to the minority, and suggested its being tried in the House, by letting the minority carry one measure for every three of the majority. He also objected to the repeal of the statute of Anne

Mr. HUME was pleased with much of the bill, but feared it would do nothing towards enfranchising the higher class of artisans.

Mr. DRUMMOND said that the old Reform Act had been a revolutionary measure, and was received by friends and foes as such. He did not blame Lord J. Russell for carrying out his former policy, but he was at a loss to reconcile this measure with language used by Lord Aberdeen The course taken by Lord J. Russell was to separate property from power. The bill was incense to the party Lord John had idolized for twenty-one years—the party who had honestly declared their intention to establish democracy.

Mr J. BALL thought that, considering the numbers and intelligence of the working classes, they were entitled to the franchise, and might, if refused it, take it by dangerous means

Various questions having been asked by members, Lord J. RUSSELL briefly replied:—The number of members for Ireland would be the same as at present, the number for Scotland increased by three only. He thought enough had been done for the metropolitan members, who had the advantage of being near their constituents. He vindicated the mode in which it was proposed to deal with freemen by the opinion in which they were held. He hoped that when the House had the bill before them, it would be dealt with impartially. It had been framed in no party spirit. He totally denied the truth of Mr Drummond's imputations, and asserted that the effect of the Reform Act had been to attach the people more firmly to our institutions. He considered that the proposed bill was at once Liberal and Conservative

Mr. T. DUNCOMBE said that the measure must be judged as a whole, and he believed it would be an excellent bill, but the House must convince the country that they were in earnest, and not listen to evil counsels for postponement.

Leave was then given to bring in the Reform Bill, and that for repealing the statute of Anne.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE, in moving for further information respecting "the cessation of diplomatic relations with the Court of St. Petersburg, and the war which seems imminent," said, his object was to ask her Majesty's Government was not that they had not earlier engaged in war, but that they had adopted measures which necessarily involved hostilities; and that, being now engaged in hostilities, and upon the brink of a great war, he did not see signs of the vigour necessary to bring it to a speedy close The great error which he attributed to them, in the first instance, was, that when they had a full report of the preparations of the Russian Government, and of the indications of the nature of Prince Menschikoff's mission, they did not come to a common understanding with the French Government. He attributed the audacity of Prince Menschikoff's demands at Constantinople to the hesitating attitude assumed by England at that period; and thus Lord Stratford de Redcliffe was placed in a most embarrassing position; for he had to keep up the courage of the Turks on one hand, whilst unable to promise them any assistance upon the other. The moment Prince Menschikoff retired from Constantinople, the time had arrived for coming to a common understanding with France respecting the occupation of the Principalities. With regard to the entry of the fleet into the Black Sea, it was not a correct definition of our position to say, as our Ambassador at St. Petersburg had stated, that it entered with no hostile intentions. It was a sophism to say that, because we would not allow Russia to attack the ships or territory of Russia, we had no hostile intentions towards Russia; especially as we had previously declared that the evacuation of the Principalities was a *sine qua non* of peace. The truth was, we were waging war to resist Russian aggression. Acknowledging the honour and good faith with which the French Government had acted towards us, he was unwilling to embark in such a war without knowing to what limits we were going, and for what objects. These were matters upon which he thought he ought to be given, as the papers left their Lordships totally in the dark with respect to them. England could not engage in a little war with Russia. Our fleet had now returned to the Bosphorus, on the ground that it was unsafe for the ships to remain in the Black Sea. But the Russian fleet was able to keep the sea, and even to undertake hostile acts. This was scarcely honourable to British seamanship; and he must lament a report at Constantinople that the return of Admiral Dundas was owing to the fact, that he had received final instructions to avoid collision with the Russian fleet. He strongly condemned any such proceeding; and he must tell the noble Earl at the head of the Government, the Parliament would never consent to treat Russia now as we might have done seven months ago. Far rashness would never consent to a pitiful and contemptible adjournment of the war, but would insist upon its being prosecuted with vigour.

The Earl of CLARENDON said the object of the noble Marquis appeared to be to disparage the Government, and to create dissension at a moment when unanimity was absolutely necessary. A question had been asked, whether we were at peace or war? This was a most important inquiry, to which it might be difficult to give a distinct answer. We were not at war, because war was not declared, nor were we strictly at peace with Russia. We were in that intermediate state when the desire of peace was just as sincere as ever, but when the hopes of the Government were gradually dwindling away and they were drifting towards war. As his noble friend (the Earl of Aberdeen) had said the other night, so long as war was not declared the maintenance of peace was not impossible. Negotiations might be considered to be at an end, and as a state of war might ensue, he was sure he should not be expected to describe exactly the steps which her Majesty's Government might think it necessary to take in such a state of things. It would be sufficient to say that preparations were being made with vigour and rapidity. He then went over all the facts of the case, from the first appearance of Prince Menschikoff at Constantinople to the entry of the fleets into the Black Sea, and justified the proceedings of the Government at each step, against the allegations of the noble Marquis. He was gratified at being able to state that we had every reason to be satisfied with the conduct of Austria and Prussia, both of which Powers had met the proposals of Russia in a manner becoming their honour and independence. In conclusion, he expressed his conviction that the people of this country would appreciate, now that they had the means of arriving at all the facts, the efforts which the Government had made to preserve peace, and, doing so, he was satisfied they would cheerfully bear whatever sacrifices might be necessary to bring the contest to a speedy and honourable issue

The Earl of ELLESMERE expressed a hope that, as we were about to make a great naval effort, the Admirals in command might not find themselves fettered too much by diplomatic authority.

The Earl of MALMESBURY repeated the opinions he had formerly expressed, that Russia had in the first instance been deceived as to the real intentions of this country, and that there had been a want of identity of action between France and this country, which had lasted till within a very few weeks. The *sine qua non* of the evacuation of the Principalities had always been advised by her Majesty's Government, and it was not even mentioned in the famous Vienna note.

Lord GLENELG expressed his cordial approval of the whole policy of the Government, and deprecated all expressions of doubt as to the firmness and sincerity of the union with France.

Earl GREY said the fault of the Government was in having permitted themselves to be drawn into the original quarrel between Turkey and Russia; and arguments were not wanting to show that they ought to have pursued a more pacific course. Because Russia had done wrong, it did not follow that we should interfere on behalf of Turkey, as we had no treaty to entitle us to do so. But if we said that our interference was required upon grounds of national policy, because it was of European importance to maintain the independence of Turkey. It was bitter mockery to talk of the independence of the Ottoman empire; and he called upon the Government to define what they meant by it. But it was said that Turkey must be maintained as a security against the aggressions of Russia. Now he was unable to concur in the popular apprehensions of Russian aggression—first, because a nation of slaves could never become really formidable; and next, because corruption and population were destroying the efficiency of the public service of Russia. Having dwelt upon the inexpediency of interfering with the affairs of other countries, the noble Earl concluded by declaring that in his opinion the course which her Majesty's Government had entered upon was pregnant with danger.

The Duke of ARGYLL rejoiced that the speech of the noble Lord had been delivered, because, from the facts on which he relied, it was possible to educe the strongest arguments in favour of the policy adopted by the Government. The real issue before the House, however, was, whether peace would have been better secured by what was called more energetic action. Glancing at the circumstances, he argued that the safest measures had been taken to secure this object, both diplomatically and with regard to the movements of the fleet. Nothing had occurred to lead the Government to regret the course they had pursued.

The Earl of DERBY ironically asked what must be the state of that country which was neither at peace nor war, nor yet neutral? Taking the Blue-books, the noble Earl contended that, so early as the 7th January, 1853, the Government had ample information that Russia was preparing military forces to carry out her objects, whatever those objects might be. They had similar information in March, and again in April. It was true that Count Nesselrode's answers to representations on this subject were evasive; but there were the like accounts from our own Consuls and agents in or near the countries where the forces were being collected. The noble Earl the Foreign Secretary had in his possession the fact that Russia was endeavouring to negotiate a secret treaty with Turkey against the Western Powers, when he stated to their Lordships, on the 25th April last, that he had perfect reliance upon the friendly assurances of Russia. And subsequent to this period, had they any reason to believe that Russia would abandon her claims? Again, quoting the Blue-books, he contenced they must have had every reason to expect the contrary, particularly from the despatches of Sir G. Seymour. The Government had characterised the occupation of the Principalities as an act derogatory to the dignity and fatal to the independence of Turkey: but when it occurred did they remonstrate against it, or did they throw upon the Czar the responsibility of war? No, but they mildly expressed their opinion to the Czar's pacific intentions, and that the door would not be closed to an arrangement. Yet at this moment they were also encouraging resistance on the part of Turkey. After the Czar had taken this step, it was not likely that he would withdraw upon such language; but if, before he had ventured upon it, energetic language had been held, the peace which the noble Earl at the head of the Government valued so much might have been preserved. With regard to the prospects of the future, he could not see any hope of avoiding war. On what did Lord Aberdeen rest his expectations of peace? Did he anticipate that the Emperor of Russia would suddenly recede from his position? If he did, it would be the strongest condemnation of the noble Earl's policy, for in such a case, on what ground could he say that his attitude for war ought not to have been taken earlier. He did not blame the Government for having endeavoured to preserve peace, though he did not approve the means they had adopted; but if they were in earnest, and if they were embarking in this war in a manner worthy of the country, and of the justice of its cause, he should, waiving all other considerations, render them all the support in his power.

The Earl of ABERDEEN regretted to say that war was looked upon by some as a kind of pleasurable excitement, and he verily believed that if, by the blessing of Providence, peace was maintained, very great disappointment would be felt by those persons. It was the province of Government, however, to resist such feelings, and to turn them into a better course, though it required some moral courage on their part to attempt to do so. The practical question, however, was, what would the noble Earl have had the Government to do? The only proceeding on the part of the Emperor of Russia upon which they could have threatened war. Suppose the threat to have failed in inducing the Emperor to withdraw, could the Government have hoped to have induced Parliament to provide the means? Would they not have received from the noble Earl himself an unchangeable fund of censure and attack? He was quite sure they would have deserved it. Looking over the whole transaction, he could not put his finger upon any part of which he lamented. He had certainly done his best to preserve peace, and he should never regret the time which had been occupied with this view. The most perfect concert had been maintained throughout with France, and this union would always give the highest satisfaction to him, whilst no endeavours should be wanting to secure its permanence. He could not look without apprehension to the consequences of war, however it might end, to the Turkish empire itself, for it must be attended with great danger to its future condition Slender as the hope was, he would not even now abandon the hope of peace; but if her Majesty's Government were making every preparation to carry on war, if war were inevitable, in a manner befitting the honour of the country.

After a few words from the Earl of ALBEMARLE, the Marquis of CLANRICARDE said a few words in reply; and the motion was withdrawn.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.

Mr. LAYARD gave notice that on Friday (last evening) he would call attention to the present state of the relations between Russia and Turkey.

LAW OF SUCCESSION TO REAL PROPERTY.

Mr. L KING moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend the law of succession to real property in cases of intestacy. He considered the present state of our legislation on this subject a disgrace to a free and civilized country.

Leave was granted to bring in the bill.

PUBLIC PROSECUTORS.

On the motion of Mr. J. G. PHILLIMORE, leave was given to bring in a bill for the appointment of public pro-ecutors.

THE WINE-DUTIES.

Mr. OLIVEIRA proposed a resolution declaring the present rate of duty charged upon foreign and colonial wines excessive and impolitic, and that the same be reduced to a uniform rate of one shilling a gallon. After arguing at great length that we ought to consider wine almost as much a necessary article of consumption as tea, coffee, or cocoa, that any diminution to the revenue caused by reducing the duty would be more than made up by increased consumption, and that great social benefit would be attained by the substitution of the use of wine for that of ardent spirits and strong adulterated drinks, he concluded by stating that, in the present condition of public affairs, he should not press the motion.

GUANO.

Colonel BLAIR called the attention of the House to the present state of the guano-market in this country, and dwelt on the necessity of opening negotiations with the Peruvian Government for the abolition of the monopoly.

Mr. CARDWELL assured the House that the Government were fully alive to the importance of the subject.

Sir J. GRAHAM stated that directions had been given to the Admiral commanding in the Pacific to use every exertion for the discovery of a fresh source of supply.

SMITHFIELD MARKET.

Sir J. SHELLEY called the attention of the Government to the evidence given before the City Corporation Commission by the chairman of the Markets Improvement Committee, in reference to the intention of the Corporation of the City to establish a dead-meat market on the site of the present Smithfield-market, instead of at the new market at Islington.

Mr. FITZROY pointed out that the evidence in question was not a document to which the attention of the Legislature could be directed in the present stage of the question, and that no meat market could be established without the sanction of the Secretary of State.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

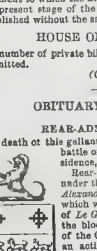
A number of private bills were read a second time, and ordered to be committed.

(Continued on page 153.)

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

REAR-ADMIRAL CHARLES SOTHEBY.

THE death of this gallant seaman, one of the few survivors of the great battle of the Nile, occurred on the 26th ult., at his residence, Lowndes square.



Rear-Admiral Sotheby commenced his naval career under the auspices of Nelson in the *Vanguard*. In the *Alexander*, he was present at the glorious conflict to which we have above alluded; assisted at the capture of *Le Genereux* and the *Ville de Marseilles*; was at the blockade and surrender of Malta, and at the siege of the Castle of St. Elmo. In the *Foudroyant* he took an active part in the operation of 1801, in Egypt: in 1807, was employed against the Turks; and in 1809, formed one of the advanced squadron in the expedition to the Scheldt. In 1824 he was very active in the suppression of piracy in the Mediterranean; and on one occasion, in May, 1825, by his spirited conduct, forced the Bey of Rhodes to acknowledge and redress an insult offered to the British Consul.

Admiral Sotheby married, first, in 1819, Jane, daughter of the late Lord Belhaven, which lady died the following year, leaving one son; and, secondly, his cousin, Mary Anne, daughter of the late Admiral and Lady Mary Anne Sotheby, by whom he leaves issue five children.

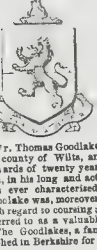
GENERAL GEORGE PARIS BRADSHAWE, K.H.

GENERAL BRADSHAWE died at his residence, Chester-villa, Notting-hill, on the 11th inst. This gallant officer spent almost his entire life in active and distinguished service in the East and West Indies, as well as in the Peninsula. He commanded, as Colonel, the 77th Regiment for many years.

General Bradshawe was the eldest son of Lieutenant-Colonel Paris Bradshawe, of the East India Company's service, and was a member of Bradshawe, of the East India Company's service, and was a member of Bradshaw, of Bradshaw, of Haigh Hall, near Wigan, in Lancashire, and of that of Bradshaw, of Bradshaw, near Bolton, in the same county, being cousin to the late Rev. Paris Bradshaigh, male representative of the former house in the year 1848.

THOMAS GOODLAKE, ESQ., OF LETCOMB-REGIS, BERKS.

THIS gentleman, the senior magistrate of the county of Berks, died at



Letcomb, on the 7th inst., of bronchitis, aged 78. He was the son and heir of the late Thomas Goodlake, Esq., of Letcomb-Regis, by Catherine, his wife, sister of Sir Charles Price, Bart., and represented an old and respectable Berkshire family. He was born on the 9th of April, 1776, and married—on the 26th of July, 1806—Jane, only child and heiress of William Yarnton Mills, Esq., of Wadley, and has an only surviving son and successor, the present Thomas Mills Goodlake, Esq., of Wadley House and Shellingford, who served as High Sheriff of the county in 1832, and who married Emilia Maria, second daughter of the Sir Edward Baker Baker, Bart., of Ranston, Dorset, by Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of the late, and sister of the present, Duke of Leinster.

Mr. Thomas Goodlake, the subject of this notice, was a magistrate for the county of Wilts, and Deputy-Lieutenant for Berks. He was, for upwards of twenty years, chairman of the Berkshire Quarter Sessions, and, in his long and active career as a county magistrate, his conduct was ever characterised by honour, sense, and sound judgment. Mr. Goodlake was, moreover, well known in the sporting world—especially with regard to coursing; and his interesting work on that subject is often referred to as a valuable authority.

The Goodlakes, a family of time-honoured standing, have been established in Berkshire for upwards of three hundred years.

WILLS AND BEQUESTS.

THE Will of the Right Hon. Theresa, Countess of Eglinton, has been proved in London, her Ladyship having died possessed of personalty in England, and within the province of Canterbury, of the value of £200. This, together with all other property over which the Countess had a power of disposition, her Ladyship has bequeathed amongst her daughters.

THE Rev. N. D. H. Newton, many years Vicar of Bredwardine—his own patronage—left personalty amounting to £35,000, bequeathing to the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, £500; National Society for Educating the Poor, £500; Society for Supplying Additional Curates in Populous Parishes, £500; and to the Society for Propogating the Gospel in Foreign Parts £100.

THE estates and wills of the under-mentioned have also been administered to:—Sir Richard Jenkins, K.C.B., £16,000; James Lloyd, Esq., Banker, Birmingham, £35,000; John G. Behrends, Esq., merchant, St. Mary Axe, £16,000; James Spicer, Esq., citizen, Dunmow, £16,000; George Gutheneau, Esq., Notary Public, formerly of Pope's Head alley Cornhill, and of Lower Edmonstone, whose death occurred in December last, died intestate—his sister has administered to his estate, under £120,000.

THE estate of the late Richard Hanbury Gurney, Esq., of Norfolk, has been valued for Stamp duty at £600,000

MISS LOUISA BAKER, of Berrow, Somerset, whose personalty was sworn under £500, has left to the Church Missionary Society for Africa and the East, £100; Church Pastoral Aid Society, £100; London Society for Promoting Christianity among the Jews, £100; the Operative Jewish Converts Institution, £50; and to the Irish Church Missions to Roman Catholics, £100.

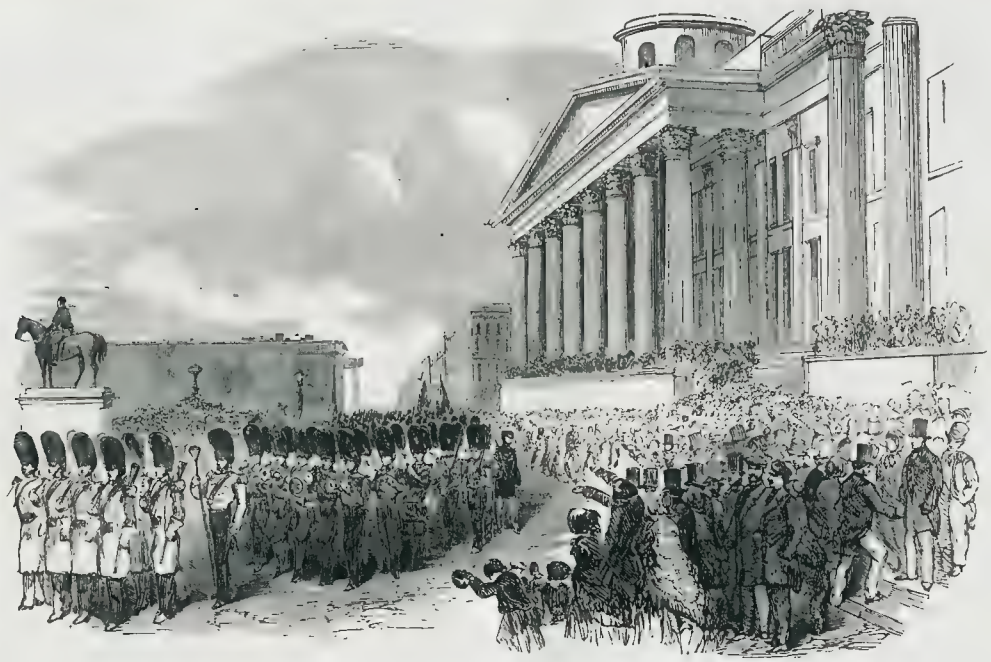
GEORGE MARSHAL, Esq., of Godalming, Surrey, an extensive builder, by his will, contained in very few words, has bequeathed the whole of his property to his wife—the personalty valued at £180,000.

THE BATTLE OF CITATE.

UPON the next page we have illustrated the terrific conflict in the main street of Citate, as described by our Special Correspondent in our Journal of January 28. We quote the leading details of the action of the scene:

"The Turks appeared before Citate at seven in the morning; attacked the battery which defended the lower end of the street with five battalions; whilst the cavalry made a circuit to the right, to cut off the retreat of the enemy. Achmet Pacha remained a little to the right with a reserve of three battalions and some cavalry, holding a good position on a hill that slopes down to a road leading from Respitsch to Citate. Ismail Pacha, who commanded the infantry against the village, and Tefik Bey, at the head of his regiment of Chasseurs, entered the main street after the Russians had been dislodged from the battery. The latter, however, had recovered by this time from their surprise, and disputed every inch of ground. Concealed in houses, in holes and corners, and behind the bayricks, they kept up a galling fire, whilst their artillery played down the street. The Turks, holding a good position, and a dreadful *mêlée* soon commenced, the order of the Turkish battalions was broken; every man seemed to fight for himself, and on they went pell-mell, driving back the Russians, who gradually retired and concentrated their shattered force behind the church. At that moment the cavalry, which had moved to the right, commenced firing from a cross street that led direct to the church, with a battery of field-pieces The Russians finding the place too hot for them, retired further along the main street; and the troops, under Ismail Pacha, continuing their onward course, the same system of defence amidst house and bayrick, was pursued by the enemy."

THE BATTLE OF CITATE.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)



THE COLDSTREAM GUARDS LEAVING ST. GEORGE'S BARRACKS, ON TUESDAY.

GOING TO THE WAR.

People who are given to pore over the pages of Alison, Maxwell, or of the British Polybius, Napier, will look with no ordinary regard upon our illustration of the heart-stirring spectacle which the Strand presented on Tuesday last. One does not, perhaps, whilst absorbed in the story of how we got into Badajos, think much of any fact collateral or consecutive. Stunned with the rattle and roar of 10,000 guns, and dazzled with the raging fire with which that devoted city was "girdled round," there is but scant leisure to think on anything but the fearful scene before us. It is when the book is laid down, and the spirit begins to run in its ordinary current, that we are apt to revert to the antecedents of such great deeds; to think of the leave-takings—hopeful, though heart-breaking—which preceded them; and the utter desolation which they brought upon uncounted homes.

These associations it has hitherto been the practice of the historian to have little concern with, or, at most, to treat them in a manner so general and vague, as to afford but a very faint idea of them. Here and there, in Livy, and other old-world legends, we may read how men went out to fight. A fervid imagination may realise, and put on canvas, the colossal war-pictures of the greatest of all histories; and the poet, true to his office, may create anew the serried ranks of battle: but it has been reserved for us to picture for the first time—the earliest passages in a great war that may devastate half the world, whilst the earth still shakes with the heavy tread of dense battalions. The introductory scene—the Chorus as it were—of the great drama that is about to be enacted, was presented on Tuesday last, at mid-day, by the march of the Coldstream Guards from St. George's Barracks, along the Strand, and over Waterloo-bridge to the railway terminus. The people took possession of every spot that was tangible on the "finest site in Europe." They literally swarmed over the National Gallery and every "coin of vantage" offered by St. Martin's Church had an occupant. Every species of vehicle, whatever its hurry may have been, was arrested as if by a sudden spell, when the band of the Coldstreams proclaimed in their own martial way, that the "British Grenadiers" were coming. As our gallant fellows emerged into the square, the crowd, with one voice, cheered, and hats and handkerchiefs were waving in every direction. A thousand hands were stretched out to grasp those of the soldiers as they marched along. The officers, for the most part, young-looking men, had full occupation in this sort of friendly greeting along the whole line of march; and many a swart hand put out from the crowd was grasped in the most cordial manner by men with the best blood of England in their veins.

The cheering was kept up along the line—men stood up on omnibuses, and thrust their heads out of cabs, to contribute to the general

THE GRENADIER GUARDS LEAVING THE TOWER, ON TUESDAY LAST.

acclamation. Some touching little incidents diversified the scene—of wives, and children, and sweethearts, escorting husbands, fathers, and lovers. Many such we have seen in our day, of which we might say, with truth, *quorum pars magna fui*. But these it is not our province to describe just now.

At the Kirkstead several singular scenes occurred, amid the numerous tearful "farewells" and "God speeds" expressed. Before the troops reached New Bridge, there was a general rush up and our lane to the stalls of all vends of oranges by the pub lic for the soldiers, nearly all of whom were supplied with some of the fruit, while others contrived to imbe copious draughts of more potent fluid than orange juice.

At two o'clock on Tuesday the 3rd battalion of the Grenadier Guards marched out of the Tower for St. George's Barracks, where they will remain until to day (Saturday). A crowd of from three to four thousand persons accompanied them; and as the corps passed along the streets, the fine band of the regiment played "The Girl I left behind me." The cheers of the populace were frequent and enthusiastic.

DEPARTURE OF THE GUARDS FROM WINDSOR.

The portion of the 2nd battalion of the Scots Fusilier Guards (360 rank and file) entered for the seat of war, left Windsor on Tue day morning, at half-past nine o'clock, for Wellington Barracks, proceeding by the South-Western Railway, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Dixon. As they marched through the town, with their find band playing "Over, boys, cheer," and "We are going far away," they were loudly cheered by the inhabitants, hundreds of whom accompanied them to the station. As the troops wheeled down Thame-street into Datchet-lane, the band struck up "The British Grenadiers," which they continued to play until they reached the station of the London and South-Western Railway, where a train was in waiting to convey the battalion to London. Here the scene which presented itself was most exciting. The whole population of "the two towns" seemed to be concentrated in and about the station. The whole of the Eton boys were there, with most of their mas-ters. The boys occupied a small elevation at the end of the arrival platform; and, when almost all the Guards had taken their places in the train, and the band had ceased to play, the Etonians gave three times three hearty cheers, in excellent time, and with thrilling effect. When the monster train finally started, skirting the home-park, and beneath the shadow, so to speak, of Windsor Castle, the Fusiliers sent forth a long loud cheer from the carriages, which was cordially re-echoed by the dense assemblage in the station and the park. The only officers belonging to the second battalion likely to go out with the expedition are Lieut.-Colonel Dixon, Lieut.-Colonel Moncrieff, and Quartermaster Allen, the two former of whom exchange into the first battalion of Fusilier Guards, which will supply the whole of the officers. The battalion will be made up to 800 strong, with 40 sergeants; and permission has been given for 48 women to go out.

VOLUNTEERS FOR SERVICE.

It is said that General Brown and Colonel Airey have both volunteered to accompany Lord Raglan in any situation whatever. The officials at the Horse Guards have all expressed their desire to be employed in any manner whatever under their late most gallant chief, Lord Raglan.

Orders were sent down on Saturday for 600 volunteers from the provisional battalion at Chatham for regiments going to the East. If treble the number had been required, there would have been no lack of candidates for this service. Upwards of 400 volunteered on the first parade, and upwards of 100 on Sunday after the relieving of the guards, and on Monday the whole of the men required; the number was completed to the full complement, with the exception of 32nd Highlanders. Not one soldier out of the 500 men who have volunteered from the battalion—it is a proud feature in their character—has ever been tried by a court-martial, or has a scratch against his name in the regimental defaulters' book. On Saturday, the duty men of the 34th volunteered to a man, with the exception of two old soldiers, who are just returned from India; they were left by themselves on parade—a circumstance which created considerable laughter; and on the Sunday, after the 71st had come off duty, the whole of that depôt volunteered, and they left the pay sergeant standing on the parade by himself.

EMBARKATION OF TROOPS.

So far as can be ascertained, the Guards will embark first, then the regiments of the line in England and Scotland; and lastly, those in Ire and. There will be five squadrons of picked men, in all 500 sabres, included in the division, probably for staff and escort service. It is understood that the whole of the first division— except, perhaps, the regiments from Ireland—will have set sail by the 1st of March, and that the latter will have embarked before the 10th. The steamers thus far definitively engaged for this service, are the *Himalaya*, the *Ripon*, the *Cressy*, the *Manilla*, and the *Golden Fleece*. The ports of embarkation and the exact days of sailing will be determined according to circumstances. The Guards embark this day (Saturday). Government has determined that the effective strength of each regiment or battalion sent out shall be made up to 850 bayonets, and soldiers from other corps have been permitted to volunteer. Thus the 4th Foot have received an accession of 142 volunteers; 28th, 109; and the 77th, 39. What ever the strength of the 93rd Highlanders is so nearly up to the required mark that it requires no greater number, or whether the kilt acts as a damper to military enthusiasm at this season of the year, we know not, but the accession of volunteers to that regiment is at present only 13. The second battalion of the Rifle Brigade wanted 199 men, and they were at once obtained, but what deserves special notice is, that of this number 102 are volunteers from the 1st battalion, which only returned home a few weeks ago from the Cape. There is no doubt that the 33rd and 57th, which are in Ireland, will make up their effective strength with equal facility. Taking the force now under orders for the Mediterranean, a brigade already formed there, and the regiments next for service, the British contingent for the defence of Turkey will amount to 20,000 men, with 40 guns, admirably horsed, and provided with a full proportion of ammunition waggons. Of this auxiliary army, Lord Raglan takes the chief command; but it is not expected that he will leave England for that purpose till the beginning of next month. We cannot compete with the great military nations of the Continent in the numerical strength of our troops, but we shall endeavour to compensate for this by perfection in discipline, effective equipment, carefully selected officers and, above all, the unflinching courage of our soldiers. To render these as telling as possible in the force which we are now despatching to the East, several measures of great importance have been adopted. First, 250 picked men in each battalion are to be armed with Minié rifles. Brigade commands, instead of being given to antiquated general officers, will be conferred on young Colonels, who will have the temporary rank of Brigadiers; thus, the brigade of Guards will be under the command of Colonel Bentinck. Colonel Eyre, who so greatly distinguished himself at the Cape, will, it is said, act as Adjutant-General. The batteries of the Royal Artillery under orders for the Mediterranean are to be made up to a number of 140, being more than double their strength on the peace establishment.

WAR PREPARATIONS AT PORTSMOUTH.

Were the Russians coming to Portsmouth, instead of the fleet going from Portsmouth towards Russia, greater stir and excitement could scarcely prevail at that port, afloat and ashore. An enormously heavy battery has been lately thrown up on the site of the well-known platform promenade, which used to parade 21 little 6 pounders, the duty of which was comprised in saluting Royalty and other distinguished personages. This new battery will mount about a dozen 68-pounders, on traversing platforms, pointing over a brick and earth work parapet about nine feet high, commanding the entrance to the harbour. Recruiting parties, with fife and drum, are daily parading the garrison towns and suburbs; and the volunteering for the naval service goes on quite as briskly. Vans, omnibuses, and other vehicles roll along the main thoroughfares from the railway terminus as each train arrives, containing seamen and volunteers in fifties, all greeted with the warmest reception by the population, and seemingly as jolly among themselves as sailors bent on favourite service can be.

THE STEAM TRANSPORT FORCE.

The only transports now at home available for conveying the troops to Malta are the *Simoom*, *Vulcan*, *Bulldog*, and *Dragon*. These, it is said, are capable of carrying 1200 men each—a considerable number, and fully far above the average for vessels of that class for emergency. The Government have, more over, chartered the following steamers:—From the General Screw Steam-ship Company—The *Golden Fleece*, 2810 tons, 300 horse power; the *Jason*, 2690 tons, 300-horse power; the *Cape of Good Hope*, 700 tons, 100-horse power; the *Propontis* 600 tons, 80-horse power. From the Peninsular and Oriental Company:—The *Himalaya*, 3500 tons; the *Manilla*, 650 tons; the *Argus*, 800 tons. From the Cunard Company—The *Cambria*, and the *Niagara*. From the Australian Company—The *Victoria*. From the [illegible] is stated that three or four steamers can be obtained for transport service. The General Screw Company have also received notice to hold at the disposal of the Government the following ships of their fleet, now on their way home:—The *Queen of the South*, 1850 tons; the *Hydaspes*, 1850 tons; the *Harbinger*, 921 tons. From the ports of London, Liverpool, Southampton, and Glasgow, a further supply of tonnage can be procured to any extent that may be required; but at present there is no reason to interrupt the regular transit of our ocean mails, and the above enume ration merely comprises those ships that at the moment can be spared. It will be observed that the other steam companies, with the exception of the General Screw, have their fleets almost sub dized by the assistance which thus far they are called on to supply. The Government, with that consideration for the welfare of the expedition which befits the extraordinary resources at their disposal, are de ermined to give a fair allowance of elbow room on the passage out to the Mediterranean. From 200 to 250 tons register will be allowed to every 100 men; so that the whole force will ren h the point of rendezvous not only with all the speed of steam, but in the best possible condition. For the heavier munitions of war, and, probably, the artillery horses, sailing-vessels will be employed; and it is understood that some of Mr. Green's and Mr Duncan Dunbar's finest ships have already been engaged for that service. These details will enable the reader to form a tolerably correct conception of the military preparations of the Government, so far as they have yet been developed. The facility with which its plans are being carried into execution furnishes evidence of the resources of this country for war, which our enemies would do well to consider. Not only are we able to transport an expedition to the Mediterranean without serious embarrassment to our regular commerce, but it is also not improbable that steamers, hither o the property of English Companies, will be employed in conveying the French auxiliary army to the East. It is stated that the Transatlantic Steam Navigation Company, of which the Duke de Montebello is chairman, and the formation of which was announced some months ago, has recently purchased in this country a fleet of ten screw steamers, all of which are ready for sea, with the exception of two ships, which are of large size, at the disposal of the Emperor for the present emergency.

It is satisfactory to know that no interruption of the mail service will be occasioned by these ships having been withdrawn from their regular duties. The *Sultan* and *Euxine*, two paddle-wheel steamers, of 1200 tons and 400-horse power, are temporarily to replace the *Ripon* and *Himalaya* on the Southampton, Malta, and Alexandria line, while those ships are carrying out the orders of the Government.

OUR BALTIC FLEET.

The naval preparations are now chiefly directed to the formation and complete equipment of the fleet which is to start early next month to the North Sea and the Baltic, and which is to consist of the following ships—*Duke of Wellington* (screw), 131; *Neptune*, 120; *St. George*, 120; *Royal George* (screw), 120; *St. Jean d'Acre* (screw), 101; *Princess Royal* (screw), 91; *Cæsar* (screw), 91; *Rhin* (screw), 91; *James Watt* (screw), 91; *Prince Regent*, 90; *Monarch*, 84; *Cressy* (screw), 81; *Majestic* (screw), 80; *Boscawen*, 70; *Cumberland*, 70; *Blenheim* (screw) 60, *Hogue* (screw), 60; *Edinburgh* (screw), 58; *Ajax* (screw), 58, *Impervious* (screw), 61; *Euryalus* (screw), 51; *Arrogant* (screw), 46; *Pique*, 40; *Amphion* (screw), 34; *Dauntless* (screw), 33; *Tribune* (screw), 30; *Leopard* (paddle), 18; *Magicienne* (paddle), 16; *Valorous* (paddle), 16; *Desperate* (screw), 8 guns. This list speaks for itself, and requires no comment.

THE FLEET IN THE TAGUS.

The *Iberia* steamer, which left Lisbon on the 9th, brings word that Adm ral Corry's squadron was then in the Tagus. Admiral Corry had officially notified to the Portuguese authorities the objects of the squadron that we are on the eve of a war with Russia, and that he would expect to find that the ships are perfect in gunnery. Every attention is said to have been paid to the important point of the service throughout the fleet.

GUNPOWDER AND STORES.

The most strenuous exertions are being made at the mill at Hounslow to complete as very large supply under the expedition about to sail, and for the fleet destined for the Baltic. To accomplish this a double set of workmen are employed, who relieve each other, consequently the manufacture is continuous. The powder is removed by night, in hermetically-sealed copper barrels, in order to obviate the possibility of accidents.

The victualling and store departments are not less busy. The mills and the bakery at Deptford are kept going from daylight until ten o'clock at night. The ships for the Baltic fleet they are killing and salting from twenty to thirty oxen every day; and large quantities of wine, &c, are being prepared for the depôts at Sheerness and Deal. This establishment is also completing supplies for the *Cressy*, *Monarch*, *Majestic*, *Boscawen*, and loading vessels for Malta, Constantinople, and elsewhere. There are upwards of 160 contractors delivering stores at Deptford at the present time. At Portsmouth, besides the usual routine duty of baking biscuit, of which they complete between 30 and 40 tons per week), slaughtering bullocks and salting them down, pemmican making, &c., they make 120 beds and bedding a day for ship service. The public departments fairly groan with the work of preparation, and the active officials are up to their eyes in correspondence and contracts.

FRENCH MILITARY PREPARATIONS.

Admiral Brust's squadron has arrived at Algiers, where, according to the French papers, it will take on board General Pelissier, with a division of the African army amounting to 12,000 men; then make sail for Toulon, where an English squadron and transports will meet it, taking on board 30,000 French troops; and both squadrons, with the arm- of 42,000, proceed to the Levant, enter the Dardanelles, and disembark the troops at Silivri, near Rodosto, on the Sea of Marmora. What appears somewhat strange, in this alliged arrangement, is the return of the squadron to Toulon, as it is rather going out of the way. So, however, it is stated. The object of the fleet is variously spoken of from the position it seems intended to occupy, would no doubt be to cover Constantinople; though with the Black Sea swept by the British and French cruisers, and the impossibility of a Russian army supplying itself from the coast, a march on the capital in that direction, now the support of the Balkans to be forced, would be highly improbable. If the reported expedition by the Adriatic enter into the general plan of protection, it would have for its object to menace the Russian army in case it attempted (which is not impro-bable, and to watch the vast preparations which Austria is reported to force the Danube in the direction of Wi din. It will be observed that the Emperor of Russia has not ceased to concentrate his forces in Little Wallachia.

The Africa force intended for service in Turkey will be principally com, osed of two battalions from every regiment of Zouaves. These Zouaves are excellent troops for such a service: they combine the fierce impetuosity of irregular soldiers, with the steadiness, firmness and discipline of the line. The object of the fleet, just spoken of from the position it seems intended to occupy, would no doubt be to cover Constantinople; though with the Black Sea swept by the British and French cruisers, and the impossibility of a Russian army supplying itself from the coast, a march on the capital in that direction, now the support of the Balkans to be forced, would be highly improbable. If the reported expedition by the Adriatic enter into the general plan of protection, it would have for its object to menace the Russian army in case it attempted (which is not impro-bable, and to watch the vast preparations which Austria is reported to force the Danube in the direction of Wi din. It will be observed that the Emperor of Russia has not ceased to concentrate his forces in Little Wallachia.

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A BRUSH WITH THE CHINESE PIRATES.—By the last arrival we learn a very interesting affair had taken place between Her Majesty's steam er *Hermes* and the Chinese pirates. In the course of the day a powerful squadron of 37 junks, many of which were filled with new 12, 18, and 24-pounder, of English manufacture, with all the new improvements, e vating screws, compressors, &c., were destroyed, and nine pirate vessels burnt; several of the pirates were killed, and some prisoners were taken. The subjoined summary of these encounters is taken from the *Friend of China*:—"Nov. 25, 19 junks; crews supposed to number 380 men. Nov. 27, 1 West Coast boat; crew 50 men. Nov 28, 3 junks; crew 60 men. Nov. 29, 1 junk; crew 30 men. Dec. 3, 1 West Coast boats; crew 200 men. Dec. 3, 1 West Coast boat, 4 junks, and 2 small boats; crews 4 9 men. Grand total, 40 vessels and 1170 men. These vessels carried an armament of four 24-pounders, seven 18 pounders, 48 12-pounders, 66 6-pounders, and 20 jingalls. Total, 155 guns. It is believed that 90 men were killed and 41 made prisoners, including ten women and four children."

THE ARMY.

(From our Military Correspondent.)

AFTER thirty-nine years' cessation from European warfare, events hourly occurring prognosticate the app each of a fierce and possibly lengthened struggle, in which England must unavoidably participate. National honour demands our interference, and, if engaged in the conflict, the emergency should be met with promptitude and vigour. Past reverses exemplified the error of despatching an inadequate force to contend against superior strength and equipment. If experience has produced salutary effects similar mistakes will be avoided. During the Peninsular War enormous fortunes were realised by contractors, and, in some instances, so carelessly were the agreements framed, that the spirit of the engagements became nullified. It is recorded that a tender for supplying the cavalry with horse shoes having been accepted, the articles were in due course embarked, but as the word "nails" was inadvertently omitted in the bond, the trader shipped the former only. Oversights like this, however, cannot readily evade detection in the present day. Eng and does not profess to be essentially a military nation; but, when necessitated to put forth her strength, she has displayed energy and courage surpassed by no other country.

During a long peace, it might have been supposed improved alterations in arms, clothing, and accoutrements would, by occupying the attention of the authorities have produced beneficial changes; yet, in no degree have we kept pace, in this respect, with foreign troops. The knapsack remains the same cumbrous and ill-adjusted incumbrance as of old; the clothing is as inferior as ever; the sixty rounds of ammunition are disproportionately loaded on the wearer; and, exclusive of introducing the detonating lock, we have made but slight advance towards perfection in small arms. Now that regiments have received orders to hold themselves in readiness for active service, it may well be asked, why points of such importance have remained unnoticed? Until recently, the disadvantages under which the British soldier labours have been disregarded. From time to time professional journals have directed attention to the subject, but without meeting with the success which its importance merited. But a period has at length arrived when investigation into the defects of our military system cannot longer be withheld. Should an English army take the field, the condition of the soldiers must be improved. Pensions on discharge, in consequence of wounds or other injuries contracted on service, should be considerably augmented. Both pay and rations need addition; and, whatever measures may be proposed towards making the army more popular and attractive, should unhesitatingly be compassed.

On embarkation, the heavy baggage, mess apparatus, and other impedi ments to celerity of movement, might well be dispensed with; and women should be restricted from accompanying the troops. A general order promulgated to the effect, that at the termination of the campaign, regiments, unless required for further active duties, should return home, would ensure ready acquiescence to a temporary separation in families. But if the old system of despatching corps, at the close of the war, as reliefs to the colonies and elsewhere—merely to save a few pounds—be adhered to, both officers and men will elude compliance with the command, to the detriment of their own comfort, and greatly to the prejudice of the service. The annoyance entailed on troops by being hampered with a host of non-combatants, has been realised ere now. The less baggage and the fewer followers the better. The latter are sure to accumulate, without adding to the number by exportations from home.

The mass of books now used in the Orderly rooms and Paymaster's offices might remain with the depôts. A volume, the size of a muster-roll, would answer the purpose for records. It should contain each name in rotation by regimental number, as attestations are now posted, with columns affording necessary information for filling up documents. By reference to the court-martial book, a man's forfeited period, if any, could thus be correctly ascertained, and his service accurately balanced. This volume could easily be carried, and would embrace all that is required. The regimental books should be made more portable, and, when filled, transmitted home, where the original forms and records are preserved.

An increase of wages has recently been accorded to the Navy—why should not the boon extend to the latter service? If the married soldier is compelled to leave his wife at home when accompanying his regiment to the field, Government should either provide for his family, or, by adding to his pay, enable him to meet their necessities. A letter recently appeared in the leading daily paper, advocating the continuance of sixpence being deducted for rations from the private's pay. The argument was based on the calculation that the loss to Government of one half penny per diem for each individual would amount to thousands of pounds in the course of a twelvemonth. Possibly the writer harboured the idea that, out of thirteen pence, it was only necessary to di burse sixpence to ensure excellent provisions, clothing, and comfortable quarters; while the remaining sevenpence was left at the soldier's disposal. The impossibility for a private in the infantry to afford so large a sum for his food, and at the same time keep a good kit—which he must purchase, and always have complete—is shown by the following list of necessaries, with the price of each affixed:—

	s.	d.
One pair of summer trousers	5	4
Do., do., boots, as often as required	7	0
Three shirts	8	0
Fatigue jackets	6	0
Three pair of socks	2	9
Stock and clasp	1	0
Pair of braces	1	1
Knapsack and straps	12	9
Forage cap	2	9
Two shoe-brushes	1	1
Tin of blacking	0	4
Clothes-brush	0	10
Case for small articles	0	7
Button-brush and stick	0	5
Sponge	0	4
Comb	0	4
Razor	0	8
Soap and shaving brush	0	4
Pair of mitts	0	10
Knife, fork, and spoon	1	0
Hold-all and cover	1	8
Two towels	1	4
Mon hly average charge for—		
Washing	1	4
Sheet washing and hair-cutting	0	2½
Barrack damages	0	2
Daily charge for messing—		
Breakfast, one pint of coffee	0	0¼
Dinner—One-quarters of a pound of unboned meat, and one pound of bread	0	5 22/28
Vegetables and salt	0	0¼
Evening meal—One pint of coffee	0	0½
Daily pay	8	4 181/196
	1	1

The foregoing return shows that the soldier has but fourpence and a fraction wherewith to keep the articles enumerated in good and serviceable order, and possibly support a family likewise.

The day has gone by when the private was regarded as a mere machine, and expected to yield implicit obedience without possessing reasoning faculties whereby to estimate his position. We have supplied him with schoolmasters and libraries, and held out inducement for unwearying knowledge; and the more enlightened he becomes, the more apt will he be in drawing comparisons between his own case and that of civilian artisans born in the same grade. In time of danger his value is acknowledged; but wherefore is he not equivalently rewarded? Make his condition more desirable; ensure him sufficient support when from wounds climate, and long and faithful service—he becomes incapacitated from fighting his country's battles, and the difficulty now experienced in recruiting would then cease to exist.

MUSIC.

THE concert of the Harmonic Union, at Exeter Hall, on Monday evening, will be memorable for a performance of Handel's "Acis and Galat," the most complete and beautiful impersonation which has ever been given from the composer's own time to the present. This charming work, as our musical readers know, is a dramatic poem by Gay, and set to music by Handel, in the form of a cantata. In the shape it is a regular musical drama, and attempts have been made at various times, to perform it on the stage as an opera. The first was made in Handel's own time when the piece was acted and sung at one of the theatres; but this was not only done without Handel's sanction, but he strongly protested against it as an unwarrantable use of public journals in which he stated that the piece was never intended for the stage, but ought to be simply sung without action. Th s remonstrance, however, has no prevented similar attempts at different times. The last was made by Mr. Macready during his management of Drury-lane, when "Acis and Galatea" was performed as a regular opera, with the utmost splendour and beauty of scenery and decoration. The music, too, was carefully got up and well performed, under the direction of the late Thomas Cooke. It attracted attention, and had a run for a short time; but it was generally admitted to be unfit for theatrical representation. In future, we trust, this piece will be performed according to Handel's own intentions. Mozart, who was a devoted admirer of Handel, and wrote those celebrated additional accompaniments to the "Messiah" which are inseparably connected with that oratorio, also wrote additional accompaniments to "Acis and Galatea." They never become known, even in Germany, where they have been preserved from utter oblivion by the existence of two or three manuscript copies. In this country, till now, they have never been even heard of. Mr. Benedict, in his recent visit to Germany, lighted by accident on some of those manuscript copies, secured it as a precious treasure, and has actually added himself of it, as Musical Director of the Harmonic Union, in bringing out "Acis and Galatea." These accompaniments, accordingly, were heard, for the first time in this country, at Exeter-hall, on Monday. Great interest and expectation were excited in our musical circles; and the audience was not only more numerous than usual, but contained a larger proportion of noted musicians and amateurs. Their most sanguine anticipations were more than realised. Mr. Benedict has an excellent orchestra under his direction, and had evidently taken pains to obtain a good performance. The band went admirably, and Mozart's rich yet delicate additions to the original score charmed every ear. Handel's own concertos were devoutly respected. Mozart's veneration for the mighty master forbade him to change a single note. He added, but did not alter. He added those delicious passages—those streams of harmony—from the soft wind instruments, the flutes, horns, and bassoons, which Handel himself would undoubtedly have employed had he possessed the varied resources of a modern orchestra. Henceforth "Acis and Galatea" can never be performed without the additional accompaniments of Mozart; and, for having discovered and made them known, Mr. Benedict deserves the warmest thanks of every lover of music. The characters were admirably sustained. Mr. Sims Reeves was *Acis*, Miss Stabbach *Galatea*, Signor Belletti *Polyphemus*, and Mr. Champion *Damon*. One error, however, was committed. Two airs belong g to the part of *Galatea* were given to Miss Thirlwall, for no other conceivable reason but that of giving this young lady something to do. This was at variance both with taste and propriety. Though 'Acis and Gal tea" is not acted on the stage, yet its dramatic form renders it necessary to preserve the individuality of each character, and splitting one character into two is a solecism not to be tolerated. Mr Reeves, who made his first appearance in London this season, sang splendidly, and was most cordially received. His "Love sounds the alarm" was sung with remarkable fire and energy, and encored with enthusiasm. Miss Stabbach, a young lacer, who is making great progress and rapidly rising to eminence, did ample justice to the part of *Galatea*. She gave the lovely air, "As when the dove laments her love," with exquisite sweetness and feeling. The giant *Polyphemus* had a magnificent representative in Signor Belletti, who foreigner though he be, is beginning to outstrip every rival baritone as a singer of English music; and his pre-eminence is not confined to voice and execution, but extends to clearness, force, and propriety of his declamation. Was there in his recitative, "I burn!" the beauty of his musical elocution was so striking that he received a round of applause before he commenced the air. As to the air itself, "O, ruddier than the cherry," it was such a marvellous display of vocal power and appropriate expression, that it threw the audience into transports of delight, manifested by prolonged acclamations from all parts of the hall. Such was the success of this performance, that its repetition is announced at the next concert.

Mr. LINDSAY SLOPER gave his first concert of this season, on Tuesday evening, at the Queen Anne street Rooms. It was an entertainment worthy of this accomplished profe-sor, and was attended by a crowd of fashionable company. The instrumental music consisted of Spohr's Concertante Duet in C minor, for the piano and violin, played by Mr. Sloper and Herr Molique; Beethoven's second Sonata in D minor, from Opera 29, performed by Mr. Sloper alone; Weber's Sonata in E flat, for the piano and clarinet, in which Mr. Sloper was accompanied by Mr Lazarus; and lastly, Mr. Sloper played three charming little pianoforte pieces composed by himself. Several beautiful songs were sung by Miss Dolby, Madame Ferrari, and Mr. Benson.

THE Wednesday Evening Concert, at Exeter Hall, had for its principal object of attraction, Mr. Sims Reeves. The great English tenor acquitted himself in a manner deserving of his name. He is in fine voice at present, owing probably to the repose he has been lately allowing himself. His voice, which last season seemed worn with overexertion, has recovered its freshness of tone, as well as its power. On Wednesday evening he sang the great scena of "Oh, ruddier than the cherry no longer," from the "Freischütz;" the popular little air "La Donna è Mobile," from Verdi's "Rigoletto;" and an English ballad. It is hardly necessary to add that he was applauded to the echo. We regretted to observe, however, that he has by no means got rid of the affectations and faults of style to which he has long been addicted. The worst of them—his custom of passing from very soft to very loud—alternately whispering and shouting—without anything in the *sense* to warrant these violent transitions of *sound*—is now more apparent than ever. Things of this sort are thought very fine by the ignorant multitude, and are, accordingly, vociferously applauded; but Mr. Reeves may be assured that they injure him in the opinion of those whose judgment he ought chiefly to value.

THE *Musical World* has very properly called attention to a transaction respecting which the public memory ought certainly to be refreshed. The circumstances, which are given in detail by our contemporary, are briefly these:—

In 1850 a concert was given by a committee of musical professors and amateurs, for the purpose of laying the foundation of a fund to be devoted to a tribute by the English nation to the memory of Mendelssohn. Jenny Lind (it was her last season in England—was appointed to, and, with characteristic zeal, gave her gratuitous assistance. "Elijah" was performed at Exeter Hall, in splendid manner, and to an overflowing audience £1200 were realised after defraying all expenses. It was resolved that the "Testimonial Fund," of which this was the nucleus, should be employed in founding a "Mendelssohn Scholarship" for the gratuitous education of music of a certain number of pupils. It was naturally proposed that this scholarsh p should be founded in our Royal Academy of Music, but superior influence prevailed, and the claim of the Conservatory of Leipsic was unreasonably preferred. To Leipsic, accordingly, the £1200 were sent, and, from that day to this, not another word has been heard of the matter! The London Committee consists of well-known and respectable gentlemen, but they seem to have neglected this matter at large. Among them are Sir G. Smart, Mr. Benedict, Mr. Sterndale Bennett, Mr. K ngeman, Mr. Chorley, and Mr. Buxton (of the firm of Ewer and Co., Mendelssohn's publishers). We are entitled, after so many years of four years, to ask these gentlemen what is become of the large sum sent by them to Leipsic? How has it been disposed of? Where is it lying? If invested at accumulating interest, what is its present amount? And has any step whatever been taken at Leipsic to further the object for which it was raised?

We join our voice to that of our contemporary in calling for explanation, which we cannot doubt will be promptly given.

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES FOR SCOTLAND.—At a meeting of the Aberdeen Town Council, on Monday week, Mr. Webster tabled a series of resolutions with a view of the council petitioning the Legislature to bring in an efficient measure for rendering applicable to Scotland the Act in force in England in regard to free public libraries.

GOLD IN WALES.—A mine has lately been discovered on the Pengwern Estate, Festiniog. A quantity of the material was sent to the City-road London, to be tried by the crusher, in the presence of Sir Charles Fitzpatrick and Mr. Goodman, and the result was 1½ oz. of pure gold from one ton of ore.

THE THEATRES, &c.

OLYMPIC.

A new piece, entitled "The Love Lock," was produced on Monday: an eccentric sort of drama, of the nature, we think, of a "morality." An object to form of comparison was not likely to bear revival; and, though well upported and well acted, the adventure proved unfortunate, and the experiment has not been repeated.

HAYMARKET.

A new two act comedy, entitled "Randolph," was produced on Saturday. The plot is principally taken from M M. Carmon and Eugène Grangé's vaudeville, "Un Mari qui se dérange," by Mr. Palgrave Simpson; and was successful. The treatment, however, is not uniformly happy, nor the spirit of the dialogue and situation always maintained. The first act was rather slow and uninteresting—a fashionable husband, in the reign of George II., with the bad habit of leaving his young wife for days parties at Ranelagh, and revealing his vice through accidentally finding a letter in her presence, and talking in his dreams; forms all the action of the introductory portion. The name of the fitful rake is *Sir Robert Rowly* (Mr George Vandenhoff), the part of the unhappy lady is supported by Miss Reynolds, whom, however, we like better become than tears. We are then introduced to *Dr. Coddelove* and his lady (Mr Buckstone and Mrs. Fitzwilliam) who are inexplicable, except when professional duties demand the former elsewhere, in his capacity as physician. This worthy doctor is made the innocent bearer of amorous dispatches from a certain *Florentina*, an actress, with whom *Sir Robert* has an assignation at Ranelagh. His lady is not seen, though much talked of. Another character is more conspicuous, a *Lord Pryington* (Mr W. Farren), who is exceedingly curious to penetrate the secret of domestic uneasiness, and manages to get a duel fixed upon him at Ranelagh, as a reward for his meddlesomeness. The main point of the piece is contained in this adventure. An admirably-painted scene of the gardens and rotunda assists the effect. The gallants assembled are as jealous of their wives and sweethearts as if they were faithful to them, and each suspects *Lady Rowly*, who has, in disguise, followed her husband to the scene of action, to be the very identical fair one in whom he is most interested. *Sir Robert* hits upon the expedient of saying, while yet ignorant of the fact that she is his wife; and is thus rescued from the necessity of fighting four duels; while *Florentina* accidentally falls to the lot of *Lord Pryington*, who is thus made the scape goat in the transaction. *Dr. Coddelove* is mixed up with the affair also, through *Lady Rowly*, who compels his attendance on the spot; and is met there by his wife, who has been made the victim of female friendship," and finds herself in a false position. The humour of this situation saved the piece; Mr. Buckstone and Mrs. Fitzwilliam assisting the effect with some of their best acting. The house was well attended.

SOHO.

On Friday week, Mr. Henry Nicholls, celebrated as a dramatic reader, tried his fortune at this theatre as an actor. This gentleman is not new to the stage, though more frequently met in the lecture-room. The part chosen for the experiment was that of *Shylock*. The other characters were principally attempted by amateurs, who were evidently selected with care, as they all performed with a remarkable degree of smoothness, and nothing took place to disturb the proper stage-business. Mr. Nicholls' excellent voice enabled him to pronounce the Shakespearian text with emphasis and effect; and nothing could be finer than his delivery of the greater passages of the play; but we warn him not to depend too much on this advantage. As an actor, he will find it necessary to subdue the mere declamation of his parts, and to gain voice by more level and flexible elocution. This, we have no doubt, he will do; and his success, so far as it has gone, must, in the meantime, be fairly held to entitle him to a trial in a larger theatre. Once regularly on the boards, he cannot fail of commanding an effective position.

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

THE CASE OF MISS CANTWELL.—This protracted case—an action by Miss Margaret Cantwell against the firm of Messrs. Cannock, White, and Co., for false imprisonment and malicious prosecution—was resumed on Saturday, and the jury left for the jury room by the Lord Chief Justice. After the Judge's charge, at two o'clock, the jury retired to their room, and at five o'clock returned a verdict on the first count, for false imprisonment, £200 damages against the defendants, for the plaintiff; on the second count, for malicious prosecution, the jury could not agree, and they were discharged by consent of both parties.

AN EARTHQUAKE NEAR BIRMINGHAM.—About half-past eleven o'clock last Sunday night, a gentleman, near Oscley-hill, Birmingham, whilst reading, felt a severe shock and the fire-irons then bounded from their upright positions with extreme violence. On Monday he mentioned this to a person residing near West Bromwich, who also said that he felt d sturbed at the same time, and heard a rumbling noise whilst in bed.—*Birmingham Journal.*

THE SEAHAM RAILWAY AND SUNDERLAND DOCK.—On Monday the Marquis of Londonderry entered into arrangements for the shipment of his coals at the South Dock, Sunderland, when final agreements were concluded for Lord Londonderry to ship 600,000 tons of coals per annum, the directors undertaking to find temporary accommodation (until the completion of the extension and southern outlet) for commencing on the 18th June next.—*Newcastle Guardian.*

WEST SUSSEX ELECTION.—The election of a representative for the Western Division of the county of Sussex, in the place of Mr. Prime, who had resigned on account of ill health, took place on Monday, at Chichester, when Mr. Henry Wyndham (Conservative), son of Colonel Wyndham, was declared duly elected.

SOUTH DEVON ELECTION.—Mr. Lawrence Palk was duly elected on Tuesday morning, without opposition, Sir Stafford Northcote having res gned.

SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE ELECTION.—The contest for the representation of the southern division of Staffordshire terminated last Saturday, in the return of Lord Paget. The respective numbers polled were:—For Lord Paget, 4298; for Lord Ingestre, 3769: majority for Paget, 1529. The result is said to have been chiefly owing to the large number of landsociety freeholders.

EXTENSIVE EMIGRATION OF MORMONITES FROM WALES.—The emigration of Mormonites from the southern districts of Wales has, during the past few weeks, been most extensive. Large bodies of men have sold all they possessed, and thrown the money into a common fund. Their numbers embrace all classes—one gentleman, an inhabitant of Merthyr, is of considerable fortune, having contributed £2000 and joined the brethren. Many wealthy members of the sect in the neighbourhood are selling all their property previous to departure. Upwards of 400 of the metropolitan, one an old woman of eighty years, have just left for the Great Salt Lake City, having spent the last night in this country in preaching, praying, singing, &c.—Ninety-nine families, consisting of coal-miners in the neighbourood of Llanelly, have also just left the principality, having been engaged by the West Columbian Mining Company to work the vast coal-mines belonging to them on the borders of the Ohio River.

SUDDEN DEATH.—Admiral the Hon. George Poulett being on a visit to Colonel Wyndham, at his hunting lodge, Drove house, near Singleton, Sussex, rode out with the hounds on Friday week as usual. He appeared in his ordinary health in the earlier part of the day; but while the hounds were running near West Marden, on the South Downs, the Admiral was seen suddenly to fall from his horse. A gentleman riding near him instantly dismounted, and went to his assistance, but found that the vital spark had already fled. The Admiral was, to all appearance, dead before he reached the ground, and there can be but little doubt that a sudden apoplectic seizure was the immediate cause of death.

THE NAVY OF HOLLAND.—A work published recently gives the following statistics of the navy of Holland on the 1st January:—Ships of the line, first class, 84 guns, 3 ditto, second class, 74 guns; 2 frigates, first class, 60 guns; 2 ditto, ditto, 54 guns; 1 steam-frigate, ditto, 51 guns; 6 frigates, second class, 44 guns; 2 ditto, ditto, 36 guns; 1 ditto, ditto, 28 guns; 3 corvettes, 28 guns; 5 ditto, 26 guns; 2 steam ditto, 18 guns; 2 ditto (transports), 22 guns; 1 ditto, ditto, 12 guns; 11 ditto, ditto, 8 guns; 1 ditto, ditto, 6 guns; 1 schooner brig (steam), 8 guns; and 7 schooners of from 1 to 10 guns each, besides steamers, &c.

CURIOUS DISCOVERY OF SNAKES.—A number of labourers were lately employed in blasting and removing some granite boulders scattered about the grounds of Colin House near Auchencairn, Kirkcudbrightshire. On the removal of the stones from the sandy soil on which they were deposited, the workmen exposed to view, in family groups of from eight to ten each, within a space of ground not exceeding fifteen feet square, the enormous number of 134 snakes and adders coiled together in a semi-dormant state. When exposed to the eye of day, and when the workmen commenced a general slaughter among them, they showed much inclination to indicate that they were fully aware of the peril to which they were exposed. The men succeeded in killing them all.—*North British Daily Mail.*

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

THEY are talking in theatrical circles (and no wonder) of what of late years has been a very rare occurrence—the complete damnation, the first night, of a new piece by a known author. This was witnessed at the Olympic during the present week, and the author condemned was Mr. H. F Chorley. The house was crowded with the usual frequenters of *first nights*; the Garrick Club emptied its intelligent little hive of theatrical critics, dressed to perfection; men came from St. James's and from St. Giles's, from Houndsditch and from Horsleydown—all, if possible, determined to be pleased. We are assured (by old stagegoers) that the look of the house, as the curtain rose, presented one of the best good-natured audiences that they had ever seen. An old follower of the Kemble school is of opinion that this entire damnation of a play, on good grounds, augurs well or the revival of the drama—that audiences have been too good-natured of late—and that people would not have been so gentle in John Philip's time (for so they speak of the great Kemble) as they have been of late years. An old friend of Elliston's speaks, on tiptoe, thrusting his lean fingers through his thin grey hairs with delight at this change in the feeling of an audience "There is nothing," our old Ellistonian acquaintance assures us, "so detrimental to the drama as being too easily pleased Audiences must not be too indulgent Authors get loose in the concoction of their plays, and actors get slovenly in their words; and, worse still, they get *gagging*. Now a thorough condemnation of a piece puts not only that author, but all authors, and even managers, on their metal. Mr. Wigan will never fall into such a mistake again. Our friend in black and grey hairs would have gossipped on for ever on this subject, and, indeed, we must own he betrayed us into a corner at one of our clubs, and we were induced, over a bottle of fine old port (another bottle), to indulge his loquacity and our own at considerable leisure and length. We ran to olden times, to the thorough condemnation of Ben Jonson's "New Inn," and old Ben's angry title to the piece when he printed it; to the origin of catcalls and their real use; to Dryden's happy description of a piece gently treated by an audience—

> 'Twas neither damn'd nor hiss'd,
> But with a kind civility dismiss'd.

"Faint praise, this," observed our friend; "but the best description of the reception of a play by an audience is, I think to be found in old Downes, or Chetwood, or some of these pleasant talkers about their times—old times. A play was heard, and that is all; the author, in his best wig and waistcoat, was in a fume and a perspiration; the manager, having invested a large sum in its production, was in a fever. What was to be done—was it to be announced for repetition? 'Yes,' said the manager; 'Yes, yes,' said the author. It was announced, but in such a way, that the actor who announced it, and the audience who heard, both fell into a burst of laughter. The play, of course, was never repeated."

Artists who attended, and we have seldom seen such a gathering of Raphaelites and pre-Raphaelites, had a high treat at the second meeting at Campden House of the Kensington Fine Arts Conversazione and Debating Society, to whose modest usefulness we called attention in a former column of our "Talk." On this occasion the works exhibited were all oil paintings, by Creswick, Cope, E. W. Cooke, Webster, &c.—many old favourites, and some new pictures destined to become old favourites. They looked additionally well contrasted with the dark old oak panelings of the house—a second time placed by its kind host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. Wolley) at the disposal of the Society. Another season, and perhaps Lord Holland will copy the admirable example of his neighbours at Campden House. There are thousands of intelligent people in Kensington, who have never set foot within the threshold of that fine old mansion of the Earls of Warwick, and who modestly wish to do so at the least possible inconvenience to its noble owner

We are this week pleased to see that the old custom of conferring the appointments at Heralds' College on men who have written well about quarterings and supporters, and who have an intimate antiquarian knowledge with ancient monuments and visitations, has just been revived by the appointment of Mr. Planché to the office of Rouge Croix Pursuivant of Arms. Our friend (for useful public men are the friends of everybody) will now have his name connected with Camden as Clarencieux, with Dugdale as Garter, with Sandford, as Lancaster, and with Oldys as Norroy.

The Bill of Lord John Russell, as submitted to the House this week, has led to one or two questions in literary and scientific circles that merit consideration. Lord John proposes (as our paper details elsewhere) to give to the Inns of Court (that is, to the Inner Temple, the Middle Temple, Lincoln's-inn, and Gray's-inn) the privilege of returning two members to Parliament; and to the London University (representing University College and King's College), the privilege of returning one! "Why," it is asked, "as intelligence and honesty are the two great requisites for a member of the Senate, should not other learned societies be enabled to return members?" A fellowship of a learned society at least implies intelligence and a fair position in the world. A man who belongs to the Royal Society holds at least as high a status as a member of an Inn of Court. Surely the privilege of a seat in the House might be given, with every advantage to the country, to the learned societies of London, whose annual receipts are above £1000 a year. Thus, every member of the Royal Society, of the Society of Antiquaries, of the Royal Academy, of the Geological Society, of the Geographical Society, &c., should have one vote in the return of a member to represent the several societies. Sir John Herschel, or Lord Mahon, or Sir Charles Eastlake, would be an addition of moment to the intelligence of the House. It might, perhaps, be found difficult at first to refrain from laughter when a member for a borough was heard referring to the hon. member for the Learned Bodies; but not less eggs will it be to find the hon. member for the Inns siding (as he may some day do) with the *outs* in a vote of want of confidence.

The recent presentation of the freedom of the City of London to Mr. Layard is suggestive of one or two reflections. Mr. Layard is, we believe, the first literary man who has received a distinction of this kind from the citizens of London. Till very lately literature was little thought of east of Temple-bar. The City Poet was generally the poorest versifier they could find and his only employment was in devising a pageant for the Lord Mayor's show. Literary men were taught to dislike the citizens, and the citizens looked upon literary men as madmen or vagabonds, fit only for Bethlehem or Bridewell. This mutual dislike is not generally understood. The citizens, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth prohibited the players from erecting a theatre within the City; and the poets and players in return exhibited every citizen as a cuckold. The courtiers west of Temple-bar were delighted with this exhibition of the rish citizen of London; and to such a height was this dislike carried, that, even in Garrick's time, it was customary to play one particular play on Lord Mayor's Day, and that one play a very gross picture of the citizens, their wives and daughters. Now, however, a different feeling has gained ground, and the precedent of Mr. Layard might, as it will, no doubt, be copied with advantage.

THE GREAT DIAMOND.—The extraordinary diamond alluded to in the daily papers as having lately been received at the Bank of England, from Rio de Janeiro, was submitted to the inspection of her Majesty on Wednesday last, by the consignees, Messrs. Dovey and Benjamin. The diamond weighs 254½ carats, is of the purest water, and likely, when polished, to exceed in size and brilliancy the celebrated Koh-i-noor.

THE ESQUIMAUX FAMILY.

These three native Esquimaux, who had recently the honour of appearing before her Majesty and a distinguished circle at Windsor Castle, have been since exhibited at the Lowther Arcade Rooms. They are certainly among the most singular specimens of humanity that have ever been brought before the public; and their own personal peculiarities would alone be sufficient to attract a large share of attention. The painful excitement which has so long pervaded the minds of all classes with respect to the fate of Sir John Franklin's Arctic Expedition, lends additional interest to the examination of these natives of the dreary North.

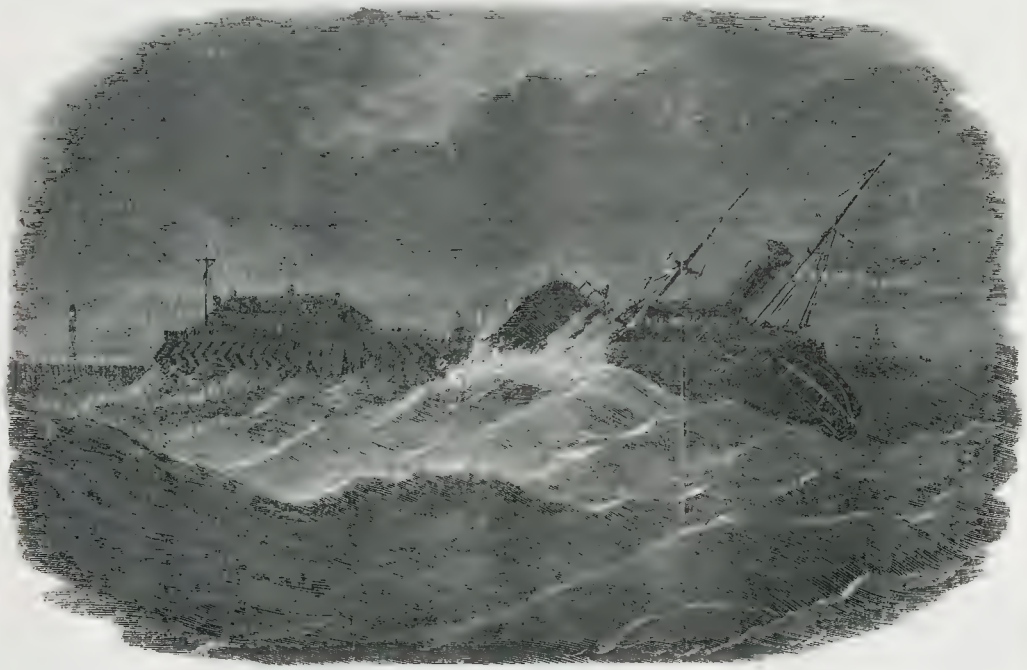
The individuals composing this group consist of a married couple: the male eighteen, and the female sixteen years of age, and a little boy, seven years old belonging to another family. The two former individuals were born at Kelmokoke, on Cumberland Strait; the latter in another locality, about 100 miles farther south than the birthplace of his companions. They were brought to England by a private Expedition, fitted out by Mr. John Bowlbey, a Hull merchant, for the purpose of establishing a species of settlement on the western side of Davis's Strait, similar to those which the Danish Government have long since successfully founded on the eastern shores of the same estuary. This scheme was not carried into execution, in consequence of the loss of one of the vessels belonging to the Expedition, which rendered impracticable the realisation of the original design. These natives are exhibited, mainly with a view of enlisting co-operation in this project, which would not only confer an immense benefit on the natives, but would also be highly advantageous to the interests of British commerce.

The personal appearance of these individuals, who seem by no means wanting in capacity to receive instruction, has been admirably portrayed by our artist. They are short in stature, swarthy in complexion, and possess a physiognomy entirely Tartar in its character. They are clothed in their native costume of seal and deer-skins, very neatly wrought and highly peculiar, especially, in respect to the difference between the dresses of the two sexes; they are surrounded by their huts, canoes, and hunting-implements, many of which display in their construction a vast amount of rude ingenuity; and the illustrative lecture, agreeably delivered by Mr. Leicester Buckingham, conveys an interesting account of the principal characteristics and leading productions of the Arctic Regions, and the manners and customs of the natives. Altogether, this exhibition is well worthy of public patronage, not only on account of the interest attached to it by the circumstances to which we have referred, but also or its own intrinsic merits, and the opportunity it affords of gaining a large amount of information.

ESQUIMAUX RECENTLY ARRIVED IN LONDON.

ACCIDENT TO THE CALAIS STEAM-SHIP "MENAI."

On Thursday week, about nine o'clock in the evening, a serious accident occurred to the steamship *Menai*, Captain Peshley, plying between London and Calais. It had been blowing a gale all the evening, and a very heavy sea was running near the mouth of the harbour when the *Menai* approached. The vessel's stem had just been pointed to enter the harbour when a tremendous sea struck her with terrific violence, causing the ship to deviate from her course, and injuring the rudder to such an extent as to render the vessel altogether unmanageable. The captain at once endeavoured to bring up, but before he could do so the ship was driven ashore, immediately at the back of the west pier, and close to Fort Ruge, the scene of Stanfield's celebrated picture of "The Wreckers." The disaster was observed by several persons who had been watching the approach of the ship from the shore; and when the vessel struck the ground the greatest alarm prevailed for the safety of the passengers and crew, every sea making a clean breach over her as she lay embedded in the sand. Blue-lights having been fired from the ship, and other signals of distress exhibited, every exertion was immediately made by the harbour authorities and others, under the superintendence of M. le Capitaine Follett to get the life-boats afloat; but, owing to the violence of the gale, and the heavy surf running, this was a work of great difficulty. Amongst the earliest at the scene of danger were the officers and crew of the mail-packet *Vivid*, Capt. Smithett, with a supply of life line and buoys. One of the life-boats having been at length launched, pulled towards the stranded vessel; but, owing to the heavy sea, it was found impossible to attempt to land the passengers. Fortunately, it was nearly high water when the accident occurred, and, after due consideration, it was deemed more prudent to leave every one on board until the tide ebbed. About one o'clock next morning the ship was left high and dry on the beach, and the passengers, twenty-one in number, were safely landed and conveyed into the town. At the same time preparations were made for unshipping the cargo. No blame whatever is attached to Captain Peshley, who exhibited great presence of mind, and did everything in his power under the trying circumstances in which he was placed. The gale blew with such violence throughout the night that the *Vivid* mail-packet did not leave the harbour until eight o'clock next morning, instead of at midnight.



"THE MENAI" STEAMER DRIFTING ASHORE, AT CALAIS.

THE CATHOLIC & APOSTOLIC CHURCH, GORDON-SQUARE.

THIS edifice, in plan, consists o chancel, with north aisle, north and south transept, central lantern tower and nave, with north and south aisles. Additional chapels are provided east of the chancel, and in the south transept; vestries are arranged on the north side of the chancel, and likewise on the south side of the south aisle.

The principal entrance is in Gordon-square, under a gatehouse, and covered cloister, leading to the porch connected with the north transept, which is also intended to form the baptistery. Another entrance is provided at the western end of the Church; but, as it is intended to extend the nave and aisles westward, this entrance, together with the west wall of the Church, is of a temporary character.

The general style of the building is that of the Early English period, prevalent in this country during the latter part of the thirteenth century, with features of a later date.

The nave, consisting of five bays of piers and arches, the caps of which are considerably varied in design, is surmounted by a noble triforium of richly-moulded arches, and a very lofty clerestory, formed with coupled lancet windows. The roof is richly carved, of somewhat later date than the general style of the building. The roof, to the aisles, which also forms the floor of the triforium, has the principal timbers moulded, and enriched with pierced braces and flowers at the intersections. The windows in the aisles are simple lancet, with panels on either side, which will admit of fresco decorations. The entire area of the nave and aisles is fitted up with sittings for the congregation.

The four tower arches are exceedingly lofty, and are seen in combination with a good effect; although it is to be regretted that the stone groin in the lantern tower is left incomplete. The pulpit is placed to the west of the north-west tower pier.

The treatment of the transepts is considerably varied. The north transept has two triple lancets, which occupy the entire height above the doorway; while the south transept has a very bold and richly-moulded rose window, concentric with the roof, which has moulded ribs and richly-carved cornice. The organ, built by Gray and Davison, is placed on the floor in the south transept; and the chapel to the eastward of this transept has a three-light window of very pleasing proportion. In this chapel is placed a side altar, where the Eucharist is celebrated on ordinary occasions on week days.

The chancel is treated in a somewhat similar manner to the nave; the piers, arches, and triforium being kept at the same levels; but the detail is of a much richer character. The clerestory, however, differs considerably from that to the nave, the arches in connection with the windows being so grouped as to be concentric with the wall ribs of the stone groin with which the chancel is covered. The stone ribs to the groin are very richly moulded, and a small running ornament is carved in the hollow of the moulding. The bosses at the various intersections are also bold, and highly enriched with sculpture. The vaulting between the ribs is filled in with Bath stone. The floor of the chancel is sub-divided into three divisions—viz., the sanctuary, the upper choir, and the lower choir; each distinguished from the other by steps, as also by the increasing richness of the pavements. Within the sanctuary stands the altar, composed of various-coloured alabasters and marbles. This is the culminating point in the arrangement of the fittings and furniture of the Church, the Eucharistic sacrifice and service being there offered. Upon the altar a cheet (usually called a tabernacle) is fixed for the reception of the consecrated elements, which are reserved for administration to the sick and dying, as well as for other purposes connected with worship. The design of the altar is exceedingly simple, being three foliated circles contained within a square framework, richly moulded, and carved in the centre of the panels, as well as in the hollow of the mouldings. The edge of the altar-slab is delicately carved, and relief, in addition to the various tones of the material, is obtained by the use of colour and gilding.

Descending from the sanctuary into the upper choir, the faldstool, where the intercession is offered at morning and evening prayer, occupies a prominent place in the centre; while, on the north side, is the seat of the Angel, or Bishop, to whom the charge of the particular church is committed, with the table of prothesis on the opposite or south side. A little further west, faldstools are arranged for the four ministers who officiate with the Angel at morning and evening prayer; and again lower down on the north side is the seat occupied by the seven Elders of the Church; the remaining stalls being provided for other priests who may be present at the service, but not officiating. Under the eastern arch of the central tower the upper choir terminates, and the lower choir commences, comprising the area, which is enclosed with stalls set apart for the seven Deacons of the Church, and for others of the deaconal order.

The eastern chapel is separated from the chancel by a close temporary screen, to be replaced by an open screen, rich in alabaster, and various-coloured marbles. This chapel, erected by the pious munificence of two sisters, and decorated by means of the offerings of the faithful in England, who have received the laying on of the Apostle's hands, may be taken as, in some measure, showing the intended decorative completion of the other portions of the Church. On the north and south sides of the chapel is an arcade of richly moulded arches, supported on polished Purbeck marble shafts, the caps of which are delicately carved, as are also the terminals to the hoods, and the medallion heads surmounting the arches. The three easternmost arches of the arcade on the south side are more highly enriched than the others; thereby marking the seat of the officiating priest and his assistants. The piscina is placed to the east of the sedilia, as is also the table of prothesis. The arcade along the eastern wall is similar in character, but not so deeply recessed as the above. The windows on the north and south sides are coupled lances, separated by a detached shaft, and greatly enriched with carving. The east window is a triplet of lances, similarly treated as regards decoration; and is surmounted by a rose window. The roof of a single span is supported by principals, springing from carved corbels, representing angels playing upon various musical instruments. The floor is paved with rich encaustic tiles; and the sacrarium, raised one step above the general level of the floor, is also more richly paved. The whole of the windows in this chapel are filled with stained glass—that in the east windows representing Scriptural subjects; while that in the north and south sides has medallions of single figures. The small rose window is filled with mosaic glass. It is ultimately intended to

INTERIOR OF THE NEW CATHOLIC AND APOSTOLIC CHURCH, GORDON-SQUARE.

THE METROPOLITAN CONVALESCENT HOSPITAL, WALTON-ON-THAMES.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

decorate the roof with colour, as also to diaper the plain surfaces of the walls.

The covered cloister has an arcade of interlaced arches upon shafts, with carved capitals.

Thus far we have described the internal arrangements of the structure. Of the exterior, suffice it to say that, hemmed in as it is on every side by secular buildings, the architect has endeavoured to give dignity and grandeur by simplicity of outline rather than by the means to obtain beauty by richness of detail. It is much to be desired that the house now standing at the corner of Gordon-square should be removed, and that the southern chancel aisle should be built acco ding to the original intention.

Provision is made for decorating the principal mouldings and other features of the Church, so soon as funds can be provided for the purpose.

The architects of the building are Messrs. Raphael Brandon and Robt. Ritchie, of Beaufort-buildings, Strand, London, and of Greenwich; and has been admirably executed by Mr. George Myers, of Belvedere-road, Lambeth.

In the Census Report, 1851 (Religious Worship), is a sketch supplied by a member of the, Catholic Apostolic Church; from which we gather that—

The body to which this name is applied make no exclusive claim to it; they simply object to be called by any other. They acknowledge it to be the common title of the One Church baptised into Christ, which has existed in all ages, and of which they claim to be members. They have always protested against the application to them of the term "Irvingites;" which signification they consider to be untrue and offensive, though derived from one whom, when living, they held in high regard as a devoted minister of Christ.

They do not profess to be, and refuse to acknowledge that they are, separatists from the Church estab ished or dominant in the land of their habitation, or from the general body of Christians therein. They recognise the continuance of the Church from the days of the first Apostles, and of the three orders of bishops, priests, and deacons, by succession from the Apostles. They justify their meeting in separate congregations from the charge of schism, on the ground of the same being permitted and authorised by an ordinance of paramount authority, which they believe God has restored for the benefit of the whole Church. And so far from professing to be another sect in addition to the numerous ones already dividing the Church, or to be "the One Church," to the exclusion of all other bodies, they believe that their special mission is to re-unite the scattered members of the one body of Christ.

The only standards of faith which they recognise are the three creeds of the Catholic Church—the Apostles' creed, the Nicene or Constantinopolitan creed, and that called the creed of St. Athanasius—the especiality of their religious b lief, whereby they are distinguished from other Christian communities, stands in this—that they hold apostles, propaets, evangelists, and pastors to be abiding ministries in the Church.

Besides free-will offerings, the tenth of their increase, including income of every description, is brought up to the Lord (it being regarded as a sacred duty that tithe should be dedicated to his service alone), and is apportioned am ng those who are separated to the ministry. In England there are about thirty congregations, comprising nearly 6000 communicants. There are also congregations in Scotland and in Ireland, a considerable number in Germany, and several in France, Switzerland, and America.

THE METROPOLITAN CONVALESCENT HOSPITAL.

ALL who have attended to the manifold evils besetting the lot of the labouring poor in London and other great cities, are familiar with one of wide prevalence, for which, until lately, no remedy was sought to be provided. It is that state of general weakness usually termed Convalescence, which, although short of actual disease, equally with disease incapacitates for labour.

This state, indeed, is to the poor often a more grievous misfortune than even sickness itself. When struck down by actual disease, the doors of dispensaries and hospitals are always open to them; and, in the latter establishments more particularly, they are supplied not only with the best medical advice, but with most of the comforts which the wealthy enjoy in their own houses. When, however, after having derived all the benefit which medical skill can supply in the hospital, they are necessarily discharged, they are frequently thrown into a position more distressing than ever. Many, no doubt, are discharged perfectly restored to health, and able at once to return to their daily labour; but a large proportion are still far from sound and dressed, although free from actual disease. If in this state they resume their duties, as many they are often forced to do, they speedily break down, and are compelled once more to seek shelter in an hospital, with a greatly diminished chance of re overy.

What these poor people want are not hospital comforts, however liberally bestowed, nor medicines, however skilfully prescribed; but the natural restoratives of fresh country air, good food, gentle exercise out of doors, and that mental quiet and freedom from anxiety which cannot possibly be the lot of the labouring man while struggling single-handed against poverty and bodily weakness. A d by the poor such restoratives can only be found in special charities provided for the purpose. Of this kind, and the only one in existence, is the Metropolitan Convalescent Institution.

The idea of a refuge for the convalescent poor originated in the year 1840; and, though at first carried out on a very limited scale, in merely sending a few persons to the cottages of a village in the neighbourhood of London, it soon gradually expanded, and a sum was raised large enough to justify the promoters of the charity to take and fit up the old workhouse, at Carshalton; where it has increased from time to time and flourished to such an extent that it has now passed through its chrysalis state, and is about to occupy a noble asylum, just erected, at Walton-on-Thames

Through the generous gift of the noble president, the Earl of Ellesmere, five acres of valuable ground have been secured to the charity; and by the respond to the appeal made to the public charity a sum was raised large enough to justify the committee in commencing the new work; and, acting still further on that true system of personal charity which sacrifices itself for the real good of others, the novel plan of opening the asylum without a public dinner has been reported to; believing that there are more who will sympathise with poverty in one of its most grievous forms through such an opportunity than in giving under the influence of those feelings, which, thanks to the spirit of the age, are believed to be distasteful to very many of its supporters

The site forms a part of the well-known Oatlands-park, and has been selected on the authority of the medical staff as one of the most healthy spots round London

The new Asylum, of which we give a View, is just open d, and will be, when finished, a large and imposing building—the architect being Mr. Joseph Clarke, F.S.A., of Stratford-place, Oxford-street. At present, the centre part only has been erected; but the offices are extensive, and large enough for any future additions; the cost of this portion, including the fitting up, will amount to £12,000. It is built fire-proof, and contains every convenience and arrangement for the comfort and re-instatement to perfect health of the inmates. The dormitories are large, open, and airy; and so divided that no inconvenience can take place. An infirmary for both sexes is provided, and, both in the day-rooms and general arrangement, perfect isolation and the wants of each are considered. The dining-hall is at the rear, and is a large and well-lighted apartment—which will be used as well for a chapel, till the means are raised for this addition to the completeness of the building, which, it is hoped, some day may be accomplished—a wide corridor extends the whole length of each division, which forms an excellent ambulatory in wet weather. The ventilation has been carefully considered, and every means provided for the heating of the building; the kitchens and offices are as am le and satisfactory as can be well imagined, considering how masterfully they are necessary to the recovery of the poor inmates who very soon, with the good living and the fine air they enjoy, are restored to robust health and fit for their daily toil.

HEALTH OF OMER PACHA.—A private letter from Constantinople, of the 30th ult., written by a gentleman who saw Omer Pacha at the close of last month, states that th General is in excellent health. He was safe y suffering from a severe cold; and the Porte, from anxiety for his comfo t and welfare, sent him a physician; and this is all the foundation for the man stories about ague, typhus, and typhoid fever, excesses at table, and so forth, which the German papers have circulated.

JACK'S ESTIMATE OF THE RUSSIAN SEAMAN.—Our sailors who have visited St. Petersburg and other ports of Russia have generally a very poor opinion of the seamen of that country. They speak of here with a contempt bordering on pity, representing them as feeble in body and devoid of pluck. "How do you account for it?" we asked a veteran Englishtar the other day, who had given us the above estimate of the Muscovite mariners. "Why, do you see, sir," was the answer, "it can't be otherwise. They have nothing to put spirit into them: their mind's not the r own, but the Emperor's, and they're not fed as we are. It's the same with ev ry independence, and the good solid food that he gets, that makes the Britis sailor what he is; and for want of which the Jack-a-Roohian is weak and spiritless." *Swarterland News.*

THE BLUE-BOOKS ON THE TURKISH QUESTION.

(*Continued from page* 119.)

COLONEL ROSE, in all his despatches to the British Government, appears to have been fully aware of the serious results which might ensue if the French and Russian Governments were not severally checked in their endeavours to intimidate the Government of the Sultan. If we may judge from Lord Malmesbury's short reply, the British Government—not having the advantage of such intimate acquaintance with the subject—did not participate in this anxiety. His Lordship, under date of Sept., 1852, informed Colonel Rose that he approved of the endeavours which he had made "to moderate the vehemence of the several parties engaged in the discussion;" but gave him no further instructions. On the same day on which this letter was despatched, Lord Malmesbury received a communication from Lord Cowley, at Compiègne, of a nature to show that the French Government was opening its eyes to the danger of the course which it had hitherto pursued. "M. Drouyn de Lhuys," says his Lordship, "who arrived here from Paris this afternoon, mentioned to me that the question of the Sacred Places was not settled, and, he was afraid, would give rise to further difficulties. He was, he said, most anxious to see it terminated." A few days afterwards, Lord Derby's Ministry resigned; and the future conduct of the affair was left in the hands of the Aberdeen Administration. It was not only at Constantinople and at Paris that the true state of the case began to be visible. Sir G. H. Seymour, at St. Petersburg, saw the matter as clearly as Colonel Rose did at Constantinople; and Count Nesselrode, by exaggerating its difficulty in an expression which he used to Sir George, betrayed the animus of his Government, and put our Ambassador on the alert. The following is an extract of a letter addressed to the Earl of Malmesbury, but received by Lord John Russell:—

(NO. 62.)—SIR G. H. SEYMOUR TO THE EARL OF MALMESBURY (RECEIVED JAN. 11, 1853.)

St. Petersburg, Dec. 31, 1852.

I have held a conversation with the Chancellor, which I commenced by observing that I could not help feeling great anxiety about the continued disputes respecting the rights of the Greek and Latin Churches in Turkey.

"Et vous avez bien raison," Count Nesselrode replied; "d'en être inquiet, car je ne vous cacherai pas que c'est une très mauvaise affaire."

His Excellency proceeded to say that the position of the Russian Government was simply this: That after two years of laborious negotiation an arrangement had been effected, fair to all parties, and by which certain concessions had been made to the Latins, that this arrangement was notified not only by a firman, written in February last, but by a formal letter from the Sultan to the Emperor; that the business was suddenly unsettled by the French Ambassador, who, under threats of violence, had suspended the reading of the firman; that certainly this was a state of things his Imperial Majesty could not tolerate, and the less, as the interests of the Porte, as well as those of Russia, were compromised, the Sultan being very directly interested in attending to the feelings of those large bodies of his subjects who profess the Greek religion, while nothing was to be gained by consulting the wishes of some occasional Roman Catholic tourists.

I begged his Excellency to believe that her Majesty's Government had no further interest in the question than that of preventing misunderstanding between friendly Governments and injury to an ancient ally: itself no way concerned in the matters in dispute.

Upon my remarking afterwards that I thought it highly desirable that the question should be approached in the most conciliatory spirit, and the difficult position of the Porte should not be aggravated by differences growing, as Count Nesselrode had stated, out of the conduct of the French Ambassador, his Excellency replied that he really did not see what middle course ("terme moyen") could be adopted, but that he was ready to examine the business under the influence of such conciliatory feeling.

"The very bad affair" was speedily made worse by the Russian Government. Within a week after Sir G. H. Seymour had reported Count Nesselrode's expression, it became his Excellency's duty to inform the British Government that the Emperor had ordered the occupation by his army, and to march it towards the Turkish frontier. Our Ambassador was of opinion, that a threat employed by the French Government of sending an expedition to Syria in the event of satisfaction not being obtained for the claims of the Latin Church, was the reason for this step on the part of Russia. His Excellency stated (7th January, 1853), that orders had been despatched to the fifth *corps d'armée* to advance to the frontiers of the Danubian Provinces without waiting for their reserves; and that the fourth corps, under the command of General Count Dannenberg, then stationed in Volhynia, was to hold itself in readiness to support the movement. The whole force, according to official returns, was estimated at 144,000 men. Sir George Seymour sought and obtained an interview with Count Nesselrode; and informed the Foreign Secretary that the Count treated as exaggerated the alarm expressed as to the effect that would be caused in Turkey and elsewhere by the appearance of a Russian army on the frontiers of the Sultan's dominions. The Count entered into long explanations and assurances—which events have since proved to have been unreal—that the Czar deprecated the fall of Turkey; and even boasted that under critical circumstances, he had rendered those services to the Porte by which such a catastrophe could alone have been averted. He expressed a hope and a belief that, even at that crisis, affairs would be brought to a conclusion by negotiation, but considered it necessary that the diplomacy of Russia should be supported by a demonstration of force, and ended with an appeal to British diplomacy at Paris and at Constantinople, to support the alleged rights of Russia, and to discountenance the pretensions of the French Cabinet.

The French Government was by this time fully aware of the error which it had committed in allowing M. de Lavalette to threaten and embarrass the Sultan. As a first step towards remedying the mischief which had been occasioned, it recal ed its malad oit Ambassador. Lord Cowley announced the fact to Lord John Russell on the 20th of January, and added, that the display of force on the part of Russia would not prevent the French Government from terminating the question of the Sacred Places. From that time forward, M. Drouyn de Lhuys ably and consistently carried out the enlarged and wise policy of his Imperial master, and the Governments of Great Britain and France acted in perfect accord. The French Emperor, aware of the mistake that had been committed, did his utmost to repair the evil consequences that were likely to ensue, and acted with characteristic sagacity and energy. The hereditary foe of Turkey was too busily at work to allow the friends of that Empire and of the independence of Europe to weaken her by minor pretensions of their own. Both the British and French Governments understood their duty, and kept vigilant watch over the common enemy.

The Russian Government deemed it expedient, at this time, to endeavour to mystify foreign courts, and especially that of England; and Count Nesselrode addressed to Baron Brunnow a long despatch, to be communicated by him to the British Government. But even in this document Count Nesselrode, with his usual want of tact, betrayed many circumstances which a more astute diplomatist would have endeavoured to conceal. He seems to have imagined that Turkey was a dead carcase, and that France and Russia were in the position of two vultures disputing the possession of the prey, and that the Russian vulture had, somehow or other, a right to the whole of it:—

COUNT NESSELRODE TO BARON BRUNNOW.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 14, 1853.

The mischief is done, M. le Baron, and there is no longer any question of preventing it. It is now necessary to remedy it. The immunities of the orthodox religion which have been injured; the promise which the Sultan had solemnly given to the Emperor, and which has been violated, require some reparation. We must labour to obtain it. Such is the present state of the question. If we took for our example the imperious and violent proceedings which have brought France to this result—if, like her, we were indifferent to the dignity of the Porte, to the consequences which an heroic remedy may have on a constitution already so shattered as that of the Ottoman Empire—our course would be already marked out for us, and we should not have long to reflect upon it. Menace, recourse to force, would be our immediate means. The cannon has been called the last argument of Kings: the French Government has made it its first. It is the argument with which, in the outset, it declared its intention to commence its proceedings at Tripoli, as well as at Constantinople. Notwithstanding our legitimate causes of complaint, and at the risk of waiting some time longer for redress, we shall seek to take a less expeditious course. We all desire, as we have always desired, the maintenance of the Ottoman Empire as being, taken all in all, the least mischievous arrangement for all European interests, which would not fail to come into violent collision in the East, if the gap existed. We will, accord ngly, use our utmost endeavours to avoid the last, as far as depends on us, without prejudice to our honour, whatever may be established still further to shake the body, already so feeble and so tottering, at the risk of causing it to fall to powder. Although we were in vain attempted, up to the present time, to make the Porte access ble to reason, we are about to make one further and conciliatory endeavour. We are, consequently, seeking at the present time for an arrangement which may secure to the throne the force of which it has been deprived—may replace at Jerusalem the two creeds on an equal footing, and reconcile their pretensions without prejudice to the rights of either. The object of the pacific but firm advice, with which this proposal might be accompanied, will be to enlighten the Porte as to the consequences of the fau t which, out of weakness, it has committed towards us, and at the same time re-assure it against the contingencies which disturb and alarm it on the side of France. The Emperor has already made up his mind to the principal bases of this arrangement, and has given us his assurance as his Majesty has finally decided upon these, I will not fail (M. de Baron) to communicate them to your Excellency.

But, while firmly desiring and wishing to employ only pacific means, there is one consideration of which we have not been able altogether to lose sight. It is, that the moral ascendancy of France at Constantinople has acquired such dimensions, that it is much to be feared that all our endeavours may fail before the pretensions entertained by the Sultan's councillors of the perceiving that the Porte hesitates, may again have recourse to her system of menace, and press upon it so as to prevent it from fulfilling the most just demands. A state of affairs so unequal between us and the French in all parts of the Mediterranean, and presents its least demand at the cannon's mouth; we allow the notion of our inability to defend them, and likewise to protect our most vital interests, indefinitively to take root in the mind of the Turks. The Emperor has, therefore, considered it necessary to adopt on the outset some precautionary measures, in order to support our negotiations, to neutralise the effects of M. de Lavalette's threats, and to guard himself in any contingency which may arise against the attempts of a Government accustomed to act by sacrifices

The views of the French Government, upon which so much was made to turn by the Czar, having undergone a modification in consequence of the misinterpretation which it suited Russian ambition to put upon them, it becomes of interest to know exactly what they were. That they were not identical with those of M. de Lavalette must have been evident to the Czar by the recall and disgrace of that Ambassador. They were thus expressed in a despatch of Count Castelbajac, the French Ambassador at St. Petersburg, in a despatch dated the 25th January, 1853. This document, and several others relating to the dispute, do not appear in the English Blue Books, but have been published within the last few days in the French official journal, the *Moniteur*, from which we extract the following:—

You know, General, that, yielding by turns to two contrary currents, the Porte has, within the year, issued on the subject of the respective pretensions of the Latins and Greeks, decisions which are in some sort exclude one another, and of which the gravest inconvenients in our eyes is to place—if not in fact at least in public opinion misled by the false appreciations of the newspaper—the two rival Powers of France and Russia at Constantinople in a sort of antagonism, which I take pleasure in believing is not more desired by the Cabinet of St. Petersburg than by us. I am anxious, then, not to delay any longer in fixing the object which we desire to attain; that is to say, clearly to establish the justice and moderation of our demands. A short statement of the facts will render my task easy. I shall not say the Ambassador, but I shall say the Government, on the points of law and fact, which are so completely understood at present that it is not necessary to reproduce it. The Government of the Emperor, General, without hesitating in giving up the claims which it found in its inheritance, has understood that in human affairs nothing is so sure as justice and moderation of our demands. A short statement of the facts will render my task easy. For two years, the Ambassador has not ceased to awaken in the Ottoman empire, which is already so shaken, religious passions which would infallibly have turned against the power of the Sultan; it has found a lively sympathy for them in the personal sentiment of his Majesty the Emperor Nicholas, chief in his country of the Greek religion identically the same as that which the greatest number of Christians in the East profess; and it is all considerations which have induced it without pain to reduce its pretensions to the exact limit of its dignity and its duties. As much as we placed modera ion, prudence, and a spirit of concord in the negotiations which the Porte, as much, I must confess to you, have we been surprised at the efforts which the mission of Russia to Constantinople has made to annul the concessions—which, however, are very important—which have been made by the Cabinet of St. Petersburg, in fact, cannot disregard the validity of our capitulations without making the most serious encroachments on its own treaties with Turkey—treaties far more advantageous, far more important, than that of which we do not even demand the complete execution. This point admitted, General, I do not see on what could be based an opposition which should arise, in our proceedings at Constantinople a character which it has never been our intention to give to them. Not only have we not entered on this ground into a conflict of influence with the Cabinet of St. Petersburg; but we have even thought, in spite of the texts which it would have been easy for us to invoke, to withdraw from the Christians of the Greek Church the right of enjoying advantages which time has consecrated in their hands. Our only object has been to raise the Catholic religion from a state of inferiority as unworthy of it as of us. Can that be the cause of the dissatisfaction felt at St Petersburg? I cannot admit it, after the display, full of measure and of propriety, held by Count de Nesselrode, and which is set forth in your despatch of 1st of April last. It would, in fact, be in our century a strange and sad thing to give to the world the example of a conflict between two great Christian Powers for a question of religious pre eminence, debated exclusively between itself, and in presence of Islamism. Reason, dignity, and the interest of religion, command Russia and France to a line of conduct; and if the misunderstanding which might have resulted from an erroneous appreciation of our proceedings required an explanation, I take pleasure in hoping that the Cabinet of St. Petersburg will be informed on our acts and our intentions, will not hesitate to render homage to our moderation.

Accept, &c.,
DROUYN DE LHUYS.

At this time a new actor appeared upon the scene. A man of the highest consideration in Russia was sent to Constantinople on an extraordinary mission. That personage was Prince Menschikoff, an Admiral in the Russian fleet, whose imperious and haughty conduct not only exasperated the Turks, but convinced many persons who had hitherto judged favourably of the conduct of the Czar, that the dismemberment of Turkey was his object; and that Moldavia and Wallachia were prizes nearer to his mind than any diplomatic triumph over the Ambassadors of France, or in the Councils of the Sultan. The exact state of affairs when the mission of Prince Menschikoff was first announced, appears from the following despatch from Lord John Russell to Colonel Rose. Lord Stratford de Redcliffe was not at his post; and considerable alarm was expressed in the English journals at the time that events of such magnitude were not watched on the spot by Lord Stratford himself—the old and tried friend of the Turkish empire, and a statesman better qualified than any other man in Europe to advise the Sultan in a critical emergency. It will be seen by Lord John's letter to Colonel Rose that Lord Stratford was at this time on his way back to Constantinople:—

LORD JOHN RUSSELL TO COLONEL ROSE.

Foreign Office, Feb., 1853.

The Russian Minister at this Court has read to me a despatch from Count Nesselrode to M. Kisseleff, giving an account of the result of General Castelbajac's explanations of the views of the French Government in relation to the Holy Places.

The open and conciliatory language of the French Government appears to have produced a favourable impression on the Emperor of Russia, yet there is no disposition to recede from the terms of the Firman of Feb., 1852. And it appears that Prince Menschikoff is about to proceed to Constantinople, to express the firm resolution of the Russian Government not to recede from the demands which were then proclaimed by the Sultan and assented to both by France and Russia.

You are, therefore, instructed to hold to the Sultan's Minister, to Prince Menschikoff, and to the French Minister, language calculated to bring back the state of this question to its position of February in the last year. This should be effected in the manner most consistent with the dignity of the French Government, which has been somewhat compromised by the language of M. Lavalette.

It is said that the Emperor of Russia will demand the dismissal of Fuad Effendi. On this question you will take no part, one way or the other.

If the Russian troops should advance to the frontier, you must give immediate information to her Majesty's Government.

I trust I need not suppose the case of their advancing beyond the frontier to the attack of the capital. In such a case, Viscount Stratford de Redcliffe will be on the spot, furnished with the requisite instructions.

The extraordinary insolence displayed by Prince Menschikoff, with the details of which the public is but too familiar, does not appear to have been credited by the British Ambassador at St. Petersburg. Sir George Seymour, in a despatch to Lord Clarendon, dated 26th March, throws doubts upon the reports published in the English and French newspapers, on the authority of telegraphic messages from Marseilles. His Excellency says:—

In a word, then, my Lord (always supposing that no unforeseen and serious complication should have arisen at Constantinople), when I weigh the calm and ancillatory assurances given to me here by authorities not worthy of confidence, against the words of a telegraphic message transmitted from Marseilles, I am bound to infer that the reports which have given me momentary uneasiness are to be entirely mistrusted.

We know, upon certain authority that the Russian Government are not desirous as the Government of her Majesty can be that no serious misfortune should befal the Turkish empire; we are, therefore, fully warranted in assuming that no measures of force will be employed by which the danger of such a crisis would be unnecessarily incurred.

I will only add that, since the foregoing sentences have been written, I am enabled to state, as I do with great satisfaction, that the opinion which I have expressed to your Lordship respecting the accounts from Constantinople is fully shared by the Imperial Government.

The last despatches received by this Government from Constantinople are under date the 9th instant.—I have, &c.,

(Signed) G. H. SEYMOUR.

Colonel Rose was naturally much better informed, and shared, we cannot doubt, the feelings of the other inhabitants of Constantinople who were spectators of the ostentation of Prince Menschikoff, and knew somewhat of the character of his demands.

COLONEL ROSE TO THE EARL OF CLARENDON

Constantinople, March 24, 18 1

On the 17th instant Prince Menschikoff, accompanied by his embassy made an official visit to Rifaat Pacha. The Minister assured me that the visit was merely a formal opening of negotiations than anything else; the Prince Menschikoff had confined himself to stating, in general terms, that the object of his mission was to settle, not to embarrass matters, and to do away with the coldness existing between the two Governments; he added also, that he hoped to find the Sultan animated by the same sentiments as his father alluding, it was supposed, to the treaty of Unkiar Skelessi.

Shortly afterwards I learnt that Prince Menschikoff had left on the 17th instant, a "note verbale" with Rifaat Pacha, containing the Russian demands of the Porte; this Rifaat Pacha denied to me, but I give the following on my part extracted from the Grand Vizier the suspicious statements in the inclosed report. The Turkish authorities were still less communicative to my French colleague.

(INCLOSURE).—M. E. PISANI TO COLONEL ROSE.

Pera, March 19, 1853.

I communicated respectively to the Grand Vizier and Rifaat Pacha your information of this day's date, containing the report which was talked of that the Russians are endeavouring to enter into a secret treaty or arrangement with the Porte. His Highness requested me to say in reply, that as he considers to be at the head of the Ministry, your Excellency can reckon upon the non-accomplishment of the wishes of Russia; but if he is dismissed from office, of course he does not know what line of policy might be adopted by his successor.

His Highness told me that the language now held by Prince Menschikoff is exceedingly mild and very friendly, and gives to understand that the Emperor entertains no intention to exceed from what was done in the question of the Holy Places. But, on the other hand, he got information from good authority, that this moderate behaviour on the part of the Russian Ambassador is calculated to induce the Porte to assent to the conclusion of a secret compact.

Rifaat Pacha seems to be unacquainted with the true intention of Prince Menschikoff to propose a secret treaty, yet he suspects it, and gave me the most formal and unequivocal assurances that, were such a proposal to be made to him, he would lose no time in informing her Majesty's Embassy of it. *(To be continued.)*

LOSS OF THE "OLINDA."

We have been favoured by a Correspondent, with the following letter, received from a passenger in the *Olinda* steam ship, to it in Harry Parking Reef:—

Llanrhwydrys, Anglesey, Wales, Feb. 2, 1854.

My dear ——.—As it appears probable that I can proceed from Holyhead to Oporto, by the *Rattler*, screw steam-ship, which has put into Holyhead about noon, I avail myself of the first leisure, before proceeding to the harbour works and river improvement confided to me by the Portuguese Government, to narrate the incidents of the wreck of the Brazil screw steam ship *Olinda*.

I daily arrived at Liverpool pier at noon, on the 24th January, and then learnt that no steam tender had arrived there for passengers, as advertised; that a vessel, the *Olinda*, was then in the Sandon-dock, two miles from the pier; thither I was taken with my baggage. For three hours and a half my baggage remained on deck, and only after a great stir was it taken below. At daylight, on the morning of the 25th (Wednesday), the vessel was hauled out of the Sandon-dock, into the Mersey, within sight, but seaward of the town of Liverpool. We had hardly proceeded off the pier before something was found to be wrong, and the ship had to return to fresh moorings in the river. It subsequently was known that the engine-room was fast filling with water—some reported from the feed-pipes of the engine, but the bishop has never very distinctly accounted for this explained.

At dawn of day, on Thursday, 26th January, the *Olinda* was again under way. As we proceeded down Channel, the weather thickened, and came on to blow a heavy gale of wind, dead ahead of the course the vessel had to make. The *Olinda* was 252 feet long, and about thirty feet beam. She went through, rather than over, some of the waves, and consequently shipped large volumes of water. We took the North Channel (lit. 6m. a.m.; the mainsails (three) were set evidently with very arduous labour to those on duty. I was on deck nearly the whole time

The ship seemed to wear easier after the sails were set; but the wild impetuous waves, on two occasions especially, took the ship so rugged, that I have yet a keen sense of their danger, and of the confusion thereby occasioned all over the noble ship. The vessel, when thus struck, seemed to heel about with a twisting kind of motion; was again hugged by a burshing wave, that made the deck tremble again under our feet; and whether from the non-action of the screw-propeller, or from bad steering, it was clear to me that the *Olinda* was not so good as she looked; and it was some minutes before she could be properly put to the waves that broke incessantly met her onward course. At the juncture—for I thought, not feared, the worst—I inquired of the captain, if the ship failed to weather the pile, we could make Holyhead, as a harbour of safety? He said, yes; we could not make Holyhead; but that we could return to Liverpool; and added, that all was right below (in the engine-room he meant), and that she could easily weather it.

To keep our present course under sail was hardly possible, and (at length) to tack was determined on, and the ship answered her helm afterwards. The gale, we felt, had slightly moderated, and, eventually I went, when all had been made snug, with the captain to his room on the deck; we found the Admiralty instructions roaring. After rejoining at that good sign, at four p.m. was rung down to dine, but few came to dinner. As night advanced the ship progressed tolerably. Although the gale had moderated, there still was considerable sea on; indeed, few could move on deck either with that degree of safety or surety that landsmen so prize. In the last rays of twilight I saw the Ormsheads, and we were on the look out for the Skerries Lighthouse.

The gale having somewhat moderated, several of us were comfortably seated in the saloon, after tea had been served, when one of the passengers, on coming casually remarked that he was not at ease in shore; and he supposed off Holyhead, with the Skerries Light full in view. I was about to proceed on deck, but stayed to remark, that, I would far rather be out on the broad Atlantic, when, without a shock or remark of "breakers ahead," even from the look-out, the ship struck. The force of that terrible moment one can feel, and never can in its intensity be described. I was near the stern, and the grand saloon forward of the *Olinda* so lifted, that on looking back I expected every instant to see the water pour in. The shrieks of danger, at first so dreadfully appalling, were over in a brief interval; all rushed to the companion ladder on deck; all was confusion, each one expecting a rebound of the vessel to be the signal for her breaking up. In comparative p a few minutes the huge ship "scrunched" the rocks, grounded heavily, and as I expect, permanently. From previous knowledge of the tides, I almost instantly remembered that it was about the time of high water. Sounding were subsequently taken of 15 feet on the starboard or land side (for the vessel had canted, or rather swung round), and about 13 feet on the larboard or sea side; and, upon learning these facts, I at once felt that human life on board was not, with common prudence, in any imminent peril. Going to the pilot on the bridge of the ship, I endeavoured to extract from him some information as to the tidal lift in that locality; but he was without the energy to reply, or had not the requisite knowledge at command. I tried to persuade several of the passengers not to leave the wrecked ship; urging that in a few hours the tide would so flow out that the hull must become high and dry, and that our lives in this raging sea, and off that rugged, rocky coast, might become doubly endangered by taking to the small boats. Many heard, but few believed; and one alone followed my example. Then came the business of the doomed wreck: blue signal lights were hoisted—the cannons were loaded and fired—the steam roared on escaping—the tackle for the boats was promptly rove and prepared—women and children were dragged from their beds to the life boat—and the writer was discharging rockets, and thought himself happy to secure three yards of small cord, to cash himself to the rigging, in the event of the ship going to pieces

In the next berth to mine was a young and apparently consumptive Irish gentleman, going out, as it was thought, to a warmer climate only to die. At the first lull of our work on deck of the wreck, I went below to him. He appeared almost frantic, grasped me tightly, with almost dying energy, and cried aloud for God's mercy. He said he was dying, and implored me to stay by him. I endeavoured to calm him, added, that the stoutest of us might shortly have to meet that fate. Briefly stating the position of the stranded ship, our hopes and means of safety then under adoption, I said there were women and children to be passed over the ship's side first, but that he should come on deck.

By this time the passengers and crew had attained some order, the former more especially. After the ship struck the crew were seemed with a will. The women and children were first passed over the side of the ship into the life-boat of the *Olinda*. Some just roused from their berths had time but to secure a few things.

The consumptive man came on deck just in time to be passed over with the women and children, to whom blankets and other coverings were passed over the stern, as they lay for some time almost perishing in the boat, and hardly knowing where to go, or how to land.

Often amid the most heart-rending scenes there accidentally arise incidents that create positive diversion. During the burning of the blue port-fires, and other distress signals, it was found that the percussion apparatus would not fire the cannons, as then loaded. Burning brands, in a haze, and spray, and wind, were essayed and found requisite and effectual. The guns were about to be abandoned, when up rushed one of the crew, with the sea-kitchen poker, red hot, and with it fired off the cannons in quick style.

Amid this darkness and trouble was an effect too striking not to be readily remembered. After our signals and cannon firing, the pilot sloop approached over the crest of the stormy waves and illumed herself, in full sailing trim, by burning blue lights, to herald her approach, and beacon to us that some refuge was at hand

In a period comparatively brief we saw lights hover about the shore; a dog barked; and, eventually, the pilot sloop showed another blue light to seaward. Again all was dreary and dark; but I saw that the tide was ebbing fast, and was thankful. Two boats came to the ship, and the life and pilot-boats took off all the passengers but two. The crew and engineers seemed to be almost panic-stricken; they bemoaned their hard fate, and would not believe me, that the vessel at length seemed high and dry as the tide receded, probably for a space of nearly two hours

Another Liverpool pilot, from the sloop, came on board the *Olinda* about two hours after the vessel struck. He told us he knew well the position of the rocks upon which the vessel was; that it was called the Harry Furlong Reef, that the ship must become a wreck; but that, in time, we should be able to walk on shore. I wanted them to pass a rope on shore, over the rocks, to give confidence of escape to the crew, in order to urge them to something useful; but it was not done, and they remained inert, if not worse

After a conference that will never be effaced from my memory, it was deemed by the captain expedient to land the mail, specie, plate, and valuables: all hands to abandon the ship as soon as the tide fell, and the high for our return then to watch on shore whether, if with the rising tide and heavy wind, the vessel should go to pieces

Word was passed to prevent the men passing down by lines on to the rocks below; but it could not be enforced. "Sauve qui peut" seemed the motto most regarded

Captain Haram wished us two passengers to arm ourselves with cutlasses to protect the mails, &c., he intended to send over the rocks to us on shore. We both assented, and armed ourselves accordingly; but I can hardly describe how I went over the ship's side, and down a height nearly twenty feet of single rope, on the black slippery rocks, in that dull, dark night, with the sea breaking and roaring around us. But I effected it, and safely, too. After my fellow passenger had descended, four boys, on their first voyage from some naval school, begged me to let them go down, to which I did; and our going down seemed to act like a general signal. The crew, engine-men, stewards and others, one by one stealthily left; and the captain in a very short period, was found to have only his chief officer and my self in command. The night was cold, but serene; and our cutlasses we soon found to be very useless appendages.

At length, the cry was raised that the coming tide would overwhelm us, the men in their hurry, anxiety, and terror to get once again on dry land, often fell between the gullies of the rocks; and the lights some carried became nearly all extinguished, amidst the craggy water-holes one slippery word hanging about the rocky shore. Fortunately, some had secured a few port-fires before leaving the ship. Suddenly one would be lighted, a blue blaze, for a few moments, gave consolation around. Onward all rapidly dashed: some up, others scrambling, and many down: all aimed by the artificial blue-light, but to be again stopped by the hazy darkness and deep cavern, that the very gloom of night seemed to enhance. After some time thus spent, we reached a kind of pebbly, shingly beach; the men took courage, and endeavoured to rekindle the flames; and never did I feel that joyful, corresponding sensation once again upon grassy turf more gratefully than I did on this most eventful night.

The captain, with his chief officer, remained on the beach abreast of the wreck, in order to watch or remark the effect of the rising tide upon his once noble ship; but, having been in sea-water nearly three feet deep, all sought out, and found, a path to a neighbouring cottage, and I was left to any who came to our aid could speak only in Welch—bounding off over mountains and stone fences, to the nearest farm-house, where the passengers and crew had taken refuge, before the dawn of day had fairly set in.

I found them resting on straw, lying about on an uneven earthen floor, around a fire, but huddled together; still there was warmth, a welcome shelter, and rest—and the masters of the house were kind and obliging to my I directed the guide to return to Captain Haram and his officers and inform him thereof, and also to report the safe landing of those from the lifeboat.

They subsequently came to the farm, but I heeded their advent little, for, wet, weary, miserable, hungry, cold and cheerless, I no sooner sat down under that humble roof than that blessing, sleep, came on so overingly to my aid. My head found its only resting place on the corner of the table, yet it was broad daylight ere I again felt sensation sufficient to recognise my miseries, believe me in our personal safety, which I have since, and indeed even then, heartily and gratefully thanked kind Providence for

The *Olinda* struck the rocks at 9.20 p.m.; I reached shelter at 4 20 a.m.—seven long hours of anxiety or anguish that I hope again never to renew. I remain, &c., W. Y. F.

REFORMATION OF ADULT MALE CRIMINALS.—A very interesting meeting of friends and supporters of the Reformatory Training Institution or Reformatory for Adult Male Criminals, was held in the Lecture-hall of the house, Great Smith-street, Westminster, on Wednesday afternoon, for the purpose of bidding farewell to twenty-six of the inmates, who, having served the twelvemonth allowed in the institution in the acquirement of some industrial pursuit, were on the point of leaving it, to commence the response of the charity. The chair was taken by the Right Hon. the Earl of Shaftesbury, who was supported by the Duke and Duchess of Argyll, the Earl and Countess of Ellesmere, Earl Waldegrave, the Hon. George Waldegrave, Mr. Cleetham, M.P.; Mr. Ricardo, M.P.; Mr. Baron M.P.; Captain Trotter, Colonel Wylde, Sir R. Arouthnot, Bart., and many other gentlemen. They had assembled from the examination of Mr. Nash, the secretary, having read several letters from young men who had emigrated at the expense of the charity, which were of the most satisfactory nature, the noble chairman then delivered an impressive address to the young men who were assembled in the body of the hall. He exhorted them to express their gratitude for the kind and liberal manner in which they had been treated in cases of crime and consequent misery, not only by their words, but by their actions; and when in a distant land he hoped they would avoid all those temptations which had doubtlessly overcome them, and maintain a system of sobriety, regularity, and devotion. The Duke of Argyll then made a short address, in which he expressed a hope that Parliament would aid and support the noble example set by Mr Nash, and found institutions for the reformation of criminals. Captain Trotter and Mr Joseph Payne also addressed the inmates. One of the inmates about to depart returned thanks for himself and companions, and said they should at the committee see that their labours had not been misplaced. His Lordship then shook hands with them, and the Duke of Argyll, having said a few words of good speed, the meeting dispersed.

OVERFLOWING OF THE BANKS OF THE THAMES.—The flood-tide of Wednesday afternoon rose to the remarkable height of eighteen inches above the ordinary flood-tides, and to within five inches of the highest level known in the river, in February, 1846. Wandsworth, Battersea, Barnesse, and many other districts along the banks of the Thames were flooded, besides many hundred wharves along Bermondsey, Rotherhithe, and on the opposite side of the river, causing very serious damage.

GREAT FIRE AT BROMLEY.—On Monday evening, between five and six o'clock, a fire broke out at Clausen's Patent Flax, Hemp, and Jute Company's mills, situate at Bromley, near Bow new church. The fire spread with amazing rapidity. The flames issued from every window in the warehouse and mills, and when the roof fell in a tremendous shower of sparks rose high into the air, and falling upon nearly a dozen stacks of jute and hemp in the yard, as well as the greater portion of the goods previously removed from the premises, set fire to the whole. The wind at the same time blew stiffly, and very few minutes elapsed before the various stacks of hemp and other articles looked like so many dwelling-houses on fire. A large number of hands have been thrown out of employment by this destruction of property

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC

From a return just issued, it appears that, from 1837 to December, 1853, £4 818,500 was advanced from the Consolidated Fund for the purchase of bullion for coinage, and that £4,270,000 was received in repayment.

Mr. W. E. Powell, M.P. for the county of Cardigan, has addressed a letter to the electors of Cardigan, announcing his intention forthwith to retire from parliamentary life

A despatch from the Hague states that the Governments of France and England have informed the Government of Holland that the commercial flag of neutral states will be considered as that of a friendly Power

Sir John Thomas Briggs, Kt., Accountant-General of the Navy has retired from active business, after 57 years' service. Sir John is in his 73rd year.

Habeeb Risk Allah Effendi left the Turkish Embassy, London, on Saturday last, *en route* to Vienna, with despatches for his Government.

The Emigration Commissioners have advertised for two vessels to carry emigrants to Van Diemen's Land and Victoria. One is to be ready on the 25th inst. and the other on the 4th of April.

Lord Palmerston has intimated to the Marylebone vestry, through Sir B Hall, that he will not give his sanction to the establishment of a cemetery in the parish of Willesden

A despatch from Alexandria, of the 4th inst., announces that the exportation of corn had been definitively permitted, but that ships were scarce and the freight high

It is in contemplation to form a carriage roadway for waggons, &c., to pass over Tower hill, instead of, as at present, having to take a circuitous route.

The Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company are applying for a supplemental charter, authorising them to increase their capital by an amount not exceed ng one million sterling.

The King of the Belgians has nominated Prince Napoleon Grand Cross of the Order of Leopold, and the officers who accompanied him on his recent visit to Brussels, are nominated to inferior grades in the same order

The Royal Irish Agricultural Society have arranged to hold their meeting for 1854 in the city of Armagh.

Lord Dudley Stuart has just returned from Constantinople. His Lordship had several interviews with the leading members of the Government

The *Gazette des Hôpitaux* states that Professor Nélaton employs a new instrument for the local application of an anesthetic agent. After directing a current of the vapour of chloroform on an abscess in the socket of the foot of a patient, he was able to make an incision in it without his evincing by the slightest movement that he was sensible of any pain.

The number of pupil teachers, male and female, in England and Wales, who have completed their term of apprenticeship, under the minutes of the Committee of Council, is 1371; of whom 943 are males, and 429 females.

In a storm which last week visited the coast of Dunkirk, two fishing-boats, each manned by nine men, perished; none of the men escaped.

Nearly 100 head of fallow deer have just arrived at Windsor from Woburn, a second-forest, and scores of does and bucks of choice breed and great beauty. After recovering from the effects of their journey, they will be turned into Windsor Great Park.

The death of M. Arago having caused a vacancy in the Academy of Sciences of Modena, Sir David Brewster has been elected a member. The other competitors were MM. Regnault, Becquerel, Geoffroy de St. Hilaire, Liebig, and Struve

Lord Portsmouth, of Bryan-ton House, Blandford, is selling out to the labourers on his estate the 4 lb. loaf at 6d., as a mitigation of the present pressure on the poor.

The salmon fishings upon the estates of Mugdrum and Carpow, Perthshire, were exposed to public roup at Newburgh, last week; and they were taken for the season at rents nearly 60 per cent above those of last season.

The latest advices from the Black Sea confirm what had been previously stated in regard to the severity of the weather. At Odessa the harbour was, on the 27th ultimo, covered with ice, which had interfered with the shipments of grain.

A public meeting was held at Gloucester, on Thursday week, to petition the Legislature in favour of the establishment of reformatory schools for the correctional training of young criminals, and to give powers to convict schools instead of to prison

Mr. Henry Kingsdale is appointed Secretary to the Cathedral Commission, in the room of the Rev. A. Jones, now one of the Commissioners of Charitable Trusts.

The total amount of subscriptions promised for the Wellington College project is £105,000: of these £87,356 have been paid.

The University of London contains in all 838 graduates, besides above 1000 undergraduates, the former being thus distributed:—Bachelors of Laws, 6; Doctors of Medicine, 18; Masters of Arts, 52; Bachelors of Laws, 47; Bachelors of Medicine, 118; Bachelors of Arts, 489 total, 838.

The hand-loom silk weavers of Middleton and the neighbourhood have obtained an advance of a halfpenny a yard for weaving silk, from nearly all the silk manufacturers in Manchester.

Professor Longfellow has resigned the Professorship of Belles Lettres and Modern Languages in Harvard College, United States.

Application is made to parliament to be made to Parliament to extend the time for settling the claims on the New Forest. The whole of the claims were to have been adjudicated by the judge of the Hampshire County Court by October next.

A manufactory of paste-board from the pulp of beetroot has been established at Foulain, in the department of the Haute Marne, France.

The statement relating to a presentation of plate to a Roman Catholic chapel by the Duchess of Hamilton, and its being reclaimed by the Duke, has been contradicted by the latter.

A number of Presbyterians in Glasgow contemplate the erection of a church in the west end of the city, in which there is to be an organ to accompany the psalmody.

A railway is projected from Madrid to Toledo. A commission of engineers and other scientific persons was to leave Madrid on the 9th, to inspect the line, and report.

There are now published in the city of San Francisco thirteen daily papers

The theatre at Turin has been the scene of several disgraceful disturbances lately, owing to the rivalry of two singers, each of whom had a band of partisans.

Business was almost stopped at Stamford, last market-day, by a blundering telegraphic message from Mark-lane, which buyers would not believe, that wheat had advanced three shillings a quarter

SIR JOHN BOWRING, LL.D., GOVERNOR OF HONG-KONG, AND H.M. MINISTER PLENIPOTENTIARY IN CHINA.

THE interest attaching to the name of Dr. Bowring is of a twofold character. He has for many years been before the public as a politician and as a man of letters, having imbibed, as is well known, his political principles from Jeremy Bentham, who named him his literary executor, and possessing the merit, so far as his literary attainments—and they are great—are concerned, of being a self-educated man. Dr. Bowring is about to leave this country, to assume the direction of British affairs in China; and ere he again visits that country, to assume duties of a higher order than those hitherto imposed on him during his employment in that country, we propose to offer a few biographical words at parting, from which we believe the reader may gather some notion of the consistency which has marked the learned Doctor's political career, the value of his past services to his country, and also the extent of that philological lore in which he has earned an almost universal reputation.

Dr. John Bowring was born on October 17, 1792, and is therefore now in his sixty-second year. His family had for many years been connected with the woollen trade of the west of England. It was at a country school near Dartmoor that he received the elements of his education; but his studies, at the age of fourteen, were arrested, on his being required to assist his father in his trade—which mainly consisted in the preparation of coarse woollens for China and the Spanish Peninsula. Little could young Bowring have dreamt, at that time, that fortune would throw him upon so distant a scene as China, or that the studies for which he then evinced a predisposition would come in such valuable aid of his operations as a British Minister in the Celestial Empire. From a very early age the studious habits of young Bowring became formed, and in seclusion he busied himself with the acquisition of knowledge of every description. Perhaps his principal characteristic was the desire to master languages; and French, Spanish, Italian, and Portuguese he had appropriated before attaining his sixteenth year. In the German and Dutch tongues, also, he obtained considerable proficiency. He studied these and various other languages without the aid of a master; and as he grew older he learned to speak and write the Sclavonic dialects, in Russian, Servian Polish, Bohemian, Bulgarian, Slovakian, and Illyrian; the Scandinavian, in Icelandic, Swedish, and Danish; Teutonic, Anglo-Saxon, High Dutch, Low Dutch, Frisian, and Allemannish; Esthonian, Lettish, and Finnish, Hungarian, Biscayan, French, Provençal, and Gascon; Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, Catalonian, Valencian, and Galleian! Designed by his friends for a commercial life, a great portion of Dr. Bowring's career, after attaining his majority, was passed abroad.

SIR JOHN BOWRING, LL.D., GOVERNOR OF HONG-KONG.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY MAYALL.

First he visited the Peninsula during the war, and had consigned to him very large amounts of merchandise. In turn he visited Northern Europe, Russia, Sweden, Finland, and Germany, and throughout his tours made it his special practice to mix among the various inhabitants.

His official employments in foreign countries have been various. In 1828 he was nominated by the Government at home to proceed to the Low Countries, to examine into the manner of keeping the public accounts; and he was engaged, with Sir Henry Parnell, in a similar mission in France in 1830. His reports in both these spheres were laid before Parliament; and in the following year, in conjunction with Mr. Villiers, he examined the tariffs of England and France, with the view to their relaxation. In 1834 Dr. Bowring proceeded to Belgium, and in 1835 to Switzerland, visiting also Italy in 1836, and subsequently Egypt, with a view of promoting the principles of Free-trade in their application to commerce with this country. The movements of Dr. Bowring, however, in prosecuting his various peaceful missions were not always unobstructed in the countries visited. In 1822 he was arrested in France, on the plea of being a fomenter of Liberal opinions; but it is more probable that his detention was planned in order to obtain possession of some despatches to Spain, of which he was the bearer. His banishment from the French territory was pronounced perpetual, but he again trod French soil in 1830, when deputed by the citizens of London to congratulate the French people on the overthrow of the Bourbons.

Dr. Bowring had been the consistent advocate of Reform in Parliament; and after the measure of 1831 had passed into a law, he was solicited to become a candidate for the borough of Bleakburn. On this occasion, and again in 1835, he failed to get returned, but only by a few votes—a service of plate from the minority testifying the estimation in which he was held by the constituency. His success over the Whig and Tory candidates for the representation of the burghs of Clyde, was however complete; but the same constituency declined his services in 1837, principally on the "No Popery" cry. He continued to represent Bolton until his first appointment to China by the Whig Government.

Dr. Bowring was by no means an idle member of Parliament. He directed his attention principally to financial matters, and matters connected with the Board of Trade; but he was also selected to act as chairman of important committees. He was most active in the committees on the hand loom weavers, Irish education, and on the state of the arts as applied to the manufactures of the country, and spoke frequently on Parliamentary Reform and the education of the people.

Dr. Bowring has written several books in foreign languages. With Don Bernardo O'Gavan, the Deputy of Havana, he carried on a long controversy in Spanish, on

HONG-KONG, FROM THE HARBOUR.

the Slave-trade, and earned the thanks of the African Association. His is known, however, better by his poetical than by his political writings, and has supplied a number of versions of the poetical literature of various races of whom little before was known. His Matins and Vespers, Russian Anthology, and other writings, have found their way in reprints to the United States. Groningen conferred on him his degree of Doctor of Laws and Philosophy; he is also a member of the Institute of the Netherlands, of the Asiatic Societies of Paris and London, and of the Royal Societies of Bavaria and Hungary. The poetry of Bohemia and Hungary were first made known in this country through the medium of his translations.

Not long after the return of Dr. Bowring from China, he was invited to meet the members of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce and Commercial Association previously to the assumption of his new duties. The learned Doctor delivered an address, of which decimal coinage and our commercial relations with China were the more prominent topics. From his own experience he vouched his belief that the Chinese empire is destined to fulfil a great mission through the Eastern nations.

It is, perhaps, unnecessary to add that Dr. Bowring was, for a considerable time, the editor of the *Westminster Review*, which had been founded under the auspices of that band of liberal thinkers of whom Jeremy Bentham was the chief.

The learned Doctor possesses many proofs of the estimation in which his talents have been held by European Sovereigns. From the Emperor of Russia he received a diamond ring, for his translations; a gold medal from the King of Holland, in acknowledgment of his productions in Dutch literature; and he was made Knight of the Order of Christ by the Queen of Portugal.

As a speaker in Parliament, Dr. Bowring had his peculiarities of manner, like most men of strong political convictions; but all outward eccentricity was forgotten in the thoroughgoing honesty of purpose which characterised his whole parliamentary career.

On his way to China, in 1849, the people of Malta presented him with a handsome service of plate as a reward for his advocacy in Parliament of the interests of the Maltese; and he was honoured by a similar mark of regard from the inhabitants of the Isle of Man, whom his public exertions greatly assisted in emancipating from the long-endured bonds of feudalism and monopoly.

Dr. Bowring has paid especial attention to the "the Decimalisation of the Currency, and Accountancy of the United Kingdom;" and the work upon this subject announced by the Doctor, is nearly ready for publication.

At a Court held at Buckingham Palace on Thursday last, Dr. Bowring was presented to the Queen, and received the honour of Knighthood from her Majesty.

HONG-KONG.

THE settlement of Hong-Kong (of which we have engraved a large view from an original drawing) dates from the commencement of the year 1841, when the island was ceded to her Britannic Majesty by the Emperor of China; and immediately afterwards British merchants, induced by the liberal offers of land by the local authorities, settled there, and commenced building homes and warehouses: whence Hong-Kong, from a fishing village, became a British colony, inhabited by many of Great Britain's merchant-princes of the East. The political occurrences at Victoria, the capital of the island, have frequently been illustrated in our pages: English tastes prevail: horse-races are held here (such as we illustrated last year); and, in Victoria, you see such signs as "Roby, bootmaker;" "Buckmaster, tailor;" "Wanning, hydropathy;" "Ford, to the Admiralty;" "Ching Kong, portrait painter, up-stairs"—all of them genuine Chinamen, with tails.

The island has lately been very ably described by Dr. H. A. Hance, in a paper read to the Linnean Society. Hong-Kong, a corruption of Hiang-Kiang ("the fragrant streams"), is situated near the mouth of the Canton river, between lat. 22 deg 9 min. and 22 deg 21 min. N., and long. 114 deg. 6 min. and 114 deg. 18 min. E.; and is distant about eighty-five miles from Lintoon and forty from Macao. Its area is above twenty-nine square miles, and its circumference not quite twenty-seven miles. It consists of a long and precipitous mountain range, running east and west, in some places gradually sloping down towards the sea, where it is met by extensive level beaches of fine white quartz sand; in others terminating abruptly in frowning perpendicular cliffs, more than 100 feet high, perforated at their base by caverns, into which the waves dash. From this ridge spurs diverge at different angles. The peaks vary in altitude, the loftiest being about 1600 feet above the sea. The prevailing rock is syenite, which is found in immense blocks (extensively quarried for building), imbedded in a soil composed of the same rock in various stages of disintegration. Masses of trap are also met with; true deposits of carbonate of lime are not unfrequently found in the centre of the blocks of syenite; and laminated mica occurs in the ravines. No signs of stratification, or of volcanic action, are discoverable. At the base of the primary ridge, and between the spurs, patches of alluvial soil are found, which are carefully turned to account for agricultural purposes. The numerous ravines furnish a never-failing supply of extremely pure water, and a considerable spring rises a little below one of the loftiest peaks: the singular position of which (said to be the belief that it may have a submarine communication with the mainland. The temperature varies from 47 deg. to 93 deg. Fahr., the daily range seldom exceeding 15 deg. Once only during the years 1844-51 did the thermometer sink as low as the freezing point. Towards the end of October the north-east monsoon sets in with a cold, dry, and bracing air; and the atmosphere is wonderfully serene. This is the winter season, which lasts until about the middle of February; during the whole time scarcely any rain falls, and vegetation is dried up and scanty, a few *composites* being nearly all that can be found in flower. Gradually the temperature rises, the branches of the myrtle bushes, &c., display their tender vernal green, innumerable flowers spring up from the turf, and about May summer is heralded by the advent of the south-west monsoon. This season is characterised by intense and oppressive heat, causing extreme languor: rain falls for a week or ten days together in sheets, terrific thunderstorms reverberate among the hills, and such is the excessive humidity, that articles of wood or leather become covered with a thick blue mould in a single night. The rain will then cease for a few days, and the sky remain unclouded, though always more or less hazy. At this period vegetation is developed with wonderful rapidity; a few days suffice to perfect the blossoming of the flowers, which again fade as quickly. About the beginning of September the rain becomes much less frequent, though the heat is still excessive, and the flora assumes a more sober and less attractive habit. At this period, which may be considered as an equivalent to our autumn, the island is occasionally visited by those terrible whirlwinds known as typhoons, which traverse the Indian Ocean and China Sea, causing wreck and devastation wherever they pass. Finally, the temperature decreases, the rains cease, and the vegetable world remains dormant—winter has again returned, completing the cycle of the seasons.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

(*Continued from page* 143.)

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

THE LAW OF WILLS.

The LORD CHANCELLOR called the attention of the House to the amendment of the laws relating to the probate of wills and to the grant of letters of administration. The noble and learned Lord described the evils of the present state of the law, arising chiefly out of the enormous number of Courts throughout the kingdom exercising testamentary jurisdiction, and then proceeded to notice the different efforts which had been made since 1830 to amend the law; and the causes of their failure. He now proposed to introduce a measure to transfer all the business of wills from the Ecclesiastical Courts to the Court of Chancery, and to transfer to the latter Court, at that period, officers which at present existed. He also proposed to divide the country into thirty districts, where the wills of persons dying out of London, and leaving property of less value than £1000 should be proved, and where they should remain six months for examination. He intended, ultimately, to get rid of proctors, and to allow solicitors to practise instead. The noble and learned Lord concluded by asking leave to introduce a bill containing the above provisions.

Lord BROUGHAM and Lord ST. LEONARDS, supported the bill.

After some further discussion the Lord Chancellor obtained leave to introduce his bill, which was accordingly brought in and read a first time.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

In reply to Mr. French, Lord J. RUSSELL said he should not be able to introduce the Irish and Scotch Reform Bills before the 13th March.

Mr. T. DUNCOMBE called attention to the fact that, in consequence of the Order in Council closing the new Bunhill-fields Burial-ground, Islington, on the 31st December last, notice had been served by the proprietors that the bodies of all persons there interred must be removed within one month, the ground being required for buildings. The hon. gentleman asked whether the Government had taken any steps to allay the excitement created by the notice amongst the relations of the deceased there buried?

Lord PALMERSTON said that the act contemplated was alike outrageous to private feeling and public decency. He did not know whether the law at present was strong enough to prevent this act being carried out; but if he found that it was not so, he thought it would be his duty to introduce a short bill to enable him to deal with the subject in a satisfactory manner (Hear, hear).

FRENCH EMPEROR'S LETTER TO THE CZAR.

Mr. DISRAELI asked Lord J. Russell if he could inform him whether a certain document, which had appeared in the public papers purporting to be a letter from the Emperor of France to the Emperor of Russia, and which mentioned the name of her Majesty the Queen of England as a consenting party, was authentic—and, if so, whether the letter had been sent with the sanction and consent of her Majesty's Government?

Lord J. RUSSELL said he had every reason to believe that the letter which had appeared in the *Moniteur* was authentic. With regard to the second question, he had to inform the right hon. gentleman that this Government had received a communication from the Government of France, stating that the Emperor thought it desirable that he should make an effort, by means of an autograph letter to the Emperor of Russia, to put an end to the state of things which had been so long going on. Her Majesty's Government consented to such a step if the letter was in entire accordance with the decision of the Vienna Conference, and with the modifications which had been adopted; and they received an assurance that it was so. They, therefore, consented that such a letter should be forwarded to the Emperor of Russia. They, however, saw no copy of the letter; but they entirely approved of the step, and thought it a most laudable endeavour on the part of the Emperor of France to preserve peace, and they hoped that it would weigh with the Emperor of Russia. He believed no answer had yet been received to it.

THE NEW REFORM BILL.

Mr. BRIGHT asked Lord J. Russell whether his principle of representing the minority was to be applied to the city of London; and whether, in the event of any representative of the minority dying, the minority were to be represented by his successor? (Laughter).

Lord J. RUSSELL said a clause in the bill provided, that although the city of London would continue to return four members, the electors would only have power to vote for three. The second question it was hardly necessary for him to answer (Laughter).

Lord J. RUSSELL then brought up his new Reform Bill, which was read a first time and ordered to be printed, amid great cheering.

BRIBERY AND CORRUPTION AT ELECTIONS.

Sir F. KELLY then asked leave to bring in a bill to regulate the practice at the election of members to serve in Parliament for counties, cities, and boroughs in England and Wales; to prevent bribery, corruption, intimidation, or undue influences at such elections; and to diminish the expenses thereof. The honourable and learned gentleman acquitted candidates generally from all intentional bribery; representing them as being rather the unwilling victims of their agents, than active participators in illegal practices. His bill provided for the appointment of a suitable public officer at every election, to whom all moneys emanating from a candidate, directly or indirectly, should be paid; and that the candidate should be called upon to swear at his nomination that he never had paid, and never would pay (except unavoidable expenses up to that time), under any circumstances, any further sum of money on account of the election. All claims for election expenses must be sent into the election officers, who alone should decide as to their legality, and defray them out of the funds placed in their hands by the candidates, if legal. He proposed that the election officers should be barristers, to be appointed by the judges on circuit. With regard to those who acted corruptly, but now the avowed agents, the bill provided that, upon information upon oath, any person seen in or about a borough, making himself active in the election under suspicious circumstances, such person might be brought before the election officer and compelled to take the agent's oath with regard to the expenditure of the money. He also proposed that the voters might vote by means of voting papers, accompanied by what he considered perfect safeguards against fabrication, mutilation, and forgery, which at times, agitation, and excitement at elections would be got rid of, and a large reduction effected in election expenses, especially under the head of travelling expenses. As to the machinery of action, he proposed that the giving of the vote should be the signing of the voting paper, and the delivery to a competent officer. He proposed that every year the magistrates in counties or towns should meet and determine upon the places at which magistrates, or other persons, should sit for three days, or thereabouts, next before the day of election, to receive these votes forward them to the returning officer. The places must be so situated, that one must be within three miles, at most, of the residence of every voter in the county; while a non-resident voter might make his declaration, and deliver it to any magistrate or barrister near him; such declaration to be made with all the sanctity of an oath, without its form—that he gives his vote free from coercion, intimidation, or undue influence, and without having received any money, or reward, or promise of money or reward, for so doing. All these voting papers to be forwarded to the returning officer, who must examine them by the aid of check-clerks and inspectors, and record them formally before making his return. The bill would permit any voter who chose, to make his declaration at the polling-booth, candidates would be required to pay to the election-officers a sum of £300 for counties, and £200 for boroughs, and to enter into a bond, with two sufficient sureties, for the payment of £1000 for the whole expenses of the election. He had intended to bring in a separate bill, to abolish the property qualifications for members of Parliament; but he was happy to find that the hon. member for Devonport (Mr. Tufnell) had undertaken that task Sir F. Kelly concluded by asking leave to bring in the bill.

Colonel SIBTHORP said he never was able to understand what bribery really was. He thought if they had a more liberal system of conducting elections they would have no paupers in the House (Laughter). Once in the House he would oppose the bill, because he thought they ought to encourage the exercise of Christian charity (Laughter).

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL, on the part of the Government, would not oppose the introduction of the bill, although he thought some portions of it very faulty.

Mr. HUME said that the bill in some respects was calculated to increase the evils it proposed to remove.

Mr. H. BERKELEY expressed his opinion that the bill, so far from stopping intimidation, would give increased facilities for its exercise.

Leave was then given to bring in the bill

Mr. C FORSTER (after some discussion) obtained leave to bring in a bill to alter and amend the act which prohibits the payment of wages in goods, commonly called "The Truck Act."

Mr. Serjeant SHEE obtained leave to bring in a bill to provide Compensation for Improvements made by Tenants in Ireland.

Mr. J. Butt's Committee of Privileges was then nominated, and the House adjourned.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

The Royal assent was given by commission to the Assessed Taxes Act Amendment Bill. The Lords Commissioners were the Lord Chancellor, Earl Granville, and Lord St. Leonards.

The Earl of EGLINTON moved for the appointment of a Select Committee to inquire into the system of National Education in Ireland. He grounded his motion upon the circumstance of the secession from the Board of Education Commissioners of the Archbishop of Dublin and two other distinguished members, in consequence of the exclusion of the Scripture Lessons from many of the schools, which lessons had heretofore been used and approved of since the foundation of the establishment.

The Earl of ABERDEEN, in assenting to the motion, expressed his opinion that the national system of Education in Ireland has proved of inestimable benefit to the country.

The Bishop of Down thought that the Board, under the peculiar circumstances of the country, were fully justified in excluding the books referred to.

After some further discussion the motion was assented to. Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

Sir F. Kelly brought in his Bill for the Prevention of Bribery and Corruption at Elections. It was read a first time.

In reply to Mr. Warner, Lord J. RUSSELL said that the principle of minority representation which was recognised in his new Reform Bill, would not apply to cases where only two members were returned.

On the motion for going into a Committee of Supply, Colonel BOLDERO, moved that "whereas a resolution was passed by the House on the 8th of April, 1850, to the effect 'that the accommodation provided for assistant-surgeons on board her Majesty's ships of war is inadequate and insufficient for securing the full benefit of their professional services,' the Admiralty regulations since the passing of that resolution their have not been in the spirit of, nor have they fulfilled, the intention of the said resolution, it is the opinion of the House that the above resolution should be forthwith carried into effect."

Sir J. GRAHAM said that the Admiralty had endeavoured to carry out the views of the House; but they found, on inquiry, that additional cabins would interfere with the efficiency of ships of war. He did not think that assistant-surgeons of great ability were deterred from entering the service by want of accommodation; for during the last year they had 118 applications for assistant-surgeonships, of whom 35 had been appointed.

Mr. M. CHAMBERS supported the motion.

After some discussion the House divided, and the amendment of Col. Boldero was negatived by a majority of 216 to 104.

THE WAR IN THE EAST.

Mr. LAYARD then proceeded to call the attention of the House to the present state of the relations of this country with Russia and Turkey. There had been so much reserve observed by the country, that it became absolutely necessary that matters should be cleared up, that they might really know the position in which they stood. He disclaimed any intention of offering to the Government anything like a factious opposition; but he thought it could easily be shown, that if the Ministers had adopted a more straightforward policy, they would never have blundered into the position in which they now found themselves. The statements made by the Russian Government to the British and French Governments were sufficient to disclose the intentions of that power; but, if any doubt could exist, it ought to have been removed by the great military preparations which were making by Russia—intelligence of which was duly communicated to our Government by our Ambassadors abroad. He was quite willing to admit that credit should have been given to the pacific assurances of Russia, as long as her actions were in accordance with her professions; but no credit could be attached to the word of a person who was saying one thing and doing precisely the reverse. The honourable gentleman then quoted various passages from the Blue Books, with the view of showing that our Government had never taken up the Turkish question as it might have been done. He said there was every reason to believe that the Turks would have driven the Russians out of the Principalities before they had time to establish themselves, had it not been for the paralysing advice of our Government. It was alleged, in defence of Her Majesty's Ministers, that their quiescence was attributable to their desire to carry the French Government with them; but, on reference to the Blue Books, and comparing dates, it appeared as if, in every bold movement, the French Government took the initiative, and had to drag the British Government with it. In reference to the melancholy affair at Sinope, he thought that the responsibility of it should be thrown upon the Government, by whose instructions Lord Stratford de Redcliffe had persuaded the Turkish Government not to send its fleet into the Black Sea. Lord Stratford had gone so far as to remonstrate on the vacillating policy that had been pursued by our Government in keeping Europe in a state of neither peace nor war, and which proved most injurious to the interests of Turkey. Although it was well known that the Russians were cruising in the Black Sea, the fleet was kept back, and the result was the dreadful slaughter at Sinope. It appeared as if, by some fatality, that, from the commencement of these transactions, every step taken by our Government was a mistake, and thus rendered it the more necessary to require from them an explanation of the policy which they now were about to pursue.

Sir JAMES GRAHAM, on his own part, and that of his colleagues, asked the indulgence of the House, while he endeavoured to reply to the speech of the honourable member of Aylesbury. While Government deprecated a discussion of this importance, introduced upon a motion for going into a Committee of Supply, they cheerfully appealed to the wisdom and judgment of the House, in justification of the course they had pursued under the difficult circumstances in which they were placed. Let the House do its duty, and Government will do theirs. He thought, however, that upon things like a want of confidence in the Government was not out of place upon the question of going into a Committee of Supply. The question, however, raised, was this—what had been done by her Majesty's Ministers, in respect to her foreign policy, and what were their intentions in respect to the war that was raging in the East? He was not prepared to admit that the course they had pursued had placed this country in any danger and risk. On the contrary, they felt that they had done their best to preserve peace without making any sacrifice of national honour. The right hon. Baronet then proceeded to explain and defend the course pursued by the Government in connection with the pending negotiations with regard to the deception charged against Russia towards England. He suggested that the long alliance which existed between the two countries rendered it not unnatural that the Government should rely upon the assurances of Russia. It had been asked what had the Government done? He would tell the House the Government had cemented firmly the alliance between England and France; they had bound Austria and Prussia with them; and they had insulated Russia, who, if mad enough to persevere in her aggressive career, must make up her mind to contend alone against united Europe. Russia had not yet crossed the Danube, and not one of her ships could venture out of port. France and England were firmly united, and were determined that the evacuation of the Principalities should take place, and that the independence of Turkey should be maintained. This was whatjher Majesty's Government were prepared to enforce, and he trusted that they would be supported by the united voice of parliament. They asked for 10,000 more men, and for a sacrifice on the part of the people of this country amounting to upwards of £2,000,000 per annum. The House would best show their confidence in the Government by granting the supplies as speedily as possible.

Lord JOCELYN was willing to give the Government credit for good intentions towards Turkey, but warned them that they must expect to have their motives—particularly at this critical juncture—severely canvassed and crit cised.

Lord D. STUART condemned the vacillating policy of the Government, which was calculated rather to encourage the aggressions of Russia than to oppose them.

Mr. ROEBUCK said he thought that the Government had mistaken the object of Mr Layard's motion, which was merely one seeking for information, which information he thought that the Government was bound to give.

Lord J. RUSSELL said he was willing to give the information asked for. There was no doubt but that there was concealment and deception on the part of Russia towards this Government. Although giving credit to the assurances of Russia they were still aware that there might be a possibility of ulterior objects, to meet which it was their duty to be on their guard. He believed the Czar was sincere in the declaration that he was not contemplating an acquisition of territory in the policy he was pursuing. He believed his object was to degrade Turkey by defeats, and to force her into terms which would lead at a future period, to its conquest or partition. The noble Lord then proceeded to defend the course pursued by the Government in not precipitating hostilities, and treated the disaster at Sinope as a calamity for which no one was to blame. It was impossible to deny that the instructions given to the English and French fleets, in consequence of the news at Sinope, were as nearly a declaration of war as anything could be, and he was not therefore surprised at the withdrawal of the Russian Ambassadors from Paris and London. As to the future, he had to say that as the course pursued by the Emperor of Russia showed an utter disregard for the peace of Europe, and a contempt for its opinions, he had no doubt but that he would refuse the proposal of the Emperor of the French, and direct all the power of Russia to carry out his unjustifiable designs against Turkey. To meet such a proceeding there was but one course of action,

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

Sunday, February 19.—Sexagesima Sunday. Galileo born, 1564.
Monday, 20.—Voltaire born, 1694. Duke of Suffolk beheaded, 1554.
Tuesday, 21.—Archbishop Cranmer burnt, 1556.
Wednesday, 22.—Sir Joshua Reynolds died, 1792.
Thursday, 23.—
Friday, 24.—Cambridge Term divides.
Saturday, 25.—Earl of Essex beheaded, 1601. Sir C. Wren died, 1723.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 25, 1854.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
M h m 6 0	A h m 6 30	M h m 6 46	A h m 7 3	M h m 7 30	A h m 7 58	M h m 8 0
A h m 8 25	M h m 9 0	A h m 9 30	M h m 10 5	A h m 10 50	M h m 11 48	No Tide
M h m 0 20	A h m 0 50	M h m 1 20	A h m 1 50	M h m 2 20	A h m 2 50	M h m 3 20

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Oltenitsa.—The Queen of Spain has not had a son. Her surviving issue is one daughter.
A Subscriber.—The law is the same. A widow cannot legally marry the brother of her deceased husband.
A. B.—Apply for information at the Colonial-office.
M. H.—Refer to "Glover's Ordinary of Arms." We do not profess to identify armorial bearings from the simple blazon.
Juvena.—The second son of a Piedmontese Count has the right, according to his country's courtesy, to prefix the title of Count to his christian name.
Zeno.—Any respectable seal engraver would be able to cut the arms from the heraldic blazon.
Stafford.—Sir John Burnett Dundas, Bart., is alive, and resides at Queensbury Villa, Richmond, Surrey.
A Constant Subscriber will find the Arms in "Dugdale's Monasticon," a copy of which may be consulted at the British Museum Library.

*** Our second notice of the Exhibition at the British Institution, accompanied by Engravings of some of the pictures, is unavoidably postponed until next week.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1854.

The discussion raised by Lord Clanricarde in the House of Lords has served no purpose, and added nothing to our knowledge of the Turkish War. If it have proved anything more than the truth of the old saying, "that nothing is easier than finding fault," we confess ourselves unable to discover it. The reply of Lords Aberdeen and Clarendon to their assailants was manly and satisfactory. We do not think that Lords Clanricarde, Malmesbury, Derby, and Grey, will have added anything to their reputation for statesmanship by the *ex post facto* objections which they raised to the policy of the Government. Yet the three Peers first named stand in favourable contrast with the last. Their objection is not to the war, but to the alleged want of vigour on the part of the Ministry in not commencing it at an earlier period.

As it is utterly useless to indulge in further recrimination upon what should or should not have been done a twelvemonth ago, these noble Lords, having discharged their consciences, will doubtless give the Ministry all the aid in their power in carrying on the war. It is vigour which they require in the Ministry, and now that the Ministry has begun to show it in thorough earnest, they cannot do less than encourage and support them. The case of the Earl Grey is very different. His Lordship thinks that we have no concern in the quarrel. We would much rather that the House of Lords should have been unanimous; yet it is, nevertheless, a consolation to think that only one of the Peers of England should entertain an opinion so eccentric, and so difficult to account for.

Of far more interest than any of the debates that have arisen, or are likely to arise, in Parliament, is the letter which has been addressed by the Emperor of the French to the Czar Nicholas. The good intentions of the Imperial writer are obvious; but, with all respect for the talents and sagacity of Louis Napoleon, we doubt the discretion of giving it publicity. As a private and confidential communication, intended for no eyes but those of the person to whom it was addressed, the letter is entitled to the praise of honesty of motive. If it had succeeded in its object, and awakened the Czar to a sense of the danger of his position, it would have been entitled to that higher degree of praise which is attendant upon successful effort in a good cause. Some portions of the letter, if not intended as ironical, which perhaps they are, are too laudatory of the moderation and magnanimity of the Czar to have been wisely expressed at such a time. But there is nothing in the letter to justify the alarm that the French Emperor is wavering in his support of the Turkish cause or in his alliance with Great Britain. Its animus and phraseology are alike hostile to the pretensions of the Czar. It proves, in a striking manner, the desire of Louis Napoleon to maintain an honourable peace, but it also proves his determination, when peace is no longer consistent with honour, to make war upon the aggressor with all possible energy and spirit, and to consider no sacrifice unnecessary which shall secure the defeat of the wrong-doer. At the worst, the letter is but a verbal indiscretion; and it is possible that the Emperor may not be responsible for its publication, but that it may have been sent to the *Moniteur* through the inadvertance of some Ministerial or sub-Ministerial functionary.

It is quite clear, from the temper displayed by the French and English people, that, although the war was not desired by either, it will be actively and enthusiastically prosecuted by both. The naval armaments of Great Britain are unprecedented; and the fear expressed that, although we had fine ships, we might not have a sufficient number of sailors, has proved to be groundless. Volunteers are flocking to the seaports, and our streets present the unusual spectacle of gallant regiments marching for embarkation amid the applauding cheers of multitudes of Englishmen, who hate war in the abstract, but who highly approve of this particular instance of it. The same spirit pervades the French people, and their armaments by land and sea are carried on with an energy which ought to strike terror into the councils of Russia. A rumour has been widely spread, and generally believed in Paris, that large detachments of English troops will arrive in that city by the railway from Calais or Boulogne, and that they will thence proceed towards Marseilles as far as the railroad will carry them; and, after that point, by steam-vessels down the Rhine. We should be delighted to learn that this rumour was well founded. The Parisians would give their English allies a regal reception; and the world would witness a spectacle of unparalleled splendour and good omen. The public fraternisation of the soldiers of France and England in the Champ de Mars would be a scene to be remembered in all future time, and would mark a new era in the history of Europe.

Independently of the new Reform Bill, many important matters have been brought under the notice of Parliament during the few days that have elapsed since the opening of the Session. Three of these deserve especial mention: they are Mr. Baines's Bill for the Abolition of the Law of Settlement, Mr. Phillimore's Bill for the Appointment of a Public Prosecutor in Criminal Cases, and the proposed Reform in the Civil Service of the country. In ordinary times, and if public attention were not to a great extent pre-occupied by an approaching war, each of these measures would excite the liveliest interest, and monopolise for a season the discussions of the public press and of public men. Happily for the country, Parliament will have leisure and inclination, even though the war should proceed, to carry out these great measures. Mr. Baines's Bill, which has been received with approval by the most intelligent men of all parties in the Legislature, will effect a revolution in the administration of the Poor-law. The speech in which the right hon. gentleman explained the principle and the details of his measure, may claim, as justly as Mr. Cobden's orations upon the Corn-law question, the praise of "unadorned eloquence." It was singularly lucid, comprehensive and convincing. Its main features are the Extension of the area of Poor-law taxation, and the Abolition of the Law of Settlement. Under the present system, the man who has no commodity to dispose of, but his labour, is not in reality free to dispose of it where he will. In what are called close parishes the owners of the soil contrive that he shall not have a place to lay his head. He may work in their parish, but he is not allowed to occupy a cottage in it, lest he thereby acquire a settlement by which the burden of maintaining him in his old age, when unfit for work, should thereby devolve upon them. The amalgamation of such parishes with those of the adjoining districts, for the purposes of rating, will doubtless operate injuriously on the interests of such proprietors as, by clever management, have contrived to shift the burden of pauperism from their own backs to those of their neighbours. But the change will, we think, be attended with benefit to all other parishes, and to the labouring classes, who are the parties whose rights should be the first to be considered. Much misconception has prevailed, both among rich and poor, as to the value of the Law of Settlement as constituting the poor man's right to relief in destitution or old age. Mr. Baines has removed the misconception by a few plain words. "Many people," he said, "thought settlement conferred the right to relief. If any person, having no settlement—any foreigner, for example—became destitute, he had a claim to be relieved; and so with regard to a large class who either had no settlement, or whose settlement could not be ascertained—they must be relieved where they became destitute. If a person became destitute in the parish of his settlement, then removal did not attach as a condition of relief; but if in any other parish, then settlement operated as a penalty, because it occasioned his removal to his place of settlement. He was in a position far worse than the destitute foreigner. The foreigner must be relieved where he became destitute, and as long as he was destitute; but, with regard to the Englishman who had a settlement, he, if he received a single farthing, or a single loaf of bread, was liable to be removed to the other end of the country. That was the real sum and substance of the English Law of Settlement." Nothing can be clearer than this statement. Mr. Baines's measure will doubtless excite hostility; but, as the leaders of party on both sides of the House are agreed in support of the principle, and as the people and the great bulk of the ratepayers have nothing to allege against it, the opposition is not likely to be successful. We augur as favourably of the success of Mr. Phillimore's Bill, which, though introduced by an independent member of the House, has been sanctioned—and will, in all probability, be adopted—by the Government. The want of a Public Prosecutor has long been felt, and the appointment of so responsible an officer will be a highly popular, as well as highly necessary improvement in the administration of the law. The proposal for throwing open to public competition all the civil appointments in the gift of the Crown and the Government, will, if carried into effect, be sufficient in itself to earn for the Aberdeen Administration a title to the gratitude of the nation. To abolish patronage by one blow; and to say to the youth of the nation, irrespective of party or party ties—irrespective, too, of wealth, station, and influence—"the State requires the services of the best men; qualify yourselves, by study and education, and the highest prizes shall be given to those amongst you who shall prove yourselves to be the most competent and the most deserving"—this is a proceeding worthy of a great nation. Such a measure will secure for our popular Constitution a higher degree of love and reverence than have ever yet attached to it. It will also help to elevate, in the eyes of all civilised nations, the *status* of the humblest of Englishmen.

Arrival of the "Himalaya."—Southampton, Thursday.—The *Himalaya*, of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, Captain A. Kellock, with the heavy portion of the India, China, and Australian mails, arrived this day at three o'clock. Her dates of sailing were:—Alexandria, Feb. 4, at five p.m.; Malta, 7, at nine p.m.; Gibraltar, 12, at one a.m. After making one of the quickest passages ever known to Malta, and from thence to Alexandria, the *Himalaya*, on her voyage from Malta to Southampton, experienced seventy hours of hard gales right a-head, but ran the distance—2150 miles—in 8½ days. Had she met with anything like moderate weather, she would have got in on the evening of the 14th—a day and a half earlier. She beat the *Europa*, a fast paddle-wheel steamer, from Gibraltar to Southampton (1150 miles) by 37 out of 108 hours, that ship having left 25 hours before her, and was passed off Portland at eight o'clock this morning. The greatest run in 24 hours was from noon on the 10th to noon on the 11th, by observation 347, or 400 statute miles.

Linendrapers' Institution.—On Thursday evening it was stated at the annual meeting of this body that, although the number of applicants for relief was on the increase, during the last year subscriptions to the extent of £560 had been withdrawn. The sum of £1627 19s. 1d. had been paid, in the relief of eighty-three applicants for pecuniary relief. The receipts for the year fell by £1143 6s. 4d. less than those of the preceding one.

Great Burglary.—A daring robbery was committed on Wednesday night or Thursday morning on the premises of Messrs. Hargrave, 15, Gresham-street. It is supposed that the persons entered by false keys, as it is found that the counting-house had been entered, and cash, bank-notes, bills of exchange, promissory notes, and other documents, to the amount of upwards of £3000, had been carried off; and on looking at the stock it was discovered that shawls and silk handkerchiefs, valued at upwards of £380, were missing. The police believe they have a clue to the thieves.

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

Widdin, Jan. 31, 1854.

The chances of an attack upon the intrenchments of Kalafat have within the last few days been changed to something little less than a certainty. The day before yesterday a heavy cannonade was heard about noon, in the direction of Golenz; and it was soon made known that the Russians had advanced from Motzatze, and driven in the Turkish outposts at Maglavitz. It had been rumoured a few days previously, that Prince Gortschakoff, in person, had arrived at Bailleschti, and the Wallachs of Citate came running into Kalafat, stating that the Russian General-in-Chief had been in the village at the head of a large reconnaissance. Nevertheless, the utmost quiet continued to mark the daily routine of the Turks at Kalafat. It was thought necessary, however, to endeavour to ascertain what might be the motions of the enemy in the direction of Bailleschti, and a reconnaissance under Skender Bey took place on the 26th inst. in that direction. It had been stated that five squadrons of Cossacks and Hussars had occupied the village of Piski, and there in fact they were found. They retired, however, before the Turks, and refused the engagement offered them, making their way gradually back into Bailleschti, where the appearance of the Turks was the signal for an instant turn out. The object of the reconnaissance being gained, Skender Bey retired, and did so without being pursued by the enemy. But, although the Russians showed no signs of moving at Bailleschti, it appears that they were making preparations for an attack from Motzatze, for on the day before yesterday they were signalled approaching in force towards Gunia and Maglavitz. The advanced guard of cavalry then occupying the former village, retired into Maglavitz, where Suleiman Bey, at the head of two regiments of Lancers, awaited the coming of the Russians. It was evident, however, that they were not in strength to resist the attack of four regiments of Hussars and Dragoons, supported by batteries and a regiment of infantry; and Ismail Pacha, who had left Kalafat in haste at the news of the Russian approach, ordered the Turks to retire, which they did in good order, as regards the regular cavalry, but in considerable disorder as concerned the Bashi-bozouks, who, for a moment, threw their own line of march into confusion. The Russians, who had commenced a cannonade against Maglavitz, entered that village as the Turks evacuated it, and followed the latter through Golenz. On neither side can it be said that any serious loss was sustained. The Turks lost two privates, and a Captain killed. The peasantry out of the villages fled in every direction at the approach of the Russians, and some of them were killed in their flight. A poor infant, abandoned on the side of a road, was carried into Kalafat by an aide-de-camp of Ismail Pacha. The advance of the enemy having rendered the position at Payana untenable by the Turkish outposts; it was abandoned, and the two regiments on duty there retired to Chupertchin. The utmost activity, meanwhile, was visible in the intrenchments occupied by the Turks. The ditch, behind which they intend to fight or die, has been much improved within the last few days, and the inner parapet has been strengthened and heightened. The troops, which for convenience had been quartered in Widdin, moved across into the trenches in the night, and a reinforcement of about 5000 infantry marched into Widdin, from the Lower Danube, in time to be added to the other defenders of the place.

It was generally expected that the Russians would attack the intrenchment yesterday. Although the day was Sunday, it is well known that these defenders and protectors of the Greek Christians are not in the habit of postponing their attacks for such reasons; they had marched upon the trenches of Oltenitza on a Sunday, and they might do so again; but they did nothing, although the Turks were at their post during the night and early morning, expecting them. A cavalry reconnaissance went out after breakfast, and brought the intelligence that the enemy were lying quietly at Golenz, and would not move. It is true that the weather was detestable. The snow was falling thickly during the morning, and did not cease till the afternoon; but what is snow to Russians? However, nothing has been done up to this time (noon), and hostilities are still a matter of anxious suspense.

The effect produced in Widdin by the near approach of the Russians was miraculous. Although the Danube separates Bulgaria from Wallachia; although Widdin is surrounded by long ditches, walls, and bastions, the Christian population, as well as the Turkish, shut up their shops in alarm, and one might have thought the town deserted by all save the devoted soldiers, who were hurrying to and fro for its defence; so blank did the houses look, and so deserted the windows. The quays, however, seemed to be filled with people, and, perhaps the closing of shops may be attributed to curiosity as much as to fear on this occasion.

There has been little to vary the monotony of Turkish news since my last letter. We have heard here of two or three little affairs of which the intelligence may, already have reached you. With their usual unconcern, the Turks have left the dates uncertain: but the facts are these:—At Nicopoli the Pacha had observed that the Russians were endeavouring to take a footing on the island which separates the Danube into two branches, and forms two channels between the town and Sistov. A small body of Turks crossed over in caïques, and drove away the Russians. A similar affair took place at Matchin, where the Russians occupied an island, and commenced to erect a block-house. Two Turkish half-battalions crossed over and drove the Russians to their boats, and destroyed their work. They were disturbed at their labour, however, by the return of the enemy in greater force; but, after a short conflict, the Russians were forced to abandon the field, leaving six or seven men killed on the spot.

Another high dignitary has been added to the number of those who hold commands in the army of Roumelia. It is a curious thing that, of the Pachas who now have quarters in Kalafat, two—Ismail Pacha and Mustapha Pacha—hold the same rank as the Commander-in-Chief, Achmet Pacha. Having all the responsibilities of his place, the latter is placed in a very peculiar position by this arrangement. The Turkish soldiers value a General only in proportion to his daring in front of the enemy. A General-in-Chief has, however, other matters to attend to, besides showing his personal bravery; and the best commanders are not those who risk their persons. But the result in Turkey is, that, whilst Achmet Pacha is occupied in giving the necessary orders and directions, the other Generals, like Ismail and Mustapha, are giving proofs of personal courage, which endear them to the soldiery, and establish for them a reputation at the expense of that of their Commander. This is a dangerous state of things: and the Turkish Government, if it exercised in this instance its usual discretion, would not run the risk of losses from the jealousies of rival Generals of the same rank, and would take care to avoid the clashing of interests by a change in its mode of proceeding. The Duke of Wellington was superseded in the Peninsula by officers whose only right to superiority over him was their age; and we know very well what disgrace was entailed on us by the Dalrymples and Burrards. But here are Generals of the same rank all remaining in the same army at once, and all jealous of each other; and, as if to feed the discontent, the Turkish Government has sent hither Mehemet Pacha, late Governor of Candia—a tall old gentleman, with but one eye, and the rank of Mushir—to take the supreme command of the Irregulars. Mehemet Pacha, however, does not supersede Achmet Pacha; and this is just as if a Field-Marshal were sent from England to take command of a division under a general of inferior rank.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

PARIS, Thursday.—The Bourse was heavy, with little business doing. The Three per Cents closed at 68f. for the end of the month, and the Four-and-a-Half per Cents at 97f. 80c.

VIENNA, Thursday.—Two Greeks, accused of betraying the Turkish plans to Prince Gortschakoff, have been tried by a court-martial, found guilty, and sentenced to death.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 6.—In consequence of orders from the two Governments, the main body of the French and English fleets will remain in the Bosphorus. Six steam-ships will convoy the Turkish vessels when necessary, and four will be kept constantly in observation.

SWEDEN.—Advices from Stockholm state that preparations for war on a large scale are being made in the arsenal of Carlscrona. Several ships of the line, as well as frigates and corvettes, are being fitted out.

DISTURBANCES IN ALBANIA.

A serious outbreak has taken place in Southern Albania, where the Christian far outnumbers the Mahomedan population, and is also excited by the vicinity of the frontier of the Greek Kingdom. The Turks are said to have lost sixty men in the first engagement; and it is reported that the small Turkish garrison of Arta is besieged by a force of from 1200 to 1400 Greek insurgents. Movements are also talked of in Thessaly, and in the mountains of Suli.

AUSTRIAN MILITARY PREPARATION.

There is some discrepancy between the assurances of Austria, that she will neither make nor meddle in the approaching conflict, and her military preparations. In the present state of her finances every extra battalion is a burden; but, nevertheless, her preparations are for war rather than for an armed neutrality. The force assembled in Hungary is said to be larger than is generally supposed. According to one account there are 20,000 men in Dalmatia; 30,000 in Croatia, Sclavonia, and the military frontiers; and 70,000 placed in *echelon* in Transylvania and Hungary. A few days since the *Oest. Correspondenz* stated that 20,000 men were to be sent to the Banat; and in a telegraphic despatch, received on the 1st from Milan, it is stated that 30,000 Croats were expected in Lombardy, where the fortresses are being filled with stores. It is well known that extreme discontent prevails in the provinces; but there is no reason to suppose that there is any danger of an outbreak, and therefore the warlike preparations excite great attention and uneasiness.

Later accounts from Vienna confirm the foregoing statements relative to the warlike attitude which Austria is assuming. A telegraphic despatch, dated Vienna, Wednesday evening, states that a battering train of guns and 6000 cwt. of powder has been sent to the south-eastern frontier. The same despatch gives the following circular to the diplomatic agents of Austria:—

Austria considers the armed intervention of the Western Powers in Turkey extremely dangerous.

Austria has full confidence in the loyalty and rectitude of the Emperor Nicholas, and will take the necessary measures for securing her own frontier.

LETTER FROM THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH TO THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.

THE new peace project, from France and England, which the *New Prussian Gazette* spoke of last week, turns out to be something else than a mere declaration. On the contrary, it would, it appears to me, have remained a Cabinet question, if the occupation of the Principalities had not transported all at once from the domain of discussion to that of facts. Nevertheless, your Majesty's troops once entered in Wallachia, we have not on that account the less recommended to the Porte not to consider this occupation as a cause of war, thus justifying our reasons for conciliation. After having consulted with England, Austria, and Prussia, I proposed to your Majesty a note destined to give common satisfaction, which your Majesty accepted. But scarcely was it made aware of this good news, when your Minister, by explicative commentaries, destroyed all the conciliatory effects of it, and thereby gave room for pretension insisting at Constantinople on arms and simple negotiation On its side the Porte had proposed modifications on the project of note which the Four Powers represented at Vienna did not find unacceptable. From that moment, your Majesty, the Sultan, persuaded that it was the means of arriving at an understanding; and the Four Powers came to a new understanding to submit other propositions to your Majesty. Your Majesty, on your side, showing the calmness which arises from consciousness of strength, limited yourself to repelling, on the left bank of the Danube, as well as in Asia, the attacks of the Turks, and would moderate the ardour of the minister of Sinope have echoed sufficiently in the hearts of all those who, in England and in France, have a strong sense of the national dignity. With one common accord the cry was raised, "wherever our cannon can reach, our allies ought to be respected." Hence the order given to our squadrons to enter the Black Sea, and to prevent—by force, if necessary—the recurrence of a similar event. Hence the collective notification sent to the Cabinet of St. Petersburg, to announce to it that, if we should prevent the Turks from making an aggressive war on the coast belonging to Russia, we should protect the re-victualling of their troops on their own territory. As regards the Russian fleet, in interdicting to it the navigation of the Black Sea, we placed it in indifferent conditions, because it was important, during the existence of the war, that we should preserve a pledge which should be an equivalent for the parts occupied of the Turkish territory, and which should facilitate the conclusion of peace, by becoming the title of a desirable exchange.

That, Sire, is the real train and the series of the facts. It is clear that, arrived at that point, they must produce promptly either a definitive understanding or a decided rupture.

Your Majesty has given so many proofs of your solicitude for the repose of Europe—you have so powerfully contributed to it by your beneficent influence against the spirit of disorder, that I cannot doubt your resolution in the alternative which presents itself to your choice. If your Majesty desires as much as I do, a pacific conclusion, what can be more simple than to declare that an armistice shall be signed to-day, that things shall resume their diplomatic course, and that all the belligerent forces shall retire from the places where motives of war have called them?

Thus the Russian troops would abandon the Principalities, and our squadrons the Black Sea. Your Majesty, preferring to treat directly with Turkey, would name an Ambassador, who would negotiate with a Plenipotentiary of the Sultan a Convention, which would be submitted to the Conference of the Four Powers. Should your Majesty adopt this plan, on which the Queen of England and myself are perfectly agreed, tranquility will be re-established, and the world satisfied. There is nothing, in fact, in this plan which is not worthy of your Majesty, nothing that can wound your honour. But if, by a motive difficult to understand, your Majesty should oppose a refusal, then France, like England, would be obliged to leave to the fate of arms and to the hazards of war that which might be decided to-day by reason and justice.

Let your Majesty not think that the slightest animosity can enter my heart; it feels no other sentiments but those expressed by your Majesty yourself, in your letter of the 17th of January, 1853, when you wrote to me, "Our relations ought to be sincerely amicable, and to repose on the same intentions—the maintenance of order, love of peace, respect for treaties, and reciprocal benevolence." That programme is worthy of the Sovereign who traced it, and I do not hesitate to affirm that I have remained firm to it.

I pray your Majesty to believe in the sincerity of my sentiments, and it is in these sentiments that I am, Sire, of your Majesty the good friend,

NAPOLEON.

The letter was not despatched till the 1st, and, allowing eight days for a courier to St. Petersburg, three or four days for the Czar to make up his mind, and eight days to bring back the answer, the calculation of the Paris journals was that the decision would be known by the 20th. But ill news flies fast. On Tuesday the report was current in Paris that a telegraphic despatch had been received from General Castelbajac, with the brief message "I return with refusal." In corroboration of this rumour, it is said that two persons of importance, who must, from their position, know what the real state of things is, were large sellers at the Bourse on Tuesday. The fall in the French Three per Cents, for cash, on that day, was 1f. 40c., and there was a general fall in the Share Market when the report became generally known. The *Moniteur* of Wednesday affirms that the answer from the Czar is not expected for some days.

On Tuesday a Council of Ministers was held, and the telegraph was immediately afterwards set to work to convey new instructions to the ports, and to some of the military districts.

It was said in Paris, on Thursday, that not only did the Emperor of Russia give a flat refusal to the propositions made by the Emperor Napoleon, but that he treated General de Castelbajac with great discourtesy. Others say that the letter was not despatched from Vienna till the 9th of the present month, when Count Orloff took charge of it; and that it must have appeared in the *Moniteur* before it got into the hands of the Czar. M. de Hubner, the Austrian Ambassador in Paris, stated two days ago, in a public *salon*, that the publication of the Emperor's letter had destroyed the last chance that remained for the maintenance of peace.

The letter has been printed in the form of a placard; read publicly in all the barracks of France; and profusely distributed throughout all the communes in the departments. At the corners of every street in Paris it is to be seen in large characters. In short, no means have been spared which could contribute to the making known to the people of France the steps taken by the Emperor to make good his promise—"L'Empire c'est la Paix"—and to rouse their feelings against the oppressor of Turkey.

RUSSIA.

According to the intelligence from St. Petersburgh of the 9th, the result of Count Orloff's mission was known in that capital. That result was not satisfactory.

On the 27th of January the Emperor Nicholas addressed a letter to Prince Cholutoff, the Hetman of the Don Cossacks, in which the following phrases occur:—"In the war which has broken out in defence of the Christian faith, my brave Cossacks of the Don have given new proofs of their devotion and valour. The glorious history of their faithful service to the Throne and country is well known; and I have a firm conviction that during the present year they will be, as they always have been, the terror of the foes of Russia and of the Holy Cross.

The stoppage of the Russian trade has tended very much to allay the martial enthusiasm of the people. The last accounts from St. Petersburg affirm that the efforts made there to exaggerate the importance of the affair at Sinope do not find such an echo among all classes of the people as was expected. A subscription was organised to offer a sword of honour to Vice-Admiral Nachimoff; but the idea was received with such coolness that the execution of it was renounced; and, in order to save appearances, Captain Nachimoff, the brother of the Admiral, came from Sebastopol to decline the honour in his name.

A letter from Warsaw states that a pressing order had arrived from St. Petersburg to suspend the movement of troops. This measure is attributed to the fermentation which has manifested itself in that part of the Russian Empire.

TURKEY.

A private letter from Constantinople, of the 31st ult., announces that the Austrian Lloyd Company had been authorised by the Russian Government to transport passengers, merchandise, and letters between Odessa and Constantinople, and *vice versâ*, notwithstanding the war. The Porte, in pursuance of its system of moderation, had provisionally sanctioned the arrangement.

A grand ball was given on the 30th by General Baraguay d'Hilliers, as a relief to the anxieties of the kingdom, together with the foreign Ambassadors, attended.

THE SERVIAN NEUTRALITY.

The official notice that an Austrian corps was assembling on the Servian frontier appears to have made a greater impression on the Russians than on the Turks, Izzet Pacha having received the most tranquillising explanations from Vienna. Old Milosch declares that he entertains no idea of introducing civil war into his native country, but wishes to see the South Sclavonians in Bulgaria, Turkish Servia, and Bosnia placed on the same footing as the Servians. This is all very well at Vienna, but it is believed that the Hospodar Alexander would at once demand the intervention of Austria should the Russians violate his territory. It is said that the fortresses on the Servian frontier are to be reinforced, as an invasion on the part of the Russians is much feared.

A BRAVE BOYARD.

The Vice-President of Moldavia, Count Oesten-Sacken (not to be confounded with the General of the same name, who is at Cherson), has sequestered the property of Beyzade Gregory Stourdza, the son of the former Hospodar, for giving his service to the Sultan. The Bucharest correspondent of the *Fremden Blatt*, who speaks of Turkuhal as an island, gives the following account of the "devil-may-care" courage of the young Boyard. Russian officers, who were eye-witnesses, state that at the battle of Citate he rode out from the front, and, after coolly taking off his gloves, proceeded to pick off the Russian officers with a rifle. He wounded two or three officers, and knocked General Anrep's helmet off his head. As Stourdza was out of the range of the Russian muskets, he continued his singular amusement until his horse was killed by a cannon-ball.

MOLDO-WALLACHIAN INDEPENDENCE.

Private letters from Bucharest state that it has been confidentially intimated to some of the Boyards by the Russian General, that, while the Emperor Nicholas disclaims all idea of conquest or aggrandisement, he will not permit the subsisting connexion between the Principalities and the Porte to become closer; that his object is to erect these provinces into an independent State, under the protection of Russia, as the Ionian Islands are under that of England; and that the fortresses which line the Danube must be razed.

AMERICA.

By the steamer *Atlantic*, which reached Liverpool on the 16th, we have advices from New York to the 4th inst. She has brought 55 passengers, and 1,000 dollars in specie on freight. The news by this arrival is almost entirely devoid of interest.

From Washington we learn that the Nebraska Bill was still under discussion.

The *New York Herald* states, that no less than eleven vessels were fitting out in different parts of Cuba for the coast of Africa for slavers; also that seven vessels had sailed within six weeks from Baltimore, Boston, and New York, with the direct intention of being employed as slavers.

THE PREPARATIONS FOR WAR.

The following appointments in reference to the military expedition to the East have been determined on:—Lord Raglan to Command in Chief. Lieut.-General Ferguson, C.B., commanding the troops at Malta, to be Second in Command. Major-General the Duke of Cambridge, Colonel Bentinck, Coldstream Guards, Colonel Sir Colin Campbell, K.C.B., Colonel Eyre, 73rd Regiment, to command brigades. Colonel Cator to command the Royal Artillery. Colonel Airey, now military secretary to Lord Hardinge, to be Adjutant-General. Lieut.-Colonel the Hon. A. Gordon, Grenadier Guards, to be Deputy Adjutant-General. Colonel A. W. Torrens to be Quartermaster-General.

The first regiment of the expedition to leave this country will probably be the 50th, which was to embark at Kingstown (Dublin) yesterday (Friday), in the *Cambria*, Cunard steamship. The 33rd Regiment will embark at the same port. Wednesday is fixed for the departure of the 28th Regiment from Liverpool, in the *Niagara*. On the same day the 3rd battalion of Grenadier Guards and the 1st of the Coldstreams will embark at Southampton in the *Ripon*, the *Orinoco*, and the *Monilla*. The first battalion of the Fusilier Guards will go out in H.M. screw troop ship *Simoom*, from Portsmouth. The *Vulcan* will take out the 2nd battalion of the Rifle Brigade from the same port on the 24th.

The 1st battalion of Scots Fusilier Guards, completed for service to 850 strong, was privately inspected at ten o'clock on Thursday morning by the Duke of Cambridge, Colonel-in-Chief of the regiment, on the parade ground of the Wellington Barracks. His Royal Highness was accompanied by General Muldmay Pane and Colonel the Honourable C. B. Phipps. Colonel Bentinck, Colonel Hall (1st Life Guards), and Colonel Brownlow Knox were among the officers present. The men were under the command of Lord Rokeby, being the last occasion upon which his Lordship will appear as the Lieutenant-Colonel of the regiment—the retirement of Colonel Colville, on half-pay, preparatory to receiving his brevet rank as General, allowing the command to devolve upon the noble Lord. After the men had gone through a variety of evolutions, the Duke of Cambridge addressed the battalion in square, expressing his high admiration of the efficiency of their movements.

A Horse Guards Circular just issued provides for the augmentation of the army. The men to be raised will be borne as supernumeraries until the 1st of April next, from which date the increased establishment will be authorised by the War-office. The 1st battalion of the Grenadier Guards is to be augmented from 800 to 1000 rank and file; and the six remaining battalions of the Foot Guards from 640 to 800 rank and file. The following seven regiments are to be increased from 900 to 1000 rank and file, viz.—the 2nd, 6th, 18th, 59th, 60th (2nd battalion), 73rd, and 1st battalion of the Rifle Brigade.

The following fifty-six regiments are to be augmented from 850 to 1000 rank and file, namely—1st Foot (1st and 2nd battalions), 3rd, 4th, 7th, 9th, 11th, 13th, 14th, 16th, 17th, 19th, 21st, 26th, 27th, 28th, 30th, 31st, 33rd, 34th, 35th, 36th, 38th, 39th, 40th, 41st, 42nd, 46th, 47th, 48th, 49th, 50th, 54th, 55th, 57th, 58th, 62nd, 63rd, 65th, 66th, 67th, 68th, 69th, 72nd, 77th, 79th, 82nd, 85th, 88th, 89th, 90th, 92nd, 93rd, 95th, 97th, and 2nd battalion Rifle Brigade.

The service companies of regiments are to consist of 600, and the depôts of 400 rank and file, with the exception of those ordered for immediate active service, and with reference to which special orders will be given. The 71st Regiment, on the arrival of the reserve battalion in this country, will be reduced from 1200 to 1000 rank and file, and will be divided in the manner above specified. The 12th and 91st Regiments are to remain at their present establishment of 1200 rank and file; and the 5th, 20th, 23rd, 37th, 44th, 45th, 56th, 76th, and 98th at that of 1000 rank and file.

FAREWELL BANQUET OF THE GUARDS.—On Thursday evening the officers of the Coldstream Guards and Scots Fusilier Guards partook of a farewell banquet together, at the London Tavern, previous to their embarkation for the seat of war. His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, as Colonel of the Scots Fusilier Guards, occupied the chair; supported on the right and left by Lieutenant-General Sir Edward Bowater, K.C.H., and Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Willoughby Cotton, G.C.B., K.C.H. The principal officers present were General Hope, General Aitchinson, Colonel Berkeley Drummond, Colonel W. T. Knollys, Colonel A. Colville, Colonel Lord Rokeby, Colonel G. M. Eden, Colonel G. Mcneiffe, Colonel Walker, Colonel J. H. Blair, Colonel Sir G. Walker, Colonel Tyrwhitt, Colonel De Bathe, Colonel Onslow, Colonel G. Dixon, Colonel Phipps, Colonel Scott, Colonel Dalrymple, &c. After the banquet, the Duke of Cambridge, in proposing a toast, alluded, in cheering though feeling terms, to the arduous services which, in all probability, the regiments were about to commence. The gallant company separated at an early hour. His Royal Highness Prince Albert, as Colonel-in-Chief of the Grenadier Guards, was expected to preside at a similar banquet to be given by that gallant corps at the London Tavern last evening.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,

TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, FEB. 16.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading.	Thermometer. Lowest Reading.	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
	Inches.	°	°	°	°			Inches.
Feb. 10	30.262	42·8	32·0	36·8	— 1·6	81	N.W.	0.00
„ 11	30.262	46·8	36·0	39·7	— 0·8	73	N.W.	0.00
„ 12	30.189	43·5	39·0	35·8	— 2·8	90	N.	0.00
„ 13	30.519	40·7	29·9	33·8	— 4·9	79	N.N.E.	0.00
„ 14	30.542	42·0	32·2	36·6	— 2·0	83	S.W.	0.00
„ 15	29.807	44·7	29·6	38·2	— 0·6	88	S.W.&W.	0.16
„ 16	30.022	41·0	31·6	35·7	— 3·4	69	N.N.W.	0.00

Note.—The sign — denotes below the average.

The reading of the barometer remained stationary at 30.28 inches during the first two days of the week, then decreased to 30.19 inches by the morning of the 12th; increased to 30.57 inches by eleven a.m. on the 14th; decreased rapidly during the night to 29.89 inches by nine a.m. next morning; and increased to 30·05 inches by the end of the week. The mean for the week, at the height of 82 feet above the level of the sea, was 30.260 inches.

The mean daily temperatures have varied from 6·6° to 9·6° below their average value. During the time they were above their averages—viz., from 7th January to 9th February (except on 3rd and 4th February, when they were below)—the average daily excess was 5·4°.

The mean temperature of the week was 35·6°, being 3·1° below the average of thirty-eight years.

The range of temperature during the week was 22·2°, being the difference between the lowest reading on the 14th, and the highest on the 15th.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 12·2°; the least was 5·4°, on the 11th; and the greatest 21·3° on the 14th.

Rain fell during the week to the depth of sixteen hundredths of an inch.

The weather, on the 10th, was fine till noon, but the sky was overcast during the remainder of the day; the 11th and 13th were dull, and the sky overcast; and the rest of the week was fine and the sky clear. The wind has been in gentle motion only.

Lewisham, February 2nd, 1854. JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—During the week ending February 11, the births of 925 males and 872 females were registered within the metropolitan districts. The average of the corresponding weeks in the previous nine years, were 786 and 727 respectively. The number of deaths registered in the same period was 1178: of these 583 were males, and 595 were females. The estimated number of deaths for the week was 1202, so that the return is 24 less.

THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY.—A considerable number of the members of the House of Commons met Mr. Disraeli on Saturday last, to consult upon the course which it would be pursued by them in the present condition of affairs. It is understood that the result of the conference was most satisfactory. The Conservative party will not offer any factious opposition to the Government, but will narrowly watch the conduct of the Administration, following the course demonstrated by Lord Derby in the House of Peers on Friday night.

THE PROPOSED NEW LAW COURTS.—On Thursday last a numerous meeting of the owners of property in Lincoln's-inn-fields, convened by the trustees, was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, for the purpose of ascertaining their sentiments on the subject of building the proposed Law Courts in the fields; Dr. Moore in the chair. Mr. H. Gem addressed the meeting in favour of that site, in preference to Carey-street, as proposed by the Incorporated Law Society. The cost of the Carey-street site would, as estimated by the Law Society, amount to £388,574; but he considered it would far exceed that. Lincoln's-inn-fields offered itself as a far more eligible site in every respect, and £300,000 would amply cover the expense of obtaining it. He concluded by moving a resolution embodying the conditions on which the fields would be offered to Government. It proposed that a new street should be made from Little Queen-street to the Strand, and that northern accesses should be opened to Holborn. Mr. Aldermen Copeland seconded the resolution; which was opposed by Professor Owen, of the College of Surgeons, on sanitary grounds. Dr. Guy, of King's College Hospital, supported the resolution. He considered the site offered many advantages. An important northern thoroughfare would be opened, which would admit a current of air from Hampstead in a direct line; and the various dingy houses and close courts would be removed. Improved spots in the neighbourhood would much improve the local health. The resolution was carried by a large majority.

EXPRESS STEAM COMMUNICATION TO AUSTRALIA.—On Thursday a meeting of gentlemen interested in promoting rapid steam communication with Australia was held at the London Tavern, to consider the best means of effecting that object. It was submitted that, by the use of improved machinery, Sydney and Melbourne might be brought within forty-five days of London. Messrs. Newton and Fuller explained the principle of their newly-patented marine engine, by which from 50 to 60 per cent of fuel might be saved, as contrasted with the present system. This would avoid the necessity of coaling at any of the intermediate stations. A resolution approving of the principle was adopted, and measures were taken to bring the project under the notice of the public.

THE COURT.

The Queen and Prince Albert, with the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, the Princess Alice, and Prince Alfred, the Princesses Helena and Louisa, Prince Arthur, and Prince Leopold, left Windsor Castle for London by a special train on the South-Western Railway at three o'clock on Monday afternoon. The Royal suite consisted of the Marchioness of Ely, Lady Caroline Barrington, the Hon. Eleanor Stanley, the Hon. Beatrice Byng, Lord Camoys, Col. the Hon. C. B. Phipps, Col. the Hon. Charles Grey, Mr. W. H. Cavendish, Major-General Buckley, the Master of the Household, and Mr. Gibbs. The Royal party arrived at Buckingham Palace at four o'clock, escorted by a detachment of Lancers. The Queen and the Princesses were received at the Palace by the Earl Spencer, Lord Ernest Bruce, Lord George Lennox, Col. Wylde, and Lieut.-Col. the Hon. A. Gordon. The Earl of Aberdeen dined with her Majesty the same evening.

On Tuesday the Queen and Prince Albert, attended by Major-General Buckley and Lieut.-Colonel the Hon. A. Gordon, visited her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester, at Gloucester House. The Prize Consort rode out on horseback in the morning. In the evening her Majesty and his Royal Highness honoured the Princess' Theatre with their presence.

On Wednesday the Queen, attended by the Hon. Eleanor Stanley, visited her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cambridge, at her residence in St. James's Palace. The Prince Consort went in the morning to the New Palace of Westminster, and afterwards visited the Duchess of Cambridge. In the evening the Queen gave a dinner party; the company at which included his Serene Highness Prince Edward of Saxe Weimar and the Countess of Dornburg, the Duchess of Hamilton, the Turkish Minister and Madame Musurus, the American Minister, the Earl of Mulgrave, Lord and Lady Wodehouse, Lord and Lady Raglan, and Colonel Wylde.

On Thursday the Queen held a Court at Buckingham Palace, at which General D'Oxholm had his first audience of her Majesty, to deliver his credentials as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from the King of Denmark. Dr. J. Bowring, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Hong-Kong, and her Majesty's Plenipotentiary and Chief Superintendent of British trade in China, was presented to the Queen, as an audience, on the occasion of Knighthood from her Majesty. The Queen and the Prince Consort drove out in the afternoon; and, in the evening, honoured the Lyceum Theatre with their presence.

The Marquis of Conyngham has succeeded Lord Camoys, and Lieut.-Colonel the Hon. N. Hood has succeeded Mr. F. Cavendish, as Lord and Groom in Waiting.

POLITICAL ENTERTAINMENTS.

The Earl of Derby had a parliamentary dinner party, on Saturday last, at his mansion in St. James's-square.

Viscountess Palmerston entertained a select circle at dinner on Saturday last. In the evening her Ladyship received a numerous assemblage of company.

Viscount and Viscountess Canning received at dinner, on Saturday evening last, at their mansion in Grosvenor-square, the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Earl and Countess of Ellesmere, the Earl and Countess Grey, &c.

Sir William and Lady Molesworth entertained at dinner, on Saturday evening, the Earl of Aberdeen.

The Right Hon. and Speaker gave his first Parliamentary dinner, on Saturday evening last, at his residence in Eaton square.

THE NEW REFORM BILL.

The following is an abstract of the provisions of the Ministerial measure of Parliamentary Reform, introduced by Lord John Russell on Monday night:—

NEW FRANCHISES COMMON TO COUNTIES AND BOROUGHS.

1. Persons in receipt of salaries, from public or private employment, of not less than £100 per annum, paid quarterly or half-yearly.
2. Persons in receipt of £10 per annum derived from Government stock, or Bank, or India stock.
3. Persons paying 40s. per annum to income or assessed taxes.
4. Graduates of any University in the United Kingdom.
5. Persons who have for three years possessed a deposit of £50 in any savings bank.

NEW FRANCHISE FOR COUNTIES.

6. All occupiers rated at £10 per annum residing elsewhere than in represented towns.

NEW FRANCHISE FOR BOROUGHS.

7. All occupiers rated at £6 who have been resident within the borough two years and a half.

SCHEDULE A.

Boroughs having less than 300 electors, or less than 5000 inhabitants, to be disfranchised:—

Andover, 2 members at present returned; Arundel, 1; Ashburton, 1; Calne, 1; Dartmouth, 1; Evesham, 2; Harwich, 2; Honiton, 2; Knaresborough, 2; Lyme Regis, 1; Marlborough, 2; Midhurst, 1; Northallerton, 1; Reigate, 1; Richmond (Yorkshire), 2; Thetford, 2; Totnes, 2; Wells, 2; Wilton, 1.—Total, 19 boroughs; 29 members returned.

SCHEDULE B.

Boroughs having less than 500 electors, or less than 10,000 inhabitants, now returning two members, in future to return one member only:—

Bodmin, Bridgenorth, Bridport, Buckingham, Chichester, Chippenham, Cirencester, Cockermouth, Dorchester, Guildford, Hertford, Huntingdon, Leominster, Lewes, Ludlow, Lymington, Lichfield, Maldon, Malton, Marlow (Great), Newport (Isle of Wight), Peterborough, Poole, Ripon, Stamford, Tamworth, Tewkesbury, Thetford, Tiverton, Weymouth, Windsor, Wycombe (Chipping). Total, 33 members.

SCHEDULE C.

ADDITIONAL MEMBERS TO COUNTIES.—Counties and divisions of counties containing a population of more than 100,000 souls, at present returning two members, for the future to return three members:—Bedford; Chester, southern division; Chester, northern; Cornwall, western; Cornwall, eastern; Derby, northern; Derby, southern; Devon, southern; Devon, northern; Durham, southern; Durham, northern; Essex, southern; Essex, northern; Gloucester, western; Kent, western; Kent, eastern; Lancaster, northern; Lincoln, parts of Lindsey; Lincoln, parts of Kesteven and Holland; Middlesex; Monmouth; Norfolk, western; Norfolk, eastern; Stafford, northern; Stafford, southern; Somerset, western; Somerset, eastern; Southampton, northern division; Suffolk, eastern; Suffolk, western; Surrey, eastern; Sussex, eastern; Warwick, northern; Worcester, eastern; York, east riding; York, north riding.

WALES.—Glamorgan.

Divisions of counties now returning 2 members to be subdivided, and each subdivision to return in future 3 members:—Lancashire, southern division; York, west riding.

Additional members, 46.

SCHEDULE D.

CITIES AND BOROUGHS TO RETURN FOR THE FUTURE ADDITIONAL MEMBERS.—Cities and boroughs, containing more than 100,000 inhabitants, at present returning, for the future to return two members each, members each:—Birmingham, Bristol (city), Bradford (Yorkshire), Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester (city), Sheffield, Southwark, Wolverhampton.

Borough returning one member to return in future two members:—Salford. Additional members, 10.

SCHEDULE E.

UNREPRESENTED PLACES TO RETURN MEMBERS IN FUTURE.—Towns containing more than 20,000 inhabitants to return in future one member each.—Birkenhead, Burnley, Staleybridge. Inns of Court to return in future two members. London University to return in future one member. Additional members, 6.

SOUTH-WESTERN STEAM PACKET COMPANY.—On Thursday this company held its half-yearly meeting—William Tite, Esq., presiding—when a dividend of five per cent per annum, guaranteed by the South-Western Railway Company, was declared.

NORTHERN AND EASTERN RAILWAY.—On Thursday the half-yearly meeting of this company was held at the Bishopsgate Station—Richard Patteson, Esq., presiding—when guaranteed dividends of five and six per cent were declared.

LONDON AND BRICKLAYS' HALL RAILWAY.—On Thursday, the report of this company for the past half-year was issued. It states the total revenue for the six months to have been £40,268 13s. 2d., and the expenses, £18,682 17s. 1d.; leaving a balance of £24,600 16s. 1d. which, after paying the interest on debentures amounting to £5,462 11s. 1d., would admit of the declaration of a dividend of 4s. per share, making 6s. 6d. for the year.

SCOTCH-WESTERN RAILWAY.—On Thursday the half-yearly meeting of this company was held at the York-road, Lambeth; William Chaplin, Esq., M.P., in the chair. After a long discussion, the report issued by the directors was adopted; the dividend declared at the rate of 5 per cent per annum; the new directors recommended by the two committees of shareholders appointed; the sum of £73,000 standing as a debt against the reserve fund for additional plant, and new sidings, carried to the capital account, to which the auditors declared it properly belonged, and the directors authorised to watch the proceedings of the companies in Parliament, with a view to the protection of South-Western interests.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

ARGUS, PHILO-STELLA, and others.—The integrity of "Stella's" clever problem, No. 418, may be perfectly restored, we believe, by adding to the diagram a Black Pawn on Black Queen's 7th square.

BELL of Worcester.—You can obtain the *Chess Player's Chronicle*, which is published on the 1st of each month, through any bookseller in your town, or direct from the London publishers, Messrs. Kent and Co., Paternoster-row.

REGINALD and others.—The appointment of solitary to the St. George's Chess-club has been given to Mr. Löwenthal.

A CHESS PLAYER OF MODERATE SKILL is desirous of playing a game by correspondence with some amateur of equal strength. Address to J. C., 17, Tower-street, Portobello, N B.

RICARDO; FITZ, Manchester; F. H.—They are too easy for our columns.

ANTI-HUMBUG.—We have not space this week to expose and refute the incredible misrepresentations to which our attention has been directed; but you may rest assured they shall not be permitted to pass uncontradicted, or unexposed.

V. H-s-d L.—Received with thanks. Another communication shall be forwarded immediately.

F M.—You can Castle under such circumstances.

G. B. F.—It shall be in immediate attention.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 520, by H. T. M., Ball of Worcester, G. B. of Newbury, Germanus, E. J. of Heaver, Pudsea, M. F., S. S., Guy, Ernest, Sigma, are correct.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No 521, by M. F., F. B. of B., J. F. of Melbourne, Grindoff, F. P. of T., O. P. Q., Quidam, Twoedlums, are correct.

SOLUTIONS OF ENIGMAS, by Henricus, J. F., F. R. of B., Rugby-boy, Lemuel, G., Argent, This, are correct. All others are wrong.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 520.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. Q to Q B 3rd (ch)	K takes Q (a)	3. Kt to Q B 4th (ch)	K to Q R 7th, or Q Kt 8th
2. Kt to K 2nd (ch)	K to Q Kt 7th	4. Kt to Q B 3rd—Mate.	

(a) 1. K to Q 4th — 2. Q takes Kt — Any move.
2. Kt to K 4th — P takes Kt ✻ — 3. Kt to K 4th, or Q mates.

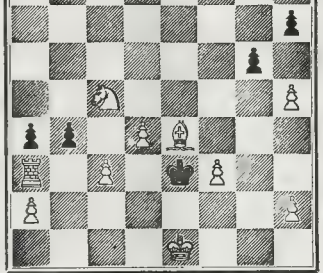
✻ 2. — K takes Kt †
3. Kt to K 4th — K Kt or P moves.

† 2. — B takes R
3. Kt to K B 6th (ch) — K takes Kt
4 Q to Q B 4th—Mate.

PROBLEM No. 522.

By Signor ASPA, of the Leamington Chess-club.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in four moves.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

The immense preparations now making in this country to resist the encroachments of Russia, have not been without considerable influence upon the English Stock Market. Large operations have been entered into for a fall; nevertheless, the decline in prices has not been extensive, from the fact that we continue to receive large remittances of specie from the United States, and gold and silver bullion from other quarters, and that the surplus stock on the Market has been mostly taken off by the public.

The demand for money for commercial purposes has been steady, and the re-opening of most of the mills in the manufacturing districts is calculated to have some effect in the future. For shipment to the Continent, large parcels of gold, estimated at over £900,000 sterling, have been taken this week; and we learn that extensive purchases have yet to be made on French and Dutch Account. However, the supply in the Bank continues to increase.

The exports of the precious metals to the East have been £23,000; of which £20,000 in gold to the Straits, and £3000 in silver to Ceylon. The imports have been on a very liberal scale, viz., nearly £700,000 from Australia, £55,000 from New York, and £28,000 from the West Indies and Pacific.

From a return just issued, we find that the following is the total coinage of the Mints of London, Paris, and the United States, in 1853:—

Gold	..	..	£35,548,703
Silver	..	..	3,076,646
Copper	..	..	101,481
Total	..	..	£38,726,830

The above consisted of no fewer than 174,448,021 pieces, divided in the following proportions:—London, 51,368,185 pieces; Paris, 83,384,257; United States, 69,775,469. Such an enormous amount of coinage, in a single year, is without a parallel in the history of the world.

On Monday Consols were steady, and prices were well supported. The Three per Cents were done at 92, 91⅞, to 93; the Three per Cents Reduced, 92⅞ to 93⅛; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 93⅛ Bank Stock was 216. Long Annuities, 1860, sold at 5. India Bonds were 10s., and Exchequer Bills, 19s. to 20s. prem. The transactions on Tuesday were devoid of interest, and prices were drooping. The Three per Cents marked 91⅞ to 92; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 93⅛, 93¼ to 93⅜. Long Annuities marked 5⅛. Exchequer Bills were firm at 17s. to 20s. prem. On Wednesday, the highest figure for the Three per Cents was 93⅛, the closing quotation being 91⅞, after touching 91⅝. The Three per Cents Reduced were done at 92¼ ⅛; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 93⅜ ⅝, 93¼ and 93⅜. India Bonds sold at from 7s. to 10s., and Exchequer Bills advanced to 21s. premium. The amount of business doing on Thursday was comparatively limited. The Three per Cents were 91⅞ ⅜ for Money, and 91¾ ⅝ for the Account. The Three per Cents Reduced marked 92⅛; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 93⅛ to 93⅜. Exchequer Bills were very firm, at 18s to 21s. prem.

The last return from the Bank of France shows a further considerable decrease in the stock of bullion. The discount accommodation has increased to some extent, but the advances on Railway Securities have been greatly curtailed.

In Miscellaneous Securities very few transactions have taken place. Australian Royal Mail Steam Shares have sold at 3; Canada Six per Cent Bonds, ⅞ ex div.; Electric Telegraph, 17¾ ex div.; General Screw Shipping Company, 16 to 15⅝; General Steam Navigation, 3⅞; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, 62; Ditto, New, 35. Kent Waterworks have been 9 ex div.; South-Western, 90; Trent, 30 to 32; West Middlesex, 110½; Ditto, New, 16½. Insurance Companies have ruled dull. General, 5⅞; Globe, 138; Imperial Fire, 37½; Ditto Life, 10¾; London, 30; Marine, 2¾; Pelican, 6⅝; Phœnix, 186; Rock, 7½; Royal Exchange, 234; Sun Life, 66; Universal, 45¾. Hungerford-bridge Shares have marked 12; Waterloo, 5¾; Vauxhall, 2¾. West India Dock Shares have been 108 ex div.; St. Katharine, 93¾; Victoria, New, 4¾ ex div. Joint-Stock Bank Shares have been Australian, 7¾; English, Scottish, and Australian Chartered, 7⅜; London Chartered Bank of Australia, 2¾; Oriental, 6½; Union of Australia, 6¾; and Union of London, 21¾.

Mining Shares have been much neglected. Agua Fria have sold at 2¾; Australian, 3; St. John del Rey, 9; Linares, 10¾; Nouveau Monde, 1¾; Quartz Rock, 1⅜; United Mexican, 3⅜; Weller, ⅞; and Yuba, ⅝.

There have been no transactions of importance noticed in the market for Railway Shares; in some instances prices have been drooping. The following are the official closing prices on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Ambergate, Nottingham, and Boston Junction, 8½; Bristol and Exeter, 97⅞; Caledonian, 50⅜; Dublin and Belfast Junction, 45¼; East Anglian, 4¾; Eastern Counties, 13¾; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 63; Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, 23 Great Northern, 90; Ditto, A Stock, 73½; Ditto, B Stock, 30¾; Great Western, 63; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 60¾; Leeds Northern, 13⅝; London and Blackwall, 8; London and Brighton, 97; London and North-Western, 104¾; London and South-Western, 81¾; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 23½; Midland 63¼; Scottish Midland, 56; South Devon, 14¾; South-Eastern, 62; Vale of Neath, 18¾; York and North Midland, 49¾.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Caledonian, 99¾; Chester and Holyhead, 17¾; Eastern Counties, No. 2, 1 prem.; Great Northern, Five per Cent, 120; Ditto, Five per Cent Redeemable at Ten per Cent prem., 10¾; Ditto, Four-and-a-Half per Cent Scrip, 10¼; Great Western, Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 98⅛; Ditto, Irredeemable Four per Cent, 94; London and South Western, A Shares, 7⅜; Midland, Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 1 dis.; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 100½. South-Eastern, 100; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, 34¾.

FOREIGN.—Grand Trunk of Canada, A issue, 7⅜; Great Western of Ditto, Shares, 20¾; Luxembourg, 7⅜; Ditto, Railway, 4¾; Northern of France, 20¾; Paris and Lyons, 22⅜; Paris and Orleans, 42¾; Sambre and Meuse, 6¾.

Friday Evening.

Money Stock having been very scarce to-day, the market for Consols has ruled steady, and prices have been well supported in every quarter. The Three per Cents have marked 91⅝ ⅞ ⅝ 92 91⅞; the Three per Cents Reduced, 92⅜; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 93⅜ ⅝. India Bonds, 7s. to 10s.; and Exchequer Bills, 19s. to 21s. prem. Foreign Bonds and Railway Shares have ruled steady.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE (Friday).—The show of English wheat on sale in to-day's market, coastwise and land carriage, was but moderate, and in very middling condition: nevertheless, the demand for all kinds of grain ruled heavy at last week's decline in prices. The imports of foreign wheat have exceeded 15,000 quarters, and the supply here was good. The transactions were wholly confined to immediate wants, at the late depression. Floating cargoes commanded very little attention. No sales were reported on Continental account. Barley was to good supply, and heavy request. Inferior parcels were a shade lower. We had a very large sale for malt. To effect sales, lower prices must be submitted to. The show of oats was good, especially from Ireland. The trade was dull, at barely late figures. Beans and peas were almost nominal. The flour trade was heavy, and inferior parcels ruled in favour of buyers.

ARRIVALS.—English—wheat, 1746; barley, 4690; malt, 4492; oats, 3570; flour, 1823. Irish: Barley, 3500; oats, 10,220. Foreign—wheat, 15,181; barley, 4300; oats, 2640, flour, 7950 barrels, 190 sacks.

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 67s. to 81s.; ditto, white, 71s. to 86s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 66s. to 80s.; ditto, white, 74s. to 85s.; rye, 40s. to 43s.; grinding barley, 25s. to 28s.; distilling ditto, 28s. to 29s.; malting ditto, 40s. to 44s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 64s. to 68s.; brown ditto, 58s. to 62s.; Kingston and Ware, 68s. to 72s.; Chevalier, 72s. to 75s.; Yorkshire, 70s. to 74s. Beans and tares feed one 34s. to 36s.; ditto, new, 30s. to 32s.; Yorkshire and Scotch, black, 32s. to 37s.; ditto, white, 32s. to 35s.; tick beans, new, 44s. to 52s.; ditto, old, —s. to —s.; grey peas, 34s. to 43s.; maple, 42s. to 43s.; white, 40s. to 42s.; boilers, 42s. to 44s. per quarter. Town-made flour, 70s. to 73s.; Suffolk, 58s. to 60s.; Stockton and Yorkshire, 56s. to 58s.; per 280 lbs. *Foreign: From the Continent*—Wheat, 70s. to 80s.; rye, 40s.; barley, 24s. per barrel.

Imperial Weekly Average.—Wheat, 82s. 4d.; barley, 41s. 3d.; oats, 27s. 6d.; rye, 45s. 9d.; beans, 47s. 10d.; peas, 50s. 3d.

The Last Week's Average.—Wheat, 80s. 11d.; barley, 42s. 0d.; oats, 26s. 9d.; rye, 43s. 6d.; beans 48s. 1d.; peas, 51s. 6d.

Bread.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 11d. to 11½d.; of household ditto, 9d. to 10½d. per 4lb. loaf.

TEA.—The shipments from China being considerably in excess of last year, and as the stock here is increasing, the demand is inactive, and common sound congou is selling at 1s. 4½d. per lb.

Sugar.—Very moderate supplies have been on offer, this week; nevertheless, they have proved quite equal to the demand, and prices are barely supported. Fine white Benares, 29s to 31s. 6d.; fine brown Madras, 28s. 6d. to 29s. 6d.; low yellow Mauritius, 33s. to 34s.; low brown, 27s. to 28s. per cwt. Refined goods dull. Brown lumps, 44s.; and grocers', 44s. 6d. to 45s. 6d. per cwt. Crushed dull, but not cheaper. The total clearances to the 11th inst. were 220,647 cwt., against 866,566 ditto, in 1853.

Coffee.—A few parcels of good ordinary native Ceylon have sold at 45s. 6d. to 49s. 6d. per cwt. All plantation kinds are firm, and quite as dear as last week. In foreign, very little is doing.

PROVISIONS.—The demand for Irish butter is very inactive, and prices have a downward tendency. Home foreign is producing rather more money. English is steady, at extreme rates. The bacon-market is dull, at a further decline of 1s. per cwt. Other kinds of provisions have off-slow, to former terms.

Tallow. P. Y. C., on the spot, is selling at 62s. 6d. to 62s. 6d.; and for forward delivery, 63s. per cwt. Town tallow, 60s. net cash. Rough fat, 3s. 5d. per 8lbs.

Oils.—Linseed oil is dull, at 32s. 6d. to 34s. per cwt. Rape is offering on easier terms. Spanm and Seal-oils are on the advance. Very little is doing in turpentine. Sperm, £3 17s.; in puncheons, £2 16s.; rough, 14s. per cwt.

Spirits.—The market for rum is dull, and prices are still improving. Proof Leewards, 3s. 10d. to 3s. 11d.; proof East India, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. per gallon. Brandy is active. Sales of Cognac, from brands of 1851, 3s. 10d. to 10s.; 1850 ditto, 3s. 11d. to 10s. 1d.; older, 10s. 3d. to 10s. 6d. per gallon. Geneva and corn spirits are active, and quite as dear as last week.

Foreign Fruit, &c.—For most kinds of hops we have only a moderate demand, at last week's currency. This week 4 imports are—30 bales from Hamburg, 353 from Ostend, 3 from Oporto, and 33 from Antwerp.—Mid and East Kent pockets, £11 5s. to £19 15s.; Weald of Kent, £9 9s. to £11 15s.; Sussex, £7 15s. to £9 9s.; Foreign, £6 10s. to £10 10s. per cwt.

Coals (Friday).—Hartley, 16s.; Belmont, 20s.; Braddyll, 27s. 3d.; Hetton, 28s.; Haswell, 27s.; Stewart's, 26s.; Casop, 26s. 6d. per ton.

Smithfield (Friday).—A very moderate supply of beasts was on sale in to-day's market. Most trades moved off slowly, but we have no change to notice in the quotations. Although we were but scantily supplied with sheep, the demand for that description of stock was in a sluggish state, at barely former prices. The best old Downs was 5s. 2d. per 8lbs. Calves were in moderate supply, and slow request, at late rates. In pigs very little was doing. Milch cows were dull, at from £14 to £19 each, including their sucklings.

Per 8lbs. to sink the offals:—Coarse and inferior beasts, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.; second quality ditto, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; prime large ditto, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; prime Scots, &c., 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; coarse and inferior sheep, 3s. 2d. to 3s. 4d.; second quality ditto, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 4d.; prime coarse-woolled ditto, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; prime Southdown ditto, 4s. 10d. to 5s.; large coarse calves, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 6d.; prime small ditto, 4s. 10d. to 5s. 4d.; large hogs, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 2d.; neat small porkers, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 10d.; suckling calves, 22s. to 26s.; and quarter old store pigs, 21s. to 27s. each. Total supplies: Beasts, 630; cows, 130; sheep, 2240; calves, 203; pigs, 360. Foreign: Beasts, 204; sheep, 3260; calves, 98.

Newgate and Leadenhall (Friday).—The general trade demand ruled heavy, as follows:—

Per 8 lbs. by the carcase:—Inferior beef, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 2d.; middling ditto, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; prime large ditto, 4s. 0d. to 4s. 2d.; prime small ditto, 4s. 0d to 4s. 2d.; large pork, 3s. 4d to 4s. 0d.; inferior mutton, 3s. 0d. to 3s. 6d.; middling ditto, 3s. 8d to 4s. 2d.; prime ditto, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; veal, 4s. 0d. to 4s. 6d.; small pork, 4s. 4d. to 5s. 0d.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, FEB. 14.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

W. VARNOLL and T. HALLAM, Highgate, Borough, tailors. B. J. AFFLE, Duke-street, Manchester-square, milliner. G. BROOKS, Tenbridge Wells, Kent, tailor. J. HEATHWAITE, Long-acre, Covent-garden, coachmaker. J. CLARKE, Lower-road, Islington-road, West, Chelsea, grocer. F. J. WEST, London-terrace, Hackney road, draper. T. BALLINGER, Birmingham confectioner. J. CLEMENTSON, Liverpool. J. LAKE, Cowsland, Lincolnshire, grocer. R. HILL, Nottingham, lace merchant. I. DEWHIRST, Halifax, Yorkshire, commission agent. R. G. BEESLEY, Manchester, cotton spinner. J. GRAVE, Manchester, warehouseman.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17.

WAR-OFFICE, FEB. 17.

1st Dragoons: Lieut. H. Sykes to be Captain, vice Gibbery; Cornet T. K. FitzGerald to be Lieut., vice Sykes; W. B. Curtis, to be Cornet, vice FitzGerald.

3rd Light Dragoons. J. C. Murphy to be Cornet, vice Ryan.

Royal Regiment of Horse Guards (Blue): Lieut. and Capt. C. H. Lord Raleigh to be Lieutenant-Colonel, vice Col. H. Colville; Capt. and Lieut.-Col. and Col. G. M. Elton to be Major, vice Lord Raleigh; Lieut.-Col. and Brevet Col. the Hon. C. B. Phipps, C.B. to be Captain and Lieutenant-Colonel, vice Elton: Lieut. and Capt. H. Percival de Bathe to be Captain and Lieutenant-Colonel, vice Hon. C. B. Phipps, C.B.: Ensign and Lieut. E. Bouverie to be Lieutenant and Captain, vice de Bathe; Ens. and Lieut. the Hon. G. G. Dalrymple retires from the Service by sale of his Commission; Lieut. Sandeman, T. Richardson to be Paymaster, vice W. J. Judd; Assist-Surg. J. A. Bostock, M.D.; to be Retailon-Surgeon, vice Richardson; Assist. Staff-Surg. A. G. Elkington to be Assistant-Surgeon, vice Bostock.

2nd Foot: Capt. G. Wolfe to be Captain, vice Mathias, appointed to the 54th Foot. 19th Foot: Ens. R. W. Bayley to be Lieutenant, vice Bradley. H. H. Kirke to be Ensign, vice Bayley. 28th Foot: Lieut. C. G. Godley to be Captain, vice de Winton: Ensign T. L. Bell to be Lieutenant, vice Godley, C. H. Ingham to be Ensign, vice Bell. 44th: Ensign H. S. Hoskins to be Lieutenant, vice Hall, promoted in the 54th Foot. 54th Foot: Lieut. Mathias, from the 2nd Foot, to be Captain, vice Wolfe. 57th: W. J. Coope to be Ensign, vice Johnson. 97th Captain J. Farrell to be Captain, vice Wolfe. 98th: Lieut. W. Mackenzie to be Captain, vice Bayly. Ensign L. H. Thomas to be Lieutenant, vice Mackenzie; W. P. Gurney to be Ensign, vice Thomas. 97th: R. S. Warburton to be Ensign, vice Bell.

1st West India Regiment. Ensign H. F. Luke to be Lieutenant, vice Stokes, J. Tryon to be Ensign, vice Luke.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

J. E. LOADER, Devonshire-street, Bishopsgate-street, draper.

BANKRUPTS.

H. E. WETHERED, Churton-street, Pimlico, Bandmaster. R. CLEASBY, Eccles, Lancashire, builder. J. RODNEY, Gloucester-terrace, Hyde-park, E. B. GREEN, Bilston, Staffordshire, ironmonger. V. H. GAY, Blackfriars-road and Strand, tailor and draper. J. BEECHELL, Bristol, timber-merchant. J. PARFITT, Archery-street, Bermondsey, stonemason. E. ROBERTS, Chard, Somersetshire, innkeeper. H. WHITMORE, Wednesbury, Staffordshire, tailor. J. Sandbrooker and butler. S. B. ALPE, Duke-street, Manchester-square, milliner and dealer in Berlin wool. T. GATELEY, Derby, Derbyshire, innkeeper. J. HOLDSWORTH, Huddersfield, Yorkshire, Swinton, Lancashire, and Tadcliffe, Lancashire, cloth-merchant. H. ASHTON, Hyde, Cheshire, innkeeper. J. HOLT, Bolton-le-Moors, Lancashire, joiner. J. HOLT, Bolton-le-Moors, Lancashire, joiner. J. HOLT, Bolton-le-Moors, Lancashire, joiner

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

No. 670.—VOL. XXIV.] SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1854. [WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.

THE STATE OF THE NATION.

How do we stand at the opening of a long-averted, but inevitable war? How is the British nation circumstanced at a crisis which, in all human likelihood, is the commencement of a new European era? Never before in our history did we enter on a great struggle under such auspices. Had Heraclitus been a modern Englishman, he would have lost his reputation, for he must have dried his tears. To find any one consideration, or vestige of a consideration, that is not favourable and encouraging, we should have to turn to what might be nicknamed the metaphysics of "croaking;" and, in answer to the query—are we entering well on this pregnant epoch? we should be obliged to foster our despondency by replying, "Too well, if anything; it is over-good to be lasting."

So excellent is our position, so very different from what it was on the eve of any former contest, or of any former re-constitution of the world, to which England was ever a party since she was a nation, that, in contraries alone, could the most determined prognosticator of evil find any countenance; and, luckily, among those contraries, would be the contraries of every ascertained fact and of every permissible calculation—the contrary, in a word, of the truth. The Emperor of Russia, who is, we believe, a votary of the newly-invented patent oracles, in the material construction of which the carpenter and joiner is the most important agent, may make himself welcome to all the irrational consolations of mysticism.

We can do without them, and can look round upon a people and a country, who, in disadvantageous circumstances, both internal and external, vanquished a formidable and great antagonist in their last war; and now, in very different condition, are compelled, by the incurable and intractable infatuation of a far weaker enemy, to engage with greater vigour in an easier struggle.

Never before was England so perfectly prepared for the necessity thrust upon her by the demented ambition of a disturber of mankind. It is perfectly clear to every calm observer that either of the two great Powers of the West, as Lord Palmerston truly said on Monday night, would, singly, be able to bring this embroilment by arms to a speedy and satisfactory conclusion. But they are united; and so united, that, from the very beginning of their history, nothing of the kind was ever known before. On such a scale, for such an object, in so earnest a spirit, it is for the first time; and it is, humanly speaking, impossible that results of a commensurate magnitude should fail to accrue. Those results will, probably, soon be recorded in the annals of Europe, for the instruction and the warning of the remotest generations.

But, leaving France, let us look at home. We have emerged from great evils into incredible prosperity. If men and angels had striven in concert to delay this struggle till the right moment, and to forbid its procrastination beyond that moment, they could scarcely, so far as human prudence can now judge, have timed it more opportunely than this has been done for us by events and by necessity, by the labours of those who loved (and still and always love) peace, and the madness of those who are bent on provoking their own destruction.

Some years ago our population was desolated by a famine in one great department of the three kingdoms; the famine was followed by a pestilence; but both traversed their appointed time, and passed away, without extraneous aggravation. With them passed away the dissensions which appeared to threaten civil convulsions between the two islands. Soon came the crisis of a social dispute on an economical question. Timely legislation assuaged all the dangerous irritations of that formidable emergency. But hardly had it been thus encountered, and thus rendered innocuous, when the strangeness of the evils and the extent of the catastrophes, which we had averted, were made apparent. The French revolution and Continental commotions of 1848 taught us the value of seasonable precaution. The mesmeric contagion of that wild movement found here no morbid nerve (which we could not easily control) responsive to its bloody extravagances. The "State of the Nation!" Why, until yesterday, so to speak, this was the very text of sedition. On that text, "*yet forty days*," was the beginning of every agitator's sermon. Did you wish to call up the Hubbakuk Mucklewraths of the land, and to see them move amongst us with pans of fire on their heads, you had but to demand that people should be enlightened a little on "*the state of the nation.*" Even after that last-mentioned opportunity of the enemy had terminated, we were not yet safe from external aggression. The great soldier who conducted our arms in the late war (no mere speculator, no dreamy enthusiast, but a man "dwelling in *practicals* for ever") had tried in vain to impress on successive Governments the duty and the necessity of providing a lock to the door, behind which so many treasures tempted adventurous cupidity. Our coasts were unarmed, our country was virtually defenceless. And when at length he despaired of arousing into caution the foolhardy tranquillity of our various rulers, he sought his last consolation in this memorable reflection, ending with a prayer: "I have seen nearly seventy-seven years of age, passed in honour; and I pray the Almighty that he will not suffer me to be a witness of the calamities which I cannot persuade my contemporaries to take measures to avert." He did persuade them; and he lived to see the last peril of his country effectually provided against.

Still, to be prepared for attack at home, to put our coasts in a state of defence, to arrange a plan by which an invading enemy should be checked and expelled; to have even repressed an incipient insurrection, adjusted a domestic quarrel, surmounted a financial crisis, and attained a condition in which we might bid defiance to the confederate arms of the world—all this is very different from carrying on with energy a foreign war in a distant scene of action. This has become our duty and our business, in spite of every device of conciliation; in spite, indeed, of almost too many efforts to "keep the peace" by fair means. It is,

FITTING OUT THE NEW STEAM-FRIGATE "EURYALUS," AT CHATHAM.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

therefore, with no ordinary satisfaction that we survey the state of our preparations, and find that we are more than competent to the task assigned to us by events. Unanimity prevails amongst us. Great disputes have been settled, and great disasters have passed away. Emigration, aided by our immense commercial resources, has relieved us of the burdens of a supernumerary population; substituting an establishment of thriving customers for every helpless pauper, and solving a problem long deemed insoluble—the puzzle of politicians, and the despair of patriots. This, however, is not all. We were supposed to be a "nation of shopkeepers." Certainly we are; but we are shopkeepers, "and something more;" and they will now find who provoke us to reckon the cost of this war, that we shall wind up by reckoning it against the aggressor, and that we shall use due attention in bringing in the bill, and in enforcing its settlement. We are shopkeepers who, when less prosperous, contrived to keep nearly all Europe in our pay, and yet were not broken by the experiment; since then, while punctually discharging all consequent liabilities, we have managed to increase immeasurably the available resources of our public wealth. The revenue of England was never so abundant, or (in proportion to the amount levied) so little felt. The people were never so unanimous. This is the very home of inventions. All the ameliorations of modern warfare are, without difficulty or delay, embodied in our system. We are more at one with each other in this quarrel than we have been, perhaps, on any occasion in our annals. The nation which, but two years ago, possessed not sufficient defensive resources, has now at its disposal a "mobilized" or aggressive force, which will be soon recognised by those against whom it is destined to act. Pauperism has diminished. Crime is, in general, on the decrease. All who seek employment obtain it; and such is the good spirit, the loyalty, the patriotism, the community of feeling, that, whereas, until war was certain, much difficulty was anticipated in filling up the requisite numbers of our voluntary recruits for the land and sea services; no sooner was the necessity of the conflict made clear, than crowds of efficient men presented themselves spontaneously. The "Baltic Fleet" is not only a finer armament than this country has yet equipped, but than, perhaps, any country ever yet sent forth against an enemy. Lord Derby's Government began what the present Ministry have continued and brought to perfection; and we sincerely hope, and firmly expect, that Russia, which attaches so much importance to the freezing, and consequent inaccessibility, of the Baltic, during five months, will, before summer, have reason to regret that it is not a frozen sea—a "*mare clausum*"—*all* the year round.

Meantime, such is "the state of the nation," that we shall hardly feel, either financially or politically, the strain or the effects of exertion from the measures we are compelled to adopt.

HER MAJESTY'S STEAM-FRIGATE "EURYALUS," AT CHATHAM.

THE fitting out of this truly noble ship for the War in the East, as depicted upon the preceding page, presents an air of order, precision, and regularity, intermingled with bustling excitement, which is very striking; and, echoing as are our Dockyards with "the busy note of preparation," neither of them supplies a more interesting illustration than that which we have selected.

The *Euryalus*, Capt. Ramsay, is a 51-gun screw-frigate, of 400-horse power. Her extreme beam is 50 feet; extreme length, 245 feet; between perpendiculars, 212 feet; tonnage, 2356 feet.

On the 17th ult. she had her steam up, and worked her trunk engines, by John Penn and Son, for two hours, at mooring in the Medway. At one o'clock, next day, she left Chatham, for the purpose of being tried at the measured distance between the Nore and Mouse Lights, when her speed was ascertained to exceed ten knots per hour; the engines working admirably, and making from 55 to 61 revolutions per minute. She anchored about five o'clock, p.m., at Sheerness; and next morning proceeded under steam to Chatham, for the purpose of being made completely ready for sea at the port where she was fitted, and had her engines put on board.

In the accompanying Picture the guns are on board; but carpenters, shipwrights, sailors, &c., are busy—some placing fire-buckets, cutlasses, shot, &c., in their proper positions near the guns; others stowing away the sails; whilst others are employed at the rigging; and at the moment we write the engineers are hard at work, as are also the Dockyard artificers.

The *Euryalus* is now lying in dock bending her sails, and hoisting her boats on. She will come out of dock on Tuesday next, and proceed to Gillingham to take her powder in; and she will be in the Downs to form one of the Baltic squadron on or before the 6th of March.

COLLIERY EXPLOSION AND DREADFUL LOSS OF LIFE.

One of the most fatal colliery explosions on record took place in the Arley Mine of the Ince Hall Coal Company, near Wigan, on the afternoon of Saturday last. The coll ers had gone to their work in the morning at the usual hour. The number is not accurately known; but 240 Davy-lamps had been distributed among the colliers, and of these fourteen had been returned up to noon, accounting for as many persons having left work. The workmen were spread over the north and south levels, the greater number being in the north, which are of great extent, and are well known to be highly charged with carbureted hydrogen gas, so detected by all persons connected with the colliery, on account of its explosive nature. The engine-driver and the banksmen in charge of the "pit-brow" had no suspicion of accident, or danger of accident, until the afternoon, when a loud explosion underground was heard, and this was quickly succeeded by a second report of a similar character. Then came the sudden rush of air, smoke, and dust, from the upcast shaft, which follows these dreadful occurrences. It was now known to those at the top that an explosion had taken place, and they began to take immediate steps to rescue the colliers below. An alarm was spread to the neighbouring mines, so that other colliers might be obtained, or volunteer to go down as searching parties. In the meantime a number of colliers below signalled to be drawn up, and five cageloads (forty persons in all) were wound up by the shaft. These had been at work in the south levels, and came to the top almost unscathed; but they reported that the north levels were on fire near the bottom of the shaft, thus cutting off the retreat of colliers who had escaped with life after the first burst of the explosion, or at least rendering their escape much more hazardous; and it was now that the really appalling nature of the accident became apparent. Nearly three hours elapsed before the fire could be extinguished, so as to enable the searchers to proceed into the levels; and when they did enter, their progress was necessarily slow, on account of the destruction of doors and stoppings by the explosion, some of which had to be replaced before sufficient ventilation could be restored to support life.

One of the first men brought to the surface alive from the north levels was James Murphy, a collier, who had been working at the very far end of the mine, or 1200 yards from the shaft. He and another man, on feeling the shock of the explosion, started towards the shaft; but on reaching a point in the levels where the sulphur was overpowering, his companion turned back, while Murphy, resolutely putting his cap between his teeth, ran towards the shaft and was saved. The other man was lost. In all about fourteen persons made their escape alive from the north workings during Saturday evening, and these were the last—all that were found during the night and on Sunday being dead.

The total number of bodies brought out of the mine up to Sunday evening was eighty-seven; but it was said that twenty or thirty were still missing.

On Tuesday last, the eve of Washington's birthday, G. N. Sanders, Esq., the American Consul at London, gave an international dinner at his residence; when there were present Mr. Buchanan, Kossuth, Mazzini, Ledru Rollin, Sir J. Walmsley, M.P., Garibaldi, Worcell, Orsini, Pulsky, Bertzen, and Mr. Welsh, Attaché to the Legation.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

The announcement of the *Moniteur*, on Sunday, that the Emperor of Russia refused to accept the last terms of accommodation proposed, seems effectually to have settled the question of war—which, strange as it appears to us, here, up to the last, was much discussed, notwithstanding the departure of M. Kisseleff, the unchanged attitude of the Czar, and the innumerable other symptoms which, from week to week, have constantly grown more significative and more threatening. It is by many supposed that, the crisis having arrived, affairs will be less fluctuating, and that a term will be put to the feverish and most disastrous excitement that for some time past has been producing the most painful results. The speech of Lord John Russell on this occasion has been received here with enthusiasm by the more enlightened and patriotic, who look to the honour and credit of the nation beyond private and personal considerations of loss or gain in commercial and financial speculation. The *Presse*, in quoting it, says:—"Such is the conclusion of this admirable discourse. Never has the Minister of a great nation held higher or firmer language, never have outraged public morals been avenged with greater eloquence, never have more withering epithets been applied to the conduct of a Sovereign. The enterprise of Russia is a savage enterprise. The Emperor of Russia has deceived England with lying assurances." Of course, preparations for war here are being carried on with increased vigour; leaves of absence (of which but a limited number, and under peculiar circumstances, have for some time been accorded) are being cut short; horses are, provisionally, being taken from the mounted *gendarmerie* to supply the troops, and every other measure adopted that the occasion requires.

It is a point which, apparently trifling, is yet worthy of remark, that in the Sunday *feuilletons*, the *Courriers de Paris*, and other light chronicles of the events of the moment, a much better and more respectful tone is adopted towards the English than it is the custom for the writers of these articles to assume. In general our eccentricities, our peculiarities, our little foibles, are brought forward, exaggerated, misrepresented; we are made the heroes and heroines of all sorts of absurd histories and adventures; and, in proportion as the author of these *mauvaises plaisanteries* is ignorant of our country, manners, customs, language, literature, and ideas, is he severe upon each and all. Now, however, the tone is considerably changed; and if the present occasion can really be made to establish a sincere *entente cordiale* between the two nations, and remove the prejudices that exist so strongly in the mind of the French of nearly every class towards us, much real good will have been effected. A strict *surveillance* also is exerted over the theatres, to prevent the appearance of anything calculated to give umbrage to the feelings of English spectators, even to the changing of the names and periods of historical pieces; and it is to be hoped that the same spirit will be introduced into private society.

The *Patrie*, one of the chief organs of the Government, has been most sharply taken to task by the *Moniteur*, and is, we believe, to receive an official *avertissement* (the second inflicted on it) for publishing, if not false, at least premature, intelligence, respecting the reply of the Emperor of Russia. Other journals are being treated with no less severity: *L'ami de la Religion*, and *L'ami de l'Ordre*, of Amiens, have been visited with *avertissemens*, for criticisms on the *loi d'enseignement*, and on official documents inserted in the *Moniteur*.

The monetary question is one which excites more attention that ever. So scarce is money that the Bank of France last week notified in all its bureaux that all who came to change notes would receive in future half gold and half silver.

A marriage is expected to take place shortly, which will unite two of the most celebrated names of the Napoleon dynasty, in the persons of the young Murat, officer in the Guides, and Mdlle. de Wagram, daughter of the Prince de Wagram, the same for whom a union with the Prince Napoleon was contemplated at the time of the Emperor's marriage.

The Duc d'Albe has arrived in Paris, and is at the Tuileries. The young Dom Pedro's visit to Paris, after visiting London, Brussels, Berlin, and Vienna, is expected with interest.

Paris danse, in spite of "wars and rumours of wars," not *chez lui*, but as he has done all the season, at Court and official balls. The Hôtel de Ville gave its second grand ball on Tuesday. The Ministers of War and Commerce have added their fêtes to the list. The ball of Saturday last at the Tuileries was magnificent, though, as may be supposed, the arrival of the despatch from the Czar caused no small pre-occupation in the mind of the Emperor. A *bal masqué* is talked of at the Princesse Mathilde's; and on the Dimanche Gras (next Sunday) is to take place a brilliant *fête d'enfans*, at the Cirque of the Champs Elysees, for the charitable institution of the Œuvres des Familles.

The position of affairs, and the circumstance that the dullness and rigour of the season have induced a considerable portion of the society of Paris to go to Rome for the Carnival, will doubtless render its conclusion particularly sombre here.

The *bœuf gras* has, on his arrival from Poissy (the great cattle market for the supply of the capital), been named Prince Menschikoff.

The great politico-theatrical event of the day is the appearance, at the Opéra Comique, of Meyerbeer's "Etoile du Nord," the work of which we spoke last week as being stopped by the Censure until the decision of the *Chef de l'Etat* should be given as to the propriety of its appearance or suppression. The *Moniteur* having announced that the Emperor, considering that "an opera was not a *pièce de circonstance* but a musical work, and that it would be attaching to a poem an exaggerated importance to prohibit its appearance," left to this consideration was joined the reluctance of the Emperor to deprive the public of one of its pleasures, and to injure the administration of the theatre, the "Etoile du Nord" would very shortly appear. As may be supposed, these circumstances excited no small interest to that which already attached itself to the name of Meyerbeer. Meyerbeer débutant in Opéra Comique, moreover; and the theatre was crowded to excess, boxes and tickets being, for the last two days, hardly attainable. The success of the piece has more than justified the attention it thus excited previous to its appearance.

SPAIN.

Accounts from Madrid to the 6th inst. state that the Queen intended to spend the Holy Week in Seville; and that she would be accompanied in her excursion by the President of the Council. Cabinet Councils were extremely frequent, but the result of the deliberations had not transpired. The *Diario Espagnol*, of the 14th, had been seized, in consequence of an article in which the conduct of the Government towards Generals O'Donnell and José de la Concha was violently attacked.

The Queen had ordered that the measures adopted in the capital, for the relief of the indigent and labouring classes, should be extended to all the districts of the kingdom in which a scarcity of provisions was experienced.

The Governor of the province of Barcelona had informed the Minister of War that the band of brigands who had made their appearance in the upper mountains of Catalonia, had recrossed the frontier and sought refuge in France, in consequence of the measures adopted for their capture.

BREAD RIOTS IN ITALY.

A letter from Rome, of the 13th, states that disturbances had taken place in the provinces, in consequence of the high price of provisions. They were particularly serious at Ravenna, Rimini, Cesena, and Perugia. Masses of famished peasants entered this last town crying for bread. The Governor of the place, a Swiss, called out the troops, and was on the point of ordering them to fire upon the multitude, when he was prevented by the delegate, Monsignor Loschiavo, who displayed on the occasion the greatest moderation.

THE WAR.

THE CZAR'S REFUSAL OF LOUIS NAPOLEON'S PEACE PROPOSAL.

The *Moniteur* of Sunday announced the arrival of the Emperor of Russia's answer to the letter of the Emperor of the French. It is in the negative. In his letter to the Emperor, the Czar discusses the conditions of arrangement which were proposed to him and declares that he cannot enter into any negotiation, except upon the basis which he has already made known. According to the French Government organ, "this reply leaves no chance open for a pacific solution, and France must be prepared to maintain, by the most effective measures, the cause for which the persevering exertions of diplomacy have been unable to secure the victory." There are several versions of the manner in which the letter of the Emperor of the French was presented to the Czar. The following communication gives some details which are not uninteresting:—

The reply of the Emperor of the French arrived at St. Petersburg on the 6th inst. M. de Castelbajac immediately applied Count Nesselrode that he wished to present a letter to the Czar from the Emperor of the French. Although it is contrary to Russian Court etiquette to speak to the Emperor of Russia on public business after four o'clock in the afternoon, Count Nesselrode apprised M. de Castelbajac that he might present himself at the Palace, although the Emperor was suffering from the gout. M. de Castelbajac con-equent y delivered the letter on the afternoon of the 6th. The Czar appeared to be painfully affected on reading it. He then spoke a few words, in a low tone, in Russian, which M. de Castelbajac did not understand. He recovered his composure almost immediately, and told M. de Castelbajac that he would return an answer in a few days.

THE ANGLO-FRENCH AND TURKISH TREATY.

The text of the treaty of alliance offensive and defensive between England, France, and Turkey, is said to have been forwarded from Paris on Tuesday. Besides the articles already known, which stipulate that Turkey shall not conclude any treaty with Russia without the consent of England and France, and that neither of these two Powers is in any case to derive any territorial advantages from the present war, the treaty is described as containing other articles, which stipulate for the free navigation of the Black Sea, and for the sending of an army of occupation of 100,000 men to Constantinople. Of this number, France is to furnish 70,000 men, and England 30,000. The 100,000 men are all to be assembled at Constantinople about the middle of April.

FRENCH PREPARATION FOR WAR

In addition to the army of observation of 100,000 men to be formed on the frontier of the Alps, it is now stated that the French expedition to Turkey, instead of consisting of 40,000, as was originally intended, will ultimately be raised to 70,000 of the best men in the French army. Generals Canrobert, Pelis-ier, and Macmahon will command three divisions; but there appears to be some difficulty with respect to the appointment of a Commander-in-Chief,

PREPARATIONS FOR WAR IN SWEDEN AND FINLAND.

From Christiania the news is warlike: 6000 men are to be mobilised; of whom 3000 are to be sent to Stockholm, 1200 to Christiansand, 1000 to Horten, and the rest to Kaholmen. A division of the gun-boat fleet is to be got ready immediately.

Russia neglects nothing in the midst of war in Turkey, and intrigues everywhere, not even the continued Russification of unfortunate Finland. Two ordinances have lately been published in that duchy, the one commanding all the scholars in the high schools to wear uniform, and the other rendering the present censorship of the press still more severe.

In Finland 100 gun-boats are to be got ready, and 60,000 Russian troops are to occupy the coasts of the Gulf of Bothnia, the Finnish regiment being prudently sent to other quarters. The visit of the Grand Duke Constantine to Helsingfors has been postponed.

A FINANCIAL CRISIS IN RUSSIA.

A financial crisis prevails at St. Petersburg. Money has become very scarce, and almost all business is at a stand-still. Nothing but paper is in circulation. At the departure of the last mail war was considered inevitable, although it was far from being popular in the capital. The best troops are being directed towards the seaports, where immense stores are collected. If the struggle commences, it will be terrible and decisive, for Russia appears to devote to it all her resources. The bases of a forced loan have been prepared. Foreigners are leaving St. Petersburg and Moscow in crowds. In this last named town the war party has the pre-eminence, not amongst the higher classes, but among the people.

All the Turkish Consuls in Russia are about to give in their resignation. English subjects are placed under the protection of Austrian agents, but only for six months, dating from the declaration of war by the Porte.

The Czar is extremely enraged at the answer returned by Prussia. Prince Radziwitch is summoned from Warsaw to St. Petersburg. Russian troops are to be stationed between Riga and Memel. A ukase, issued by the Emperor of Russia on the 9th, orders fresh levies. Baron Budberg will take a short journey from Berlin. General Benckendorff has received the command of the forces in the Caucasus.

THE RUSSO-GREEK CONSPIRACY.—AN INSURRECTION.

The conspiracy fomented, by the indefatigable agents of the Czar, throughout the dominions of the Sultan, has ended in an insurrection in Albania. From the account we gave last week, it appears that the persons at the head of the conspiracy were ex employés of the Russian Government; and that they had been carrying on their machinations ever since the departure of Prince Menschikoff from Constantinople last spring.

Letters from Janina, of the 8th inst., confirm the telegraphic despatch relative to the outbreak in Southern Albania. It is there stated that several bands of insurgents have joined in the neighbourhood of Arta, near the station of the "Five Wells," they took up a position, and cut off the communication between Janina and Arta. The Government had sent 1000 irregular troops against them with what success is not mentioned. The tradesmen in Arta had fled for safety to the citadel, taking their property with them.

A letter, dated Athens, Feb. 16, states that the Greeks were pressing on against Arta, and had laid close siege to it. What Turkish troops there were had collected in Arta, to which place they had all fled for safety. The Greeks occupied the defile of Pente Pegadia, the only road from Arta to Janina, so that it was hardly possible to send troops to Arta. It could only be done by making a long detour and marching through the revolted districts, supposed to be prudent to empty Janina of its military force. While this movement was taking place on land, there was an action in the port of Arta between the Turkish guard-ship and a Greek cutter. A Greek merchant vessel, laden with corn, wished to leave the harbour. The Turkish admiral made an outcry about this, and threatened the crew. The guard-ship added fuel to the flame, for it threatened to send the merchant ship to the bottom, if it dared to leave its moorings. Of course the Greek cutter, that happened to be at anchor there, took the part of its countrymen; so, after some pros and cons, it poured a broadside into the guard-ship, and the latter went down.

The *Allgemeine Zeitung* has letters from Athens of February 3. They mention that "Lieutenant Spiridiot Karaiskakis, who is attached to the frontier battalion, and is son of the hero of that name who fell at Athens, had crossed the frontier on the 28th of January with 500 Greeks and Albanians. He had effected a junction with the insurgents in Epirus; and his first movements were looked for with great anxiety." "Everything," it is added, will depend on whether his first steps or movements prove successful. If this be the case, Epirus, Thessaly, and Macedonia may very speedily be free from the oppressive yoke of the Porte." Some days ago the well-known Panajiot Sutzo delivered a funeral oration, at the close of which he said—"Death or liberty. Death or a Greek Empire: a Greek Empire is our only salvation. Swear by the ashes of this youth who has now fallen, that you will undertake everything which human strength can compass to effect the restoration of a Greek empire." Such is their tone.

A telegraphic despatch from Vienna, and, therefore, not very reliable, states that the insurgents are nearly 40,000 strong, and that the Greek; that Janina has risen, and has been joined by the inhabitants of Merzowa and Agrafa; and that the Turkish troops from the Montenegrin frontier were marching thither.

A despatch from Vienna, on Tuesday, says that advices from Albania to the middle of February speak of the insurrection as increasing. Bands of armed men go from village to village, urging the inhabitants to rise. Arms and ammunition are distributed gratis, and the Turks everywhere take to flight. The Pacha of Janina has withdrawn the troops from the town to the citadel on Mount Sihanuzza. Inflammatory proclamations are distributed in great numbers. On the 8th and 9th inst a revolutionary movement occurred at Salonica, but the Turkish troops attacked the insurgents at the point of the bayonet, and

seized the ringleaders. Since then the public tranquillity has not been disturbed.

THE FLEETS IN THE BLACK SEA.

On the 6th several large English and four French steamers went from the Bosphorus into the Black Sea, convoying eight Turkish steamers and ten sailing-vessels, with 7000 troops and ammunition, to Batoum. One English and one French steamer had gone to Varna.

The report of an attack on Chef ketil (Fort St. Nicholas), after the combined fleets left for the Bosphorus, is not correct. It was on the 3rd January that the fleets entered the Black Sea. It was on the 6th that the Russians cannonaded St. Nicholas. The allie commanders heard of this, and, expecting to catch the Russians in an act of war, the ships convoying the Turkish transports to Batoum set out from Sin pe with guns shotted, in the hop of a brush. But the Russians had been severely handled by the fortress, and did not wait for the French and British ships.

PORT OF SEBASTOPOL.

Lieutenant O'Reilly of the *Retribution* made, during the recent visit of that ship to Sebastopol, a sketch of the whole place, including the forts, batteries, men-of-war, and the town: a copy of which was despatched to the Admiralty. Lieutenant O'Reilly states that—

Five line-of-battle ships were moored head-and-stern across the harbour, so as to command the entrance of the harbour, which is no narrow that only one line-of-battle-ship can enter at a time, exposed to a cross fire of 400 heavy guns before entering the harbour; and should you succeed in doing so you would have a raking fire of five or six line-of-battle ships; three or whom are of three decks, so there is no chance of attacking it by sea, as they could also easily stretch a boom or chain across the entrance. But by land it is very different, being surrounded by heights, which could easily be carried; and this would place the town, all the heavy batteries, ships, and docks, at the mercy of an enemy. The town is surrounded by a wall loopholed. Within seven miles of Sebastopol there are several deep inlets, where you could land in a day, free of all guns—those of the port out of range; so that you could land a sufficient force to overpower those of the enemy. The place is a complete garrison, and is said to contain 16,000 soldiers.

THE SKIRMISHES ON THE DANUBE.

The news from the seat of war continues to be of a very puzzling nature. One day a d spatch brings a striking account of a Ru sian victory; and a few days later we receive letters showing that it was either without foundation, or else a distorted statement of what has taken place. On Wednesday a despatch was received from Constantinople stating that a great part of the Turkish flotilla on the Danube had been destroyed near Giurgevo. As no date was given, it was thought the despatch probably referred to an affair mentioned in the *Gazette d'Augsbourg*. According to that journal, General Schilder, who had, in the month of January, erected a battery of twelve guns of large calibre on the island of Ruzuadan, opposite Rustchuk, where the flotilla was lying, had seriously injured a Turkish steamer and several smaller vessels. The Russians were said to have had only a few men wounded.

A correspondent of the *Oest Deutsche Post*, from the Lower Danube, professes to be able to give an authentic account of all the little affairs which took place on the Danube between the 5th and the 9th inst. On the 6th, Osman Pacha, with 1400 men and 20 guns, advanced by way of Muglavit towards Mazeozi, in order to see what the Russians were about there. On the approach of the Turks, the Ru sian outposts fell back on Mazeozi, where entrenchments have been made. On the same day, 500 horse, also with 20 gun, left Negco and Girna to reconnoitre the Russian position at Urostkeui. It is probable the reports made by the commanders of the detachments were unfavourable, as Achmet Pacha, the Commander of Kalafat, immediately sent to Omer Pacha, requesting a reinforcement, in order that the strategically important places of Muglavit, Serketz, Negco, Girna, and Nedsje might be occupied. On the 5th and 6th Said Pacha, with 5000 foot and 40 guns, crossed the river at Rustchuk, and Mahomet Pacha, with 4000 men and 30 guns, did the same at Giurakui. Both at Giurgevo and Oltenitza there was a fierce struggle, but the Turks were obliged to withdraw, without having effected more than to secure possession of the island near Oltenitza. On the 8th and 9th, 6000 Turks, under the command of Ismail Pacha, crossed from Kalafat, and advanced as far as Orsech de Floss, whence the Russians fled at his approach. After destroying all the fortifications, the Turks returned in perfect order to the right bank of the river. On the 8th, by order of General Lüders, 2000 Russians crossed the river from Brailo to Measlin, near which place they destroyed some field-works; but, being subsequently vigorously attacked by the Turks, they were obliged to retire.

INVESTMENT OF KALAFAT.

Letters from Constantinople mention that eighty heavy guns were to be despatched to Varna, and thence forwarded to Kalafat. Orders had been issued from the Ministry of War to Omer Pacha to hold the position of Kalafat at any cost. Letters of Feb 1 from the Servian frontier, state that the Russians were daily drawing closer the cordon of troops investing Kalafat. From Jurna, on the left bank of the mouth of the Aluta, and thence in a northerly direction, by Kregesti, Karakul, Dilga, Radovan, Certatesk, Caranga, Driacz, and Grla, and then, farther from Citate, by Matszecag and Csoroja to Ursika, there were stationed, in larger and smaller corps, not less than 35,000 Russian troops, who form an immense semicircle in front of Kalafat. The countless marauders and stragglers, who are affiliated to the Russian army of investment, are collected into the various field-refages of Povar, Sijal, Tugla, Gouvon, Mirila, and even as far as Slatina. In Krajova convalescents only are received, or at least patients whose recovery can be pretty surely reckoned upon, and who can be very speedily restored to duty in the field.

THE ENTENTE CORDIALE WITH BELGIUM.

The *Gotha Gazette* publishes a despatch from M. Drouyn de Lhuys to the French Minister in Saxony, on the subject of the visit of Prince Napoleon to Belgium. He states that there was nothing political in the visit, that it was intended by the Emperor as a proof of his esteem, and that he regarded as a calumny the reports which had been current of the King of the Belgians having attempted to use his influence to prevent the alliance of England with France, and had induced another illustrious personage to co-operate with him. The despatch declares that the Emperor of the French has the highest confidence in the honourable character of his Belgian Majesty.

AMERICA.

The *Asia*, Captain Lott, which sailed from New York on Thursday, the 26th inst., reached the Mersey on Monday. The weather in the United States had been very severe. At Concord, the thermometer had fallen 26 degrees below zero. A fire broke out among the steam-boats at New Orleans on the 4th inst., and fifteen or twenty negroes perished in the flames. Seven steamers, together with several barges, were entirely destroyed, with their cargoes, consisting principally of cotton, and provisions. A bill had been reported to the House of Representatives, annulling the contract with the Collins Mail Steamers, and proposing that the Government should purchase them. It does not, however, seem likely to pass.

The news from Mexico extends to the 19th ult. from the capital, and to the 24th from Vera Cruz. The most important point of the intelligence is the subject of the introduction of colonists, which was being discussed in Mexico.

The Vera Cruz *Eco* of the 22nd of January says:—"It is now understood by the possibility of a doubt, that in the southern portion of the department of Mexico, a rich gold placer has been discovered, extending about eighty leagues in length; and it is highly probable that this fortunate discovery will be followed by others of equal value to the country."

THE NAVY AND ARMY.—Admiral Sir Charles Napier is to command the Baltic fleet; and Major-General Charles Yorke is to succeed Col. Airey as Military Secretary to the Commander-in-Chief.

LIEUTENANTS ON HALF-PAY.—The Lords of the Admiralty have given notice to all lieutenants in the Royal Navy, now on half-pay, or of and below the seniority of 1841 inclusive, that they are required immediately to transmit their addresses to the Secretary of the Admiralty, and such lieutenants as may th nk themselves unfit for service are to transmit medical certificates of their inability, and the cause of the same. The half-pay of all lieutenants neglecting to reply to this notice on or before the 1st of March next will be suspended. A lmates and midshipmen, second masters and masters'-assistants, unemployed, are also to send their addresses on or before the 1st March, or they will be considered as ceasing to belong to her Majesty's service.

UHLAND, THE GERMAN POET.—Mr. Mitchell, in his speech at New York, is said to have stated that Uhland, the German poet, had become an exile, and was now in Ohio. This is a mistake; for Uh and is now living in his native Wurtemberg, and is reported in the papers to have quite recently declined a civic honour proposed to be conferred on him by the King of [illegible] on the suggestion of Baron Humboldt.—*From Notes and Queries.*

PREPARATIONS FOR WAR.

EXPORTATION OF WARLIKE STORES.

In consequence of information received by Government that a large quantity of warlike stores had been entered at the Custom house, for exportation to Odessa, last week, a Privy Council was held at Buckingham Palace, on Saturday, at which the following proclamation was ordered to be issued:—

THE QUEEN.—A PROCLAMATION.

VICTORIA R.

Whereas by the Customs Consolidation Act, 1853, section 150, certain goods may, by proclamation or order of her Majesty in Council, be prohibited either to be exported or carried coastwise; and whereas We, by and with the advice of Our Privy Council, deem it expedient and necessary to prohibit the goods hereinafter mentioned either to be exported or carried coastwise; We, by and with the advice aforesaid do hereby order and direct, that from and after the date hereof, all arms, ammunition, and gun-powder, military and naval stores, and the following articles—being articles which We have judged capable of being converted into, or made useful in increasing the quantity of military or naval stores, that is to say: marine engines, screw propellers, paddle-wheels, cylinders, cranks, shafts, boilers, tubes for boilers, boiler plates, fire-bars, and every article or any other component part of an engine or boiler, or any article whatsoever which is, can, or may become applicable for the manufacture of marine machinery, shall be, and the same are, hereby prohibited either to be exported from the United Kingdom, or carried coastwise.

Given at our Court at Buckingham Palace, this eighteenth day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four, and in the seventeenth year of our reign.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

IMPRESSMENT FOR THE NAVY.

The following well-timed letter puts to rest all fears about the possible revival of impressment for the navy —

Admiralty, Feb. 18, 1854.

Sir,—I am desired by Sir James Graham to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, stating that an improvement exists among the seamen in the neighbourhood of South Shields that the Government are about to resort to a forced ballot to compel them to serve in the Royal navy, and that impressment itself may be had recourse to. Sir James Graham desires me to express to you his thanks for the information which you have given him, and, in reply, to inform you that the Government have not the remotest idea or intention of resorting to such measures, or to compulsory measures of any kind, for manning the navy.—I have the honour to be, sir, your obed ent servant,

H. O'BRIEN.

James Mather, Esq., South Shields.

THE MAILS FROM THE SEAT OF WAR.

Next in importance to the proper equipment of our naval and military forces, and their speedy direction towards the scene of war, is the necessity for rapid and regular channels of communication, so that instructions may instantly be transmitted to our Admirals and Generals, and intelligence of the progress of events forwarded in return to the seat of Government. The present communications between London and Constantinople are extremely unsatisfactory and uncertain, and are susceptible of great improvement. The Peninsular and Oriental Company have two steamers—the *Vectis* and *Valetta*—running between Malta and Marseilles in forty to forty six hours. It has been suggested that, if the Government were to arrange with the Peninsular and Oriental Company to use these two beautiful packets as despatch-boats, to run direct from Marseilles to Constantinople, without calling at Malta, the voyages might be regularly accomplished in four days. Allowing forty-eight hours for couriers to proceed from London to Marseilles, via Folkestone and Paris, it would be quite possible to reach Constantinople in six days from London; and very pressing instructions transmitted from London by submarine telegraph to Marseilles, and conveyed thence by the *Vectis* or *Valetta*, might be placed in Constantinople in little over four days. It is thus quite practicable, by using this route, to arrange for a regular service of special couriers between London, Paris, and Constantinople in six days.

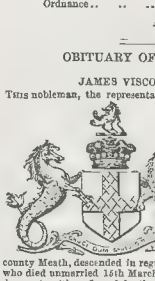
THE WAR ESTIMATES FOR 1854.—The following is a summary of the total amount which Parliament is asked to vote for the year commencing on the 1st of April next, and the extent to which that is an increase on the vote taken last year:—

	Prop sed Vote.	Increase.
Army	£6 757 493	£282,470
Navy	7.487,948	1,352,455
Ordnance	3,865 878	792,311
	£17,637,312	£2,367,236

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

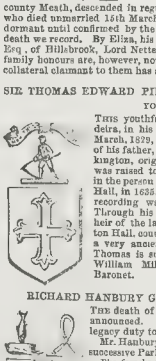
JAMES VISCOUNT NETTERVILLE.

THIS nobleman, the representative of an ancient line, died on the 13th inst., at his residence, 15, Fenubroke-place, Dublin, after a long illness. His Lordship, son of the late Nicholas Netterville, by Bridget, his wife, daughter of Bartholomew French, Esq., of Ballinkeran, had the Viscounty of Netterville adjudged to him by the House of Lords, on the 14th of August, 1824. The title, originally conferred in 1622, on Nicholas Netterville, of Dowth, county Meath, descended in regular succession to John, sixth Viscount, who died unmarried 15th March, 1826; from which period it remained dormant until confirmed by the Lords' decision to the nobleman whose death we record. By Eliza, his wife, third daughter of Joseph Burwan, Esq., of Hillsbrook, Lord Netterville leaves two daughters only. The family honours are, however, not likely to become extinct, as it is said a collateral claimant to them has appeared.



SIR THOMAS EDWARD PILKINGTON, BART., OF CHEVET, YORKSHIRE.

THIS youthful Baronet died on the 7th ult., at Madeira, in his twenty fifth year. He was born 19th March, 1829, and succeeded to the title at the decease of his father, 10th October, 1850. The family of Pilkington, originally of Rivington, county Lancaster, was raised to the degree of Baronets of Nova Scotia in the person of Sir Arthur Pilkington, Kt., of Chevet Hall, in 1635. The gentleman whose death we are recording was the ninth inheritor of the title. Through his mother Mary, second daughter and coheir of the late Thomas Swinnerton, Esq., of Butterton Hall, county Stafford, he was also descended from a very ancient race. Having died unmarried, Sir Thomas is succeeded by his next brother, now Sir William Milborne Swinnerton Pilkington, tenth Baronet.



RICHARD HANBURY GURNEY, ESQ., OF NORWICH.

THE death of this opulent banker has been recently announced. His personal estate is estimated for legacy duty to amount to nearly £600,000.

Mr. Hanbury Gurney represented Norwich in several successive Parliaments. He was first returned in 1818.

The family of the Gurneys—one of great influence in the commercial world—is a branch of the old Norman house of De Gournay, and has been settled in Norfolk time out of mind. The present representative is the learned and estimable Hudson Gurney, Esq., of Keswick, near Norwich, elder half-brother of the gentleman who is the subject of this notice, and who was son of Richard Gurney, Esq., of Keswick, by Rachel, his second wife, daughter of Osgood Hanbury, Esq., of Oldfield Grange, Essex.

JOHN MARTIN, K.H.

OF this distinguished painter, a copious autobiographic memoir appeared in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, No 369. Mr. Martin was a native of Northumberland, born at Haydon Bridge, in 1789. He died on the 17th inst., at the house of Thomas Wilson, Esq., Douglas, Isle of Man.

MUSIC IN PARIS.

"L'ETOILE DU NORD," COMIC OPERA, IN THREE ACTS; THE LIBRETTO BY SCRIBE, THE MUSIC BY MEYERBEER.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, February 20.

MEYERBEER at the Théâtre Imperial de l'Opéra Comique! Meyerbeer again transforming his style, and entering the lists on the stage at which the light productions of Grétry, Hérold, Auber, Adolphe Adam, Halévy, and Ambroise Thomas, have been for so many years in the ascendant—it surely cannot be! Meyerbeer, who wrote the "Margherita d'Anjou" (for Milan) in 1822, the "Crociato in Egitto" (for Venice) in 1824, the "Robert le Diable" in 1830, the "Huguenots" in 1836, and the "Prophète" (for the Grand Opéra in Paris) in 1849, besides the "Camp of Silesia" (for Berlin and Vienna) in 1846—Meyerbeer, whose forte as a lyric composer has been considered to be the grand, the terrible, the pathetic, and the vehement; whose operatic inspirations have so profoundly interested audiences in every part of the world, because they are replete with the most refined sensibility, and filled to overflow with every varied expression of deep feeling—Meyerbeer, the writer of a comic opera! Such were the exclamations heard in the European musical circles since it was made known that the "Northern Star" was to shine positively at the Salle Favart. But the result has proved that the genius of Meyerbeer is not confined to one school of composition. The triumph of Meyerbeer as a comic opera composer is a *fait accompli*. In the presence of the Emperor and Empress—of all that is distinguished in political, literary, and art tic circles—"L'Etoile du Nord" was produced, last Thursday night, with the most signal success—one that does not admit of a "shadow or a shade" of suspicion—one in which the individuality of the composer has assumed a novel aspect. And in this instance, be it remarked, that the popularity of the new work will essentially be owing to the composer hi nself. The tact and talent of Scribe could not, of course, be wanting in certain dramatic situations; but to endeavour to excite emotions in audiences from a sentimental love-story of Peter the Great and Catherine of Russia may be deemed an impossibility; historic reminiscences are opposed to any marked sympathy for such personages. The melodious charm, imaginative imagery, dramatic impulse, and descriptive powers of the great musician, have been victorious over Scribe's elaborate and extravagant incidents—the poetic license in the development of which has been carried to the verge of absurdity. The *Czar*, in the first act, is working as a carpenter under the name of *Peter Michaelof*, at Wiburg, on the Gulf of Finland, where he meets with *Catherine*, who is a suttler, and falls in love with her, for her daring courage, which is shown by her coming in contact alone with a marauding body of Cossacks, and by her enlisting as a soldier, in order to prevent her brother, who has been drawn in the conscription, from postponing his marriage with *Prascovia*, the Wiburg Burgomaster's daughter. In the second act, is the saving of the *Czar's* life, menaced by conspirators in his army, by *Catherine's* discovery of the traitorous documents; the heroine herself narrowly escaping death for having struck a corporal, whilst she is a guard at *Peter's* tent, in the interior of which the *Czar* is seen, deeply intoxicated, in the company of two *vivandières*. In the last act *Peter* is at Moscow, lamenting the loss of *Catherine*, who is, however, brought to his palace in a state of insanity, caused by his infidelity. She is restored to reason by the device of surrounding her with her former village companions, and of playing their favourite airs on the flute—on which her brother and Peter, in the first act, were accustomed to perform. Crowned Empress by the Czar, the predictions of her mother, on the night of her death, that the North Star, which was then shining brightly, destined a high station for her at the hands of a stranger, are thus fulfilled.

Such is the outline of the poem which Meyerbeer will immortalise by his brilliant conceptions. The score contains no less than twenty-six pieces, of which the overture, the gipsy rondo with tambourine, by *Catherine*, in the first act; the songs of the cavalry and infantry soldiers, the chorus of conspirators, a portion of the finale in the second act, and the bravura, with the accompaniment of two flutes, of *Catherine*, in the last act, are avowedly extracted from the "Camp of Silesia," an occasional opera of local interest, which will not admit of transplantation from a Teutonic clime.

The overture consists chiefly of a stately march in E flat, richly scored, in the midst of which steals a delicious melody, frequently heard during the progress of the opera, instrumented with peaceful pungency: the winding up of this imposing instrumental introduction is marked by the co-operation of a military band of Sax instruments, behind the scenes, with the ordinary orchestra. The opening chorus, "Sous cet ombrage," is followed by a song of a vendor of pastry, *Danmoiselin* (Mocker), the boom fr end of *Peter*. A drinking chorus, "A la Finlande, buvons," some couplets by Mdlle. Duprez, who is the *Catherine*; a lively duet, Mdlle. Lind'hre, "Ah! que j'ai peur!" a most original and effective bass air, "Enfans de l'Ukraine," sung by Hermann Léon, as *Gritzenko*, the Cossack chief; the singularly fascinating rondo, sung by Mdlle. Duprez, which has the effect of drawing away the brigands from around the village; a thoroughly dramatic duo between Mdlle. Duprez and M. Battaille (who is the *Czar*), "De quelle ville es tu?" a light, quaint, and crying duo for two sopranos, given by Mdlles. Lefebvre and Duprez; a chorus of soldiers marching to battle, and a prayer finale, sung by *Catherine*, whose voice dies away in the distance, the captivating cadenza, as she is marched off, disguised as the recruit, are included in a first act.

The second act is constructed on loftier proportions. The action passing in a military camp, placed in a rocky defile, on the eve of the battle between Peter and Charles XII, of Sweden, the local colouring of the composer is displayed most felicitously. The orchestral writing is full of novel and picturesque effects, the vocal pieces are replete with animation. The songs of the two soldiers, who in turns boast of the superiority of their claims for the cavalry and infantry, are masterpieces of ingenuity and freshness. The infantry air is interwoven with evolutions and choral ejaculations; the drum imitations by the voices being so curious and startling, that the house demanded an encore. The concerted piece of the tent scene is a continuous gem. Beginning with a bacchanal duo between *Battaille* and *Mocker*, the voice of *Catherine* intervenes outside the tent; then succeed the vivacious couplets of the two *vivandières*, the coming of which electrified the house, and again exacted a rapturous demand for a repetition. After this duo, comes a quintet, the phrases of which have all the fulness of German harmony, with the luminous ing grace of Italian melody. The finale, in which, after the suppression of the conspiracy by the courage of the *Czar*, who throws off his incognito, is overwhelmingly large and impressive. Meyerbeer has interwoven an ancient Prussian march with a march executed by drums and fifer, and subsequently with a march played by the Sax instruments—the three subjects being combined, in the conclusion, with astounding and inspiring force.

In the third act, Battaille has a romance, "O jours heureux de jole et de milère." The instrumentation of this delicious melody is charming. After a comic duo, by Battaille, Mocker, and Hermann Léon, Mdle Lefebvre has an air, which provoked another encore; and the same vocalist a duo with Jourdan, "Fusillé, fusillé"—in which the composer is caught for once napping, the opening bearing an unmistakeable resemblance to the "Pendu, pendu," in Adam's "Postilion de Lonjumeau." The air with the two flutes, forming the finale, is known in this country—as Mdlle. Lind, for whom the heroine in the "Camp of Silesia" was written, has sung it frequently at concerts.

"L'Etoile du Nord" will be, must be, heard in London: the season cannot pass with the omission of the production of such a masterpiece. Its adaptation for the Italian stage will be easy. The dialogue is very limited, and can be reduced advantageously, and turned into recitatives. The French critics are in the seventh heaven in their unending encomiums. Its exactitude and precision as an *ensemble* cannot be denied. The choruses are admirable—the orchestra, conducted by Dimanche, plays and accompanies to perfection; but the manners habituated to the vocal glories of the English capital, take leave to deny that anything like an adequate cast has been secured at the Opéra Comique. Mdlle. Duprez, it is true, vocalises like an angel, but she acts like a *grisette*. Battaille is energetic and coarse, in the *Czar*. The vivacities of the two *artistes* are too awful to dwell upon; and yet, with such marked inferiorities, the careful rehearsals of the opera for six months—hear th s fact, English managers!—under the gifted composer's indefatigable direction, insured for the work a most finished interpretation. Meyerbeer was called for at the conclusion, amidst a storm of cheering, the Emperor and Empress remaining to join in the plaudits. The second performance on Saturday night more than confirmed the verdict of the opening representation. Stalls were sold last Thursday for two hundred francs (£8) each piece!

Our Artists have depicted the most striking dramatic situation in the opera. It is the tent scene in the second act, in which *Peter the Great* (Battaille) and his favourite (Mocker) are engaged in a drinking bout, in the presence of the two *vivandières*. The *Colonel*, who has just

"CAMPAIGN OVENS," FOR VICTUALLING FRENCH TROOPS.

entered the tent, in vain points out to the *Czar* the peril of his position; and *Catherine* (Mdlle. Duprez), disguised as the recruit, views with agony, through an aperture in the tent, the intoxication of *Peter*. She is surprised in the act by the *Corporal* (Hermann Léon), and on his reproving her for abandoning her post as sentinel, in her despair she strikes him. He appeals to *Peter*, who is so far gone that he cannot identify in the young conscript his *Catherine*, and orders her to be shot forthwith. After she is led off for execution a vague recollection of her voice forces itself on his mind, and, after a desperate effort to steady himself, he cries out, "Arretez!" This is finely given by Battaille; indeed, the entire scene is one of exciting interest, both dramatically and musically.

"CAMPAIGN OVENS" FOR VICTUALLING THE FRENCH TROOPS.

The naval and military preparations now in course of operation, both in England and France, present many interesting specimens of the improved state of the arts in their respective departments. Thus, the attention of the French Government has been much directed of late to the victualling of the troops; and a new system has recently been resorted to for the more economical supply of provisions in time of war. This system consists of Portable Baking Ovens (called *Fours de Campagne*), and has, since its first introduction, given the greatest satisfaction. The construction of these Ovens is extremely simple. Each is composed of a series of bars of iron, supporting a vault of thin plate of the same metal, which is covered with earth for the purpose of retaining the heat. The Ovens are of an oval shape, slightly flattened towards the upper extremity; and they are placed on the ground in the position of a bell, or an inverted glass. In the specimens that have come under our notice, there was a hollow place in front of the grate intended for the reception of the baker. This is not a necessary appendage to the apparatus, but is adopted merely to facilitate its operation.

These Ovens are essentially portable, notwithstanding their weight which is about 1000 lbs. They are composed of 137 separate pieces, and can be fastened together, and put in a state fit for use in about an hour. It is difficult to enumerate the precise economical advantages of this system; since they depend in a great measure on the fuel employed, and the nature of the earth with which the roof of the oven is covered, &c. The amount of bread baked by this process is estimated at the rate of 150 rations, or 548 lbs., for the first 80 kilogrammes of fuel when the oven is new y lighted, and for every subsequent 20 kilogrammes of fuel when the bars are in a heated state. The bread thus made is in every respect equal to that baked in the ordinary way, as is testified by the approval of the garrison stationed at Paris, among a considerable portion of whom it is daily distributed

We hear that the French Minister of War has recently issued orders for the construction of a great number of these Ovens, for the supply of the Expedition about to proceed to the East. Orders have also been given for the appointment of military bakers.

SCENE FROM MEYERBEER'S NEW OPERA, "L'ETOILE DU NORD," AT THE THEATRE IMPERIAL DE L'OPERA COMIQUE, PARIS.

DESTRUCTION BY FIRE OF THE PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, AT QUEBEC.

GREAT FIRE AT QUEBEC.

The *Quebec Mercury*, received by the *Cunard* steamer, which arrived on Monday, contains a full account of the destruction of the Parliament Buildings in that city by fire, on the 1st of February. The fire was first seen about three in the morning, by one of the sentinels on duty. He gave the alarm, and a number of policemen and soldiers were speedily on the spot. At that time the fire seemed so very inconsiderable as to cause little apprehension. In a short time, however, the flames had spread to several parts of the building; and, as the firemen were unable to reach the centre of the conflagration, owing to the singular construction of the building, in little more than an hour from the time the alarm was given, it had become evident that the new wing of the Legislative Hall, which had been finished and furnished only a year ago, at an outlay of £60,000, was doomed to destruction. Gradually did the flames gain possession of the building, till they approached the Hall of Assembly, where for a moment the hope was entertained that division walls and iron doors might stay their progress; but not one, of half a dozen doors connecting the different parts of the structure, was fireproof! Then again, as the fire crossed over the division-wall to the dome, no one could witness its advance, screened as it was beneath the roofing. The firemen were there, but not a single engine could throw water so high as the roof; and even if it had, water could not penetrate the metal covering. The fire inspector proposed to the authorities present that if they would order the blowing-up of the roof, he would, with the assistance of his fire brigade, guarantee the safety of the Assembly Hall, and the dome, together with the wing beyond it. General Rowan instantly ordered Captain Beatson, of the Royal Engineers, to reconnoitre the building, and ascertain how and where the explosion could be effected without knocking down the walls. From his report it appeared that a large charge would be requisite, owing to the immense area of the garret; and further, that it was possible the roof might be thrown to a great height and fall upon the Lower Town, or the walls of the building might be endangered. This mode of arresting the progress of the fire was, therefore, abandoned.

But little property was saved within the south wing until some person opened one of the windows of the Library, from which the police and soldiery, together with the few civilians who had been roused from their slumbers, removed a vast number of books. Sleighs of all kinds were brought into requisition, and some thousands of volumes were thus carried in safely to the Archbishop's Palace, close by—Mr. Todd, the assistant librarian, and several other gentlemen, handing them from the shelves until the close proximity of the flames forced them to withdraw

When the first engine came on the ground, it was placed near the cistern at the foot of the Prescott-stairs, exactly opposite the Parliament-house, but the cistern was discovered to be dry, as it has been since the fire at the foot of Mountain street on the 11th of January. Had the firemen been supplied with water at this early hour, in all probability, something might have been done towards keeping the fire from the main building. As the flames, with awful grandeur, enclosed the whole south wing in their grasp, repeated attempts were made to save the centre building from the same fate. But as the town clock tolled the hour of six, it was plain to every observer that the lofty and reeking dome was gone beyond recovery, for the smoke was oozing out beneath every inch of its tin coating, now and then followed by flames flickering as they were wafted by the wind. In another half hour it tottered over to the southward, and, with its gilded cupola, and iron girded galleries, sank from view among the blazing timbers below.

The walls have not fallen in any part, and are reported by competent judges to be as solid as ever; the vaults and safes also appear to have stood the test without injury. The collection in the library was known to amount to 17,000 volumes; and it is calculated that about three-fourths are saved. A catalogue, which had been in compilation during three years, is said to have been consumed.

"Canada is certainly unfortunate (says the *Mercury*) in her Houses of Parliament; for, if we remember rightly, the Upper Canadian Legislative Halls were burnt down in Toronto about the year 1824; our average consumption in this particular commodity, including the Montreal catastrophe, thus appearing to be one set of Chambers every ten years. Again, this time twenty years ago—that is, on the 23rd January, 1834—our citizens were excited similarly to what they are now, for on that day the tocsin sounded to the cry that the Castle of St. Louis was in flames."

WRECK IN THE BAY OF BENGAL.

(From a Correspondent.)

The following occurrence took place in the recent voyage of the *Prince of Wales*, East India ship, from London to Calcutta. The facts were as follow:—On the 15th December, at five p.m., whilst beating up the Bay of Bengal against a strong equally north-east monsoon, in lat. 9 deg. north, and long. 92 deg. east, a small brig was descried ahead of the *Prince of Wales*, running to the westward directly towards the ship, and, on nearing her, hoisting English colours with a waft, as a signal to communicate, or for a boat. The ship was immediately hove too, when the brig passed astern, the persons on board (natives) hailing in Bengalee. She rounded to under the lee of the Indiaman; and, as it was nearly dark, continued burning lights and shouting, at the same time drifting rapidly to leeward. Captain Hopkins, of the *Prince of Wales*, immediately lowered a cutter, and sent her in charge of Mr. Deacon, his chief officer, with an Indian servant, who spoke English, as an interpreter: this service was not unattended with danger, the weather being squally and unsettled, and a short heavy sea. The chief officer went as close to the brig as he considered prudent, but did not go alongside, fearing a rush to his boat, in which case she must have inevitably been swamped. He ascertained her to be a native brig, commanded and manned by natives; that she had sprung a leak, and, their pump being choked, she was rapidly filling; and the crew wished to abandon her, and be taken on board the *Prince of Wales*. As there was no appearance of her immediately foundering, the officer returned to the ship with this intelligence, and for orders; being followed by the native captain, the owner, and eight Lascars, in their own boat. Captain Hopkins then sent his officer on board to examine the vessel. On reaching her, Mr. Deacon made the signal that she could not be kept long afloat. The Lascars were then taken out of their own boat, and she returned, under charge of the third officer, manned by some of the *Prince o. Wales's* men, to assist in saving the remainder, and their baggage. By eleven p.m. all were taken out, with the whole of their personal effects and some of their stores and articles for barter, and put safely on board the Indiaman; but, before this could be effected, the crew in the brig were compelled to cut away her masts, to prevent her rolling over, and

WRECK IN THE BAY OF BENGAL.—RESCUE OF THE CREW.

filling at once. Fifteen natives, her whole crew, were thus saved, as she must have foundered in a few hours. She proved to be from Moulmein, bound to the Island of Car Nicobar, for a cargo of cocoa-nuts; and she was ballasted with clay, which had choked the only pump. She had fallen to leeward of her port, and could never have worked back again in her leaky state. The brig was abandoned, and no doubt went down shortly afterwards. At half-past eleven the *Prince of Wales* filled, and stood on her course, having been hove to upwards of six hours. The crew received hospitable treatment on board, and was carried to Calcutta.—John B. Collins, Surgeon of the *Prince of Wales*.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

Sunday Feb 26.—Quinquagesima, or Shrove Sunday.
Monday, 27.—Dr. Arbuthnot died, 1735.
Tuesday, 28. Shrove Tuesday. Montaigne born, 1533.
Wednesday, Mar. 1.— Ash Wednesday. St. David.
Thursday, 2. John Wesley died, 1791.
Friday, 3.—Boileau died, 1711. Otway born, 1651.
Saturday, 4.—Saladin died, 1193.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,

FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 4.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
M. h. m. 1 20	A. h. m. 1 50	M. h. m. 2 16	A. h. m. 2 35	M. h. m. 3 0	A. h. m. 3 30	M. h. m. 3 55
A. h. m. 4 20	M. h. m. 4 50	A. h. m. 5 16	M. h. m. 5 35	A. h. m. 6 0	M. h. m. 6 30	A. h. m. 6 55
M. h. m. 7 20	A. h. m. 7 50	M. h. m. 8 16	A. h. m. 8 35	M. h. m. 9 0	A. h. m. 9 30	M. h. m. 9 55
A. h. m. 10 20	M. h. m. 10 50	A. h. m. 11 15	M. h. m. 11 30	A. h. m. 11 50	M. h. m. 0 5	A. h. m. 0 35
M. h. m. 1 5	A. h. m. 1 40	M. h. m. 2 10	A. h. m. 2 40	M. h. m. 3 5	A. h. m. 3 40	M. h. m. 4 10

TO CORESPONDENTS.

A Constant Reader.—Victor Amadeus II., King of Sardinia, left at his decease, in 1730, three sons, then surviving, and three daughters. Charles-Emanuel III., left younger sons and daughters. See "Patricium," vol iv., p. 474.

F. E. R.—A Greting green marriage is legal.

Genealogicus.—The first Viscount created in England was John Lord Beaumont, on whom the title was conferred in 1440. The oldest English titles are Baron and Earl. The first Marquis created was Robert de Vere, Earl of Oxford, to whom Richard II. gave the Marquisate of Dublin.

Erratum.—In the Memoir of Mr. Warner, M.P., at page 100, the date of that gentleman's marriage is stated 1843, instead of 1850.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1854.

The debate on the Eastern crisis in the House of Commons has enabled every man in the country to form a singularly clear idea of the true merits of the dispute which has at length broken a European peace of nearly forty years' continuance. For the consequences of the ensuing war the Emperor of Russia alone is responsible; but we may now leave him to the impending results which he has himself provoked. The punishment, we suspect, will be as signal as the crime. Already he has seen enough to make him certain, in his own heart, that the end of his enterprise must be, at the best, ignominious failure, if not irreparable ruin. The contempt which he has shown for law, justice, and humanity, was indulged, as he flattered himself, with security; because it was indulged at a craftily selected moment. Turkey was supposed to be in the last stage of hopeless disorganisation; the Greek malcontents were unusually active and alert; disorders requiring the despatch of an army had occurred in the north-western provinces, and that army had been very roughly handled by a few wild mountaineers; our Ambassador was absent from the Porte; Austria had enough to do to control her own chafing, far-scattered, and dangerous populations; between England and France it was imagined that mistrust, and worse than mistrust, prevailed; and thus, while all Europe appeared to be incapacitated for obstructing his designs, and while one of the Powers we have mentioned was even expected to help him, from motives of gratitude, everything seemed to indicate the arrival of the moment long waited for and long watched for by traditional ambition. But, even at this stage, he may perceive the fate that is overtaking him, in the total miscarriage of every one of the calculations on which he relied. On his side of the quarrel is injustice; and, strange to say, where the injustice is, there, likewise, is all the eagerness.

Looking to the other side of the picture, what we should, perhaps, blame the most is only the very excess of what deserves in itself the greatest praise. Our cause is just, and we are determined to make it good against this new disturber of mankind; yet it is with reluctance, and after having exhausted every expedient of conciliation, that we enter on the struggle; with reluctance, indeed, we enter on it, but never to recede while one man, one guinea, or one musket remains in England. In fine, we have been only too moderate and too trustful; and here a distinction must be made between the English people and the English Government. It is now many months since it became our indisputable right to go to war with Russia. But it does not follow that what is a right is immediately a duty; and the Cabinet persisted too long in hoping that the exercise of the right would not become a necessity.

The passage of the Pruth was an act of war; it was more, it was an act of piracy. Now, it cannot be denied that there was too much delicacy used by our Government in communicating to Russia their views of that rapacious aggression. We do not say that it was needful to declare war on the spot; but what *was* necessary, and what was certainly omitted, was to make the Emperor of Russia understand fully, and beyond the possibility of mistake, that, unless he receded before fair measures, he would infallibly have to recede through compulsion. This, somehow or other, he never really believed, or distinctly comprehended. And, in so far, we agree with the Opposition, that the diplomacy of our Government was feeble and inefficient. Nor has Lord Palmerston—whose speech in every other particular displayed consummate ability, both politically and oratorically—at all met the force of this objection. He evaded it, asking—"Would you, then, have us resort to arms at that moment?" as if that was the one other alternative. He proceeded to show, in a very powerful manner, that we should have then engaged in the struggle under auspices much less favourable than those which attend our measures at present. That may be; and therefore it is better to be going to war now, than to have gone to war then. But it would be better still, had war been averted altogether; and we maintain that one means, and certainly the best means, of averting it, was missed by the Ministry, who never, till it was too late for pacific results, succeeded in making the Emperor of Russia feel that they were in earnest. This could have been done without proclaiming an actual and immediate rupture; and if it had been done, perhaps our Guards would not now be on their way to the scene of another and an arduous war.

But the time is irrevocably past, except as a matter of criticism and history, for these censures, however well founded. As things stand we are united to a man; and, since there is work to do, it must be done, and done thoroughly. It is certain that if greater skill might have been shown in the attempt to save Europe from another general struggle, greater zeal at least could not. Our reluctance to shed blood, and to derange the business of nations, is made manifest to the whole world; it only remains to put some proofs on record—not for the first time—that England is as slow to go out of a conflict of this nature, as she is to go into it.

We had intended to express, in very full terms, the disgust, and more than disgust, which the ill-timed and canting imbecility, in Parliament, of the little knot of fallen men called "the Peace Party," has inspired the country. But they are in so forlorn and so marked a state of social isolation and political impotence, that we may spare ourselves the trouble. The best comment on their eccentric conduct and utterly untenable doctrines, is perhaps already pronounced by the people—the people itself—the people who accompanied our troops with cheering and huzzaing, in their departure, and who sent from Southampton along the waves of the Channel the echoes of the most thoroughly English shout that, for half a century, has rung from the shores of our island.

THE COURT.

The Queen held a Court and Privy Council on Saturday last, at Buckingham Palace. The Council was attended by Prince Albert, and all the Ministers and Great Officers of State. A proclamation was ordered to be issued, prohibiting the exportation of arms, ammunition, gunpowder, military and naval stores, and machinery available for war.

The Queen and Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, and the Princess Alice, the Ladies and Gentlemen of the Court, and the domestic household, attended Divine service on Sunday morning, in the private chapel at Buckingham Palace. The Hon. and Rev Gerald Wellesley officiated.

On Monday the Queen and Prince Albert, accompanied by the Princess Royal, and attended by the Marchioness of Ely, took a drive in a carriage and four. Her Majesty and his Royal Highness honoured Mr. Foley's studio, in Osnaburgh-street, with a visit. In the evening her Majesty had a dinner-party, the company at which included the French Ambassador and Countess Walewska, General d'Oxholm, the Danish Minister, the Marquis of Breadalbane, the Earl and Countess of Elgin, Earl Cawdor, Viscountess and Viscountess Mahon, Lord Glenelg, Sir George and Lady Grey, Sir Robert H. Inglis, and Colonel and Mrs. Bentinck.

On Tuesday the Queen and Prince Albert, accompanied by the Princess Royal and the Princess Alice, visited the Zoological Gardens in the Regent's-park. In the course of the day their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess d'Aumale, and her Imperial Highness the Princess of Salerno, visited her Majesty. In the evening the Queen and the Prince, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Princess Alice, Prince Alfred, and the Princesses Helena and Louisa, honoured the Princess' Theatre with their presence.

On Wednesday the Queen held a levee at St. James's Palace. In the evening her Majesty had a dinner party, including the Duchess of Sutherland, the Netherlands Minister, the Saxon Minister, the Marquis and Marchioness of Londonderry, the Marquis of Abercorn, the Marquis and Marchioness of Stafford, the Lord Chief Justice of England and the Baroness Strathheden, and Sir John and Lady Pakington.

On Thursday the Prince Consort visited the New Crystal Palace at Sydenham. The Earl of Clarendon had an audience of the Queen. The Duchess of Kent paid a visit to her Majesty at Buckingham Palace during the afternoon. In the evening the Queen and the Prince honoured the Lyceum Theatre with their presence.

THE LEVEE.

The Queen held a Levee (the first this season) on Wednesday afternoon, in St. James's Palace. Her Majesty and Prince Albert arrived from Buckingham Palace, about two o'clock, attended by the Royal suite, and escorted by a detachment of the Royal Horse Guards, and were received by the great officers of State.

The Queen and Prince Albert entered the Throne-room attended by the Duchess of Suther and, Mistress of the Robes, the Marchioness of Ely, Lady in Waiting; Earl Spencer, K.G., Lord Steward; the Marquis of Breadalbane K.T., Lord Chamberlain; the Marquis of Abercorn, K.G., Groom of the Stole to his Royal Highness, and the other great officers of State.

Her Majesty wore a blue and silver cloth train, with gold stars, and a white satin petticoat; and a diamond diadem

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge was present, attended by Lord William Paulet.

The foreign diplomatic circle having been first introduced, several presentations took place.

Among the more noticeable presentations in the general circle, we observed:—

The Earl of Elgin, on his return from Canada, by the Duke of Newcastle.
The Earl of Perth and Melfort, on restoration by Lord Willoughby de Eresby.
The Earl of Carnarvon, by the Right Hon. Sidney Herbert.
Colonel Lord Raglan, late Fusilier Guards, on promotion to the Lieutenant-Colonelcy of the regiment, by his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge.
Admiral Sir James Gordon, on his appointment as Governor of Greenwich Hospital, and promotion, by Sir James Graham.
Captain Sir C. Hotham, R.N., K.C.B., on his return from a special mission to the States of the River Plate, and appointment as Lieutenant-Governor of Victoria, by the Duke of Newcastle.
Captain Sir George Back, R.N, on being nominated to a good service pension, by Sir James Graham.
Captain the Hon. Joseph Denman, R.N., on his appointment to her Majesty's yacht, by Sir James Graham.
Rear-Admiral A. Fanshawe, on his appointment as Commander-in-Chief on the North American and West India stations, by Sir James Graham.
Colonel Ross, C.B., Secretary of Embassy at Constantinople, on his return, by the Earl of Clarendon.
The Rev. Dr. Cumming, Scotch Church, by the Earl of Aberdeen.
The Rev. Henry Melvill, on being appointed one of her Majesty's Chaplains in Ordinary, by the Bishop of London.

Before the Levee, Major-General Foxhall had an audience of the Queen, and delivered the badge of the Order of the Bath worn by the late Sir Frederick Adam, G.C.B. The Attorney-General had also an audience, and delivered to her Majesty the Grand Cross of the Bath of his uncle, the late Admiral Sir George Cockburn

General Lord Seaton has arrived at Farrance's Hotel, from his seat, Deer Park, Devon. It is said his Lordship has been offered the Master-Generalship of the Ordnance, vacan by the appointment of Lord Raglan to the command of the British contingent in the East.

Lord John Russell has issued cards for a Parliamentary banquet this evening (Saturday).

The Right Hon. the Speaker gave his second Parliamentary dinner, on Saturday, at his mansion in Eaton-square. The guests on this occasion comprised the leading members of the Conservative party.

The Baroness Brunnow left London, at half past four o'clock on Monday afternoon, for Darmstadt, where she will join the respected ex-Minister of Russia. The baroness was accompanied by Count Wielhorski. All the secretaries and attachés have now taken their departure.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

Preferments and Appointments.—*Canonries:* The Rev. W. Procter to an honorary canonry in Carlisle; Rev. W. Greenwell to a minor canonry in Durham. *Rectories:* The Rev. G. A. Baker to Ibstone, near Stokenchurch; Rev. D. Brown to Howick, Rev. G. W. S. Menteath to Hascomb, Surrey; Rev. P. T. Seymour, to Hannington, Hants. *Vicarages:* The Rev. W. Acton, B.A., to Wicklewood, near Wymondham, Norfolk; Rev. T. Badcock, to Fleckney, Leicestershire; Rev. J. G. Edwards to Pittington; Rev. T. Fox to Bedon, near Hull; Rev. O. Goodrich to Tidenham, near Chepstow; Rev. C. J. Hawkins to Haxey, Lincolnshire; Rev. J. R. Jones to Burghill, near Hereford; Rev. A. Manby to Ludd, near Knaresborough; Rev. J. H. Wake, to Sutton-in-the-Forest, Yorkshire; Rev. C. C. Wilson to Eastry, Kent. *Incumbencies:* The Rev. H. Battiscombe to St. German's Chapel, Blackheath; the Rev. Isaac Bowman to Walton, Cumberland; the Rev. H. J. Jackson B.A., to Monk Fryston, near Ferrybridge; the Rev. H. Jackson to Hurstmonceaux, Sussex; the Rev. T. P. Metcalfe to Bilborough, Yorkshire; the Rev. F. Morse to Laywood, near Birmingham; the Rev. H. Leakey to Trinity Church, Swansea.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

THE WAR.

Paris, Friday.

The *Moniteur* of this day contains a decree calling into active service the young disposable soldiers of the classes of 1849 and 1850.

The *Moniteur* likewise publishes a letter, dated the 16th instant, recalling General Castelbajac from St. Petersburg.

The *Débats* says that the Cabinet of Vienna appears to be disposed to enter into a treaty of alliance with France, England, and Turkey.

Autograph letters of a very satisfactory nature, it is said, have lately passed between the Emperors Napoleon and Joseph.

Two divisions of the army, intended for aiding the Turks, will leave Toulon and Algiers on the 6th proximo: they will be commanded by Generals Canrobert and Bosquet. General d'Allonville is to have a brigade of cavalry, and Prince Napoleon a reserve brigade of the same force.

Accounts from St. Petersburg, of the 15th inst. represent the extreme excitement of the Emperor on learning the course pursued by Austria and Prussia in reference to the Eastern question. He inveighed against what he termed the "treachery" of those two Powers, and expressed himself in the strongest terms of displeasure.

According to the *Journal de St. Petersburg*, of the same day, the position assumed by the two German Powers constitutes, in the estimation of the Emperor, so serious an attack upon his rights that he has thought it incumbent on him, from this day, to protest against it, reserving to himself the liberty of adopting such a course as future contingencies may render befitting.

The Emperor has ordered the march of a considerable force of the Imperial Guard, with other troops, in the direction of the Prussian frontier.

The state of Poland does not appear to be sure, for a private letter from Warsaw of the 11th announces that the corps of General Ungern-Sternberg, placed on the frontier of Poland towards Turkey, was preparing to leave for the Danube, has just received a coun er-order. Several other corps ordered for the same destination had not yet commenced their march.

Berlin, Feb. 20.—M. von Manteuffel has had a long audience of the King. The discussion was very animated upon the Turco-Russian dispute, but it has led to no change in the attitude of Prussia. The Russian Minister to this Court, and the Resident General in our capital, are both of them here at present. Their absence is considered a proof of great coolness between the two Powers.

Letters from Berlin of the 20th announce that England has informed Prussia she intends sending a fleet into the Baltic in the spring

The Bourse on Thursday was ⅛ higher: the Three per Cents closed at 66f. 55c.

AUSTRIAN INTERVENTION.

Vienna, Thursday noon.—The troops are now ready on the south-eastern frontier. They will put down any attempt at insurrection against the Porte, whether in Servia, Montenegro, or Bosnia.

Gratitude may prevent Austria participating in hostile measures against Russia; but she will positively not assist in supporting her pretensions. Austria is in worse odour at St. Petersburg than either England or France

Twenty-five thousand men are to be forthwith assembled in the Banat of Croatia.

Private letters from Vienna state that the Austrian Cabinet is greatly irritated in consequence of the rejection by Russia of the last propositions of which Count Colloff was the bearer to St. Petersburg. The consequence has been that for some days past a much better understanding has begun to exist between the Austrian Government and the Governments of France and England.

EXPORTATION OF WARLIKE STORES PREVENTED.

The *Hampshire*, barque, having put into Portsmouth through stress of weather, and information being given that she was laden with warlike and engineering stores, an Admiralty order was speedily put in requisition, and proper officers boarded the vessel, which was bound for Odessa with boiler-plates, shot, chain cables, and engine-gear. The officers of her Majesty's Customs have taken possession pending an inquiry.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,

TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, FEB. 23.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading.	Thermometer. Lowest Reading.	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure from Mean Temperature.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
	Inches.	°	°	°	°			Inches.
Feb 17	29 722	49·9	33·5	42·4	+ 2·4	88	N.W.	0.09
„ 18	29.473	40·6	29 7	34·6	— 4·5	73	N.W.	0.08
„ 19	29.314	40·3	30·6	35·7	— 4·5	69	N.W.	0.00
„ 20	29 221	52·2	32 5	42 9	+ 2·7	89	S.S.W.	0.01
„ 21	30.256	51·0	33 1	42 1	+ 2·0	76	N.E.	0.00
„ 22	30.230	49·7	32·0	40 6	+ 1·1	91	N.W.	0.12
„ 23	30 326	49 6	26 3	42·6	+ 3·1	69	N.	0.00

Note.—The sign + denotes above the average, and the sign — below the average. The numbers in the seventh column are calculated on the supposition that the saturation of the air is represented by 100.

The reading of the barometer has varied during the week from 29.41 inches, at six p.m. on the 17th, to 30.57 inches by the end of the week. The mean for the week, at the height of 82 feet above the level of the sea, was 29 981 inches.

The mean daily temperatures have varied from 4·3° below, on the 18th and 19th, to 3·7° above, their average values, on the 20th.

The mean temperature of the week was 40·0°, being 0·7° above the average of the corresponding week during 38 years

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 23·2°, being the difference between the lowest reading of the thermometer on the 18th, and the highest on the 20th.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 16·1°. The least was 8·5°, on the 18th, and the greatest was 20·8° on the 20th.

Snow fell slightly at 9 a.m. on the 17th, and to the depth of half an inch on the morning of the 18th.

Rain fell during the week to the depth of two-tenths of an inch (of which nearly one-tenth was melted snow).

Lewisham, Feb. 24, 1854. James Glaisher.

Health of London.—During the week ending February 18, the births of 775 boys, and of 705 girls, were registered within the metropolitan districts. The averages of the same week in the nine preceding years were 747 and 709 respectively. In the same period the deaths of 1154 persons were registered. Of these 575 were males, and 579 were females. The averages of the same week of the preceding ten years were 603 and 589 respectively.

London Orphan School, Clapton.—The anniversary festival of this excellent institution took place on Monday evening, at the London Tavern. Mr. William Kirby, one of the committee of management, presided, supported by about 180 of the friends of the society. In the course of the evening a large number of the children—of whom there are now 382 in the school, 255 boys and 127 girls—were introduced into the room, and did great credit, by their healthy appearance, to those who have the superintendence of the establishment. The amount collected in aid of the funds amounted to about £2300.

City of London Hospital for Diseases of the Chest.—The sixth anniversary dinner of this most valuable institution took place on Wednesday, at the London Tavern, under the presidency of the Right Hon. Lord John Russell, and was honoured by the attendance of Sir W. Clay, Bart., M.P.; T. Wyse, Esq., M.P.; H. E. Gurney, Esq.; E. Ladd Betts, Esq; John Dillon, Esq; J. D. Powles, Esq.; Henry Tucker, Esq; J. A. Gibb, Esq.; and about 200 highly respectable gentlemen. The noble Lord, after proposing the usual loyal toasts, which were most heartily responded to, gave the toast of the evening, "Prosperity to the City of London Hospital for Diseases of the Chest," and, in so doing, called attention to the dreadful evils which resulted from diseases of the lungs and chest. He observed that, of all benevolent institutions, hospitals were best entitled to support, as impostors in them were always sure to be detected by the sagacious eye of the medical attendants. His Lordship made a very energetic appeal in favour of the hospital; and stated that the committee had hitherto met their liabilities, but the wider operations of the charity and the expansion of new buildings, compelled them to appeal to the public for increased support; and which, he doubted not, would be cheerfully accorded. Sir W. Clay proposed the noble chairman's health, to which his Lordship briefly replied. The subscriptions for the evening (including £10 10s. from Lord John Russell), amounted to nearly £3000, besides a legacy of £500

TOWN AND TABLE TALK, ON LITERATURE, ART, &c

WHEN the Nestor of our poets advanced as a great truth, at his own table, that no man became great but by getting on the shoulders of another, Sydney Smith, who was present, was so pleased with the remark, that his favourite expression when he heard anything very good, "bo-ked!" was uttered by him very emphatically on this occasion. By "booked" Sydney meant to imply—accepted, endorsed, and to be repeated.

There is truth in the remark; but is its acceptance universal? We doubt it. Surely there is more truth in the observation that no man (in these days, at least) can be really and popularly great, unless he is original. This was well enforced, by Walter Scott, in a conversation with Tom Moore. The two poets had been remarking, good-naturedly enough, on their own and others' luck in achieving reputations, and the difficulties—increasing every day—that beset every new aspirant for distinction. Their thoughts reverted to a time when reputations were more easily gained than now; and the conclusion they came to—to be short with a suggestive subject—was, that no man would hereafter have a chance of becoming great, unless he were original in his greatness.

We have been led into these remarks by the turn that conversation has taken in literary and artistic circles during the present week, from the announcement (not unexpected) that John Martin, the painter, was no more. Surely, John Martin was a great and original genius! He did not look on nature through the spectacles of Claude or Poussin. He was not raised in the pumpkin-bed of any academy. He looked on Nature for himself, and caught her aspect truly, and with a poet's as well as a painter's eye.

He was, in every respect, a creative artist. Lamb was never more wrong than when he taxed him with a want of imagination. His fault was too much imagination. In what a wonderful manner does he succeed in filling your mind with the subject he undertakes to put before you. Surely, his "Joshua Commanding the Sun to Stand Still," is one of the finest realisations of Scripture upon canvas. Still nobler is his "Belshazzar's Feast." The "ancients" sought only to portray great scenical events by episodes, or portions of those events. The "Handwriting on the Wall" has been painted by many great artists—but in what way? by three or four figures, and a blaze of light. How has Martin treated it? By carrying you into the very scene—by making you not only a spectator, but a living participator in what is before you. He was no borrower. Did any man before him understand distance so well as John Martin understood it, and makes his spectators feel it? Who does not remember his "Curtius Leaping into the Gulf," in which old Rome, as well as the spirit-stirring circumstance itself, are brought unmistakeably before you? Who has forgotten his "Celestial City," in which the noble vision of the Tinker-Dreamer is made all but an actual existence.

Yes; John Martin was in every respect a great and an original artist. His honourable hereafter is secure in the annals of English art. No man is safer, for he was great in more ways than one. Like Hogarth *(that* great original), he was the engraver of his own works. Of no other artists of name in England can it be said but of William Hogarth and John Martin that they were equally excellent as painters and as engravers. Does it not seem strange that so few painters have sought to be engravers? A picture is but as one copy of a book, which the skill of the engraver multiplies in part, and puts in the same position as a book. Wilkie would have translated his "Blind Fiddler" and "Rent Day" even more faithfully than Burnet or Raimbach. Who cares to possess a Hogarth engraving unless executed by Hogarth's own graver? Who would not—nay, who does not, prefer a design engraved by Martin, to an engraving from the same design by another hand? We have lost a great artist in John Martin.

We have been favoured with an early copy of Mr. Croker's "More Last Words" on Moore, in the shape of a little pamphlet of five-and-thirty pages, printed "in a form to be bound up with 'Moore's Memoirs.'" This little *brochure* opens with the printed correspondence on which we offered some remarks a few weeks back; is followed by some of those small paper pellets, to which also, it will be remembered, we directed attention at the time; and concludes with a Postscript, by Mr. Croker, "explanatory of Mr. Moore's acquaintance and correspondence with him." Let us make the reader acquainted with the newer and more salient points of the controversy. Lord John, it seems, renewed the war, and, it would appear, unintentionally: "I may add," says Lord John, "an expression of my regret that, at your age, and in your present state of health, you should have been annoyed by the publication of 'Moore's Diary;'" to which Mr. Croker replies, "I was not annoyed by the publication of 'Moore's Diary,' but by your Lordship's *note*, which was no part of the Diary, but, on the contrary, at variance with the text; and which contained a double imputation, which I felt to be wholly undeserved." Mr. Croker, in the same letter, supplies an account of circumstances likely to have wounded the susceptibility of Moore, and which Lord John, after acknowledging, observes, *finally*, on his part "I do not know that I have anything to add to our correspondence; it would, of course, be useless for us to attempt to persuade one another." Here, again, is occasion for reply—Mr. Croker winding up this controversy by directing his Lordship's attention to "another misconception," on his part, of their late correspondence. "I had no motive," he says, "and no intention, to *persuade* your Lordship to anything. I did not meddle with your opinions. I charged you with a gross and wilful offence against me. The public is now the judge whether I have proved my charge."

This controversy reminds us of the famous war in prints occasioned by Pope's supposed bad conduct to Lord Bolingbroke with regard to the "Patriot King." The ex-Secretary-at-War, indignant at the conduct of one whom he had deemed his friend, vilifies in print the memory of that friend. Pope's editor rushes to the rescue, and a war of words ensues in pamphlets Warburton fighting Bolingbroke behind the shield of David Mallet. What is the Croker case? The ex-Secretary of the Admiralty, indignant at certain entries in the diary of one whom he had deemed his friend, sharpens his pen, and condemns in print the memory of that friend. Moore's editor replies in a note; a long correspondence ensues; the columns of the *Times* exhibit the combatants. The public is with Mr. Croker; but Lord John has his party, and now the whole affair appears as a supplement to Moore's memoirs much in the same manner as Warburton's defence of his friend appears in the appendix to "Ruffhead's Life of Pope."

The certainty of war has not any effect on the sale of old books of real value. English books have been selling at Sotheby and Wilkinson's during the present week, at prices quite equal to those mad days of buying when the Dukes of Roxburgh and Marlborough contended with Earl Spencer for a "Caxton" or a "De Worde." We shall have something to say about the prices next week.

Mr. Hallam, the great historian of the Middle Ages, has been very ill, and in danger; but he is, we are happy to say, at least out of danger.

LUMLEY *v.* GYE.—This case, which came on for trial, at the Court of Queen's Bench, on Monday, lasted three days, and ended in a verdict for the defendant; on the ground that, when he induced Miss Wagner to break her engagement with Mr. Lumley, he did not know that that engagement was still in force as a binding agreement.

THE PEACE DEPUTATION AT ST. PETERSBURG.—Mr. Joseph Sturge and his two friends had an interview with the Czar on the 10th inst., and were listened to with great attention while they read the pacific address from the Society of Friends. They were afterwards introduced to the Empress, by whom, Mr. Sturge says, they were "most graciously received." Mr Sturge intended to be home by Monday; but, at the request of the Emperor, the deputation determined to wait a day or two longer in St. Petersburg.

THE THEATRES.

PRINCESS'.

All that art and munificent expenditure can do for the illustration of the revived drama has been again accomplished on the boards of this theatre. We regret, however, that Cibber's "Richard III." has been substituted for Shakspeare's "Life and Death" of the same monarch; and that Mr. Kean has not had the courage to follow up the reform initiated by Mr. Phelps. With all the store of scenery and costume bestowed upon the present revival, more might yet have been done for the original tragedy, reproduced in its ancient integrity; which, besides, would have demanded a restudy of the hero from Mr. Kean, and have thus enabled him to make an entirely new part of it, in which no doubt he would have been eminently successful. As Mr. Kean, however, has published his defence of his own mode of proceeding, we have nothing further to urge, except that, in the discussion, it has been too readily assumed that the pure Shakspearian version never thoroughly succeeded on the boards. This is manifestly an error; as for two seasons, the unsophisticated original play, had great success on the Sadler's Wells stage. The introduction of *Queen Margaret*, indeed, was proved to be a powerful agent of effect, both in the persons of Mrs Warner and of Miss Glyn. The performance at the Princess's wants this heroine, to give depth and tone to the colouring of the age and time represented. Let us, however, be thankful for what we have—a comp'ete archæological array of accessories, scrupulously correct in every detail, for the purpose of giving fresh piquancy to a drama now so much at all are familiar. In his previous productions Mr. Kean tells us he has "selected different periods of history for illustration, and endeavoured to arrive at every available authority, with the view of transferring, as far as possible, to the stage, a living and pictorial embodiment of the past King. Richard III. affords (he proceeds to add) a new epoch distinct from all the foregoing, and he has taken the same pains to give proper scenic and decorative effect to this most busy and eventful of our annals."

The boast is not vain, nor illaudable. Mr. Kean, so far as the spectacle is concerned, is entitled to take credit to the utmost extent, both for his design and its results. He has produced, indeed, a gorgeous exhibition, founded on the best authorities. The differences in armour and bearing of the rival hosts are carefully preserved; costumes, weapons, and accoutrements are appropriately distinguished. The white rose and the red, the green dragon and the cumrow, offer unmistakeable contrasts—red shirts and blue leggings, ecclesiastical robes, military cross bows and long bows leathern jerkins and blue breeches, arbalists, battle-axes, halberds, glaives, arquebusses, and other of the ancient heavy artillery, all find their proper place in the scenic picture, and conduce to the general effect.

Mr. Kean's performance of the character of *Richard* was frequently illuminated with those flashes which undoubtedly characterise his, as they did his father's style, and entitle it to the appellation of the "transitional." Assuredly, there is much of mannerism in these effects; but mannerism has always been the co-mate of specific genius, of which, in fact, it forms the limits and outward sign. The suddenness of the transition excites invariable surprise; and the opportunity for this mode of dialogue is not only frequent in this character; but, we may add, proper for it. We take no exception to Mr. Kean's acting, therefore, on this score, and are ready to bestow almost unqualified praise upon it. He rose with the occasion, and painted the design of the last act with as much force and effect as he had already portrayed the subtlety of the previous scenes, with all the resources at command of the long-experienced actor. A word of praise must also be permitted to Mr. Ryder and Mr. Graham for *Richmond* and *King Henry*; nor to Miss Heath, as *Lady Anne*, and Miss Murray, as *Queen Elizabeth*, must be denied commendation, as respectively giving promise of more excellence, and realising an earnest of it with a pleasing degree of success. Elaborate as were the arrangements of the scene, they were all accomplished without hindrance or mishap; and Mr. Kean was summoned at the end to a well-deserved ovation, accompanied with repeated plaudits.

DRURY-LANE.

On Wednesday "Richard the Third" was produced at this theatre, in apparent rivalry with another establishment; the very ion being, of course, the same (that of Colley Cibber), though the actor different—Mr. G Brooke for Mr C Kean. On the acting of the character by the former gentleman we have already, on previous occasions, tendered our decision, and have nothing now to add or alter in respect to our decided opinion On this occasion, however, he was less effective than usual. The getting up of the tragedy was respectable, and accomplished from the materials in the house derived from former performances, and as reminding us of them, not without pleasant and pr fitable associations. But it would be absurd to compare it with the elaborate originality of the spectacle at the Princess's; and, such being the case, we doubt whether the revival at this time was entirely judicious We can, however, speak in terms of high praise of Mr. George Bennett's *King Henry*, and commend with much justice the acting of Mr Mead in *Richmond*. The other parts were but poorly supplied—we dare not say supported.

MARYLEBONE.

A new version of the French piece concerning the appetite for gold finding was produced at this theatre on Monday, under the title of "The Struggle for Gold, or the Orphan of the Frozen Sea." It has been well adapted by Mr. E. Stirling, and the scenic arrangements have been pictorially managed. The Sea of Ice has received, also, an accession of effect in the addition, at the close, of the Danish vessel, to which the safety of the survivors of that dreadful scene is to be attributed. The concluding scene was brilliantly illuminated. The cool, calculating, and iniquitous hero was most artistically interpreted by the manager; and Mrs. Wallack—first as the Indian girl, and afterwards as the avenging daughter—rose to a manifestation of wild grandeur that was very impressive. The production of the piece on the present scale is a further proof that at this theatre things will henceforth be done with as much cost and care as at others more favourably situated, but not more meritoriously conducted.

ASTLEY'S.

A new piece has been produced here, called "The Woodman's Horse; or, the False Knight." This is truly an equestrian spectacle, for the horse performs the part of a moral agent in the drama, by its sagacity effecting the delivery of its virtuous hero, and by its bravery, coming to the rescue, whenever a crisis is imminent. It is not necessary to detail the story, which has been invented for the introduction of such equine feats. They are exceedingly curious, and must be witnessed to be appreciated.

MUSIC.

A CONCERT was given at the New Beethoven Rooms, on Tuesday evening, by Signor Noronha, a violinist newly arrived in England. He comes from Rio de Janeiro, where he held the situation of Musical Director of the Italian Opera. Signor Noronha confined his performances on this occasion to music of his own composition. He played three long Fantasias on opera-airs, and showed himself to be a thorough master of his instrument—possessed of a fine tone, and that command of bow and rapidity of finger which enable him to conquer every difficulty which has as yet been contrived for the violin. His performance, in short, was a surprising display of executive skill, almost as wonderful as Paganini's used to be. But he is not aware of the fact that this style of performance is now at a discount in England, both on the pianoforte and the violin. On the former instrument, Thalberg for a time was all the rage; but, with all his astonishing powers, he would, were he to appear, be but a no longer, unless he betook himself to a higher class of music than his own gewgaw Fantasias. The same thing is the case with the violin. The greatest violinists who come to England occasionally play their own compositions, and give pleasure by doing so: but they must show how they interpret the conceptions of the great classical masters—Mozart, Beethoven, Spohr, Mendelssohn, &c.—before they can obtain the suffrages of the really musical part of the public.

WHILE Mdlle. Wagner is giving full employment to lawyers' tongues in our Court of Queen's Bench, she is running her course triumphantly at Berlin. Weber's "Euryanthe" has just been revived there with great splendour; and Wagner's performance of *Eglantine* is described as a great exhibition of power both dramatic and vocal.

LONDON REFORMATORY, 9, GREAT QUEEN-STREET, WESTMINSTER.—WE are requested by Mr. Nash to acknowledge the receipt of £5, from "A Friend to Reformation," who is desirous that the acknowledgment should appear in this journal.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

Sir John Bowring, Governor of Hong-Kong, and Chief Superintendent of British Trade in China, left town on Saturday last, for Southampton, *en route* to the seat of his government.

The Royal Institute of British Architects have, with the approbation of her Majesty and Prince Albert, as patrons of that institution, just awarded the Royal Gold Medal, the highest professional distinction in the art, to Philip Hardwick, Esq., R.A.

Among the Irish towns having over 5000 inhabitants and not returning a member to Parliament (eighteen in all), are Kingstown (near Dublin) with 10,453 inhabitants, and Queenstown (near Cork) with a population of 11,428.

A decree has been promulgated containing a convention entered into between France and the Principality of Schwarzburg-Rudolstadt, for the reciprocal guarantee of literary works and works of art.

The Duke of Alba and Berwick, nearly related to the Empress Eugenie, has arrived in Paris from Madrid to visit his brother, the Count de Galva, Secretary to the Spanish Legation.

The Thornton Free Schools, in Yorkshire, for about fifty children of each sex, have been erected and endowed by Mr. Richard Thornton, a well-known merchant in London, at a cost of £16,000, to commemorate the place of his nativity.

Amongst the petitions presented to the Encumbered Estates Commission, is one praying for the sale of an estate, the gross annual rental of which is £40 a year, and the incumbrances on which reach over £38,000.

The Prefect of the Seine has issued an order for plans of a railway to unite the line round Paris with the central markets.

It has been positively stated, by a person who has visited Stirling within these few days, that six ounces of pure gold have been picked up at a place called "Letters," in the parish of Balquhidder.—*North British Mail.*

The *Giornale di Roma* announces that a Company is forming at Rome for the establishment of a new line of steamers along the western coast of Italy.

The Scotch mails to Dublin are to be conveyed over the line of the Londonderry and Coleraine Railway Company, as soon as the Post-office can make the necessary arrangements.

The boys of the Ragged School Shoeblack Society earned the sum of £863 by blacking shoes in 1853. Of this, £470 was paid to the boys; £193 was deposited in their bank; and £191 was retained for expenses. 264,750 pairs of boots and shoes were cleaned by thirty-six boys in the year.

Lord Lisburne has issued an address to the electors of Cardiganshire as a candidate for the representation of the county in Parliament, vacant by the resignation of Colonel Powell.

Lieut. Engeldue, having refused to serve on board the *James Watt*, screw, 90 guns, has been a second time struck off the Royal Navy list.

Last week, the estate of Ballintraine, Carlow, consisting of 414 acres, and producing £265 a year, was sold for £10,200, or 38½ years' purchase; another property in Roscommon fetched only 18 years purchase.

It is estimated that the epidemic at Newcastle-upon-Tyne has cost £3800 for medicine and burials alone, and will cost it £50 a week for eight years to support the widows and destitute—nearly £30,000.

A new 90-gun ship, the *Donawerth*, was launched last week at Lorient, amidst loud cries of "Vive l'Empereur."

A portion of the large tobacco warehouse at the London Docks has been set apart and added to the cigar warehouse, expressly for the stowage of cigars to the trade.

A couple of female slaveholders, Madame Chauveau and her daughter, have been held to bail at New Orleans for starving their slaves, and for torturing them with iron instruments, pans, fire, and other means still more horrible in their revolting descriptions

Information has been received of the loss of the barque *Countess of Derby*, in Moreton Bay, on the 31st October last. The captain, crew, and passengers, were all safely landed at Brisbane, by the *Rosen*.

The post of Accountant-General of the Navy, vacant by the retirement of Sir John Briggs, has been conferred on Mr. Bromley.

It is said, in the fashionable circles, that at a *conseil de famille*, held at the palace of the ex-King Jerome, a separation *de corps et de biens* has been agreed upon between the Prince and Princess de Canino.

Upwards of one-third of the cargo of the wrecked steamer *Humboldt* has been sold by auction at Halifax, but the articles did not bring one-fifth of their value.

The *Moniteur* announces that Baron Brenner has repaired to Florence to negotiate a postal treaty, and that the other motives ascribed to his mission are without foundation.

A murderous attempt has been made on the lives of two farmers named Sides and Brophy, at Castlewood, near Burrow. The Irish Government have offered a reward of £50 for such information as will lead to the arrest of the party implicated.

A deputation upon the subject of the Manchester and Salford Education Bill had an interview with the Chancellor of the Exchequer last week, at his official residence in Downing-street

The Emperor has forwarded a sum of 100,000f. to the Prefect of Police, for distribution at the residences of artisans out of work, and the needy families of the capital.

A letter from Mannheim of the 15th states that for three days past the river had been full of floating ice, and the Rhine was also so full of it that the navigation was interrupted.

The Lord Mayor entertained, on Wednesday evening, in the Egyptian Hall, about 100 gentlemen connected with the colonial interests of the city of London; the banquet was on a scale of great magnificence.

At a Court of Directors held on Wednesday, at the East India House, the Right Hon. Lord Harris was appointed Governor of Madras.

Letters from Athens state that the Queen of Greece intends to make another visit to her fatherland this summer, and to stay some time in Vienna.

A lady of Glasgow has recently bequeathed £1000, and the residue of her estate, for the purpose of building and repairing churches in the diocese of Glasgow. She has also left £500 to the Cathedral of Perth.

The trials of the persons charged with Ribbonism are fixed to commence (before Mr. Serjeant Howley) on Tuesday morning, the 28th inst., at Dundalk assizes. The Attorney-General goes down to prosecute.

Mr. W. A. Wilkinson, M.P. for Lambeth, delivered to the working classes of that borough an interesting lecture on the subject of "Wages," on Wednesday evening, at the new Vestry Hall, Kennington-green.

A magnificent stained-glass window has been erected in Worcester Cathedral, in memory of the late Queen Adelaide.

The American steam-ship *Atlantic* sailed from Liverpool on Tuesday. As she sailed down the Mersey, she saluted the *Niagara*, on board of which were 1000 British soldiers, bound for Turkey.

The Duke of Buccleuch has most handsomely given a field near Dalkeith, to be made into a public park for the inhabitants of that pleasant little town.

Mr. Baron Pennefather has not yet sufficiently recovered to undertake the duties of Circuit; and Mr. Justice Moore, of the Queen's Bench, in Dublin, is also indisposed, although it is hoped he will be enabled to proceed on Circuit.

The Council of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, at a meeting on Monday, adopted a resolution in favour of an amendment of the law of partnership.

The nomination of candidates for the representation of Louth, took place on Monday, amidst much uproar. Mr. Fortescue charged the Leaguers with colleaging with the Tories, which Mr Cantwell repudiated. A poll was taken on Thursday, Mr. Fortescue had a majority of 148: his return is certain.

The new Theological Training College at Cuddesdon, will be opened for students at Whitsuntide; the Bishop of Oxford is to have the immediate superintendence.

Postage stamps of sixpence each will be issued by the Board of Inland Revenue to the public on the 1st March.

The sum of £66,912 10s. 10d. has been paid for land for a harbour of refuge and for fortifications in Jersey; and in Alderney, for similar purposes, as much as £13,336 6s.

Salmon fishing in the Tweed commenced on Wednesday week, and with every prospect of a successful season.

The small village of Grifoglietto, in Piedmont, was nearly all burnt down on the 10th. Upwards of ninety persons have been deprived of a home by this calamity.

The report issued by the Admiralty on the proposed Wellington Docks is of a favourable character, no objection being made to the bill as regards its effect on the navigation of the river.

The Hon. George Dalrymple, son of the Earl of Stair, who sold out of the Scots Fusilier Guards on Friday week, was compelled to take this step in consequence of fracturing his collar-bone while hunting a short time since.

The French Benevolent Society gave a ball on Tuesday night, at the Hanover-square Rooms, in aid of the funds of their useful charity wh ch was well attended.

RIFLE VOLUNTEERS ON DRILL, AT PORTSMOUTH.

RIFLE VOLUNTEERS, AT PORTSMOUTH.

The parade-ground of Portsmouth being within the fortifications, is necessarily of too limited dimensions for evolutions on a large scale; but it has been very much used during the past fortnight for testing the military training of such contingents as have joined to complete the war complement of the regiments destined to embark at Portsmouth. Here is acquired that knowledge of drill which constitutes the basis of martial science. Our Illustration represents one of those details which are all summed up in the general term "drill." They are proceeding at double-quick pace—running, in fact, but not merely to save themselves from an overwhelming force; they are rallying to one particular point denoted by an officer with his sword raised aloft and pointing upwards. Here a square is formed, which, when the present danger is past—a squadron of cavalry, for instance—deploys itself into line, or assumes some other form suited to the occasion. The Garrison Chapel (represented in our Engraving (is the only vestige of the *Domus Dei*—a religious establishment founded by Peter de Rupibus, a Bishop of Winchester in the early part of the thirteenth century. Judging from its external aspect, one would not think so, as it partakes more of the barn order of architecture than of that which prevailed at the period of old Peter of the Rocks. It has been repaired in a fashion creditable to the zeal, but not to the taste, of those who directed the renovation.

BATTERY PRACTICE AT PORTSMOUTH.

Peter Heylin said, a long time ago, that Paris was a strong place—it took you by the nose. If abominable smells were calculated to keep out an invading force, Portsmouth would be impregnable on the land side, where the convicts are kept continually stirring up the black mud in the moats. The Battery covering the entrance of the harbour has recently undergone a change, by the elevation of the embankment several feet above its former level. Guns of a large calibre have been substituted for the old ones, which, for any purpose of defence, were useless. The handsome stone facing has been replaced by one of earth: balls striking against stone cause splinters to fly, and are destructive; they find, like most other things, a quiet bed in earth. The inhabitants of the neighbouring houses tremble for their windows. We congratulate them—ventilation will be improved.

INSPECTION OF THE GUARDS BY PRINCE ALBERT.

The parade and inspection of 1800 picked men from amongst the finest troops in the British Army, by the Prince Consort, attracted a large assemblage to the Parade-ground of the Wellington Barracks, St. James's-park, on Monday morning.

The troops paraded fully equipped in heavy marching order at ten o'clock. After having undergone ordinary morning inspection, the two battalions formed in columns at quarter distances—an arrangement which had the effect of covering the whole parade-ground—the men facing Buckingham Palace, with the military chapel in their rear.

The General Commanding-in-Chief (Viscount Hardinge) arrived at the barracks, attended by his sides-de-camp, at half-past ten o'clock. The noble Viscount, who wore the uniform of a full General, was received by the officers of the two regiments, the troops presenting arms and saluting. His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge had previously arrived, wearing his uniform as Colonel-in-Chief of the Scots Fusilier Guards. Their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess Mary, attended by Baron Knesebeck and Lucy Augusta Cadogan, came shortly before eleven o'clock. Their Royal Highnesses alighted from their carriage on reaching the parade-ground, and were received by the General Commanding-in-Chief, who, with a group of distinguished personages, was at this period awaiting the arrival of the Prince Consort.

Precisely at eleven o'clock the Prince Consort, wearing the uniform of the Grenadier Guards, of which his Royal Highness is Colonel-in-Chief, walked across from Buckingham Palace to the barrack-yard, where the Prince was received by the General Commanding-in-Chief, the Duke of Cambridge, and the officers of the staff. His Royal Highness was accompanied by Colonel the Hon. C. B. Phipps, Colonel the Hon. Charles Grey Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. A. N. Hood, Colonel Wylde, and Major-General Buckley. The Prince, observing the presence of the Duchess of Cambridge, and the Princess Mary, shook hands cordially with their Royal Highnesses, and, having acknowledged the presence of several of the distinguished personages around, proceeded to inspect the troops. As the Prince advanced, the two bands of the Grenadier and Scots Fusilier Guards played a bar of the National Anthem. His Royal Highness walked, with the General Commanding-in-Chief, the Duke of Cambridge following, with the Duchess and Princess Mary. A brilliant staff of officers followed.

The Prince walked up every column of each regiment, and minutely inspected the appearance of all the men. This occupied a considerable period. At the close of the inspection, his Royal Highness and the staff took up a position in the centre of the parade ground, while both regiments marched past, the bands playing "The British Grenadiers."

After the battalions had marched past, the Prince Consort accom-

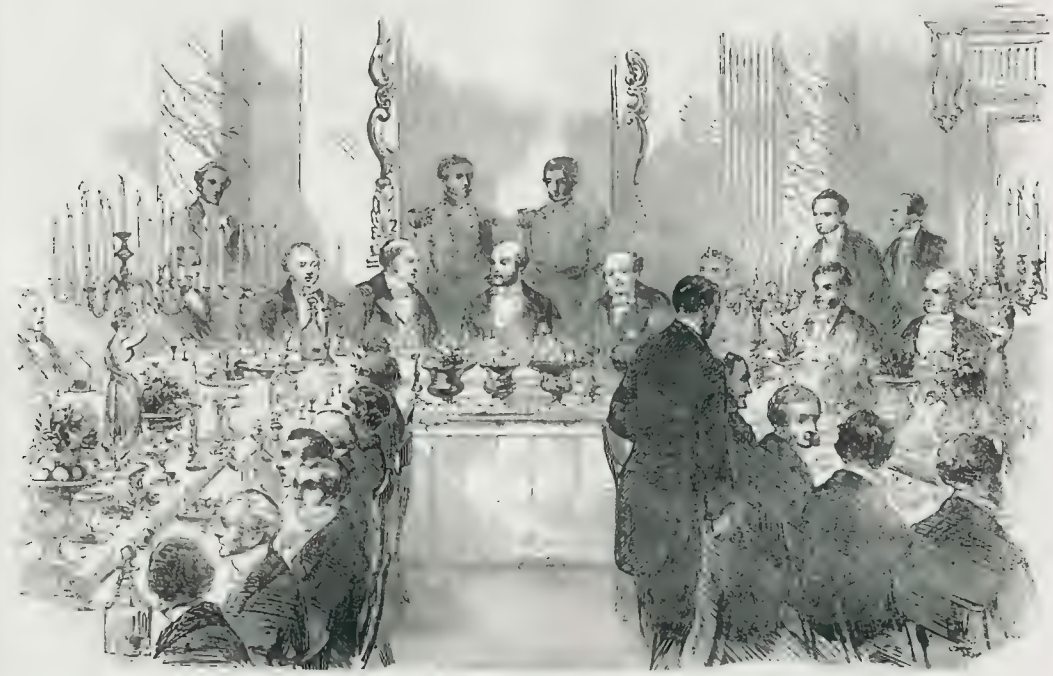
BATTERY PRACTICE, BY HIGHLANDERS, SPUR REDOUBT, PORTSMOUTH.

INSPECTION OF THE 1st BATTALION OF THE FUSILIERS, AND THE 3RD OF GRENADIER GUARDS, BY H.R.H. PRINCE ALBERT, AT THE WELLINGTON BARRACKS.

panied the General Commanding-in-Chief to the orderly room, where his Royal Highness remained some time, returning to Buckingham Palace on foot, shortly before one o'clock.

Among the members of the nobility present on the parade-ground we remarked—the Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess Mary, the Duke and Duchess of Richmond, the Duchess of Montrose, the Duke of Newcastle, the Marchioness of Ailesbury, the Marquis of Ormonde, the Marchioness of Ely, the Earl of Cardigan, the Earl of Euston, the Earl and Countess of Bruce, the Countess of Essex, Viscount Sydney, Viscount Seaham, Viscount Raneiagh, Viscount Chelsea, Viscount Emlyn, Lord de Mauley, Lord and Lady Charles Pelham Clinton, Lord Robert Pelham Clinton, Lord George Paget, Lady Caroline Murray and Lady Georgiana Murray, Lady Marian Alford, Lord and Lady Arthur Lennox, the Right Hon. the Secretary-at-War and Mrs. Sidney Herbert. In the evening the following announcement appeared in brigade orders:—

The field officer in brigade waiting has received the commands of his Royal Highness Prince Albert to express to the officers and men of the third battalion of Grenadier Guards, and the first battalion of Scots Fusilier Guards, the pleasure and gratification which their splendid and soldier-like appearance gave him when these battalions paraded this morning, and to assure them at the same time that his Royal Highness's most cordial good wishes will constantly attend them in the service abroad on which they are about to proceed."



FAREWELL BANQUET OF OFFICERS OF THE FUSILIER GUARDS, AT THE LONDON TAVERN —(SEE NEXT PAGE)

FAREWELL BANQUET TO THE OFFICERS OF THE GUARDS.

On Thursday week the officers of the second battalion of the Coldstream Guards, and the officers of the 1st battalion of the Scots Fusilier Guards, partook of a farewell banquet at the London Tavern, previous to their embarkation for the seat of war. H.s Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge occupied the chair, supported on the right and left by Lieut.-General Sir Edward Bowater, K.C.H., and Lieut.-General Sir Willoughby Cot on, G.C.B., K.C.H. The principal officers present were —General Adye, General Aitchison, Colonel Berkeley Drummond, Colonel W. T. Knollys, Colonel A. Colville, Colonel Lord Raksby, Colonel G. M. Eden, Colonel G. Monorieffe, Colonel Walker, Colonel J. B. Blair, Colonel Sir G. Walker, Colonel Tyrrell, Colonel de Bathe, Colonel Onslow, Colonel Gerard G. Dixon, Colonel Phipps, Colonel Scott, Colonel Dalrymple, &c.

After the banquet, which was of the most *recherché* description, his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, in proposing a toast, alluded in appropriate terms, and amidst enthusiastic cheers, to the arduous services in which the Guards would probably be engaged in a short time. A number of toasts were afterwards given, and animated speeches delivered, and the gallant company broke up at an early hour.

On Friday evening a numerous and distinguished party of the officers of the three battalions of the Grenadier Guards partook of a farewell banquet at the London Tavern, previous to their entering upon actual service. It was at one time expected that his Royal Highness Prince Albert, as Colonel-in-Chief, would preside; but, if such an arrangement was contemplated, it had been altered, as the Senior Lieutenant-Colonel, Colonel Stanhope, presided. The banquet took place in the large room, which when fully lighted up, presented a brilliant appearance. Among the officers present were his Serene Highness Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, the Hon. Colonel Cust, Captain Lord Mandeville, Colonel B Wood, Colonel Thornt n, Colonel Brownrigg, Colonel Sir William Davis, Col.-nel Golding, Colonel Lindsey, &c. The company did not break up till an advanced hour on the evening.

This evening (Saturday) the members of White's Club give a grand farewell dinner to the Duke of Cambridge, at the club-house, on the occasion of his going on foreign service. We believe this is the first time this club, composed of the principal aristocracy and gentry of the empire, have paid such a compliment to any one, except the Emperor Alexander and the King of Prussia, in 1814. Boodle's Club, also, have invited his Royal Highness to a similar entertainment.

It is said the Lord Mayor has invited Lord Raglan, his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, and the other distinguished officers of both services, who are ordered to embark on foreign service, to a banquet at the Mansion-house; and that his Royal Highness Prince Albert will probably honour the entertainment with his presence.

DEPARTURE OF THE GRENADIER GUARDS FROM LONDON.

On Wednesday morning the several companies of the Grenadier Guards left London *en route* for Constantinople. The men were mustered at three o'clock a.m.; and, although their leave was not restricted, not a man was absent when the roll was called. Notwithstanding the early hour fixed for the departure of the Guards, an immen-e crowd had assembled to see them off. For hours several thousand people of all ranks had occupied what Peel called the finest site in Eu ope, looking intently to an opening which most Londoners imagine to lead only to the ground floor of the National Gallery, but which, in fact, is the south entrance of St George's Barracks behind that building. The multitude were tolerably patient, but decidedly loyal, and finding by repeated tut-dentitory experiments, that it availed but little to call, for the Grenadiers before they chose to come, they sang the National Anthem and "Rule Britannia" with much vehemence, perhaps, but with a body of sound which must have filled the whole space down to Whitehall. Soon after five, with a clash of music, the band emerged, to the immense delight of the multitude, and marched straight towards the Strand, when it took up its position. After the pause of a minute came the famous Grenadiers. They rushed forth without order from the narrow portal, and ran, or rather bounded, down the descent towards the Grenadiers. It seemed as if every man, on reaching the street, was cheered afresh by the multitude which received him, and in which he was sure to see some friend. But, continuing their pace, they ran with a running escort of friends and noisy admirers to join the column in the Strand till the whole had emerged. When formed, the regiment—about a thousand strong, and just show ng their bayonets and black fur caps above the heads of a vast multitude which filled the Strand—marched over Waterloo-bridge to the station. The incessant cheering which the men made, and occasionally the wild but hearty chorus of the mob, soon brought the sleepers in their windows, and many a strange figure was seen waving and shouting a farewell through the dusk. The light was still that of the lamps, and a stranger suddenly roused from his bed to look down into the scene might have dreamt of the French Revolution and its nocturnal horrors. The men escorted the Guards marched to the Waterloo station, and were there welcomed by fresh thousands, as they were again at Southampton.

EMBARKATION OF THE GUARDS.

The 2nd battalion of the Coldstreams and the 3rd of the Grenadier Guards, embarked on Wednesday at Southampton for Malta. The former arrived from Chobham last night in the morning, perhaps, at once went quietly on board the *Orinoco*. The Grenadiers reached Southampton about ten, and embarked in the *Ripon* and *Manilla*, to the mus'c of the screw band. The *Manilla*, the smallest of the three ships, and which is fitted with but few berths for her, led the way at noon, 300 o'clock, having 250 rank and file of the Grenadiers, and six officers, with a large quantity of baggage and stores on board. Soon after three the *Ripon* paddle-wheel steamer followed, having on board 600 rank and file of the Grenadiers, 26 to 32 officers, and 32 women. Last of all, and detained for more than two hours later by the want of water in the dock, the *Orinoco* took her departure, with 854 rank and file of the Coldstreams, 26 to 32 officers, and 32 women. She had also on board of her Colonel Bentinck, Colonel Eyre, and their respective staffs. The three steamers remained in Southampton Water all night, and proceeded on their voyage next morning. As the ships passed out of dock the crowds that lined the quays rent the air with their cheers, which were returned again and again with a hurtling effect, by the soldiers.

The *Himalaya* was to leave Southampton yesterday (Friday), taking with her 150 Sappers, 211 of the Rifles, 8 officers, 12 women, and 20 children. From Plymouth, on Monday, she will take on board, in addition to these, the 93rd Highlanders, consisting of 650 rank and file, 31 officers, 44 sergeants, 16 drummers, 54 women, and from 75 to 100 children. She will thus have on board 1320 effectives and 186 non-effectives, besides 12 horses, all accommodated in a manner hitherto unknown to the transport service.

BOSTON, SLEAFORD, AND MIDLAND COUNTIES RAILWAY.—The first half yearly meeting of this company was convened for Saturday last, at the Euston Hotel, but there not being twenty members present, the meeting could not be constituted; but Mr. Hewitt Ingram, the chairman, laid the report before the proprietors present, from which it appeared that the directors are quite prepared to commence the works at as early a period as possible, but that they cannot, on the capital of the company, they do not recommend that an outlay should take place until it be ascertained that the principal landowners are disposed to accept such terms as may be thought fair and reasonable. The directors hope that those parties will enter into such arrangements for the sale of their land as will enable the directors speedily to commence the works; and that they may be enabled again and again to have cheering to report on making a call of £1 per share, payable on the 1st of June next. As regards the probable amount of traffic on the proposed line, they remark as about £13 per mile per week will pay a rate of £5 per cent on the capital of the company, and this rate of mileage being considerably less, it is believed, than that earned by any existing railway, there is a fair prospect of an ample return to the shareholders for the capital embarked.

LEAGUE COAL COMPANY.—Several gentlemen are now endeavouring to form a company under this title, for the purpose of supplying the metropolis with the best coal, at a greatly reduced price. The promoters are said that they have at their command the right of taking coal from an extensive coal-field at Newcastle; and that, when the line from there to London, all the year round, at something less than 16s. per ton. They propose to raise a capital of £100,000, by means of £1 shares; the holders to be entitled to have one ton of coal per annum for each share, at cost price. The profits to arise from the sale of coal to the public will be divided among the shareholders, and the promoters of the undertaking are very sanguine of a good dividend being realised. Meetings have taken place at various parts of the metropolis, for the purpose of explaining the objects of the proposed company, and to take the necessary steps for its formation.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—At the weekly meeting, on Thursday—Lord Mahon, President, in the chair—the Rev. Collingwood Bruce, and others, were admitted Fellows; after which the rev. gentleman read a very interesting paper on the "Roman Wall in Britain," illustrated with a series of elaborate drawings. At the conclusion the learned author was kindly cheered. Messrs Battam, Timbs, and Nichols, were balloted for, and duly elected Fellows.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

THE RUSSIAN AGGRESSION.

Lord BEAUMONT gave notice that on Friday he should submit a resolution affirming the necessity of immediate and vigorous measures being taken to repel the unjust aggress on of Russ a; and to place the relations of the Porte upon such a footing as will secure a durable peace, and enable her to develope her resources.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

PREPARATIONS FOR WAR.

Lord J. RUSSELL, in answer to Mr. Cobden, stated that no order had been issued for the blockade of the Russian ports.

Mr BRIGHT, in reference to the proclamation just issued against the exportation of warlike stores and machinery, which may form component parts of marine engines, spoke of the inconvenience it would occasion to builders of steamers in this country who were executing large orders for other countries than Russia, and w shed to know whether machinery destined for friendly or neutral countries would not be permitted to leave England?

Mr. WILSON explained the origin of the proclamation. Last week the Commissioners of Customs intimated to the Treasury that a large quantity of arms and ammunition had been shipped for Odessa. The Secretary at once prohibited the exportation; and with the view of preventing the like shipments, it was resolved to exercise the power given in an act last year, and issue the proclamation in question. The Customs have instructed the officers at the various ports in the United Kingdom to prevent the exportation of the articles specified where they are not satisfied by documents that the goods are intended for countries to which no objection can properly apply.

RUSSIA AND TURKEY.—ADJOURNED DEBATE.

Mr. COBDEN commenced the adjourned debate on the Eastern question, by remarking upon the extraordinary difficulties imported into the controversy be ween the Western Powers and Russia by the heterogeneous population and the feudal policy, by the weakness and barbarism of Turkey. A majority of the inhabitants of the European provinces looked with hope upon the prospect of change which Russia, for sinister purposes, held out to them. The British Ministry also had formerly believed in the necessity of change in the same direction, and had both spoken and acted under the impression that the Ottoman empire was doomed, unless the treatment of its Christian subjects was rendered more enlightened and humane. He argued at great length and cited various extracts from the recently issued official despatches to prove that view of the question. In the tyranny practised towards that section of its population, Lord Clarendon himself had found the seeds of internal dissolution existing in the Turkish body politic. He contended therefore that it was our duty to obtain guarantees for the better condition of the Christian, before we interfered to fortify the predominance of the Mussulman. The Sultan had appealed to the fanaticism of his Mahometan subjects, but he trusted that English soldiers were not to be arrayed on the same side, or used to coerce one section of his subjects in the interests of the other. Comparing the commercial value of the two countries, he calculated that from Russia we imported produce, on an average, to the value of twelve millions sterling annually, while our trade with Turkey amounted to barely a quarter of the sum. Russia, in fact, stood second only to the United States among the nations with whom we carried on trade. Mr Cobden then contended that the objects for which England was now arming were fictitious; the dangers of Russian aggrandisement were non-existent; and the whole war policy was taken to the point of insanity. Finding nothing to object against the terms of the original Vienna note, he thought it might still be made the basis of negotiation.

Lord J. MANNERS trusted that the people of England would never consider whether they were going to war on behalf of the majority of the inhabitants of Turkey or not, nor whether the balance of trade was in our favour or the contrary, but whether the will of the Autocrat of Russia was to overbear that of the free Parliament of England.

Mr. HORSMAN expressed his surprise and regret at many of the statements in Mr. Cobden's speech. The question was not one relating to Turkey alone, but a question of Russia and Europe: it was not what would become of Turkey if the Emperor of Russia did not shall become Emperor of Turkey. The conquest of Turkey would not only be an extension of empire to Russia, but it would carry a dictatorship over Europe. The balance of power would be disturbed, and our Indian empire more than hazarded. The encroaching spirit of Russia, and the course pursued by Russia has been characterised by ferocity, fraud, and falsehood; and her deed of crime has been consummated by the daring pretence that all has been done for the protection of Christianity. On the contrary, Turkey has ever been the admiration of Europe. There is not a Christian Cabinet in Europe who may not gain something from studying her conduct; and there is not a Christian in Europe who may not consistently pray for her success in arms. He approved of the conduct of Ministers. Throughout the whole of the negotiations they used the utmost desire to avoid the calamity of war. As to the Czar himself, he had been completely unmasked, and shown to be the greatest marauder and revolutionist in Europe. Mr. Horsman hoped that peace would not be concluded without such a guarantee against the recurrence of the like necessity for an appeal to arms.

Mr. DRUMMOND did not think that any good reason had been shown why England should go to war. He believed that we were going into a religious war—a war for the preservation of the tombs—fomented, as all such wars have been, by the author of all mischief, the Pope. He would not countenance a captious vote to weaken the Government, but he should like to know who was to be the Minister that is to preside over the war. He had no confidence in the pilot who now held the helm. If a blow was to be struck at Russia, let it be struck at her heart, and not in the Black Sea. Let the kingdom of Poland be re-established, and England's object would be go ned.

Mr. ISAAC BUTT thought he was speaking the sentiments of every section of the community when he said that if Ministers are bent on vigorously carrying on the war, they will meet with a vigorous support in return.

Mr. S. HERBERT said the Government was placed between two fires; but though gentlemen of opposite views had censured Min sters for the course adopted, both had declined to test the feeling of the House on the subject. It would have been vain for Government to assume a hostile attitude towards Russia at an earlier period, as that power had twenty-eight sail-of-the-line in the Baltic, which we had no fleet ready to cope with; whilst Turkey had no army. He did not look upon the coming struggle as a slight and paltry one: it would be a fatal mistake to underrate the power of our adversary. We were about not so much to defend Turkey, as to oppose Russia, which, although a nation of slaves, might yet be strong and formidable. If it were the interest of Europe that a barrier should be placed against Russian aggression, England had the greatest interest in seeing this effected, as also one almost as great. The people of England were now satisfied that the Government had done their best to preserve peace; and although we were placed in difficult circumstances, it was satisfactory to see that the country was animated with the best spirit.

Mr. DISRAELI thought it essential that the fullest information should be had as to the cause and object of the hostilities which now seemed inevitable, with a view to avoid such a prolongation of the struggle as had occurred in the last great European conflict produced by the French Revolution. Twenty-five years ago there was a war between Russia and Turkey, in which France and England took part against Turkey, and levelled a blow against the Russian power, which was indirectly the cause of the perils and perplexing circumstances we had now to contend. He could not understand how they were to obtain any clear know edge regarding the cause of a war, except by studying the papers laid before them by her Majesty; and without access to knowledge of the cause they could have no clear idea of the object. He was, therefore, far from agreeing with those gentlemen who told them that they had no business to look at the past, for the past clearly involved the future. After the speech of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, which was in effect an admission to suppose that we were not at war, and we had since had an authoritative statement that the last effort at negotiation had failed. The question to consider now, was how had this state of things been produced. The policy of Russia was unfolded in Count Nesselrode's despatch of January, 1853. It was obviously to obtain an ascendancy over Turkey, not by conquest, but to exercise a particular influence over twelve millions of the Sultan's subjects. This might be done on the base of the diplomatic concert which ensued. Subsequent correspondence showed still more clearly Russia's line of policy, and Mr. Disraeli wished to know how her Majesty's Ministers had encountered it. Lord John Russell complained that Count Nesselrode would not tell what his intentions were. But had the question ever been fairly put to Count Nesselrode? After the question of the Holy Places was admitted to be settled, and the forces of Russia were still hovering on the Turkish frontiers, why was an explanation not demanded of what was meant? Russia had demanded a concession to the Greek Church as an equivalent for the concess on made to the Latin Church; but no demand was made by the English Government for an explanation of what was wanted. Quoting Lord Clarendon's "lecture" to the Porte about the abuses of its Government, Mr. Disraeli referred to it as an indirect injunction to Turkey to comply with the demands of Russia. Upon a review of the whole case his opinion was, that the real cause of the war was that the British Government was influenced throughout by that fatal error, misplaced confidence amounting to credulity, or by connivance: and it was most important to ascertain by which. If the war was the result of credulity, it might be a long and a severe one; but it might end in restoring Bessarabia to Turkey—in erecting the Crimea into an independent state—in freeing the navigation of the Danube, and opening up the Euxine to the nations of the world. If, on the other hand, it was the result of connivance, the result might be a warfare carried on in a weak and vacillating spirit, and terminating in some compromise as disastrous in its consequences as the Vienna Note. He feared we were under the auspices of those who knew neither how to make war nor how to make peace, and that the result might be that a disastrous war might be followed by an ignominious peace.

Lord PALMERSTON said he should not be doing his duty if he did not make some observations on the speech of the right hon. gentleman. The country was, he feared, on the verge of war, and the events which led to it were to be found in the blue books laid upon the table by the Government. Had he felt that any Government were fairly chargeable with credulity or connivance, he should feel that he had no alternative but to withhold from that Government his confidence, and he was surprised at the course pursued by the right hon. gentleman.

There are many charges (said the noble Lord) which may be made against a Government. It might be said that it ought to be accused of having rashly, im rovidently, and without due regard to he heavy responsibility which devolved upon them, brought the country to the condition of being dri ged to draw the sword and rush into war. That is a charge which no one has made against us (Hear, hear). That charge would, indeed, have been a heavy one; and if it had been proved, we should have deserved the severest condemnation for the country. Another charge might be, that by delay, credulity, and the absence of sufficient vigour at the proper time, we allowed matters to come to this pass, which they would not have come to if other measures had been pursued a different course. I think that charge is one which cannot be brought against the Government, but, on the contrary, I am ready to maintain that as far as our conduct is to be measured by the language we have exhibited, I think we are entitled to the favourable consideration of the country. If it is said that we have forborne to the last moment, and exhausted every means of negotiation before we had recourse to the last terrible alternative, in an amicable way the dispute which threatened the peace of Europe—that we have trusted even those who were unworthy of being trusted—(hear) that we left no assertions unexplained, and shrunk from no sacrifice; in short, that we have postponed to the utmost that decision to which, at last, we may be forced to come—I think that cannot be urged as a charge against the Government; but, on the contrary, the result must be that—which I think has taken place—the country, seeing there has been no precipitation, no desire for war, but rather the greatest anxiety to avoid it, and that the Government have clung to every hope of peace—the country, I say, seeing that, will rally round us as one man, feeling that the war is a necessity which we cannot avoid: and it will be prepared to make those sacrifices which every war necessarily involves (Cheers). We are accused of credulity. I say that the facts in the blue-bo ks before the House justify us in having for a long time reposed belief and confidence in the assertions of the Russian Government. The right hon. gentleman has quoted my noble friend the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs when making misled Parliament on the 25th April, by declaring at that time, that Russia asked for nothing beyond a settlement of the question of the Holy Places; whereas, says the right hon. gentleman, at that time Prince Menschikoff had left Constantinople; and the Government knew then that he had begun to make demands of a very different character. What are the facts? Prince Menschikoff left Constantinople on the 2nd May (Hear). What was the latest declaration which our Government had received?—not from the reports that appeared in newspapers, which, however much they might be entitled to some credit, yet, as we all know, were to be received with allowance and abatement—but, on April 25, what was the last communication received in this country? Why, that made by Count Nesselrode from the mouth of Count Nesselrode? On the 28th March, Sir Hamilton Seymour asked Count Nesselrode whether the settlement of the question of the Holy Places did not terminate all differences between Russia and Turkey? Count Nesselrode said, "It will. That question once settled, there will remain but some small chancery matters, private claims, and such things as may exist between Governments which have any commercial and intimate intercourse." That was again repeated on the 30th April, when Count Nesselrode declared to Sir G. H. Seymour that he was authorised to say that assurances were made by the Government of a great country like Russia, her Majesty's Government were entitled to believe them (Cheers). But it is said, "Aye, but you heard of military preparations, and you ought, therefore, to have inferred that some other demands were going to be made." Why, we were ourselves told by the Russian Government of these preparations; but we were likewise told that they were precautions to counteract the menacing language which was used by France, and that they were made solely and entirely with reference to the question of the Holy Places. We were also told that Russia demanded some proof of confidence some reparation from Turkey for the offence which had been committed by the abandonment of the pledges and changes made in regard to the Holy Places, and for future considerations, and that security for the future, was to be a treaty about the Holy Places—a treaty confirming the firmans which the Sultan had given for the settlement of that question; but there was the slightest intimation that the treaty was to apply to any other question, and I must say that, when Count Nesselrode said, at a later period, that her Majesty's Government knew what were the demands which he should make, he stated that which, I must say, was utterly at variance with the truth (Cheers). It is painful to speak of a Government like Russia in terms of contemnation and censure; but I must say, with a full conviction of her Majesty's Government, that throughout the whole course of that negot ation, the Russian Government, by its various agents, and by itself, exhausted every modification of untruth (Laughter), hypocrisy in insinuation, and ending in assurances of a positive fact (Hear, hear). Co nplaint has been made of the forbearance shown by the Government in these negotiations. I must say that, in the course of last summer, a step might have been taken which would have brought matters to the point at which they now are—if we had found ourselves in June or July on the brink of a rupture with Russia—our position would have been just as it is at the present time. But many men say, Russia would have given way, if you had shown more vigour (Hear, hear). Well, I admit that is a very plausible opinion. Many men may be justified in entertaining it; but, after all it is but an opinion (A laugh). It is but an opinion, and may turn out to be a wrong one (Hear, hear). Now, if it had turned out to be a wrong one, and if, instead of obtaining concessions from Russia we had urged Russia to the point at which we are now likely to find her, we should have made a great political mistake, and this country would not have been in the position she is at the present moment.

At all events, he believed that the conduct of Austria and Prussia, in the event of a war, would be now different from what it would have been had they adopted the bold policy referred to. The object of the war was essentially for the maintenance of the integrity and independence of Turkey, to prevent Russia from possessing herself to an extent of territory and power which would render her dangerous to the other powers of Europe. At present the power of Russia, however great for defence, was infinitely exaggerated as regarded aggression; while, on the other hand, Turkey stood in a degree of energy and patriotism which argued strongly for a favourable result of hostilities, with aids from France and England, or from either of them alone. With both united, the chances of Russia were nothing less than desperate.

And I think we are entitled to expect that, if the war should continue, Austria and Prussia will not remain idle or passive spectators in the conflict (Hear, hear). If there prevails here and elsewhere any of the spirit of old Frederick, she will not fail to come forward to bear her part in the struggle; and Austria will have forgotten all her former policy, and have become sufficiently enlightened as to her best interests, if she permit the advance of Russia without making an effort to resist it (Hear, hear). Well, then, I say, with England and France actively supporting Turkey—with the whole population of Europe sympathising with not a single ally to support her in her injustice—I cannot bring myself to doubt what must be the result of the contest (Cheers). I must say it is a noble sight to see England and France, who for centuries have been engaged in rivalry with each other—to see them now united in one course of action, and bound by reciprocal engagements to seek, as the result of their operations, no selfish object—to see them entering into a defensive, not of their own interests only, but of the welfare of the whole of Europe (Great cheering). It is a noble sight to see those fleets and armies, which hitherto have only met in hostile conflict ranged side by side as friends, and armed, not for purposes of conquest, not for the oppression of the liberties of mankind, but armed in a noble and a generous cause for the defence of right against might, and of justice against oppression (Cheers). I care not, sir, for imputations of credulity or connivance (Cheers); we are willing to throw our case before the country, to be judged by this House and by our fellow-countrymen—and I am convinced that the people of England will be satisfied that we have not involved them needlessly, or without due cause or necessity in war (Cheers). That war—though I do not wish to underrate its

consequences, or the exertions that it may require—will, I take it, be very different from any other war in which, in former times, we have engaged. But I feel no hesitation in appealing to the country for assistance; but this, at least, I will say, that if the country or the House should think that we have manifested in thereto the weakness of credulity or the infamy of connivance, let them take from us the conduct of the war, which we should be totally incompetent and unworthy to conduct, and let them place it in the hands of others in whose judgment and sagacity they may place confidence, and on whose integrity they may rely (Cheers).

The House shortly afterwards went into Committee of Supply, and a vote was passed to defray the charge of outstanding Exchequer Bills.

On the motion of Sir J GRAHAM, a sum of £2 192,671 was voted to defray the wages of 58 000 seamen and marines during the ensuing year.

The House having resumed, an adjournment took place shortly after two o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

No business of importance was transacted.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

PRIVATEERS.

Mr. HORSFALL wished to know from some member of her Majesty's Government—the noble member for the City of London not being in his place—whether the treaties with foreign nations, or the steps which her Majesty's Government are prepared to take in the event of war, are such as will effectually prevent privateers being fitted out in neutral ports to interfere with British shipping?

Lord PALMERSTON said that, in the present state of things, an explanatory answer could not be given.

MANCHESTER AND SALFORD EDUCATION BILL.

Mr. ADDERLEY moved the second reading of this bill, by which, he said, the ratepayers of Manchester applied to the Legislature to enable them to rate themselves to a common fund, which, by a proportionate distribution amongst the schools, would supply adequate education to all classes, according to their own views and inclinations (Hear, hear).

Mr M GIBSON thought it was an abuse to bring in a bill like this, on the subject of education, as a private bill. It would commit the House to a principle of national education subsequently to be carried out, and was, therefore, a public bill. The Corporation of Manchester protested against the scheme of the bill, and were anxious to defeat it. Under these circumstances he moved as an amendment, "That education to be supported by public rates is a subject which ought not to be dealt with by any private bill."

The LORD ADVOCATE said he would not throw any obstacle in the way of the second reading of the bill.

Sir G GREY thought the bill was one of such importance, and the principle of it was capable of such general application, that it ought not to be promoted as a private bill. He suggested that the bill should be treated as a public bill, with a permissive power for other places besides Manchester to avail themselves of its provisions, as was done in the case of the bill for the establishment of baths and wash-houses some two years ago.

Mr NAPIER supported the second reading of the bill.

After a short discussion, Lord J. RUSSELL said there were great difficulties in the way of dealing with this bill. He could not agree with the amendment as an abstract proposition, because it might be desirable to allow a community, the whole of whose members were agreed upon the subject, to rate themselves for the purposes of education; but in the present case the whole of the corporation had announced their opposition to the bill. He thought it would be better to adopt the suggestion of Sir George Grey than to proceed further with the measure during the present session.

Mr. J. G. PHILLIMORE supported the bill.

Mr. W. J FOX opposed the bill, as calculated to continue an inefficient system of education.

Sir J. PAKINGTON hoped that a bill of such importance would not be pushed aside by a paltry dispute as to whether it was a public or a private bill.

Mr. BRIGHT could not see why Manchester should be experimented upon by such a scheme as the bill proposed, more particularly when by the municipal authorities of that city it was condemned and denounced

Mr. HENLEY strongly opposed the bill, unsupported as it was by the members for the town, and opposed by the corporation.

Mr. W. PATTEN supported the bill, believing the voluntary system to be wholly inadequate to the wants of the country, while it was hopeless to expect a good system would ever be adopted.

Mr. PETO was of opinion that the voluntary system was quite adequate to the wants of the country, more particularly when he looked to the aid it derived from mechanics' institutes and ragged schools.

Mr. T. CHEETHAM SALT supported the bill.

Mr. WALPOLE thought they ought not to establish such an important principle as that of compulsory rating, without a fuller and more ample discussion than it could be expected to have upon the second reading of a private bill

Mr. MIALL advocated the voluntary principle, and opposed the bill.

The House then divided, and the numbers were—For the amendment, 105; against it, 76: majority, 29. The bill was consequently lost.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

LIBERATION OF MR. SMITH O'BRIEN.

Lord PALMERSTON, in reply to Mr B-amish, said her Majesty's Government intended to recommend that Mr. Smith O Brien should be set at liberty.

THE WAR.

On the bringing up of the report of the Committee of Supply, Mr. HUME expressed his very great satisfaction at the conduct of Government in using every means to avoid the horrors and expense of war, it was clear that they had been deceived, but the shame of that was not with them, but on those by whom they had been deceived. Under these circumstances he was prepared to support to the fullest extent the measures of Government in the impending struggle. As to the Estimates, he was happy to find that they were so moderate. He thought the preparations made by Government to stay the encroachments of Russia on the liberties of mankind had been conceived and executed in the best and most economical manner. The only point on which he found fault with Ministers was for the secrecy with which they had conducted their proceedings

Mr MONCKTON MILNES felt grateful to this member for Montrose for his frank and well-timed observations, to which the country would heartily respond He perfectly agreed with what had been said about the evils arising from want of information. Had the first volume of the Blue Books on the Eastern question been laid on the table at the end of last session, the House would have given its hearty support to Ministers, had they been disposed to act energetically.

Sir De L. EVANS also blamed the Government for not having laid the information before the House at an earlier period.

Lord PALMERSTON could assure the House that, if any delay had taken place in their communicating to the House despatches which showed the progress of negotiation, it had not in any degree arisen from distrust of the House or of the country, or from any desire to conceal from the House or the country the course of the negotiation which had been carried on. He could assure the honourable member for Pontefract that the premature publication of papers connected with unfinished negotiations might essentially prejudice the successful results of those negotiations, and, until they had been brought to a termination, favourable or unfavourable, they might entirely defeat the chance of a successful issue by prematurely publishing to the world the proposition made, the refusals given, the modifications which had taken place, and the difficulties which might have arisen in the course of the transactions. Therefore it was—which might be right or wrong, he however believed it to be right—their opinion of what was best for the public interest by which Ministers were guided in choosing the moment at which the communications should be made to the House.

Mr. MUNTZ contended that if Government had acted with more energy we should not have been placed in our present position. It was said that Ministers had been deceived; but the Emperor of Russia had also been deceived. He had been led to believe that the labours of the Peace Society had been attended with great success in England, and now he found that he had been misled on that point.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

In reply to the Earl of Derby, the Earl of ABERDEEN said that the Government felt they were possessed of sufficient information to justify them in introducing a measure for the reform of the University of Oxford: and he could not give any pledge that such measure would be submitted to a meeting of convocation before it was laid before Parliament.

OUR EXPEDITION TO THE EAST.

The Earl of CARDIGAN drew the attention of the Government to the danger and inconvenience of sending our cavalry by sailing vessels to Constantinople, and asked the Government whether, in the present flourishing state of our steam navigation, it would not be practicable to transport our whole armed forces by steam?

The Duke of NEWCASTLE said the Government were fully alive to the superior advantages of steam for the transport of our army to the East; but, after the most mature consideration, they came to the opinion that it would be impracticable, without entirely upsetting our postal arrangements, to send the whole of our troops by steam. The difficulty of transporting so large a body of men as 12,000 to Constantinople had been greatly overcome by the patriotic readiness shown on the part of all our steam companies. It was only due to them to say that the arrangements of the Government in regard to our armed expedition to the East, would prove a serious inconvenience to those companies; and he was confident that the remuneration they were to receive for this service would not repay them.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH admitted the great difficulty of sending all our forces by steam, but he hoped that the Government would, as far as it was possible, secure that mode of transport for the conveyance of our troops

The Earl of DESART inquired of her Majesty's Government whether an arrangement had not recently been made for the withdrawal of troops from the smaller West India Islands?

The Duke of NEWCASTLE said that the troops had been removed from four of the smaller islands, in consequence of the local bodies having neglected to provide a body of police, and having depended on the troops to perform such duties. The troops would, however, be concentrated at Barbadoes, to prevent any disturbance arising. Although the Government believed it to be their duty to defend our colonial possessions at all risks; still they did not feel warranted in providing that protection which the local authorities ought to provide for themselves.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE gave notice of a motion with a view to the improved ventilation of the House.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

Sir J. WALSH gave notice of his intention upon going into a Committee of Supply on the Military Estimates, to submit to the consideration of the House a question as to the inadequacy of our military establishments, in reference to the war in which we were about to enter.

In reply to Mr. French, Lord J RUSSELL said that the agreement made with France in reference to the aid to be afforded to Turkey did not include the allies of Turkey

In reply to Mr. Horsfall, Lord J. RUSSELL said that the Government had under their anxious consideration the question in relation to the policy to be pursued towards neutral powers by the country, with respect to privateers The subject was one of great difficulty. Every care would, however, be taken to avoid proceedings of a hostile character towards the subjects of neutral powers.

Mr GROGAN called the attention of the House to the necessity of maintaining, if not of increasing, the grants now made to the Hospitals of Dublin, instead of withdrawing them, as was proposed; and moved the appointment of a select committee to inquire into the subject.

Mr. WILSON, on the part of the Government, having assented, the motion was agreed to.

Mr. OLIVEIRA obtained the appointment of a committee to inquire into the adequacy of the metropolitan bridges to the increasing traffic, and into the propriety of throwing open those bridges now belonging to public companies

EDUCATION (SCOTLAND).

The LORD ADVOCATE moved to bring in a Bill to make Further Provision for the Education of the People in Scotland, and to Amend the Laws relating thereto. Scotland for nearly 300 years had enjoyed the advantage of schools in every parish, supported by the land, without the option of the land-owners being consulted. The bill merely proposed to extend this plan, and to give to Scotland a much more extensive system of education than had hitherto existed, under the inspection of a board, which should report from time to time to Parliament. The schoolmasters were now maintained by a rate laid upon the heritors, calculated upon the price of grain, and paid salaries, varying from £19 to £25 a year—sums quite inadequate to maintain them. He proposed by his bill that the salary of every ordinary schoolmaster should be £50, with a retiring allowance of £25 per year. Every schoolmaster was also to have a house containing at least three rooms. The schoolmasters at present were appointed from the members of the Kirk, but it was considered that he should be required to take no denominational faith, or make any religious profession. The election of schoolmaster would rest, as at present, with the heritors and minister, who would also have the superintendence of the schools, under the control of inspectors. He proposed that a rate not to exceed one penny in the pound upon the entire value of Scotland should be raised for educational purposes. Having referred to several minor details of the measure, the right hon. and learned gentleman concluded by asking leave to introduce the bill.

Mr HUME supported the proposition of the Lord Advocate.

After some discussion, the general tone of which was approval of the measure, the motion was agreed to.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

THE WAR.

Lord BEAUMONT, according to his notice, moved the following resolutions, viz :—

That it appears from the documents which her Majesty has been graciously pleased to communicate to the House, that the efforts of her Majesty and her Majesty's Allies to establish, without recourse to arms, amicable relations between the Sublime Porte and his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Russia, has been unremitting; that it appears, also, that these efforts have failed to produce the desired effect; and that the Emperor of Russia continues to hold by force of arms two important provinces of the Ottoman Empire.

That it is, therefore, the opinion of this House, that the honour and best interests of this country require that immediate and effectual means be taken to repel the unjustifiable aggression of Russia upon the territory of the Sultan; and that the power and influence of this country should be exerted to place the relations of the Sublime Porte with the rest of Europe upon such foundation as shall be calculated to secure a durable peace, and to afford the Ottoman Empire a fair opportunity of developing its natural resources, and of proceeding with its administrative reforms.

The noble Lord then proceeded to comment upon the course pursued by our Government in connexion with the various negotiations that were on foot; contend ng that, if the Government were really desirous of assisting Turkey, they ought not to have controlled the patriotic sentiments of the British people by giving utterance to language worthy only of the Peace Society. He blamed the Government for its backwardness in affording information to the public with regard to the position of affairs from time to time, and expressed his approbation that the Vienna note must still be regarded as being open to the acceptance of Russia. He protested against a compromise, which would put Russia in a better position than she had occupied before the outbreak of hostilities. War was far preferable to a dishonourable peace; and England ought at once to make some declaration—and that declaration should be war.

The Earl of CLARENDON said, that though some parts of the resolutions were unobjectionable, he thought that it would be most unwise in their Lordships to bind their hands in reference to a war which had not as yet been declared. The resolutions were wholly unnecessary, and he trusted that the noble Lord would not press them. The noble Earl then proceeded to vindicate the course taken by the Government throughout those transactions. If we had gone to war when Russia entered the Principalities, there was nothing to prevent the Russian army marching upon Constantinople, the Turks being at that time wholly unable to defend themselves. He believed that it was owing to that policy of the Government which was so much condemned, that Austria and Prussia had been converted into friendly allies, instead of joining with Russia. It was only that day that he heard, by electric telegraph, that Austria had collected an army of 45,000 men, in addition to her former force, whilst we had ourselves as fine a fleet as had ever sailed from the Downs. He had no hesitation in saying that we no longer had any reasonable hope of peace.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

In reply to Sir H. Willoughby, Lord PALMERSTON said that his attention had been called to the practice of tying up the bells of certain workhouses at night, which had the effect of preventing the administration of relief in urgent cases. He had ordered steps to be taken to prevent the recurrence of such a practice in future

In reply to General Wyndham, Sir J. GRAHAM said that the cavalry horses required for service in the East were to be sent in sailing-vessels, because it was thought that they would be better accommodated in such vessels than they would be in the steamers that were at the disposal of the Admiralty.

In reply to Lord D. Stuart, Lord PALMERSTON said he had, in the course of the present session, to be able to bring in a bill for the better regulation of the medical profession; and also a bill for granting a New Charter of Incorporation to the Royal College of Physicians.

In reply to Mr. Macartney, Mr. S. HERBERT said that the usual number of women allowed to go out with troops had been reduced in the instance of the recent embarkation for the East. The course to be taken towards the wives and children of the soldiers left behind was under the consideration of the Government. He, however, thought that the Government would not be justified in making public provision for the wives of soldiers, but they would be forwarded to their homes and friends at the public expense, while special provision might be made for those who had peculiar claims.

Lord J. RUSSELL brought up his Bribery Bill, and Controverted Elections Bill, which were severally read a first time.

In reply to an hon. member, Mr. WILSON said it was intended by the Government to introduce a bill having reference to assurance associations generally, as soon as they had received the report of the commission that was now sitting upon the subject.

On the motion for going into Committee of Supply, Mr. MAGUIRE called attention to numerous cases of illegality and inhumanity in the removal of the poor from this country to Ireland. He thought that it was absolutely necessary to make some alteration in this practice, in order to avert an explosion of popular feeling in Ireland.

Mr. BARNES admitted the unsatisfactory state of the law upon this subject and promised to inquire fully into the practice, with a view to enable the House to legislate upon the matter.

Lord C HAMILTON stated that within one month 435 persons had been shipped from this country, and landed destitute in a single union in Dublin.

THE WAR.

Sir J WALSH called the attention of the House to the inadequacy of our military establishments of the country to meet the exigencies of the war into which we are about to enter. He warned them of the danger of undervaluing the power of Russia, which he believed to be far greater than was generally supposed. He referred to the insurrection among the Greek subjects of the Porte; and observed, that it was not at all improbable that this insurrection might diffuse itself over a wide extent of country, and even embrace the Christian population of Syria. It was evident that war, for some time to come, would be the normal condition of Europe; and it was, therefore, necessary that our military and naval preparations should be on a scale equal to the emergency. We were on the brink of war, and yet our army was not much larger than that of Belgium. Such a force could only be called a liberal peace establishment.

Mr. ALCOCK was of opinion that the turning point of the whole subject of our relations with Russia and Turkey depended upon the command of the Black Sea. It was much to be regretted that the combined fleets had not entered into the Euxine, and established the ascendancy of England there, immediately after the affair of Sinope.

Sir DE LACI EVANS said that, in his opinion, the war estimates now proposed to be voted ought not to be entered on without a pledge from the Government that the force of 47 000 men now stationed in the colonies be promptly diminished, as involving an expenditure and dissemination of the military strength of the country, specially inopportune at a moment of impending war.

After some further discussion, the House went into Committee of Supply.

THE DERBY BRIBERY CASE.—A crowded meeting was held at Derby on Tuesday evening, to protest against the compromise made in reference to the recent trial for alleged bribery of the Derby electors. A letter was read from Mr. Coppock, in which that gentleman denied that the Liberal party in Derby had connived at any compromise. A resolution was carried expressive of the disapprobation of the electors at the "clandestine" compromise made in the case of "The Queen *v.* Waterford and others;" and a petition was also agreed to, praying the House of Commons to institute an inquiry into a state secret that a sum of £1000 had been paid as the price of the above-named compromise.

THE NEW REFORM BILL.—A large and influential meeting of Liberal members, convened by Mr. Hume, was held in Committee-room No. 12, on Monday, to consider what line of policy should be adopted with reference to the New Reform Bill. Mr. Hume having explained the object for which the meeting had been summoned, a long discussion took place with respect to the provisions of the bill, the merits of which were frankly admitted, while the more questionable portions were minutely criticised. Many objections were taken to several of its details; but the grant street stress was laid upon what was termed the minority clause, which was strenuously opposed by many of the hon. gentlemen present. Much disappointment at was also expressed at the exclusion of the ballot. After three hours' discussion it was unanimously resolved to support the second read ng of the bill; and it was agreed that another meeting should be held, for the purpose of considering what steps should be taken with regard to the minority clause.—At a meeting of the Council of the National Reform Association, held on Wednesday evening, it was unanimously resolved that, although the proposed measure falls short of what is due to the unenfranchised, "it deserves the strenuous support of all Reformers, as a large and invaluable instalment of the objects they seek."

FACTORY MACHINERY.—One of the most numerously attended and influential meetings ever held in Manchester took place in the Town-hall, on Tuesday, for the purpose of protesting against the order recently issued by the Factory Inspectors, requiring all mill gearing to be fenced off. Resolutions against the order in question were passed unanimously, and a deputation was appointed to wait upon Lord Palmers on on the subject. Mr. ARCHWRIGHT (Mayor of Bolton) complained that the resolutions were not strong enough. The factory owners ought to ask to be emancipated from the Factory Act; and, if they were all of his mind, they would lock up their mills, and refuse to work them under the present Factory Act. The meeting then broke up.

VIEW OF SEBASTOPOL, AT THE GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION.

THE proprietors of the Gallery of Illustration have lately enriched their diornamic entertainment, "The Ocean Mail," by the addition of a view of the town and harbour of Sebastopol, with the Russian fleet represented lying at anchor within the latter. The view is taken from the open country in the direction of the ancient fortress of Inkeman the evening being between the spectator and the town, which rises, amphitheatre-like, at the back. Altogether, though not what may be termed picturesque, it is a striking scene; and has been produced in a style to redound great credit to the known talent of Messrs. Grieve and Telbin, the artists. We have great pleasure in presenting an Engraving of it.

This famous stronghold of the Russians in the Black Sea is one of the most modern creations in the rapidly-growing empire of the Czars. Its site, until 1783, having been occupied by nothing more pretentious than a miserable village of Tartar huts, named Akhtiar. The splendid natural advantages of its harbour for a first-rate naval port, however, attracted the keen notice of Catherine II., and, in 1786, the first stone of the new fortress and arsenal was laid, and from that period it has rapidly increased in strength and importance.

It is to English talent that Russia is, in great measure, indebted for the important works in this port and arsenal. Mr. Hupton, assisted by his sons, have for years conducted these immense undertakings, which are executed with the aid of an army of military labourers. M Demidoff in his "Travels in Southern Russia," gives the following account of the basins and docks—

The importance of Sebastopol, and the happy peculiarities of its position, having been once recognised, the next step was to form basins and docks for refitting; these objects have been admirably accomplished by Mr. Hupton. A spacious basin has been sunk at some distance from the sea, and on a higher level. On the sides of this basin are five dry docks; three of these are for first-class vessels, the remaining two for frigates. With a sea almost without tides, the draining of these docks was a difficult problem to solve; it was accomplished in the following manner.—At a distance of eighteen verste, at the bottom of the great valley forming the inner road, flowed, on a level of suitable height, a small river abundantly supplied with water. This river was taken possession of by the engineers, turned into another bed excavated in the rock, and passing at one time through a tunnel, at another over an aqueduct, the Tchernaia-Retchka (black rivulet) was made to furnish the necessary supply of water to the docks As all this water came from a considerable height, it was easy, by means of an ingenious combination of locks, to bring into the large basin three hundred feet by four hundred, then being lined with splendid masonry—one vessel of 120 guns, two of eighty, and two frigates of sixty, to be placed into the five dry docks, which could be drained or shaved at pleasure.

The population of Sebastopol, which consists of little else than the military and the labourers employed in the works, is, in ordinary times, about 30 000 in number; but when the fleet is in port, and any considerable works are in progress, it amounts to double that number.

VIEW OF SEBASTOPOL, FROM "THE GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION," REGENT-STREET.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

OPENING OF THE POPLAR SAILORS' HOME.

The inauguration of this excellent institution, which is destined, we trust, to work a great reformation in the habits and morals of the seafaring population in its neighbourhood, took place on Tuesday, at half-past two o'clock. A large party of distinguished visitors were present on the occasion—among whom we observed the Right Hon. Lord Byron and Lady Byron, the Hon. Mr. and Mrs. Vereker, the Hon. James Byng, Captain Hall and the Hon. Mrs. Hall, the Hon. Captain Denman, R.N., Alexander Matheson, M.P., and the Hon. Mrs. Matheson, Admiral Sir Edward Parry, Admiral Sir George Sartorius, Sir Joseph Copley, Bart., Sir M. Crear, Mr. Oliveira, M.P., and Mrs. Oliveira, James Forbes, Esq., Miss Forbes, the Messrs. Somes, &c.

The "Home" was formerly a private house of a superior class, and was presented, rent free, to the Sailors' Home Institution by the Messrs. Somes. It is situated near the termination of the City Canal, in an open, healthy situation, forming a pleasant contrast to the wretched ill-ventilated dens to which the majority of sailors are now forced to resort, or want of proper accommodation. The building at Poplar has been fitted up under the direction of Captain Hall, the managing director of the Sailors' Home Institution, in Craven-street, whose unwearied exertions in this too much neglected field of philanthropic labour have been so successful; and the whole of the arrangements are admirably adapted to secure the comfort of the inmates and visitors. There are already beds to accommodate fifty persons; and even double that number could be provided for without much difficulty. A large kitchen forms part of the establishment, in which a well-skilled cook presides over the concoction of tea, coffee, soup, and whatever else may be required in the way of dietary. Branching out from this most useful part of the Institution, Captain Hall has contrived a very comfortable range of refreshment and reading-rooms for persons connected with the docks and shipping, where, at a very moderate rate, they will be able to obtain a basin of wholesome soup, or a cup of tea or coffee; those who may care for neither will have access to the reading-room on payment of a penny. It is much to be desired that reading-rooms of this kind could be provided plentifully in all such neighbourhoods; the result would be a very great improvement in the health, intelligence, and morality of the working classes.

After the company had viewed the establishment, they adjourned to the dining-room, where a number of seamen of every class—Greenwich pensioners, men-of-war's-men, boys, merchant seamen, apprentices, and foreign sailors—having taken their seat at a table loaded with a substantial and excellent repast, the Rev. Mr. Gribble invoked the Divine blessing upon the undertaking.

Admiral Sir Edward Parry then addressed the company, expressing the gratification it gave him to be present on an occasion so interesting. For too many years it had been customary to regard the sailor as a rough, reckless creature, who was, on landing, to be allowed to take his fling; and therefore there had been no precaution taken to provide for him that which he most required after returning from sea—the comfort and security of a home. When necessity for such institutions was urged by Capt. Hall, who had done so much to promote the establishment of these houses, the answer was that the sailors did not want them. In fact the system had been such as to drive them, on their arrival in port, to miserable and rascally pothouses with which our ports are crowded, or to those dens of infamy, the brothels. They first made them brutes and then called them so. He wished now to give a practical answer to those who had objected to the foundation of Sailors' Homes, and had prophesied that the sailors would not go to them. The following were some of the facts connected with the Portsmouth Home:—It opened with 30 beds. In six months time 26 more were required. At the end of the year they numbered 91, and even that number was not sufficient for the wants of the sailors. On several occasions it had been thronged by as many as 200 additional men, who chose to sleep on the floor rather than go to their former haunts. They were so much pleased with it that they preferred, in nautical language, to prick for a soft plank in the Sailors' Home to entering the vile dens they had been formerly compelled to inhabit, and many of them left their shillings in advance to secure the first vacant bed. They might rest assured that if they gave them the means of being so, no men would be more respectable in their conduct or less reckless than the British sailor; and he must congratulate Captain Hall on the success which had attended him in his philanthropic exertions of establishing these Homes.

Captain Hall thanked Sir Edward for the interest he had always taken in this movement. As for what he himself had done he felt he had only performed his duty in endeavouring to benefit his brother sailor.

Various presentations of books were then made through the Rev. Mr. Gribble, to the Home—including a Bible from the hon. Mrs. Hall, the lady of the gallant Captain, a Prayer-book from the Dowager Countess of Torrington, the mother of Mrs. Hall; the "Nemesis in China," by Captain Hall, being an account of the late war in that country, in which it will be recollected the gallant Captain took so distinguished a part.

Some other gentlemen having addressed the assembly, they proceeded to partake of the refreshments provided for their entertainment; and the friends of Captain Hall afterwards lunched together in another apartment.

The band of the Royal Marines was present to enliven the proceedings; and the approach to the Home was gaily decorated by the ensigns of the various nations, that of Russia being reversed.

The Opening of the Home has been somewhat expedited, in consequence of Captain Hall having volunteered to serve in the Baltic, with the navigation of which he is intimately acquainted.

THE POPLAR SAILORS' HOME.

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

SCHUMLA, January 17.

VERY much against my wishes, I have been obliged to prolong my stay in Constantinople, waiting for the renewal of intercourse between Trebizond and Batoum. But it is, at present, and will be for a month to come, absolutely impracticable by land; and, as it is out of the question to attempt to go by sea, I thought I had better go, in the meanwhile, on the Danube, where there is some hope of enjoying, now and then, a bit of shooting. In pursuance of this, I embarked on board the *Lloyd* steamer for Varna; and I had the good luck to meet with two English officers going with the same object—Major Toombs and Capt Austin (both of the Bengal Horse Artillery), returning from India on their route to England. These gentlemen were provided with letters of introduction to Omer Pacha, from the English Ambassador; and, in their company, independently of the advantage of enjoying their society, I availed myself of many facilities which I could not obtain in ordinary circumstances. But for meeting them, I should have been obliged to stay here or at Rustchuk at the utmost, where nothing could be seen; whilst we are going to Widdin and Kalafat, where the last

THE GOVERNOR OF SCHUMLA.

A A Forts.
L. Barracks.
B. Fort destroyed by Russians.
M Prison.
C. Vineyards.
N. Parapets, fortified.
D. Villages.
O. Arsenal.
E. Tambour.
P. Powder Magazine.
F. Camps.
Q. Mosques.
G. Camps of Egyptians.
R. Guard-tents.
H. Old Parapet and Ditch.
S. Road to Koulsuck.
I. Entrance to Town.
T. Road to Varna
b. Burial-grounds.
t Road to Constantinople.

PANORAMIC VIEW OF THE TOWN AND FORTIFICATIONS OF SCHUMLA.

engagement took place, the details of which will probably reach you before this letter, in a more complete form than we have heard them here in Schumla.

This trip (supposing the hostilities should not be carried on on a larger scale than hitherto) will last about a month. We intend to pass again through this place (Schumla); the season will be far advanced (the winter nearly over); and, as Omer Pacha led us to expect some serious business, I shall remain at head-quarters, and follow him everywhere. There is certainly a prospect of witnessing some rough work; else I would return to Constantinople, thence to embark for the coast of Asia.

We are without any news since we left Constantinople. We arrived yesterday, after two days' travelling (twelve hours in the saddle) through roads that beat description. We visited to-day the Marshal, to whom we had before (last night) written a letter, begging an audience. He sent us word that he would receive us at eleven o'clock. We went on horseback to his house—a very humble one, much more like a farm-house than a villa. It is situated in a narrow muddy sort of street—two sentry boxes at the open gate. The guard presented arms. We went up-stairs and entered his room, with our travelling boots on, the curtain hanging over the door, according to the Turkish fashion, having been raised by a soldier so very quickly on our having ascended the stairs, that we had no time to conform ourselves to the usual formalities—viz., the taking off of our boots (these boots are large ones, and admit of small boots inside)—the door was open, and the Marshal, who stood inside, advanced to meet us, and invited us to step in at once.

We immediately were asked to take our seat near him on the Divan coffee and pipes were brought in, and conversation began. Omer Pacha speaks Italian fluently, and French tolerably; in fact, well enough to render uncalled for the apologies he prefaces generally his conversations with. Both Major Tombs and Capt. Austin speak French. The Marshal told us that he had received, the day before, the news from Kalafat—the engagement I spoke of just now—said that the loss of the Turks had been about 400 dead and 800 wounded; the Russians 4000; and such hyperbolic figures that I do not like to repeat them. The Marshal addressed us singly in turn. I regretted very much that I had not received the Christmas Number of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS when I left Constantinople, as it would have been a very acceptable present. Those copies I had with me were so crumpled that I could not think of showing them; and, besides, they wanted interest for him. We talked about the state of the Russian army, which he described as being very inferior to his. I asked him whether he had any French officer in his head-quarter? He answered very quickly, "No, I have no foreigners. *Tous mes officers sont Turcs, et j'en suis tres content*" (All my officers are Turks, and I am very well pleased with them). He took great care to mention the necessity of giving his soldiers full liberty in the action, as to making no prisoners. He repeated several times: "*Que voulez vous? On a provoqué ces gens là—on les a blessés dans ce qu'ils ont de plus cher—leur religion, leur honneur—ils sont indignés—ils tuent. Eux mêmes ne veulent pas de grâce, ils n'en font pas—nous ne pouvons pas les arrêter; c'est malheureux—mais que voulez vous?*" (What would you have? They have provoked these people; they have hurt them in what they hold dearest—their religion, their honour; they are indignant; they give no quarter. They themselves do not wish for mercy, and they show none; we cannot check them, poor wretches; but what would you have?)

He asked us several questions about the fleets, where they were going, if they had gone to Sebastopol or Batoum, and if they were disposed to fight against the Russians? He very sneeringly added: "*Mais qu'est ce donc qu'elles sont venues faire dans le Bosphore? En vérité, je ne comprends pas de tout: de tout! Nous verrons! Nous verrons!*" (But what is it that they have come to do in the Bosphorus? The truth is, I cannot understand it at all. But we shall see; we shall see.) I told him that Lord Palmerston *had given* and *withdrawn* his resignation, and for what motive it was supposed he had done so—the want of energy of the Aberdeen Cabinet in the Oriental Question. I observed him very closely, then, waiting for what impression his face would betray, but he did not seem any more moved about it than if he had no knowledge of Lords Palmerston and Aberdeen. In fact, it appears to me, from many little incidents in our interview, that he looks on himself as the best defender of the Empire. He is evidently reverenced by everybody here (not only in the army, but also by the peasantry, &c.,) not on account of his rank alone, but really for his supernatural genius. The people know that he does everything himself: he is his own Quartermaster-General, his *Chef d'Etat*, Major, &c.; and, as Governor of Roumelia, he is almost worshipped by the Bulgarian peasantry. He is the first (I should say the only) engineer of the Turkish army. The fortifications of Schumla, Varna, &c., and all those along the Danube, have been erected from plans drawn by himself. Every military establishment has been organised by him, or according to his plans. He seems very anxious that it should be known all over the world that he does not want foreign advice. However, a French Colonel has arrived to day, so that some reserve must be made in trusting to his declaration.

We asked leave to visit the fortifications. He immediately clapped his hands twice. A servant entered. He ordered an aide-de-camp to be sent for, and when admitted he told him to show us everything we wished to see.

We asked him what road we were to take which way we ought to turn, in order to be present at the next battle. He smiled, and said: "*Ma foi, je ne sais pas plus que vous, mais si vous allez à Vidin et Kalafat, sans doute il y aura encore quelque chose, et vous verrez comment ils se comporteront nos soldats—vous verrez*" (I know no more than you do what they are about at Widdin or Kalafat. No doubt there will be something done soon, and you will see how our soldiers will behave—you will see). Then we talked about the horses, which are really excellent, but look rather too small for cavalry. In reply to that remark, he said: "*Sur ce chapitre nous sommes bien supérieurs aux Russes, qui n'peuvent pas supporter le choc de notre cavalerie*" (On that point we are much superior to the Russians, who are unable to withstand the shock of our cavalry).

While talking on this subject, he mentioned that he had for his favourite charger an Arabian, twenty-four years old, and that he could not find, in all the empire, a better horse. It had been wounded, and had lost one eye, and yet he would not mount another upon any account. He clapped his hands, and ordered it to be taken out of the stable. he then got up, opened the window, and showed it to us. On our expressing our admiration the animal being really a superb one, and the tallest Arabian horse we ever saw—he expressed

almost infantine delight. We approached him, and conversed most familiarly, standing on our feet as in Europe, to the great amazement of the Turks present, who held their seats in silence. At last, begging to be excused for so ong an intrusion, we took our leave. He accompanied us to the door of the room, which is not a common compliment; he bowed very low, and we made our exit between two lines of *ill-dressed* soldiers (in the vestibule, r open gallery) presenting arms.—*(We shall next week engrave our Artist's Sketch of this interesting visit.)*

Our *valet de place* was in the yard holding our horses. Our servants came to help us to mount them, holding the bridle and stirrups. The aide-de-camp, with two horsemen holding their carabines, were waiting, and we came out of the gate, sentries presenting arms, &c.

We visited the barracks—which are rather large, containing 4000 men—cavalry and foot. I shall say more about these on a future occasion. We then went to a fortress, about a mile and a half from town, a View of which I enclose. *(This Illustration will be engraved next week.)*

Next we ascended the mountain, on which is erected the fortress that commands the surrounding valleys; then the hospital, which is the general dépôt, and central establishment of the army of Roumelia. We visited every department of these establishments; but I have no time to give a description of them at present; I shall only remark that they are not *so much inferior* to establishments of the same kind in Europe, and infinitely superior to what we had a right to expect from the general state of the civilisation of the country.

We live in one of the richest houses of the town; and we should desire very much to be treated as well as the soldiers are *in the hospital*—as regards bedding and cleanliness. The medical officers are *all* French and Italian.

After a ride of five hours, night coming on rapidly, we re-entered the town through the muddy roads; and, after having, in our turn, offered the coffee and pipe in our rooms, to our Turkish cicerone, the aide-de-camp, we dismissed him with many thanks, "Selam Alekums," and a *baksheesh of a sovereign*, very adroitly slipped into his hand, and accepted very humbly. The two cavaliers of the escort had a proportionate share of our generosity, viz., ten plasters each. We were delighted with our visit and promenade. We enjoyed very much a very bad dinner, smoked a pipe, and then employed ourselves in writing and sketching.

To-morrow, or rather this morning (it is past twelve) we set off at half-past seven for Rustchuk—three days—ten or twelve hours in the saddle. It freezes rather hard. The roads, if such they be called, are horrible; and no certainty of having a house or a supper when we arrive at the end of the journey; so that it is no joke, after all.

I will write from Rustchuk. This will be sent to Omer Pacha with a parcel of letters that we request him to send (through his courier) to Constantinople.

We are sadly victimised by the money-changers. The pound sterling is worth 135 plasters in paper in Constantinople. H. gives me only 28 when he pays me; he then gives me Turkish gold pieces, at the rate of 120 each, and these here, in Roumelia, we cannot pass for more than 100, so that I lose altogether 25 per cent. You have no idea of the financial estate of this country. The paper money is of no value out of Constantinople.

The accompanying Panoramic View of the Town and Fortifications of Schumla is from a Sketch taken by Capt. G. Rhodes, her Majesty's 94th Regiment, and obligingly forwarded from Tortokan, on the Danube. The Portrait of the Governor of Schumla is from a Sketch by another Correspondent.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

E. T. W., Ipswich. It is an ordinary three-mover, marked with one of the many syllable notations that were used to facilitate the record up or playing over games.

J. L., Devizes. Yes to a very clever stratagem. Is it original and unpublished?

A CANDIDATE.—The St. George's Club—in its new abode, and under its present active and energetic management—is certainly increasing in numbers and importance, but there is ever prospect of its being enlarged, or long to retain its accommodation by adding more rooms to insure a ready reception. The newly-nominated President is the gentleman who Vice-President to Viscount Cremorne—viz., R. M. Arbuthnot, Esq., M.P.

H. W. of Wakefield.—Hard p zzles enough, though clever, for a stage.

F. S. A.—The story in Scottish—three days ago—is the original "Costa Romana rum. Let us a collection of tales, supposed to have been written by an English monk, in imitation of that celebrated work. It is related of "Antony, Emperor of Rome."

J. R., of Hebron.—The solutions were correct, but it is quite useless to send solutions after our own have appeared.

TURNBULGENSIS should procure some Chess Primer, he has not yet mastered the more A B C of the game.

CHARITY, Manchester.—Rather neat, but too easy

CHARLEMAGNE. The same observation applies to your Problem. Try again.

VIVE LA BAGATELLE. What kind of book is that? A rudimentary treatise suited for a beginner, or a scientific work adapted for a proficient?

J. S., Newport.—We know of no rule positively applicable to the case you mention; but we think Black, *if he chose to be excessively strict*, might insist on his adversary moving the King.

A. K. They shall be examined and reported shortly.

F. E. of B. It shall have attention.

W. F. L., Penzance.—Our opinion of its merits shall be given next week.

W. H. J., Cowes.—Correct, as you will see by our Solution.

A MATED CHESS PLAYER.—A player advancing a Pawn to his eighth square may claim, for such Pawn, a second Queen or third Rook, or any piece he pleases to have, without respect to the fact of his having already on the board.

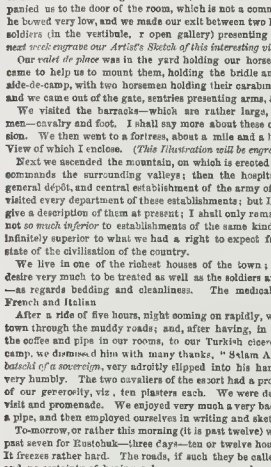
SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No 521, by Argus, True Blue, M. P., Durham, Jack of Worcester, Ernest, Admiral, Old Norna, T. T. of Hunworth Dereham, J. F., F. K. of S., J. S. of Montrose, F. S. A., Rocky Boy, Delta, Phiz, Peter, are correct.

SOLUTIONS OF ENIGMAS, by Sigma, O. P. F., R. S., M. P., Omicron, D. D., Jack of Worcester, Dereham, Argent, Philo, S., Mungo, Orestes, are correct. All others are wrong.

PROBLEM No. 523

This very clever stratagem is the invention of MR. GRIMSHAW.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in six moves.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 521.

WHITE.	BLACK.
K to his sq	If Black takes the Q, he stalemates his adversary; and, play otherwise as he may, White can gain the Q R square with his King, after the exchange of Queens, and draw the game.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 522.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. Kt to K 6th	P takes K (best)	3. Kt to Q B 7th	P or K moves
2. P to K R 6th	P to h. Kt 4th	4. Kt to Q 5th—Mate	

NATIONAL SPORTS.

NOTTINGHAM RACES.—TUESDAY.

Trial Stakes.—Rataplan, 1. Sir George, 2.
Nottingham Spring Handicap.—Alonzo, 1. The Surveyor, 3.
Sweepstakes.—Shallow Boy, 1. Sylvia, 2.
Handicap Sweepstakes.—Carpenter, 1. Floris, 2.
Park Stakes.—Red Rose, 1. Telegraph, 2.

WEDNESDAY.

Hurdle Stakes.—Leda, 1. Fuzzby, 2.
Handicap Hurdle Race.—Beschnut, 1. Tom Gurney, 2.
Forest Hand cap.—Red Rose, 1. Annabel, 2
Hunters' Stakes.—Will Hero, 1. Little Boy Blue, 2.
Castle Stakes.—Jul en, 1. Indiana, 2
Selling Hurdle Race.—President, 1. Leda, 2.

TATTERSALLS.—THURSDAY EVENING.

LIVERPOOL STEEPLECHASE

11 to 2 agst Miss Mowbray (5 frc y)	12 to 1 agst Half-and - Half (wanted)	16 to 1 agst Maurice Daly (3)
7 to 1 ——Burton (off)	15 to 1 ——Cane	20 to 1 ——Orobus
11 to 1 ——La Gazza Ladra (4)	100 to 8 ——Lady Arthur (5)	30 to 1 ——Barnt Simnel (4)

METROPOLITAN HANDICAP

16 to 1 agst Eadrick	30 to 1 agst Rataplan

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE STAKES.

10 to 1 agst Red Lion (5)	17 to 1 agst Mare Antony (4)

CHESTER CUP.

to 1 agst Peggy (5)	40 to 1 agst Aldf rd (5)	40 to 1 agst Doctor O'Toole	
300 to 100 agst Autocrat	22 to 1 agst Acrobat	25 to 1 agst Will Huntsman (5)	
	40 to 1 agst Beacon		
	OAKS.—4 to 1 agst Meteora.		

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

A great scarcity of money-stock having been experienced during the w'ole of the week, the prices of Consols have been fairly supported. Of course, numerous rather extensive fluctuations have taken place in the quotations, arising from the great activity apparent both here and in France, to check the preten ions of Russia in the East, but up to the present time the operations of the *Bears* have not been very successful. In the event of a protracted war, however, prices must of necessity further decline; because it is obvious that a new Loan will become absolutely necessary. The leading figure for the Three per Cents has been 91, Exchequer Bills, in which large investments have been made for temporary purposes, have steadily advanced up to 22s. premium. This is the highest figure touched for many months past.

On Monday, the Three per Cents Reduced were marked 91¾ to 91⅞; the Three per Cent Consols fluctuated between 90⅝ to 91¼, and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 92¾ to 93. India Bonds were 84; and Exchequer Bills, 19s. to 22s premium. Long Annuities sold at 8 5-16. The Market, on Tuesday, was inactive. The Three per Cent Reduced marked 91⅛ ⅜; the Three per Cent Consols, 90⅝ to 91; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 92¾ to 92⅝. Long Annuities were 8⅜. India Stock sold at 223 to 226. India Bonds, 78.; Exchequer Bills, 19s. to 22s premium. On Wednesday, prices were rather on the advance—the Three per Cents having advanced to 91⅜. The Three per Cents Reduced were 91⅛ ⅜; and the New Three-and-a Quarter per Cents 92⅝ to 93. The New Five per Cents sold at 101⅝. South Sea Annuities were 104. Exchequer Bills, 18s. to 22s premium. On Thursday, the Three per Cent Consols were firm, at 91⅛ ⅜ to 91⅜ for Money, and 91⅜ ½ for the next Account. Exchequer Bills were steady, at 20s premium.

A return has been printed of the result of the last Act for paying off the South-sea Stocks. It shows that £1,129,190 4s. 2d. Consols, £430,736 18s. 7d. Reduced, and £168,800 Exchequer Bills, were voluntarily exchanged for other Securities. The new Securities created are £258 811 4s 1d. Three-and-a-Half per Cents; £2,911,870 16s. 1d. Two-and-a-Half per Cents; and £412,300 Exchequer Bonds.

The Foreign House has been in a depressed state, and prices almost generally have given way. Austrian Five per Cents have been done as low as 78¾. Brazilian Six per Cents, 102¾; Granada Onsand-a-Half per Cents, Deferred, 8¼; Mexican Three per Cents, 24¾; Peruvian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 67; Portuguese Four per Cents, 38; Russian Five per Cents, 100; Ditto Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 86¼; Spanish Three per Cents, New Deferred, 18¾; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 63¾; Ditto Four per Cents, 88. At a meeting of the Venezuelan Bondholders, it was announced that, with the funds in hand, it was proposed to pay the October dividend of 1851, subject to a deduction of 2s 6d. on every £100 Stock.

The imports of bullion the week, have been under £100,000. The shipments to the Continent have exceeded £200,000, and to the East, £170,000 has been forwarded. It is asserted, on good authority, that the new French Loan of 250,000,000, 3 per cent, will come out at 66f. 10c.

Miscellaneous Securities have been in a depressed state, and prices have marked it. East London, 131 ex div.; Grand Junction, 74 ex div.; Grand Junction, New, 12¾ Ditto Bonds, 80 ex div. Southwark and Vauxhall, 93 to 92. County Insurance have sold at 2¾ to 3. Australian Agricultural has fallen to 41¾. Australian Pacific Mail Steam Company, 11; Canada 76; General Screw Steam Shipping Company, 18¾; General Steam Navigation, 27; Peninsular and Oriental Steam Company, 82; Royal Mail, 47½ ex div.

Joint-Stock Bank Shares have met a dull market. In prices, however, no material change has taken place. Australasia, 77; Chartered Bank of Asia, 3; Commercial of London, 22¾ ex div.; London Joint-Stock, and Australian Char ered, 7; London Chartered Bank of Australia, 14½; London and Westminster, 24; South Australian, 40; Union of Australia 67¾

Although the various half-yearly meetings have been rather dull, the market for Railway Shares has ruled du l, yet no material depression has taken place in the quotations. The following are the official closing prices on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Bristol and Exeter, 95; Caledonian, 95; Chester and Holyhead, 14; Eastern Counties, 13¾; East Lancashire, 88; Great Northern, 94; Ditto, A Stock, 87; Ditto, B Stock, 111¾; Great Western, 84¾; Hull, Barnsley, and Yorkshire, 67¾; Lancaster and Carlisle Northern, 125; London and Blackwall, 8¾; London, Tilbury, and Southend, 8¾; London and Brighton, 97; London and North-Western, 104¾; London and South-Western 81; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 23; Midland, 63¾; Newport, Abergavenny, and Hereford, 14; North Staffordshire, 11¾; Scottish Midland, 86; South Devon, 15¾; South-Eastern, 67¾; South Wales, 84; South Yorkshire and River Dun, 12; Vale of Neath, 13¾; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, 70½; Ditto, G.N.R. Purchase, 9; York and North Midland, 49¾.

LINES LEASED AT FIXED RENTALS.—East Lincolnshire, 11¾ Hull and Selby, 120 ex div.; Ditto, Half Shares, 52¾ ex div.; London and Greenwich, 34; Wear Valley, 80 ex div.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Aberdeen 82, Caledonian, 106¾; Chester and Holyhead, 7¾; Great Northern Five per Cent, 110; Ditto, Red eemable, 1 r Cent, 1 ; Ditto, Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 1 ; Lancaster and Yorkshire Six per Cent Stock, 137; Co-solidated District and Birmingham Six per Cent, 137; Ditto Four per Cent, 105¾; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 103.

FOREIGN.—East Indian, 92¾; Great Indian Peninsular, 58; Grand Trunk of Canada, 2¾; Great Western of Canada, 21¾; Luxembourg, 6¾; Ditto, Railway, 4¾; Madras, 10¾; Northern of France, 29¾; Norwegian Trunk Preference, 8¾; Paris and Lyons, 92¾; Paris and Strasbourg, 2¾.

In Mining Shares very few transactions have been recorded. On Thursday Agua Frias were 2¾; St. John del Rey, 29¾; English and Australian Copper Smelting Company, 2¾; Quartz Rock, 1¾; Rhymney Iron, 29¾; Weller, ¾.

Friday Evening.

The business doing in the Consol Market to-day has been very moderate. Prices, however, have not given way from the previous rates. The Three per Cents Reduced have been 91⅛ ⅜; the Three per Cent. Money, 91⅛ ⅜; Ditto, for the Account, 91⅜ ½; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 92⅝. India Stock, 226. Exchequer Bills, 18s. to 21s. premium. Foreign Bonds and Railway Shares have ruled steady.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE (Friday).—Fresh up-to-day the arrivals of English wheat, coastwise and by land carriage, were on a very moderate scale. The show of samples was small, and the attendance of buyers by no means numerous. On the whole, a steady business was transacted in wheat of home production, fully equal to those obtained on Monday. The imports of foreign wheat have amounted to nearly 13,000 quarters. All descriptions moved off steadily, and, in some instances, the quotations were the turn in favour of sellers. Fresh cargoes were quite as dear as on Monday. We were reasonably well supplied with barley, for which article the demand was by no means extensive. There was rather more inquiry for malt, at the late decline. About an average business was done in oats, at full prices. Beans, peas, and flour sold and former to me. Imports of the week large.

ARRIVALS.—English, wheat, 1860; barley, 4140; malt, 6040; oats, 850; flour, 1870. Irish, wheat, 3270; barley, 2400; oats, 6400; flour, 2270. Foreign, wheat, 12,770; barley, 5 0; oats, 6 0; flour, 2270 barrels.

ENGLISH.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 47s. to 54s; ditto, white, 51s to 56s; grinding barley, 35s. to 36s; Suffolk, red, 48s. to 50s; ditto, white, —s to —s; rye, 36s. to 38s; grinding barley, 35s. to 36s; brewers ditto, 36s. to 37s; malting ditto, 38s. to 40s; Lincoln and Yorkshire, 44s. to 46s; Kingston and Ware 48s to 52s; Chevalier, 52s. to 56s; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire fed oats, 21s. to 23s; grey ditto, 23s to 25s; Youghal and Cork, black, 22s to 23s; ditto, white, 23s to 25s; dark beans, new, 44s. to 45s; ditto, old, —s. to —s; grey peas, 44s. to 45s; maple, 47s to 48s; white, 46s. to 48s; boilers, 46s to quarter. Town-made flour, 70s. to 75s; Suffolk, 58s to 60s; Stockton and Yorkshire, 60s to 65s. per 280 lb. *Foreign.*—Wheat,—s. to —s. per 280 lbs; American flour,—s. to —s. per barrel.

Seeds.—The market for clover seed is steady, and prices are well supported. Spring tares and linseed command extreme rates. In other articles very little is doing.

Linseed English, sowing, 56s to 58s; Baltic crushing, 48s to 50s; Mediterranean and Odessa, 52s to 56s; hempseed, 42s to 44s, per quarter. Coriander 17s to 19s per cwt. Brown mustard-seed, 12s to 14s; white ditto, 12s, to 16s., and tares, 7s. to 9s. per bushel. English rapeseed, £20 to £20 per last of ten quarters. Linseed cakes, £ar 5s. £10 5s. to £11 5s.; ditto, foreign, £10 to £11 10s. per ton. Rapeseed cakes, £6 10s. to £7 per ton. Canary, 54s. to 60s. per quarter. English clover-seed, white, 64s. to 70s.; ditto, red, 56s. to 63s. per cwt.

Bread.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 10½d. to 11½d.; of household ditto, 9d. to 10d. per 4 lbs. loaf.

Imperial Weekly Average.—Wheat, 80s. 1d.; barley, 36s. 11d.; oats, 27s. 5d.; rye, 40s. 1d.; beans, 42s. 1d.; peas, 51s 7d.

The Six Weeks' Average.—Wheat, 81s. 7d., barley, 41s. 10d.; oats, 27s. 1d.; rye, 40s. 6d.; beans, 42s. 1d.; peas, 51s. 7d.

Dutch.—Wheat, 8s. 1s.; barley, 5s.; oats, 5s; rye, 5s.; beans, 5s.; peas, 5s.

Tea.—The public sales held this week have gone off slowly, on former terms. Privately, this day and to-morrow, a good consumptive demand appears to be setting in at full prices.

Sugar.—Our market has a firm appearance. Prices are well supported in every instance. Jan sales have sold at 32s. to 32s. 6d., Demerara, 33s. to 37s. 6d., and Madras 30s. to 31 s 6d. per cwt. Foreign sugars, also, command very little alteration. Crushed sugars former terms. Refined goods are steady. Brown lumps, 44s. 6d. to 45s.; and low to fine grocery, 45s. 6d to 48s 6d per cwt.

Coffee.—The trade is inactive for immediate wants only. Good ord. native is quoted at 48s per cwt.

Rice.—The article is firm, and quite as dear as last week; but the business doing in it is by no means extensive

Provisions.—The demand for Irish butter is very inactive, at drooping prices. Foreign butter moves off slowly, at a decline of from 2s to 4s per cwt. English is 2s cheaper. The arrivals of bacon be g large, the demand is heavy at 2s. per cwt. less money. Lard is offering at 4s to 5s. beneath last week's currency. In other articles very little is d ing.

Tallow.—Our market is firm at 42s to 42s. 6d. for P. Y. C on the spot, and 43s. 6d. for fore-and delivery. Town tallow, 41s. net cash; rough fat, 2s 4½d per 8 lb.

Oils.—Linseed, on the spot, is quoted at 32s. 9d per cwt. Rape is offering on lower terms. Stores and fish oils remain nearly the same. Turpentine is dearer. Spirits, 43 18s. in puncheons, 43 17s 6 to 44 per cwt.

Seeds.—Current contracts of upwards of 100,000 gallons of rum have been taken, within a fraction of 5s 11d. proof. The demand for that article is firm, at extreme rates. Wood Leewards, 5s. 3d to 5s. 11d., East India, 5s 3d to 5s 9d. Brandy is in good request, at extreme prices. Geneva and sorts quite steady at full prices.

Hay and Straw.—Meadow hay, 3 0s. to 5 5s.; clover ditto, 4 4s. to 6 6s.; and straw, 1 17s. 6d. to 2 2s per load

Potatoes. The supplies being large, the demand is inactive, as follows—York Regents, 120s. to 130s.; Scotch ditto, 110s. to 120s.; Irish Vigil, 90s. to 105s. per ton.

Hops. Friday). The business doing in our market is very limited. Two large supplies of foreign have been offered, but we have no change to notice in prices. In pkts very little was doing. Mitch cows and heavy, at from £14 to £15 each, including fatted small calf.

Veals.—Since the offals closure and increased supplies, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; second quality ditto, 3s. 8d. to 4s 10d.; prime large ones, 4s. 8d to 4s 10d.; prime Scots, 4s. 4d to 4s 8d.; coarse and middling sorts, 3s. 2d to 3s. 6d.; prime small ditto, 4s. 4d to 4s. 8d.; prime coarse ditto, 4s. 0d. to 4s. 4d.; and inferior ditto, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 10d per 8lbs. sinks.

Pork.—Since last week's decline, the demand has been heavy, at 3s. 4d. to 4s. 4d.; large hogs, 3s. 0d. to 3s. 4d.; small porkers, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 10d; sucking calves, 22s to 28s; and coarse old store pigs, 21s. to 26s each. Total supplies Beasts, 1949; sheep, 13,360; calves, 232; pigs, 305. *Foreign:* Beasts, 61; sheep, 1000; calves, 15; pigs, 1000.

Smithfield and Londenhall (Friday).—Such kind of meat was in fair request as follows:—Inferior beef, 3s. 2d. to 3s. 6d.; middling ditto, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 0d.; prime ditto, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; prime large ditto, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 0d.; prime small ditto, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; large pork, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 8d.; inferior mutton, 3s. 2s. 8d.; middling ditto, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 2d.; prime ditto, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 8d.; veal, 3s. 10d. to 5s. 0d.; small pork, 4s. 4d. to 5s. 0d. ROBERT HERBERT.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21.

WAR-OFFICE, FEB. 21.

BREVET.—Lieut.-Gen Fitzroy James Henry Lord Raglan, G C B, to be Commander of the Forces about proceeding on a particular service with the rank of General while so employed Col. H. J. W. Bentinck, of the Coldstream Guards, Col. Sir C. Campbell, K.B., upon half-pay unattached, Col R. Airey, upon half-pay unattached, and Col. Wi liam Eyre, C.B., of the 79th Foot, to be Aide-de-Camps to the Queen with the rank of Colonel while so employed upon the Staff of the Forces about proceeding upon a particular service. The above commissions to bear date the 21st of February, 1854.

ADMIRALTY, FEB. 18

Royal Marines.—First Lieut and A djutant F Fawcett to be Captain, vice T. B. Gray; Second Lieut. F. L. Inevitt to be First Lieut. vice Fawcett, Feb 17; First Lieut. E. A Wylde to be Captain, vice C Miller, Second Lieut J. S. Mould to be First Lieutenant, vice Wylde.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

W SCAMMELL, Fulham, shoemaker.

BANKRUPTS.

D. A. RAMSAY, Kensington-park-terrace, Notting-hill, builder. C. CLARKE, Norwich, draper. F. E. ROBINSON, Bloomsbury-square, bookseller. J. Ingood and son, G. E. B. GREEN, Bilston, Staffordshire, brassmanger A. RIZZI, leads looking-glass manufacturer. D. HALL, Sheffield, draper. D. MCGREGOR, Chester-square, Middlesex, Lieut. W. H. D Fitzgerald to be Captain, vice Carrey; Lieut G. H. Nevill to be Lieut. vice Lenton; Ensign J. H. Campbell to be Lieutenant, vice Watson. 11th. Capt. H. Nevill to be Capt in vice Hunter; Ens. Brien to be Ensign, vice Cooper. 12th—Lieut. Wood to be Lieut. vice Revell. 17th. Lieut. P. M'Pherson to Captain, vice Brevet-Major Bagge, Ensign S. H. Dyer to be Lieut., from M'Pherson's Co. 18th—Lieut. F. J. Ashbrooke to be Adjutant, vice Wade. Lieut. W. J. Brice, to be Assistant-Surgeon; C G Irwin to be Assistant Surgeon, vice Marlow. 30th Lieutenant-Colonel Wright to be Colonel, vice Sir Edward Sugden, Bart. Ensign M. Walker to be Lieutenant, vice Revell. Ensign J. F. Campbell, to be Lieutenant, vice Walker. 31st—Lieut. Hon. H. Wyndham to be Captain, vice Lowndes. Ensign Johnston, M. John Stewart to be Lieutenant, vice Wyndham. Adjutant G. A. B Baddeley, to have the rank of Lieutenant, vice Lowndes. Lieutenant Hon. Augustus Cadogan, to be Adjutant, vice Paterson to be Captain, vice Baigley. 42nd—Captain G. A. Belgrave to be Captain, vice Paterson. Lieut. C. H. Ellis, to be Adjutant, vice Belgrave. Ensign Hon. Edward Stuart, to be Lieut. vice R M'Swarris, M.D., to be Surgeon, vice Braybrooke. 77th. R. G. Burton to be Assistant-Surgeon. 90th. Lieutenant W. J. Wolseley to be Lieutenant, vice Hedley. Ensign J. H. Stewart to be Lieutenant, vice Warren. Ensign Hon. Wade Brabazon, to be Adjutant, vice Simpson. 92nd. Lieut. Hon. Alexander Gordon, to be Adjutant-Surgeon. 97th. Gentleman Cadet F. J Aylmer to be Ensign, vice Campbell. 98th Ensign J. Ensign A. Craig to be Lieutenant, vice Smith. Ensign Hon. Arthur Gore, to be Lieutenant, vice Craig. 99th. Ensign Hon. Arthur Gore, to be Lieutenant, vice Hamilton. Ensign W. Wade, to be Adjutant, vice Gore. Ensign Hon. Edward Stuart, to be Lieutenant, vice Wade. Ensign Hon. Arthur Gore, to be Lieutenant, vice Stuart. Ensign Hon. Edward Stuart, to be Lieutenant, vice Gore

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.—Last SIX NIGHTS of Miss CUSHMAN'S appearance as Meg Merrilies and CAT MANNERING on Monday, Thursday, and Saturday next, and Friday the new comedy of RANELAGH. On Wednesday next, being Ash Wednesday, there will be no Performance. On Thursday the CORSICAN BROTHERS. Saturday, the GAMESTER, and the FAMILY JARS every day for a few nights longer.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE, Oxford-street.—Monday and Friday, Richard III. Tuesday, Satur-days, and the Pantomime (being for the Benefit of Mr Hudson, the Clown). Wednesday (after Ash-Wednesday) there will be no Performance. Thursday, the Corsican Brothers. Saturday, the GAMESTER, and the PANTOMIME every night at Seven.

ASTLEY'S.—LAST FIVE NIGHTS of the PANTOMIME.—On MONDAY, FEB. 27, a New Grand Romantic Hippo-Drama, the WOODMAN'S HOARD; or, the Fairy Queen of the ARENA; and the Gem of Pantomimes, HILLYER'S DELIGHT; to BRENTFORD. On ASH WEDNESDAY there will be NO Performance.

GREAT NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE AND SURREY SOIREES.—On MONDAY, FEB. 27, and during the week, the Drama of GIN and WATER; to be followed by the BARNUM CHILDREN. After which a MUSICAL VAUDEVILLE, in which Miss Fanny Reeves will appear. The whole to conclude with Albert Smith's drama of BLANCHE HERIOT, supported by the entire company. A Morning Performance on ASH WEDNESDAY.

ROYAL MARYLEBONE THEATRE.—Tremendous success of The RUFFIANS for GOLD and the ORPHAN of the FROZEN SEA, which will be repeated every Evening, with numerous new scenes and numerous effects. The principal characters by Mr. and Mrs J. W. WALLACK. The Breaking up of the Ice, with the Danish Ship in full sail. The whole supported to the most beautiful Scene ever presented to a London audience.

MR. HENRY NICHOLLS will appear in HAM ET at the ROYAL SOUTHWARK THEATRE Dean-street, Oxford-street on TUESDAY NEXT, FEB 28, and will perform at that Theatre for a few nights as his leisure engagements will permit. Stalls [illegible] Commence at Half-past Seven.

MR. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC, including the BERNESE OBERLAND and the SIMPLON, Every Evening at Eight o'clock (except Saturday) and Leading Thursday, and Saturday mornings at Two. Stalls 3s., which can be secured at Mitchell's, 33, Old Bond-street, where Places are filled up Four hours each day. EGYPTIAN HALL, Piccadilly.

LOVE IN A NEW ENTERTAINMENT.—On WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1, and FRIDAY, MARCH 3, LOVE, in Answer to CHRISTY HALL in a Novel Entertainment, entitled THE LONDON SEASON. Feb 28th, at Romford, March 2nd, at Islington, March 16th, at Woolwich; March 23rd at Tottenham

SONGS and SAYINGS of SAMUEL LOVER. This eminently successful ENTERTAINMENT will be delivered EVERY EVENING, at the MUSIC HALL, STORE-STREET, by Mr. LOVER, who will visit the following towns:—What will you do, love? the Golden Ocean—Rose and Drop—I never saw a fairer day—The Old Man—Cupid's First Dip Fishermaa—Mother, he's going to sea—The Flying Dutchman—Father and Son—Mountaineer—I'm myself at all—Our Own White Cliff. Boxes and Tickets at Duff and Hodgson's, 65, Oxford-street. Admission to the Reserved Seats, doors open at Half-past Seven; to commence at Eight and conclude at Ten.

MR. W. S. WOODIN'S CARPET-BAG and SKETCH-BOOK UPPER HALL, REGENT GALLERY, Quadrant EVERY EVENING, at Eight o'clock. Several New Songs, and other Novelties have been introduced. On the Piano has been elegantly fitted up and a Grand New Entrance made to the Hall. A MORNING PERFORMANCE EVERY SATURDAY at Two o'clock. Lower stalls, 2s and 3s; Area, 2s; Gallery, 1s. Stalls may be secured without any charge, for the Box-office, open from Ten till Five daily; at Mitchell's Royal Library of Messrs. Andrews Bros, and all the principal music-sellers

THE ESQUIMAUX FAMILY from Cumberland Straits, having had the honour of appearing, by Royal command, before her Most Gracious Majesty the QUEEN at Windsor Castle, will be EXHIBITED at the LOWTHER ARCA DE, EXHIBITION ROOMS, on the QUARTER DECK of the SAN JOSEF, Adelaide-road, West Strand, as their Native Costume, with their Hats, Canoe, and other accessories of Arctic Life, EVERY DAY (except Sunday) and every Evening, at Eight. The Illustrative Lecture will be delivered by Mr. Lowthian Hocklingham—Admission to the Reserved Seats, 3s.; Children, Half-price

EGYPTIAN HALL.—CONSTANTINOPLE NOW OPEN to the Public, from Ten in the Morning till Five, and EVERY EVENING at Eight. The Lecture is delivered by Mr. Charles Mackay, and has been written by Mr. Albert Smith and Mr. Shirley Brooks. Admission, 1s.; Reserved Seats 2s.

THE DUKE'S STATE FUNERAL.—The whole of the Magnificent Music and Ceremonial Pageantry of the great State Pageant and Car many where attracted two million Visitors to the Metropolis, and now be SEEN at WILLIS'S ROOMS, at the ST GEORGE'S GALLERY, Hyde-park-corner. Admission to the QUARTER DECK of the SAN JOSEF, 1s. Children, Half-price

ROYAL GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, Regent-street.—SEBASTOPOL, CONSTANTINOPLE, and ST. PETERSBURG; the North-West Passage (from Drawings by Captain Inglefield, R.N.); and the Wonders of the Ocean, will be EXHIBITED DAILY at Three and Eight o'clock. Admission (on the Nights) 1s.; Stalls, 2s. Reserved Seats, 3s. Children, Half-price.

CAPTURE of TWO SHIPS of the LINE and DESTRUCTION of the QUARTER DECK of the SAN JOSEF.—HOGARTH, HAYWARD, and LEGGATT beg to announce that, after much trouble on View for a short time longer. Admission on a cessation of private view

Court Circular.—Wife at Sea.—No. 21.—Maxwell Lorraine had the honour of adding to her Wonderful Collection of Highland Relics the Powder Flask and Pahsage of Nelson, presenting on towards of 40 Officers on the Quarter deck of the "San Jos é," after the Battle of St. Vincent. 79 Cornhill, London.

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ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION. Patron—His Royal Highness PRINCE ALBERT.—During EXT, a Popular LECTURE on ASTRONOMY, splendidly Illustrated by Dr Bachhoffner and Mr Pepper, and Brilliant Evening Exhibition MAGNIFIED PHOTOGRAPHIC PICTURES, and a Series of Dissolving Views. LECTURE by J. Cuzens, Esq., on Steam Engine Making and its Decoration with Colours. LECTURE by Dr Bachhoffner, on Watkins' New Patent Galvanic Battery. Scientific Description of RICHTER'S PATENT TUBULAR MANOMETER and its Application to Test the Method of Making Broken Victuals. Open Morning and Evening. Admission to Schools and Children under ten years of age, Half-price.

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PRINCE JEROME BONAPARTE.

JEROME BONAPARTE, the youngest child of Charles and Letitia Bonaparte, and the youngest brother of the Emperor Napoleon I., was born in the year 1784, we believe at Montpellier. To this place his father and mother had proceeded in consequence of the illness of the former, which terminated in his death in the following year. The first training was imparted to him by his mother, with whom he passed through some of the stormy scenes which in Corsica followed the first French Revolution. When his brother first began to attain distinction, and was able to make provision for him, he was placed, with his sister Caroline, at the establishment of Madame Campan, in Paris. Here he remained till the return of Napoleon from his first campaign in Italy. He was then transferred to the College of Juilly; and, on his brother being elevated to the First Consulship, he was designed for the naval profession, which he entered in his fifteenth year. Napoleon had hoped that his brother would become distinguished as a naval commander, and strove to excite in him the necessary emulation. In 1801, when he was in his 17th year, he was appointed to the command of the corvette *l'Epervier*, and he sailed in the expedition to St. Domingo, which was under the command of General Le Clerc, the husband of his sister Pauline. He had sufficiently distinguished himself to be entitled to bring home the despatches, and received his full meed of adulation from the French people, who anticipated for him much glory. Some escapades of his on shore at Brest, and a letter of his to Bourrienne, detailing them, led to his receiving a rebuke from his brother, quite characteristic of Napoleon. "I have seen your letter, M. l'Enseigne de Vaisseau," wrote the First Consul, "and am waiting with impatience to hear that you are on board your ship study. . . a profession intended to be the scene of your glory. If you ever intend to disgrace your name, die young; for, if you live to sixty, without having served your country, you had better not have been born." The hint produced the desired effect. Young Jerome sailed soon after for Martinique, where lived Madame de la Pagerie, the mother of Josephine. Soon after, when the war broke out between France and England, Jerome sought in vain occasions to fulfil the injunctions of his brother, and, after a cruise of several months on the southern coast of America, he put into New York. Here he was, of course, a "lion." He visited Philadelphia and Baltimore—in which latter city an event occurred that tinged his future life. He married, on the 24th Dec., 1803, Miss Elizabeth Patterson, the daughter of a merchant of Baltimore, descended from a Scotch family settled in the north of Ireland.

With this marriage Jerome's troubles began. Although the lady was beautiful, accomplished, and in every way worthy the hand of a young man in Jerome's then position, the ambition of Napoleon had already marked out for himself a career which, in his eyes, was incompatible with such an alliance by his brother. After a year spent in the United States, Jerome was compelled to return to Europe, and to brave the anger of his brother. In May, 1805, Jerome and his wife arrived at Lisbon, in the American ship *Erin*. Jerome left for Paris, and Madame went on in the ship to Amsterdam. On arriving in the Texel, she found that an order had reached forbidding her to land; and she accordingly came to England, where she resided at Camberwell. On the 7th of July her son, Jerome Napoleon Bonaparte, now a citizen of Baltimore, and an officer in the United States army, was born; but the Emperor Napoleon would not recognise the marriage, nor was Madame Jerome Bonaparte permitted to come to France. In the March previously the marriage had been, by a special decree of the Council of State, declared null and void. The next step of the Emperor (as that decree could only relate to the civil ceremony) was to apply to the Pope for a bull annulling the marriage. The following is given in a book, entitled "The Napoleon Dynasty," written by the "Berkeley Men," and published by Cornish and Co., of New York, as the letter addressed by the Emperor to the Pope on the occasion.—"I have frequently spoken to your Holiness, of a young brother nineteen years of age, whom I sent in a frigate to America; and who, after a sojourn of a month, although a minor, married a Protestant—a daughter of a merchant of the United States. He has just returned. He is fully conscious of his fault. I have sent back to America Miss Patterson, who calls herself his wife. By our laws, the marriage is null. A Spanish priest so far forgot his duties as to pronounce the benediction. I desire from your Holiness a Bull, annulling the marriage. . . . It is important for France, that there should not be a Protestant young woman so near my person. It is dangerous that a minor, and a distinguished youth, should be exposed to such seduction against the civil laws and all sorts of propriety." The affair was not so easy as the Emperor supposed. The Pope found that the power did not rest with him to annul the marriage, and he wrote a long explanatory letter to Napoleon announcing the reasons.

Meanwhile Jerome, who was passionately attached to his wife, resolved to temporise, rather than further to provoke his brother. He went on a mission to Algiers, from whence he returned with 250 Genoese captives, whom he landed at Genoa, being rewarded by the inhabitants with a brilliant reception, and a triumphal arch, inscribed "To the young Napoleon of the Sea!" We next find him in command of the *Veteran*, a line-of-battle ship, in which he accomplished an eight months' cruise in the West Indies. On his return thence he took six English merchantmen; but, being pursued by an English fleet, in the effort to escape, the vessel was stranded off the coast of Brittany. On reaching Paris, Jerome received the cordon of the Legion of Honour was

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promoted to the rank of Admiral, and created a Prince of the Empire. Notwithstanding the success of his début on the sea, however, his predilection was for the army, and shortly afterwards he obtained the command of a body of Bavarian and Wirtemburg troops. He directed the blockade of Glogau, and reduced the fortresses of Silesia; for which services he was made a General of Division in the imperial Army.

Whatever may have been the secret wishes of his heart, Jerome was either forced, or tempted by the Emperor, into the alliance with the Princess Frederica Caroline daughter of the King of Wirtemburg. By this alliance, which was solemnized on the 12th Aug., Napoleon's ambitious desire was gratified, for the proclamation of Jerome, as King of Westphalia, followed immediately upon the marriage. On the 15th of Dec., the constitution of the new kingdom was published, and on the 21st the new Monarch entered his capital in regal state. The demeanour of the young King (he was then exactly two-and twenty) was made the subject of much criticism. It was complained that he brought to the throne the habits and the manners of a school-boy, and that the kingly dignity was set at nought. These strictures came from hostile writers only. By the general body of his subjects he was beloved, and in his administration of affairs his address and skill startled the world in the same way, although not in the same degree, as has the talent of the present Emperor of the French. Finding, on his accession, an empty exchequer, and an exhausted revenue, he had recourse to the Jews for loan. He repaid their assistance by the concession of perfect religious freedom; and, in the course of a short time, the Council of State was almost monopolized by Jews. It is recorded that, in his answer to the Jewish deputation, asking for the removal of their disabilities, he marked his sense of the injustice of proscription in these words:—"No law ought to interfere with the exercise of the religious worship of any man. Every object ought to be as free to observe the rules of his faith as the King himself. It is the duty of the citizen only that the laws of the Government ought to regulate. I hope I shall never have cause to regret that I favour and protect the Israelites of my kingdom." These sentiments—as liberal as they were just—were denounced by the opponents of Jewish Emancipation all over Europe. They have not obtained a full recognition in our own country yet, after a lapse of nearly fifty years of social progress and civilization.

When the empire of Napoleon came to an end, with it closed the reign of Jerome, King of Westphalia. This Prince had succeeded, however, in leaving behind him traces of good government which successfully resisted detraction. He developed the resources of his kingdom, and was ever in the van of progress and material improvement. When Napoleon's reverses began, his brother Jerome was summoned to assist him. After sharing in the vicissitudes of defeat at the hands of the Allies, Jerome sought refuge with his wife at Trieste and at Paris. In the crowning battle of Waterloo Jerome played a conspicuous part, being chosen by Napoleon to open the battle at the head of 6000 men.

Between the period of these eventful scenes of his early life and his nomination to the Presidentship of the French Senate, under the present Emperor of the French, Jerome lived in retirement. He has resided at the Castle of Ellwangen, in Wirtemburg, at Vienna, and Trieste, occasionally visiting Rome and Florence. His other members of his family. Three children were the issue of his marriage with the Princess of Wirtemburg—Jerome Napoleon, born in 1814; Matilda, born in 1819; and Napoleon, born in 1822. His only son by the amiable and accomplished Elizabeth Patterson married a lady of fortune in America. He is a man of estimable character and literary tastes; and his son, Napoleon Jerome Bonaparte, now holding a commission in the United States Army, has given evidence of high qualifications for the military life.

THE ARTIFICIAL PROPAGATION OF SALMON AND OTHER FISH

The Messrs. Ashworth are a Quaker family, wealthy manufacturers in Lancashire. They have purchased an Irish estate under the Encumbered Estates Act, for the purpose of trying to improve the condition of the people; and, among other means, have turned their attention to the experiments recently and successfully made in Paris, for artificially breeding salmon and other fish. They have been enabled to at once the streams of the district in which their estate is situated, with an unlimited number of thriving salmon fry, and they now publish the result of their experience, and a translation from French treatises on the same subject, for the benefit of all those who have rivers, lakes, or ponds, suitable for breeding any kinds of fish.

The following extract from a report on the experiments made by Messrs. Ashworth, at Outrard, "a fishery extending from Lough Corrib to the sea," explains the whole process, with the assistance of the lithography attached to the pamphlet:—

Robert Ramsbottom, from Otterbourne, was sent over by Messrs. Ashworth. The plan tried was by spawn boxes, prepared, and by an artificial rill-bed, running parallel, and both were equally successful. On the 16th December, 1852, a small but efficient rill was prepared for the experiment; by a rude check thrown across a foot of water-head we carried over a few square yards, to ensure regularity in the supply. From this head, that is not under surface level, three wooden pipes, two inches square by a few feet long, drew off respectively to the rill-bed and to the boxes all the water required the surplus of the supplying rill passing away in its usual course. The boxes are six feet long, eighteen inches wide, nine inches deep, open at the top, set in the ground in a double row, on a slope of two or three inches on each box, the end of the one set close to the end of the other, in continuous line, and carried up to within one inch of the top. They are partly filled first with a layer of fine gravel; next, coarser; and lastly, with stones, coarser somewhat than road metal, to a total depth of six inches. A piece of wire inches wide by two inches deep, is cut from the end of each box, and a water-way of the same dimensions, with a turn-up on either side to prevent the water from escaping. These cut the line of boxes, and the water in the supreme one, whence it is made to drop into the pond which receives and preserves the young fish. The artificial rill is in all respects similarly prepared, excepting that its channel course is in the soil itself. The pipes were inserted into the upper box of each line, and of the water head, the spawn-bed is prepared, 24 hours' running will clear away the earth from the stones. The water will be found about two inches in depth, over the average level of the stones in the boxes. By an iron wire grating, the boxes can be isolated, and the pipe protected against the passage of insects and trout. The salmon were brought by nets on the stones, under which a night, from the 20th of December, 1852 till after the 1st of January. When taken, they were instantly, and without injury, put into a tub, one-fourth full of water. The female fish was first taken over, one man holding the tail, another running his hands down each side from the head, and pressing lightly with both thumbs, the ova was readily strained into the tub; a similar course was pursued with the male fish, both fish name lately, and apparently without the smallest injury, were returned to the river. The contents of the tub were then mixed by a motion of the hand. In one minute the water was poured off, and fresh put on, which was also poured off, and the ova put into the vessel, to carry to the prepared hatching ground. In pouring off the water from the ova, the vessel is held so as to preserve it from the air. Into the carrying vessel a second pouring and a fresh portion of water, the ova will not be sufficient pressure in the vessel, no more should be used, but the whole returned to the river, and fish of a more advanced stage taken. In distribution, the ova intended for one box should be put into one vessel, and this poured out gradually at the upper end of the box; the water flow downwards will carry it along the stones, under which it will settle down; and, wherever too thick, by raising some water in the vessel, and pouring it down, this will distribute it. Half the spawn in a moderate distribution last should, if possible, be set in the upper boxes. We consider the boxes used of sufficient size for 2000 ova each; and, with reference to the quantity found, an English half-pint will contain about 1000 in number. We consider the ova reserved for the pond, assuming that one-third may not have come to maturity, we may consider that we have upwards of 20,000 young salmon now living in these ponds, beyond the reach of their natural enemies.

Besides Outrard, two other beds were made successful. Commencing [illegible] the first arrangements, with but small [illegible] the 6th of January when they [illegible] be shown the [illegible] Their spawn of salmon, trout, and other fish, judiciously packed in boxes filled with wet soft moss, has been successfully conveyed to great distances and the principle applied to restore and replenish with fry many rivers, waters that had become comparatively barren. A quantity of young salmon, three inches and a half in length, were sent alive as a contribution to the Dublin Exhibition.

The value of this discovery may be judged from the fact, that in two months a five-inch long smelt will grow into a beautiful grilse of five or six inches weight, and a spawned grilse of four pounds, grow to a salmon of sixteen pounds.

THE CAUCASIAN TRIBES.

(From a Correspondent).

The lowering aspect of the political horizon, and the long impending, and now apparently inevitable, war with Russia, has actually turned the public attention towards those among the neighbours of this vast Empire, who are likely either to assist or to thwart her in the present juncture. The Caucasian tribes have lost no time in evincing their hostility, and much in consequence has been written concerning them; but many of the publications on this subject are very far from correct, and are calculated to mislead persons unacquainted with those countries. I have, therefore, made the following extracts from notes and journals kept by me during a residence of nearly twenty years in those and the adjacent States, at which time I was intimately acquainted with several of the most influential among the chiefs, both of Georgia and Daghestan.

In a late publication it is erroneously stated, that all the Caucasian tribes speak the same language. Klaproth and others who have studied the subject, give seven as the number of totally different languages in use among them; and of these the Georgian alone is written. If any of the other tribes possess books, they will be in the Arabic character, which they adopted at the time they embraced Mahomedanism. The Lesghis followed the faith of Islam at a much earlier period than the Circassians and the people of Western Caucasus; who not only waged a long and bloody war with the Crim Tartars, but formed an alliance against them with the Russians during the reign of Peter the Great. They appeared at that time well inclined towards Christianity; but they are said to have been deterred from embracing it by the scandalous lives and general misconduct of some Greek priests sent into their country by Russia.

It would be both useless and unprofitable to inquire from what origin the Circassians and Abbasians are derived. Their language has no resemblance to any one known in Europe or in Asia; a similarity with the pronunciation of the Chinese has been fancied by some, but even this is very doubtful.

Since the conquest of the Crimea by the Russians, a considerable number of Tartars have emigrated and settled in Circassia, and these have not yet lost their original language, but speak both Circassian and Turkish. The chief town in the Circassian territory was Anapa, which, though taken more than once by the Russians, only passed actually under their Sovereignty in 1829, when it was taken, after a long siege, by Prince Menschikoff.

The Abbasians extend on both sides of the Caucasus, and from Anakria, a fortress of Georgia, to near Anapa. They are a very wild and savage people, and hold the Russian garrisons in a state of blockade as they formerly did the Turks. Their principal export trade consists of slaves, skins, and of dried meat, and wood. Sokum Kulla (or the slaughter-house) was their chief post, but it is simply an enclosure of four walls, about 400 yards of a side, without a ditch or flank defences, and was built by the Turks. The slaves were principally Georgians, carried off from Mingrelia and Imeretia; but they sold indiscriminately every person they could lay their hands upon.

The Abbasians are divided into a great number of small clans, and have no leading chief. Their forces are entirely infantry; and, if all could be united, would amount to 30,000 men.

The Circassians, who occupy the Great and Little Cabarda, once formed a powerful nation, though never united under one head. They have a number of hereditary chiefs, called Usdens; and the submission of their vassals is most perfect; the feudal laws exist in their worst form. It is seldom the Circassians make a combined movement, but they carry on a perpetual desultory war with Russia. Whenever a chief is elected, it is only for the time the expedition lasts; and his authority ceases on the return of the troops to their own country. Their troops consist almost entirely of cavalry; and, at one time, they could have sent 50,000 excellent horse into the field. I much doubt whether at present they could muster half that number. The combined forces of Circassia and Abbasia, assembled for the defence of Anapa, did not exceed 20,000 men.

The Circassians extend along the whole bank of the Cuban and the mountains as far as its eastern branch. The little Cabarda extends from the western sources of the Terek to a distance of twenty miles from that river. This is but a precarious possession of the Circassians; but Russia has not been able, hitherto, to establish posts with any degree of security; and the great military road which leads through this tract cannot be traversed without convoy and artillery.

From Vladi Caucas (the gates of the Caucasus) the mountains on both sides are occupied by the Ossatiians, speaking a different language; and, fortunately for Russia, still in the darkness of Paganism. Without the assistance of this nation, the Russians would never have succeeding in carrying the road across the Caucasus, nor in maintaining it even in the imperfect and unsatisfactory state it is at present. The posts are numerous, but are merely a very inferior kind of redoubt which could easily be carried by assault by determined men.

Vladi Caucas is a considerable station, with a ditch and a rampart of earth, but it is not in a state to resist a powerful attack, even without artillery. From this place the route lies through the most frightful narrow defiles I ever beheld; the road has been made with great labour and difficulty, and runs along the edge of precipices which could be held by a few men against any number.

We now meet the tribes of the Mutsidjia, of which the principal are the Ossatiians, the Ingusi, the Bouriens, and the Kisti. These, with several minor clans, are Pagans, and, with a little management, would probably have been good subjects of Russia, as they are continually plundered, and carried into slavery by their Mohamedan neighbours, especially by the Chetchens, although a branch of their own race. They have not been well treated by Russia; still their dread of their Mahomedan neighbours compels them to court the Russians, and they would not serve against them even if they dared to do so.

The Chetchens extend along the Terek from its junction with the Sundja to the territory of the Tartar tribes of Kermont. They are most determined enemies of Russia; and General Yermoloff met with but trifling, if not doubtful, success, in two or three campaigns he undertook against them, though they did not muster above 20,000 fighting men. They, however, received assistance from the Lesghis; and this enabled them to hold out against a force they had, apparently, no means of resisting.

The Lesghis carry their slaves and merchandise through the country of the Chetchens and Circassians to the Black Sea, and find means of exporting them from the coast of Abbasia into Turkey.

The Tartar tribes of Yakse and Yermoul do not make incursions into the Russian territory, and are not ill affected towards them. They were once governed by a chief, with the title of Osmey, who held his court in the town of Andis, and by whom Peter the Great and his Colonel Cathcart held, were entertained, on that Monarch's advance to Persia.

From the southern branch of the Terek, including both sides of the Caucasus to the country of Daghestan, inhabited by the four great tribes of the Lesghis—by far the most powerful and civilised portion of the Caucasus. The four great divisions are—the Kafis Kamouks, the Kasi Kamouks, the Awars, and the Akoucsai. Each of these tribes speaks a different language, bearing very little resemblance one to another. They are further divided into numerous clans; but the whole of the Lesghi race was formerly subject to one chief, called the Schumkhal, to whom all disputes among the tribes were referred, and to whom was entrusted the power of calling out the whole force of the State.

For many years I was intimately acquainted with Surkhi Khan, formerly Chief of the Kasi Kamouks. He was expelled from the Kasi Kamouk country by his nephew, assisted by the Russians, and retired with his family to Persia, where he was surrounded by the disaffected of all the Lesghi tribes; and, notwithstanding all the precautions of Russia, these men appeared to have no difficulty in keeping up a constant communication with their countrymen.

Surkhi Khan informed me the Kafis Kamouks reckoned 25,000 families, the Awars 32,000, without including the branches of their tribe inhabiting Balear, Jar, and Elisoo, on the frontiers of Georgia, amounting to about 20,000 more, and rendering this the most numerous of all the Lesghi tribes; the Kasi Kamouks (Surkhi Khan's own tribe), and the Ak Louschas 12,000.

Originally the office of Shumkhal, as well as the chief of the four languages, was elective. He received his investiture from the King of Persia: and he (the Shumkhal) confirmed the election of the chiefs of the four great tribes. These offices, however, had become hereditary, and neither the Shumkhal nor the chiefs usually led the troops on any distant expedition; for that purpose a bullad (guide) was chosen, whose office expired with the campaign.

Hanway mentions that when the Lesghis solicited the assistance of Russia against Nadir Shah, they gave in a return of 64,000 men ready to take arms, and I do not think the number would be smaller at present. The Mountains of Daghestan, by which this part of the Caucasus is best known, are inhabited entirely by Lesghis; besides which, the lowlands, a considerable extent of country of great fertility, lying between the mountains and the Caspian, are occupied by Persian and Turkish peasants, who were formerly subject to the Lesghis, but are now under the Russian rule.

Many manufactures are carried to a high degree of perfection among the Lesghis. Their arms of every description are in the highest repute—fire-arms, sword-blades, and kangiars, much resembling the Scottish dirk—and their gunpowder is good and abundant. They have mines of lead and iron, which they work to advantage. Their felt and cloth cloaks are used all through Persia and Asia Minor, and even by the Russians and Georgians; and their gold and silver ornaments for sword-belts and saddlery find a ready sale in every market. They have, besides, schools, or colleges, bearing a high character for theological learning; and the Moollahs, or Mahomedan priests, throughout the whole Caucasian district have almost invariably received their education there.

I believe the office of Schumkal has been abolished. In 1828 it was held by Mekdis, of the tribe of Awars, who still resided in some sort of state at Teski, between Dasbeul and Kishan. His submission to the Russians, and his connection with them, had, in a great measure destroyed his influence with the tribes; and though it was still sufficiently strong to induce the clans of which a list is given below, to send in their nominal submission to Russia, yet I doubt whether most of their best men would not be found among the followers of Schamyl. I have not been able to ascertain to what tribe this Chief belongs, or whether his name is now a European corruption of the title of Shumkhal, which it is probable he may have assumed. The whole of the Lesghis are ill-disposed towards Russia, and would certainly give no assistance against their own country men.

The following list was given me by Surkhi Khan: Mehdie Shumkhal, of Toreh; Ameer Khamsa, of Kitah; Ahmed, Sultan of Elisoo, on the frontier of Georgia; Aslar Beg (nephew of Surkhi Khan, of Kasi Komauk); Kasi Zitan, of Jar, near Georgia; Mohamed Ballad, of Bunam. These Chiefs had, with the Shumkhal, given in their submission to Russia, but it could be but little relied upon. Those who refused submission were Achmet, of Zouri; Hussien Beg, of Kiculi; Kasi Mohamed, of Avar; Kasi Kulhda, of Sir Khan; and the Chief of the Ak Louschas.

In fact the Caucasus now, as in all former ages, has made good the saying of Timour—"If a Sovereign is too prosperous, let him attack the Caucasus." Timour went further towards the conquest of the mountains than any other Sovereign—but he lost 80,000 men in his different exped tions.

Nadir Shah's war in Daghestan cost more than the capture of Delhi, and he left 30,000 of his best troops there; yet, within twenty five years afterwards, the father of my friend, Surkhi Khan, led a body of 20,000 Lesghis to within 30 miles of Tabreez.

The Georgian States, on the southern side of the Caucasus, may amount to 150,000 families; of whom, probably 50,000 are Armenians. The atrocities committed by the Turkish troops in the neighbourhood of Akkiska will oblige the whole of the Christian States to take up arms to defend their lives and families. Formerly, full 5000 Christian slaves were annually sold at Akkiska, and on the Turkish frontier. Had the Russians not occupied the country, it would have been depopulated, or the inhabitants would have been compelled to change their religion.

This was the case at Akkiska, which was once a Georgian city; and, subsequently, became the greatest scourge of that province. Numerous bands of Lesghis, Adchara, Kagi, and Turkish slave-hunters were established at Akkiska, Kars, and Batoum; and the nature of the country (rugged mountains, covered with forests) enabled these miscreants to penetrate into every part of Georgia, and carry off the people.

The towns of Akkiska is open, and only defended by a small citadel. When attacked by Prince Paskewitch, it made a short, but desperate resistance, and suffered much; but few of the houses being capable of defence. The Roman Catholic church and enclosure resisted the attack for several hours, even though artillery was employed against it. The lower stories of the buildings are generally of stone, and very solid; but the upper part was almost invariably of wood; and, therefore, easily set on fire; when they, of course, became untenable. The women and children had taken refuge in the citadel; and, the store, escaped the destruction which so justly fell upon the male population. A Russian general officer was killed by a shot fired through a hole in the roof of a terraced house; but the total loss of the Russians did not exceed 500 men. The loss of the Turks must have been much more extensive.

The south-eastern shores of the Black Sea are inhabited by the Adsharn and Lazi, who have no connection with the Lesghis. They are the best soldiers of Asia Minor, and the most determined banditti. During the last war, the Russians were defeated with great loss near Batoum; and this tract of country is probably stronger than the Caucasus. These two tribes never were subdued by the Turks—it is probable their country be ng of so little value, was its protection—but it is, or was, the resort of all the bad characters of the neighbouring states. Batoum, though not a port, has excellent anchorage, and vessels can lie very near the shore, which is not the case with any other port on the northern or eastern side of the Black Sea.

The countries recently conquered from Persia will probably willingly act against the Turks; and the Kurdish tribes on that frontier are by no means well disposed towards the Government of the Sultan.

There appears to be a considerable error entertained regarding the nature of the defences on the general line of the Caucasus. The army (detaché du Caucase, as called by Russia) consists of 80,000 men, of whom about 30,000 are on the line of the Cuban and the Terek. The line of the Cuban was formed by 20,000 Cossack families, transplanted by Potemkin from the banks of the Dneiper. Their being found incapable of resisting the Circassians, three brigades of regular troops were detached from the island of Tomaum to Modask. The 6 Cossacks are superior as troops to those of the Don, and have no connection whatever with them. From Modask, along the Terek, the Cossacks are again distinct. I was told that they were the descendants of the Streltzes, and that when that body was destroyed, the few survivors were placed on this line; here, also, they have been strengthened by several brigades of infantry and some artillery.

On the great Steppes between the Black Sea and the Caspian, wander the remnants of the Calmuck nation—once the dominant people of this part of the world; but now unwarlike and harmless. They furnished amount to 50,000 kaltkas, or felt tents, on cards. They furnished about 3000 camels, with their Calmuck attendants, to Prince Paskiewitch's army in Persia; and a few hundreds are dispersed among the various regiments of Cossacks—the number never exceeding 160 men in a regiment.

THE NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS OF THE BRITISH ARMY.

MILITARY men are fully cognizant how much the interior economy and well-being of a regiment depends upon the efficiency, intelligence, and respectability of its non-commissioned officers. Holding a highly-responsible position, the sergeant forms the connecting link between the higher grades and the private: and to the impartial exercise of authority may, in a considerable degree, be attributed the discipline and good conduct of those committed to his charge.

Removed by promotion from intimacy with his former associates, and yet far separated in rank from the possibility of admission to anything approaching equality with his superiors, it requires considerable tact on his part to ensure the regard of the men in place of incurring their dislike. At the same time, he must so depart himself during convenient intercourse with the officers as to avoid the slightest approach to any semblance of familiarity. In short, nothing on either side should be breathed of to his disparagement. The difficulty of such a position may be well imagined. The present object is to demonstrate the hardship resulting to the good soldier by virtually depriving his pecuniary advantages by the very notice whereby his merits are acknowledged. For instance, a corporal never could be selected for promotion had his previous character well earned the distinction. Nevertheless, from the date of his receiving sergeant's pay, the good conduct allowance which he had previously gained is withdrawn. This is obviously an injustice, and contradictory in its application. Hence naturally arises the reluctance so frequently evinced by the corporal to accept promotion. By the existing regulations, after five years' service, and two years' good conduct, a man may claim his "ring," together with 1d per diem. After ten years' service, and four years' good conduct, he is entitled to an additional "ring," and 2d. a day. At the expiration of fifteen years' and six years' good conduct, he receives a third "ring" and forepence; and so on in progression, increasing his pay for every five years. If, therefore, this extra pay be with old on promotion, it is made manifest that, the older the soldier, as regards service, the less will such elevation tend to his emolument. For example: a corporal of four years' service, and one of similar rank of eleven years', are promoted. The younger gets *sixpence* a day increase; while his more ancient comrade only benefits by *fourpence*. Again: a corporal with four "rings," 1s. 4d. pay; which, added to his "good conduct" money, makes a total of 1s. 8½d. daily. A sergeant, he will receive 1s. 10½; leaving him with 2d. only in addition to what he received in the lower rank. This, indisputably, is not right.

The duties of a sergeant are infinitely more onerous and severe than those devolving on the corporal. It is not only on parade, or in the field, that his qualifications are displayed. He must be practically acquainted with the method of keeping accounts, good penmanship is indispensable, and being, in a great measure, entrusted with the management of the men, he must be implicitly relied on for honesty. He takes his turn of guard, and is held responsible for order and cleanliness in the barrack-rooms, which are expected to be maintained in strict regularity at all hours. It is his duty to make out the "daily state" of his company, fill up the small books; and, in fact, he must not alone be fully conversant with the debts and credits of his men, but likewise make himself acquainted with their habits, dispositions, and temper. To attain these ends is not an easy task. To make a valuable non-commissioned officer requires more than the dash of a pen elevating him to the rank.

From the hour of enlistment, the recruit should be encouraged to devote his energies towards advancement. But, in order to incite him to so laudable an exertion, he must be furnished with inducement. It cannot be expected that every man in a regiment is qualified for advancement; but there are many deserving and competent in every corps, who, weighing the trifling additional pay against the fatigue duties and responsibilities of the higher grade, rest content with the benefit which excellent conduct is certain to ensure. Were the authorities to rescind the objectionable edict now in force, the greatest incentive to good behaviour would be opened to every soldier in the ranks; the higher the position he attained, the more increased would be his means for upholding his rank; and the longer the non-commissioned officer remained in her Majesty's service, the greater would be the inducement against his leaving it.

Unhappily, a boon is seldom conceded to the British army without bringing it clogged with harrassing provisions, neutralising, in a great measure, the intended good; but such is undeniably the fact. Until the case in point has been submitted to the consideration of the present Secretary-at-War it is needless to inquire; but that it is a subject well deserving attention cannot be denied.

Like most changes, to accomplish what is thus pointed out as desirable additional expense must be incurred; but, were the outlay considered in opposition to the benefits to be gained by the army, the balance would greatly preponderate in favour of reform.

THE FIRST POLITICAL INTERCOURSE BETWEEN THE TURKS AND AUSTRIANS

occurred towards the middle of the six century. [illegible] to persuade [illegible] Gog Mongols then ruled by the great Khan formed the first of the three great Turkish empires which have exercised an important influence on the [illegible] of the Christian nations, both in Europe and Asia. The second of these empires was that of the S. Jouk Turks, which, after the Crusades, had ruined the Byzantine empire. And the third was that of the Ottomans, [illegible] both the master, patron, or tyrant of the Patriarchs of Constantinople, Jerusalem, Antioch and Alexandria.—*Bunsen's Magazine.*

THE LATE LIEUTENANT BELLOT.—The family of the late Lieut. Bellot have just given to the Master of Rochester, as a striking proof of their gratitude, for his having projected and promoted a subscription for a monument to their relative, the Cross of the Legion of Honour, which Lieut Bellot had with him on board the *Phenix*, at the time of his last and dreadful expedition to the Arctic Seas.

LITERARY MISCELLANIES.—No. X.

A FEW WORDS ON THE LOVE OF ORNAMENT.

THERE is scarcely an object to which our attention can be directed that does not owe more or less to the love of adornment inherent in mankind. Rarely to be despised, the machinery of civilisation has ever held an important place in the moving panorama of the world. It has swelled the pomp of empires; the brows of kings have ached under its burthen; the fronts of armies have groaned beneath its motley mask. Nature herself, profuse in beauty, has been, in all ages, the great suggester of the ornate to man: revealing herself to his sight in all her countless aspects of grace and graciousness, raising and exalting his faculties by her divine presence, till, out of love and reverence, grew beauty and art. From natural objects, indeed, have ever been drawn some of the most perfect transcripts of the beautiful wrought by the living hand, whether in architecture, or in other forms of design. The idea of the Corinthian capital itself is said to have been borrowed from an accidental arrangement of foliage. A virgin of Corinth having fallen a victim to a violent disorder, her nurse collected together in a basket those articles for which her young charge had shown a partiality when living, and carried them to her tomb, carefully placing a tile over the basket, the better to preserve its contents. This basket, so we are told, was accidentally placed on the root of an acanthus, which, at the return of spring, sent forth its luxuriant foliage, and, spreading its branches round the angles of the tile, formed volutes at the extremities. "Callimachus, who for his great ingenuity and taste was called Catatechnus by the Athenians, happening to pass by the tomb, observed the basket and the delicacy of the foliage that surrounded it. Pleased with the form and novelty of the combination, he constructed, from the hint thus afforded, columns with capitals of this species about Corinth, and arranged their proportions, determining their proper measures by perfect rules." Our own Gothic architecture abounds with foliated and floriated ornament—witness its pointed windows, with their beautiful trefoil, quartrefoil, and cinquefoil [illegible], together with the numerous floral forms which lend a living grace to its solid masonry. The stems of trees, particularly those of the yew, closely resemble clustered columns; and we have instances of elegant tracery imitating the climbing branches of certain plants. Dallaway cites the plant symbolum, from [illegible] as the origin of the crope, or finial, while Sir James Hall derives crockets, foliated capitals, and pinnacles from sprouting buds, and cusps from the curling up of dead bark. The trefoil ornament, with long curling stalks, belonging to the same period is by some said to be derived from the palm-leaves of Palestine brought over by the Crusaders; by others, asserted to be borrowed from the common avens, or herb bennet. Earlier still, we might instance the derivation of the noble Byzantian [illegible] from the [illegible] in Egyptian [illegible], which [illegible] in the form of a cup-like shell. But these suggestions are [illegible], and would lead us into too wide a field.

We have seen how, in applying, by way of ornament, the forms of nature to the works of art, the result has been beauty. The converse, it must be conceded, does not always hold good. Art directed to the embellishment of nature must be dealt in sparingly, and with a fearful hand. The Dryad needs no tutelage for her myriad forms of loveliness. The oracular in landscape speaks not from the brisk living crown of the pollard elm, but from the waving summits of the lordly oak. To the genius of the Chinese we would willingly resign the pruning knife, which can ruthlessly transform the wild woodland grace into so many Gorgons. In fine, and the similar for wood-carving in the green has formed [illegible] Here and there, it is true, the [illegible] where such fantasies still obtain, we may yet see whole avenues of goodly box tortured into shape resembling the oil jars which contained the Forty Thieves or set up like a row of nine pins, more unearthly than those which met the astounded gaze of Peter Schlemihl. Pleached bowers, too, out of the shrunk holly, varieties of animal conformation scarcely to be met with in any museum of zoology, seem to the shocked and distorted senses of the lover of nature, to "squeak and gibber" with more terrible intonation than did the "sheeted dead," congregated in the Roman streets.

But if directed to inanimate nature, we find the mania for transfiguration playing "such fantastic tricks before high heaven," what shall be said when we see the "unfleshed biped" undergoing the same process of improvement in his own proper person? To begin with the skin. Many savage tribes, it is well known, are addicted to the practice of beautifying the natural man by means of various devices somewhat startling to the refined notions of more civilised communities. "Painted like a Pict" is a common saying; but from revelations which have reached us in comparatively modern times, we are disposed to conclude that our early historical acquaintances, the Picts and Scots, were yet but in the infancy of those decorative arts which have since been the pride of astonished travellers. Sir Thomas Mitchell's record of a native Australian who painted his thighs white, black chequered in it, which made him seem resemble the dress of a harlequin, sinks into insignificance before the splendour of skin-ad-mant-dressing which prevails in other parts. Certain tribes of the Rio Caura, in South America, besides staining themselves with annatto, make transverse stripes on the body, with a unctuous substance, on which they stick spangles of silvery mica-covered thus, they are said to "appear at a distance as if covered with lace." Other natives, of both North and South America, use gold dust and other shining materials, with which they sprinkle their bodies, deriving from this simple process all the advantage, without the cost, of being gilt! Other tribes again [illegible] ambitious of the splendours of the toilet, are content with merely depicting and indenting that hue with which it may have pleased nature to adorn them. The natives of Adventure Bay, for instance, described by Captain Cook as being of a dull black colour, scarcely as deep as that of the African negroes, are in the habit of heightening their dark colour by smoking their bodies! So deeply do they begin themselves, that any clean substance, such as white paper handed to them, becomes instantly discoloured. The [illegible] at least a moral mode of applying smoke, and one which it is devoutly to be hoped will never supersede among Europeans the use to which that sooty exhalation has hitherto been diverted. Besides such devices—are they not matters of fact, there are many similar practices among rude nations all tried to as merely conjectural; such as the use of the hematic. Pendant ornaments composed of this material and found in certain Indian graves, in mounds, were supposed to have been carried about the person for the purpose of readily supplying, when wanted, a decorative paint. Rubbed upon any rough substance with water, the hematite furnishes a red pigment. The conclusion as to its use was derived from the discovery of irregular fragments of the same material bearing marks of frequent friction.

Among the more *external* ornaments of the various aboriginal races—for when we think with horror of the work of the [illegible] as continually going on in relation to this buried flesh, it becomes necessary to discriminate—may be comprised bones, feathers, stones, the claws and teeth of animals, quills, grasses, plants, beads, rings, &c. Were it not that the subject trenches with somewhat close proximity on a pendant weakness of the present day, we might enlarge more highly on bands and the shape of ear-drops, on the theme of nose-rings alone much might be said. With regard to this favourite but barbarous ornament, a variety of tastes prevail. In the East, it would appear to be used to connect with certain ceremonials. An Oriental Prince weds his bride in a nose-ring, which is equivalent to putting the wedding ring on the finger in Europe; in this case, it will, perhaps, be a large hoop of gold, on which rubies and pearls are strung. The Bedouin Arab women wear in the same way a coarse hoop of silver, adorned with gems and coral. Among the inhabitants of New Guinea we find a deviation from the circular form of this nasal appendage; here, the men [illegible] women, pierce their noses merely for the purpose of inserting small bodies of bone, which project on each side. These [illegible] have other modes, equally striking, of adding to their personal [illegible]. Twisted rushes, or [illegible] stained of red colour are placed on [illegible] arms at an early age, and adorn [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

"SPRING."

"SUMMER."

ALTO-RELIEVOS, BY ALEXANDER MUNRO.*

THE spirit of Spring unto the woods hath flown;
Like love—the untiring, ministering to death—
She stands, with Heaven's own light around he thrown,
Feeding the violets with her patient breath!
They, bursting from their clay-cold wintry bed,
Spurn the forsaken earth where late they grew
But to give back—like memories of the dead—
The soul of sweetness born in them anew!
Fair are ye in your lowly-hidden vale,
Children of Nature's bounty, blest and blessing,
Returning soft on every loaded gale
Your grateful odours to the Spring's caressing;
Pure as that one wild flower of youth's brief day,
Whose sweetness time nor change can steal away!

JOY! for the Summer's smile is now at hand,
And flowers grow voiceful as the breezes hush;
And sweetest, loveliest lady of the land,
The Rose is queen, and ruleth with a blush!
The airy butterfly is on the wing
Robed in the colours of the golden day,
Luring, like pleasure through its mazy ring,
The heedless steps that chase it on its way.
And youthful hearts, whose hopes are bright and brief,
Where fairy forms o'er circled meads sweep by,
Are met to choose between the "Flower and Leaf"
All mingled harmonies of sea and sky,
Offering up notes of incense, fill the air;
Joy is on earth—and gladness everywhere

* Mr. Munro exhibited at the Royal Academy last season four small alto-relievos in plaster, representing the Seasons; which, despite their comparatively diminutive dimensions, were not be overlooked by those having an eye to discover real merit, even when buried in the obscurity of the miserable pantry which the Royal Academy appropriates to the department of sculpure. We may here observe that the models so exhibited were merely the studies for larger works in marble, which, we understand, the young artist has executed, to fill four panels in the terrace front of the Duke of Sutherland's mansion of Cliefden, near Maidenhead, built for his Grace by Sir Charles Barry. And most appropriate to the purpose are they, in our opinion; the subjects being drawn from incidents in rural life, and pleasingly illustrating the vicissitudes of climate to which we are subjected in the course of the year. "Spring" is typified by a lamb, which three young children are decking with field flowers; above, the trees are just beginning to put forth their foliage, whilst young birds flit and frolic in mid-air. In "Summer," we have a charming group of children—two boys and a girl—the latter sits as a little queen in the midst; one of the boys covers her with a wreath of roses, whilst the other, less forward, reclining lowly at her feet, renders her a single flower. "Autumn" takes us into the vineyard—the fruits of which are being gathered by three boys; whilst the fourth, who is sprawling on the ground, receives some of the spoil. In "Winter," we have a young girl riding on a goat, which a boy is urging onward; whilst his brother trudges behind with a faggot of wood on his back. The trees are leafless, and the blast blows bitter cold. The children bend forward to make head against it, and the little girl makes a vain attempt to wrap herself up against its fury. All these groups are very spirited in design, and graceful in outline; full of contrast in the arrangement, yet sufficiently in unison as to the idea to make a very compact and perfect series.

"FISHING-BOATS IN A SQUALL." BY TURNER.
IN THE BRIDGEWATER GALLERY.

BY the kind permission of the Earl of Ellesmere, we this week produce an Engraving of a remarkable picture, by Turner, and commonly known as the "Bridgewater Turner." As this great artist, in many of his works, emulated the sunny skies of Claude, so, in the work before us, he competed with the renowned sea-pieces of Vandervelde; and it is as a sort of companion to a picture by the latter celebrated master that it occupies the site allotted to it in Bridgewater House. It is painted in the artist's early and best style, and is a production of remarkable power and singular effect. The sea in the foreground, lashed by the impetuous gusts of a land squall, is broken into foam, forming a broad but chequered mass of subdued light; the sails of the two boats appearing in the midst in still higher light. The coming storm has not yet reached the offing, where some ships of large class ride proudly at anchor.

An able and judicious critic, Mr. Burnet, in his handsome volume "Turner and his Works," thus sums up the comparison between this picture and the Vandervelde with which it is held in competition:—

In comparing the two pictures, as works of art, Vandervelde's must have the preference as far as priority of composition is concerned; but Turner has had the boldness to tell the same story, clothing it with all the grandeur and sublimity of natural representation. The light and shade is very excellent; the mass of dark sky brought in contrast with the sail of the advancing boat, is broad in the extreme. I may here notice that the work is in beautiful preservation, and painted with a full, bold pencil of colour; it is on a rough canvas, without any coquetting between oil or water-colour. In this respect it is one of Turner's most genuine works, and, certainly, in his best time; for, had he never painted another picture, this would stamp him as the greatest artist in this department of the art.

FISHING-BOATS IN A SQUALL."—PAINTED BY J. M. W. TURNER, R.A.—FROM THE ELLESMERE GALLERY.

"AUTUMN."

"WINTER."

ALTO-RELIEVOS, BY ALEXANDER MUNRO.

So soon departed is the Summer's prime,
And lo! comes Autumn with his laden brow,
Of all the kindred seasons by stern Time
Most prized. Like a red sun down-dying low,
His is the crowning grace of all things fair.
Amid those locks whereon the night-dew weeps
Float the vine-tendrils through the burthened air:
His voice with harvest hymns rich concert keeps;
And glad as love that hath forgot its dreaming
In the heaped fullness of mature delight,
He cometh;—from his steps long shadows stealing,
Softer than sleep on sorrow's aching sight.
Though Earth's more quickening tides have ceased to flow,
Deep beauty lingers where the leaves lie low.

Lone Patriarch of the year! thy step hath come
To steal sweet Autumn from our yearning eyes,
And chase all Summer memories from our home:
Grey-headed priest of ancient prophecies!
Thou dost foretel us of the coming time
When Spring's first dews shall the green earth be steeping,
And the glad hive-bee haunt with early chime
The snow-drop, yet beneath thine altars sleeping.
Thou stand'st, a rock between two changing streams—
Mysterious tides!—the coming and the past:
Grave of dead flowers! thou cradlest the beams
Which make each new world fairer than the last;
And scatterest snows above the grateful sod,
Better to trace the footsteps of a God!—Mrs. Hervey

THE BRITISH INSTITUTION

WORKS OF BRITISH ARTISTS.

(SECOND NOTICE.)

We now resume our examination of this Exhibition in more detail than we attempted in our last.

The "place of honour," as it is termed—that over the chimneypiece of the North Room—is occupied by a large picture by Inskipp, entitled, "Coiners." It is a group of four figures. Two men, at a table—adepts at the trade—are exhibiting the process of making crown-pieces out of pewter pots to a novice, who appears to be a man on town "out of luck;" and triumphantly appealing to him to assist them in "passing" the spurious coin. The latter looks rather reluctant—dubious, perhaps, of the result; and that there is a consciousness of danger shared by them all is shown by the expression of the female, who is looking anxiously through the garret-window into the recesses of the court below. It cannot be pretended that this picture is either very agreeable or instructive in the subject; but the execution of it is, in some respects, clever—particularly the figure of the woman, about whom there is a suggestive aspect of melancholy, seen though a subdued medium. The same artist has also two female studies, in which his peculiar "manner" in colouring is unflinchingly adhered to. In "A Country Girl" (30) the prevailing hues are those of green, brown, and yellow; in the "Bouquet" (169) we have a lady of florid complexion, dressed in black silk, with a dab of scarlet ribbon or gauze in her black head-gear—the colours in both pictures being laid on broadly and rather coarsely.

Close at hand to Inskipp's "Coiners," is a pretty little contribution from T. Creswick, entitled the "Kingfisher's Haunt" (1)—a cool, umbrageous dell, with a bright little stream trickling along; a dapper kingfisher perched on a rock in the very middle of the picture, where his bright red plumage singles itself out like a coal of livid fire yet lingering on a dark neglected hearth. "One who has Braved the Battle and the Breeze" (2), by H. J. Pidding, is a veracious portrait of a Greenwich pensioner—a personage who at this particular crisis must be looked upon with more than usual interest and respect, and who evidently thinks no "small beer" of himself. From his rubicund and weather-beaten countenance, the eye alights painfully upon a pale, unhealthy face of "Ophelia" (5):—

Alas! sweet lady.

Her sickly hue, truth to say, partakes more of pearl-powder than internal emotion. Nevertheless, as a specimen of careful painting, this picture

"THE ROCKY PATH OF A MOUNTAIN BURN."—PAINTED BY H. JUTSUM.—FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE BRITISH INSTITUTION.

is creditable to the known talent of the artist (W. C. Frost). "L'Allegro" (24), by the same artist, is a more cheerful subject, and more healthy; treated—a small group of dancers, full of life, and the colouring bright and harmonious.

F. Goodall won so many golden opinions by his picture of the "Royal Wedding party at Hampton Court," in the Academy Exhibition last year, that he was been tempted (probably by a handsome commission) to produce a *replacement* of some of the component parts of it in a smaller work, entitled "Feeding the Swans" (48). The pompous nigger holding the plate of cake is the identical of his prototype; but the rest of the figures are fewer in number, and less important in character; and the incident altogether less striking. The finish, too, is not so high.

The above is not the only case of making up old materials in the present Exhibition; indeed, the are struck with a most unusual number of instances in which the exhibitors have evidently resorted to old and favourite studies, rather than seek for new subjects. Everybody remembers—and with well-merited admiration—Sant's beautiful little picture of the Infant Samuel, in last year's Academy Exhibition. Well, he has here reproduced this same pretty and intelligent little boy in the character of a "Youthful Artist;" the full, speaking eye, and the noble pose, being nearly the same—some paint-brushes and colours alone indicating the change of circumstance. "Melancholy Discovered in the Act of Rocking his Infant's Cradle" allowed A. Johnston the subject of a good picture for the Academy last year; and here we have it repeated by him and very similarly treated. In Rochers's beautiful group of a mother and child, also, under the name of "Contemplation" (70), no admirable f expression, and the roun and tender fulness of the flesh—we surely recognise a repetition of a very charming picture last year exhibited by him at the Academy. The number of "Interiors," with old women making lace, old men drinking beer and playing cards, boys dressing over dog-eared spelling books, or asleep in cradles, &c., which come out year after year, without material change, in our Exhibition, is really marvellous; yet there is a public for them all.

Mr. Sant, whose metamorphosis of the "Infant Samuel" we have just spoken of, and who is generally very successful with female studies, has one in the present Exhibition, in which he is said to be happy as usual. It is supposed (58) to represent the "Woman taken in Adultery," at the moment after her persecutors had been rebuked by the Saviour—

> And Jesus was left alone, and he woman standing in the midst.

The woman alone is represented; but, except for the inscription in the catalogue, we should never have so divined her. Perhaps, it may be observed, that it would be hardly possible to identify this person, wholly removed from the interest which constitutes and illustrates the moral, preserve incident in which she was concerned; but the study before us would not be a successful one, even if introduced as part of a group—the picture on the subject. There is no scriptural dignity or calm in the character, the attitude is constrained and inappropriate, and the expression by no means that of shame and contrition. The colouring is a mixture of pink and buff—a compound Mr. Sant is rather fond of, and which, though it comes out pretty well against a bright, healthy skin, has almost universal failure, by being in the extreme to a sallow complexion and uncomfortable mien, which we find here.

Mr. Cope's Hayter has, and one very carefully painted picture of "The Visit of Us dinal Wolsey for Is Ge reason" (74). The event is narrated by Stow:—

> In the y " 1530 Cardinal Wolsey was at Cawood Castle, the archbishop of the ho... and ... when he arrested Sir George Lakes ... Knight, ... and others of the household of the said archbishop, for which cause he, followed by a great train of the gentlemen of his house- hold, and the surrounding country ... he Cardinal to Ecclesfield, on the Lord ... and there ... ing and banqueting, and finding her they were ... ected by the Lord Talbot, with ... Lord ... and the Lord Cobham, with a ... ny, ... ing the hand ... on her ... " ... ... arrest ... ... which words marvelously astonished the Cardinal ... Lever recovered from the shock, he gave a new duty unto ... required at Leicester Abbey, on his way to the Tower of London.—*Stow's Annals* p. 560-7.

Where the picture chiefly fails is in the figure of Northumberland, who is tame, and nakedness, more like a Bond-st cet dandy in plate-armour than a knight of the sixteenth century; and one manner in which he lays his mailed hand upon the arm of the Cardinal, as if he were gently enforcing an invitation to dinner "at the club," instead of to "a stop" at the Tower. On the other hand, the ... gentleman, and wild terror of the Cardinal are unmistakeably real, but painfully human. Sir George also exhibits a "subject for the Te Deum Laudamus," Sir George also exhibits a "subject for the Te Deum Laudamus," Sir George also exhibits a "subject for the Te Deum Laudamus," (a group of three heads in a chapel, which, probably, would e gave profit—ably, and the "Portrait of the Queen taking the Coronation Oath" (the Archbishop of Canterbury being seen partially in the gloom of the background), which is already well known by the large engraving published of it.

Mr. Grant, whose "Night March" attracted considerable notice last season, has indulged in a subject of a very similar character in the present one, which he has elaborated upon even a larger surface of canvas. It represents "A Halt on the Scottish Border," and consists of three pictures united in one frame. In the "Rendezvous" we observe the marauding chieftain proceeding at early morning to the foray, surrounded by his lieutenants and dependants; on the opposite side, in the "Return," we and the predatory heroes making their way home—tired at eventide, laden with booty, and having prisoner a young girl, who sits in melancholy mood on the back of a pony, her hands tied before her, and little wotting of the sidelong and significant glances directed at her by the victorious chief, to whom she has fallen an enviable prize. In the middle compartment, which is of larger dimensions than the other two, we have the "Rescue," at dead of night, the hero of the day is pursued by a vigorous and devoted knight—the steed of both fiery hot and foaming—who overtakes him, and with unerring pistol-shot aimed at his very teeth, finishes his evil and hateful career. The whole is "tragic" and extravagant, but will, nevertheless, command the attention of those who like bustle and excitement.

Pickersgill exhibits a half length figure of "Laban" (56), which is carefully studied as relates to costume, and generally executed with much firmness of pencil; but the expression is tame, and the character, albeit not free from common-place, sufficiently historical to identify it with Laban in reference to any other of the Patriarchs. On the opposite wall the pendant to this artist has another imaginary figure subject—"The Favoured Knight" (157), who stands erect, cloth d in polished steel armour, his helme ... hand, as if in the act of receiving the homage of the fair ... who ... and ... ir ... ed ... ir heroic but there is little attempt at the ... ... ideal in the character of those features, and Lancelot ... ripped hair. The armour is admirably painted, the sharpness and colour of the material being perfectly retained.

Those who are addicted to sentiment, even when run mad, will mightily enjoy a representation by A. Hunt, of "The Princess Ida, disowning the ... to ... a hearse" (22), ... being "borne by ... ... of love." In event this commingled descent is interpreted "Princess"—

> [illegible]
> [illegible]
> [illegible]
> [illegible]
> [illegible]
> [illegible]

The poor Prince, as he sits at the ... ...

the various attempts at improvement, during the subsequent fifty years; and there seems to be a general impression that there is still much room to alter it for the better

We are amused with the tone of the various communications which this announcement of Colonel Lurard's intention to publish a book on this subject seems to have drawn from many officers in the British army, and from whichhe has printed extracts in his preface Most of them express decided dis-atisfaction at the present state of things Some wish that more attention should be paid to the private wants of the requirements of the different climates in which British troops are required to serve. Some of these complainants are all for utility, others for appearance. A cavalry officer is of opinion that the re-should be "no distinction of light and heavy cavalry;" a Highland officer grants the colonel "will say nothing against the bearskin cap;" and another urges the necessity of regimental white jackets for India. Others condemn almost every article of the present dress of the army; while we have every variety of suggestion for its improvement. A few correspondents appear to have been alarmed at the very idea of innovation; and one "distinguished officer," expresses rather confidently the opinion that "such a work as this will have no effect, but to make young officers dissatisfied with their present dress!"

Colonel Luard has fairly considered the soldier's dress at all periods which furnish sufficient materials for appreciating it, with its inconveniences, as well as its conveniences. The real question, however, which he undertakes to discuss, lies chiefly within the last few years and a half, during which he gives in his plates and letterpress sufficient information to enable his readers to appreciate the judgment in which he has arrived. He has a right to speak as an experienced judge himself, for he tells us that "during the Kaffir War, he wore the heavy dragoon cocked-hat, as well as the heavy dragoon helmet; at the battle of Waterloo, the light dragoon shako; at the siege and capture of Bhurtpore, in India, the Lancer cap; since that time, both in England and in India, he has worn the staff cocked-hat." His own proposal, while it simplifies their dress, goes to assimilate, greatly, the costume of the different descriptions of troops. He proposes a helmet of simple construction, to serve with very slight variation, for the cavalry and the infantry. In the dress, also, there is to be a close similarity, in all descriptions of troops, cavalry and infantry, with a total absence of every thing cumbersome or unnecessarily inconvenient to the person. It would be difficult, indeed, to give any exact notion of Colonel Luard's proposed military costume, without copying his engravings, and we prefer sending our readers to the book itself. Whatever be the defects of Colonel Luard's "history" of the dress of the British soldier, his proposals for its improvement, are certainly deserving of attention. For this as well as for the great mass of general information it contains, it deserves to be circulated through all branches of the service.

ROME, REGAL AND REPUBLICAN. By JANE MARGARET STRICKLAND. Ad ted by AGNES STRICKLAND, Author of "Lives of the Queens of England." Arthur Hall, Virtue, and Co.

What made Miss Strickland's stories was a little combination of causes, which we will mention with great conciseness. First, her subject was good, and filled a neg ected gap in our annals: secondly, she laboured manifestly in a conscientious spirit, both as regards the truths themselves, which it was necessary to set in a clear nigh; and as regards the amount of honest downright labour and research which the accomplishment of that object required. She not only wished to speak fair, to tell the real truth, to overcome prejudices, however inveterate, and to dissipate errors, however popular, but she took all the pains incumbent on the adventurous writer who could and make so arduous an emprise. In the third place she was a lady, and her theme was women. There were, doubtless, some subsidiary side lights to obtain for her book a respectful and highly favourable reception. But we have indicated, as we believe, by far the most prominent causes of that rather remarkable success. We could not include in the many merits of a lady writer, the moderate ones. She is by no means an eminently good writer: her style is prolix; her arrangement of topics is unskilful and confused; she has not the least pretension to that simplicity of eloquence of which even history admits: she is simply an honest woman, a lady det ermined to tell her fair and just view, who has a good cause and a good subject, and who tells the tru h about the one, and does not spoil or disfigure the other.

Her namesake, now publishing a volume of her edition, is still more distant from the all pure literary qualification: and this is but any of the extraneous advantages which protected and recommended the really valuable production of Miss Agnes Strickland. In so far as this first volume of the "Family History of Rome" is concerned, the subject is not, by many degrees, so advantageous as that of the Queens of England. We cannot say that there is here a literary gap to be filled. Nor is it peculiarly a woman's subject—a book on ancient politics, any more than on English politics, is out of the course interested, by national feelings. In the third place, so far from discerning here the evidences of painful and extraordinary research, the manifest proofs and fruits of conscientious and really valuable historical labour, the reader will be disappointed in the execution of the theme, we have an exceedingly cursory compilation from the best-known parts of the best known records on the best-known of all annals. We confess that we cannot see the great force or virtue of the title, by which a lady would justify the telling of a story, which has already been all ready told as well and as often to us all "A fam ly history of Rome" certainly the phrase is new—that is, these words thus arranged, are not prefixed to any former record. But is it meant that families, have hitherto been debarred from an acquaintance with Roman history? That the mind of each member of the family, as his or her pe easure, has hitherto been instructed in this matter; but that the family mind as something distinct and separate, is now for the first time to be rescued from ignorance on the subject? We should like to learn what is the family mind in this novel sense, in this sterling view of its requirements and wants. Surely Miss J. M. Strickland does not mean merely that there are passages in Roman history which cannot, with propriety, be read aloud at the domestic circle. And if this can be said still more truly of English history, it can be said of all history. If her object be merely to leave out impurities, to give us an expurgated edition of the old story, she would have admitted the lowliness and indelicacy of her handling, and she would doubtless have taken some fine work already completed, and simply omitted from it what she deemed objectionable.

Still we must not forget that this first volume forms really no part of her greater plan, and is but an introduction to the history of the early Christian Church We have said that Miss Agnes Strickland, as a lady, was peculiarly felicitous in the choice of her subject The present authoress is just as strangely unlucky, in the self-same all-important particular: and if she write a good Church history, her glory will be all the greater.

The present volume we need not analyse. It extends from the foundation of Rome to just a century before Christ, to "Cornelia's proud matronity."

It has been our duty to hint that the authoress is the reverse of a good writer; and we really must say that it is not creditable to present a large work on such a theme to the public as it is before us. It is not grammatically composed That is the very least which we should have a right to expect, where so many illustrious authors have preceded the new recruiter of them all At page 3 6 this sentence occurs:—"Aware of the defect of Plautus, who—he had heard was a rough, but headed man," &c.

Whom was? We thought few *indeed* in this style; yet this book is written, corrected and published in the same slip-slop way throughout.

VICTORIA (LATE AUSTRALIA FELIX) OR PORT PHILLIP DISTRICT OF NEW SOUTH WALES. AN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE ACCOUNT OF THAT COLONY AND ITS GOLD MINES. By WILLIAM WESTGARTH. Edinburgh: Oliver and Boyd.

In 1834 the site of the city of Melbourne was a waste, in the occupation of a few scene of wandering savages. The interior was only known to the neighbouring colonies by the reports of two adventurous stockmen, (Messrs. Gellibrand and Hume), and one settlement formed on the coast was at Portland Bay, by a whaling firm, consisting of three persons, for curing down their products. In 1836 the first family arrived from the opposite shores of Tasmania. Very soon, in spite of the discouragement, and even direct opposition, of the Home Government, a flourishing colony of stockowners arrived with their flocks and herds, and established themselves on the rich pastures of Australia Felix, lying around the shores of Port Phillip. Wild speculation in land, a vast influx of emigration from England, profuse expenditure, were followed by a crisis of bankruptcy, in which almost all the dwellers in town suffered But while the unfortunate land purchasers and enterprising merchants "were discharging their liabilities through the Insolvent Court, the grass was growing and the flocks and herds were multiplying," and when the days of bankruptcy were forgotten, the Port Phillip district found itself endowed with a population of some 40,000 souls (of whom 15,000 were settled in the town of Melbourne) a staple of export in the shape of the wool of some six million sheep, and a steady demand for labour at wages which ensured to the sober early independence. In the same period, the Port Phillip district acquired diverse political and ecclesiastical rights, which were completed in 1852, by its erection into a separate province under the name of Victoria. It was in the full tide of solid, although not brilliant prosperity, that the gold discoveries of Ballarat and Mount Alexander followed, and more than rivalled the yield of the rivers and creeks of New South Wales. Two years have elapsed since the gold regions were first tapped, and now Victoria can number a population of 250,000 souls, and a revenue of 500,000. Melbourne is a metropolis in fact, and is encumbered round Melbourne, arriving and depart ing at the rate of thousands per week. The imports for the quarter ending 31 July, 1853, amount to £4,113,870; the exports to £2,1 1 886 The weekly wages of a skilled mechanic are from £7 to £10; those of a common labourer from £3 to £4

The annual consumption of these well paid workers (according to a calculation of the *Argus* colonial newspaper) is not less than 14lb o. z. of lb of coffee, and 8½ lb. of tobacco each. The population is swelled by immigration from Europe at the rate of 40,000 a year, beside the natural increase consequent on early marriages and easy circumstances. With these solid elements of material prosperity, with a representative institution which affords the colonists a virtual independence of the mother country, and what may be called the complete theory of Utopia, it must be confessed that Victoria is one of the most uncomfortable residences in the wo ld for those who have been accustomed to the comforts of civilised life. Every man is actually dependent on his own resources. Service is not to be had for love or money. Extravagant rents do not lead to the building of comfortable houses; much needed public works are at a stand-still. Almost the only servants are broken down clerks and ruined gentlemen. Judges black their own boots, and ladies wash and mangle. Dirt and misery are huddled together in the sight of the most wasteful profusion. Water-works, gas-works, roads, bridges, railroads, piers, quays, docks, churches, schools—all are wanting, and likely to be wanted; while diggers' wives parade forth gorgeous in yellow satin, crimson velvet, ostrich plumes, flowers, lace, and cachmere shawls over unpaved streets

It is the rise, the progress, and the present condition of this strange colony of Victoria that Mr. Westgarth has undertaken to write; and he has had more than ordinary advantages for the task. He has resided many years in Melbourne, where he was one of the first merchants, Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, a member of the Legislative Council, and a man respected in private life for his zeal and humanity in promoting every progress, educational, or other movement likely to be of advantage to the colony which he has adopted as his permanent home. But, with these good qualities and assisting qualifications, we are sorry to find that Mr. Westgarth's work is a sad failure, whether regarded in a literary or a utilitarian point of view. It is very dull, much too long, contains very little information, and that information is conveyed in a style more than ordinarily involved and obscure. To the art of condensation he is a total stranger. In two chapters, of nearly five hundred pages, we search in vain for something that has not been told, and much better told, by writers who have preceded him, until we come to the visit to the Good Diggings, and there his descriptions will not bear comparison with the letters of the correspondents of the leading journals of Sydney and this country; or with the simple, unaffected narrative of a lady, Mrs. Clacy.

The big books in handsome type and well-printed paper are becoming a nuisance. All that Mr. Westgarth has to say (and it might have been much better said in 200 pages; but he is one more instance of the axiom that "easy writing is very hard reading!" We remember hearing Mr. Justice Creswell, when at the bar, in a jury that they must not put too much trust in the evidence of a clever, pretty woman's "pet," as he called her, "pretty women can be very wicked." In the same style we would observe that respectable, impartial, industrious, honest men can be wonderfully prosy, circumlocutory, and pointless, even when treating very amusing subjects.

As a specimen of the style in which Mr. Westgarth tells page after page, we take the following sentence, in which he discusses the best mode of appointing a Colonial Governor

I will not pretend that the Home Government, as regards some particulars in its selections, has shown more care than might have emanated from the colonists. Perhaps, on the contrary the former might be estimated more liberal in short in this respect. But, in fauny cases, there is, at all events, a less vicarious pungency;—a certain stimulus of personal responsibility, consideration, administrative vigour, and intensity of watchfulness, when the people and their authorities are represented in the case, against all the glitter of a prestige in the other, which has been weighed against real quantities, and that every interval of social and political progress leaves in less considera ion.

Every body of our English readers can understand what the ex M L C and Victoria means, so will deserve the largest prize ever bestowed by a magazine on the solver of a conundrum

We turn over page after page without being arrested by a quotable fact, anecdote, reminiscence, or description. History there is none. The romantic incidents of the first settlement, the starving agents of the land man a of 1842, and the gold discovery of 1851, are passed over in a string of vague phrases.

The most original and intelligible chapter of the book, is that on the Newspapers of Victoria, which we condense, and very much improve by condensing.—

Two years and a half after the first family settled on the shore of Port Phillip—that is to say, on the 1st of January, 1838—Mr. John Pascoe Fawkner brought out a MS sheet, the first one of "the settlement," as the village was designated to be Melbourne was called. On the 16th February, 1838, appeared the *Melbourne Advertiser*; about the same time the *Port Phillip Gazette*; and in October, 1840, the *Port Phillip Herald*, which is up among them a daily newspaper. Geelong has for some time enjoyed a daily paper. Portland, with 800 inhabitants, has three had three newspapers. Two other towns, Belfast and Williamstown, have each one. The three original sheets published in Melbourne are now merged in the *Melbourne Morning Herald*. The *Argus*, the most successful paper in the colony, was founded in October, 1846, and appears as a semi weekly paper, the *Melbourne Argus*, with a circulation of 625 copies advertisements yielding about £13, while the weekly expenses were about £20 In June, 1849, they issued a small daily paper, towards the end of 1851, the advertisements yielded £80, and the circulation had risen to 1,050 a week. The gold discoveries and consequent dearth of labour ensued, and the proprietors of the *Argus* purchased for £300, a rival paper, the *Daily News*, with 600 subscribers, and a publication which could show off 400 copies per hour In July, 1852, after the price had been reduced one third, the advertisements yielded £900 a week, and the circulation on the utmost limits of their machine power viz, 10,800 copies daily. 160 hands were employed. Compositors are paid 8s a thousand. The cost of the news paper was £40 a week, and other expenses were estimated at £80, but the price to each town subscriber, delivered at his residence, was 1d

We may add that it is the extent to which advertising has always been carried in Australia—the long columns of cattle pounded, stolen, and strayed—the unknown's advertisements of property of every description from a jar of pickles to a full rigged ship—that have supported the newspapers and village populations. With rare except ions the paper sold at early contributions are nominal. Advertisements, prize currents, shipping lists, police reports, extracts from English newspapers, local correspondence, and a leading article abusing somebody, form the staple of Australian journals. In violence and vulgarity of tone they are equalled only by the press of India and the United States. Recently however, an improvement has taken place in the literary quality of some of the Australian newspapers.

Mr. Westgarth threatens to publish another volume, on his next visit to this country Let us advise him, in the most friendly spirit to confine himself to statistics, or dull facts in the hands of some friend with a talent for condensation, able to write English.

LIFE IN ABYSSINIA: Notes Collected During Three Years' Residence and Travels in that Country. BY MANSFIELD PARKINS. Two Vols, With Maps and Illustrations. Murray.

For three years the author, an English gentleman of fortune, a graduate of Cambridge, lived in Abyssinia, as an Abyssinian—not surrounded by guards, attended by a crowd of servants, and a caravan of luxuries, but as one of the people: he lived as they lived in their dwellings, copied their dress, ate their raw food, and joined in their sports: in fact, he Africanised himself. He gives us the results of his experience in two volumes, full to overflowing of interesting and novel information His adventures are rendered still more attractive by strange trait of personal character which drop out, from page to page, in a very natural manner.

Our traveller's armoury consisted of a double-barrelled gun, a small single rifle carrying an ounce ball, and a pair of double pistols. He had also a heavy Bowie knife, "warranted to cut off a tiger's head at a blow;" but he recommends, in preference, a knife about the size of a butcher's knife and an axe. After crossing the Desert by the usual route to Suez, he sailed thence in a miserable Arab boat bound to Jedda, thinking apparently that there was nothing like beginning to rough it as soon as possible. The hold was full of merchandise the deck was covered with passengers of all races—Turks, Greeks, Albanians, Bedouins, Egyptians and negroes. Packed among these ragged, dirty, picturesque, particoloured strangers, in a few days Mansfield Parkyns became accustomed to the myriads of animals on that swarmed: made himself comfortable; and, by dint of good humour and sixpences, of which item was a large ingredient, became a great favourite on board. Once they were in imminent danger of being all burned alive Finding that he could be of no use, from his ignorance of the language, he sat down on his iron box of gunpowder, and smoked his pipe in peace until the fire went out. Some turtles having been caught, they were made into a stew, and turned into a wooden bowl, round which sat twenty hungry fellows, each armed with a piece of bread, which they alternately dipped into the mess. At last the news of communism shocked our traveller; but he says that afterwards, having been in the constant habit of dipping his finger into the dish with niggers, he became accustomed to it, and thinks even now that that mode of eating is far more convenient, and, as practised in the East, quite as cleanly as the use of knives and forks.

The introduction is sufficient to show that Mr. Parkyns is the man to go through a world of savage life with ease, if not comfort.

Here we must leave our readers to pursue the adventures of this bornt raveller in his own work To read how, barefooted, clad only in a skin kilt, he pursued the Black Barea murderers of his friends. How, when "hard up," at one time he became assistant to an exhibitor of monkeys, keeping off the crowd with a rope and two balls; at another, contemplated becoming an Abyssinian Viceroy; and everywhere found kindness and hospitality, until, he came among Europeans at Khartoseen. The second volume contains a complete and curious account of the manners, customs, religion, and witchcraft of the Abyssinians, fully confirming all that Bruce said, and more.

It is right to add that Mr Parkyns not only made himself thoroughly acquainted with the language and resources of this comparatively unknown district, but formed a large collection of objects of natural history, part of which seem to have been stolen in our English Customs warehouses.

The two volumes are illustrated by a number of engravings from drawings by the author.

HEATHFIELD'S ESSAYS. Longman and Co.

In 1819 Mr. Heathfield published a pamphlet, which rapidly passed through seven editions, entitled "Elements of a Plan for the Liquidation of the Public Debt." It is not the province of the volume before us; which also contains Mr. Heathfield's contribution to a defunct periodical, called "Postulates and Data." These collected Essays are all of a financial and commercial character. A separate article is devoted to each of the recent Budgets of Mr Disraeli and Mr. Gladstone; and appended are suggestions for a future Budget. In 1819, Mr. Heathfield proposed to levy a tax of 16 per cent on all property, and to apply it to the reduction of the National Debt; and he appears to be still convinced of the soundness of that principle. He contends that industry is the vital principle of property; abstracted from labour, the land, the spindle, and the loom are alike inert and unproductive: a free course to honest exertion, and protection and compensation to the industrious are therefore first principles in the "social compact." It is then argued that a public debt contravenes the healthy action of these principles, since it necessarily enhances the price of all commodities, and disturbs the relation between the rate of labour and the cost of subsistence. Undoubtedly, it is easier to contract than to discharge debt; but in all honour and justice the attempt ought to have been made after the battle of Waterloo had restored peace to Europe. But a very different policy was adopted. One of the first measures was the repeal of the Property and Income-tax, then yielding £15,000,000 annually; that gave an immediate relief, but it proportionately extinguished the power of paying off the debt, which, in reference to the principal sum, can only be redeemed by a surplus of income over expenditure. The next measure was the resumption of metallic payments, which, by raising the nominal paper pound, worth only about 18s. 4d., to the gold value of 20s., added 9 per cent to all public and private indebtedness. We are not entering the historical lists, without offering a opinion on prior parliamentary engagements, which were the cause or the pretext of the two measures to which we have referred. They are only mentioned to show that at the end of the war certain acts were done, not to liquidate the debt, but to render it more and more difficult, if not impossible. In reference to Mr. Heathfield's Essays, we can commend them to all investigators of commercial and financial problems, as the thoughts of an experienced observer possessing a discriminating intellect.

JUVENILIA: A NEW PASTIME.

If it were truly said that the man who caused two blades of grass to grow where only one blade could grow before, was a benefactor to his kind, it may surely (though in a lower degree) be allowed that the person who contrives a new pastime for family circles, what in shall be at the same time an amusing and instructive exercise of mind, deserves the approbation of the community. The remark is induced by having seen, in a nursery in the American part of Islington, called the "Little Pilgrim," a card addressed to the juvenility of the States, by Grace Greenwood, a brief description of a game or play invented for their delectation, and which, we think, merits to be imported into England as much as bread stuffs or cotton. In fact, we have tried it and like it, and are of opinion that many a social party will thank us for descending from the high subjects of public wars, and matters of war, in order to teach them how to while away a pleasant hour in a manner to cultivate the talents of the young, and even to entertain the graver spirits of their elders. The game we may term—for we mean "telly" sense—no teaching is necessary for the simple recreation of

RIDDLE PLANTING AND PRODUCE,

the whole of which consists in some one planting anything they like, and expecting in answer to the question, "What would come up?" the name of a vegetable produce bearing an analogy in nature, sportive or serious, to the matter communicated to mother earth.

As this easy as it is, may not be understood at a glance, we add an example from half an hour's trial by a merry mixed company of all ages, looking, amid laughter, the bottony of the Juniors and the memory of the seniors.

Q. If I saw Botany Bay what would come up?—A. All sorts of trees and shrubs, and flowers. Q. If the housemaid was planted, what would come up? A A broom. Q If the coachman? —A. A horse radish, or Coach Lace. Q If the groom? A. Cucumber and mare's tail. Q. If a waiter? A. Cummin. Q If the Lord Mayor? —A. London pride.

Another line was broken into.—

Q. If I planted a cover, what would grow?—A. A passion flower. Q If rejected—what? A. Pine, or love-lies bleeding. Q. If dressing for a cheese cake?—A. Lettuce, or if, or chive. Q. If accepted? A. Thyme? Q. If I planted mamma and baby?—A. Baby suckle. Q. If we planted the Queen and the Royal Family, what would sprout up? A. Victoria Regia, crown lilies, prince's feathers, and Miss Arbor Penny royal.

The Alphabet was given to the children, and out of a number of absurd and forgotten guesses were—

A Hay (rather cockney) B Orchis, C-dar, Heart's Ease, P, T, LM IV, and U (a simultaneity and jerk)

Q. If a mushroom was planted what would come up?—A. Parsnip. Q. If a [illegible]—A. Holly and rosemary. Q. If [illegible]—A. Duck. Q. If [illegible] A. Bantam fowl. Q. If [illegible] A. Cuckoo. Q. If [illegible] A. Lobelia or Q If a cheese? A. Beet.

At last, a dangerous class of our readers will, we are sorry to find, take to so encroaching on a small space, to put them in the way of engaging this pleasing and useful amusement.

THE BRITISH INSTITUTION.

(*Continued from page 178.*)

cross or inverted triangle; their heads projecting at top, whilst the hard surface of the full moon forms a sort of mystic halo behind them. The faces of the three hags are remarkable as studies of the supernatural being completely removed from the simply human, and yet not altogether caricatures. The position of their arms also, as they clutch one another in wild embrace, betrays considerable power and originality of conception. This little picture, however, is hung so high, that it is a bold act to say anything of it at all; and we speak of it only as imperfectly seen, and as regards the general impression produced by it upon us.

"Charming!" (86) by T. Landseer, is an incantation scene, performed by witches in a fog, boldly executed; and quite as imposing as such performances are generally supposed to be.

Mr. Hemsley, who takes pleasure in the troubles and vexations of boyhood, has a little picture, entitled "Crab Catchers" (241), which exhibits a young urchin who has been making free with he piscatorial spoil just landed, paid out for his impertinence by a crab, who fixes his claw to his finger. The pain of the infliction is well depicted in the poor boy's countenance; and the rest of the family group sympathise with him in various ways and degrees—the elder ones laughing, whilst the younger whimper and tremble with affright. We give an Engraving of this spirited little affair.

Rothwell, whose picture of "Contemplation" we have already incidentally mentioned, has another smart, sprightly affair, "A Thing of Beauty is a Thing of Life" (263), and realising Moore's sparkling lines, beginning—

Rich and rare were the gems she wore.
And a bright gold ring on a wand she bore,
But, oh, her beauty was far beyond,
&c.

A pretty subject, conceived in great exuberance of feeling, and dashed off with a florid pencil.

"The Eastern Story-teller" (471), by John Smythe, is a small picture of more than ordinary merit. It represents an excitable Egyptian, of the vagrant class, perched up on a high bench, in the midst of a miscellaneous assemblage of both sexes and all ages, to whom he is reciting some tale of wonder or terror. The various expressions on the countenances of his audience are admirably conceived, and the whole most cleverly executed.

"Marking the Covey" (216), by H. Hall, is a capital little sporting bit, evidently from the hand of one to whom fields sports are every day familiar. The old gamekeeper, seated on his shooting pony, and pointing out the covey, is the perfect picture of English sporting life. The donkey, dogs, &c., are also admirably real; and the scene is doubtless some favourite haunt.

"The Rabbit Fancier" (226), by T. Earl, is an amusing sketch of a sharp terrier, looking wistfully through the bars of a rabbit-hutch, his tongue, in the excitement of the moment, thrust half out of his mouth as he contemplates the delicious morsel with which he would fain make better acquaintance. It is impossible to pass this little group unnoticed, nor to turn away from it without a smile, and a recognition of the artist's talent.

"Cat and Kittens" (466), by F. W. Keyl, must also be mentioned as a highly-successful study of animal life in the comic vein; the cat gambolling joyously with a pair of plump sleek kittens, who do justice to their parentage, and to the artist's choice of them.

Ansdell's animal subjects are as life-like in character and as admirable in detail as ever; indeed, we find considerable improvement as respects some of the higher qualities of the art, in his contributions to the present Exhibition—more vigour of design, as well as more richness and depth of colour. His donkeys are, perhaps, his speciality; and how real and rough, and wise-looking they are; and how he takes pleasure in making them disport themselves upon the sandy common, in all the variety of attitude which it is possible for asinine agility to assume!

"CRAB-CATCHERS."—PAINTED BY W. HEMSLEY.

In the little piece which we engrave, entitled "Lytham Common," we have a group of three—one of which a young colt, is stretched upon the plain, basking in the sun; the other two looking as wise as they can; whilst near at hand are two old wethers; and in the distance, on the left, a sprinkling of their comrades. In "The Interrupted Meal" (153) the artist takes a different range, and upon a larger scale. We have here an eagle about to devour a sheep which he has just killed, when he is scared and interrupted by a large shepherd-dog, of fine mountain breed, who flies furiously at him. There is a wonderful degree of spirit and fire thrown into this production, which in all respects is of a high order of merit. "The Game Bag" (564) affords the artist an opportunity for displaying his delicate command of brush, in the effective colouring and soft textural execution of the plumage of various kinds of game—the distinguishing characteristics of which are well preserved.

In landscape Linnell first startles us with his glowing picture of a "Harvest Home" (50), the sun being represented as setting in the midst of the background, and tinging with fiery red every object in the mid-distance and foreground. But is there not a little too much intensity of effect here?—a little too much variety of colour, too, in that spotty and streaky sky, particularly in the distance, where all the hues of the rainbow come in for a share, without any attempt to blend them as Nature blends in her own transparent medium? In this artist's other picture, "The Refuge" (165), we have an effort in a different style—a storm cloud, rent with forked lightning; and a delicious bit of village scenery in the mid-distance, with a cool, watery atmosphere overhanging. The cloud, perhaps, is a little leaden in material; but the greens of the foliage and vegetation generally present a delicious contrast when compared with the preternatural ardency of the "Harvest Home."

Jutsum, so conscientious in treatment and so unassuming in style, yet withal so effective, exhibits three landscapes. "The Rocky Path of a Mountain Burn" (152) exhibits a wild, waste, rugged pass, the granite rock rent with innumerable fissures, and sparsely covered with fern and various coloured heaths, upon which some wethers are browsing and sniffing the air. In the background is a bold mountain range. "Autumn in the Highlands" is somewhat similar in character to the last, but more subdued and domestic. A straggling valley stretches into the far distance, through which flocks of sheep are being driven towards the homestead. A rude bridge of trees crosses a noisy brook in the foreground. "A Sylvan Dell" (295) is one of those subjects in which Mr. Jutsum is always happy, and of which he has here produced a most agreeable picture.

Sidney Percy displays his cold clear pencil and artistic finish in a view of "Llyn Cwm Dulyn, North Wales" (38). He is very successful, also, in a scene of a different character—"Woodland Pasture" (441).

J. Middleton has a very unpretending, but very meritorious, little landscape. "The Woods in Autumn;" and a larger picture, "Glensherag, Isle of Arran," in which is much cleverness.

T. Danby displays his gold glitter of surface in a very carefully-painted picture, "A Summer Evening in North Wales;" and is quite at home in "A Quiet Spot" (313).

C. Branwhite attempts, upon a somewhat ambitious scale, "A Sunny Afternoon, late in Autumn" (7[illegible]). The scene represents an old mill, wooden stage &c., over some water, with an open space and broad sky. But the local colour is intense, and the water surface hard and opaque—air, life, and motion being altogether wanting.

Amongst C. E. Herring's three exhibits we were agreeably struck with his "Angers, Lago Maggiore" (214), which is delicately painted, under a clear sky.

H. J. Boddington paints a little scene of smiling verdant freshness on his favourite Thames—time midday (498); and "a Brook through scape.

E. W. Cooke only favours us with one of his fine Dutch coast scenes, but it is a very effective one: "Scheveling Shore, low water; Finks preparing for sea." The perspective of the flat far-stretching sand, the moisture which glistens here and there, and the details of the shipping, are alike admirable.

W. Wyld exhibits a large picture of more than common merit: "A View of the Port of Oran, in Algeria" (499). The view is taken from the sea, looking in shore; and various shipping are scattered about on either side, their sails hanging motionless in the sultry sky. The distant buildings of the town are delicately painted in; there is much breadth in the general treatment; and as the mid-day sun soars high in the midst, the canvas glows with a warmth and subtle glitter, experienced only in a southern atmosphere.

There is considerable merit of intention in J. Holland's "Deal Beach" (44), with a rolling sea on, and boats in the distance; but the water is rather hard, wants fluidity; and the colouring of the rainbow is excessive in intensity, and wants the evanescent ethereal character of atmospheric phenomena.

the Wood" (424); both agreeable specimens of genuine English land

"LYTHAM COMMON."—PAINTED BY R. ANSDELL.

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

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READY FOR THE CONFLICT.

It seems to have puzzled various members of the British Legislature to decide whether we were actually at peace or at war with Russia. The manning of splendid fleets, the embarkation of regiments, and the voting of increased Army and Navy Estimates, were, it is true, highly suggestive of a state of war. But then it was asked how can we be at war unless there have been a formal declaration of it? Lord John Russell and Lord Clarendon severally did their best to explain to these dubiously-minded men the true state of the case, and how it was that certain formalities due to the dignity of the Sultan and to his estimation among his own countrymen, had to be gone through before war could be officially declared on his behalf by his faithful allies. Practically we are at war; theoretically the Emperor of Russia has yet a few days before him, in which he may indulge the notion that he is at peace with all the world, except with Turkey. Messengers were despatched on Monday morning, from London and Paris, bearing to the Czar the ultimatum of those powers, to the effect, that if he do not by the 30th April next ensuing evacuate the Danubian Principalities, they will immediately resort to force to compel him to do so. The haughty refusal of the Czar is easy to anticipate, and will, in all probability, reach London and Paris about the 21st inst. Before that day the magnificent Baltic fleets of Great Britain and France will be in readiness to try their strength with Russia before Cronstadt; and by the same day Sebastopol will, doubtless, be invested both by sea and land.

In the meantime all will proceed *selon les règles*. If not striking heavy blows against the enemy, we shall be ready for him at all points on a moment's notice. There are many calamities that are far worse in the anticipation than in the reality. The pangs which a man has never suffered, but of which he has heard much from the reports of others, he is apt to exaggerate. Nations and generations born and nurtured in peace, that know nothing of war but the burdens which it has entailed upon them, and the miseries which it inflicted upon their forefathers, cannot but look with dread upon its renewal in their time and in their own persons. But these feelings seldom last beyond the hour when war is known to be inevitable. The vague dread of the unseen giant is far more terrible to bear than the actual presence of the monster. It is the uncertainty that causes more than half the mischief. A few months ago, when there seemed a reasonable hope that, by a few mutual concessions and sacrifices, the peace of the world might be preserved, there was not a state in Europe, except Russia, in which war was not considered as the direst of afflictions. But at the present moment, when all uncertainty is at an end, and when the nations of Europe know that there is a sharp conflict before them, a feeling of positive satisfaction has succeeded to that of alarm. Now that there is to be no more "pottering" between Ambassadors, and Consuls, and that we are to have a fair stand-up fight with the common enemy, the world seems to be relieved of a load. The anxiety is no longer to prevent war, but to go into it manfully, and fight it out heroically. There is not a shadow of discouragement in the counsels of the Allies; there is not the remotest faint-heartedness on the part of the people. Enthusiasm is, in France and England, at its fever-height. All the generous sentiments of humanity have been aroused against the wrong-doer. Old Europe feels herself youthful and vigorous, under the strong stimulus of her outraged sense of honour; and, such is her present temper, as represented by her two foremost nations, that the prevention of Russian encroachment is no longer sufficient. It is felt that, not only must we teach the great criminal his duty to the present, but we must punish him for the past, and restrain him for the future.

England enters upon her task with a cheerful spirit. Certainly, all the circumstances of the case are such as to warrant her hopefulness and alacrity. She takes up arms with no selfish object. Her cause is that of public law, morality, and order. She aims at no increase of power or territory, and struggles for no advantage peculiar to herself. It is a war of principle that she wages, and none but the enemies of justice can be arrayed against her. Did she stand alone in such a cause, there would be no reason to fear her discomfiture; but, supported as she is, discomfiture is a word that has long ago been erased from the imagination, as well as from the calculation, of her people. That she has any allies is a fact for which to be grateful; but that she should have an ally like France merits more than gratitude. When two great and noble nations, "separated by a narrow frith," and who, till within a period yet remembered by living men, considered themselves natural enemies, born to "abhor each other," unite in the face of the world, forgetful of their old traditionary feuds, and show the bright example of union in support of European order against the Barbarian who would reduce it into anarchy, the risks and evils of the war are cheaply purchased. Such a spectacle is of itself sufficient recompense for a host of sacrifices. It proves that the commercial spirit has not deadened the heroic sentiment—that nations capable of acting together in support of principles so lofty are yet in the early vigour of their history; and that semi-barbarous countries, such as Russia, must keep their own place, or learn to compete with them in civilisation, and in respect for public justice, before they can hope to struggle against them successfully at the cannon's mouth. There was never a time in which the real interests of countries situated towards each other as Great Britain to France, and France to Great Britain were not in reality identical. All the wars between these great nations have been mistakes. The fact has long been apparent to the popular mind in this country. It

INTERVIEW OF BRITISH VISITORS WITH OMER PACHA, AT SCHUMLA.—(SEE PAGE 196.)

bids fair to become equally apparent to the popular mind of the French. Their generous emulation when the two shall fight side by side against the same enemy will do more than has ever yet been done to render all future wars impossible between them.

So much for the moral aspects of this great struggle. The material aspects of the question are in no degree less inspiriting. Eight or nine years ago, when the national energies were depressed by an unwise commercial and fiscal system, it was easy to form gloomy anticipations of the fortunes of England. Such anticipations were widely indulged in. Groping among blind Statistics, and armed with proofs from the voluminous Blue-Books of Poor-law Inspectors, Prison Inspectors, School Inspectors, and Lunacy Inspectors, our modern Habbakkuks denounced wrath and woe upon their country. "So miserable," said they, "is the state of the honest English labourer, that every man among them is burdened, not only with his own support, but with that of a pauper, a criminal, a soldier, and a sailor." But the shadow has passed from the face of the country since then. The pauper and the criminal are no longer the burdens that they were. Fair play to honest labour has relieved us of all but the inevitable residuum of both classes; and, so far from feeling it an infliction to have to support a soldier and a sailor during the approaching struggle, honest John Bull will willingly support half-a-dozen of each. His lassitude and decrepitude have passed away; and England is at this moment—when she is about to fight one of the noblest wars she ever was engaged in—stronger, richer, and more united, than ever she was in any previous era of her history.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

Dear readers, we purposed giving you some account of the *fours gras*, the conclusion of the Carnival, but really it is such a dismal affair, that there is nothing worth saying on the subject. The mummeries of this season have long been on the decline; people have for a considerable time been learning to discover that marching about the streets in hideous, ridiculous, shabby, unmeaning costumes, at the risk of being frozen to death, was not amusing; and, in proportion as this conviction gathers strength, the said costumes become fewer, the wearers of them feel more ridiculous, shabby, and unmeaning, and the whole thing becomes threatened with speedy dissolution. The procession of the *bœuf-gras*, aided by the brilliant sunshine, has certainly not been without considerable effect; and this is well enough in its way, but it is the individual tomfoolery of the *masques* that we view with each derision, and that we hope to see shortly brought to a conclusion.

It is said that the manufactory of porcelain at Sèvres is busily occupied on a number of magnificent specimens of this beautiful china—to the execution of which a new impulsion has within the last few years been given—for the Great Industrial Exhibition of next year. Nothing can surpass the beauty of some of the modern productions of this long-celebrated manufactory, where neither art, labour, expense, nor research is spared, in order to produce the utmost perfection of form, design, and colouring; and few objects are more worthy a visit of amateurs and sight seers in general than this establishment, situated within less than an hour's drive of Paris, and open to the inspection of all respectable comers.

The certainty of war does not seem to have much effect on the projects, public and private, entertained respecting the Exhibition. Strangely enough, it is Spain—seldom in the van in the march of intellect and improvement—that has set an example, which is likely to be followed by more active and civilised nations, by establishing, among a company of Spanish merchants residing in Paris, a monthly publication, specially intended to represent at the Exhibition the interests of Spain, her dependencies and colonies in Europe and America. The first number of "El Precursor de la Exposcion de 1855"—such is the name of the periodical in question—appeared last week. A certain portion is devoted to art and literature; but the principal subject of the work is the commerce, industry, and mechanical improvements and interests of the Spanish.

M. H. de Villemessant is about to renew the *Figaro*, which has had an interregnum of some years. It is to be of a character exclusively literary, without any mixture of politics; and is to be brought out weekly, beginning on the 1st of March.

Our plan of a Railway Library is coming much into vogue here; a great number of short works on all subjects being printed, in a particular form, with this intention. No less than seven or eight houses of importance are at this moment particularly employed in this commerce, which a year ago was unknown, or nearly so, in France.

A new and most valuable discovery in the application of chloroform has just been made here by the *docteur* Delabarre, whose name, in connection with the study of this medical agent, is already honourably known. In order to perform an operation, instead of producing general insensibility in the patient, which, in many cases, has been attended with dangerous, and even fatal, results—Dr. Delabarre has found the means of directing a jet of the vapour of chloroform on the part affected, so as to produce merely local insensibility; thus obtaining all the desirable results of the system without any of its risks or disadvantages. At a meeting of medical men, on Thursday last, Dr. Delabarre operated on nine patients, in each case with success more or less marked; some having experienced no sensation of the operation whatsoever, others merely a consciousness of it, but without pain.

The clergy in France, having made some discoveries relative to the organisation and strength of the order of Freemasons, has declared war on the whole body, as enemies of the faith. As, among the ranks, some of the high dignitaries of the State are placed—the Prince Murat being the present Grand Master, and the other members of the Imperial family holding posts of note therein—the combat will be one of no mean importance and difficulty; but the clerical party is not easily discouraged, where there is a question of defeating an enemy; and there is little doubt but that Gallicans and Ultramontanes will, for a moment, cease their internal squabbles to join against the common foe. The most formidable part of the affair is, that the said foe, counting, it is computed, as many as 75,000 or 80,000 strong in its ranks, has established a *caisse de suscription*, containing an annual contribution of an average of twelve francs for each member. It is true that the sum in question is exclusively employed in works of charity, and the relief of misfortune, but that is nothing: *le diable n'y perd rien*, and his emissaries must be annihilated.

The illness of the Abbé Lamennais, which, in our last letter, we announced as having taken a favourable turn, has terminated fatally; greatly aggravated by his having imprudently received visitors, contrary to the advice of his physician. The most alarming symptoms attended with delirium, declared themselves, and on Monday morning he expired, without having made any alteration in the testamentary disposition for his funeral which we recorded.

Nearly all the Russians have left Paris, the Princess Lieven at their head, in consequence of an intimation of the Czar's surprise and dissatisfaction that they had not sooner attended to the intimation relative to the necessity of their departure contained in the circular of M. Kisseleff, distributed previous to his quitting Paris.

A sale is now taking place of the furniture, library, and personal property of M. Armand Bertin, the late director of the *Journal des Débats*, which is attended with great interest from the singular beauty of the china and articles of *vertu*, and the extreme value and rarity of the books, which form one of the most curious and valuable small collections that could be brought together. It is said the Duc d'Aumale purchased most of these, with a large portion of the shelves which contain them, and which are in magnificently-carved oak, with Caryatides and ornaments of Florentine bronze.

It is with great pleasure we have to announce the triumphant success of the new piece of Madame Emile de Girardin, "La Joie fait Peur," which appeared on Saturday, at the Théâtre Français. This little *chef d'œuvre* is in one act, and turns on an incident so simple that it cannot be called a plot; the whole charm, therefore, lies in the treatment; and never could the most exciting tragedy or *larmoyant* melodrama call forth more tender interest, or cause more lively emotion, than is felt from the rising to the falling of the curtain over this little gem.

M. DROUYN DE LHUYS' CIRCULAR.

The following circular from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has been addressed to all the diplomatic and consular agents of France, ordering them to give their support to the subjects and the commerce of England in every case where they may be menaced by the common enemy:—

Sir,—Being compelled to admit the possibility of hostilities between them and Russia, the Government of his Imperial Majesty and that of her Britannic Majesty have thought that the alliance which they have contracted in view of a common danger should cover the interests of all those who might suffer from the consequences of the war. Whatever may be the extent of the resources at their disposal, particularly at sea, they have to take into account unforseen circumstances. Should war break out, it might happen in embarrassing where the naval forces of each of them might not constantly present themselves, that their subjects or their flag might not have, at the needful moment, all the protection necessary for their security. The two Governments have found a means of providing for these eventualities in the concerted adoption of a system of reciprocal protection embracing these interests, which are scattered over every latitude. The diplomatic and commercial agents, as well as the commanders of the naval forces of each of the two nations, must therefore give their support to the subjects and the trade of the other, under every circumstance, where they may be attacked by the common enemy. You will, sir, in consequence, consider the English subjects and vessels within your jurisdiction as having the same right to French subjects and vessels to all the assistance which comes within your attributions; and you will give notice of this prescription to the officers of the Imperial navy, who may be in a position to concur in the measure which circumstances resulting from the state of war may render necessary. The agents and officers of her Britannic Majesty will receive similar instructions; so that the subjects and commerce of the two nations will be authorised to rely on the reciprocal protection of the Consuls, and the navy of the two Powers. You will understand, sir, that I do not attempt to point out to you beforehand all the cases which may call for your intervention. It is for your own judgment to apply the principle by which your conduct is to be regulated. The two Governments have thought less of pointing out the forms in which this protection is to be exercised than of marking the character which it is to assume. In giving to the world this fresh proof of the unity of their views and the sincerity of their alliance, they are persuaded that, in order to secure to this common measure all desirable efficacy, their agents have only to be inspired with the same spirit of joint responsibility which has influenced the minds of the two Cabinets.

(Signed) DROUYN DE LHUYS.

THE RUSSIAN ARMY ON THE DANUBE.

The Russian forces in the Principalities, which are generally considered to number 200,000, do not much exceed half that number, according to the most trustworthy on the subject. They are composed of the 3rd *corps d'armée*, which has up to the present time only two divisi ns of infantry and one division of cavalry in Wallachia, the other division being quartered in Bessarabia. The whole of the 4th *corps d'armée* is in Wallachia; and one division of infantry and one of cavalry, belonging to the 5th corps, are likewise there. The rest of the 5th *corps d'armée* is part in the Caucasus and part in Bessarabia. The total of the Russian forces on the Danube, therefore, does not exceed 120,000 men. There are, consequently, in the Principalities but six divisions of infantry, three of cavalry, and several regiments of Cossacks. Of these forces, three divisions of infantry guard the Danube from the mouth of the Danube from Widdin to Galatz, opposite to the Turkish posts; as also the greater part of the cavalry. It is, therefore, evident that only three divisions remain at the disposal of Dr. Commander-in-Chief to be brought to attack in a body. These divisions are, the 8th, 9th, and 12th, numbering 36,000 men, considering them as fully complete. It is, however, still doubtful whether Prince Gortschakoff has marched all this force from the centre, in order to attack Kalafat, which is from sixteen to twenty marches distant from Bucharest, leaving the Danube defended by a simple cordon of troops, stretching along its banks; for although it is not considered likely that the Turks will pass the Danube at Rustchuk or Silistria, it were great temerity to leave the banks of that stream so exposed. It may therefore be presumed that the forces with which General Gortschakoff would advance on Kalafat are the following:—Two divisions of infantry, and the division of cavalry (Fleischbach) already quartered at Krajova; some battalions of the 10th division, and some regiments of Cossacks. These troops may amount to from 30,000 to 35,000 men, and this is no doubt a considerable force; it by no means, however, equals the number generally assigned to the army now quartered at Krajova.

RUSSIAN DIPLOMATIC SPIES.

The *Breslauer Zeitung* mentions a circumstance which shows how faithfully the Czar is served by the people whom he employs in every Court in Europe. Some time back, before any contingency of war in Europe was contemplated, a new plan for the mobilization of the Prussian army was drawn up by the Minister of War; and, being a confidential document, only ten copies were struck off after it had been lithographed, and these were distributed only to certain privileged persons. One of these ten copies of this important document has found its way just lately into the hands of the Emperor of Russia, who has shown it in his possession with an air of triumph. The document was not drawn up with reference to the calling out of the army at any specified time but was a general plan for arranging how it should be *mobilised* when occasion should require; it had, therefore, intrinsically, no worth to the Emperor, but is of immense value to him as proving how admirably he is served by men to whom orders, gold snuff-boxes with portraits set in diamonds, &c., are of greater attraction than their country's welfare. The man who thus purloined and misapplied this document, which gains now an additional value from the consideration that the possibility of the two countries being soon engaged in war, would in gladly have forwarded him a more valuable memorial. Public suspicion, which is prevented by the nature of the case from seeking the offender in a low sphere of life, does not hesitate to affix itself to more than one person in a very high region.

THE "FRIENDS" AND THE CZAR.

The interview between the deputation from the Society of Friends and the Emperor Nicholas took place on the 10th ult. The address was of the usual tone of such documents—praise of peace, and horror of war being the only topics. The members of the deputation have published the following report of their reception:—

The Emperor, after listening with kind attention to the address, said he wished to offer some explanation of his views as to the causes of the present unhappy difference. His observations in the course of the conversation, were nearly as follows:—

"We received the blessings of Christianity from the Greek empire; and this has established a bond maintained ever since a link of connection, both moral and religious, between Russia and that Power. The ties that have thus united the two countries have subsisted for 900 years, and were not severed by the conquest of Russia by the Tartars; and when, at a later period, our country succeeded in shaking off that yoke, and the Greek empire, in its turn, fell under the sway of the Turks, we still continued to take a lively interest in the welfare of our co-religionists there; and when Russia became powerful enough to resist the Turks, and to dictate terms of peace, we paid particular attention to the well-being of the Greek Church, and procured the insertion in successive treaties of most important articles in her favour. I have myself acted as my predecessors have done; and the treaty of Adrianople, in 1849, was as explicit as the former ones in this respect. Turkey, on her part, recognised the right of religious interference, and fulfilled her engagements until within the last year or two, when, for the first time, she gave me reason to complain. I will not now advert to the parties who were her principal instigators on that occasion. Suffice it to say that it became my duty to interfere, and to claim from Turkey the fulfilment of her engagements. My representations were resisting, but friendly, and I have every reason to believe that matters would soon have been settled if Turkey had not been induced by other parties to believe that I had ulterior objects in view—that I was aiming at conquest, aggrandisement, and the ruin of Turkey. I have solemnly disclaimed, and do now as solemnly disclaim, every unjust motive. . . . I do not desire war; I abhor it as sincerely as you do; and am ready to forget the past, if only the opportunity be afforded me. I have great esteem for your country, and a sincere affection for your Queen, whom I admire, not on y as a Sovereign, but as a lady, a wife, and a mother. I have placed full confidence in her, and have acted towards her in a frank and friendly spirit. I felt it my duty to call her attention to future dangers, which I considered sooner or later likely to arise in the East in consequence of the existing state of things. What on my part was prudent foresight, has been unfairly con-trued in your country into a designing policy and an ambitious desire of conquest. This has deeply wounded my feelings, and still rted my heart. Personal insults and invectives I regard with indifference. It is beneath my dignity to notice them, and I am ready to forgive all that is personal to me, and to hold out my hand in the true spirit of the Christian spirit. I cannot understand what cause of complaint your nation has against Russia. I am anxious to avoid war by all means. I will not attack, and shall only act in self-defence. I cannot be indifferent to what concerns the honour of my country. I have a duty to perform as a Sovereign. As a Christian, I am ready to comply with the precepts of religion. On the present occasion, my great duty is to attend to the interests and honour of my c untry."

The deputation remarked that, as their mission was not of a political character, but intended simply to convey to the Emperor the sentiments of their own society as a religious body, they did not feel it to be their place to enter into any of the questions involved in the present dispute; but, with the Emperor's permission, they would be glad to call his attention specially to a few points. . . . They said that they and many others in their own country had incurred the disfavour of the secretaries of the treasury in refusing to pay by advocating the settlement of international disputes by arbitration. They also remarked that, seeing that, while Mahomedanism avowedly justifies the employment of the sword in propagating its doctrines, Christianity is emphatically a religion of peace, there appeared (with reference to the present dispute) a peculiar propriety in a Christian Emperor's exercising forbearance and forgiveness. And they added that, in the event of a European war, among the thousands who would be its victims, those who were the principal causes of it would probably not be the greatest sufferers, but that the heaviest calamities would fall on innocent men, with their wives and children.

The Emperor, before quitting the apartment, informed the deputation that the Empress was desirous of seeing them. They were accordingly at once introduced to her, and to the Grand Duchess Olga, with whom they had an agreeable interview.

The deputation were subsequently informed, through Baron Nicolay, that the Emperor desired to transmit to the Society of Friends a written reply to their address, which was accordingly forwarded to them previous to their departure for St. Petersburg.

JOSEPH STURGE, of Birmingham.
ROBERT CHARLETON, of Bristo..
HENRY FEASE, of Darlington.

London, 25th of 2nd month, 1854.

THE RUSSO GREEK DISTURBANCES.

The Vienna papers state that the Insurgent Greeks in Albania had possessed themselves of the city of Arta. Arta (or Norda) is situate not far from the gulf of the same name, and is surrounded on three sides by the river Arta, which falls into a small bay that forms the harbour of the place. There is a large fortified Turkish castle, situated on a hill to the east, and which commands the place and the harbour; it is a town of 8000 inhabitants (who are chiefly Greeks), and it is also the seat of a Greek Bishop. The fortress of the five fountains was still in the possession of the Turks so recently as the 13th ult. It is said that, although no open insurrection had broken out in Macedonia, still the premonitory symptoms of such an event were not wanting there, and that the provinces of Acarnania and Anatolia, and the districts of Ibbesson and Delonia, were already in a state of disorder. It was stated that the Turks had abandoned the city of Janina, as it might be at any moment occupied by the insurgents, when they had sufficiently consolidated their strength. Janina, in the district of the same name, is a Greek Bishop's metropolitan see, and has a population of 30,000 souls, who are chiefly Greek Christians. It was built in a remote period by John Cantacuzenus, the nephew of the Greek Emperor of that name; its fortifications were destroyed in the last siege. The Turks had advanced with considerable forces from the interior of Albania against the insurgents; and, by way of relieving the forces who were blocked up in Arta, martial law had been proclaimed against the rebels. The insurgent army in Albania was said to amount to 5000 men Our Government has remonstrated very strongly with that of Greece on these frontier disturbances, in which Greek subjects appear to be the parties chiefly implicated; and the Greek Lieutenant-command ng the insurgent Demetrius Ypsilanti Tharakanis, has been summoned to return to his duty on pain of expulsion from the service.

In the districts which adjoin the Greek frontier, the Greeks had begun, as they did in 1820, with holding secret meetings of the old Hetæria, so well worked by Russia, previous to what is called "the War of Greek independence," and now they are looking forward to fresh days of victory. The papers of Bosco Visnar, which were seized at the time of his arrest at Constantinople, have, by order, been revealed to the Government the most minute secrets of the Greek con-pirators. To the Pachas both of Janiesa and of Larissa the most energetic instructions have been sent. Measures already had been taken by them against the insurgents, and now 10,000 men have been placed at the disposal of each Pacha, and the very fullest authority has been intrusted to them. Large bodies of troops have been stationed in reserve at Argyrocastro, Therbene, and Biacho Livado, which the Pachas are to employ, if their present forces prove inadequate.

Letters from Odessa of the 18th ult., state that Halim Pacha, at present Commander of the Turkish troops in the Dobrudshia, is to conduct the operations of the campaign against the insurgents. He is considered to be one of the ablest generals in the Turkish army, and chiefly signalised himself in 1831, and likewise in a campaign against the rebellious Albanians. The latest advices from the Montenegrin frontier state that the Turkish corps of observation is in sufficient strength to paralyse any attempts that might be made to form a junction between the insurgents of Albania and the warlike inhabitants of Montenegro. The Pacha of Scutari had arrived in person on the frontier, to superintend all the necessary movements. Gr-ruli, Gari shani, and Zabuljac, were the principal stations of the Turkish corps of observation.

A letter from Corfu of the 12th ult states that English troops had been embarked there, who, it was understood, were destined to be sent to the opposite coast of Albania. From the rest of the Ionian Islands, we also hear that similar expeditions were in preparation. These energetic measures for the suppression of the revolt in Albania will, no doubt, be effectual. From Salonica we have letters of the 12th, from which we learn that symptoms of disorder had begun, on the 8th and 9th, to display themselves among the Greek population in that city also; but it was speedily suppressed by the sudden and energetic operations of the Pacha.

The French and English Ambassadors have sent two steamers to the assistance of the Turks, and probably the Gulfs of Contessa and Salonica, and the coast of Albania, will be declared in a state of siege.

RUSSIAN TOLERANCE.

The kind of tolerance that prevails in the Russian empire—the Government of which has now drawn the sword on behalf of the privileges of the orthodox church in the East—may be judged from the fact that the Catholic missionaries in Transcaucasia have been peremptorily commanded to make no proselytes. Only a short time ago, a large number of Suanetes and Abchases, nearly all of which tribes are still heathens, applied to the prior of the convent in Kutais, requesting to be baptised. The prior was obliged to decline, and to send them away, for transportation to Siberia awaits any priest that dares to convert a worshipper of idols into a Roman Catholic Christian.

RUSSIAN INTRIGUES IN INDIA AND PERSIA.

The intelligence of the establishment of a Russian army on the Oxus is confirmed by the papers received by overland Mail; also, that an alliance, offensive and defensive, has been concluded between the Russians and Dost Mahomed, the Khan of Khiva, and the Khan of Bokhara. The following is from the Cabul Correspondent of the *Delhi Gazette*:—

The Russian army had halted within two marches of Khiva, and was employed in the construction of cantonments. Four Russian agents had reached Dost Mahomed, bearing a message from the Russian general. The message was to this effect:—Dost Mahomed was solicited to proceed with his camp to the banks of the Oxus; there to meet two Russian Envoys with letters from the Czar—one addressed to the Ameer himself, and the other to the King of Bokhara—proposing the formation of a quadruple alliance between the Czar, the Khan of Khiva, Dost Mahomed, and the King of Bokhara, the alliance to be agreed upon on the right bank of the Oxus. Should Dost Mahomed agree to the proposal, the

at Constantinople. The nomination of Marshal de St. Arnaud to this important command makes the immediate appointment of another Minister of War absolutely necessary; and General Randon, the present Governor-General of Algeria, has been summoned to Paris by telegraph. For the present he will only be appointed Minister of War *ad interim*. General Pelissier, who it was in the first place intended should take the important post of *chef de l'état major* of the Commander-in-Chief of the expeditionary army, is to be the Governor-General of Algeria.

Steamers are being prepared at Toulon for taking on board several regiments of cavalry. The workmen at the arsenal are employed night and day.

THE TURKISH ARMY UNDER OMER PACHA.

The *Soldaten Freund* of the 22nd February contains some interesting information from the seat of war, from which we learn that Omer Pacha's great object has been to form three army-corps, with their head-quarters at Karasou, Sistow, and Widdin; each corps to consist of 24 infantry battalions, 30 squadrons of cavalry, and 60 guns, in all respects well appointed. The effective force of each corps is 26,000 Nizam (regulars), 10,000 Redifs (militia), and the auxiliary contingents of Egypt, Tunis, the Herzegovina, and Albania. Egypt has sent excellent and well equipped regulars, the other provinces only irregular troops. The reserves form the second or Balkan army. The strength of the army now under Omer Pacha is said to be not far short of 220,000 men, and although it is far from being all that could be desired, the spirit with which it is animated is excellent.

The news of the insurrection of the Christians in Epirus had produced an alarming effect on the Arnauts and Albanians on the Danube, who loudly demanded permission to return home. The Generals of Brigade, Hussein Bey and Soliman Pacha, had lost all their influence over their wild troops, and it was feared that, if an attempt were made to detain them by force, there would be an open mutiny; while if they were permitted to return, they would ravage the Christian districts on their way home. The attention of the Turkish army was, therefore, for the moment, more directed to the movements of the Greeks, Servians, and Montenegrins than to those of the enemy on the left bank of the Danube. If the hostile movement of the Christian population in the west should assume more formidable dimensions, the west wing of the Turkish army would be obliged to make a retrograde movement, which would more than counterbalance the check which the Russians have received by the entry of the allied fleets into the Black Sea.

The powerful batteries constructed by General Schilder, on the island of Radovan, between Giurgevo and Rustchuk, were said to have silenced the batteries of 36-pounders on the right bank. There is a ford below Giurgevo, and close to this General Martinez had formed a strong *tête-du-pont*; but strange to say, the Turks had neglected to take any precautions against a passage of the river at that point, and it was even understood that the Russians were fully prepared to attempt it as soon as the fine weather sets in. Omer Pacha had gone to Sophia. The loss of the Russians in officers has been so great that General Schilder has ordered changes to be made in their uniforms, so that they may not be so easily distinguished from the common soldiers.

RUSSIAN PREPARATIONS FOR WAR

The advices from St. Petersburg reach to the 18th ult., and do not inspire any hopes of peace. The most absurd exaggerations, manufactured by Government, are given of the ardour of the people. One Russian patriot is reported to have presented the Emperor with 18 millions of silver roubles (nearly £3,000,000) for the purposes of the war. The rate of exchange continued with a declining tendency, and it was expected that an order prohibiting the exportation of bullion would be issued in the course of a week. In the recent interview of the British ambassadors with Sir Hamilton Seymour, all the preliminaries of diplomatic relations, they were told that they would have, for the present, the Danish Minister as intermediary.

All the naval officers who had been pensioned off are summoned to resume active service. The marines on furlough are already collecting at the different harbours assigned to them. They are under orders to be perfectly armed and equipped by the middle of March. Both the army and fleet in the south are being provisioned on a colossal scale. According to a report from the frontiers of Asiatic provinces to the amount of 100,000 lbs. are to be sent to Tuganrog in March or May. The magazines on the coasts of Mingrelia, Guria, &c., are being stocked in an equal degree with flour, groats, biscuit, and the like.

The *Invalide Russe* publishes the following ukase of the Emperor of Russia:—

We, Nicholas I, &c.—Our manifesto of the 1st of August last established the order for the annual levy of troops in our empire. Considering that, in consequence of circumstances of war, it is indispensable to maintain our army and our fleet on a war footing, and to have reserves ready, without being incessantly obliged to complete the active part of the army, we ordain:—1. A levy of nine men per thousand shall take place in the western governments of the empire, in virtue of the ukase addressed to the directing Senate under this day's date. 2. This levy shall commence on the 1st of March and terminate on the 15th of April, 1854. 3. Whereas the citizens of the governments of Witebsk, Mohilew, Kieff, Powolia, Volhynia, Minsk, Grodno, Wilna, and Kowno, have demanded exemption from the levy, and, in its place, a levy of nine men per thousand shall also take place there. 4. The Jews subject to recruiting shall furnish ten men per thousand. 5. The government of Cherson, of the Crimea, as also of Bessarabia, which are in a state of war, are exempt from recruiting.—Given at St. Petersburg, Feb. 16, 1854.

(Signed) NICHOLAS.

The levy just ordered will yield about 200,000 men. The districts or parishes that have to furnish the recruits, and not the latter, are bound to pay ten silver roubles per man. They have, therefore, 2,000,000 of silver roubles for a contribution, which must be added to what they already had to pay last November.

The official *Journal de St. Petersbourg*, of the 16th ult., announces the rupture of diplomatic relations between Russia and the Western Powers, in the following terms:—

The Governments of England and France have pretended not only to protect the Turks against Russia by sea on the part of Russia, but also to assist them in provisioning their ports, at the same time forbidding Russia to victual its own forces; in a word, depriving her, if not de jure, of free navigation in the Black Sea. The attitude thus taken by the two Powers constitutes, in the eyes of the Emperor, not only a serious infringement of his belligerent rights, but moreover, an effective co-operation in a war, of which they had until lately remained spectators. His Majesty has deemed it right from this day forward to protest against such infringement, reserving to himself that line of conduct which shall become him in future contingencies. Meanwhile, he has judged that provisionally the position in which his representatives at Paris and London have been placed could not be any longer reconciled with the dignity and honour of himself, and of those relations which, however delicate they have become of late, had, nevertheless, not yet lost entirely the nature of mutual friendship and goodwill. In consequence, Baron Brunnow and M. de Kisseleff, acting on the order which they had received from him, eventually demanded their passports immediately on receiving the answer made to them, and have just quitted England and France. Diplomatic relations being thus suspended between Russia and the two Governments, Sir H. Seymour and the Marquis de Castelbajac are likewise on the eve of quitting St. Petersburg.

The regiments in the army of the Czar which bore the names of the Austrian and Prussian Sovereigns have been commanded to change their designations. The Military Commissioner or Envoy of Russia, who has habitually resided at Berlin, is ordered to join his regiment on duty; and Russian officers are not to wear Austrian and Prussian decorations.

THE CZAR AND THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR.

The Russian courier, with intelligence of Baron Brunnow and M. de Kisseleff having actually demanded their passports, arrived at St. Petersburg four-and-twenty hours before the French and English concerns, with instructions to the representatives of those Powers to demand theirs. The consequence was, that the Emperor acted on the intelligence brought by his courier, and, without permitting the time to pass which would have allowed of the arrival of the French and English couriers, sent their passports to Sir Hamilton Seymour and General de Castelbajac. Another account, in the *Independance* of Brussels, states, that the Emperor made a great distinction between the French and English Ambassadors. Sir H. Seymour was told immediately that his passports were ready—which was equivalent to desiring him to leave with all possible haste. Nothing of this kind was done with General Castelbajac: and the latter, wishing to convince the Emperor that if he had carried his politeness and attentions to the Russian aristocracy farther than Sir H. Seymour had done, he was not the less disposed to do his duty, informed Count Nesselrode that he wished to be treated as his colleague for they represented Governments whose policy was the same. The Emperor, however, sent word to General Castelbajac, that he wished to see him before he left, and the General having complied with his wish, the Emperor decorated him with the order of Alexander, with his own hand.

THE EXPECTED BATTLE AT KALAFAT

The last accounts from Constantinople show that the same anxiety is felt there as here with regard to the next move of the Russian forces against Kalafat. A letter from Constantinople, of the 18th ult., says:—

We are anxiously awaiting the result of the battle which is expected to take place at Kalafat. Military men see the importance of that position, and all feel instinctively that the fate of the imminent campaign will mainly depend on the maintenance of that post. The main importance of Kalafat lies in the fact that its position covers Servia, whilst many persons attach a great value to its possession by the Turks, because it shuts up the way that, by Sofia, leads to the southern extremity of the Balkan and to Adrianople. To look upon things from these points of view, with reference to Kalafat, would, however, be putting aside the real principles of war. The Russians could not throw a division of their army into Servia without dividing their forces. You cannot threaten the flank or rear of an enemy, either on the field of battle or in a strategic line, unless you feel certain of a victory in front. The Russians have not more forces disposable on the Danube than the Turks; they cannot therefore feel certain of victory; consequently the result of the principal operations would be compromised, were they to move into Servia with considerable force, by giving their enemy an advantage which is frequently only the result of well-calculated and able manœuvres, namely, of being placed between two portions of their forces with the bulk of his army, and thus able to fall upon either separately, and at the moment he deems most propitious. The fear of an advance by Sofia, across the Balkan, by a large Russian force, is very general. However, any person who is at all acquainted with the principles of strategy knows that these apprehensions are vain. There can be no doubt that Kalafat will decide the campaign of this spring, by the moral effect of a defeat or a victory with either army, in the event either of the Russians being driven back, or the Turks ejected from their entrenchments.

FAREWELL ENTERTAINMENT TO THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE.—A sumptuous entertainment was given to the Duke of Cambridge, at White's Club, St. James's-street, on Saturday last. Though the Duke of Cambridge has not been nominated, at present, to any command at the seat of war, yet it is well known in military circles that he is included in the arrangements for carrying on operations in the East. The banquet was laid in the drawing-room of the club house, the usual dining-room being too small to accommodate the number of distinguished guests invited. Throughout the whole length of the festive board was displayed a superb collection of plateaux, epergnes, salvers, racing-cups, candelabras, &c., the magnificent workmanship of which well became the costliness of the material—in all cases either solid gold or silver. The banquet was fixed to take place at eight o'clock, and shortly before that hour the guests commenced arriving. The Duke of Hamilton occupied the chair. On his right was his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, and on his left the Duke of Montieri. After the banquet, in the course of the speeches made during the evening, the subject of the approaching war was freely alluded to, and at such times the cheering was enthusiastic. The members of White's Club have not given a banquet since 1815, when they had the Emperor of Russia (Alexander) and the King of Prussia for their guests. The distinguished party, which included many members of both branches of the service, separated shortly before midnight. The members of Brooke's, following the example of White's, will give a grand banquet this evening (Saturday) to his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge. It is hoped that Lord Raglan will also be present at the entertainment.

MORE STEAMERS FOR GOVERNMENT.—The Admiralty have chartered the *Megalesian* and the *Queen of the South* for the conveyance of troops to the Mediterranean. The *Magdalena* will be able to carry from 1000 to 1200 men, and *Queen of the South* probably from 700 to 800.

GREENWICH PENSIONERS ONCE MORE AFLOAT.—It speaks well for the spirit of the British tar, that neither years nor infirmities can quench his ardour, nor extinguish that love of country, which was his guide in early life. As an example of this, about a hundred of the inmates of Greenwich Hospital, nearly all over sixty years of age, and some exceeding the limits allotted to man, "threescore years and ten," volunteered to serve in her Majesty's vessels, in the approaching war with Russia. And although the services of but few of them have been accepted, we doubt not that a ship manned by the gallant old fellows, even now, would be able to give a good account of the enemy. Several of the most active will be discharged in a few days, at their own request, to join her Majesty's ships and the coast-guard.

STATE OF THE BALTIC.—According to the latest advices, the Baltic ports are not yet free from ice; but in some cases vessels have been taken out with considerable expense across the ice, and the latter has subsequently been cut away so as to permit the ships to put to sea. The Baltic shippers are very anxious to get their corn safely on this side, under the apprehension that difficulties may hereafter arise to shipments being made.

ALL General and Staff Officers on the Expedition are to wear blue frock coats, without any decoration or distinguishing mark. The purpose of this is to render them less conspicuous objects for an enemy's rifle.

THE FIRST DIVISION OF TROOPS FOR THE EAST.

THE organising and dispatching of a force of from 24,000 to 25,000 of our best soldiers, to be engaged in repelling the aggressions of Russia upon Turkey, have naturally drawn attention to the fine condition of the troops selected for this service, which may fairly be designated the flower of the British Army. With a view of illustrating their efficiency, our Artists have represented upon the two following pages a series of Portraits from eight of the finest Regiments of Infantry, sketched from the life; to which we append a series of brief sketches of their history and services.

FIRST ILLUSTRATION.

Private 1st Grenadier Guards—Marching Order.
Colour Sergeant—Coldstream Guards.
Private, Night Sentinel.
Drummer—Royal Sco's Fusiliers
Private—Royal Scots Fusiliers. Barrack Guard Order.

THE GRENADIER, COLDSTREAM, AND SCOTS FUSILIER GUARDS.

SINCE the formation of disciplined regiments, every nation has established a Guard, whose high prerogative has been the honour of attendance on the Sovereign. In bygone days the "Garde du Corps" of the French, the "Guardas de a Cavella" of the Spaniards, and the "Heiduardy" of the Germans, assimilated in some essentials with the modern household troops of England. In Russia the Imperial Guard counts many thousands; ours is restricted to three regiments of cavalry and seven battalions of foot. The latter portion of this force during periods of peace has advisedly been concentrated in the vicinity of the Royal palaces, and exempted from colonial service. But when, as at present, the probability of war is remote, though not a certainty, the Guards of the English Guards are unfurled, and their battalions gallantly take post wherever danger threatens; and those who, a few days since, beheld these regiments with their arms piled in the streets of the metropolis *en route* for the place of embarkation, will not readily forget the heartstirring scene. The estimation in which the Guards are held by their countrymen was demonstrated on that morning.

When the Parliamentary forces were disbanded at the Restoration, the Duke of Albemarle's regiment was alone kept on the establishment. It was raised at Coldstream during the Civil Wars, and has ever since retained its appellation. The origin of the Foot Guards may be dated from 1660. The first regiment was commanded by Lord Wentworth; the Coldstream, as already shown, by Monk; and the third by the Earl of Lindithgow. When the Duke of Monmouth invaded England, the Guards highly distinguished themselves in the west under the Earl of Feversham. In the reign of William III., these regiments were frequently in the field, and reaped honour and renown in Flanders. Voltaire celebrated their heroism at the battle of Fontenoy, fought in 1745. Their presence and example were of infinite importance at the epoch of the Scotch rebellion. During the Seven Years' War, the Guards, as usual, served for themselves opportunities, whereby to enhance their reputation; and at the affair of Saint Cas, they were the last to embark, and had the honour to cover the retreat. On that occasion they suffered severely. They were employed in the American war, and their coolness and under fire was again made conspicuous. At the battle of Lincelles, the Guards obtained, and well merited, eulogistic praise. Their more recent exploits are equally recorded to their honour. "Corunna," "Talavera," "Barossa," "Peninsula," and "Waterloo" emblazoned on the silken folds of their banners, bear evidence of hard-fought fields, where the Guards struggled in friendly emulation with their brethern of the line for supremacy in daring and undaunted defiance of the foe. History has recorded the unflinching front displayed at Hougoumont. Again and again attacked by superior numbers, and at one period without ammunition, the unsurpassed intrepid ty of the British Guards triumphantly held the post. Nothing could shake their indomitable perseverance. They were commanded to keep the position, at whatever cost, and nobly they responded to the order.

At this moment three battalions of the Queen's Guards are ploughing the waves of the Mediterranean, anxious to encounter the enemy, and enthusiastic in a good cause. Should opportunity offer of adding distinction to their already established renown, those who hereafter may carry the colours may find cause to murmur at their predecessors' valour, by reason of the additional weight of recorded victories gorgeously emblazoned on their ensigns.

SECOND ILLUSTRATION.

Recruiting Sergeant, 33rd Regiment.
Private, 3rd Buffs—Marching Order.
Private, 3rd Buffs—Undress.
Private, 9th Regiment—Marching Order.
Private, Rifle Brigade.
Private, 93rd Highlanders.
Private, 55th Regiment.

33RD—THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT.

It would be difficult to point out a regiment of more hardy enterprise and uniform steady valour, than the 33rd. It has served with distinction in nearly every portion of the globe, and was ever ready for action when required. One of the last acts of King William III., was to issue directions for raising this battalion, together with eight others. It was formed in 1702. The first officer appointed to the command was Colonel Stanhope, and the force was speedily engaged against Cadiz and Vigo under the Duke of Ormond. At the siege of Valentia, in 1705, it was the only British regiment engaged. Colonel Duncanson bravely led the corps to the top of the breach, where he was wounded, but his followers finally made themselves masters of the place. It fought nobly at the sanguinary battle of Almanzar. In 1742 the battalion formed part of the expedition which landed near Bruges, under the direction of the Earl of Stair; and in the following year was present at the Battle of Dettingen. It was in the heat of the conflict, and lost a considerable number of men, together with five officers. At the famous but fatal encounter at Fontenoy, upwards of 600, including all grades, were thinned from its ranks. For a long time the 33rd was known as Wade's regiment; but, in 1758, it was designated Haye's, in honour of Lord Charles Haye, its then Commander. This efficient corps continued four years at Minorca, and afterwards sailed as part of the grand expedition under Marlborough against Saint Malocs. It bore a conspicuous part in the attack and destruction of Cherbourg; and, on re-embarkation, in Saint Cas Bay, nearly the whole of the Grenadiers, together with their Captain, were numbered with the slain. The regiment was afterwards actively engaged in Germany, where it served various campaigns, and largely shared the fortune and glory of the army under Prince Ferdinand and the Duke of Marlborough. In 1776 the corps sailed for America, and was in the attack of Fort Washington; and maintained its well earned reputation in the performance of the active duties devolved on the British forces in that country. It participated in the victories at Camdeben and Guildford. In Holland and the Netherlands this renowned corps gained additional honour, and displayed its accustomed daring at the attack of Fuyl, under General Dundas. Honourable mention of the gallant bearing of the 33rd constantly found a conspicuous place in the despatches of the period. The late Duke of Wellington commanded it when in India, where it was instrumental in the overthrow of Tippoo Saib and the capture of Seringapatam. Waterloo bore testimony to the crowning exploit of the battalion in 1815. After the decease of the great warrior of the age, her Majesty was graciously pleased to direct that the 33rd should henceforth be styled "The Duke of Wellington's Regiment," and carry the hero's crest and motto on its colours.

THE 3RD FOOT—EAST KENT—THE BUFFS.

General Sidney had first the honour to command this distinguished regiment. In 1665 the corps was placed on the regular establishment of the English army. At that period the 3rd was the only battalion whose sword-belts, pouches, and other appointments were made of buffalo leather, after the manner of chamois. Officers and privates wore waistcoats and breeches of that colour. Eventually other corps adopted similar facings; whereupon the regiment became known as the "Old Buffs." This splendid body of men possess the privilege of marching through the city of London with fixed bayonets, drums beating, and colours flying, without observing the customary formality of requesting the Lord Mayor's permission; a privilege which, however valuable it may be, has no: been offered many opportunities of being tested. Various services have been hazarded, assigning causes originating this exclusive honour; but, unless the archives at the Mansion-house can enlighten the army, it will prove difficult to trace the exception to its real source.

In Queen Anne's reign the "Old Buffs" served as part of the Confederate Army in the Netherlands, and did good service. It was highly commended at the battle of Ramilies in 1706, and formed part of the covering force when Prince Eugene besieged Lisle in 1708. In 1745 the regiment was at Falkirk. At Culloden, the 3rd mainly contributed to the annihilation of the Pretender's forces. The Buffs encountered considerable hard-ship, privation, and loss, at Guadaloupe, Grenada, and other West India islands from 1758. Many subsequent opportunities of demonstrating what Englishmen can achieve were seized upon by this gallant corps. On their colours the words "Douro," "Talavera," "Albuhera," "Pyrenees," "Nivelle," "Nive" "Peninsula," and "Punniar," evidence their fame. The head-quarters are at present at Malta, and it is rumoured they will proceed with the force destined for the seat of war. Should such anticipation be verified, the "Old Buffs" will, in due time, return to England laden with additional laurels, but not before the tree has become so denuded of its leaves as to render it impossible to gather fresh garlands from the stem.

THE 9TH (EAST NORFOLK) REGIMENT OF FOOT.

This corps was raised in 1685, and ranks as one of the finest in her Majesty's service. To elucidate what British soldiers can accomplish, in defiance of danger, privation, and fatigue, the reader cannot do better than refer to Mr. Cannon's "Historical Records," commemorating the deeds of this battalion, and the numerous actions wherein it was engaged. An accurate detail of its services will there be found; together with highly interesting facts, which the limits of a newspaper cannot possibly embody. Indeed, if an attempt were made to recount the innumerable acts of bravery and heroism displayed by each regiment, the result would fill a library. The 9th claim the honourable badges of "Rolieca," "Vimiera," "Corunna," "Busaco," "Salamanca," "Vittoria," "Saint Sebastian," "Nive," "Peninsula," "Caboul, 1842." "Moodkee," "Ferozeshur," and "Sobraon." In the work previously alluded to, the glorious achievements of the corps are circumstantially and graphically delineated.

S.

RIFLE BRIGADE.

The Rifle Brigade, or, as in former days it was more generally known as the "Gallant 95th," has invariably contrived to have one or other of its battalions wherever fighting was to be found; and short commons, with hard work, were more readily at hand than full rations and quietude. On their appointment to the service, the words "Copenhagen," "Monte Video," "Roliera," "Vimiera," "Corunna," "Busaco," "Barossa," "Fuentes d'Onor," "Ciudad Rodrigo," "Badajos," "Salamanca," "Vittoria," "Nivelle," "Nive," "Orthes," "Toulouse," "Peninsula," "Waterloo," striking evidences of what they have done, and ample guarantee of future exploits from such a regiment, should opportunity again offer. Always ably commanded, the dark green uniform was prominent when dangers thickened, and death urged on the combatants to the fray. The 1st battalion was but a year at home when its services were required at the Cape; and, though but just returned, numbers of these fine fellows volunteered to accompany their comrades to the East. The late Adjutant General fully understands their value; and as the gallant officer is named to the command of a division in the expeditionary force, the presence of their former Colonel will create additional stimulus in the career of glory.

93RD HIGHLANDERS.

None who visited the Camp at Chobham, whether attracted by professional zeal, or led to undertake the journey through love of novelty, can have forgotten the martial appearance and picturesque garb of the Sutherland Highlanders. The latter has elicited the highest encomiums from all who watched its precision in movement, and noted the steadiness of the men under arms; and the regiment has done the State good service at the Cape and elsewhere, and is proverbial for its regularity in quarters, as it has proved a formidable antagonist in the field. Greatly will the Turks, who delight in amplitude of nether garments, marvel on beholding such stalwart soldiers spurning the effeminacy of wearing any. Should the regiment leave the good fortune to encounter the Emperor Nicholas' Imperial Guards, the Russians will find cause to remember their introduction to "the bonnet and the plaid."

55TH REGIMENT, WESTMORELAND.

This corps has the dragon embroidered on its colours, and the word "China" commemorative of its servi.es in that empire. It returned home in 1844, and embarked for Gibraltar in 1851, at which station it is at present quartered. The 55th has green facings, and is well known in the army for gallantry in the field, and alacrity in responding to the summons when required to display its daring in the cause of our country.

1ST GRENADIERS, MARCHING ORDER. COLDSTREAMS, NIGHT SENTINEL. COLDSTREAMS, COLOUR-SERGEANT. SCOTS FUSILIERS, DRUMMER. SCOTS FUSILIERS, BARRACK GUARD.

TROOPS FOR THE WAR.—BRITISH INFANTRY.—GUARDS.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

PREPARATIONS FOR WAR.

THE COLDSTREAM GUARDS, IN "THE ORINOCO" STEAMER, LEAVING SOUTHAMPTON.

The men having formed into line, and the muster-roll having been called over, they marched in threes to the docks, preceded by the fife-and-drum band, playing "See the conquering hero comes." Upon reaching that side of the dock at which the steam-ship *Orinoco* lay moored, the men again formed themselves into line; and, being stripped of their ammunition, &c., were marched single file on board the vessel waiting to convey them. Here, again, everything seemed in perfect order; the horses which are being conveyed for the use of the various officers were comfortably provided for on deck, whilst below every convenience presented itself for the accommodation of the troops, amounting to 966.

At about eight a.m. the second detachment of the above regiment arrived, and were marched in the same order to the docks. The former portion not having got on board, the latter arrival was permitted to reconnoitre as they thought proper.

No sooner had the various arrangements with regard to the Coldstream Guards been effected, and the whole body on board, than were seen marching into the docks the first detachment of Grenadiers. This arrival directed itself to the Peninsular and Oriental Company's steamships *Ripon* and *Manilla*, which lay moored on the north east side of the docks. By a second train arrived the second detachment of this regiment, and, after the preliminaries had been gone through, the whole of the men took their positions on board.

The gates of the docks were thrown open, and several hundreds of persons, consisting of many gentlemen and their families from the neighbourhood and adjacent places, assembled in the interior.

At about two o'clock the tide had risen to a sufficient height to allow of the *Manilla* (the smallest ship of the three) leaving the dock. Under the command of Captain Mason, she let go her moorings, and in a very short space of time was to be seen steaming down the river, amid the shouts of thousands of assembled spectators. As soon as she was fairly afloat the guns from the platform tendered her a salute of eighteen guns, and in the meantime the *Manilla* made some considerable portion of her way towards the Solent.

In about half an hour afterwards the *Ripon* followed, and received the same compliment as had been previously paid the *Manilla*.

At five o'clock the *Orinoco*, the largest ship of the three (under the command of Captain Wilson), left the docks; and, being the finish of the day's business departed with hearty and continued shouts from all persons who were in view of her; whilst not only on leaving the docks, but during the time she was steaming down the river, the platform guns were not neglectful of their duties in this instance either, and rendered their compliments equally distinguishable as on the former occasions.

The *Orinoco*, *Ripon*, and *Manilla* got under way immediately after daybreak on Thursday morning, and sailed for their destination. The wind, which, on the previous night, blew in heavy gusts from the south-west, had veered round to the north-west, and these fine ships, therefore, started under the most favourable auspices, with a fair wind down

EMBARKATION OF THE 50TH REGIMENT (QUEEN'S OWN), ON BOARD "THE CAMBRIA," AT KINGSTOWN.

Ch... The *Ripon* and *Mantilla* will call at Gibraltar for coals on their way to Malta, but the *Orinoco* will proceed to that island direct; and, after landing the Coldstreams there, is under engagement to go to Gibraltar to take on board the 44th Regiment, destined to form a portion of the auxiliary army.

The Embarkation of Troops by the *Himalaya* steam ship is described and illustrated in the Supplement published with the present Number.

THE 50TH REGIMENT AT KINGSTOWN.

On Friday morning (last week) the streets of Dublin presented an animated appearance. It having been known that the first contribution from this garrison towards the expeditionary army to the East was to be despatched in the forenoon from Kingstown harbour. At eight o'clock a.m. the head-quarters of the 50th Regiment, with staff, colours, and band, were paraded and inspected in the Palatine-square of the Royal Barracks in heavy marching order, where a large crowd assembled to witness their evolutions, and repeatedly cheered during their performance. Precisely at half-past nine o'clock the troops formed four deep, the word of command was given, and they commenced their march towards the Westland-row station. The bands of the 23rd, 50th, and 91st Regiments, having obtained permission to escort their brother soldiers on the occasion, took the lead along the north side of the quays, and played several spirited airs; among which, by the bands, were "Auld Lang Syne," and "The Good Time's Coming," in playing which the bandmen took up the concluding line of each verse, after the instrumental music had died away, and sang it over again in a right joyful manner, to the great delight of the people, who raised a hearty cheer after each vocal repetition. Major Richard Waddy headed the regiment, on the colours of which we observed the words Punniar, Moodkee, Feroozshah, Aliwal, and Sobraon—indicating the principal Indian battles in which these brave men distinguished themselves between the years 1842 and 1848. As the regiment marched along the streets, the cheering was again and again repeated, and the fair occupants of the windows and balconies waved their handkerchiefs. The troops proceeded along the north side of the quay, over Essex-bridge, through Dame-street, Nassau-street, and Leinster-street, to Westland-row. Two special trains were in readiness at the railway station, to convey the regiment to Kingstown, for which three companies started at eight, and the other three at half-past ten o'clock. Throughout the whole line the liveliest demonstrations of popular feeling were made by the bystanders, and many friends of the soldiers, both male and female, accompanied them the entire distance to the railway station, where they bade them adieu with sorrowing hearts, and in not a few instances with weeping eyes. At half-past ten o'clock the first train reached its destination, and the moment the companies began to leave the terminus a hearty cheer was raised by the large crowd which had assembled to witness their embarkation. The second train arrived shortly afterwards; the business of embarkation, which was conducted under the superintendence of Captain Bevin, R.N., Admiralty agent, was at once proceeded with, and completed within a period of an hour and a half—a cheer after cheer being raised as each company passed through the gangway into the steamer, and a universal shout of applause when the colours of the 50th were displayed on the deck of the *Cambria*. The men were apparently in the highest spirits, and as the termination of one of the airs played by the band a soldier caught up the air, and, adapting it to the subject uppermost in his mind, sang, "Cheer, boys, cheer, Russia's all before us," which gave rise to great merriment. A large number of distinguished spectators was present. All the baggage of the regiment was placed on board on Thursday. The destination of the *Cambria* is Constantinople, merely touching at Malta for coal and water. The total number she conveys is 620 men.

DEPARTURE OF THE SCOTS FUSILIER GUARDS.

Tuesday morning having been finally fixed for the departure of the 1st battalion of the Scots Fusilier Guards (the grand regiment of the service) from the Wellington Barracks, *viâ* the South-Western Railway to Portsmouth, where they were to embark on board the *Simoom*; and the fact being generally known, a vast crowd of persons at a very early hour in the morning assembled in St. James's Park to witness their departure. It was said that the men would appear on parade as early as four o'clock, and leave the barracks at six o'clock, and many thousands had congregated in front of the barracks long before that hour; but it was speedily known that an order had been issued to delay their departure until seven o'clock, that her Majesty and Prince Albert might have the gratification of seeing the battalion pass in full marching order before them, her Majesty having signified her command to that effect. The delay thus occasioned caused a great increase in the crowds of persons, and long before the gates were thrown open, and the troops began to march, there could not have been less than from ten to fifteen thousand persons lining Bird-cage walk, the inclosure of the Park, and the front of Buckingham Palace. The rush as to the real movement of the troops, and the general belief that they would proceed towards the Horse Guards, caused the body of the crowd to assemble in the rear of the east gate of the barracks; the result, of necessity, was to produce the greatest possible confusion and inconvenience to the men; it being with the greatest difficulty that they could force their way through, and to such an extent that at times they were actually wedged in and unable to move in regular order

A more soul-stirring exhibition than that of Tuesday morning has seldom taken place in the metropolis since the last war. The thousands of persons who rose from their beds to welcome and cheer the departure of the battalion were amply gratified, for a finer set of men than the Fusilier Guards could not, perhaps, be seen in any service.

At six o'clock the roll was called for parade, and many stragglers were found absent; but, in a very short time, every man was fully equipped and ready on parade. Colonel Dixon, the colonel of the battalion—the men having formed in line—inspected every company, and expressed his satisfaction at their appearance

Shortly before seven, the word of command was given to fall in, and march in open column; and, precisely as the clock struck seven, the gates were thrown open, and the advanced guard approached, which was the signal for one burst of hearty and vociferous cheering from the vast crowds outside, which was continued until the whole battalion had emerged from the barracks, and had reached the enclosed esplanade of Buckingham Palace. On the entrance of the troops, her Majesty, accompanied by his Royal Highness Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Prince Alfred, and Princess Alice, appeared on the balcony in the centre of the palace, and was received with loud and repeated cheering. As soon as the battalion had entered the inclosure, they formed in line, and presented arms, the band playing "God Save the Queen," amidst loud and continued cheering, H.R.H. Prince Albert and the young Princes being uncovered. Her Majesty repeatedly bowed in acknowledgment. The command to recover bands having ran through the line, the entire battalion, at a signal from Col. Dixon, took off their bear-skin caps and gave three loud and hearty cheers, which her Majesty, evidently delighted with the novelty of the scene, frequently acknowledged. The word of command was then rode up in front and saluted her Majesty, when the order was given to march, the band striking up an enlivening tune. The battalion proceeded through the Mall, past St. James's Palace, to Pall-mall, the Queen and the Prince remaining until the whole had passed.

As the crowd in the streets increased at every point, it was evident that the men could not arrive at the terminus at the hour fixed, and a telegraph message was sent from Buckingham Palace to the station to that effect. All through Pall-mall, Charing-cross, the Strand, to Waterloo bridge, the crowd continued to increase and retard the march of the men, and many were the curious scenes on the [illegible] of women who saw husbands, lovers, and relations leaving them, perhaps, to return no more; and heart-rending and distressing it was in many instances to witness the look of sorrow and woe depicted on their [illegible] worn faces. The crowd, however, cheered on; the men were all full of [illegible] and hope. the band striking up several light and spirited airs.

From Waterloo-bridge to the station, an enormous crowd had assembled. It was here that the most painful part of the scene took place—[illegible] the parting of the women from their husbands. Notwithstanding the exertions that were made by the police, it was impossible to keep off the crowd, and after the first hearty cheering and loud [illegible] admitted in single file. As the men got into the carriages [illegible] continued playing "Cheer, Boys, Cheer;" and on the signal for [illegible] striking up "God save the Queen"—the brave fellows [illegible] was crowded with a large number of friends of officers and others in with the battalion, and the railway officials. The number of men forming the battalion amount in all to 880, and the officers in command who accompanied them are—Colonel Dixon, Lieut.-Colonels [illegible], W. J. Ridley, Hon. C. G. Scott, Fras. Seymour, C. A. Fitzroy Berkeley, J. H. Elphinstone Dalrymple; Captains H. P. Hepburn, W. F. Scarlett, G. T. F. Shoobburgh, J. D. Astley, W. G. [illegible], D. F. B. Buckley; Lieuts. Fras. Baring, Seymour Dawson [illegible], Hon. Blane, Viscount Ennismore, Hon. H. Annesley, &c. [illegible] departure of the trains did not take place, in consequence of the difficulty of the troops passing through the streets, until a quarter to nine o'clock.

EMBARKATION OF THE GUARDS AT PORTSMOUTH.

A large concourse of persons assembled at the South-Western Railway station, at Portsmouth, and along the line of the route thence to the dockyard, to witness the arrival and progress of the Scotch Fusilier Guards. A very large number of officers of both services, ladies, and civilians, were also in the dockyard and the greatest possible interest was excited by the event. The special train conveying the troops was expected to arrive at ten o'clock, and by that hour the bands of the 23rd Scotch Fusiliers, 26th Regiment, 42nd Highlanders, and 79th Highlanders, had arrived at the railway station, to escort them thence to the place of embarkation. Owing to the delay in marching through London, however, the troops did not start at the hour fixed, and, in consequence, the special train was some two hours behind its time when it reached Portsmouth. When it did arrive the Lieut.-Governor, Major-Gen. Simpson, and the officers of the staff and garrison, were in attendance; these officials, together with a number of friends of officers of the Guards, marching through the streets with them. The utmost enthusiasm was exhibited in their favour, the men themselves appearing to be in the highest spirits and efficiency. At the dockyard gates the crowd was exceedingly large, and the entrance of the troops into it was marked by loud and continuous cheering. It was with great difficulty the troops could force their way through the crowd here, the people crowding round them, and, not content with simple cheering, grasping them by the hand, and wishing them God speed in their enterprise.

In the dockyard the men became told off into messes and marched on board the screw steam troop-ship *Simoom*, 18, Captain Smith, which was lying alongside the Dockyard Jetty, having taken the baggage and horses belonging to the battalion on board on Monday afternoon. The *Simoom* is an iron vessel of 3000 tons burden, with engines of 350-horse power, and was built at Glasgow in 1849. She was intended for a steam-frigate, but iron being pronounced unsuitable for a man-of-war, she was devoted to the conveyance of troops to and from the colonies, and has performed that service most successfully.

EMBARKATION OF THE 93RD HIGHLANDERS.

The 93rd Regiment (Sutherland Highlanders) were inspected on the Hoe, Plymouth, by Major-General Sir Harry Smith, commander-in-Chief of the Western District, previous to their embarkation for the East, in the presence of a large concourse of people, who loudly cheered the soldiers. They were afterwards formed into square, and General Sir Harry Smith then addressed them as follows:—

Highlanders—On Monday you will embark for the purpose of meeting the enemies of your country. Soldiers have nothing to do with the cause of quarrels; their duty is fighting. But in this instance you have a most noble cause to fight for. I mean the protection of the weak by the strong. This is the cause that you will fight for, and nobly will you and the rest of the army do your duty. You will be led by Lord Raglan, a man who was on the right hand of the Duke of Wellington, a man who knows how to lead you to glory as well as you knew how to fight to attain it. One thing I desire to impress upon you, and that is to be good comrades to our gallant allies the French. I say "gallant" most truly, for they were once our foes; now you are to fight side by side with them, and I would rather fight along with them than with any other soldiers in the world, because they will never desert you. Your condition, Highlanders, under my command, has been like that of every British regiment, and I never saw a British regiment that would not fight. You will answer for it that you will. There is one thing that I would urge on you. We, soldiers, are well provided for by our country, but the unfortunate inhabitants of the country where wars are carried on are in a state of misery. Let no man's hand be turned against the people of the country, but protect the weak against the strong. Colonel Ainslie, I wish you and these Highlanders every success, as well as the army generally. If I am not with you, my heart is with you, and it beats to that impulse which may be felt now by every British soldier who has to fight in the good cause of the Queen and glorious England.

The soldiers then gave Sir Harry three times three cheers, after which the people vociferously applauded the military as they marched by.

The embarkation of the regiment, which took place on Monday, drew together an immense crowd. The distance from the citadel at Plymouth, to the gates of the Royal William Victualling-yard at Stonehouse, is nearly a mile and a half, and along the entire route thousands of people had assembled some hours previous to the soldiers' arrival for the regiment taking its departure; and as the gallant Highlanders passed, their features must have been cheered by the strongly-marked sympathy evinced by the cheering of the spectators, and the waving of the handkerchiefs of the ladies who gathered at the windows as the troops passed.

Walking by the side of the soldiers, however, were many women, whose tearful eyes and sorrowful countenances betokened that it was a sad day for them, especially those who were about to be—perhaps for ever—from their husbands and sons. The soldiers, however, kept steadily on, preserving the utmost order in the midst of the general excitement, and enlivened by the spirit-stirring music of their own band, as well as of the bands of the 23rd Fusiliers and 20th Regiment. The spectacle presented within the Victualling-yard was striking in the extreme. Many thousands of persons had been admitted, and lined the extensive wharves which surround the Government offices and storehouses. The weather was very fine, and numerous boats and vessels studded the water of the beautiful harbour of Hamoaze. Whilst the soldiers were embarking, the bands played "The girl I left behind me," "Oh! Susanna, don't you cry for me," and some favourite Scotch airs, including, "Auld Lang Syne." "Scots, wha hae," "Wallace bled," &c.; and as the steamers moved off and rounded the point opening into Plymouth Sound, the cheering was continuous and enthusiastic.

The *Himalaya* remained in the Sound until Tuesday morning, when she took her departure.

STAFF OF THE TURKEY EXPEDITION.

The following is a list of the staff of the army proceeding to Turkey, so far as the appointments have been made up:—

General Commanding-in-Chief, General Lord Raglan, G.C.B. Military Secretary, Lieutenant-Colonel Steele, Coldstream Guards. Aides-de-Camp: Major Lord Burghersh, Unattached, Lieutenant-Colonel Somerset, Coldstream Guards; Captain Langworth, Scots Fusilier Guards; Lieutenant Hon. Somerset J. G. Calthorpe, 8th Hussars.

Lieutenant-General Sir George Brown, K.C.B. Aides de Camp, Captain Alex. Macdonnell, Rifle Brigade; Captain E. A. Whitmore, 30th Foot: Lieutenant Pearson, 7th Foot (extra).

Major-General, H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge, K.G. Aides de-Camp, Major the Hon. J. Ashley, Unattached; Captain Gibbon, 7th Dragoon Guards; Lieutenant-Colonel Lord W. Paulet, Unattached, (ex.). Lieutenant-Colonel Tyrwhitt, Scots Fusilier Guards.

Brigadier-General, W. Bentinck, Coldstream Guards; Aide-de-Camp, Lieutenant Hon. H. Byng, Coldstream Guards; Brigade Major, Captain F. C. A. Stephenson, Scots Fusilier Guards.

Brigadier-General, the Earl of Lucan, Unattached; Aide-de-Camp, Captain Shadwell, 19th Foot; Brigade Major, Captain Sterling, Unattached.

Brigadier-General, W. Eyre, C.B., 73rd Foot; Aide-de-Camp, Lieut. L. Graham, 43rd Foot; Brigade-Major, Brevet-Major Hon. A. Hope, 60th Rifles.

Brigadier-General Airey's Staff has not yet been completed.

THE SECOND DIVISION FOR THE EAST.

The following regiments are under orders to prepare for their departure to the Mediterranean as a second instalment of troops for Turkey:—The 1st Foot (Royal Regiment), the 7th Royal Fusiliers, the 19th Foot, the 33rd Royal Wells Fusiliers, the 88th (Connaught Rangers), the 95th Foot. The 5th Hussars and 17th Lancers are likewise under orders. In addition to the above regiments we understand that the 79th Highlanders at Portsmouth have received a letter of readiness. It is also said that the 30th, 41st, 44th, 47th, 49th, and 55th Regiments go from Gibraltar and Malta to Turkey. This will amount to about 10,000 effective men for the second division of the army.

THE SUPPLEMENTAL ARMY ESTIMATES.

A supplemental estimate of the charge which will probably be incurred for the pay, clothing, and incidental expenses of an augmentation of 15,000 of all ranks to the cavalry and medical staff required for foreign service, has been issued. The additional numbers to be voted are 15,000 men of all ranks. The additional charge will be, for the land forces, £500,000; for the staff, £70,000; making the total additional charge to be voted £570,000. Including this augmentation, the numbers and charge for army services, 1854-55, will be 4598 officers, 8988 non-commissioned officers, 114,391 rank and file, making 127,977 men of all ranks; the charge for which will be £6,257,488, being an increase on last year of £1,000,000.

ALLIANCE OF THE FOUR POWERS.

It is positively stated that the treaty of adhesion of Austria and Prussia to the policy of the Western Powers is not only concluded, but actually signed. The sense of the treaty is said to be to this effect:—Austria and Prussia will maintain strict neutrality, but a neutrality to the advantage of the Western Powers; Austria will consent to occupy the provinces that will be pointed out to her, and establish an army of observation on the frontiers against the Russians; but she will avoid coming into immediate collision with them as long as possible.

THE FINAL MESSAGE TO THE CZAR.

The Governments of England and France have resolved to address to the Emperor of Russia a formal summons, calling upon him to give, within six days from the receipt of that communication, a solemn promise and engagement that he will cause his troops to evacuate the Principalities of the Danube on or before the 30th of April. The couriers who are the bearers of this despatch from London and Paris started on their journey on Monday morning. They will pass through Berlin and Vienna, whence, it is understood, that similar demands will be forwarded at the same time by the Cabinets of Prussia and Austria. The refusal on the part of Russia to comply with this just demand, or to return a fitting answer, will be regarded by the Powers as a declaration of war. It is calculated that this communication will reach St. Petersburg in nine or ten days. Very possibly the Emperor Nicholas will not avail himself of the formal term of six days which has been extended to him, as there can be no doubt of the purport of his answer; but, at any rate, in less than three weeks that answer will be known, and the forces of the allied powers, which are, in fact, already on their way to their respective destinations, will, by that time, be in a position to commence immediate hostilities.

CABINET COUNCILS.

One of the first extraordinary circumstances attending a state of war took place on Sunday last. The business matters to have been indeed urgent, and the matter pressing and important, which could have induced the Earl of Aberdeen to summon a Cabinet Council on the Sunday. The Ministers met on that day by appointment at the Earl of Clarendon's, and remained in deliberation for some hours. A Cabinet Council was held also at the Foreign-office, Downing-street, on the afternoon of Saturday. The Ministers present were—The Earl of Aberdeen, Lord John Russell, the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Lord Chancellor, Earl Granville, the Duke of Argyll, Viscount Palmerston, the Earl of Clarendon, the Duke of Newcastle, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir James Graham, Sir Charles Wood, the Right Hon. Sidney Herbert, and Sir William Molesworth. The council sat two hours. Another Cabinet Council was held at the Foreign-office on Wednesday, at three o'clock.

THE BALTIC FLEET.

That portion of the naval forces which is already completely ready for active service will shortly assemble in the Downs, under the command of Admiral Sir Charles Napier, and proceed early in March to the Kattegat, where it will await the opening of the Baltic, which is seldom accessible for maritime operations before the latter part of the month of March, so that the presence of the fleet off the shores of the Russian fleet will coincide in point of time with the period at which the definite answer of the Emperor of Russia to the ultimatum of Europe can be received. The Russian Baltic fleet consists of three divisions of about nine line-of-battle ships each, which are now lying in the three naval ports of Revel, in Esthonia, Helsinfors, in Finland, and Cronstadt—all within the Gulf of Finland. Of these three stations Revel is commonly free from ice ten days or a fortnight before the upper parts of the Gulf, and it is of course important that the divisions of the Russian fleet which are thus separated, should not be able to unite under the guns of Cronstadt. Helsinfors is protected by the fortifications of Sweaborg, built on three islands opposite the mouth of the harbour, and mounting 800 guns, with barracks and casemates for 12,000 men.

A banquet will be given to Sir Charles Napier, before his departure, by the members of the Reform Club. Commodore Michael Seymour, C.B., Superintendent at Devonport, has accepted the post of Captain of the Fleet, under Vice-Admiral Sir Charles Napier.

It is currently rumoured that the fleet about to leave Spithead for the Baltic, will, before its departure, be joined by the French squadron; and that there will be a Royal review of both fleets in the Channel.

The Court leaves London on the 14th inst. for Osborne—a fact which seems to give probability to the above rumour. It is also said that the minutiæ of the great naval arsenal of Portsmouth had a preliminary meeting at the Admiralty on Tuesday, to arrange a plan for giving a grand entertainment to the officers of the French fleet on their arrival.

ADMIRAL CORRY'S SQUADRON.

This force, consisting of her Majesty's ships *Duke of Wellington*, 131; *Prince Regent*, 90; *St. Jean d'Acre*, 101; *Imperieuse*, 51; *Arrogant*, 46; *Tribune*, 30; *Amphion*, 34; *Valorous*, 16; and *Odin*, 16, is now anchored at Spithead. The squadron has come home under easy sail, and been well exercised in gunnery, at night quarters, boarding, &c., on the way, and the crews of the several ships are in first-rate condition. The *Odin* made Spithead first about six o'clock on Wednesday morning, and Captain Scott immediately landed with despatches for the Admiral relative to the departure of the fleet, but, the wind having come home twelve, noon, and was up at Spithead by half-past one. The squadron now there comprises:—

St. Jean d'Acre (screw), 101 guns.		Amphion (screw), 34	
Princess Royal (screw), 91.		Tribune (screw), 30.	
Prince Regent, 90.		Valorous (paddle), 16.	
Hogue (screw), 60.	Hibernia (screw), 70.	Magicienne (paddle), 16.	
Edinburgh (screw), 58.		Odin (screw), 16.	
Imperieuse (screw), 50.		Frolic, 16.	
Arrogant (screw), 47.		Dragon (paddle), 6.	
		Vulcan (paddle), 6.	

These are not one-half of the number intended to form the fleet for operations in the North Sea; and by the middle of next week Spithead will contain, it is expected, upwards of fifty sail of pennants. These, if joined by the new fleet of thirty-nine sail just commissioned by the Emperor of France, will make a floating armament such as the world never before beheld.

FRENCH PREPARATIONS FOR WAR.

The *Moniteur* of Sunday publishes an Imperial decree, prohibiting the exportation of every description of arms and warlike stores, such as lead, sulphur, gunpowder, saltpetre, cannons, fulminating caps, gun stocks, military clothing, camp equipage and harness, horses, sailing and steam vessels, machinery for navigation, rigging, and all naval and military articles of war or manufactured.

A report from the Minister of Marine to the Emperor follows, apprising him that his commands—to prepare a third squadron, to be composed of ten ships of the line, fourteen frigates, and fifteen sailing or steam corvettes—have been executed. The Minister recommends that Vice-Admiral Parseval-Deschênes shall be appointed Commander-in-Chief, with Rear-Admiral Penaud second in command. Of the fifteen frigates, five are steamers of 450-horse power each. The fifteen corvettes are all steamers. The report is approved by Napoleon.

In a few days France will have three grand fleets at sea—the Black Sea fleet, under the command of Admiral Hamelin; the Brest fleet, which has recently gone round from that port to Toulon and the other Mediterranean ports, for the purpose of embarking the expeditionary army, and conveying it to its destination; and the squadron off Constantinople; and, lastly, the fleet now announced under the command of Admiral Parseval-Deschênes, of which the destination is not yet published, but which will probably be sent into the Baltic.

Another Imperial decree, in the *Moniteur*, approves a report of the Minister of War, recommending that the care and repairs of the arms belonging to the various corps in the army shall be henceforth confided to the chief armourers of the artillery. The number of those armourers is to be equal to that of the various corps of the army. They are to be divided into two classes. The chief armourers of the 2nd class are to be chosen amongst the operatives inscribed on the books of the Imperial manufactories of fire-arms, and amongst the operatives in the army who are most competent. The chief armourers of the first class are to be chosen from the second class one-half by seniority and one half by choice. No operative can be chosen chief armourer whose previous services will not entitle him at the age of fifty years to a retiring pension. The chief armourers of the first and second class are to be subordinate to the adjutants, and to take rank after them. The chief armourers are to receive their commissions from the Minister of War. The chief armourers of the first class have a right to similar rewards to the adjutants, and those of the second class to the rewards granted to sergeant-majors. The chief armourers of both classes compete in the corps to which they are attached for the decoration of the m litary medal. The military master-armourers now existing are to be suppressed.

THE FRENCH EXPEDITIONARY ARMY.

It is said that Marshal de St Arnaud is to be the Commander-in-Chief of the French expeditionary army to Turkey; and that the army is to consist of four divisions, commanded by Generals Canrobert, Bosquet, Forey, and Prince Napoleon. Prince Napoleon is to command the reserve. Colonel Bertin Duchâteau is to command the Zouaves and the infantry of the marine. A division of cavalry is to be commanded by General Morris. The division of the reserve, under the command of Prince Napoleon, will, it is said, remain

Russian General would come in person to the right or northern bank of the Oxus (in the neighbourhood of Chargorse, we presume), and await an interview with the Dost. Dost Mahomed's reply was, that he consented to the proposed negotiations; but that he would not cross the Oxus to meet his old enemy the King of Bokhara, unless the Russian General would, in the first place, cross to the Afghan side of the river, bringing with him, as temporary hostages, the son and Prime Minister of the King of Bokhara. On these terms he would not only treat with the King of Bokhara, but would forgive all his past offences, holding that the importance of the quadruple alliance should throw all private quarrels into the shade. On these terms, then, a treaty of alliance between Russia, Khiva, Bokhara, and Cabul was on the point of settlement. A marked alteration had taken place in Dost Mahomed's demeanour since the completion of these arrangements. He seems to have become unusually cheerful on the strength of the promised alliance. The intrigues of Russia in Central Asia can no longer be despised; this is daily becoming more and more evident; but what is not so evident, is the course we are to pursue under these embarrassing circumstances. Must we at once occupy Afghanistan to secure the safety of India? or would it be wiser merely to augment our military strength on the line of the Indus?—are questions on which public opinion is divided, and which the progress of events alone can solve.

A native gentleman of this town (says the *Bombay Courier*), whose word we have no reason whatever to doubt—but, on the contrary, have reason for believing—tells us that he saw, some three days ago, a letter from a Sowcar at Shikarpore to a correspondent in Bombay; and that the writer mentioned, as a piece of news, having heard from a Hindoo who had lately arrived from Candahar, that there were in the latter town three European Sahibs, who had not come from Hindostan, but from "Roose" (Russia). They belonged to a country which was at enmity with the English Sircar; and the Candahar people said that, when the cold days were ended, an army from Persia, united with an army from the country whence came these strangers, would be in their town, and onits way to the Bolan Pass and Scinde. These "Rooses," said the letter, were very rich men, and had brought a quantity of fine merchandise to Candahar. They had constant interviews with the principal men of the town, and were purchasing great quantities of grain. We have "told the tale as 'twas told to us." But as the old proverb of there "never being smoke without some fire," is generally true, we think that even the very existence of these reports shows clearly that Russian intrigues and influences are at work above the Passes, and in a much greater degree than the majority of people imagine. Not but what we believe British India is fully prepared for anything which Russia, Affghanistan, Bokhara, and Persia—all united—would effect against us. The largest army which could come out on the plains either below the Khyber or the Bolan, would hold together but long enough for our troops to defeat them most completely; and although their native allies might escape, not a Russian soldier who ever entered the plains of India, would escape, not a Russian soldier who ever entered the plains of India, would return alive again. Still, moves on the political chess board, like the two which the Czar seems inclined to make in these parts, should be watched, and intrigue met by counter-intrigue.

The intelligence from Persia, received by the Overland Mail, is no less threatening. The *Sheilan* of the 18th January states that an immense army was concentrated at Teheran, ready to march at a moment's notice: and that the British agent and the Turkish Ambassador had been compelled to lower the flags of their respective nations, and take their departure from Teheran. It was supposed by some that the army would march on Herat, where a junction could be formed with the Russian army, and that the whole would then march on Candahar and Cabool, and take up a position. Bagdad and Busserah were both threatened, and a force of 10,000 men had been thrown into the latter place for its defence. The port of Bushire was in a state of great excitement. Captain Kemball, the political agent, had been obliged to leave the town, and take refuge on board one of the ships in the harbour. The island of Karrack was occupied by Persian troops, who were fortifying it. On the other hand, private letters from Teheran, of the 12th January, state that the Governor of Kandahar and the ruler of Cabool were coming to hard blows. Sultan Ali Khan, charged with a special mission from Kohendil Khan of Kandahar, had arrived in the capital of Persia, and had demanded the armed intervention of the Shah to oppose the aggressions of Sheer Ali Khan, the son of Dost Mahomed Khan, who was marching at the head of 9000 horsemen into Kandahar. The Government of Persia had named a certain Abdullah Sistany Khan as Plenipotentiary to proceed to Kandahar, to offer the Shah's mediation to the belligerent parties.

THE FLEETS IN THE BLACK SEA.

Letters from Varna, of the 9th ult., state that two French steamers, the *Gomer* and *Sané*, and two English ones the *Samson* and the *Firebrand*, had passed a day there during the last few days in the Black Sea. Rear-Admiral Le Barbier de Tinan and his staff were received at Varna with extraordinary enthusiasm. The Pacha sent his carriages to meet them at the landing-place, and an escort of honour awaited them at the port. M. Tedeschi, the French consular agent, gave a fête on the occasion.

On the 8th ult., the *Magellan* and the *Furious* steamers arrived at Varna, escorting eight Turkish vessels laden with arms and ammunition. Next morning the two captains visited the civil and military authorities; after which the two vessels saluted the citadel with twenty-one guns, to which the citadel replied with forty-two guns, with great precision, from the only four guns there mounted. The greatest activity prevailed in the port in discharging the Turkish vessels.

General Sir John Burgoyne and Colonel Ardant had left Constantinople on the 10th ult., with M. Jourjon, Lieutenant-Colonel of engineers, attached to the French embassy, to visit the forts of the Dardanelles. It appears that it is intended to fortify the Dardanelles, so as to preserve them from an attack by land, in case the Russians should succeed in passing the Balkans. The Minister of War has already proposed to several of the principal merchants of Constantinople to contract for the supply of the necessary cannon, gunpowder, and balls; but as he requires a year's credit, the affair has not yet been concluded. Immediately after the Porte received the negative reply of the Emperor of Russia to the propositions of the conference of Vienna, Reshid Pacha had interviews with the Ambassadors of France and England, and the day after an extraordinary council was held, at which it was resolved that the Porte should adopt the opinion of the conference of Vienna on the rejection of the propositions, and that it would not on any account accept the new propositions made by Russia.

By the telegraph we learn from Marseilles that a third convoy of 16,000 men was preparing on the 15th ult. to leave Constantinople for Batoum. Another despatch from Constantinople, 18th ult., states that the whole fleet, except two ships sent to the Piræus, is in the Bosphorus.

SKIRMISHES ON THE DANUBE.

One account from Bucharest of the 13th ult., states that the Turkish troops stationed at Turtukai made attempts, on the 11th and 12th, to force a passage, so as to take up a passage near Oltenitza; that they were prevented from landing on the first day by the Russian batteries; that on the second day they forced the passage, by landing on a peninsula, but were forced to retire after a brief combat. A letter from Bucharest of the 16th speaks of the Adjutant-General Schilder having gone to Oltenitza, in order to superintend there, as he had previously done at Giurgevo, the mounting of heavy ordnance against Turtukai. The island required for this new proceeding had first to be taken; which had, of course, given rise to a series of fights between the Russians and Turks upon the island itself, and up to the 14th of February the Russians had not been able to vanquish the desperate resistance of their antagonists. A subsequent report states that, on the 18th ult., the Russians had made themselves masters of Oltenitza.

INSURRECTION AT SARAGOSSA.

An insurrectionary movement took place at Saragossa, on the 20th ult. A brigadier named Hore, much attached to General Concha had been ordered to proceed with the first battalion of his regiment to Pamplona. He refused to do so, imprisoned those officers who would not join in the revolt, and called on the civilians to join him. Captain-General Rivero marched against the insurgents at the head of three regiments, and several pieces of artillery. A desperate fight took place, in which Brigadier Hore was killed. The insurgents, who occupied the Fort of Algaferia, surrendered at discretion next morning.

INDIA AND CHINA.

The steamer *Bombay* arrived at Trieste from Alexandria, on Saturday last with advices from Bombay to Jan. 28; Calcutta, Jan. 20; Hongkong, Jan. 11; and Shanghai, Dec. 31. The most important political news from India was the rumour relating to Russian movements, which we have given elsewhere. No further news had been received from the Persian Gulf.

From China we learn that the patriots had secured Teentsin, the seaport of Pekin; and that the Emperor had ordered the Governors to send the imperial revenue to Mantchoorin, 80 miles north-east of the wall. Canton remained without disturbance.

THE Master-Generalship of the Ordnance will not be filled up during Lord Raglan's absence, but be held in commission until his Lordship's return from the East.

CHINA.

ITS PRESENT CONDITION AND PROSPECTS.

ABSORBED as the public mind is by the war in the East, yet the events hastening onward in China—to which remote portion of the globe, indeed, the momentous influence of the Russian contest reaches—are opening up a future not less important to the human race than even the imminent conflict on the Danube. Having received some interesting intelligence from a long experienced, and, we have reason to believe, a very authentic source, we place it before our readers, though it belongs to another branch of contemporaneous history, differing from that with which we are so vividly occupied.

The vestiges of the Christian religion in China, whether derived from the Syrian Nestorians above a thousand years ago, or from Xavier and his successor Ricci, three centuries since—and both extinguished, if not extirpated, by cruel persecutions—are perceptible in the doctrines and mysteries of all the secret societies which have sprung out of these circumstances. But, in all, they are blurred by horrid superstitions and perversions; the best of them leaning to the golden rules of Freemasonry and Rationalism. But, again, they are each distinct, and are, in fact, now in action as great separate conspiracies, directed to a common object, viz., the overthrow of the Tartar dynasty and re-establishment of Chinese rule, but as inimical to each other as sectarians with partial differences of opinion, or trivial disputes about rites and ceremonies, generally are. According to this view it will appear that in Europe we have hitherto formed an erroneous estimate of the business in hand throughout the principal provinces of the Empire, and of the consequences likely to result from it. We have been led to speak of "the insurrection" as a unity, subserving to one end. But this is the very opposite of the case. There are already three independent bodies of successful rebels in the field, vehemently hating each other, operating in different directions for their own ambitious objects, besides the anarchists, who are for plunder; and it is certain that ere long other powerful communities will throw themselves into the arena. Pekin is, probably, by this date, or will soon be, in the hands of the victorious Elder Brother, Tae Ping, which is assumed as a title of reverence equal to that of Emperor, and thus preferring a claim to the whole vast Empire. But, while he has been marching northwards from Nankin, revolutions have taken place at Amoy and Shanghai; the leaders of which, if conquerors, will not be contented with rank inferior to Whang-Te, or equal sovereigns. It is also understood and believed at Canton that the fall of Pekin will be the signal for a rising of that rich and populous section of the country; and that there, too, an independent Government will be established. Thus we may perceive the types of coming dynasties, instead of a reconstructed united empire. And China is vast and populous enough to cut up into several powerful states or kingdoms—the obvious issue of the existing state of things. The Pekin Lords are not likely to yield their predominancy. The Amoy force, consisting of the Fo-Kien natives, the bravest soldiers in China, will, if possible, hold their grip of what they can subdue. The Shanghai revolt is also strong, and advantageously situated, and if Canton asserts its right to a share in the spoil, we know not who could say it nay. Wars might probably ensue among these, and other up-springing, rival factions; but the whole must tend to an extraordinary change in the relations of mankind. The character and genius of the entire Chinese people are pre-eminently industrious and commercial. Nothing now—war or peace, anarchy or quiet, destruction or construction—can retard their progress, for any length of time, to form a prominent part of the great human family. At home and abroad their entrance into that family—bringing after them Japan, and other hitherto exclusive nations—must produce incalculable, inconceivable consequences; and all this is on the crisis at this very moment. The Ee, or Manes (Barbarians), or even the mercantile Ying-le-Gin (men of the English nation), may not think of it, whilst the Czar, and Omer Pacha, and the departure of expeditions, are daily on the *tapis*; but so early as ten years hence it will be seen that there were movements on the face of the earth in the years 1853-4 (and it may be, 5), in comparison with which, the war to which we have been so infamously provoked was a trifling concern.

What we wish, from our information, to impress upon the public is, the expectation of the breaking up of the Chinese empire into several governments, probably antagonistic; and the expediency of taking measures accordingly, both for the wisest adjustment of political relations and the most advantageous pursuit of commercial intercourse. Distracted as the country is now, there are many opportunities offered for the acquisition of desirable knowledge; and it is to be hoped that even the immediate pressure of other important national affairs will not prevent us from pursuing a systematic course to attain this most important end.

A HURRICANE AT GIBRALTAR.—A dreadful hurricane at Gibraltar on the 15th ult. is said to have caused great damage to the town and to the shipping in the roads. Part of the roof of the Commissary-General's quarters was blown in. The Presbyterian church and a great number of houses were materially injured. A keeper and two convicts were washed from the breakwater, and other lives were lost. Several vessels and small craft drifted ashore in Gibraltar Bay and Algeciras Roads.

APPREHENDED RETURN OF CHOLERA.—A deputation, consisting of Lords Harrowby, Ebrington, and Goderich, Mr. T. S. Cocks, M.P., Mr. Granville Harcourt, M.P., Sir J. Clark, Admiral Smyth, Mr. R. Cocks, Mr. Helps, and many other influential persons, waited on Lord Palmerston on Monday, to inquire what measures the Government were about to adopt with respect to the apprehended return of cholera. Lord Harrowby having explained the object of the deputation, and stated what he considered desirable to be done, Lord Palmerston said Sir William Molesworth, as President of the Board of Health, intended to bring in an amended act to enlarge the powers which the present law gave to the board. For himself, he should feel greatly obliged if any member of the deputation would furnish him, in writing, with the heads of the improvements which any measure of the sort ought to contain, and that he would be happy to communicate with Sir W. Molesworth on the subject. Lord Ebrington stated the difficulty experienced by the Board of Health in consequence of the little power they possessed in carrying out the provisions of the Public Health Act; he had resigned in consequence of that want of power. Mr. Helps having made some observation, Lord Palmerston again invited the deputation to make any suggestion they considered important. Mr. Ward went at some length into the proposed remedies for the present evils of defective drainage and supply of water; and, after discussion on the points submitted, Lord Palmerston again expressed his willingness to receive any communication in writing from the deputation. Mr. Ward, Mr. Simon, and Mr. Bulmer have been appointed to draw up a draft report.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

SIR JOHN GERARD, BART., OF BRYN.

THE death of this Baronet occurred on the 21st ult. Sir John Gerard was born Dec. 8, 1804; and, on the 2nd August, 1826, at the decease of his uncle Sir William, the 11th Baronet, succeeded to the family title, which was conferred on his ancestor Sir Thomas Gerard, of Bryn, on the first day of the institution of the order of Baronets, May 22, 1611. The Gerards of Bryn are one of the oldest houses in Lancashire, and possess considerable estates in that county. The gentleman whose decease we are recording, was son of the late John Gerard Esq., of Windle Hall, Lancashire, by Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Edward Ferrers, Esq., of Baddesley Clinton, county Warwick; and grandson of Sir Robert Cansfield Gerard, 9th Baronet, by Catherine his wife, daughter of William Anderton, Esq., of Euxton. He married Dec. 3, 1827, Monica, daughter of Thomas Strickland Standish, Esq., of Standish and Sizergh, but had no issue. The title devolves accordingly on his next surviving brother, now Sir Robert Gerard, 13th Baronet, who is married to Harriet, daughter of Edward Clifton, Esq.

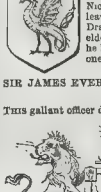
CHRISTOPHER DRAKE, ESQ., OF RORISTON, CO. MEATH.

THIS much-esteemed gentleman—the representative of one of the oldest families in Meath, the Drakes, of Drakerath—died on the 22nd ult., at his seat, Roriston, near Trim, aged sixty-three. He was the last surviving son of the late Columbus Drake, Esq., of Roriston, by Anne, his wife, only daughter of Christopher Barnewall, Esq., of Fyanstown Castle, co. Meath; and grandson of Patrick Drake, Esq., of Drakerath, by Frances, his wife, third daughter of James O'Reilly, Esq., of Roriston.

Mr. Drake married, first, Mary Anne, daughter of Nicholas Tandy, Esq., of Ballyboy, by whom he leaves one surviving son, the present Columbus P. Drake, Esq., of Roriston, J.P.; and, secondly, Mary, eldest daughter of Alexander Somers, Esq., by whom he had several children, of whom survive two sons and one daughter.

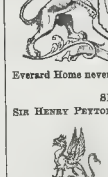
SIR JAMES EVERARD HOME, BART., C.B., OF WELL MANOR FARM, HANTS.

THIS gallant officer died recently, on service, aged 65. He was the elder son of the late Sir Everard Home, Sergeant Surgeon to George III., on whom a baronetcy was conferred Jan. 2, 1813. At an early age he entered the Royal navy, and eventually, in 1837, attained the rank of Captain. For his distinguished services in the Chinese War he was nominated a Companion of the Bath in 1842. As Sir James Everard Home never married, the Baronetcy becomes extinct.



SIR HENRY PEYTON, BART.

SIR HENRY PEYTON, second Baronet of Doddington, in the county of Cambridge, was the elder son of Sir Henry Peyton (formerly Dashwood), the first Baronet, by his wife, Frances, eldest daughter of Sir John Rous, Bart. He was born the 1st July, 1778; succeeded his father in the Baronetcy in May, 1789; and married, in 1803, Harriet, relict of James Bradshaw, Esq., and daughter of Thomas Fitzhugh, Esq., by whom he leaves an only son, the present Baronet. Sir Henry Peyton, who was elected M.P. for Cambridge in 1802 died on the 24th ultimo, at Swift's House, near Bicester, Oxfordshire.



This family of Peyton, in the male line, is a branch of the Oxford-shire family of Dashwood: the first Baronet, the father of the subject of this notice, assumed the name and arms of Peyton, on inheriting, by devise, the estates of his maternal uncle, Sir Thomas Peyton, of Doddington, a Baronet of an earlier creation.

THE ABBÉ LAMENNAIS.

M. DE LAMENNAIS was originally a priest in holy orders of the Church of Rome, and a bold and energetic supporter of its doctrines; so much so, indeed, that, at one time, he was thought likely to advance very high in the Church, and even to obtain a Cardinal's hat. Suddenly he altered the tone of his writings and the tenor of his conduct: he became the advocate of extreme Liberal opinions in politics and religion. He seceded from Rome, but joined no sect, having adopted and promulgated a kind of theological code of his own. His "Paroles d'un Croyant" made a great sensation. Its author subsequently acquired and sustained the character of a demagogue, both latitudinarian and fanatic. After the revolution of February, 1848, M. de Lamennais was successively member of the Constituent and of the Legislative Assembly, being elected each time for the department of the Seine. He was also nominated in the first of these assemblies to the committee appointed to draw up the Constitution of 1848; but he refused to take any part in the labours of that body. He almost merited the title of "silent member," as he never spoke but once during the whole of the time he was a representative of the people, and that was to earnestly en reat the House to let him be included in the prosecution instituted against the responsible editor of the journal, the *Peuple Constituant*, of which he was the chief editor, on the occasion of the re-establishment of the caution-money on journals. On the same occasion he spoke strongly against the dictatorship of General Cavaignac, and against any fresh regulations whatever on the press. Latterly M. Lamennais's infidelity became more marked. In his last illness, every attempt made to induce him to conform to the rites of religion proved ineffectual: he refused positively to the end to receive the ministers of any religious persuasion. A final but vain endeavour was made just before his demise, by one of his nieces, who was sent for expressly for the purpose from Brittany.

M de Lamennais expired on the 23rd ult., at his residence in the Rue du Grand Chantier, aged seventy. According to his will, his body is not to be carried into any place of religious worship, but is to be taken directly from the house in which he died to the burial-place of Père la Chaise. It is said that M. de Lamennais, in his will, disinherits all his relations who took any part in suppressing the insurrection of June, 1848. Although M. de Lamennais was so perverse in his religious opinions as to actually say he regretted revelation, he leaves a father in Brittany, who is the head of a Christian community, resembling that of the *Frères Cheridens*.

A portrait of M. Lamennais appeared in No. 316 of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

WILLS AND CHARITABLE BEQUESTS.

THE will of Sir Richard Godin Simeon, Bart., of Swainston, Isle of Wight, has been proved under £35,000, and probate granted to his son, Sir John Simeon, Bart., the surviving executor. The estate of the late Thomas Dowbiggin, Esq., of Abercrombie Lodge, St. John's wood, has been valued at £100,000 personalty.

By the will of James Ewing, Esq., merchant, of Lavenside, Glasgow, the charitable bequests to public institutions in Scotland amount to a sum exceeding £50,000. To the Royal Infirmary, Glasgow, £10,000; Lunatic Asylum, £2000; Deaf and Dumb, £1000; Blind, £1,000; Eye Infirmary, £200; Lying in Hospital, £300; Old Men's Society, £200; Old Women's Society, £200; House of Refuge, £2000, Night Asylum, £200; Trades House, at Glasgow, £500; the Bible Society, £500, and Society for the Relief of Destitute Sick, £500; Glasgow City Missions, £500, and Missions to Seamen, £500; Free Church College, Glasgow, £5000; Free Church College, Edinburgh, £2000; and £100 per annum to the Sustentation Fund of the Free Church of Scotland, and many other charitable bequests to the Church, and annuities and legacies to the widows of merchants and others.

PREPARATIONS FOR WAR.

THE RIFLE BRIGADE EMBARKING IN "THE VULCAN" WAR STEAMER, AT PORTSMOUTH.

EMBARKATION OF TROOPS.

WE continue our Illustrations of the stirring scenes presented at our ports by the embarkation of troops for the seat of war in the East.

THE RIFLES, AT PORTSMOUTH.

On Thursday morning (last week) the 2nd battalion of the Rifle Brigade were inspected in the garrison at Portsmouth, by Major-General Simpson, in the Governor's field, prior to their embarkation. The gallant General addressed the men, briefly telling them they were going out to defend the interests of their Sovereign and country, and succour the oppressed; and he hoped they would not flinch in the performance of their duty, or allow the honour and renown of their corps to suffer any diminution. On the same afternoon the baggage of the battalion was placed on board the *Vulcan* screw troop-ship, Commander Yon Donop, lying alongside the dockyard. On Friday the battalion mustered early in the barrack-yard, prior to departure. Every preparation had been previously made; and there was little to be done but the marching of the men to the dockyard. The battalion consisted of 850 men, exclusive of 30 non-commissioned officers, and 20 officers. Two companies then marched to the railway station, for conveyance to Southampton; and shortly before nine o'clock the remaining companies left their barracks for the dockyard, being accompanied by their own band, and the bands of other regiments in garrison. A large number of persons had assembled, and gave the troops hearty cheers. Every arrangement being completed, they marched on board the *Vulcan*, which was lying alongside the dockyard jetty. Everything was done in the most orderly and quiet manner and by eleven o'clock the whole of the corps were on board. The *Vulcan* got up steam early on Saturday morning, and went out of harbour at eight o'clock. She anchored at Spithead, being a war-steamer, to take powder and shell on board; and, at half-past twelve, again got under way, and proceeded to her destination with a fair wind down Channel.

A circumstance of a romantic character occurred on the corps embarking. The wife of a private being prevented going out by the regulations of the service, she dressed herself in Rifle costume, and, gun in hand, actually marched into the Dockyard. She was, however, detected on getting on board; but we hear that permission to go out with her husband was granted to her.

A number of distinguished individuals came down to Portsmouth to witness the embarkation, among whom were the following who had relatives on board:—The Duchess of Sutherland, the Marquis and Marchioness of Stafford, Marquess and Marchioness of Kildare, Earl and Countess of Grosvenor, Rear-Admiral Lord Adolphus Fitzclarence, Lord Leveson Gower, &c.

THE GUARDS AT SOUTHAMPTON.

On Wednesday morning (last week) a portion of the troops reached Southampton, by railway from London. Upon the arrival of the train which consisted of about twenty carriages and 500 men, a portion of the battalion of the Coldstream Guards alighted. They were under the command of Colonel Eyre and Colonel Codrington—the Brigadier-General of the two regiment (Colonel Beatinck) not having arrived

THE GRENADIER GUARDS EMBARKING IN "THE RIPON" STEAMER AT SOUTHAMPTON.

PARLIAMENTARY PORTRAITS.

MR. SAMUEL LAING, M.P. FOR WICK BURGHS.

The "railway members" have so increased of late years in numbers and importance as to form a distinct class or section of the House of Commons, with a considerable and advancing influence. Among these Mr Laing, the subject of this memoir, holds a distinguished position, as well from the prestige attending his name among those more immediately acquainted with his services in connection with railways, as from his past official standing and frequent manifestations of Parliamentary ability.

Mr. Laing is the son of Samuel Laing, Esq., of Pardale, in the county of Orkney, the author of "Travels in Norway" and "Notes of a Traveller;" and he is nephew of Malcolm Laing, the author of the "History of Scotland." After having undergone the usual scholastic preparations, he entered at St. John's College, Cambridge, in 1819 where he took his degree in 1823, being second wrangler and second Smith's prizeman. He was subsequently elected a Fellow of St. John's College, and he resided for some years in the University as a mathematical tutor. He was designed for the profession of an advocate; and, with this view, he entered at Lincoln's Inn, and studied for the Bar, to which he was called in 1840. One of those accidents, however, which so often influence the lives and determine the destinies of men, effected a change in his career. He accepted the post of private secretary to Mr. Labouchere, who was at that time President of the Board of Trade, and out of this connection grew his subsequent almost exclusive connection with railways. So much was this the case, that when the Railway Department of the Board of Trade was formed Mr. Laing was appointed secretary; and from that time he took an active part in all questions connected with railway legislation under successive Presidents of the Board of Trade—under Mr. Labouchere, the Earl of Ripon, Mr. Gladstone, and the Earl of Dalhousie. Some of the fruits of the experience he had thus acquired, he embodied in a "Report on British and Foreign Railways," which he published in 1844, and in the same year he gave evidence before a Committee of the House of Commons on the general subject of railways. It is honourable to Mr. Laing that to his suggestions and

MR. SAMUEL LAING, M.P. FOR WICK BURGHS.—FROM A DAGUERRÉOTYPE BY BEARD.

evidence was mainly due the establishment of the Parliamentary trains, which for the first time secured to the poorer classes a comparatively comfortable conveyance at a minimum rate of payment.

In 1845 Mr. Laing was nominated a member of the Railway Commission, presided over by Lord Dalhousie; and it is understood that he had a chief share in preparing the reports of the Commission on the railway schemes of that period of excessive speculation. Those reports were discountenanced at the time; but subsequent experience has proved that, had most of their recommendations been adopted, the country would have been spared much of the mischief that ensued from the over speculation of the year 1845, and the subsequent collapse. Nor is this all. A more judicious and systematic scheme of railway legislation would have saved a waste of capital, which Mr. Laing, in his evidence before Mr. Cardwell's committee of last year, estimated at little less than £70,000,000 sterling.

SCENE FROM "KING RICHARD THE THIRD," AT THE PRINCESS' THEATRE.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

Parliament, however, rejected the reports of Lord Dalhousie's Commission, which was consequently dissolved. Mr. Laing then resigned his post at the Board of Trade, and once more turned to the Bar as a profession. As a Parliamentary counsel he at once obtained considerable practice. But the prominency of his services in connection with railways, led to fresh relations with them. In the year 1848 he accepted the post of Chairman and Managing Director of the Brighton Railway Company, and since that date he has mainly devoted his attention to the management of that concern. By judicious arrangements he has so developed the traffic as to have materially improved the value of this line as a property. It is worth 40 per cent more than when Mr. Laing commenced his labours; and the dividend has advanced from 3¾ to 5 per cent per annum. Owing to the facilities afforded, the number of passengers has in five years increased from two millions to four and a half millions.

This success, and his general position, warranted Mr. Laing in thinking of entering Parliament. A requisition having been sent from Kirkwall, his native borough, Mr. Laing became a candidate for the representation; and, after a severe contest with Mr. Lock, who was supported by the Duke of Sutherland's interest, he succeeded in beating his opponent by a large majority. Mr. Laing now resigned the managing directorship of the Brighton Railway Company; but he is still Chairman of the company. His railway operations have not been confined to England, but have extended to the Continent and our colonies. He was mainly instrumental in forming the Great Western Railway of Canada. He is also a Director of the Submarine Telegraph Company, and of the Grand Central and Grand Junction Railway Companies in France, and of the Antwerp and Rotterdam, and the Sumhart Railways in Holland and Belgium. His name has been still more recently before the public as the Chairman and chief promoter of the Crystal Palace Company.

In politics, Mr Laing is a Liberal, but he seldom displays any strong bias for party. He is, however, a steady supporter of the present Government, more especially of Mr. Gladstone's financial measures. It is mainly to Mr. Laing's exertions that the public are indebted for the total repeal of the Advertisement-duty. As a speaker, Mr. Laing is logical, lucid, and fluent, and he possesses the art of rendering even dry financial subjects interesting by his mode of treatment. He has also displayed considerable general Parliamentary ability.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.

Mr. Palgrave Simpson's amusing comedy of "Ranelagh" proves to be entirely successful; and certain abridgments which have been made in the earlier scenes are calculated to ensure a continuance of its well-deserved prosperity. This week we present an illustration of the concluding situation of the first act. *Sir Robert Bovely*, tired of his concession to his amiable wife, and having received, through *Dr Caddielove*, those mysterious intimations from his *Florentina*, of the import of which the worthy physician is innocently unconscious—now totally indisposed to remain any longer at home—makes up his mind to a desperate determination, and, after a brief apology, hastens from the evening party in his wife's apartment. While the lady faints *Lord Pryington* exults—he is on the eve

SCENE FROM THE NEW COMEDY OF "RANELAGH," AT THE HAYMARKET THEATRE.

of his grand discovery—and, as the husband departs, turns round in his chair to pursue his victim with his taunting adieus.

The scene comprises Portraits of Miss Reynolds and Mrs Fitzwilliam, Mr. Bunkstone, Mr. George Vandenhoff, and Mr. W. Farren. The tableau has much novelty, and also much nature, as well as stage effect.

PRINCESS' THEATRE.

We this week engrave an illustration of the manner in which Mr. C. Kean has produced "Richard III.," presenting an excellent Portrait of the Actor in the part, when in the act of tempting Buckingham to the murder of the children in the Tower. The text has been somewhat here enlarged by Cibber, for the sake of affording the performer a wider scope for gesture, but most unnecessarily, if not injuriously. These exaggerations go far to damage the harmony of effect, and increase the differences between the Shakspeare and the Cibber portrait. The latter is an insane "butcher of silk buttons;" the former is an intellectual fiend. *Richard*, in the phase of his character intended by Shakspeare to be represented in this play, has passed beyond the necessity of being the homicide in his own person. He has the power to command others, and may rightfully, because Royalty holds the keys of death and life.

DRURY-LANE.

Under the title of "The Vendetta," an extended version, in eight tableaux, of Dumas's work, has been placed on this stage, but not with much hope of success

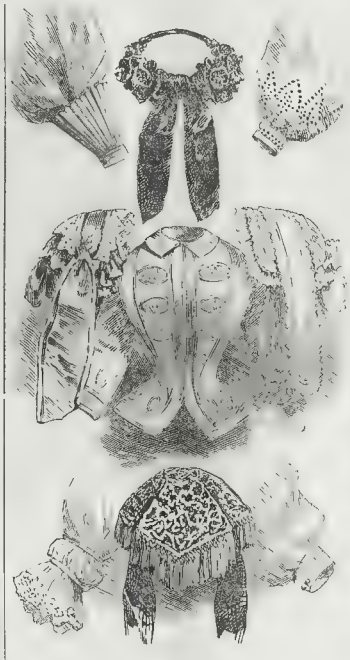
The twin Corsican Brothers were performed by Mr. Brooke, and the *Chateau Renaud* was ably supported by Mr. Mead; but the audience were dissatisfied, and disapprobation was indeed frequently expressed. Some expense has been incurred in the production, which, however successful in America, is of too heavy a calibre for English tastes.

PARIS FASHIONS FOR MARCH.

The present all-absorbing topic of dress is such articles as constitute the Costume for the Ball-room—as head dresses of flowers of gold diamonds, &c., doubtless suggested by the balls at the Tuileries and the Palais Royal, and these given by the high official dignitaries. Hence, visiting dress is comparatively little thought of, but fine weather will soon set our *modistes* thinking of Longchamps. However, we must not anticipate; but shall proceed to describe the Ball Costume most worn.

The dresses are mostly composed of taffetas, which assort well with the different kinds of ornamental trimmings which are put upon it; it forms the ground, slightly coloured, upon which are displayed rich patterns of lace, and gold and silver arabesques of volants of muslin or silk gauze. At the last ball at the Tuileries the Empress wore a dress of light blue colour, the trimmings of which were ornamented with pale pink flowers; moss-roses were distributed upon puffings (bouillons) of tulle reaching half way up the petticoat, and in the middle of each flower was a large diamond. The head-dress matched the skirt; between the bands were rows of diamonds, which were joined on at the back with bunches of roses. We should mention the novelty of ornamenting the upper part of the bodies of dresses with wreaths of flowers, and placing them round the sleeves, to match those of the petticoat. Bouquets of flowers are no longer worn upon the middle of the front of the body of the dress; neither are bouquets any longer carried in the hand. We regret the abandonment of the latter fashion; flowers and odoriferous flowers being preferable to smelling-bottles filled with essences extracted from flowers, and more or less adulterated—the

PARIS FASHIONS FOR MARCH.



PARIS FASHIONS FOR MARCH.

bouquets having the additional advantage of charming the eye with their beautiful colours.

Velvet has been replaced by handsome new materials, particularly watered silk of the old style. Taffetas, muslins embroidered in gold and silver, and in colours, and laces, are more especially suited for young ladies. Young unmarried ladies wear white gauzes and tulles, or pink, blue, and plain, made with three volants, or two forming a tunic; with which are worn in the hair and on the arms large Venetian pearls. The hair is worn in bands, puffed or raised, and turned back; and through it is passed a string of diamonds, or a ribbon across the forehead; and a few others—English ladies only—among the frequenters of the Parisian balls, continue to wear long curls.

THE ENGRAVINGS.

Costume for the Theatre—Dress of taffetas, with three volants trimmed with feather edging. Body open in front down to the waist, which allows to be seen the guimpe embroidery and feather trimming, being Valenciennes lace, to match that of the under sleeves. Feather edging also ornaments the border of the sleeves, and the two seams up to the shoulder, inside and outside.

In-door Dress—Dress of reps green or pearl-grey colour; the basques (or prolongation of the body, which overhangs the top of the petticoat), the seams of the sleeves, and the front of the body, also the back seams on the small side, are ornamented with ribbon put on flat, and are finished in the back by two bows of similar ribbon. Articles of fine linen are becoming every day of increasing importance in the *ensemble* of the costume. Sleeves are worn in great variety; as turned back with wrist-pieces, scolloped wrist-pieces, scolloped or having slits to correspond with the trimming of the body of the same pattern, and trimmed with the same lace. This luxury in articles of fine linen is even carried so far as to require that the pocket-handkerchief should be ornamented in a similar manner, and should thus complete the *ensemble* of the costume. Sleeve in jaconet, having closed wrist-piece with piping turned up or back. The sleeve also is worn in jaconet, with English embroidery; and the wrist piece closed by inserted embroidery.

Head-dress of velvet, with flowers in velvet; the front of the head-dress is velvet ribbon rolled, and sometimes passed underneath the band.

Cap for In-door Dress, of lace with ends of taffetas ribbon. Morning cap of fine linen, with bands or lappets ornamented with an embroidered festoon.

Body, with embroidery of cameos for in-door dress, reaching high up to the neck; and, instead of a small plain or straight collar, a deeper collar, either plain or cut into teeth on the edge.

Sleeve with volant of lace, mounted upon muslin, and having an upper puffing.

Jaconet Sleeve, with pattern bands woven in the material; closed by buttons of jasper with red spots, or blood stone and gold.

Head-dress in silk, embroidered with gold or silver fringe, fixed on the head by two pins with diamond heads, &c.

PARIS FASHIONS FOR MARCH.

TOWN AND TABLE-TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

We have to record a loss of a well-known landscape feature on the river Thames. One of the two cedars in the Botanic Gardens at Chelsea has, like the maiden in the ballad, "bowed its head and died." Who has not heard of the two cedars at Chelsea? They were the best-known cedars in England, nay, the best-known cedars remote from Lebanon. They were planted in 1683, and their growth was watched by Sir Hans Sloane, by Miller (author of the famous Dictionary which bears his name), and by Sir Joseph Banks. There was no better marked feature on the Thames, from Cirencester to Yantlet Creek, than the two cedars at Chelsea. By how many great men have they been beheld? The two could have lived together their two centuries; but a separation has taken place, and, if we are not mistaken, the smaller tree of the two is the one that is left—

Single, unpropp'd, and nodding to its fall.

The soot and vile air of our overgrown metropolis was too much for these graceful introductions from the East. How we miss the tree that has gone! What can now only be said of one, was once applicable to two—

'Tis said he's older than he's reckon'd,
And well remembers Charles the Second;

for the cedars at Chelsea were planted in the reign of the great Pen of English Sovereigns. Let every care be taken of the widow tree. Surely man do something to prolong its existence—Dr. Lindley might see the widow into her two-hundredth year. Let him try.

We have been pleased with a characteristic anecdote of Wilkie, told by Mr. Burnet in a very readeable little volume, just published, called "The Progress of a Painter." Wilkie very properly abstained from using his pencil on a Sunday. Once, and once only, was he found with a pallet on his thumb on that day. He was busy with his admirable picture, the "Parish Beadle," now in Lord Colborne's possession, and known far and wide by Raimbach's engraving. There is a monkey in the picture, and Wilkie's sitter was a monkey. "You see," Wilkie observed to Burnet, "this gentleman is a public character, and can only be spared from his duties upon a Sunday." The monkey in question was the pet specimen of the Exhibition at Exeter 'Change. We could wish that every artist who works on a Sunday had as good an excuse as that urged by Wilkie for receiving a monkey as a sitter on the Sabbath.

The public has heard so much, of late, connected with the name of Haydon, and the journals of that painter (he was a better author than painter) have invested his name with so much unwelcome, though exciting interest, that, now poor John Martin is no more, we may be excused for telling a story—hitherto not in print, but one in every respect characteristic both of Haydon and John Martin. The two men had little in common, except a love for art and a hatred of the Royal Academy. The world never was with Haydon, and the world for many years was with John Martin. Who, then, more likely to call on Martin for pecuniary assistance than Mr. B. R. Haydon? He called, of course. Martin lent at once—not much, but as much as was asked. Haydon called a second, nay, a third time, and the same pecuniary assistance was rendered by the one painter to the other. Then came lighter loans—small sums borrowed in the street and elsewhere—but still no sign of repayment. Here we must observe that the two thirsters after high art had but a very slight acquaintance with one another at any time; and now it was that Haydon pressed to become acquainted with John Martin. "Do, do call on me," was the often-repeated request of the painter of "Solomon," to the painter of "Belshazzar's Feast"—of the man who loved his bottle, and did not pay his bills, to the man whose drink was water, and who did pay his bills. Well (to make a long story short) Martin did call—on a Sunday, about five o'clock. Haydon was at home, and Martin was shown in. What did he see? Not a man with a frugal meal before him, but one with three kinds of wine on his table, and what Mr. Ellis, of the Star and Garter, would call a very fair dessert. The reception was most warm. "Sit down, my boy—my noble friend—this is kind. Vasari would have loved you? Can you read him in the original? There are clean glasses near you, what wine will you take? I can recommend this port, and can say more in favour of the claret than perhaps you will credit. Now we shall have a talk," &c. "Thank you, my dear Haydon, I have dined. I dined with my children, at two; and I never drink wine—for two reasons—first, I do not care about it; and secondly, I cannot afford it." He, however, did take one glass, and soon left. They were never intimate.

The March number of the "Newcomes" contains an admirable description of too large a class of English artists. Any one who has mixed in artistic circles will at once perceive the truth of Mr. Thackeray's delineation. What he has done he has done so delicately that we are afraid to follow him. The man who dedicates years to a picture of "Boadicia," is the representative of many men both within and without the Academy.

That great master of architectural perspective and detail—our English Canaletti—Mr. David Roberts—is busy with a large picture, for the approaching Exhibition, of "The Interior of St. Peter's, at Rome." He is said to have experienced great difficulty in obtaining permission to make the necessary exact studies for his great work; but he succeeded at last, and has been working—so our *advices* from Rome assure us—with all his wonted vigour, and all his unsurpassed dexterity, in representing space, and portraying architectural colour and detail.

We promised to say something about the high prices obtained for books by auction in spite of the Autocrat of Russia and the fear of war. Let us give two instances: a copy of Milton's Minor Poems, an edition of 1646, though by no means a good copy, sold at Sotheby and Wilkinson's last week for six guineas; and an indifferent copy of the *first*, of Peter Parker edition of "Paradise Lost," was considered a bargain at £12 17s. 6d. A few years back and three guineas was thought a liberal price for a first "Paradise Lost." No copy that we can call to mind has brought so much before.

We are glad to find, by a recent auction of very fine prints, that the same healthy prices are maintained for the works of the best engravers. A subscriber's copy of the *first* "Bolton Abbey"—a proof before letters, with perfect margin—sold last week for £26 5s.; one of six artist's proofs, on large paper, of Doo's exquisite line engraving of "Nature," after Sir Thomas Lawrence, sold at the same sale for £9; and a proof "with etched letters," of Wilkie's "Rent Day," was thought to go cheap at £16 10s. But for an unfortunate accident to Mr. Ryman, the great printseller of Oxford, Mr. Grundy, of Liverpool, Mr. Agnew, of Manchester, and the great houses of Graves and Colnaghi, of London, must have paid still higher sums for some of the choicer impressions.

The British Museum has just secured an exquisite Oriental missal—one of the treasures of Tippoo Sulo; and one of the prizes at the taking of Seringapatam. The price was £112.

The title of Mr. Dickens's new work is "Hard Times." His recent inquiry into the Preston strike is said to have originated the title, and, in some respects, suggested the turn of the story.

military, on a very great scale, unmistakably with the view of overcoming Turkey's independence, or making war on her.

Recent from Lord John Hay that Admiral Dundas proposed to leave Malta on the 20th inst., on a cruise to Otranto, Athens, and Smyrna. By making him to bring his squadron to Vourla immediately, I felt that I only asked him to leave Malta a week earlier than he had intended to do, going first to Vourla instead of Syra.

Under these circumstances I have submitted the Grand Vizier that I would request the Admiral commanding at Malta to bring up his squadron to Vourla Bay.

Unfortunately, the British Government did not approve of the vigorous policy recommended by their able servant, neither did Admiral Dundas feel himself justified in taking so important a step without special instructions from the Foreign Office. Lord Clarendon, in acknowledging, on 22rd March, the receipt of the despatch from which we have just quoted, informs the Colonel, "that the circumstances did not, in the opinion of her Majesty's Government, render it necessary for you to request that the British fleet should come to Vourla, and they have entirely approved of the conduct of Admiral Dundas, in not complying with your request. His Lordship added that Admiral Dundas had been ordered to remain at Malta.

The next despatch which we shall quote, is a highly suggestive one It expresses, as it well might, the Czar's satisfaction, that the British fleet had not been ordered up to Constantinople: a step which we cannot help thinking would, if it had been taken, have materially altered the state of affairs, and prevented the occupation of the Danubian Principalities. It will be remarked that Count Nesselrode treats the question of the approaching passage of the Pruth by the Russian armies, as an "idle rumour, destitute of any sort of foundation," though he must have well known that the aggression was at that moment determined upon by his Imperial master, if it had not been actually ordered. Diplomatic perfidy offers no parallel to the conduct of the Russian Chancellor, in this, as well as in other stages of these transactions.

COUNT NESSELRODE TO BARON BRUNNOW.

Communicated to the Earl of Clarendon by Baron Brunnow, April 15.

(Translation.)

St. Petersburg, March 26 (April 7), 1853.

M. le Baron,—I hasten to acquaint your Excellency with the sincere satisfaction with which the Emperor has read your despatches of the 11th (23rd) instant. They inform us that the British Government has not only approved of the refusal of Admiral Dundas to comply, without express orders from London, with the summons which the English Chargé d'Affaires at Constantinople had sent him to repair with the British fleet to Vourla, but has come to the determination of leaving this fleet at Malta, and of waiting with confidence the development of the negotiations commenced by Prince Menschikoff with the Ottoman Porte, and not complicating them by joining in the hasty demonstrations which the French Government has thought fit to prescribe to its squadron.

Sir H. Seymour, on his part, has lately communicated to me the despatch which Lord Clarendon, the new Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, had addressed to him on the same subject. It confirms, in all points, the intelligence which you send us.

It has given us much satisfaction, M. le Baron, to perceive, as well by the declaration by the summary of your communications with the British Ministers, that all the false reports spread at Constantinople in regard to our intents and had caused no alarm or apprehension to the Cabinet of London, misled by the persons assuming to be the friends of Greek Church, to endeavour to impose nothing upon the Latins which might too directly wound the honour and the interests of that Power, you may equally assure the English Ministers that, in the last negotiations to be negotiated, it is not a question of withdrawing or of taking from the Latins the last concessions which they have obtained by the Ottoman note of the 9th of February last year, but merely of obtaining for the concessions to the stipulations of the Hatti Scherif, by removing from them any position that they may contain of an exclusive character, of obtaining for the Greeks some recompense for the many sacrifices which has been done them; and, above all, of securing them from further injury

In general, we ask nothing better than to come to a friendly understanding with the French Government, and we least manage with the position in which it has placed itself, although all the concessions that can be made to its susceptibility have almost invariably the effect of rendering it more exacting and—we must say it—less grateful for them. The course which pushes it in seeking to obtain more. But it must itself contribute to facilitate for us the means of doing so instead of acting in a contrary sense, as it has just now done with so much precipitation by a demonstration the consequences of which may place in antagonism our desire for conciliation and the protection of our own dignity. The English Government must themselves see that France is not always accessible to counsels of moderation, since the wise representations which they made to her through Lord Cowley have not availed to prevent the departure of the French squadron.

The Emperor desires you, M. le Baron, to thank Lord Aberdeen and Lord Clarendo very particularly in his name, for the salutary impulse which they have recently given to the decree of the British Cabinet. The former has on this occasion shown us a new proof of confidence, of which our august master is both sensible. The latter, with whom our relations have hardly yet commenced, thus evinces upon important occasions which justify us in hoping that they will be of the most satisfactory nature. In relying upon our assurances, in refusing to follow France in the hostile attitude she has assumed with regard towards us, England, under present circumstances, has performed an act of wise policy. Nothing would have been more to be regretted than to see the two great maritime powers coming together, were it but for the moment, and in appearance rather than in fact, on the question at issue. Although their views in this respect differ in reality *toto cœlo*, nevertheless, a hostile meeting is by no means competent to draw the distinction, their ostensible object would not have failed to represent them under the aspect of an intimate alliance. The secret anger of Prussia would have been exasperated, for the advancement of her own interest, these fresh evidences of Anglo-French understanding and over, thing in Europe might at once have been placed in a false position. The simultaneous appearance of the two fleets would have prevented the possibility of the question being solved at Constantinople. It would have placed us in a position in which we could not have accepted, and which would no longer have allowed the Emperor, thus exposed to a demonstration of a threatening nature, freely to follow his own pacific and conservative impulses.

France acting alone, the danger is attended with less inconvenience, although it is still far from being free from it. The Emperor accordingly attaches but little importance to it; and his Majesty sees in it no reason for changing, at the present time his previous views and intentions. The attitude of England will suffice to neutralize what, on the part of the French or the Turks, if the last or second feel encouraged by the presence of the British fleet, might embarrass or retard too long the favourable solution of the question in dispute. In this point of view Lord Aberdeen appears to us to have fully understood the important part which England has to play, and we are happy to congratulate ourselves upon it personal beforehand of the impartiality with which he will display in carrying it out.

As regards yourself, M. le Baron, you have on this occasion left no thing undone to prove to the vast interests which our august master has confided to you. His entire approbation has been the reward of the efforts which you have made and the zeal and ability which you have displayed to strengthen and confirm the English Ministers in the just opinion which they have formed of our political intentions. I have, &c.,

(Signed) NESSELRODE.

THE LATE BREAD RIOTS AT EXETER.—Actions will be brought at the ensuing assizes, on behalf of Exeter, for the recovery of the damage sustained by some of the bakers during the late bread riots in that city. In one case the damages have been laid at £500, the plaintiff having demanded that amount from the hundred of Wonford, in which he resides. The claim is resisted by the hundred, and two eminent counsel are already engaged for the defence. The damage sustained by the various sufferers in the county is estimated at between £1,000 to £1,500. The bakers in the city do not claim more than £200, for which they will shortly apply to the magistrates for an order for payment. At the same assizes about forty prisoners, from various parts of the county, will be tried for taking part in the riots.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

S. A. M., St. Bees.—The White pieces, as you have arranged them, certainly command every square on the board; but we doubt if title could be effected without the assistance of the Knight. The first move is very obscure. The best way to mate that variation would be to play it, so bring a Queen's Bishop's pawn at once 1 awns with some of the crack players in London every evening, and you may enjoy your game with some of the best players in London every evening, and you may enjoy your game with some of the best players in London every evening.

BRATH.—We are glad to see that the chess correspondence between the seconds relative to the proposed Match between Mr. Staunton and Mr. Horwitz, is given in the March Number of the *Chess-Player's Chronicle*, and trust it will be disseminated widely. To prevent confusion in the minds of those who read it for the first time, it may be well to remark that the paragraph—"As Mr. Harrwitz, immediately upon receiving the letter forwarded by his second, instead of replying *de novo* to it all good to the Castle or Mr. Staunton, and likewise the following note to the person with whom it was pretended Mr. Staunton had made a match, and the match, has been misplaced by the printer, it should stand thus:

STAG HUNTING.

MEET AT GERARD'S CROSS

Buck-hounds is an officer of State changed with each change of Ministry. The salary is £1600 a year; and that it is not considered an unimportant office may be judged from the fact that it was the first held by Earl Granville. The Queen's hounds hunt Middlesex, Bucks, and Berks. The principal meets are to be reached by the Great Western Railway. Faster hounds, or a more complete establishment, are seldom seen. Mr. Charles Davis, the huntsman, is still, after nearly fifty years in the Royal service, a horseman whom it is worth a long journey to see going. The greatest drawbacks with the Royal hounds are the large miscellaneous fields, which include every one from the Duke of Cambridge to the horse-dealing cad, and the number of roads by which the greater part of their county is intersected; along which the mere crowd pound away, and fancy they are hunting.

George III., who was an enthusiastic sportsman, kept a pack of slow fox-hounds. The memoirs of Madame D'Arblay are filled with the lamentations of those of his suite who were compelled to follow, without sharing the Royal taste for hunting. The Surrey stag-hounds are a pack which partly occupies the country hunted over by the Earl of Derby, the grandfather of the present Earl, when he lived at the "Oaks," which gave name to the Epsom race for fillies. The Surrey stag-hounds are strictly a subscription pack, the greater number of subscribers being gentlemen connected with commerce in the city of London. The meets are not advertised, and the presence of unknown strangers is not desired, for the very sufficient reason, that such unlimited miscellaneous fields as usually assemble near a great city, would soon consume any subscription fund in compensation to the farmers.

The country, with the exception of the first district, is very favourable for sport, consisting partly of a light hilly sand, thinly inhabited, with few roads and light fencings, interspersed with small plantations, and a succession of heaths or commons; and of a vale country divided into moderate-sized enclosures by fences as wide and deep as any in Leicestershire.

The "field," to those who are introduced, is particularly pleasant, as it partakes of the character of a social club, where every one knows every one. Those who are silly enough to share the old prejudices about Cockney sportsmen, will find that, wherever bred, they will find plenty of work, if they wish to hold their place with a good deer before the Surrey stag-hounds, near Red-hill, or the meadows round Ewell. Mr. Heathcote, youngest son of the late Sir Gilbert, is the master of these hounds, and defrays a large share of the expenses of the establishment, which is in every respect well done. Croydon is the centre of this hunt, as well as of the Surrey foxhounds; and in Bignell's stables there are more than a hundred hunters, many of them of the first class, kept by gentlemen—of whom nine-tenths come down to hunt from London or its suburbs.

The second Illustration is taken from a deer-paddock, at Mr. Heathcote's seat, Durdans, near Epsom—a place which figures in the gossipping annals of the time of Charles II.

Baron Rothschild hunts the country round Tring entirely at his own expense. We shall describe the country when we come to give an account of the fox-hounds of that district. It is sufficient to say that Tring is the station to which horses should be sent on, and that the London and North-Western grants every season passes, "for hunting purposes only," to Tring, at £10 each.

DEER PADDOCK, AT DURDANS, NEAR EPSOM.

RECRUITING SERGEANT, 33RD, DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT. 3RD, BUFFS, MARCHING ORDER. 97TH REGIMENT, MARCHING ORDER. RIFLE BRIGADE. 93RD HIGHLANDERS. 55TH REGIMENT.

TROOPS FOR THE WAR.—BRITISH INFANTRY.—(SEE PAGE 187.)

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

WAR WITH RUSSIA.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH asked whether it was the intention of Government to take any measures to prevent the Russian fleet from leaving the Baltic, and perhaps materially interfering with our foreign commerce across the Atlantic.

The Earl of ABERDEEN could not suppose the noble Earl expected an answer to his question, for such an answer could be only serviceable to the enemy. He should consider it his duty not to answer any question respecting contemplated naval or military operations. As for the Russian naval force, it was a grievous mistake to suppose that it was unwatched.

Lord ELLENBOROUGH could not give Ministers credit for activity and watchfulness, till he had seen more satisfactory evidence of those qualities than they had yet exhibited. He thought it was discreditable for a country like England to enter upon a war with little more than a peace establishment. Ministers tried to persuade the country that it would be a little war, when it would be one of the greatest in which this country ever was engaged.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE denied that the Government had ever looked at the impending war as a little war; and if the noble Earl knew a little more than he appeared to know of the preparations which had been made for that great war, and the manner in which those preparations had been conducted, he would not entertain such an opinion.

AMENDMENT OF THE COMMON LAW.

The LORD CHANCELLOR called attention to the second report of the Common Law Commissioners, and laid upon the table a bill founded upon the report, after having explained to their Lordships the nature of its provisions.

After some commentaries upon the subject by Lords Brougham and Campbell, the bill was read a first time, and was ordered for second reading, with an understanding that it should be referred to a select committee.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

ARMY ESTIMATES AND THE BUDGET.

Lord J. RUSSELL announced that,the supplementary Army Estimates would be laid upon the table on Tuesday, and taken into consideration on Friday; and on the Monday following the Chancellor of the Exchequer would place before the House the state of the national finances.

RUSSIAN SHIPS CHARTERED BY BRITISH MERCHANTS.

In reply to questions from Sir W. Clay and Mr. M. Gibson, Lord J. RUSSELL said, the Sultan had permitted Russian vessels chartered by British merchants with corn from the Black Sea to pass the Bosphorus and Dardanelles. The British Government had been applied to for a similar protection from British cruisers, and had required a list of the vessels upon which they had received the names of four. As to all other vessels, and as to rights of neutral vessels to convey goods, not being military stores, free, the subject was one of delicacy, and was under consideration; but the decision of the Government would be announced before any declaration of war.

THE DISASTER AT SINOPE.

Sir H. WILLOUGHBY called attention to the destruction of the Turkish flotilla at Sinope, on the 30th day of November, 1853. The hon. baronet contended that, as Turkey had been prevented from sending her fleet into the Black Sea, the French and English authorities became morally responsible for the safety of the Turkish ships already there, and yet it appeared that this measure was suffered to take place. As early as the 5th October, 1853, Lord Stratford de Redcliffe declared that unless the naval aid of the country was cordially and frankly given to the Turks the Russians would succeed. Lord Clarendon anticipated that on th. 7th October, when he informed Lord Cowley at Paris, and, on the 8th, Lord Stratford at Constantinople, that the British squadron was to come up to Constantinople, adding, of course, if the Russian fleet came out of Sebastopol, then the British fleet was to pass into the Black Sea. He asked the right hon gentleman to explain how it was that the Russian fleet having come out of Sebastopol the British squadron remained at the mouth of the Bosphorus? On the 8th of October, Lord Clarendon wrote to Lord Stratford to instruct Admiral Dundas to inform the Russian Admiral Lord Cowley at Paris, and, on the 8th, Lord Stratford at Constantinople, that the British squadron was to come up to Constantinople, adding, of course, if the Russian fleet came out of Sebastopol, then the British fleet was to pass into the Black Sea. He asked the right hon gentleman to explain how it was that the Russian fleet having come out of Sebastopol the British squadron remained at the mouth of the Bosphorus? On the 8th of October, Lord Clarendon wrote to Lord Stratford to instruct Admiral Dundas to inform the Russian Admiral that, if the Russian fleet came out of that port his orders were to protect the Turks and their territories from all overt acts of hostility. That was fifty-three days before the destruction of the fleet. Was that instruction ever carried out at all? The important instruction was very great, because if the Russians had been informed of that arrangement their coming out to attack the Turkish fleet would have been a direct act of defiance. He had on a former occasion asked the noble Lord the member for the City of London whether there was any despatch showing that that instruction had been carried out, and the noble Lord, who generally answered with much skill and tact, said that the instructions had been triumphantly carried out by Capt. Drummond in the *Retribution*. The noble Lord's memory on that occasion must certainly have forgotten all the dates. It was long after, and in consequence of the destruction of the fleet of Sinope, that the *Retribution* was sent. Three months nearly had elapsed from the time the instructions had been sent out before that vessel, which, if it had been done in time, might have prevented the whole mischief. He wished the right hon. gentleman to state why that important instruction had not been carried into effect before? If it had, not only would 4000 men have saved their lives (a greater number than were put to death in any of their great naval engagements), but it would probably have prevented them being involved in war. In the middle of November, two Turkish steamers were taken by the Russians in the Black Sea. They had a powerful fleet moving about; and he wanted to know what the British fleet were about all that time at the mouth of the Bosphorus? They would not allow the Turkish fleet to go out; and perhaps they exercised a wise discretion. The Turkish fleet was destroyed owing to that policy, and the Blue-Books left it wholly and entirely unexplained. After the disaster, two frigates were sent to ascertain what had occurred; and suppose they had found the Russian fleet there, would they not have had to turn tail, and return to Constantinople?

Sir J. GRAHAM contended that the blame of the unfortunate affair at Sinope was attributable to the Turkish squadron itself, which had remained five weeks at Sinope, doing nothing but tempting, by its defenceless position, the Russians to attack it. The gentleman complained of the delay in sending the combined fleet into the Black Sea, and he had endeavoured to explain that before, when he had the honour of addressing the House. Power was given to the English Ambassador to communicate these instructions to the Russian naval commander at Sebastopol. He had stated that Lord Stratford exercising a discretion on the spot, and before the affair at Sinope had taken place, the message had not been communicated by the British Ambassador at Constantinople. The hon. gentleman said the Blue-Books offered no explanation as to the result. With reference to that very point, he would refer him to the despatch of Lord Stratford of the 5th of December, in which he stated that the unfortunate catastrophe was owing altogether to the neglect, the culpable neglect, of the Turkish commander. It was evident that three weeks before it occurred the British Admiral had warned the Turkish authorities of the danger to which the squadron was exposed. The order was revoked subsequently which would have saved the ships, and he must be excused for saying, that although the disaster was lamentable in the extreme, yet all the blame in respect of it must be wiped away from the British authorities. In consequence of that disaster, an order as unequivocal and distinct as could be given was issued to prevent any aggression by the Russian fleet, even before any declaration of war, and no Russian ship of war would be permitted to navigate the Black Sea without being opposed by the British and French fleets; and he again repeated his confident expectation that when vigour and decision were required they would not be wanting on the part of the British and French fleets.

Sir De L. EVANS thought the statement of the right honourable Baronet entirely exonerated the British Government. He begged to ask the right hon. Baronet whether he had received a despatch done a few or four days before this affair, in a despatch from the Consul at Trebizond, that two Russian war-steamers had appeared off that port?

Sir J. GRAHAM said our screw-ships and steamers had visited every port of the Black Sea—Varna, more than once; Sebastopol; the coast of Circassia—but, with the exception of three small Russian ships at Sebastopol, they had seen nothing of Russian ships of war.

Admiral WALCOT had always been of opinion that a vigorous policy would best calculated to avert war, and, when it was begun to bring it to a speedy and glorious termination (Hear, hear); while a timid policy was certain to be disastrous (Hear, hear). With reference to the affair of Sinope, it appeared that the Turkish Government had applied for the protection of the allied fleets, but that the French Admiral had declined to sail to their assistance, though Admiral Dundas was of a different opinion. It was to be regretted that the fleets had not gone, as they could have prevented the catastrophe of Sinope.

Mr. H. DRUMMOND said, that unprofessional members should be cautious of giving opinions upon naval or military matters. He had himself been sailing, some thirty years ago, with Admiral Dundas in the Mediterranean, on which occasion he said to him (Mr. Drummond), "I shall one day be an admiral, and shall be sailing over the very sea we are now on. I shall have more arrogance to endure when that time shall arrive from ignorant parties as home than from the enemy; and you will be called upon to defend me." This prophesy occasioned great laughter.

Lord D. STUART said he believed the order to return into port had been disregarded by the Russian vessels of war, and had not been enforced by the allied fleets. Such was the nature of the information which had reached him from the seat of war. Russian ships had not only been at sea, but had actually bombarded St. Nicholas, and other places.

Captain SCOBELL defended the course pursued by Admiral Dundas.

THE NAVY ESTIMATES.

After a brief discussion, the whole of the Navy Estimates were passed without a division.

THE ORDNANCE ESTIMATES.

Mr MONSELL moved the Ordnance Estimates, which, in the aggregate, amounted to £3,845,878, being no less than £792,311 over the Estimates of last year. Looking at the recent display of activity in the Ordnance department, as contrasted with what it had been enabled to effect on former occasions, the hon. gentleman congratulated the country upon the efficiency of the department, which, though calling for an increased estimate at present, would lead ultimately to a great saving. The factories at Enfield and Birmingham were to be abolished, and a large factory was to be erected near Woolwich to supply their place, which would release the Ordnance from the difficulties it experienced in dealing with private gunmakers. With such a factory it would be unnecessary to keep up such large stores of guns and bayonets as had heretofore been considered necessary. It was anticipated that the Minié rifle, which was at present £3, would be diminished to £1 8s. The total saving upon muskets of every kind for all branches of the service would be about £300,000.

Mr. MUNTZ undertook to prove, if the factory proposal were suspended for two months, that the Minié rifle could not be manufactured at the price stated by the hon. gentleman.

A discussion ensued as to the expediency of the Government becoming manufacturers at all, beyond the point of establishing a check against contractors, and ultimately the vote for the establishment of a gun manufactory was postponed for a month at the suggestion of the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

The Chairman soon after reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

THE MILITIA.

The Earl of ABERDEEN said that the Government intended this session to introduce a bill to modify the existing law respecting the militia in England, so as to extend it to Ireland and to Scotland, and to give power to raise in Ireland 30,000 men, and in Scotland 10,000. But it was not intended to embody the Irish militia in the present year.

LANDLORD AND TENANT BILL.

The Earl of DONOUGHMORE moved the second reading of the Leasing Powers (Ireland) Bill, and the Landlord and Tenant (Ireland) Bill, which he said were almost identical with the measures that had passed through a second reading last session.

There were five other bills on the paper relating to the improvement of the law of landlord and tenant in Ireland; and, after considerable discussion, it was arranged that they should all of them be read a second time, and referred to a select committee.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

MONASTIC INSTITUTIONS.

Mr. T. CHAMBERS moved for a select committee to inquire into the number and rate of increase of conventual and monastic institutions in the United Kingdom, and the relation in which they stand to existing law; and to consider whether any, and, if any, what further legislation is required on the subject. He deprecated the idea of treating this as a religious question; he wished it to be considered entirely as a political and a social one. The great increase in the number of these establishments demanded that they should be some more placed under the supervision of the law. In 1843 the number of conventual establishments in the kingdom was 56, and ten years later, in 1853, they had increased 400 per cent, being now less in number than 208. It was also to be remarked that this increase was not to be spread equally over the ten years—on the contrary, every year accelerated that increase; and, as to monasteries, they had increased in Ireland during the same ten years from 60 to 73, or 20 per cent. The establishment of these monasteries was in open violation of the act of 1829, which prohibited all dealings with; but there was no relation between convents and the law a state of things which should no longer be allowed to exist. They should at once be brought within the pale of the law, with a view to put a stop to the restraint placed upon bodies in these institutions. The hon. and learned gentleman quoted a great many cases of restraint as well in Roman Catholic convents as in the establishment of Miss Sellon, in Plymouth. Those Roman Catholic convents were affiliated with others abroad, and by this means they were enabled to add the punishments of transportation to the imprisonment and tortures which they could inflict at home.

Mr. NAPIER seconded the motion. He thought that an inquiry should be instituted to ascertain what course was proper to be pursued under existing circumstances.

Mr. J. BALL could see no occasion for a select committee. The information on the subject was patent to everybody.

Mr. E. POTTER quoted the authority of Sir John Forbes, physician to her Majesty, as to the utility of conventual establishments in educating the Catholic children of Ireland. If the Government did not discourage such a motion, they would do a greater amount of mischief in Ireland than could be easily conceived.

Mr E. FITZGERALD thought an inquiry might be useful, but not if the ladies in convents were to be brought before a committee of that House. He believed in his conscience that it would be greatly for the benefit of the Roman Catholics not to oppose this motion, for he was confident that these conventual establishments had nothing whatever to fear from the strictest inquiry.

Mr. FAGAN said it was impossible the House could grant this committee without hearing one single fact or argument on which to ground it.

Mr. E. B. ROCHE, as an Irishman and a Protestant, would oppose the motion, which in the present state of the country was ill-timed and in bad taste, at a moment when Dr. Wiseman had issued a pastoral letter to the Roman Catholics of this country, filled with loyalty to her Majesty.

Lord C. HAMILTON supported inquiry. The shrinking sensitiveness betrayed by those who were opposed to inquiry was calculated to make one imagine that there was something to be concealed.

Mr. J. PHILLIMORE hoped the House would not assent to the motion of Mr. Chambers, which was insulting to every one who professed the Roman Catholic religion.

Mr. MAGUIRE said that the bill of the hon. and learned gentleman was felt to be so insulting to the Roman Catholics of Ireland, that it would not be very safe for him to make a tour of that country as its author.

Mr. W. RUSSELL bore his testimony to the utility of these convents in rearing the children in their neighbourhood to habits of industry, and giving them a good education. He hoped the House would reject the motion by a large majority.

Mr. MIALL denied that there were facts to justify inquiry, or that legislation could provide a remedy.

Mr. COWAN supported the motion. He was surprised at the silence observed by the Government, which he hoped would be broken.

Lord J. RUSSELL had but little to say upon the subject. If he believed that personal liberty was denied to those who wished to use it, he would then say there was an undoubted case for inquiry. But this he did not believe. For neither English, Irish, nor Scottish Roman Catholic gentlemen would suffer their daughters and sisters to be illused in such institutions. Was it to be supposed that none but Protestant gentlemen could be found to interfere on behalf of those Roman Catholic ladies; and, was it not an imputation upon the Roman Catholics to hold out that it became necessary for Protestants to protect those whom they left exposed to such privations and persecutions. He would give his hearty and decided negative to the motion.

Mr. WALPOLE thought it was a mistake not to have established a committee of inquiry long ago, having for its object to ascertain the exact position of the Roman Catholic religion, both as regarded its relation to the law and its relation to foreign countries. He was prepared to vote for the motion, deeming it of great importance that monastic institutions should be examined into. It was intended by the Catholic Relief Act that these institutions should be extinguished, but that act had never been attempted to be carried out by any succeeding Government; and he believed that some inquiry was now necessary to ascertain whether they should not be at all events subjected to control, if not extinguished.

Mr. J. FITZGERALD contended that the law as it at present exists was amply powerful to meet and redress the evil.

Lord M. HOWARD opposed the motion, quoting passages from letters to show that the inspection of nunneries in Papal countries scarcely existed.

On a division, the numbers stood—For the motion, 186; Against it, 119: majority for the motion, 67.

NEWSPAPER STAMP RETURNS.

Mr. CRAWFORD moved for returns of the number of stamps issued to each newspaper in England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales during the years 1851, 1852, and 1853.

The motion—which was supported by Mr. DISRAELI and Mr GIBSON, and opposed by Mr. WILSON and the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER—was ultimately agreed to.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

LEGAL EDUCATION.

Mr NAPIER moved for an address for a commission to inquire into the arrangements in the inns of court for promoting the study of law and jurisprudence, the revenues properly applicable, and the means most likely to secure a systematic and sound education for students of law, and provide satisfactory tests of their fitness for admission to the bar. The hon. and learned gentleman dwelt on the importance of securing for the public a liberal and enlightened education for persons allowed to practise as barristers. This became the more important when it was remembered that they were called upon to fill situations of the highest responsibility. When he came over to London to eat his dinners for the Irish bar he consulted a very learned member of that bar what course of reading he would advise him to pursue. He replied that the Irish bar were his object, he should read himself up in "Joe Miller," for he would get more business by cracking jokes than by the most profound knowledge of his position. The system of education was not calculated to raise the profession in public estimation; and some alteration should be made in the proceedings of the inns of court, which were in fact trustees for the public, that barristers should be well educated. They were somewhat in the light of universities for the study of the law, and it would be for the benefit of the public that they should act up to the spirit of that trust. The universities had recently adopted very considerable reforms, and the inns of court ought not to be behind the spirit of the age. Voluntary lectures would be by no means sufficient, unless accompanied by periodical examinations. He thought the appointment of a commission of enlightened and learned men would be likely to adopt a sound system of legal education.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL, the SOLICITOR-GENERAL, and several other members spoke in favour of the motion, which was agreed to.

(*Continued on page 197.*)

THE BLUE-BOOKS ON THE TURKISH QUESTION.

(*Continued from page 151.*)

The views entertained by the French Government on the mission and demands of Prince Menschikoff, appear clearly enough in the following documents, which we extract from those published in the *Moniteur*, subsequently to the issue of the English Blue-Books:—

TO COUNT WALEWSKI, AMBASSADOR AT LONDON.

Paris, Feb. 21, 1853.

Monsieur le Comte,—The question of the Holy Places tends, in spite of our efforts, to issue from the limits in which we could have wished to confine it, and is of a nature to interest all the Cabinets of London should not further mistake the character and object of our negotiations. I therefore invite you to communicate to Lord Clarendon the despatch which I addressed on the 25th of January last to the Comte de Lesbuiges, and it will be easy for him to see that we have never pretended to demand for the Latin Fathers of the Holy Land advantages at which Russia can seriously be alarmed. I hope also that the new Principal Secretary of State of her Britannic Majesty will appreciate the conciliatory nature of the proceeding which I have ordered the Minister of the Emperor at St. Petersburg to bring, on the 25th of January, before the Cabinet of that court. In saying, and will adhere, whatever may be his opinion on the origin of the discussion, that we have honestly endeavoured to appease it. I regret to tell you, Monsieur le Comte, that our overtures has not produced the results which I expected. It is not a basis of conciliation which the Cabinet of St. Petersburg offers to us. At the moment at which, in spite of our exhortations, it sends Prince Menschikoff to constantinople, what it proposes to us is to subscribe to conditions which would replace the Catholic Church at Jerusalem in an inferior and humiliating situation, and would do the greatest injury to our consideration in the Levant. We had disposed of the Greeks—if we had demanded and obtained the complete execution of the capitulations of 1740—if the concessions which have been made to us exclusively in any degree whatever—the reserving of which the Emperor, we might, no doubt, have alleged our rights; but we should have understood that Russia, if necessary, would have carried things to an extreme to defend the religious interests, intimately bound up with her political interests. Thanks to our moderation, Monsieur Le Comte, the question is not laid down in such terms; and that is what you must endeavour to make Lord Clarendon understand. In presence of the complications which may arise in the East in consequence of the mission of Prince Menschikoff, we should not understand, I know, that, in a cause so just, so moderate as that which we support, we could not count on the impartiality of the other Cabinets, and that false prejudices (*fausses preventions*) should prevent them from recognising on which side is right. I will add, Monsieur le Comte, that this right is at present identified with the dignity and independence of the Porte itself, and that, if the Government of the sultan were constrained to submit to the exigencies which are put forward, France would not alone have to regret such a result.

Accept, &c.

DROUYN DE LHUYS.

TO COUNT WALEWSKI

Paris, March 19, 1853.

Monsieur le Comte—I hasten to send you, for your information, a copy of the despatch which I received this morning from M. Benedetti, on the events which are taking place at Constantinople, and of the circumstances which have caused Colonel Rose to summon the English fleet. Although I am not aware that the Government of her Britannic Majesty approves the determination of its agent, and if Admiral Dundas has thought right, or considered himself at liberty, to obey the invitation without referring to London, the conduct of her Britannic Majesty has desired to testify the interest which it takes in the present crisis in the destinies of Turkey, by a demonstration which does not engage its ulterior resolutions, and which will have for the moment only the character of a measure of surveillance and precaution. In consequence, the fleet of the Mediterranean will receive orders to leave for the seas of Greece.

Accept, &c.

DROUYN DE LHUYS.

It will be seen from this letter to Count Walewski that Colonel Rose had thought it his duty, in the absence of Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, to summon the British fleet under the command of Admiral Dundas, to leave Malta for the Turkish waters. Colonel Rose announced this determination to Lord John Russell, in a letter dated the 19th March. The following is an extract from this important communication:—

The treatment of Fuad Effendi; the unfavourable—I may say the disaffected—feeling which Prince Menschikoff's mission had caused amongst the Greek population, who had hitherto shown no feeling of that nature in the conversation and advance of Russian troops to the Turkish frontier, had greatly discouraged the Grand Vizier, his Ministry, and the Turkish party in general.

The Grand Vizier said that the Russian Government evidently intended to win some important right from Turkey which would destroy her independence, and asked me to request the British Admiral to bring up his squadron from Vourla Bay from Malta.

Feeling the intimate conviction that if the Sultan were not supported on this occasion, he would call to his councils a Ministry selected under Russian influence, I informed Omer Pasha that I would tell your Lordship that I felt convinced that the safety of Turkey required the presence of the French squadron in those waters. M. Benedetti said the same as regards the French squadron.

But these assurances did not tranquillise the Grand Vizier's mind. He thought that Turkey would be lost before an answer could arrive from England and France.

The Russian Government had not kept faith with her Majesty's Government. Instead of withdrawing, or allowing her troops to be stationary, she had advanced them up to the Turkish provinces, without having ever declared or stated her cause of complaint against the Porte to the Porte—a thing unheard of amongst, and contrary to the rights of, civilised nations, she was taking other warlike measures, maritime as well a

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

The commissariat estimate for the year ending March, 1855, is printed. The sum required for the effective service is £650,671, for non effective £14,209; being an excess on the whole of £87,467 over the estimate of 1853-4.

At the Liverpool police court, last week, Mr. John Price, of the firm of Benson, Price, and Co., druggists, was fined in the mitigated penalty of £10, for having in his possession a quantity of spirits without a permit.

A correspondent of the *Durham Advertiser* says, it is reported that the clergyman at Cockfield has given so much offence to several of his parishioners by wearing his beard, that they have discontinued their attendance at church.

In Natal, South Africa, the search for precious metals has been hitherto unsuccessful. The long promised steamer *Natal* had not yet arrived from England.

Sir John Key, Bart., the Chamberlain of London, has been for some time indisposed, and within the last few days he has undergone an operation of a very severe character.

During the last year no fewer than 1,133,609 cwt. of potatoes were imported, against 773,619 of the preceding year.

Mr. Stephenson, M.P., took his departure from Alexandria, on return to England, in his yacht the *Titania* on the 16th ult. It is reported that his last interview with the Pacha was other than agreeable, his Highness being annoyed at the non-completion of the railway.

The Emigration Commissioners have advertised for two vessels to carry emigrants to South Australia and New South Wales. One is to be ready for Adelaide, the other for Sydney, on the 14th of April.

A chest containing three cwt of steel pens has been stolen from the luggage cart belonging to the Railway Company, in Williamson's-square, Liverpool. Some of the pens (directed to Mr Stewart, of Parade-street) have since been found in several parts of the town.

Late advices from Port-au-Prince, West Indies, state that yellow fever is raging fatally, especially among the shipping.

The committee appointed to carry out the design for a monument to be erected to the memory of the late Duke of Wellington in the City Guildhall have appointed to receive the models of the competing artists in March; those sent in last year having been all rejected.

The Committee of Management of Middlesex Hospital have given notice that Mendelssohn's oratorio "Elijah" will be performed at Exeter-hall, on Monday, March the 27th, in aid of the funds of that charity.

The Brussels Art-Exhibition, open to all nations, will begin on the 1st of August next, and close on the 30th of September following. At the Exhibition of 1851, 317 foreign (not Belgian) artists exhibited at Brussels.

Upwards of 300 labourers were taken on last week at the Royal Arsenal at Woolwich, also 260 boys in the Royal Laboratory. The carpenters, smiths, percussion-cap makers, and the lads in the cartridge department are also working night and day.

On Friday night week, the village of Clare and the surrounding country was illuminated by bonfires and tar-barrels, in honour of the pardon of Smith O'Brien. In Ennis the demonstration was limited.

The Duke of Sutherland has forwarded £200 to Lieutenant-Colonel Ainslie to be applied to the relief of the wives of the soldiers of the 93rd Regiment who have been left at home. These poor women are mostly strangers in this country, and much sympathy is excited in their behalf.

The steam-ship *Golden Age*, which left Liverpool on the 5th December, arrived at the Cape of Good Hope *en route* for Australia, on the 6th January; which, including her stay for coaling, is considered one of the fastest passages on record.

By a Royal decree, at Turin, on the 16th ult., all the import, export, export in bond, and differential duties, on corn, pulse, and meal, were entirely suspended.

The payments out of the Encumbered Estates Court in Ireland last week were about £60,000.

The *Fortune*, 571 tons, Captain M'Carthy, left Plymouth Sound last Saturday, for Adelaide, having on board 366 Government emigrants. The *Nimrond*, 1022 tons, Captain Gatenby, private passenger ship, left the same day for Sydney, with twenty first-class cabin and sixty steerage passengers.

A letter from Calais, of the 21st ult., says.—The Baroness de Brunnow, wife of the Russian Ambassador at London, landed here to-day. She was accompanied by her daughter, Count de Wolowski, and a numerous suite. The whole party proceeded by railway to Cologne.

The town and county spring calendar of Galway exhibits a very gratifying decrease in crime: in the town, there is but a single case, for an alleged charge of murder; and, in the county, 21 cases, 15 of which are petty larcenies.

Last week a convict named Eglin, a notorious associate of burglars and smashers, succeeded in escaping from the Middlesex House of Correction where he was under sentence of twelve months' imprisonment, for uttering base coin.

The excitement in Paris respecting the Eastern question has proved a source of great profit to some of the journals, their sale having enormously increased, that of the *Patrie* and *Presse* especially.

A bill has been laid before the House of Lords by Lord Lyttelton, to enable boards of guardians to appoint inspectors of nuisances.

The Customs duties received at the port of Dublin during the past week amounted to £13,764, against £20,220, in the corresponding week of last year.

Last Saturday morning the cotton factory of Mr. W. Warburton, Giggs, near Bury, was destroyed by fire. The property was insured.

"Penny lectures" are at present attempted by several Essex clergymen and gentlemen. So far as the experiment has at present gone, it has been rewarded with success.

It is stated that an instantaneous communication between England and America can be established for a smaller sum than it costs to construct a bridge across the Thames.

Numerous arrests of political emissaries have been made in Hungary and Transylvania. The prisoners have been taken to Vienna.

There is much distress in Newfoundland, from the failure of the cod-fishing, the potato blight, and the cessation of employment on the telegraph works.

The Minister of War at the Hague has presented to the Chamber a bill for an addition to the war budget of a million of florins, for repairs of fortifications and other objects of defence.

A "Board Union" is in course of formation at Edinburgh, its object being "to promote by all legitimate means the cause of the beard, and by union to overcome the foolish prejudice against the manly ornament."

The United States squadron, under Commodore Perry, was at Hong-Kong, when the late mail left, but was expected to leave shortly, for its second trip to Japan.

The York and North-Midland Railway Company have agreed to accept from Mr. Hudson £51,000 in satisfaction of the judgment for £71,462. £21,000 to be paid next month, and the balance in three annual instalments.

Mrs. Mowat, the American actress, has quitted the stage, as she is about to wed a gentleman of fortune.

A statue of Jefferson, third President of the United States, has been cast in the Royal Foundry at Munich, under the direction of Hiram Powers, who formed the model for it.

The Town-council of Birmingham has just appointed a new local official, viz., a public analyser, charged with the examination and suppression of adulterations in all articles of consumption.

The whole of the materials lying between Great and Little-Carter-lane and Old Change having been sold by auction, the line of thoroughfare of the new street, Cannon-street West, throughout to London-bridge, will be opened in the course of a few days.

The conduct of Austria towards Switzerland has become more reasonable, and there are symptoms that she is not indisposed to relax the rigour of the system she has pursued with reference to the Tessin.

Messrs. Fox, Henderson, and Co. have contracted for the building of the Paris Docks. A company has been organised, under their auspices, to carry out the project.

Dr. Edwards, Mr. J. Forrest, and Mr. Hartnup, are engaged in an effort to take photographs of the moon, at the Royal Observatory of Liverpool.

The trustees of the Madiai Fund are about to complete the purchase of a Government annuity on the joint lives of Francesco and Rosa Madiai, and on that of the survivor.

The *Standard* has made the singular discovery that the Turks are the descendants of the lost ten tribes, and predicts their conversion to Christianity.

The Exhibition of Fine Arts at Turin was opened on the 22nd ult., their Majesties honouring it with a visit the same day.

It is said that it is the intention of the Liverpool Marine Board to institute an inquiry into the conduct of Captain Noble in connexion with the loss of the unfortunate ship *Tayleur*.

The Earl of Carlisle is not expected in England before Apr. 1. He was staying at Corfu by the last accounts.

OPENING OF THE NEW PUBLIC HALL, LEAMINGTON.

OPENING OF THE NEW PUBLIC HALL, LEAMINGTON.

About fifteen months ago, the attention of the towns-people of Leamington was prominently directed towards the attainment of a most important object, namely, that of erecting a building, which, whilst providing a public establishment, adequate in its extent of accommodation to the growing wants of an inquiring and increasing population, was intended by its originators, to be "specially identified with the social and intellectual elevation of the industrial classes the rational amusements of the people—and the ennobling and progressive cause of popular education." It was announced by the projectors of so desirable a measure, that the funds adequate to its accomplishment would be derived from two sources—first, the allotment of one pound shares to such persons as might be disposed to further the undertaking, by becoming shareholders; and secondly, by donations from the resident nobility and gentry of Leamington and its neighbourhood. A local company was formed, and such was the support given to the undertaking, that the foundation-stone of the New Hall was laid, with Masonic honours, in May last. The architectural plans approved of were furnished by Mr. D. G. Squirhill.

The Hall is, in length, 80 feet by 33 feet; and, in height, 28 feet. It is considered by all who have seen it to be an elegant and well-proportioned room. The junction of the ceiling and the wall, at the two angles, being completed in a circular form, adds much to the beauty of the apartment; and, together with the wainscoting introduced throughout it, has admirably secured all that is desirable as to sound in the construction of public buildings.

The Hall is lighted from the south side, by six handsome windows; there being, on the opposite side, six ornamental panels, between pilasters of dark veri marble. A great novelty has been effected in the introduction of two sun-burners in the ceiling, for the purpose of evening assemblies. These burners have elicited much admiration and approval; and, being placed at a great height, bring out in an extraordinary manner, the beautiful ceiling and cornices, resting on the enriched carved capitals of pilasters; whilst the gilded panelling introduced into the intervening spaces has been completed in a superior style of colouring. At the east end are three panels; and, in the angles are two niches, occupied by appropriate figures. The Hall has been wainscoted and panelled throughout; plastering has been studiously avoided; every attention has been paid to the heating of the room, by the introduction of hot-air apparatus; and ventilation has been thoroughly secured. Below the Hall are two smaller, but suitable apartments, communicating with each other, but easily divisible as lecture or class-rooms, or for meetings, of a character for which the Hall itself may neither be suited nor required. One of these apartments will, doubtless, be appropriated, at some future period, as a public museum, toward the formation of which, upon a creditable scale, several contributions have been received.

The public opening of the Hall was fixed for the 20th ult., and, such was the attractive programme which the committee had prepared in commemoration of the event, that, early in the afternoon, nearly every ticket was sold; and, after the doors were opened, several applications for seats were refused, owing to the impossibility of finding comfortable accommodation for a larger number than tickets had already been issued for. There were about 800 persons present. The company began to arrive between seven and eight o'clock; and soon after the latter hour, the Rev. J. H. Smith (President of the Literary and Scientific Institution), Samuel Warren, Esq., Q.C. (Recorder of Hull), the Rev. Br. Burbidge (Head-master of the Leamington College), and several members of the Soirée Committee, took their places on the platform; when the author of "Ten Thousand a-Year" was greeted with the flattering and enthusiastic plaudits of the audience. The Rev. Mr. Smith took the chair, and several appropriate addresses were delivered. The refreshment rooms were then thrown open; after which a concert, in which Miss Lascelles took part, formed an agreeable and successful change in the proceedings of the evening.

FALL OF PART OF THE EDINBURGH CITY WALL.

On Wednesday afternoon (last week), about three o'clock, a large portion of the Wall of Edinburgh, supposed to be from 300 to 400 years old, gave way, and overwhelmed several persons in an immense mound of earth and stones. The Wall here bounded the ancient city on the side of Canongate, and faced Leith Wynd—a very steep and narrow street, inhabited by a dense population. It was from twenty-five to twenty-seven feet in height, on the side of the street, but on the other side there was a high bank, reaching to within five feet of the cope. The weight of the embankment, to which a considerable addition had been made some years ago, had evidently had the effect of pressing the wall outwards. Operations had been going on for the drainage of Leith Wynd for some time, for the safety of which beams of wood were placed against the wall as buttresses. The drain having been carried past, a new stone pillar was inserted in the wall, with the expectation of giving it solidity; and the supports were removed on Wednesday forenoon, just three hours before the accident. The Wall fell across the entire street, the copestones breaking into the windows of the shops opposite. The Wall carried with it a great part of the embankment, falling upon a number of children: two were extricated alive, but one of them was much mutilated, and two were in the course of the night, taken out dead. The width of the gap in the wall at the top is fully twenty yards. The Sketch here Engraved, was taken by Mr. George Aikman, jun., immediately after the fall of the Wall.

FALL OF A PORTION OF THE ANCIENT WALL, AT EDINBURGH.

Smith O'Brien.—The only condition annexed to the free pardon granted by the Queen to Mr. Smith O'Brien, is the usual one of not returning within her Majesty's dominions. It is stated by his friends that he will probably join his family in France, where they have been residing for some time past. A free pardon will also be probably extended to Messrs. Martin and O'Doherty, who were convicted some time before Messrs. O'Brien, Meagher, and O'Donohoe, for the same offence of seditious publications, and who were sentenced to a limited period of transportation, the greater part of which has already expired.

The Interoceanic Ship Canal.—The New York papers publish an interesting letter from Robert Nelson, of the British surveying Expedition, detailed from the ship-of-war *Virago*, on the Pacific side, to make an exploration across the Isthmus of Darien, with the view of ascertaining the advantages or disadvantages of that Isthmus for the excavation of a ship-canal between the two oceans. From the reports of the British surveying party, it appears that the party crossed the country until they got within about eight miles of the Atlantic, of which ocean they had an excellent view. They encountered a plain of some twenty-two miles in length, and in no part of it did they find the elevations greater than forty feet above the level of the sea. The *New York Herald* remarks, "If this report be confirmed by Lieutenant Strain, of the Ozone surveying corps, and by the French expedition detailed for the same purpose to the same quarter, then is the question of the route for the great interoceanic canal between the Atlantic and Pacific a 'fixed fact.'"

Wreck of an Emigrant Ship.—The *Staffordshire*, a fine Liverpool and Boston packet ship, of nearly 2000 tons burden—which sailed from Liverpool in the early part of November, with a cargo valued at £20,000, and 196 passengers, mostly emigrants, including several ladies struck on what are known as the Bloody Rocks off Seal Islands, on the coast of North America, on the 29th December. Two boats broke adrift, and the remaining two could only hold a few persons, and those in charge of them could scarcely get clear of the ship, when she went down with 175 human beings, including the captain. The four mates, and twenty one seamen, with twenty-five passengers, were saved, including only one female. They succeeded on the following day in reaching Seal Islands, but suffered severely from cold and want of provisions.

TURKISH SENTINELS.

SKETCHED AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

THE Sentinels in the Turkish capital have not the spruce appearance of European soldiers; but they are steady, soldier-like men. They are always stationed in pairs; and during wet weather they have a wooden platform opposite their box to stand upon. They have an hour-glass fixed in the wall beside them, to measure the time—probably on account of the divisions of the day in Turkey constantly changing.

The accompanying characteristic Sketch was recently taken at Constantinople, by a Correspondent. On the right hand corner of the foreground we have two dogs, the usual street concomitants.

Foreign invasion has rapidly and wonderfully altered the discipline of the Turkish army. To show what it was only three or four years ago, another Correspondent has sent us a Sketch of a sentry at a fort in Syria. "He was quietly spinning thread with a distaff," writes our Correspondent. "His musket was placed against the wall near him, and was entirely enveloped in a thick canvas case, which would render it useless on a sudden alarm. Sentries even on important posts were often to be seen knitting stockings, or otherwise uniting domestic pursuits with their military duties."

We may here state that a private letter from Constantinople of the 3rd ult., states that the fortification works of the town had been already begun. A supply of implements was expected from Europe. The enthusiasm of the population was so great, that a vast number of workmen were offering to work at the fortifications, declaring that they required no wages, but only asked to be fed. The greatest activity prevailed in the arsenal: the Government had entered into contracts with several foreign firms for the purchase of the necessary raw materials for bulwark cannons.

TURKISH SENTINELS, SKETCHED AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

SCHUMLA.—INTERVIEW WITH OMER PACHA.—THE FORTIFICATIONS.

IN our Journal of last week, our Special Correspondent at Schumla detailed his interview with Omer Pacha, and his visit to the Fortifications. We now engrave these interesting scenes: the Illustration upon the front page represents our Correspondent and his fellow travellers' interview with the Marshal. The apartment is a plain square room, covered with a red carpet, and a dark-coloured divan placed upon two sides. The room is lighted by three windows. The chimney is of the usual Turkish construction, with a conical canopy, beneath which there is blazing fire. On the right, facing the reader, is seated Omer Pacha, his high forehead does not admit of his fez, or cap, being even partially seen, he rests his right hand upon a cushion, and his left upon a heap of papers and maps on the corner of the divan. On his left also is a Pacha, seated in the Turkish manner, smoking. Next him are seated, first, Major Tombs, Captain Austin, and our Artistic Correspondent; each wearing the indispensable fez, and wearing jack-boots, just as they had come off their journey: they hold in their hands pipes, which are superbly set with diamonds, and rest upon small flat silver saucers: they smoke occasionally, but merely as a compliment. On the left of the chimney are seated in arm chairs of rude make, three Turks, in dark frock-coats. The black attendant near the fireplace bears a cup of coffee, and is followed by other attendants, who take coffee from a servant. Behind, in the wall, is a niche, containing a table with a mirror, and two vases of flowers, the only attempt at ornament in the room.

The officer standing for orders, in front of the group of attendants, &c., is the Aide-de-Camp sent for by Omer Pacha to accompany the visitors to the military establishments of Schumla. He wears a frock-coat, trimmed with dark fur; a sabre, cartridge box, &c. In the middle of the room is a brasier, placed upon two white stone steps; and a small picture on the wall, without a frame, contains some precepts of the Koran.

The View below commands the plains and town of Schumla, and is taken from the inside of the Fort of Fidieh-Tabiassi, situated a mile and a half from the town. The visitors have arrived, with two orderlies (artillerymen) as their escort, a *valet-de-place* and interpreter, and the Aide-de-Camp. In the foreground are piles of shot; and upon the walls are the travellers, sketching and viewing the distant country—Schumla lying between the two mountains on the right.

The environs of Schumla are thus described by a contemporary:—"On leaving Schumla we passed through one of the two roads by which the chain of hills which all but encircle it can be penetrated. They are in no part of very great height, but rise almost perpendicularly above the town, and contain some charming glens. At first sight one would imagine that, when thus overlooked, Schumla must be all but untenable as a military post, for any line of defence which embraced the hills would require an enormous army to man it, vastly larger, in fact, than the importance of the place, in any point of view, would warrant. In reality, however, they form the great source of its strength, and have rendered it famous by the various checks which the Russians have sustained before it. They are covered throughout the whole extent by thick brushwood, the remains of old forests, the height in most places of a man's shoulders, and so stiff and close that it is almost impossible for one to make his way through it, even along the path, without a guide. In the same manner it forms an excellent barrier against any attack on every side but the east, as it would be impossible for troops to deploy in the thickets; and, if the two narrow roads were well defended, it would be equally impossible even for scattered detachments to penetrate, without being separated and cut off by any foe who knew the ground. These natural advantages have rendered Schumla the great stumbling block of the Russians in all their wars with the Turks, and as long as it remained untaken, an advance upon Constantinople was attended with no small danger. The approaches on the side next Varna are defended by several batteries as well as by the enceinte which surrounds the whole place. Alto-

FORT OF FIDIEH-TABIASSI,—VIEW OF THE TOWN AND PLAIN OF SCHUMLA.

gether a large army might safely retire here in case of a reverse farther northward, and bid defiance to a force vastly superior. Its position with regard to the other fortified posts on the Danube, renders it admirably adapted for the Turkish head-quarters."

Schumla looks: just like a town built within the crater of a volcano: and, consequently, in general is very hot and stifling; but abundant streams of excellent water gush from the encircling hills into its numerous fountains; it therefore has one of the first requisites of a head-quarter; and, altogether, it is rather a vast mountain camp, fortified by nature and by art, than a regular fortress. The Grand Place, or public square, is daily so thronged with Bashi-bozouks, and other strange but stalwart Asiatic figures, in the garb of old Turkey, that one can scarcely press through; for here all sorts of cooking and refreshment establishments are congregated together; and Irregulars—Delis, Negroes, Arnauots, Kurds, and Syrians, are seen hourly regaling themselves with the *kabab*, the *beurek*, or the *pilaf* of Turkish street gastronomy.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

(*Continued from page* 190.)

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

On the motion of Lord BROUGHAM, the County Courts Act Extension Explanation Bill was read a third time and passed.

THE WAR.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH asked what were the intentions of the Government with respect to the calling out of the Militia this year, and with respect to the corps either not formed, or which were below their complement? The noble Earl took occasion to express his opinion that the Government were premature in sending out to Constantinople so large a disposable force until they had first secured a predominant position in the Baltic. The fleet intended for the Baltic he thought was insufficient. As a step necessary to the national security he suggested the propriety of permanently embodying the Militia.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE deprecated any such discussion upon the subject referred to, at the present moment; he could not consent to give all the information asked for. It was the intention of the Government to call out the Militia for training this year for a period of twenty-eight days; but the Government did not intend to have recourse to any penal steps for increasing that body; nor did they think that the time had arrived for saddling the nation with the expense of maintaining an enormous permanent Militia.

Lord BEAUMONT bore testimony to the fact of the volunteers for the Militia in the West of England, at all events, being amply sufficient.

Lord HARDWICKE said that the Emperor of Russia had brought his fleets to a state of very great efficiency, while it was well known that there was on our part a great difficulty in enrolling sailors. It was his opinion that the Coastguard would be found quite unfit for anything beyond mere dock duty.

After a few words from the Earl of WINCHILSEA and Lord CHELSEA, the subject dropped.

In reply to the Earl of DONOUGHMORE, the Earl of ABERDEEN said that the subject of the removal of Irish paupers from England was under consideration.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

Mr. CORBETT gave notice of his intention, on the 16th inst., to move for leave to bring in a bill to limit the hours of labour for women and young children to ten hours in the day in the factories of the United Kingdom.

In reply to Mr. Rich, the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER said that a plan of survey of the United Kingdom was in contemplation, which might involve an expenditure of several millions, but which would not be proceeded with until Parliament had sanctioned its details.

In answer to Mr. Lovedon, Mr. SIDNEY HERBERT said that the army of the East would be accompanied by seven chaplains, viz., four Church of England, one Presbyterian, and two of the Roman Catholic Church.

THE REFORM BILL.

Lord J. RUSSELL gave notice that he would, on the following day, state the course which the Government intended to pursue with regard to the second reading of the Reform Bill for Amending the Parliamentary Representation of the People of England and Wales.

Mr. J. O'CONNELL moved for a select committee to inquire into the yearly causes of excessive loss of life on board emigrant vessels. Having referred to several cases in which an immense sacrifice of life had been the result, he urged the necessity of further legislation upon the subject.

Mr. F. PEEL objected to the motion, as the whole subject of passenger vessels had been recently investigated by committees of the House. He would not, however, oppose an inquiry into such parts of the subject as were found to be beyond the operation of the Passengers Act.

After a short discussion, the motion, in a modified form, was agreed to.

Mr. HUME called the attention of the House to the report of the Royal Commissioners "for inquiring into the practicability and expediency of consolidating the different departments connected with the civil administration of the army," dated the 21st day of February, 1837, signed by Lord Howick, Viscount Palmerston, Lord J. Russell, Sir J. Hobhouse, and other commissioners, presented to Parliament in 1837, and moved the following resolution:—"That it is the opinion of this House in accordance with the Report of the said Commission confirmed by evidence taken before the Committee in the Naval, Military, and Ordnance Expenditure, in the years 1848–50, that measures should forthwith be taken to consolidate the different branches of the military service and expenditure, and to place the whole under the superintendence and control of one efficient and responsible department."

Mr. S. HERBERT said that, however desirable the proposed change might be, there were a great many obstacles in the way of effecting this arrangement. Since the commission had sat upon this subject, Lord Grey's plans had been, in a great measure, carried out; and that want of harmony between the military and civil authorities which was then complained of had no longer existence, inasmuch as the effect of those plans had been to produce the most perfect harmony between them.

Lord SEYMOUR quoted the opinion of Earl Grey as to the impossibility of the efficient working of a system so complicated.

Sir J. PAKINGTON said that the present system could not be otherwise than detrimental to the service.

After a few words from Mr. E. ELLICE and Colonel KNOX,

Lord J. RUSSELL said he thought it would be well to have a more efficient and more direct authority in those cases where the health of the troops was concerned. Such a new organisation as was proposed would, however, at the present moment, lead to great confusion and inconvenience.

Mr. HUME subsequently withdrew his motion.

On the motion of Mr. HUME, leave was given to bring in a bill to charge the expense of hustings at elections on boroughs and counties.

The Coasting Trade Bill was read a second time.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

In reply to the Earl of Derby, the Earl of ABERDEEN said, believing that the New Reform Bill had found favour with the country, and that it was a just, liberal, honest, and safe measure, the Government intended to persevere with the second reading on the 27th April, the day to which Lord J. RUSSELL intended to postpone the further progress of the bill.

The Earl of CLANCARTY moved to add the names of five Irish Peers to the Select Committee appointed to consider the Irish Land Bills.

After some discussion, the proposition was negatived without a division.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

Lord J. RUSSELL gave notice of his intention on Friday next to move for leave to bring in a bill to regulate and amend the government of the University of Oxford.

THE PROPOSED REFORM BILL.

Lord J. RUSSELL, in moving the postponement of the second reading of the Reform Bill from the 13th March to the 27th of April, explained his reasons for adopting such a course. Having referred to the passage in the Queen's Speech, upon which the bill was introduced, the noble Lord alluded to the amendment of which Sir Edward Dering had given notice, in regard to the second reading of this bill on the 13th March. It seemed to him (Lord J. Russell) that the object of the hon. Baronet was one evincing greater hostility to the Government than to the bill, towards which his notice expressed no disapprobation. Under all the circumstances of the case, he (Lord J. Russell) did not think that the state of public business would be such on the 13th inst. as to render it expedient to proceed with the second reading of the bill. He would remind the House that it would require twenty-five days from the date of the last proposal sent to Russia, before an answer could be received, and if the Emperor of Russia still refused to listen to terms, her Majesty's Government, at the end of the month, would have to announce to the House the fact, that peaceful relations with that country were at an end. He therefore thought it better that the second reading of the bill should be fixed until the 27th April—a postponement which, in conclusion, he formally moved, although he said he would not pledge himself then to proceed with the measure, since circumstances might still exist to render such a course inexpedient.

Sir J. SHELLEY expressed his surprise at the course taken by the Government. The Reformers of this country had generally approved of the bill, although some of them wished it to go a little further. They had all supposed that the bill had been brought forward in perfect good faith. He could see no sound reason for the postponement of the measure, and unless some better reasons were given for that postponement, than he had yet heard, he could only come to the conclusion that the bill had only been introduced to deceive and humbug the country. (Cheers). In conclusion, he wished to ask whether it was really the intention of the Government to press forward the bill on the 27th April, or to get rid of it altogether? (Cheers).

Sir E. DERING said that, so far from wishing to impede the progress of Reform, no man in the House was more anxious than himself to forward, at a proper time, a large and comprehensive measure of Reform. He believed the present time to be inopportune for the discussion of such a question; and he should certainly persevere in the amendment of which he had given notice when the noble Lord moved the second reading of the bill.

The Earl of MARCH had heard the explanation of the noble Lord with both pleasure and regret—with the former, because he was glad the country was to be spared the consequences of division and agitation at a time of war; with the latter, because he regretted that any Government should dare to trifle with public opinion in such a manner as had now been done (Cheers).

Mr. LABOUCHERE defended the course taken by the Government.

Colonel SIBTHORP had never expected anything but insincerity from such a vacillating Government as the present.

Mr. PULSE regretted the necessity for the postponement, but thought the Government justified by circumstances in the step they had taken.

Sir J. PAKINGTON said, that though he thought it would be dangerous to the country to proceed at the present time with the bill, he at the same time considered that the explanations which they had heard were humiliating and discreditable to the Government, because the bill, if it ought not to be proceeded with, ought never to have been introduced.

Mr. HUME had still full confidence in the Government, and hoped to find them prepared to stand by the bill at a proper time.

Sir G. GREY taunted the opposition with seeking to weaken the hands of the Government by repeated and groundless charges of incompetency at a time when they ought to be left with perfect freedom from internal hostility, in order to enable them efficiently to prepare for the consequences of an inevitable war.

Mr. DISRAELI thought the reasons urged for the postponement of the bill insufficient, or that they ought to have operated against its introduction. The noble Lord had placed himself in a singular position by the course which he had taken, as he stood before them a Minister of the Crown still retaining office, although he could not carry his measures. It could not be expected that the war on which we were entering would always be regarded with enthusiasm by the country; and if it became necessary to double the Income-tax or to re-impose the Soap-duty, the people might grumble at being saddled with enormous taxation by narrow majorities made up by members whose boroughs stood in Schedule A or B, and who, according to the noble Lord's own showing, ought not to be in the House at all. The Government had postponed the bill because war was probable; but at a time when war and even invasion were thought to be imminent, Ministers had gone to the hustings, debating at one and the same time upon the danger of invasion and the blessings of Reform. (Cheers).

Lord J. RUSSELL vindicated the conduct of himself and his colleagues against the attacks made upon him from the Opposition benches: and said, in reply to the question of Sir J. Shelley, that he had no statement to make beyond that contained in his first speech. At a future time he would approach the subject with an earnest desire to benefit the country at large—a result which could not fail to follow from the addition of large masses of intelligent voters to the constituency of the country.

Sir J. SHELLEY briefly explained, the motion was agreed to.

On the order of the day for going into a committee of supply,

Mr P. O'BRIEN moved the following resolution: "That it is the opinion of this House that, prior to any future contract for the supply of spirits for the use of her Majesty's navy being made, tenders for the supply of home-made spirits be admitted."

Sir J. GRAHAM oppos.d the motion; and, after a short discussion, the House divided, and the motion was negatived by a majority of 170 to 35.

Mr. LUCAS then called attention to certain grievances to which Catholic soldiers and sailors were subjected.

Mr. S HERBERT and Sir J. GRAHAM entered into explanations as to what had been done to remove the grounds of complaint on the part of the Roman Catholics; and the right hon. Baronet said that it was in vain to disguise the fact that, as long as the Legislature recognised the Protestant as the established religion of the country, the views of Mr. Lucas could not be carried out.

The House then went into Committee of Supply, and a supplemental vote of £500 000 and 15,000 men for the army was agreed to.

The Commissariat Estimates were also agreed to, soon after which the House adjourned.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,

TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, MARCH 2.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 8 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading	Thermometer. Lowest Reading	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
	Inches.	°	°	°	°			Inches.
Feb. 24	30.493	48·8	31·2	40·5	+ 0·9	84	..	0.00
" 25	30.401	51·3	40·8	45·6	+ 6·0	86	..	0.00
" 26	30.544	50·1	31·0	40·2	+ 0·6	86	..	0.00
" 27	30.408	51·1	33·0	42·0	+ 2·1	78	..	0.00
" 28	30.396	49·3	36·6	42·6	+ 2·7	74	..	0.00
Mar. 1	30·717	55·2	35·7	40·2	+ 0·2	65	..	0.00
" 2	30.679	58·0	26·6	41·8	+ 1·8	62	..	0.00

Note.—The sign + denotes above the average, and the sign — below the average. The numbers in the seventh column are calculated on the supposition that the saturation of the air is represented by 100.

The reading of the barometer decreased from 30.53 inches at the beginning of the week to 30.40 inches by the afternoon of Feb. 24; increased to 30.58 inches by the morning of the 26th; decreased to 30.39 inches by the morning of the 28th; increased to the highest reading during the week (30.78 inches) by noon on March 1; and decreased to 30.68 inches by the end of the week. The mean for the week, at the height of 83 feet above the level of the sea, was 30.543 inches. The readings of the barometer this week have been very remarkable. That on March 1 was higher than on any day, with the exception of March 6, 1853, since January 1, 1850.

The mean daily temperatures have varied from 5·8° to 0·2° above their average value. During the time they were above their averages—viz., on every day from February 26th to March, the average daily excess was 2·3°.

The mean temperature of the week was 42·3°, being 2·4° above the average of the corresponding week during 38 years.

The range of temperature during the week was 32·3°.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 20·4°.

The weather during the week was very fine, the air was dry, and the sky almost cloudless, with the exception of the 24th.

For the month of February, the mean reading of the barometer, at the level of the sea was 30·237 inches. The highest temperature during the month was 55·5° on the 6th, and the lowest was 22·5° on the 14th. The range of temperature during the month was, therefore, 33°. The mean of all the highest temperatures by day was 47·3°, and of all the lowest by night was 33·7°. The mean daily range of temperature during the month was, therefore, 14·7°. The mean temperature of the month was 40·1°, being 1·3° above the average of thirty-eight Februaries. The mean temperature of evaporation was 37·8°. The mean temperature of the dew point was 33·3°. The mean degree of humidity of the air was 80, complete saturation being represented by 100. The fall of rain during the month was 1·1 inch.

Lewisham, March 3rd, 1854. JAMES GLAISHER.

THE TAXES ON KNOWLEDGE.

The fifth annual meeting of the Association for the Repeal of the Taxes on Knowledge was held at Exeter-hall, on Wednesday evening; Mr. J. L. Ricardo, M.P., in the chair; supported by Mr. Cobden, M.P., Sir Joshua Walmsley, M.P.; Mr. Heyworth, M.P.; Mr. Crawfurd, M.P.; Mr. Herbert Ingram, Mr. John Cassel, Mr. Alfred Novello, Mr. Hodgskin, Mr. Nicholay, and other active members of the association.

Mr. John Cassell moved the first resolution:—That paper, the raw material of knowledge, and an important element in our manufacturing and commercial prosperity, is not a fit subject for taxation, and that any increase of expenditure ought to be met by taxes less injurious to the general interests of the country" (Hear). If the manufacture of paper were merely subject to the fiscal restrictions which at present oppressed it, they could show abundant reasons for asking for its immediate and total repeal of the tax. But, with the exception of those trades connected with the manufacture of intoxicating liquors and tobacco, the manufacture of paper was the only branch of industry which continued to be subject to excise interference. The taxes upon soap, upon glass, upon leather, and upon bricks, had all been removed. Paper, in fact, was the only article the duty on which was recommended to be abolished by Sir Henry Parnell's Committee that was still retained, and of all commodities it was the one which ought naturally to be untaxed. It was impossible to remove the restrictions from paper without sensibly augmenting the employment of the people. Therefore, merely as a question involving the industry of this country, every friend of commercial freedom ought to exert himself to secure its immediate and total abolition.

Mr. Herbert Ingram, who seconded the resolution, said he was glad to have an opportunity of publicly expressing such a opinion and the result of his experience regarding the operation of the Excise duty on paper. This tax was condemned alike by all parties, whether in Parliament or out of Parliament. Political economists and practical men both condemned it. Previous to his acceptance of office, Mr. Disraeli voted for the repeal of the Paper-duty; but when he became Chancellor of the Exchequer, he, unfortunately, followed the example too frequently set by official members who had been very economical so long as they remained on the Opposition benches. As for the present Chancellor of the Exchequer, he had stated both publicly and privately that the paper-duty was a bad tax, and ought to be abolished. They were told that Government could not afford to repeal a tax which yielded so much money, because they needed all the funds they could raise to carry on the war. This was no argument at all. The people of England were wealthy enough to raise whatever money might be required for that purpose. They did not need to levy a tax on the home manufactures to the great injury of all employed in that large branch of trade. Why not rather increase the Income tax? (Cheers.) Government ought to remember that paper was sometimes of great use in carrying on war. Paper bullets frequently set city officials harder than cannon shot. They ought not to uphold such a tax upon knowledge any longer. There was no country in the world but England where a duty was levied upon paper. Even Louis Napoleon, in spite of all his power, was unable to impose a tax on paper. The raw material—the rags—out of which the paper is manufactured, were collected from all corners of the globe—from Italy, Hungary, Germany, and the shores of the Baltic. It might, perhaps, be some satisfaction to the serfs of Russia to learn that, although they dare not say a word against the Emperor, their rags serve to make paper, on which we make known to the whole world the fraudulent, selfish, and aggressive conduct of their sovereign. Mr. Ingram explained at some length the vexatious interference of the persons Excise-men with the business of the paper manufacturer, which was even worse than the tax itself:—Thus, they dried the paper so thoroughly as almost to destroy the fabric of the paper, because the duty was charged on the weight. But when the paper went into the print-office, the first process was to damp it before it could be worked properly; and this, of course, added considerably to the cost. Here were two ridiculous processes to go through first the drying of the paper, and then the wetting of it, both of which might be dispensed with if the duty were abolished; while at the same time the impressions produced, especially in illustrated works, would be greatly superior to what they are at present. Another vexatious regulation was that which required all paper to be made up in parcels of 24 sheets each, to be counted and set aside at the house of the manufacturer; so that altogether the increase of cost was very much greater than the duty represented. As an illustration of this he referred to the "Illustrated London Reading-book," of which a large number was sold at 1s. each, but which could have supplied at 6d. had the duty been abolished, with all the vexatious regulations connected with it. Surely that was a tax on knowledge, and one which ought to be repealed as speedily as possible. We were spending millions every year on police and prisons, for the punishment and prevention of crime, and at the same time we persisted in maintaining laws which keep the people in ignorance—one of the most fertile sources of crime. In seconding the resolution, he would call upon them to pass it by acclamation, and thereby express their detestation of this tax upon the industry, the morality, and the intelligence of the community.

Mr. Hodgskin supported the resolution, and read an extract from the *Mic-Macs Gazette*, of Jan. 16 (published in San Francisco, a city which had not an existence six years ago, but had now eleven daily papers), stating that many people in England took second-hand papers, and asking "Who is going to establish a second-hand newspaper?" Nothing could be thought a greater meanness than to wear second-hand clothes; but the people of this country were obliged to be content with information that was secondhand; and the great bulk of the people did not know of the most important events, in which they were deeply interested, until the day after they were published in the papers.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Mr. Collett gave a summary of the proceedings in Parliament during last session, with a view to effect the repeal of these taxes on knowledge, and moved the following resolution:—

"That, while a system of cheap newspaper postage is a matter at once of high importance and of easy attainment, no postal privileges granted merely to the public can compensate for the evils of the stamp tax on news and of the security system, which were originally imposed, and are still retained, for the purpose of preventing the cheap circulation of intelligence among the great mass of the people."

Mr. Cobden, M.P., seconded the resolution. He advocated the repeal of the newspaper stamp-duty, because he believed that cheap newspapers would do more to educate the people—to create in them a taste for discussing questions which relate to their every-day interest and welfare—than could be effected by any amount of legislative aid. Those papers, which were most prosperous, with the greatest circulation of all at their head, had been the most favourable to this movement; but the resolutions passed at meetings of proprietors of provincial journals proved that among that body there was a decided opposition to the repeal of the stamp; and he believed that this movement would never be completely successful until they could prove to these journalists—as they proved to the agricultural in regard to the repeal of the Corn-law—that the proposed measure would promote their interests as well as those of the public, and that the existence of the Stamp-law had inflicted injury upon the newspaper press. This could be proved by a comparison of the daily press of London with that of New York. New York, with its suburbs, contained a population of but 700,000 inhabitants; while the population of London, with its suburbs, was nearly 2,500,000. London was the metropolis of the commercial world—the factor, banker, and broker of the whole world—the sole capital of England. New York was merely the principal port of the state of the American Union, having large cities in twenty or thirty other states. Notwithstanding this, there were in New York three times as many daily papers and three times as many in London; and he had no hesitation in saying that there was far more money made by the papers in New York, where there was perfect freedom, than was made by the daily papers in London. As regarded the paper duty, he was afraid that they must lay their account with bearing it a little longer, owing to the impending war. Had we remained at peace it was understood that this tax would have been given up; but the sum was too large for any Chancellor of the Exchequer to surrender unless he had something of a surplus. He endeavoured to convince the newspaper world generally, that it was their interest to agitate for a repeal of this tax. He said deliberately, and from the best information both in London and New York, that twice as much money was made every year in New York by daily papers, where there was no restriction, as was made in rich and flourishing London (Hear, hear). Was this a natural or an exceptional state of things? Was it true of any other trade, the book trade for instance? Would anybody be so mad as to say that the grocers, linendrapers, bootmakers, hatters, or tailors of London, supplying 2,500,000 people, did not make more money every year than the same trades in New York, with a population of only 700,000? Those engaged in this pursuit might argue that it free-trade in newspapers produced so much prosperity in New York, it could not do harm in London; and such an argument might well occur to those who for years had been carrying on such papers at a loss. But it was not merely the proprietors who were injured. The capitalist who had embarked his money in a newspaper was but an atom, a fraction, of the great interest described by the name of the press. What became of printers, reporters, editors, and agents for transmitting information? Would they not benefit far more if London had a daily press of proportionate prosperity to that of New York? Would there not be a greatly increased demand for compositors, printers, type-founders, paper-makers, reporters, editors, writers, and all that class of accomplished, educated men, whom it ought to be an especial object to try to increase and multiply in this country.

After a few words from Mr. Charles Murray, the resolution was put and carried unanimously.

Mr. Crawfurd, M.P., proposed the next resolution, which was also carried without a dissentient voice—"That the last attempt to define what is a newspaper has been signally unsuccessful, and that the increased inability of the Board of Inland Revenue to enforce the law with impartiality, shows that no remedy will be effectual that does not arm the press from all taxation, and liberate it from all control except that of a court of law."

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, March 5.—1st Sunday in Lent. Battle of Barossa, 1811.
MONDAY, 6.—Michael Angelo born, 1475.
TUESDAY, 7.—St. Perpetua.
WEDNESDAY, 8. Ember Week. Raffaelle born, 1483.
THURSDAY, 9.—David Rizzio assassinated, 1566.
FRIDAY, 10.—Sir Hugh Myddleton died, 1589.
SATURDAY, 11.—Benjamin West died, 1820.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE.
FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 11, 1854.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday	Friday.	Saturday
M h m 5 35	A h m 6 10	M h m 6 39	A h m 7 10	M h m 7 33	A h m 8 5	M h m 8 30
A h m 9 10	M h m 9 45	A h m 10 20	M h m 10 55	A h m 11 30	M h m 0 11	A h m 0 40
M h m Tide	A h m 0 30					

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. E. G. and J. S. G.—Received, on behalf of — Defoe, the great-grandson of the author of "Robinson Crusoe," the sum of 2s., in postage-stamps, which has been forwarded to Mr. Charles Knight, 90, Fleet-street, who has kindly consented to receive the subscriptions.
R. P., Newton.—There were four folio editions of Shakspeare's plays published in the seventeenth century viz., in 1623, 1632, 1664, and 1685. Of these, the folio 1623 is the only one of any great value, either in a literary or monetary point of view; but this is so rare, that a fine copy would probably fetch a *hundred and thirty guineas* at the present time.
Z will please to accept our best thanks for the "Kentish Post, or Canterbury News Letter," March, 16–20, 1744-5."

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 1854.

It is not surprising that Russia should endeavour to excite rebellion among the Greek subjects of the Sultan. Without a friend or an ally among the nations of Europe, the Czar must find support among the internal malcontents of the Turkish Empire, or stand entirely isolated from aid and sympathy. We do not expect, however, that his attempts in this respect will be very successful. It will be well for the King of Greece if he, on his part, keep studiously aloof from such intrigues. The establishment of the kingdom of Greece is now pretty generally admitted to have been the result of misplaced sympathy. The Greeks as a nation have proved themselves utterly unworthy of the interest which they excited, and of the efforts which were made in their behalf. The name of Greece aroused a vast quantity of schoolboy enthusiasm, upwards of thirty years ago—an enthusiasm, unsupported by any facts of more recent occurrence than those which illustrated the ancient names of Athens and Sparta. The world has now discovered its error, and found that the Greek of the nineteenth century bears as little resemblance to the Greek of the classical days of antiquity, as a wooden figure at a snuff-shop does to the divine figure of Apollo Belvidere. The kingdom of Greece must stand upon its merits and its good behaviour, for it no longer possesses that factitious interest, by the support of which it was wrested from the Turkish Empire. The present war is not one of sympathy, but of principle. If King Otho be wise he will do his utmost to keep clear of the dispute. Russian intriguers are no real friends of his kingdom. The encouragement which the Greek Sovereign and people may give to the insurgents in those portions of ancient Greece which still belong to the Turkish empire, will assuredly be visited upon their heads by the indignation of Europe. If King Otho hold his own during the approaching struggle he will do well; but to take part with Russia, either covertly or openly, will be to dig a pit for his own destruction. Although the course of Russia, in stirring up discontent in Albania, may be considered a politic one, as far as Russian interests are concerned, the Czar will, doubtless, discover, ere long, that a similar line of policy with regard to a portion of his dominions may be both necessary and expedient to the allies. The insurrection which he may attempt to foster among the Grecian subjects of the Porte may prove unsuccessful; but the insurrection which the allies might stir up in the ancient kingdom of Poland would meet with sympathy in every part of Europe. Indeed, the opinion has gained ground, not only in France and England, but in Austria and Prussia, that the restoration of Poland would be conducive to the highest interests of European safety and independence.

THE Lord Chancellor, on Monday night, submitted to the House of Lords a Bill for the Amendment of the Law, which was mainly founded on the Report of the Law Commissioners, sent in last year; but which, in some respects, differed from that Report. His Lordship has, with certain parties, incurred no small amount of obloquy for not having adopted all the Commissioners' recommendations; but, so far as his statement in the House goes, he appears to have reason and justice on his side.

First of all, as to Juries. The Commissioners seem to desire to make the presence of a jury an exception. The Lord Chancellor would still continue it as the rule; although he is willing that, in certain cases, where the parties agree, and the Judge confirms their agreement, that the presence of a jury shall not be required. This is taking the true course; for, though it is objected that the Judge will never dispense with a jury, if he can help it, but will always have a jury to divide with him the labour and the responsibility of a decision, we do not believe that that objection is well founded; and, if it is—if there is a Judge who will, from motives of selfishness, thus abandon his duty, he must be one whose strength of moral rectitude is so small, that he ought not to be trusted alone to decide on anything. The argument founded by Lord Brougham on the practice in the County Courts is worth nothing. It is true that, in those courts the great majority of cases is decided without a jury; but, then, it is equally true that, in order to have a jury, the party requiring one must give a notice, which he is very likely to omit giving in time; and must pay additional costs, which he is quite sure to desire to escape. To make the proceedings in these courts an argument one way or the other, there should be a jury summoned for every sitting of the court; and the parties who desired to try with, and those who desired to try without a jury, should simply declare their wishes in court; and no greater or less costs should follow the choice either way. If, under such circumstances, the parties preferred a trial before a Judge alone, to a trial before a Judge and jury, there would be a strong reason for adopting a system which, if adopted, would make this ancient and deservedly popular institution of the country fall into desuetude.

Oddly enough, there comes accompanying this proposition, which has for its object the gradual abolition of juries, a scheme for improving them. The Commissioners rightly enough consider that the distinction now existing between special and common juries is one of very modern origin, and, in all probability, sprang from an abuse or a misunderstanding of the law, and they, therefore, propose that the two classes of men now divided should be mixed together, and that one jury panel alone should suffice for the courts. To this suggestion the Lord Chancellor, and every one else who understands the subject, gives in his hearty adhesion. Juries will be altogether improved. At present the gentleman, plaintiff or defendant, suspects a feeling of class to exist against him among common jurymen; while, on the other hand, if a person in humble circumstances is a plaintiff or defendant in a suit against a gentleman, or against a company, it is almost a rule of professional practice to make the cause a special jury cause, when, of course, the poorer man suspects the purpose for which it is done to be a bad one, and anticipates that, as a matter of course, that purpose will be attained. The return to the ancient common law of England will be a great advantage. It will secure the greatest intelligence, by mixing, on an equal footing, and in one joint employment—such as does not now exist between special and common jurymen—persons of different classes and different habits of life.

But the alteration which will most attract the general attention is the alteration proposed with regard to Oaths. At present Quakers, Moravians, and Separatists, are exempted from taking oaths, and are allowed to make affirmations, which they declare, as religious men, to be binding on their consciences. The penalty of perjury in the next world, should the witness speak falsely, is of course assumed to be incurred by him, whatever may be the form of asseveration he adopts; and in this world, should his falsehood be detected, the law would visit on false evidence given under a declaration the same penalty as if it was given under an oath. Of late years, many men, without avowing, nay, while contradicting, their adherence to any known sect, have declared that they could not conscientiously take an oath. The Lord Chancellor himself relates a case of this kind which occurred before him when travelling circuit as a Judge, and in which, on the following morning, the scruples of the individual—whom the Lord Chancellor believes to have been a thoroughly conscientious man—were removed, and the oath was taken. On objections of the kind thus stated, the Commissioners and the Lord Chancellor propose to legislate; and by legislation to allow any one who declares that he has conscientious scruples as to taking an oath, to be exempted from doing so, and to give his evidence without an oath. The bare proposition is enough to startle any one, and therefore to it is added this plan, that the Judge is first to examine the party, and, on being satisfied that the scruples are really conscientious, he is to admit such party to give his evidence not on oath. A more mistaken notion and a more weak defence against abuse have never been presented to the notice of the Legislature. The greatest dissemblers will always the most readily satisfy the Judge; their unscrupulous declarations will mislead him; and the time which ought to be devoted to trying the merits of the cause, will be wasted (we use the term advisedly) in helpless criticism upon the sincerity of the witness. The Judge will be in a really hopeless situation. When a counsel cross-examines a perjured witness he has something on which to found his cross-examination—facts, dates, times, circumstances, may one or all afford the means of detection; but where are the means of detection when the assertion relates not to external things which may be tested by other things, but to internal convictions which are subject to no test. It is true that the witness who has deceived the Judge and falsified the evidence may be prosecuted for perjury, but prosecution for perjury has long been found to be one of the weakest of all means to prevent the crime it is intended to punish. In fact, it is so troublesome and so expensive that it is seldom resorted to; and, as those who resort to it are generally persons in whom revenge, rather than a love of justice, appears to be predominant, the proceeding has fallen into a kind of disrepute. But the sanctity of an oath is still (thank God) a popular belief; and, while he who betrays his word is, among enlightened and good men, but among them alone, looked upon as a reprobate, he who betrays his oath is universally deemed to be a villain. If the oath is not required, the fear of this universal execration will be gone. It may be said that the oath is not now required from a Quaker, a Moravian, and a Separatist. True; but each of these professes to declare in a Court of Justice, under a solemn, if not a divine, sanction, though without a divine invocation, that which he speaks is true; and each binds himself to that declaration by showing that he belongs to a recognised sect, among whose members the form of an oath is forbidden, while the sanctity of a formal declaration is religiously enforced. But the man who belongs to no sect gives no such warranty of his religious sincerity. He may, by possibility, be a most conscientious man, but he offers no intelligible and unmistakeable proof that he is so. The law is required to take him on trust, and to accept, so to speak, his own bail at his own valuation. The case related by the Lord Chancellor (where, by-the-by, the oath was submitted to) is an instance of a conscientious man, who belonged to no sect; but a person who appeared before one of our police magistrates the other day, and took the same objection to an oath, did not in the estimation of the magistrate, who rejected his evidence, furnish by his speech or his conduct any reason to put him in the same category. Is the Judge to try this interlocutory question of the conscientiousness of the witness? And, if so, is he to do so without any assistance of extraneous evidence? or is there to be evidence produced on both sides? This last supposition is impossible, for no notice of the interlocutory trial will be given, and the Judge must therefore determine the question of the witness's fitness as best he may. The consequences of deciding under such circumstances may be mischievous to the parties; the proposed system must be disastrous to the country. It would be better to abolish oaths altogether; and, putting all witnesses on the same footing, to declare that nothing but the common law penalties of perjury shall attach on false evidence; leaving out, as might then be done with religious grace, all pretence of imposing by mere human authority a divine sanction on a human act.

We have not space at this moment to proceed further with the examination of the bill introduced by the Lord Chancellor. As to the change in the mode of proceeding in the addresses by counsel—as to the matter relating to the stamping of documents—as to the power of any one court to render complete justice in a particular case, without the necessity of the party going before another tribunal—and as to the right of a creditor to take in execution debts owing to his debtor—we agree both with the Lord Chancellor and the Commissioners, that the alterations are required. As to some others, which we may notice, on a future occasion, we entertain serious doubts. His Lordship is entitled to the thanks of the country, for the manner in which he has introduced the bill; and, we must add, for the discrimination, which, while anxious to improve the law, has induced him to pause before giving his high sanction to hasty attempts at improvement that could not have proved anything but serious deteriorations.

THE COURT.

The Queen has distinguished the past week by a series of hospitalities at Buckingham Palace, commencing with a grand dinner, on Saturday last, at which the company included her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, the Duke of Newcastle, the Sardinian Minister the Portuguese Minister, and the Countess Lavradio, the Marquis and Marchioness of Kildare, the Earl Spencer, Viscount and Viscountess Evelyn, Sir William and Lady Molesworth, the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, Rear-Admiral M. F. Berkeley, and Colonel Airey. The Earl of Aberdeen had an audience of her Majesty on Saturday. The Prince Consort paid a visit to the Royal Panopticon of Science and Art, in Leicester-square, and the Prince of Wales and Prince Alfred visited the Zoological Gardens in the Regent's Park.

On Sunday her Majesty, his Royal Highness Prince Albert, the Duchess of Kent, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, and the Princess Alice, attended divine service in the private Chapel of Buckingham Palace. The Hon. and Rev. G. Wellesley officiated.

On Monday the Earl of Clarendon had an audience of her Majesty. The Prince Consort and the Prince of Wales rode out on horseback in the course of the morning. In the afternoon the Queen and the Prince Consort took a drive in an open landau and four. In the evening her Majesty had a dinner party, the company at which included her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, the Earl and Countess Grenville, the Spanish Minister, the Brazilian Minister, Lord and Lady Colville of Culross, Lord and Lady Lyttelton, Lord and Lady Overstone, the Right Hon. B. Disraeli and Mrs. Disraeli, Sir John and Lady Young, Sir George Brown, Colonel Eyre, and Mr. Philip Pusey.

On Tuesday morning at seven o'clock the 1st battalion of the Scots Fusilier Guards paraded in front of Buckingham Palace, immediately after leaving the Wellington-barracks *en route* to Portsmouth, for embarkation on foreign service. Her Majesty, his Royal Highness Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred, and the Princesses appeared on the balcony of the centre window. The battalion under the command of Col. Dixon being formed in line, presented arms, and gave three cheers, after which they marched to the Waterloo station of the South-Western Railway. The Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, the Princess Alice, Prince Alfred, and the Princess Helena and Louisa, visited Astley's Theatre during the afternoon. In the evening her Majesty and the Prince Consort honoured the Haymarket Theatre with their presence.

On Wednesday the Queen and the Prince Consort, accompanied by the Princess Royal and the Princess Alice, and attended by the Ladies and Gentlemen of the Royal Household, visited the Tower of London. In the evening her Majesty had a dinner party, the company at which included her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, the Duchess of Sutherland, the Earl and Countess of Clarendon, Viscount and Viscountess Hardinge, Lord Raglan, and Admiral Sir William Parker.

On Thursday the Earl of Aberdeen had an audience of the Queen. In the evening her Majesty had a dinner party, the company at which included her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess Mary, his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, the Hanoverian Minister, the Marquis of Breadalbane, the Earl and Lady Constance Grosvenor, and Sir Alexander Woodford.

Viscountess Jocelyn has succeeded the Marchioness of Ely as Lady in Waiting. Colonel the Hon. C. Grey and the Hon. Mortimer S. West have relieved Major-General Buckley and Lieut.-Colonel the Hon. A. N. Hood, as Equerry and Groom in Waiting. Lord Waterpark has succeeded the Marquis of Ormonde as Lord in Waiting to the Queen, and Captain the Hon. Dudley De Ros has relieved Colonel Wylde in the duties of Equerry in Waiting to Prince Albert.

THE DUCHESS OF GLOUCESTER.

We are sorry to announce the severe indisposition of this estimable Princess. Her Royal Highness has suffered considerably during the past week from symptoms which have given her medical attendants some cause for anxiety. Her Majesty the Queen has called almost daily upon her august relative, and all the members of the Royal family have been constant in their inquiries after the condition of her Royal Highness. The latest accounts describe the venerable Princess as having passed a tolerable night.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess D'Aumale and the Princess de Salerno visited her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, on Saturday, at Clarence House, St. James's. Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess de Nemours visited her Royal Highness on Tuesday

The Earl of Mansfield's only son, the youthful Lord Stormont, has just entered the army as cornet in the 8th Royal Irish Hussars.

Viscountess Palmerston held a reception on Saturday evening, at the family residence, in Carlton-gardens. A brilliant circle of the *corps diplomatique* and aristocracy honored her Ladyship with their presence.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

TESTIMONIAL.—A large silver salver and jug, both richly chased, have been "presented to the Rev. Robert Payne Smith, M.A., by his friends, of the congregation and vestry of Trinity Episcopal Chapel, Edinburgh; and by the grateful scholars of Trinity Episcopal School, which owes to him its origin and foundation; in affectionate remembrance of his pastoral labours among them.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—*Rectories:* The Rev. J. Anderson to Norton-in-the-Moors, near Newcastle-under-Lyne; Rev. F. Boyd to Wouldham, Kent; Rev. B. G. Bridges to Blankney, Lincolnshire; Rev. J. Hart to Somerby, Lincolnshire, Rev. J. Hampstead to Gratwich, St. Mary, Staffordshire; Rev. Rev. F. Bennett to Shrewton; Rev. D. D. Stewart to Maidstone; Rev. J. G. Edwards to Pitting n. *Incumbencies:* The Rev. W. Barber to St. John's Church, Greatbridge; Rev. J. Cargill, to Shirebrook, Derbyshire; Rev. J. F. English to Brentwood; Rev. R. Glover to Trinity Church, Maidstone: Rev. N. Greer well to the parish of St. Mark's, Holbeck, Leeds; Rev. E. R. Hamsden to Breinton, Herefordshire; Rev. W. Poole, to Henland and Little Dewchurch, near Hereford; Rev. J. Wilson to St James's Church, near Alnwick; Rev. H. Woodward to St. John's Church, Doddington, Salop. *Perpetual Curacy:* Rev. R. Glover to Trinity Church, Maidstone.

WHITTINGTON CLUB.—On Thursday the sixth anniversary was celebrated by a promenade concert, followed by a full-dress ball. The soirée was well attended, and the arrangements were admirable. The affairs of the club, we are happy to learn, are in a prosperous condition; the system of management has been greatly improved; and the constant accession of new members proves the social advantages of the institution to be more extensively appreciated than at any former period.

TRINIDAD INTELLIGENCE.—The West India Mail Packet Company, on Wednesday week, had prepared, on board the *Orinoco* at Southampton, on the arrival of the Coldstream Guards from Chichester, no less than 1000 dishes of "Irish Stew" for their breakfast. This generous supply was presented to the men and women of the battalion, independently of their regular rations. Nor were the officers forgotten: they were informed that the whole of the stock of wines on board was placed at their disposal.

THE NEW ULSTER KING OF ARMS.—His Excellency the Lord-Lieutenant has been pleased to confer the honour of knighthood on John Bernard Burke, Esq., Ulster King of Arms.—*Dublin Gazette.*

THE CRYSTAL PALACE COMPANY.—An extraordinary general meeting of this company was held at the Bridge-house Hotel, on Tuesday. From the speech of the chairman it appeared that applications for space for the exhibition of manufactures are far beyond what there is to give. A resolution authorising the directors to raise a sum of £250,000, making altogether £1,000,000, for the completion of the building, was carried.

EMBARKATION OF TROOPS IN THE "HIMALAYA" STEAM-SHIP.

(From our own Correspondent.)

THE great interest excited by this noble ship, with 1500 souls on board, induces me to send you the accompanying Sketch.

Owing to a want of water we were obliged to postpone our sailing from Southampton till Saturday morning last. Our voyage thence to Plymouth occupied only nine hours and a half, being a distance of one hundred and forty miles. The day was delightful, and as we had light head winds and smooth water, nothing occurred to check the enthusiasm of our gallant band of 111 Engineers and 210 Riflemen. Indeed, the cheers of so many of our countrymen at Southampton had scarcely died away before the military and artificers employed in fortifying Hurst Castle cheered us onward; and, as we steamed up to our anchorage in Plymouth Sound, a number of boats put off to welcome the *Himalaya* and her warrior freight to this western port.

On Sunday forenoon we were visited by Sir Harry Smith, Commander-in-Chief of the district, and Colonel of the Rifle Brigade, who attended morning service on board, and an impressive sermon delivered by the chaplain of the port; after which the gallant General addressed the soldiers in an energetic strain. He was warmly cheered by the soldiers, some of whom had been with him in Kaffirland.

After midday, the public were admitted to see, as an advertisement here announced, the largest steamer in the world, and between a flotilla of row-boats and repeated voyages, to and from the shore, of steam-boats, several thousand persons were admitted to see this splendid ship, through the courtesy of Captain Kellock. Admiral Parker, Admiral Ommaney, Lady Mount Edgecumbe, Lady Smith, Captains Kingcombe, Eyres, and Low, of the Royal Navy, and the military officers in garrison, with many of the gentry of Plymouth and surrounding country, were amongst our visitors on Monday. The embarkation of the 93rd Regiment was effected in a most satisfactory manner, in steamers from the Victualling Yard, without the slightest accident; and before sunset, on the 27th, a considerable amount of regularity and comfort was established amongst our fifteen hundred souls.

At about half-past four in the afternoon, the *Royal George*, 120-gun ship, steamed past the *Himalaya*, to anchor for the night in the Sound, previous to joining the Baltic fleet at Spithead. She manned her rigging, and gave three hearty cheers for the outward-bound troops, who returned her compliment with interest; and many remarked the destinations of the respective ships as likely to be at opposite extremities of the Russian empire.

On Tuesday morning the *Himalaya* left the Sound direct for Malta, at the rate of fifteen miles an hour. She is expected to be in Valetta harbour by Tuesday next.

HIMALAYA." "ROYAL GEORGE," 120 GUNS.

THE "HIMALAYA" STEAM-SHIP IN PLYMOUTH SOUND, WITH TROOPS FOR THE WAR.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON'S SPEECH.

The following is an outline of the important Speech delivered by the Emperor, on Thursday, on the Opening of the Legislative Session of France, for 1854:—

The Emperor spoke first of the measures adopted by his Government to remedy the insufficiency of the harvest, which was estimated at 10,000,000 hectolitres. The Government could not undertake the purchase; commerce alone could do it. The Government accordingly did the only thing possible, in encouraging purchases and in setting the import of grain free from all duties. Seven million hectolitres of foreign corn had been already imported for home consumption, and the rest was either in bond or on its way. "But," added the Emperor, "famine but just averted, war is beginning."

His Majesty said that, to avoid a collision, he had gone as far as honour permitted, and, if France now draws the sword it is only that she has been compelled to do it. France has no idea of aggrandisement, she wishes to resist dangerous encroachments; the days of conquest have passed, never to return.

"These, then, are the results of an unselfish and frank policy:—We have England, our former rival, forming with us the bonds of an alliance, which becomes from day to day more intimate, because the opinions which we defend are also those of the English people. Germany, which the remembrance of former wars rendered still distrustful, and which on that account has given for the last 40 years perhaps too many proofs of her difference for the policy of the Cabinet of St. Petersburg, has already recovered her independence of action, and considers freely on what side her interests lie.

"Austria, above all, which could not see with indifference the events which were in progress, will enter into an alliance, and will thus attest the just and moral character of the war which we are undertaking.

"This, then, is the question as it stands—Europe, engaged in domestic struggles for the last forty years, reassured, moreover, by the moderation of the Emperor Alexander in the year 1815, as well as by that of his successor up to this time, seemed to doubt the danger which menaced it from the colossal Power which, by its successive encroachments, embraces the north and the centre of Europe, and which possesses almost exclusively two internal seas, whence it is easy for its armies and its fleets to launch forth against our civilization.

"An unfounded demand at Constantinople has been sufficient to arouse Europe from her sleep.

"We have seen in the East a Sovereign demand, in the midst of the most profound peace, from his less powerful neighbour, new concessions; and, because he did not obtain them, invade two of his provinces. Such a fact as this ought to put arms in the hands of those who revolt from injustice. But we have other reasons for supporting Turkey. France has as much, and perhaps more, interest than England in preventing the influence of Russia from extending itself indefinitely over Constantinople; for, to be supreme in Constantinople is to be supreme in the Mediterranean; and no one of you, gentlemen, I think, will say that England alone is largely interested in that sea, which washes 300 leagues of our coast.

"Moreover, this policy does not date from yesterday; for ages every national Government in France has maintained it, and I will not desert it. Let them not, then, come and ask us 'What are you going to do at Constantinople?' We are going there with England to defend the cause of the Sultan, and none the less to protect the rights of the Christians. We are going there to defend the freedom of the Seas and our just influence in the Mediterranean. We are going there with Germany, to aid her in preserving the rank from which it seems they wish to degrade her, to secure her frontiers against the preponderance of a too-powerful neighbour. We are going there, in fact, with all those who desire the triumph of right, of justice, and of civilization.

"In this solemn conjuncture, gentlemen, as in all those in which I shall be obliged to appeal to the country, I rely firmly upon you, for I have always found in you the generous sentiments which animate the nation. Strong, then, in this security, in the nobleness of our cause, in the firmness of our alliances, and confiding, above all, in the protection of God, I hope soon to arrive at a peace which shall no longer depend on the power of any one to disturb it with impunity."

At the Bourse on Thursday the Three per Cent Rentes opened at 67.35, and closed at 67, being ⅛ per cent below the closing price of Wednesday.

REPLY OF THE EMPEROR NICHOLAS.

The *St. Petersburg Journal* of the 24th contains the following, as the substance of the answer sent by the Czar to the Emperor Napoleon:—

If his Imperial Majesty extends his hand to me, as I extend mine, I am ready to forget the mortification I have experienced, harsh though it be.

Then, but then only, can I discuss the subject treated of in his letter, and may perhaps arrive at an understanding. Let the French fleet prevent the Turks from transporting reinforcements to the theatre of war, and let the Turks send me a Plenipotentiary to negotiate, whom I will receive as befits his character.

The conditions already made known to the Conference at Vienna are the sole base on which I will consent to treat.

THE COMMERCE OF RUSSIA.

The *Wanderer* has the following from Brody, of the 23rd:—

Since Russia's commercial intercourse with foreign States has been continually more and more crippled by the growing complication of the war, and the exportation of Russian products abroad has become less and less, the want of remittances from St. Petersburg has rendered it necessary to send considerable quantities of gold to the foreign houses in reimbursement of the purchases made. In order, therefore, to check this diversion of the sterling coin, and to oppose its partial disappearance, the Russian Government has been pleased to lay the same embargo on the export of gold which they some time since imposed on that of silver.

If this statement prove correct, the commerce of Russia, which is already in a very depressed state, will labour under still greater difficulties.

It was understood on Thursday afternoon in the City that a Greek firm had received a telegraphic despatch, stating that the Czar has laid an embargo on all British shipping in Russian ports. This report, though not improbable, requires confirmation. It is understood that there are very few British vessels lying in the Baltic ports of Russia, but in the Black Sea ports the number is larger.

BRUSSELS, Thursday.—The Russian fleet is preparing to leave Cronstadt. Much apprehension is felt at Stockholm.

The British war-steamer *Hecla* has arrived at Copenhagen with the masters and pilots appointed to make surveys.

England and France and Denmark to allow the combined fleets to take up their station at Kiel.

WHAT AUSTRIA WILL DO?

A despatch from Vienna, dated Thursday evening, says:—

It is credibly related that an Imperial manifesto is about to appear, in which, though mention will be made of the neutrality of this Empire, his Majesty will announce that, true to the policy of his House, he will not permit insurrectionary movements near his frontiers, and, therefore, his troops will enter Bosnia and Servia.

There was a regular panic on the Exchange, where the foregoing news was not known. The Five per Cents were as low as 84, and exchange on London as high as 13 florins 8 kreutzers.

THE SEAT OF WAR.

The Constantinople mail of the 15th ult. has arrived, but its contents are not important. Skirmishing continued to take place along the whole line of the Danube, but without any striking results. Nothing of any consequence is expected to take place before the spring. The invasion of the Epirus by a band of Greek militia had not caused much alarm at Constantinople. English or French steamers had made frequent excursions in the Black Sea, but had not been able to learn anything respecting the Russian fleet. It was believed that it was shut up at Sebastopol, but nothing positive was known. The bad weather which continued to prevail detained the combined fleets at Beicos.

Accounts from the theatre of war in the Danubian provinces to the 19th ult., state that the snow rendered the roads impassable. Neither of the armies had changed their positions, although there had been several skirmishes at the advanced posts. The Redifs of Albania were quitting their cantonments at Widdin to return home.

THE RUSSO-GREEK DISTURBANCES.

The *Observateur d'Athènes* of the 17th February, contains an article on the subject of the disturbances on the Turkish frontiers, and the consequent excitement in the kingdom of Greece. The Greek Government sees with sorrow the great agitation which prevails in the capital; but is of opinion that the police authorities ought to have been better acquainted with the state of public feeling. If they had displayed proper vigilance everything reprehensible might have been avoided.

CORFU, Feb. 23.—The Christian population of the country round Arta refuse to have anything to do with the insurgents. The citadel of Arta is well provisioned, and all the attempts made to take it have proved unsuccessful.

FOREIGN FUNDS.—At Amsterdam, on Wednesday, the Dutch Four per Cents fell 4 per cent; and the Russian Four-and-a-Half per Cents declined 1½ per cent. At Vienna, the Austrian Five per Cent Metallics fell to 86; exchange on London advancing at the same time to 12.58. Gold is at a premium of 37½, and silver of 30 per cent. At Berlin, Russian stocks have fallen 4 per cent in two days.

AMERICA.

By the *Pacific* steamer, which arrived at Liverpool on Thursday, we have news from New York to the 18th ult. The political intelligence is not of much importance. The Senate was mainly occupied with the Nebraska Bill. The trade of the country was in a good condition. Money was plentiful, and could be obtained at very moderate rates.

BREAK-UP OF THE SEWERS COMMISSION.—At a meeting of the Metropolitan Commissioners of Sewers, held at the chief office, Greek-street, Soho, on Monday, the following communication from the Home-office was read:—

Whitehall, Feb. 18, 1854.

Gentlemen,—I am directed by Viscount Palmerston to transmit to you the enclosed copy of a letter from Mr. E. G. Ward, relative to the comparative advantages of the systems of drainage advocated by the Commissioners of Sewers and the Board of Health respectively: and I am to state that, in his Lordship's opinion, the system of drainage recommended by the Board of Health, is that which ought to be adopted, as combining the greatest degree of efficiency with the greatest degree of economy.

I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant, (Signed) HENRY FITZROY.

After the reading of this letter, Colonel Dawson said: "After this expression of deliberate judgment by the Secretary of State for the Home Department, in opposition to the principles and practice of this Commission, sanctioned by the highest engineering authorities of the day, it is not consistent with our reputation, or with the best interests of the public, that we should continue longer in office than until this board can be re-constructed, and our successors are appointed (Hear). I move, therefore, that this Court be adjourned *sine die*." Mr. Hawkshaw seconded the proposition. A pause of about half a minute took place, but no one else spoke. The Chairman put the question, which passed unanimously, the City representatives not voting. The Commissioners then retired.

SCHOOLMASTERS' TESTIMONIAL.—A large number of schoolmasters who had been educated in Battersea Training College, have just presented to Mr. G. W. Martin a very handsome silver tea and coffee service, in testimony of their appreciation of his eminent services, during eight years, as professor of music at Battersea College. The gift was accompanied by an expression of deep regret at Mr. Martin's retirement from the College.

SEAMEN'S HOSPITAL SOCIETY.—The anniversary of this corporation will be celebrated, on Wednesday next, by a public dinner at the London Tavern, at which the Right Hon. E. Cardwell, M.P., will preside. It will be recollected that the hospital of this excellent society is the *Dreadnought* three-decker, moored off Greenwich, and open for public inspection daily, except Sunday, without tickets. In this hospital sick and diseased seamen of all nations are received. The number of patients during the last year was 2563.

MUSIC.

The law-suit between Lumley and Gye, in the Court of Queen's Bench, and its decision, have created a more than ordinary sensation. And no wonder; for the fate of two great theatres was involved in its result. Had Lumley made good his claim to any considerable portion of the immense amount of damages for which he sued his rival, it was deemed very probable that Mr. Gye would be so crippled in his resources as to be unable to open his theatre; while, on the other hand, it was understood that Lumley depended on the recovery of those damages for the means of opening his doors in the Haymarket. Mr. Gye has got off scot-free, and the Royal Italian Opera will open in two or three weeks, with (it is said) undiminished éclat; and Her Majesty's Theatre so long the most superb and renowned Opera-House in Europe, will remain closed, desolate, and forlorn.

The "judicial combat" between the rival managers has been a hard one, and victory hung in suspense till the last moment. The result was of a singular nature, and illustrated on the "glorious uncertainty of the law." Lumley carried every point except one, but his failure on that one was fatal to him. He made out that Miss Wagner, while bound to him by a subsisting contract, entered into another bargain with Gye: he made out that Miss Wagner was induced by Gye to commit this breach of bargain; and he made out that he thereby sustained an enormous and ruinous loss. All this would seem decisive of the question; but Lumley (so the jury thought) failed to prove that Gye, in inducing the lady to break her bargain with Lumley, knew that this bargain was at that time still subsisting. On this one point the verdict was for the defendant; on the others it was for the plaintiff: but the last point decided the question in Gye's favour. We have no purpose in criticising the judgment; but we may observe that, on the point on which the result depended, the opinion of the presiding Judge evidently leant the other way; and thus, therefore, this famous trial is a further instance (as we have said) of the glorious uncertainty of the law.

Had Miss Wagner been *the* defendant in this cause instead of Mr. Gye, or *a* defendant along with him, she would necessarily have been made responsible for the damage sustained by Lumley through her wrongful act. But she wisely kept herself out of Lumley's reach. Though, however, she may escape the legal consequences, she cannot escape the moral consequences of her conduct. She stands convicted of dishonest conduct, through sordid thirst of gain. Gye tempted her with treble the amount for which she had bargained with Lumley; and she had not sufficient honour to resist the temptation. Nor can she be excalpated by throwing the blame on her father. She was by no means the simple, innocent girl, devoted to her art, who left her affairs to the direction of her parents. She, herself, is shown to have taken an active part in the whole transaction, and must bear her full share of the discredit justly attached to them. She will scarcely venture to show herself in England till the Gye and Lumley affair is forgotten.

This "Wagner affair" is a fresh illustration of the mischief which has accrued to our dramatic world from the practice of relying, not on general excellence, but on individual attraction. It prevails, more or less, in all our theatres; but it has been in our opera-houses that it has risen to its greatest height. When the Royal Italian Opera was established, seven years ago, the remedy of the evils arising from what is called the "star system," was one of its professed objects; but this theatre soon showed itself as much addicted to the star system as the other ever had been. Enormous salaries have been given only a few individuals while the completeness and quality of the company, and of the establishment generally, have suffered in proportion. As specimen of this folly we may mention that Alboni, for one season, received £6000! It was supposed that the formation of a second Italian Opera would do good by creating competition; and so it would, had the competition been of a legitimate kind. But it degenerated into a competition of rival stars, involving an insane extravagance of expenditure, which soon destroyed the one house, and would have destroyed the other had bad fresh capital not been got from various quarters to replace the enormous sums which were lost.

We hope that managers, as well as the public, may extract something like a moral out of the operatical history of the last few years. We hope that the one will give, and the other welcome, great and classical works of genius, performed with talent and completeness, even though their representations are not illumined by stars, who shine at the expense of three or four thousand pounds a season.

In consequence of the immense success of Meyerbeer's new opera "L'Etoile du Nord," Mr. Gye, we understand, has gone to Paris with the view of producing it at the Royal Italian Opera in the course of the season. In that case the dialogue, which is simply spoken at the Opéra Comique, will, we presume, be converted into recitative by the composer.

MR. STERNDALE BENNETT'S second concert, at the Hanover-square Rooms, on Tuesday evening, was again attended by a great assemblage of fashionable company. The principal pieces performed were Mozart's quintette in E flat, for pianoforte and wind instruments; Beethoven's sonata in E flat, dedicated to Madame Bartolozzi; Beethoven's sonata in A minor, for piano and violin, in which Mr. Bennett was accompanied by M. Sainton; and Mr. Bennett's own sonata-due for piano and violoncello, in which he was by Signor Piatti. Besides these, a MS. duet for two pianos (which was worthy of Beethoven or Mendelssohn, was exquisitely played, and received with the warmest applause. Mr. Bennett also played several of Mendelssohn's beautiful "Lieder ohne Worte" (songs without words), and some pleasing vocal music was sung by Miss Dolby and Mr. Berbeite, a very promising young performer.

MR. ALLCROFT, according to his annual custom, gave a concert at the Egyptian, on Ash-Wednesday. This was the only theatrical entertainment on that evening; and Mr. Allcroft, as usual, made it of monster dimensions. Almost every singer and player of any note in London, was put in requisition; and the programme was an enormous bill of fare, consisting of the dishes most adapted to the popular taste. There was nothing *recherché*; everything was common and familiar, and on that account all the more delicious. Pit and gallery were crammed every corner of the theatre, and who, to judge from their boisterous but hearty applause, seemed to enjoy the ample repast provided for them.

OUR countrywoman Clara Novello has had immense success at La Scala, in Verdi's "Rigoletto." On the termination of her engagement at Milan she returns to England, about the beginning of April.

NORTHERN NATIONAL SCHOOLS.—On Monday afternoon an inaugural breakfast was celebrated in a School of Art and Design erected in Castle-street, Long-acre, by the parochial authorities of St. Mar in-the-fields, and with the active concurrence of the Vicar, the Rev Mr. Mackenzie, who has zealously engaged in the promotion of industrial education. To the buildings required for the purpose, and which have been erected over the Day-schools in Castle-street, the Education Committee of the Privy Council had granted £230, the whole expense, however, being £600. The meeting was presided over by the Duke of Argyll, assisted by Lord Lyttelton, Lord Goderich, Lord Stuart, Sir James Stuart, Mr. Cardwell, M.P., Admiral Harcourt, and others; several of whom accressed the company on the occasion. The 100th Psalm was sung by the children, and appropriate prayers were read, one of which was offered up by the Duke in his address. The words which had thus come and attention were as follows: "Give to them that grace which shall enable them to discern Thee in all Thy works, that they may know there is none nor shape in the universe without Thee, the Creator." The Duke of Argyll commenced by observing that, though no member of the Church of England, he was a parishioner of St. Martin's, and felt great interest in the general cause of education. Owing to religious divisions, he regretted that no great national scheme was possible; but rejoiced that the clergy of the Church of England, as well as of other denominations, were possessing themselves of the field; it being his opinion that secular education should be connected with religious culture and organisation, and that the clergy should extend their duties beyond that of imparting the mere articles of belief. The Christian churches of the country should promote artistic education as a branch of industrial instruction. Large capitals were expended by manufacturers in the French designs, which might just as well be spent for English ones. There was no want of refinement in the national taste, but it needed education. His Grace then adverted to the subjects taught in the schools, and in last week's ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, as proofs of what may be effected by true genius properly fostered. Mr. Redgrave followed, with some appropriate remarks relative both to the schemes and their applications. Both of which would be equal y produced by Schoo s of Design. Some photographic crystals of common snow were exhibited to the company by the Duke of Argyll, in support of his statement that the author of nature regarded ornamentation in the most minute as well as in the grandest of his works, and of the religious duty of Christians to promote a taste for beauty amongst the humblest of their brethren. The children having sung, at the bidding of the Vicar, a "St. Martin's cheer," were left to regale themselves with buns, while the visitors repaired, in another apartment, to breakfast. Other speeches were then made by Mr. Cardwell, Lord Goderich, Lord Hadde, and other gentlemen: the first of whom, on the part of the Board of Trade, congratulated the parish on the example which it had set, and undertook that the department over which he presided should cordially render assistance to such enterprises.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

LIVERPOOL SPRING MEETING.—WEDNESDAY.

Trial Stakes.—Alonzo, 1. Phœbe, 2.
Aintree Plate.—Songster, 1. Andromache, 2.
Tyro Stakes.—Iago filly, 1. Yewtick, 2.
Grand National Steeple Chase.—Emerton, 1. Spring, 2.
Betting: 4 to 1 agst Bourton, 5 to 1 agst Maurice Daly, 8 to 1 agst Half-and-Half, 9 to 1 agst Crabbs, 12 to 1 agst Peter Simple, 13 to 1 agst Ocean, 20 to 1 each agst La Gazza Ladra and Spring, and 25 to 1 agst Burnt Sienna.
Liverpool Spring Cup.—St. Clair, 1. Kilquade, 2.
Bermuda Handicap.—Hepsiria, 1. Songster, 2.
Optional Selling Stakes.—Jullien, 1. Escape, 2.

TATTERSALL'S.—THURSDAY EVENING.

TWO THOUSAND GUINEAS.—3 to 1 agst Newby (t)
CHESTER CUP.—30 to 1 agst Newminster (t)
DERBY
3 to 1 agst Autocrat and King Tom (t)
26 to 1 agst Acrobat (t)
33 to 1 ——— Nevile (t)
Very few members present, and but little business doing.

THE GOODWOOD STUD.—The Duke of Richmond's determination to break up his racing establishment is finally made: the horses are advertised to be sold at Tattersall's on Monday, March 13.

ST. DAVID'S DAY.—St. David's Day falling on Ash-Wednesday this year, it was celebrated on Tuesday. The children in the Welsh School were regaled with a sub-tantial dinner at one o'clock, in the school-house, and afterwards attended divine service in the church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, when an appropriate sermon was preached by the Bishop of Llandaff—the Vicar, the Rev Mackenzie, having granted his church for the purpose. In the evening about 150 friends of the Royal Society of Ancient Britons celebrated their 139th anniversary by dining together at the Freemasons' Tavern, under the presidency of the Earl Grosvenor, M.P., when between £800 and £900 was collected towards its support.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

Owing to the near approach of war with Russia, and the conflicting rumours afloat in reference to the nature of the forthcoming Budget—the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Consol Market has been dull and inactive during the whole of the week; nevertheless, prices have kept up remarkably well, seeing that there is a possibility of a new Loan being issued to meet the expenses of the war.

Money in the Stock Exchange, as well as in Lombard-street has continued tolerably abundant, and there have been no further changes in the value of discounts. First class bills, short dated, have been taken at 4½ to 4¾ per cent per annum. The want of further imports of gold from Australia continues to be felt, owing to the great drain upon the supplies of that country for the continental account. Since our last, the shipments to France, Holland, and Belgium have been little short of £200,000, a portion of which, as the late supplies were speedily disposed of after arrival, has been withdrawn from the Bank. A few parcels have come to hand from the United States; but, as the exchange at New York is considerably against that country, no further gold than fitting importations will be comparatively small. The Continental exchanges are, too, in a most unsatisfactory state.

The Consol Market, on Monday, was subject to several fluctuations, and prices were decidedly drooping. The Three per Cents Reduced fluctuated between 92¾ to 93⅛; the Three per Cent Consols, 93⅛ to 93½; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 99½ to 99⅝. Bank Stock was 213; India Stock, 240. India Bonds sold at 98. to 12s.; and Exchequer Bills, 18s. to 21s. premium. Long Annuities marked 19. On Tuesday the Three per Cents Reduced sold at 93⅛ to 93½; the Three per Cent Consols, 93⅛ to 93¼, and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 99 to 99⅜. Bank Stock, 213 to 217; for Money. Long Annuities are nominal. Exchequer Bills marked 17 to 20s.—The latter quotation for Small; and India Bonds, 98 to 12s. premium. There was rather more doing in the Market on Wednesday. The Three per Cents Reduced were 93⅛ to 93⅜; the Three per Cents, 93⅛ to 93⅜; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 93 to 93⅜. Long Annuities, 1860, sold at 18 to 18⅛; Ditto, 1885, 18½; South Sea Annuities, 101¾; Exchequer Bills, 17s. to 20s. Advertised, 16s. premium. On Thursday Consols were firmer. The Three per Cents opened at 93⅛ to 93¼ for Money; and closed at 93⅛. For the Account, the quotations were 93¼ to 93⅜; the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 93⅛ to 93½; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents 99⅜ to 99½. Exchequer Bills were 17s. to 20s. prem.

There has been a decline in the value of most Foreign Bonds, especially in Russian securities, although the interest on the Five per Cents is now in course of payment. The Guatemala bondholders have agreed to hand over the property in their debt to the Spanish-American bondholders, upon condition of receiving one per cent for any money obtained, and five per cent on any arrears of interest paid over and above £5000 per annum. Mexican Three per Cents, 24¾; Peruvian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 64¾ ex div.; Active, 19½; Deferred, 3½; Portuguese Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 32; Sardinian Five per Cents, 81¼; Spanish Three per Cents, 20; Spanish New Deferred, 18½; Ditto, Passive, 5¼; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents, Not Subscribed, 59; Four per Certificates, 97.

Miscellaneous Shares have been in very moderate request. Australasia Bank Shares have marked 78 to 77½; Commercial of London, 33; English, Scottish, and Australian Chartered, 28½; Imperial Ottoman, 19½; Union of Australia, 68; British American Land Shares have been dealt in at 7¼; Crystal Palace 6½; Electric Telegraph, 17¼; East India Dock, 108; London Dock, 104; Royal General Steam Navigation, 27; Peel River Land and Mineral, 4¾; Berlin Water-works have sold at 3 to 1; and Peninsular and Oriental Steam (£20 paid), 8½. Railway shares have been heavy. County, 121½; Crown, 2¾; Guardian, 3¾; Globe, 13⅜; Imperial Fire, 37½; Ditto, Life, 19½; Pelican, 45; Phœnix, 18⅜; Royal Exchange, 234; Sun Life, 65; Hungerford Bridge shares have marked 2; Waterloo, 2¾; Vauxhall, 2½.

Railway Shares have met a dull market, at drooping prices. The "calls" for the present month amount to £446,047, against £699,647 in the corresponding period in 1853, and £500,342 in 1852. The total for the first quarter of each year is respectively £3,358,473, £2,890,653, and £1,682,140. The following are the official closing prices on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Aberdeen, 21; Caledonian, 56; Dublin and Belfast Junction, 44¾ ex div.; Eastern Counties, 13 ex div.; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 64; Great Northern, 91¾ ex div.; Ditto, A Stock, 81 ex div.; Ditto, B Stock, 91 ex div.; Great Southern and Western, 96 ex div.; Great Western, 80¾ ex div., Lancaster and Carlisle, 80¾; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 68; Leeds Northern, 18¾; London and Blackwall, 8¾ ex div.; London and Brighton, 97½; London and North-Western, 102¾ ex div.; Ditto, Fifths, 12¾ ex div.; Ditto, Eighths, 4¼ ex div.; London and South-Western, 80¾ ex div.; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 49¾ ex div.; Midland, 66 ex div.; North British, 24¾; North Staffordshire, 11¾, Scottish Central, 89; Shrewsbury and Chester, 17; South Eastern, 69¾; South Wales, 58¾; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, 69¼ ex div.; Ditto, Extension, 12¾; York and North Midland, 49¾ ex div.

LINES LEASED AT FIXED RENTALS.—Preston and Wyre, Half Shares, 91¾.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Caledonian, 100; Eastern Union, 23; Great Northern, Five per Cent, 116 ex div.; Ditto, Four-and-a Half per Cent, 106 ex div.; Midland New 4½ per Cents, 98; Norfolk 5 per Cents, 106; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, Six per Cent, 104 ex div.; Shrewsbury and Chester, 16¾.

FOREIGN.—Great Indian Peninsula, 8¾; Grand Trunk of Canada, A Issue, 6¾; Great Western of Canada Shares, 21¾; Ditto, Bonds, 6; Luxembourg, 6¾; Ditto, Railway, 4¾; Madras, 10¾; Northern of France, 29¾; Paris and Lyons, 32¾; Paris and Strasbourg, 39¾; Zealand, 10¾.

In Rim ng Shares very few transactions have been reported. On Thursday, Agua Fria were done at 2; Linares, 1¾; Nouveau Monde, 1; Rhymney Iron, 29¾; and Weller, ¾.

Friday Evening.

The business doing in the Consol Market to day has been very moderate, yet prices are fairly supported. The Three per Cents are 93⅛ ⅜; the Three per Cents Reduced, at Monday's advance; the New Three-and-a-Quarter Cents, 99⅜. Foreign Bonds and Railway Shares command very little attention.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE (Friday).—The quantity of Essex and Kent on offer in to-day's market was very moderate, but in somewhat improved condition. For most kinds the demand was steady, but by no means active, at Monday's advance in the quotations. For forward delivery very little was doing. The imports of foreign wheat have extended 16,000 quarters chiefly from the Mediterranean. The best qualities of fine foreign wheat are in request, but the general business doing was moderate at the prices obtained last week. Flour was in moderate request. Barley was in good demand, and prices are full quotations. The oat trade was firm, and good sound corn was the turn dearer. In beans and peas very little was doing since commencement previous quarter. The imports consist as follows:—

ARRIVALS.—English: wheat, 2316; barley, 4523; malt, 3233; oats, 100; flour, 980. Irish: oats, 1; flour, 16,856; barley, 8260. oats, 8570; flour, 210 sacks 13.6-0 barrels. Foreign: Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 57s. to 61s.; ditto, white, 71s. to 77s. Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 56s. to 60s.; ditto, white, —s to —s.; rye, 40s. to 42s.; grinding barley, 24s. to 26s.; distilling ditto, 28s. to 29s.; malting ditto, 46s. to 48s. Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 56s. to 58s.; brown ditto, 52s. to 53s. Knuesten and Ware, 70s. to 72s.; Chevs ter, 73s. to 75s.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 27s. to 30s.; potato ditto, 29s. to 32s.; Youghal and Cork, black, 24s. to 25s.; ditto, mixed, 23s. to 24s.; ditto, brown, 24s. to 25s.; Limerick, 23s. to 24s.; Sligo, 23s. to 24s.; Londonderry, 24s. to 25s.; Galway, 23s. to 24s.; Tralee, 23s. to 24s.; Dublin, 24s. to 25s.; Waterford, 24s. to 25s.; Belfast, 24s. to 25s.; Scotch feed, 25s. to 27s.; ditto, potato, 27s. to 29s.; ditto, Angus, 28s. to 30s.; Dundee, 28s. to 30s.; Aberdeen, 28s. to 30s.; Inverness, 28s. to 30s.; Peas, white, 50s. to 52s.; boilers, 52s. to 54s.; maple, 52s. to 54s.; grey, 50s. to 52s.; Harlings, 52s. to 54s.; Egyptian beans, 40s. to 42s.; Horse beans, 40s. to 42s.; Tick beans, 44s. to 46s.; Lentils, 40s. to 42s.; Indian corn, 37s. to 38s.; white, 40s. to 42s.; flour, per sack, 45s. to 47s.; per quarter, Town made flour, 68s. to 70s.; Suffolk, 57s. to 60s.; Essex and Kent, 56s. to 58s.; per 280 lbs. *Foreign:* French flour, —s to —s per sack; American, 38s. to 40s. per barrel.

Seeds.—We have a fair demand for clover seed at full quotations. Trefoil is dull, and lower to purchase. Mustard seeds are firm. Cakes command extreme currencies.

Linseed, English, sowing, 60s. to 63s.; Baltic, crushing, 57s. to 58s.; Mediterranean and Odessa, 55s. to 56s.; bumpeed, 42s. to 44s. per quarter; coriander, 17s. to 18s. per cwt. Brown mustard-seed, 12s. to 14s.; white ditto, 14s. to 16s.; and tares, 8s. to 9s. 6d. per bushel. English rapeseed, £20 to £23 per last of ten quarters. Linseed cakes, English, £9 5s. to £11 0s.; ditto, foreign, £9 10s. to £11 10s. per ton. Rape cakes, £6 10s. to £7 0s. per ton. Canary, 55s. to 59s per quarter. English clover seed, red, 26s. to 34s.; white ditto, 34s. to 76s. per cwt.

Bread.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 11d. to 11½d.; of household ditto, 8d. to 10d. per 4lb. loaf.

Imperial Weekly Average.—Wheat, 70s. 5d.; barley, 36s. 4d.; oats, 27s. 1d.; rye, 43s. 10d.; bean, 42s. 11d.; peas, 45s. 7d.

Duty of Foreign Corn.—Wheat, 21s. 6d.; barley, 11s. 2d.; oats, 6s. 7d.; rye, 21s.; beans, 11s.; peas, 11s.

Prices of Foreign Corn.—Wheat, in bond, duty paid, barley, oats, rye, beans, peas, at Hamburgh, Dantzic, Odessa, Marianopoli, Taganrog, Petersburg, Archangel, Memel, Riga, Pillau, Konigsberg, Stettin, Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Antwerp, Ghent, Ostend, Trieste, Venice, Leghorn, Genoa, Naples, Palermo, Messina, Marseilles, Barcelona, Valencia, Gibraltar, Malaga, Seville, Oporto, Lisbon, Cadiz, Bona, Algiers, Tunis, Tripoli, Alexandria, Salonica, Smyrna, Constantinople, Trebizond, Poti, Tangier, Mogadore, Rio Janeiro, Buenos Ayres, Montevideo, Valparaiso, Lima, Guayaquil, Havana, Matanzas, Charleston, Savannah, Philadelphia, Baltimore, New York, Boston, Portland, Halifax, Quebec, and Montreal, per imperial quarter, and per cwt. for flour.

Provisions.—We have to report a moderate sale for Irish butter, at full currencies. The best foreign qualities are firmly 3s. per cwt. dearer. In the bacon trade of English we have very little change to notice. The bacon market is dull at drooping prices. Prime sizeable Waterford, 56s. to 58s. per cwt. Of other kinds of provision, very little is doing.

Tallow.—Our market is decidedly flat. P. Y. C., on the spot, 63s. 6d. to 63s. 9d.; and for forward delivery, 63s. to 63s. 6d., net cash. Town tallow, 61s.; melted, 62s. Rough fat, 3s. 4½d. per 8 lbs.

Oils.—Linseed oil is firm, at 32s. 9d. on the spot. Fish oils are quite as dear as last week. Rape is lower to purchase. Spirits of turpentine £3 18s.; in parcheons, £3 17s.; rough, 14s. per cwt.

Hops.—Bags, Weald of Kent, West Harlsey, 2l. 2s.; East Harlsey, 2l. 12s.; Mid Kent, 3l. 3s.; Farnham, 3l. 13s.; Haslemere, 3l. 3s.; Hartlepool, 2l. 8s.; Towcester, 2l. 4s. per cwt. Sales at the Borough, 2l. 2s. to 3l. 3s.

Wool.—Friday.—Although a moderate business is doing in our market, prices, owing to the large supplies of foreign hops on offer, are still drooping. This week's imports are—5 bales from Antwerp and 65 from Ostend: Mid and East Kent pockets, 3l. 10s. to 4l. 11s.; Weald of Kent, 3l. 5s. to 4l. 7s.; Sussex, 3l. to 3l. 15s.

Smithfield (Friday).—To-day's market was moderately supplied with beasts, for which the demand ruled very dull, at a decline of 2d. per 8lb. in the quotations. Sheep—the supply of which was by no means extensive—moved off slowly, at unaltered currencies. There were a few lambs and sheerlings on offer. We had a large show of calves at extreme currencies. In pigs very little was doing. Milch cows were dull, at from £14 to £19 each, including their small calf.

Per 8lb. to sink the offals:—Coarse and inferior beasts, 3s. 2d. to 3s. 4d.; second quality ditto, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.; prime large oxen, 3s. 10d. to 4s 2d.; prime Scots, 4s. 4d. to 4s 6d.; small and coarse inferior sheep, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.; second quality ditto, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 0d.; prime coarse-woolled ditto, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; prime South Down ditto, 4s. 8d. to 5s 0d.; large prime calves, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; prime small ditto, 5s. 0d. to 5s. 4d.; large hogs, 3s. 0d. to 3s. 2d.; neat small porkers, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; suckling calves, 22s to 28s.; and quarter sold store pigs, 21s. to 25s. each. Total supplies:—Beasts, 1870; sheep, 13,360; calves, 218; pigs, 350. Foreign: Beasts, 363; sheep, 480; calves, 160.

Newgate and Leadenhall Markets.—The general demand was in a sluggish state, as follows:—

Per 8lbs. by the carcase:—Inferior beef, 3s. 0d. to 3s. 4d.; middling ditto, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.; prime large ditto, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 0d.; prime small ditto, 4s. 0d. to 4s. 2d.; large pork, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.; inferior mutton, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.; middling ditto, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 0d.; prime ditto, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; veal, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 6d.; small pork, 4s. 4d. to 5s. 0d.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, FEB. 28.

WAR OFFICE, FEB. 28.

BENNET.—The undermentioned Officers to be Brigadier-Generals while employed upon a particular service, viz.—Colonel W. Cator, Royal Artillery, Colonel W. B. Tylden, Royal Engineers.

ADMIRALTY, FEB. 24.

Royal Marines: Captains J Buchanan and H. G. Mitford to be Lieutenant-Colonels. First Lieutenants T. J. Jones, J. H. Le F. W. Kennedy, R. Doyle, S. R. Little, J. Elliot, J. Macarthur, H. W. Tuson, C. H. Barnard, W. H. Jarvis, R. V. Allen, and N. W. de Coney to be Captains.

BANKRUPTS.

E. CAHAN (and not E. Cohan, as before advertised) and J. VANCE, jun., 171, Strand, hatters. H. WILLIAMS, Cirencester-street, Paddington, wine merchant. R. N. NEWTON, New Park-street, Southwark, gas engineer. W. F. HART Brighton and Worthing Sussex, builder. C. STANFORTH, Sheffield, joiner. J. SLATT, Sheffield, shoe manufacturer. H. HUGGINS, Manchester, wood type cutter.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

P. BARRY, Arbroath, shipowner. J. ARNAN, Cupar, Fifeshire, flax-spinner. J. SMITH, Inverness, iron-founder.

FRIDAY, MARCH 3.

WAR-OFFICE, MARCH 3

5th Dragoon Guards: Lieut W. Inglis to be Captain, vice Brevet-Major Bell, Cornet R. T Goodman to be Lieutenant, vice Inglis

2nd Dragoons: Capt. G. A. F. Sullivan to be Major, vice Macleod. Lieut. F. Phillips to be Captain, vice Sullivan. Cornet R. S. Hussey to be Lieutenant, vice Phillips

Coldstream Guards: Lieut. and Capt. F. G. H. Somerset to be Captain and Lieutenant-Colonel, vice Somerset, retired upon half-pay. Ensign W. J. Pym to be Lieutenant and Captain, vice Somerset, from M. A. Amherst to be Ensign and Lieutenant, vice Pym

Scots Fusilier Guards: Lieut. Col. C. H. Turner to be Captain and Lieutenant-Colonel, vice Hood, retired. Lieut. and Adjt. A. Hood, F. R. Baker to be Assistant-Surgeon

1st Foot: F. G. Currie to be Ensign, vice Conroy. 19th: Ensign P. G. Conroy to be Lieutenant, vice Hunt. 23rd: Lieut. Thomas and Lieut. the Hon. A. H. Crofton to be Lieutenant, vice Fitzgerald. 30th: Ensign G. W. Graham to be Ensign, vice Freud. 38th: Lieut. Colonel E. St. John Mildmay to be Lieutenant-Colonel, vice Hamilton. Ensign G. Bowen to be Lieutenant, vice Mylius. E. J. Cass to be Ensign, vice Tompson. 49th: Capt. J. Lawrie to be Captain, vice Wilkinson. Lieut. W. Lawrie to be Lieutenant, vice Lawrie. Ensign W. Kennedy to be Lieutenant, vice Hales. Lieut. J. G. Wilkinson to be Adjutant, vice Sargent. 50th: Lieut.-Surg. T. Longmore to be Surgeon, vice Smith. Staff-Surgeon of the Second Class J. Gibb to be Surgeon, vice [illegible]. 57th: Lieut.-Colonel R. Rumley to be Lieut.-Colonel, vice Mann. 58th: Lieut. and Adjt. J. Hall to be Captain, vice Tyndall. Lieut. T. Lloyd to be Adjutant, vice Hall. Cornet A. B. Ellis to be Lieutenant, vice Stephens. 47th: Assist-Surgeon A. W. Wellington to be Surgeon, vice Battersby. 48th: Ensign the Hon. H. Bruce to be Lieut., vice Peel. Lieut. J. Hay to be Captain, vice Handcock. 49th: Ensign W. R. Corbet to be Lieutenant, vice Bond. Lieut. W. Young to be Ensign, vice Corbet. 50th: Lieut. R. Wadely to be Lieutenant-Colonel, vice Dyer. Lieut. and Adjt. H. M. Barnes to be Captain, vice Moller. Ensign J. Thompson to be Lieutenant, vice Barnes. Cadet F. L. Darwell to be Ensign, vice Thompson. 54th: Ensign J. Wade to be Lieut., vice Peel. 60th: First Lieut. H. F. Williams to be Captain, vice Bethelby. Second Lieut. R. W. Huxtman to be Lieutenant, vice Williams. Ensign J. Wilkinson to be Second Lieutenant, vice Huxtman. 97th: Lieut. W. Rickman to be Adjutant, vice St George. 79th: Ensign J. H. Fraser to be Lieutenant, vice Weaver. 82nd: Ensign J. Bell to be Lieutenant, vice Assist.-Surgeon W. N Irwin to be Surgeon, vice Taylor. 92nd: Capt. J. J. Wood to be Captain vice Lawrie. 94th: Lieutenant C. H. Browne to be Adjutant, vice Hon. M. H. Nevas to be Lieut., vice G. W. Graham. 95th: Second Lieut. G. L. Hedley to be Ensign, vice King-Lieut. R. Jones to be Adjutant, vice Hedley. Ensign M. Brickley to be Lieutenant, vice Jones. N. Quicke to be Ensign vice Brickley

Fusilier Regt: Ensign E. F. King to be Lieutenant, vice Hedley

Royal Canadian Rifles: Major F. Hill to be Major, vice M'Dougall.

ADMIRALTY, FEB 24.

Corps of Royal Marines: First Lieut. Hon. H. E. Fyn to be Adjutant, vice Kennedy; First Lieut. T. Q. Meade to be Lieutenant and Quarter-master, vice Elliott; First Lieutenants G. S. Digby to be Adjutant, vice Barnard; First Lieut. W. H. Le F. Dunn to be Adjutant, vice Alves. Second Lieutenants J. Foster, vice Jones; H. Freeland, vice Saville. P. Barrington, vice Kennedy; F. W. Pusling, vice Boyle; W. A. De Acosbo, vice Hinkley; H. Hay, vice Elliott; W. F. B. Dashwood, vice Arthurs; G. F. Short, vice Gwynn; E. Lean, vice Barnard; A. Tait, vice Davies; J. B. Colwell, vice Allen; H. Swale, vice Dunn; C. T. Daly, W. Gardiner, C. Bamford, vice Meade. L. L. Morris, J. G. Shanks, A. C. J. M'Meekan, G. F. Walker, W. Pitman, H. L. Harrison, T. H. A. Brenan, J. Dent, G. Maltie, C. S. M'Donnell, W. H. Lennox, T. Bent, J. W. H. C. Moore.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

R. B. PARRY, Leadenhall-street, bookseller, publisher, and stationer.

BANKRUPTS.

R. M. WRIGHT and J. S ANSTIE, Bishop's-court, and Upper Thames-street, dyrsalters. H. ENDACOTT (Okehampton, Devonshire innkeeper J EGGLESTON, Saint Albans, licensed vict aller. J. DOWELL, Birmingham, chemist and druggist. C. HOLMES, Broad-street, Golden-square, surgeon and accoucheur. R. NEWTON and T. G. PAYNE, New Park-street Southwark, gas engineers J. WHITNEY, Nicknehead, carrier and leather dealer. J. HOLDEN, Bolton-le-Moors, Lancashire, and Burnley-square, Mrs. J. Leach, of a daughter, at Manchester. J. HOPE, Leeds, dyer. J. BLACKBURN and W. S STIDOLL, Leeds, flax-spinners and cotton spinners. H. HOLLINGSWORTH, Bermondsey, Fleet street, City, bookbinder. A. EYRE, Bond-and-square, Notting-hill, and Lombard-street, City. J. BRADWELL, Manchester, builder.

BIRTHS.

BAIRD.—On the 21st ult., at Errol-park, the Lady of Sir J. G. Baird, Bart., of a son.

BRAMPEY.—On the 11th ult., at Naples, the lady of Sir G. Beaumont, Bart., of a daughter.

COTSWOM.—On the 22nd ult., in Fitzwilliam square, Dublin, the Countess of Cortiwm, of a son.

DAMPIER.—At Clifton, the wife of the Rev. C. R. Dampier, Rector of Thornford, Dorset, of a son.

FITZ-ROY.—On the 27th ult., at East Sheen, the Hon. Mrs. H. FitzRoy, of a daughter.

GRAHAM.—On the 25th ult., at Berners-square, Mrs. J. Leach, of a daughter.

HARCHART.—On the 5th ult., at the Government-house, Halifax, the lady of his Excellency Sir Gaspard Le Marchant, Bart., of a son.

VAUGHAN.—On the 22nd ult., at St. John's Parsonage, Brixton, the wife of the Rev. M. Vaughan, of a son.

VERNON.—On the 25th ult., at Marchington, Staffordshire, Lady H. Vernon, of a son and heir.

MARRIAGES.

BLIGH—NEVILL.—On the 23rd ult., at Eaton Chapel, the Hon. E. V. Bligh, second son of the late Earl of Darnley, to Lady Isabel M. F. Nevill, youngest daughter of the Earl of Abergavenny.

BUTHER-JOHNSTONE—On Tuesday, Oct. 11, at St. Luke's Church, Richmond, Van Diemen's Land, by the Rev. J. T. Gen——ood, M.A., Edward William Burbidge Butcher, Esq., youngest son of the late John Butcher, Esq., of Lewisham, Richmond, and formerly of Park-hatch, in the county of Surrey, to Maria Sarah, third daughter of Major Schaw, Paymaster of the 99th Regiment, and late of Leith Fort, Edinburgh.

DALWICH—GREEN.—On the 22nd of February, at St. John's, Cambridge-square, by the Rev. M. Fenn, Dalwich, Esq., eldest daughter of Richard Welch, Esq., of Bexley, only daughter of the late John Green, Esq., of Notting-hill.

DASHWOOD—HANBURY.—On the 23rd ult., at St. George's, Hanover square, G. A. C. Dashwood, Esq., second son of Sir G. Dashwood, Bart., to the Hon. H. A. Bateman-Hanbury, sister of Lord Bateman.

DOUGLAS—CARPENTER.—On the 23rd ult., at Bath, H F. A. Goodridge, Esq., M.D., of Bath, to Anne Mary, elder daughter of the Rev. J. Carpenter, Rector of Ashington, Somerset.

GOLDIE—PHILLIPS.—On the 16th ult., at Birmingham, C. Galer, Esq., of Edgbaston, to Caroline, third daughter of the late R. Phillips, Esq., F.R.S., London.

HAMILTON—WELLESLEY.—On the 23rd ult., at Chelsea, by the Rev. Charles Kingsley Alfred Hamilton Pago, Esq., youngest son of the late Samuel Page, Esq., of Dulwich, to Lucy Augusta, eldest daughter of Richard Welch, Esq., of Tadcaster-lodge, Chelsea.

PAGET—PAGET.—On the 28th ult., at St James's, Piccadilly, Lord A. Paget, M.P., youngest son of the Marquis of Anglesey, to Agnes, daughter of the late Sir A. Paget, G C B

DEATHS.

CHEVALLIER.—On the 22nd ult., at Norwich, the Rev. J. Chevallier, eldest son of the late the Chevalier, of Aspall Hall, in Suffolk, aged 57.

FERRES.—On the 22nd ult., at Stanton Harold, Leicestershire, Devereux Hugh L. Shirley the infant son of the Earl and Countess Ferrers.

HAY.—On the 24th inst., at Kelburne, near Longford, Lieut.-General J. Hay, C.B., Colonel of the 79th Highlanders, a most distinguished Peninsular officer.

LANCELLES.—On the 26th ult., at Guildford Hall, Lady E. Lancelles.

WELLS.—On the 25th ult., at Woodcreek, after a few hours' illness, Colonel J. M. Wells, C.B., late Royal Engineers, son of the late Admiral Wells, of Bolsar, Hants.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

No. 672.—VOL. XXIV.] SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 1854. [WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.

THE WAR BUDGET.

MR. GLADSTONE'S first Budget was a masterpiece of financial statesmanship. Happy is the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who has a surplus at his disposal. To him all things wear a smiling aspect. If he have any annoyance (and who in this sublunary sphere has not?) it proceeds solely from that most pleasant of all causes the *embarras des richesses*. He stands upon an eminence, and all men look up to him. A crowd of eager suppliants clamour at his feet. Commerce, with a thousand heads and a thousand tongues, cries out to him, "Untax me, and you shall be repaid a hundredfold by the increased wealth of the nation." Knowledge cries, "Give me the preference, and you shall be more than repaid by the increased intelligence and industry of multitudes now steeped in poverty and in ignorance." The difficulty is how to relieve all the sufferers at once, or how to make a selection amidst claims that are almost equally urgent, and almost equally just. Mr. Gladstone, in the Session of 1853, got over every difficulty of the kind with ease and celerity. Even when he found it necessary to re-adjust the general burdens by the extension of existing taxes to classes formerly exempt from them—as in the case of the Property and Income-tax to incomes ranging between £100 and £150 per annum, and of the Legacy-duty to real estate—he managed to satisfy the public sense of justice. Those whom he fancied it impossible to relieve had faith in his sagacity and his good intentions. They trusted on Mr. Gladstone and a future surplus, and comforted themselves with the consoling reflection that they had only to bide their time, and that justice would be done them.

Had it not been for the wrong-headedness and wickedness of the Czar, many of these glowing anticipations would have been realised. A handsome surplus would have enabled Mr. Gladstone to have repealed the Excise-duty upon paper. So wise were all the previous remissions of taxation—so wonderful was the elasticity displayed by all the great sources of revenue in face of continual reductions, and so steady was the increase of the national wealth—as tested by the Customs, the Excise, the Stamp-duties, and the Property and Income-tax—that the financial system of this country was rapidly becoming the admiration and envy of the world. Mr. Gladstone's anticipations were sufficiently sanguine for a prudent statesman; but the result exceeded them. He estimated the Income for the year 1853-54—after all his reductions should have been effected—at £52,990,000. The actual receipts have been £54,025,000, or an excess of no less than £1,035,000. Nor was this the only favourable side of the question. Whilst the Revenue exceeded the estimate, the Expenditure fell short of it by no less than £1,012,000, the two together forming a surplus of £2,047,000. Such would have been our financial position at this moment, if we had not been forced into a war by the bad ambition of the irresponsible maniac, who, for the misfortune of mankind, has had it in his power to bring so terrible a calamity upon the civilised states of Europe.

It was Mr. Gladstone's duty, on Monday night, to produce his second Budget under these altered circumstances. We think the impression that will be produced upon the country will be as favourable as that produced by the Budget of 1853. The task was a less agreeable one, but the ability displayed in dealing with the subject was, in many respects, the greater, and the manfulness and honesty of the course recommended were all the more conspicuous. Calculating that the war expenditure of the year will require a further sum of nearly three millions, in addition to the ordinary surplus which will remain at his disposal from all the existing modes and sources of taxation, he made the comprehensive and simple proposal that the money should be provided by an increase of the Income and Property-tax to the extent of one-half, the whole addition to be levied during the first half year. In other words, the country is to be called upon to pay an Income-tax of six per cent per annum for the first half of the financial year 1854-55. If, during that interval, the war now about to commence shall be happily brought to a close, the tax will remain at three per cent for the second half-yearly period. Upon the contrary, if the war should continue, the Government reserves to itself the right of making a fresh appeal to Parliament for additional funds. Nothing can be

DEPUTATION OF THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS TO THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA, AT ST. PETERSBURG.—(SEE NEXT PAGE)

more satisfactory than such a project. War, under the most favourable of circumstances, is a costly undertaking. The present generation is too practical and sensible in itself, and has learned too much from the sad experience of its forefathers, not to be fully aware of the fact that the most expensive of wars are those which are carried on with borrowed money. None are so extravagant as those who know that they are spending the money of other people, and that no man lives who can call them to account. Posterity, being unseen and unknown, has hitherto had no friends. The men of the present day look further ahead, and have better principles of policy. If they have not more conscience, they have at least more wisdom, than their predecessors. They feel the weight of a burden that was inconsiderately laid upon them; and, knowing such a course of proceeding to have been wrong, they will not commit a similar injustice upon those who are to come after them. Were it a life-and-death struggle in which we were engaged—a struggle in which not only the honour, but the existence, of the nation were involved, we might reasonably call upon posterity to bear a portion of the burden which secured them their independence, and was the means of transmitting to them, unimpaired, the dearly-purchased liberty of their forefathers. But no such mighty interests are at stake in the present war. We fight for our own honour and security, and for the coercion of a despot who affronts the public law of all Europe. We trust to be able to make short work with him; and the nation feels that it is right that the time should pay for the necessities of the time; and that it is not only wiser and juster in itself, but more economical, to raise within the year the sums necessary for the service of the year. As yet the burden is but a light one, and this great and wealthy nation would be well able to bear it, in so righteous a cause, even were it thrice or ten times as heavy. The readiness with which the increased taxation will be imposed by Parliament, and the cheerfulness with which it will be borne by the people, ought to strike as much terror into the councils of the Emperor Nicholas (always providing that so selfish and unscrupulous a bigot has any councils but those in his own dark breast) as an additional Baltic or Black Sea fleet would do, or as an additional army would accomplish, if safely landed in Roumelia. With all his boasted power and resources, he is at this moment a bankrupt, and can only carry on the war by the aid of a depreciated paper currency. His credit is not worth sixpence upon any Exchange in Europe; and we have yet to learn that he has the means of maintaining, for three months longer, his half-starved legions in the hostile possession of the Provinces which he has stolen, even had he no other enemy opposed to him than the outraged Turkish nation. Money, as has been repeated a thousand times, is the grand sinew of war. Without it an invading army speedily eats up the produce of the countries which it may traverse, and degenerates into a mere mob of banditti. Famine first decimates them—disease next pursues them—and the outraged populations amidst whom they have passed like a pestilence do their best to exterminate them. With gold their progress is possible; but without it the most inflated of wars must collapse, and the most mighty of Sovereigns find himself face to face with ruin and annihilation.

Financially, we enter upon the war under the most favourable auspices. It is possible that the slight burden which Mr. Gladstone proposes to lay upon us will be the only one we shall have to bear. Everything seems to betoken that the war will not be a protracted one. The Emperor Nicholas is as deficient in resources as he is in arguments. He has nothing to support him but an audacity which is only to be accounted for by the insanity of him who exhibits it. Insane monarchs are not very popular among their subjects, even when their projects are successful; but when reverses overtake them, we know what becomes of the loyalty of their people. One signal defeat in the Black Sea, or in the Baltic, and where would be the Czar Nicholas? The kingly crown would in all probability not grace his brow for three weeks after such a catastrophe. In the meantime, he bears upon his head the execrations of every Englishman—execrations which will be none the less hearty when the tax-gatherer shall call upon us for fourteen-pence in the pound, instead of the customary seven-pence.

PEACE DEPUTATION TO THE CZAR.

In our last week's Number, we recorded the interview which the Deputation from the Society of Friends (Mr. Joseph Sturge, of Birmingham; Mr. Henry Pease, of Darlington; and Mr. Robert Charlton, of Bristol) had with the Emperor of Russia, on the 10th ult. This week we engrave a representation of the same, in one of the cabinets of the Imperial Palace; with Mr. Sturge reading the following address: to the left of the Emperor are seen Count Nesselrode and Baron Brunow.

TO NICHOLAS, EMPEROR OF ALL THE RUSSIAS.

May it please the Emperor, We, the undersigned members of a meeting representing the Religious Society of Friends, commonly called Quakers, in Great Britain, venture to approach the Imperial presence, under a deep conviction of religious duty, and in the compassion of the love of Christ our Saviour.

We are, moreover, encouraged to do so by the many proofs of condescension and Christian kindness manifested by thy late illustrious brother the Emperor Alexander, as well as by thy honoured mother, to some of our brethren in religious profession.

It is well known that, apart from all political considerations, we have, as a Christian church, uniformly upheld a testimony against all war, on the simple ground that it is utterly condemned by the precepts of Christianity, as well as altogether incompatible with the spirit of its Divine Founder, who is emphatically styled the "Prince of Peace." This conviction we have repeatedly pressed upon our own rulers; and often in the language of bold, but respectful remonstrance, have we urged upon them the maintenance of peace as the true policy, as well as manifest duty, of a Christian Government.

And now, O great Prince, permit us to express the sorrow which fills our hearts as Christians and as men, in contemplating the probability of war in any portion of the continent of Europe. Deeply to be deplored would it be were that peace (which, to a large extent, has happily prevailed for so many years) exchanged for the unspeakable horrors of war, with all its attendant moral and physical suffering.

"It is not our business, nor do we presume, to offer any opinion upon the questions now at issue between the Imperial Government of Russia and that of any other country; but, estimating the exalted position in which Divine Providence has placed thee, and the solemn responsibilities devolving upon thee, not only as an earthly potentate, but also as a believer in that Gospel which proclaims "Peace on earth and good will toward men," we implore Him by whom "Kings reign and Princes decree justice," so to influence thy heart, and to direct thy counsels at this momentous crisis, that thou mayest practically exhibit to the nations, and even to those who do not profess the "like precious faith," the efficacy of the gospel of Christ, and the universal application of His command—"Love your enemies; bless them that curse you; do good to them that hate you: and pray for them that despitefully use you and persecute you, that ye may be the children of your Father which is in Heaven."

The more fully the Christian is persuaded of the justice of his own cause, the greater his magnanimity in the exercise of forbearance. May the Lord make thee the honoured instrument of exemplifying this true nobility, thereby securing to thyself and to thy vast dominions that true glory and those rich blessings which could never result from the most successful appeal to arms.

Thus, O mighty Prince, may the miseries and devastation of war be averted; and in that solemn day, when "every one of us shall give account of himself to God," may the benediction of the Redeemer apply to thee—"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God;" and may evil thou be permitted, through a Saviour's love, to exchange an earthly for a heavenly crown, "a crown of glory which fadeth not away."

London, 11th of 1st month, 1854.

[Here follow the signatures.]

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(*From our own Correspondent.*)

PARIS, Thursday.

The opening of the Legislative Session was, from the effective manner in which all the Court and State ceremonies are, under the present *régime*, conducted, and yet more from the double importance the actual crisis gives the commencement of the Session, an event exciting the utmost interest and attention, and the effect of the *solennité* in no way disappointed the general class of spectators. Contrary to precedent, the *Cour Impériale*, and nearly all the superior officers of the army of Paris, were convoked; and six Cardinals, in full dress, with the Archbishop of Paris and his grand vicaires, occupied the right of the Emperor. A few minutes before one the Empress appeared, and at one the Emperor took his place and read his Speech. From the moment he entered on the question of war the most breathless attention, broken by applause at frequent intervals, was visible in the Assembly, and at the conclusion long-repeated cries of "Vive l'Empéreur" resounded on all sides. The Emperor was surrounded by the Princes Jérôme, Lucien, and Napoléon Bonaparte, the Prince Murat, the *corps diplomatique*, and the Ministers.

The Empress, whose presence was greeted with loud applause, and the ladies of the Imperial family and of the Court, were placed on a private stage. At the conclusion of the sitting, the Emperor announced to the Prince Napoléon, in reply to his letter, published in the *Moniteur*, offering his services in the approaching war, that he gave him the *grade effectif* of General of Division in the expeditionary army, and that the forces placed under him would be in proportion to that rank.

Notwithstanding the extremely uncertain state of the health of the Maréchal St. Arnaud, and the remonstrances which it is said even the highest dignitary of the State made use of as to the danger of his undertaking so fatiguing and anxious a duty, he is resolved to start with the expedition, accompanied, however, by Madame St. Arnaud, who will confide to no other the cares her husband's precarious state render so essential.

The *Assemblée Nationale* has been suspended for two months for "having sustained, from the commencement of the Oriental question, an anti-national system of politics"—an accusation against which it loudly proclaims its innocence in the last number, which appeared on Sunday. The sentence of course, however, holds good notwithstanding.

Despite the engrossing interest of the question of war, that which attaches itself to all that concerns the memory of the Abbé Lamennais, is no less strongly felt than it would have been at any other period, and all that can be learned respecting him is repeated and received with the utmost curiosity and attention. He has left, it appears, a large number of the most interesting manuscripts, for the greater part, unfortunately, unfinished among them, a translation of the divine comedy of Dante. But, happily, the most important and exterior of all is complete. This is a work written in the style of the Confessions of J. J. Rousseau, but more with the tone and feeling of St. Augustin. In this most singular and remarkable volume are revealed all the mental weaknesses and struggles of the writer, his aspirations, his hopes, his most private thoughts. The tendency is decidedly democratic. This manuscript, which, with all the rest of the property of M. de Lamennais, is in the hands of his nephew and sole legatee, is, it appears, accompanied with a request that it shall not be published within ten years of the death of the writer—a request which must suspend public curiosity to its great regret.

Our readers may, perhaps, have heard of the "Biography" lately published of Madame Georges Sand, by M. Eugène de Miracour, on the appearance of which, the illustrious subject of the memoir in question addressed letters to the *Presse* and the *Mousquetaire* (the journal of Alexander Dumas), contradicting, though in a milder and more moderate tone than is her wont on such occasions, nearly all the assertions of her would-be biographer. No less than twelve of the *rédacteurs* of the latter journal, and fifteen *ouvriers*, constant readers and admirers of the celebrated authoress, have taken up the cudgels in the affair, and expressed the highest dissatisfaction of the conduct and statements of M. de Miracour; and the Duc Ridé de Rovigo, in the *Chronique de France*, has published so severe an article on the subject as to cause a report that a hostile meeting was to be the result. This assertion is, however, we believe, unfounded; though some grounds for it did, it appears, exist.

It appears that the quantity of verses and other literary *hommages* addressed to the Empress, and lodged at the *Secrétariat*, amounts to not less than from fifteen to twenty pieces a day. The same *attentions délicates* are constantly being offered to the Prince Napoléon, with the addition of books, complimentary addresses, concert tickets, &c., to such an extent that an official notice is obliged to be given, requiring that an authorisation shall be obtained previously. The Prince is, however, a liberal patron of artists and literary men. A short time since, taking up by accident the "Scènes Populaires" of Henri Monnier, the admirable author and actor of "Joseph Prudhomme," he immediately sent to the writer the magnificent bronzes from Feuchères and Klagmann. *Apropos* of Henri Monnier, he is about to read at the Théâtre Français a new piece of five acts, in verse; and the Odéon will shortly bring out "Les Dernières Armes de M. Coquaral," also from his pen.

On Saturday took place the interment of Madame Salvage de Faverches, the intimate friend and *exécutrice* of the Queen Hortense. Madame Salvage was no less remarkable for her talents and mental superiority than for the constant and earnest devotion she showed to the branch of the Imperial family at all times and under all circumstances. Her death resulted from an attack of apoplexy. Her fortune, which was considerable, she has left to the Emperor.

THE FRENCH WAR BUDGET.

The Corps Legislatif displays the greatest enthusiasm towards the Emperor. The bill, which was presented on Monday, authorising the Government to raise a loan of 250 million francs, to meet the warlike expenditure already incurred, was at once passed through the committee, the report brought up on Tuesday, and adopted unanimously. Nor was this all; the committee, of which M. Billault, the President of the Assembly, sat as chairman, passed a resolution that they would themselves bring up the bill and present it, with the adoption of the house, to the Emperor at the Tuileries that very evening, in order to mark the readiness with which the representative body was prepared to vote all necessary supplies for carrying on the war against Russia. The report of the committee is spiritedly conceived. It describes the authorisation of the loan to be a vote of confidence; throws on the Czar the whole responsibility of the war, which it recommends to be carried on with promptitude; and, taking up the Czar's allusion to the disasters of 1812, flings in his teeth the fact that the French army, which had everywhere beaten the Russians, succumbed beneath the rigours of an unexampled winter. The report recognises with complete satisfaction the alliance of England.

RUMOURED RETREAT OF THE RUSSIANS.

Reports were current in Vienna on Wednesday that the Russians were withdrawing from Kalafat; and that an army was to be formed in Moravia, with the left wing at Troppau, the right at Cracow, and a reserve at Olmütz.

The same despatch informs us that there are but a few thousand men before Kalafat, and that the Russians were marching towards the Schyl. The Turks had not gone beyond the fortifications at Kalafat.

Field-Marshal Paskiewitch had been named Generalissimo of the Army on the Danube.

THE FRENCH EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

Twelve steamers are in course of armament at Toulon, and in a few days will be ready to sail with the troops destined for the East. The first division will leave on the 20th inst., and the second on the 15th of April. It is said that Prince Napoleon will not go first to Constantinople, but to the Greek frontiers. He will take with him a numerous corps of Chasseurs of Vincennes. Marshal St. Arnaud is expected to leave by the 15th, or at the latest on the 20th, and Prince Napoleon in the beginning of next month. His departure will probably be among the last, as commanding the reserve, and his official nomination is expected daily in the *Moniteur*.

It is stated that, should circumstances require it, the French force for the East will exceed 100,000. The first corps—that is, the one intended to be first on the ground at the opening of the campaign, will be from 45,000 to 50,000 men, with successive reserves, which will complete the amount mentioned.

THE CZAR'S REPLY TO THE EMPEROR OF FRANCE.

The Emperor of Russia has replied to the letter of Louis Napoleon at great length. The document, which is of the same insolent and untruthful character as most of the previous attempts at justification from that quarter, appeared in the *Journal de St. Petersburg* of the 24th ult. As we gave the letter to the Czar in a former publication, we now publish his reply:—

ST. PETERSBURG, 26th Jan. (9th Feb.), 1854.

Sire,—I could not reply better to your Majesty than by repeating, as they belong to me, the words by which your letter terminates: "Our relations must be sincerely amicable, and rest upon the same intentions, the maintenance of order, the love of peace, the respect of treaties, and mutual good will." Accepting, you say, that programme such as I myself traced it, you affirm to have remained true to it. I dare believe, and my conscience tells it to me, that I have not deviated from it. For, in the affair which separates us, and of which the origin does not come from me, I have always endeavoured to maintain friendly (*bienveillantes*) relations with France. I have avoided with the greatest care to come in contact on this ground with the interests of the religion professed by your Majesty. I have made, for the maintenance of peace, all the concessions in form and substance compatible with my honour; and in claiming for my co religionists in Turkey the confirmation of the rights and privileges which have been acquired for them since a long time, at the price of Russian blood, I have demanded nothing else than what was consequent upon treaties. If the Porte had been left to itself, the difference which holds Europe in suspense would have been long since settled. A fatal influence alone came and threw itself across it. By provoking gratuitous suspicions, and exalting the fanaticism of the Turks, by misleading their Government on my intentions and the real bearing of my demands, it has made the question assume such exaggerated proportions that war has been the result.

Your Majesty will allow me not to enter into too long details of the circumstances exposed in your particular point of view of which your letter presents the chain. Various acts of mine, very unexactly appreciated, in my opinion, and many a controverted fact, would necessitate to be re-established at least in such measure as I conceive them, long developments, scarcely suitable in a correspondence from Sovereign to Sovereign. It is thus that your Majesty attributes to the occupation of the Principalities the wrong of having suddenly translated the question from the domain of discussion to that of fact. But you overlook that that occupation, still purely eventual, was antic pated, and in a great measure caused, by a very grave exterior fact—that of the apparition of the combined fleets in the neighbourhood of the Dardanelles. Moreover, long before that, when England still hesitated to assume a menacing attitude towards Russia, your Majesty had first sent your fleet to Salamis. That offensive (*blessante*) demonstration surely evinced little confidence in me. It was of a nature to encourage the Turks, and paralyse beforehand the success of negotiations by showing them France and England ready to maintain their cause at all risks. And, again, your Majesty attributes to the explanatory commentaries of my Cabinet on the Vienna Note the impossibility in which France and England found themselves to recommend its adoption to the Porte. But your Majesty may be able to recall to mind that our commentaries followed, and did not precede, the unexpectation, pure and simple, of that Note; and I think that the Powers, if they really desired peace, were bound to demand as a preliminary that adoption pure and simple, instead of permitting the Porte to modify what we had adopted without change.

Moreover, if any point of our commentaries was of a nature to give rise to difficulties, I offered at Olmutz a satisfactory solution, which appeared likely to satisfy Austria and Prussia. Unhappily, in the interval a portion of the Anglo-French fleet had already entered the Dardanelles, under the pretext of protecting there the life and property of English and French subjects; and I did not believe myself free to enter without protesting the treaty of 1841, it was necessary that war should be declared by the Ottoman Government. It is my opinion that if France and England had declared peace, as they did, they should, at all cost, have prevented this declaration of war, or, when war was declared, at least have acted so as to keep it within the narrow limits which I desired to trace for it on the Danube, so that I should not have been forcibly torn away from the purely defensive system it was my wish to follow. But from the moment that the Turks were allowed to attack our Asiatic territory, to storm one of our frontier posts (even before the formal fact for the commencement of hostilities), to blockade Akaltsikh, and to devastate the provinces of Armenia, —from the moment that it was left free to the Ottoman fleet to convey troops, arms, and ammunition to our coasts, could it be reasonably expected that we should patiently await the result of such an attempt? Was it not to be supposed that we would do everything in our power to forestall it? The affair of Sinope was the consequence—the forced consequence—of the attitude adopted by the two Powers; and the event surely could not appear to them unexpected. I had declared my wish to remain on the defensive, but before the explosion of the war, as long as my honour and my interests allowed me, as long as it remained within certain limits. Was that done which could have been done to prevent those limits being passed? If the part of spectator, or even of mediator, did not suffice for your Majesty, and you desired to be the armed auxiliary of our enemies, then, Sire, it would have been more worthy of you to have said so frankly and openly, and by declaring war to me. Then every one would have known his part. But is it equitable to reproach us with criminality, after an act which nothing was done to prevent? A Franco-Anglo-Turkish fleet peacefully in the bosom of all those who, in France and in England, entertain the lively sentiment of national dignity, does your Majesty suppose that the menacing presence of the same fleet before Constantinople, and the noise of their entrance into the Black Sea, are facts without an echo in the heart of the nation which I have the honour to defend? I learn from you, for the first time, that explanations made to me here did not mention it—that at the same time they protected the provisioning of the Turkish troops on their own territory, the Powers have resolved to *forbid us the navigation of the Black Sea*; that is to say, apparently, the right of provisioning our own coasts. I leave it to your Majesty to consider if that is, as you say, to facilitate the conclusion of peace, and if, in the alternative of which I am placed, I am already to discuss, to examine even for a moment, your propositions of an armistice, of the immediate evacuation of the Principalities, of negotiating with the Porte as commanded to be submitted to a conference of the four Powers—would you, Sire, yourself, if you were in my place, accept such a position? Would your national spirit permit you to do so? I boldly say no. Great to me, then, the right to think as you do. Whatever your Majesty may decide, it is not threats that will make me give in. My confidence is in God and in my right: and Russia, I will guarantee it, will know how to show herself in 1854 what she was in 1812.

If, however, your Majesty, less indifferent to my honour, should frankly return to our programme—if you will offer me a cordial hand, as I now offer it to you, at this last moment, I will willingly forget how offensive the past has been to my feelings. Then, Sire *but then only*—we may discuss, and perhaps come to an understanding. Let your first step be to prevent the Turks taking the forces of the Ottoman Empire. I willingly promise they shall have nothing to fear from attempts of mine. Let them send me a negotiator, and I will give him a fitting reception. All conditions are known to Vienna. They are the only basis upon which I can treat.

I beg of your Majesty to believe in the sincerity of the sentiments with which I am, Sire, your Majesty's good friend,

NICOLAS.

THE FRENCH CIRCULAR.

The following spirited circular to the diplomatic agents of France has been issued by the Minister of Foreign Affairs. The Czar's letter had appeared in the French papers on Saturday; and this able exposure of its falsehoods and fallacies was given in the *Moniteur* of Monday.

PARIS, March 5, 1854.

Sir,—You are now cognisant of the answer of the Emperor Nicholas to the letter of his Imperial Majesty, and you have also read the manifesto which the former Sovereign has just addressed to his people. The publi-

cation of these two documents has destroyed the last hopes which might have been placed upon the wisdom of the Cabinet of St. Petersburg; and that name hand which had acquired honour by the firmness with which it had offered support to Europe, shaken to its foundation, now opens the way to passions and chances. The Government of the Emperor is deeply afflicted at the inutility of its efforts and the ill success of its moderation; but, on the eve of the great struggle, which he has not desired, and which the patriotism of the French nation will enable him to assist, he feels it necessary once more to disavow responsibility for results, and to place the whole weight of it upon that Power which will have to account for those results to history and to God. Important considerations of propriety, I know, render my task difficult; but I shall fulfil it with the certainty that I am not saying one word which is not dictated by my conscience.

In addressing the Emperor of Russia in terms in which the utmost conciliation was united with the most noble frankness, his Imperial Majesty was desirous of clearing the question of all the obscurities which kept the world in suspense between peace and war, and endeavoured so to arrange it that there might be no offence against the dignity of any one. Instead of acting upon a similar principle, and accepting the friendly hand which was held out to him, the Emperor Nicholas preferred to secure for that upon which public opinion had definitively decided; and to represent himself as having had to contend, from the commence nent of a crisis provoked by the pressure exercised by a preconceived and systematic system of hostility, which was fatally calculated to bring about that state of things which has arrived. It is not my voice, Sir, it is that of Europe which replies, that never at any period did an imprudent policy meet with adversaries more calm or more patient in their res stance to designs which their judgment condemned, and which considerations of primary importance compelled them to resist.

I will not go back to past events, upon which such full light has been thrown; but I must once more repeat, that it is no longer allowable to assimilate the dispute respecting the privileges of the Latins in the Holy Land with the claim now put forward. That question was arranged from the commencement of the visit of Prince Menschikoff to Constantinople, and it is the claim which that Ambassador raised upon one point, when he had obtained satisfaction upon another, which has roused the whole world, and inspired all the Cabinets with the same sentiment of precaution and the same desire for conciliation.

It is necessary to enumerate all the attempts, the failure of which is only attributable to an invincible obstinacy? Nobody is ignorant of them, and there is not any one who is not aware that if decisive demonstrations were made during the progress of negotiations, each of those demonstrations was preceded by an aggress ve act on the part of Russia.

I will only recall to recol ection the fact that if the French squadron at the end of March, anchored in the Bay of Salamis, it was because since the month of January there had been an immense assemblage of troops in Bessarabia. If the naval forces of France and England approached the Dardanelles—where they only arrived at the end of June—it was because a Russian army had been encamped on the banks of the Pruth, and because the resolution to cross that river had been taken, and had been officially announced since the 31st of May. If at a is or period our fleets were at Constantinople, it was because cannon resounded on the Danube; and, in short, if they entered the Black Sea, it was because, contrary to the promise of acting on the defensive, Russian vessels had left Sebastopol to destroy the Turkish vessels at anchor in the port of Sinope. Every step which we took, in concurrence with England, in the East, had peace for its object; and we did not desire to interfere between the belligerent parties. Every day, however, on the contrary, Russia advanced openly towards war. Assuredly, if there were two Powers whose antecedents and whose recent relations rendered it likely that they would be indulgent to Russia, and abortive to our movements in a dispute which threatened to involve France and Great Brita n in a conflict with the immense empire so close to them, those powers were Prussia and Austria. You know, Sir, that the principles by which we are actuated are known, and that Europe, constituted as a jury, has pronounced a solemn verdict upon pretensions and acts of which no eulogy, however high the source whence it may emanate, can now change the character. Thus, the dispute is not between France and England, as sting the Porte, and Russia; it is between Russia and every State which has a respect for what is right, and whose opinion and whose interest must compel it to support the good cause.

I therefore confidently contrast the unanimity of the great Cabinets with that which, in the recollections of 1812 addressed directly to a Sovereign who had just made an honourable and powerful effort at conciliation. The whole conduct of the Emperor Napoleon sufficiently attests that, far proud of the inheritance of glory left him by the head of his race, he has neglected nothing in order to render his accession to the throne a pledge of the peace and tranquillity of the world.

I will say one word, Sir, of the manifesto in which his Majesty the Emperor Nicholas announces to his people the resolutions he has taken. Our epoch, however troubled, had at least been exempt from one of the evils which most afflicted the world in former days—I mean the wars of religion. Now, however, an echo of those disastrous times is made to resound in the ears of the Russian people. There is an affectation of opposing the Cross to the Crescent, and an appeal is made to fanaticism for that support which cannot be obtained from reason. France and England need not defend themselves from this imputation made against them. They do not support Islamism to the overthrow of Greek faith. They go to protect the Ottoman Empire against the ambitious covetousness of Russia. They go there with the conviction that the presence of their armies in Turkey will destroy the prejudices already much weakened, which still separate the different classes of the subjects of the Sublime Porte, and which would be reanimated by the general appeal sent from St. Petersburg, by provoking hatred of race and a revolutionary explosion, should paralyse the generous intentions of the Sultan, Abdul-Medjid. For us, Sir, we seriously believe that by giving our support to Turkey we shall be of more use to the Christian faith than the Government which uses it as an instrument to advance its temporal ambition. Russia is too obvious, in the reproaches she makes against others, that she is far from exercising in her own empire, in reference to the sects not professing the dominant faith, a tolerance equal to that to which the Sublime Porte has a good right to lay honourable claim; and that, if she were to display less apparent zeal for the Greek religion beyond her frontiers, and more charity towards the Catholics at home, she would better obey the law of Christ which she so pompously invokes.

Receive, &c. DROUYN DE LHUYS.

THE SUMMONS TO THE CZAR.

The messenger conveying the summons of France and England to the Czar, requiring him to withdraw his troops from Turkey within a specified period, left Vienna on Tuesday. Neither the Austrian nor the Prussian Government has joined the Western Powers in this act. Austria is still exclusively intent on securing the tranquility of the Slaves on both sides of the Danube. This is the leading idea of an official document published in Vienna on Tuesday, in which the demands made by France and England on Russia are characterised as thoroughly just, and in accordance with the interests of Europe. It is then said that to the last, that is until now, Austria has done its duty to Europe, and immediately following, it is said, that now the sole duty of the Austrian Government is to maintain the interests of the monarchy.

NEW RUSSIAN PROPOSALS.

At the commencement of this week the Czar sent what purported to be proposals of peace to Vienna; the reception of which at first gave rise to hopes of an accommodation. When, however, the proposals came to be examined, it was found that they contained all the inadmissible demands of previous Russian projects. The representatives of France, England, Austria, and Prussia decided, therefore, that, as the new project does not come up to the requisitions of the last protocol, to which they had set their names, it cannot be entertained.

THE RUSSIAN FLEET IN THE BALTIC.

The Russian ships were out cruising last year, and continued so, on the express orders of the Emperor himself, to so late a period, that only a portion of the fleet got back, and the remainder are now at present at Port Baltic, where they now remain, with scarcely any protection from a superior force. In a few days it is said that this portion of the fleet will be free from the impedi ments of the ice, but they can neither get up to the others, nor can the latter come down to them; hence their attempts to cut through the ice to form a junction.

To take the Port Baltic fleet as they are would require no very large force. The ships that we have already fixed to that capital would be equal to the task; but not a day should be lost, for if they mean mischief as soon as they can float, they can do irreparable damage not only to our allies, but they may visit our own northern shores, or attack some of our unprotected colonies.

The negotiations between the Russian and Swedish Governments are not yet terminated; and, in the present position of affairs, it is feared at Stockholm, that Russia, in order to give more weight to its demands, will make a demonstration. It has since been purchased by Messrs. H. Graves and Co, who have placed it in their rooms for the inspection of the numerous admirers of the truly gallant tar. The portrait is a half-length, whereas the published engraving shows only the head and shoulders; and the attitude is very characteristic and noble—the right hand resting on the hip, the left on a sword, which stands on the ground. The smoke and fire of the battle-field are seen below. In all respects it is immeasurably superior to the small print above referred to; and we think it ought to be engraved as a worthy memento of struggles for the great principle of constitutional liberty and national independence in two extreme quarters of Europe.

THE RUSSIAN HOLY WAR.

The Commander-in-Chief of the Russian army in the Principalities is said to have published a decree, ordering that all the Catholic churches and chapels in them shall be closed, and declaring that no other places of Christian worship than those of the Greek faith shall be authorised. The decree states that the measure is adopted in the interest of order and public security. If this prove true, we may reasonably infer that the relations between Russia and Austria are on a very unfriendly footing. Nothing more offensive to Austria could be done by Russia, seeing that Austria regards herself as the protectress of the Catholic religion in the provinces under the suzerainty of Turkey.

WRETCHED CONDITION OF THE RUSSIAN ARMY.

The *Vienna Medical Newspaper* contains a letter from a Russian army surgeon, of the 27th ult., who had just returned from Bucharest, having during his visit inspected the hospitals at Yassy, Roina, Fautikenon, Michai Wods, and other places, and also the field hospitals round about the capital. They were all crowded to excess, and not a bed was unoccupied, the perpetual attacks of the Turks supplying candidates for admission faster than the wounded became convalescent. The most gloomy dread was felt at the prospect of spring, at all times dangerous to new comers, but this time, coupled with famine, it is sure to bring plague and pestilence. All the diseases likely to spring from the hardships of every conceivable kind which the men have endured during their long marches and bivouacs in a wretched country, without roads, shelter, fire, or food, are rife. The very water which they are compelled to drink is brackish and unwholesome. The country is described as marshy and congenial, a land of poverty and desolation, of filth and abomination.

THE GREEK INSURRECTION.

The real cause of the present outbreak is said to have been the overbearing conduct of the governors of Albania, who suddenly demanded the taxes, which the inhabitants were unable to pay. It is not so much its character which renders it dangerous, as the absence of Turkish troops in that part of the country. The Government is about to take energetic measures for the repression of this attempt at rebellion.

DENMARK—SWEDEN.

COPENHAGEN, March 3rd.—The news from Sweden is still undecided. no one knows whether Russia has acknowledged her neutrality or not, there being good authorities on both sides. The common opinion is that the first act of the Czar in the Baltic will be a *coup de main* against Sliito, in the island of Gotland. In Carlskrona all is life and activity: a small fleet is being got ready there with all despatch. The land troops are placed on a war footing, leave being no longer given, and all the superior officers have been sent to their regiments.

Among the common people there is great enthusiasm for "war;" and if you ask with whom, the answer is ready, "Sweden's born enemy is—RUSSIA!"

PRUSSIAN PREPARATIONS FOR WAR.

The King of Prussia has put his army on a war footing. He has divided it into three grand divisions, the first of which is stationed in the Baltic provinces, the second in Silesia, and the third on the Rhine. The first two of these divisions are numerically very strong, and are composed of Prussia's finest troops. The smallest division is the one on the Rhine. This disposition of the Prussian army is considered a clear indication that, in the event of actual hostilities, Prussia does not mean to be neutral; and that when she does assume the offensive, it will be as the ally of the Western Powers. She places the main body of her forces, not towards the frontiers of France, but towards those of Russia.

RUSSIAN AMERICAN PRIVATEERS.

The New York *Courrier des Etats Unis* of the 18th ult. states that there were several Russian officers in different parts of the United States endeavouring to engage vessels and enlist men for privateering purpose.

The *New York Herald* calls upon the United States Government immediately to direct proper attention to the matter, arguing that Russia will naturally do as alleged, and adding, "So long as vessels are fitted out in American ports for the slave trade, we must believe that there is no difficulty in procuring them; we would be tempted by the promised profit of the adventure to accept letters of marque from the Russian Government, and cruise against the commerce of her foes."

THE *Independance* of Brussels states that M. de Kisseleff had a private audience of the King of the Belgians on Wednesday.

ONE of the first enterprises of the Princess Lieven at Brussels, in favour of her master, was to try to gain over the three French exiled Generals, namely, Generals Changarnier, Bedeau, and Lamoricière. She accordingly sent an intimation to them that they were the objects of Russia's hatred. To the honour of those officers, they simultaneously declined the invitation, intimating that though they were in enmity with the reigning ruler of France, they were still Frenchmen, and French soldiers; and that they could not visit any Russ an so long as Russia was at war with France, as the enemies of France would always be theirs.

HER MAJESTY'S VISIT TO THE FLEET.

Shortly after ten o'clock yesterday morning her Majesty, Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, the Princess Mary, and Prince Alfred Albert, accompanied by Earl Mulgrave, Lord Ernest Bruce, Lord Wateriark, Colonel Grey, the Hon. Captain Byng, the countess Jocelyn, Lady Frances Bruce, Lady Fanny Howard, and the Hon. Matilda Paget, left Buckingham Palace for the South-Western Railway, *en route* for Spithead, for the purpose of viewing the Baltic fleet previous to its departure. The Royal party with suite occupied four carriages, and was attended by a company of Lancers. Upon arriving at the new station in the Wandsworth-road, her Majesty was received under a splendid marquee by Sir W. Heathcote, M.P., the chairman of the line, and the other officials. Mr. Lock, M.P., the engineer, having examined the engine which was attached to the Royal carriages, and a telegraphic message having been passed to keep the line clear, the Royal train proceeded on its way at a quarter to eleven o'clock, and arrived at the Royal Clarence Yard, Portsmouth, shortly before one o'clock, when her Majesty and suite embarked on board the Royal screw yacht tender *Fairy*, and at once proceeded to Spithead, and passed through the fleet *en route* to Osborne.

It was understood that the Queen would be again amongst the fleet at an early hour this day; and, according to present orders, at twelve o'clock at noon, the fleet will proceed *en route* to their destination: the rendezvous, it is said, at present fixed, being at a concerted anchorage some distance below the Caitegat.

The Right Honourable the First Lord of the Admiralty, Sir James Graham, with some of the other members of the Board, also proceeded to Portsmouth yesterday, their Lordships' steam-yacht, the *Black Eagle*, having arrived there for their reception, as a so for the accommodation of a distinguished par y who will be present at the departure of the fleet

Six pilots from Deal will be at Portsmouth to navigate the fleet to the Downs, and on their arrival there some pilots from Sheerness will be ready to take the fleet further northward.

Although the Cattegat may be the rendezvous of the Baltic fleet, there is no doubt that our advanced steam squadron will keep a sharp lookout up to Port Baltic. But the sooner the first division is at near Copenhagen as they are now to Portsmouth, the more satisfied will the country feel at this crisis.

FINE ARTS.

PORTRAIT OF SIR CHARLES NAPIER.

Many of the members of the two services, and the print-collecting public, may be aware that when Sir Charles Napier (then Commodore) performed those gallant feats so widely described by Lord Palmerston at the Reform Club dinner the other day, which were the means of placing Donna Maria on the throne of Portugal, his portrait was painted at his house, by Mr. Simpson, pupil and assistant of Lawrence; and that a print taken from this portrait was subsequently engraved and published by Messrs. Graves and Co. It appears that the picture itself was, shortly afterwards, lost sight of, and remained so until a few days ago, when its resting place was accidentally discovered. It has since been purchased by Messrs. H. Graves and Co, who have placed it in their rooms for the inspection of the numerous admirers of the truly gallant tar. The portrait is a half-length, whereas the published engraving shows only the head and shoulders; and the attitude is very characteristic and noble—the right hand resting on the hip, the left on a sword, which stands on the ground. The smoke and fire of the battle-field are seen below. In all respects it is immeasurably superior to the small print above referred to; and we think it ought to be engraved as a worthy memento of struggles for the great principle of constitutional liberty and national independence in two extreme quarters of Europe.

PREPARATIONS FOR WAR.

THE BALTIC FLEET.

The following is, we believe, a correct list of the vessels comprised in this division—which it is supposed will sail for its destination within a few hours after it has been inspected by her Majesty:—

Duke of Wellington, screw, 131 guns, flag of Vice-Admiral Sir C. Napier, K.C.B.
Neptune, sailing, 120, flag of Rear-Admiral Corry.
Royal George, screw, 120, Capt. Codrington, C.B.
St. Jean d'Acre, screw, 101, Capt. Hon. H. Keppel.
Princess Royal, screw, 91, Capt. Lord C. Paget.
Prince Regent, sailing, 90, Capt. H. Smith, C.B.
Monarch, sailing, 84, Capt. Erskine.
Cressy, screw, 80, Capt. Warren.
Boscawen, sail., 70, Capt. Glanville.
Edinburgh, screw, 60, flag of Rear-Admiral Chads.
Blenheim, screw, 60, Capt. Hon. F. Pelham.
Hogue, screw, 60, Capt. W. Ramsay.
Ajax, screw, 58, Capt. Warden.
Impérieuse, screw, 51, Capt. Watson, C.B.
Euryalus, screw, 51, Captain G. Ramsay
Arrogant screw, 47, Capt. Yelverton.
Amphion, screw, 31, Capt. Key.
Leopard, paddle, 18, Capt. Oxford.
Odin, paddle, 16, Capt. F. Scott.
Magicienne, paddle, 16, Captain T. Fisher.
Valorous, paddle, 16, Capt. Huckle.
Bullfrog, paddle, 6, Captain W. K. Hall.
Gorgon, paddle, 6, Com. A. Cuming.

The total force of this first division is as follows:—23 ships, 1336 guns, 13 326 men, 8540-horse power.

This first division of the Baltic fleet exceeds that of the whole force under Vice-Admiral Dundas, except in the number of vessels; for in the Mediterranean we have 32 ships, 1282 guns, 12,740 men.

TROOPS FOR THE EAST.

List of the regiments and battalions now on voyage to the East. Grenadier Guards, 3rd Battalion, embarked 22nd February, 1854. Coldstream Guards, 1st Battalion, embarked 22nd February; Scots Fusilier Guards, 1st Battalion, embarked 28th February; 4th (King's Own) Regiment, embarked 8th March; 28th Regiment, embarked the 22nd February; 33rd Regiment, embarked 1st March; 50th Regiment, embarked 24th February; 53rd Regiment, embarked 27th February; Rifle Brigade, 2nd Battalion, embarked 24th February.

Under orders for embarkation for the East: 8th Hussars; 17th Lancers; 1st Foot, 1st Battalion; 7th Fusiliers; 19th Regiment, 3rd Fusiliers; 21st Fusiliers; 38th Regiment; 42nd High anders; 93rd Regiment; 71th Regiment; 79th Highlanders; 88th Connaught Rangers; 90th Regiment; 97th Regiment.

Regiments under orders to proceed from Gibraltar to Turkey: 30th Regiment; 44th Regiment; 55th Regiment.

Regiments under orders to proceed from Malta to Turkey: 41st Regiment; 47th Regiment, 90th Regiment.

The following regiments have embarked from England: 17th, 39th, and 89th, for Gibraltar, to replace the 30th, 44th, and 55th; 9th, 32nd, and 14th, for Malta, to replace the 41st, 47th, and 49th. The 27th, 83rd, and 90th, Light Infantry, are under orders for India. The 13th Regiment, 1st Battalion, and 46th Regiment, proceed to Van Diemen's Land.

ARRIVAL OF THE GUARDS AT MALTA.

A letter from an officer in the Grenadier Guards gives a gratifying account of the health and spirits of all on board the *Ripon*. The run from Cowes-roads to Gibraltar was made in five days, under the most favourable circumstances of wind and weather. During each morning the men were exercised at the Minié rifle practice, by firing at a target hanging from the end of one of the ship's yards, whilst the officers went through their exercise with the revolver pistols. The afternoons and evenings, after leaving the colder latitudes, were devoted to singing and dancing, the festivities of the day being usually wound up with "God save the Queen," in which the military as well as the ship's crew joined with enthusiasm.

On the afternoon of the 27th ult., when within a few hours' sail of Gibraltar, the *Ripon* passed a French man-of-war, the crew of which cheered the English colours heartily.

The *Ripon* stopped a few hours to coal at Gibraltar; but the *Orinoco* passed on her way to Malta. The *Niagara*, with the 34th Regt., arrived at Malta on the 4th inst, and the *Ripon* on the following day.

INSPECTION OF THE ROYAL ARTILLERY BY PRINCE ALBERT.

It being understood that Prince Albert would inspect the Artillery under orders for the East, on Woolwich Common, on Thursday morning, an immense assemblage of persons were present to witness the imposing sight. The hour named for the troops assembling was a quarter past ten o'clock, but at an earlier period Her Royal Highness arrived on the ground, with the Duke of Cambridge and Lord Raglan, and the principal officers of the staff.

Prince Albert, the Duke of Cambridge, and Lord Raglan having gone through the various lines and inspected each company, the whole force passed in open review order. The Prince expressed his satisfaction to the officers in command at the soldierly appearance of the men, and the activity and readiness shown in their various appointments.

The Royal party visited the Royal Arsenal, and, after inspecting the works, returned to the mess-room and partook of luncheon. Prince Albert and the Duke of Cambridge, as also Lord Raglan, appeared in private costume.

LAUNCH OF THE ROYAL ALBERT.—This interesting naval event will take place on the 15th of next month, the day after Good Friday. The ceremony of christening will be performed by the Princess Royal, in the presence of the Queen and Prince Consort. The *Royal Albert* is the largest man-of-war that has been built at Woolwich. She is nearly of the same dimensions as the leviathan *Duke of Wellington*, the flag-ship of the Baltic fleet, is provided with a screw-propeller, and will carry the same number of guns (131).

TEN men-of-war gun brigs are to be immediately commissioned to guard the eastern and north eastern coast of England from privateers.

A SHIP of 350 tons burden has been chartered by Government, for the purpose of forwarding porter to the troops at the rate of 3d. per quart. An arrangement has been entered into with an eminent London brewer to carry this into effect.

ALL the British officers temporarily residing in Austria have received orders, through their Ambassadors and Consuls, to join their regiments immediately.

SEVERAL deserters from the 33rd Regiment rejoined head-quarters previous to its embarkation for Constantinople, in the hope of being reinstated and allowed to proceed with the corps to Turkey.

IT is said that the hire of the *Himalaya* steamer alone amounts to £17,000 a month; whilst others are engaged by Government at £14,000, £12,000, and various sums of near y a corresponding magnitude.

SIR HAMILTON SEYMOUR arrived at Dover, on his return from St. Petersburg, on Sunday evening.

A LARGE number of officers and soldiers will be sent to Malta and Gibraltar by each mail-packet for those ports which leaves Southampton.

MR. OLIVER, purveyor to the Mail Packet Companies at Southampton, has received an order from Government for an unlimited supply of fodder for cattle, which is to be sent from Southampton to the victualling-yard at Deptford

IT is understood that the Admiralty will provide steam-vessels for towing the sailing tran-ports to a good offing; and arrangements will also be made for towing the transports through the Straits of Gibraltar as they arrive, *en route* to the East.

THE Belfast Harbour Commissioners have put themselves in communication with the Board of Admiralty, in reference to the placing of the town and harbour in a state of security against the risks of war.

EXPORTATION OF CORN FROM SEVILLE.

THE dearness and scarcity of provisions in Spain have caused disturbances in various parts of the country. Attempts have been made to persuade Government to forbid the exportation of grain, but without effect. At Zomora and other towns, there have been riots, in which the populace has endeavoured to stop the exportation of food from one district to another; but these unreasonable outbreaks have been effectually suppressed.

The Illustration Engraved upon the next page presents a picturesque scene of commercial activity, the Shipping of Corn from the city of Seville, where the exportation is considerable, by the Guadalquiver, which is navigable for vessels of 100 tons. Apart from its trading bustle, this scene presents a striking picture of Spanish scenery and life. Here we have one of the many towers of the fine old Moorish city; the crowd in their picturesque costumes, in provincial varieties; those of the better class furnishing studies for the painter; and the country people, with their mules and waggons, not a whit less artistic.

EXPORTATION OF COEN, AT SEVILLE.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

ARRIVAL OF THE DUKE OF SAXE-COBURG AT PARIS.

The journey of the reigning Duke of Saxe-Coburg (says the *Moniteur*), has, under existing circumstances, a character of opportuneness which may be readily appreciated. His position in Germany, the importance of his relations and alliances with the great majority of crowned heads, are an element of confidence for all who see in the union of the States of Western Europe certain chances of shortening, if not of preventing, serious events. The extreme cordiality and the complete accord which presided over the first interview, and the relations which have been established between the Emperor of the French and the reigning Duke of Saxe-Coburg inspire a favourable opinion of the impression which the residence of the Prince of Saxe-Coburg will leave in France, and there is reason to believe that he will carry the same with him into Germany.

The Duke of Saxe-Coburg arrived in Paris on Friday (last week), at half-past four, from Berlin by Brussels. The Emperor had sent General Count Rognet, one of his sides-de-camp, and an orderly officer, to receive his Royal Highness at the frontier. The railway train having stopped a few minutes at Valenciennes, military honours were rendered to his Royal Highness by a part of the garrison; similar honours were rendered to him on his arrival at the Paris terminus, where his Royal Highness was received by the Prince de Chimay, the Grand Marshal of the Palace, and the Grand Huntsman of his Majesty. Court carriages were in waiting to take the Duke and his suite to the Tuileries. Scarcely had his Royal Highness entered the apartments prepared for him in the Pavillon Marsan, when he was visited by the Emperor, who afterwards led in the Empress. In the evening the Duke dined at the Tuileries; as did Prince Jerome Napoleon, Prince Napoleon, the Princess Mathilde, Prince and Princess Murat; M. Firmin Rogier, the Belgian Minister, and Madame Firmin Rogier; and the Prince and Princess de Chimay.

The Duke also paid a visit to Prince Lucien Bonaparte, who, accompanied by his secretary, returned the visit the day following.

On Saturday the Emperor drove out to the Avenue from Paris to Versailles, accompanied by the Duke of Saxe-Coburg, to review a body of cavalry collected there for the purpose. The Emperor was dressed in the uniform of a General of Division, and the Duke in a white uniform, with a silver helmet. The troops reviewed consisted of the 12th Dragoons, the 9th and 10th Cuirassiers, and the 1st and 2nd Carbineers. The fine and soldier-like bearing of these troops appeared to strike the Duke with admiration. The review lasted about three-quarters of an hour.

RECEPTION OF THE DUKE OF SAXE-COBURG, AT PARIS.

HERCULE, 100, TOWED BY CAFFARELLI, 450-HORSE POWER.
JEAN-BART, 90, 650-HORSE POWER, TOWED OUT LATER IN THE DAY, BY PRIMANGUET.
AUSTERLITZ, 100, 650-HORSE POWER, REMAINS AT BREST.
DUGUESCLIN, 90, TOWED OUT BY PRIMANGUET, 400-HORSE POWER. REAR-ADMIRAL CHARNER'S FLAG-SHIP.
MONTEBELLO, 120, 160-HORSE POWER. VICE-ADMIRAL BRUAT'S FLAG-SHIP.
BORDA, OLD. 90. MIDSHIPMEN'S SCHOOL-SHIP.
THETIS, OLD FRIGATE. SAILORS' BOYS' SCHOOL-SHIP AND PRACTICE-BRIG.
ENTRANCE OF BREST HARBOUR.
HORSE-SHOE BATTERY.
PORTSIC POINT, LIGHTHOUSE, AND BATTERY

DEPARTURE OF THE OCEAN FRENCH FLEET FROM BREST.

On the 6th of February last the town of Brest was thrown into a state of considerable excitement, by the sudden announcement that the noble Fleet, which had for some months past graced its harbour, was ordered to proceed to sea without delay, under the command of Vice-Admiral Bruat.

The harbour of Brest is the finest in Europe, affording perfect shelter and secure anchorage for a fleet of the greatest magnitude. Its opening is not above two miles in width, although the bay is fully twelve miles in width at a short distance from its entrance.

The modern improvements in steam navigation have removed the only drawback which existed to counteract the advantages of this invaluable harbour—the difficulty of entrance and exit through a channel only two miles in width—the obstacles to the navigation of which by sailing vessels are still further increased by a rock which juts out in the centre of this narrow passage.

From an early hour every spot commanding a view of the bay was thronged by a multitude eager to obtain a sight of the grand spectacle about to take place. At length the signal of departure was given; and the roar of the cannon was re-echoed from the lofty cliffs surrounding the harbour; and the Fleet, composed of five sail of the line and three steamers, moved majestically towards the entrance of the bay, in spite of a head wind. Repeated cheers burst from the lips of the spectators on shore, who seemed proud to behold their country thus nobly represented. They were answered no less heartily by the men on board, who, as well as the officers, are said to be animated by the best spirit, and most anxious to contend in honourable rivalry with that nation which they had previously seldom met on the field of battle but as foes.

The destination of the Fleet was kept secret; but they have since made their appearance at Toulon, and passed the Straits of Gibraltar on the 15th ult. It is said they will be employed in the conveyance of troops, until required to join the Baltic fleet, of which they are supposed to be intended to form a part.

The accompanying Illustration is from a sketch by M. Barrellier.

The *Moniteur* has published the following circular, containing the instructions of the Minister of Marine to the general, superior, and other officers commanding at sea:—

PARIS, Feb. 23.

Sir,—My despatch of the 18th inst. has especially called your attention to the grave complications which the Eastern question has created in Europe. The negotiations opened for the purpose of settling pacifically the differences which have arisen between Russia and Turkey have remained without result, and everything leads to the belief that new efforts will remain without effect.

England and France have resolved to protect the Ottoman Empire, and to oppose, even by force, the projects of invasion by Russia. These two great nations are intimately united in their policy, and have mutually given the most certain pledges of their alliance. Their squadrons cruise in concert in the Black Sea. They lend each other the most loyal assistance. The two Governments, after having adopted a common policy, have also agreed as to their mode of action.

This alliance of France and England must not show itself only in the seas of Europe. The Government of his Imperial Majesty, and that of the Queen of Great Britain, desire that the same union, the same accord, should reign in every latitude of the globe.

The naval forces of England and France must therefore lend each other mutual assistance in all regions, even the most distant.

Immediately after the reception of these instructions you will take care to place yourself in relations with the chiefs of the stations or the commanders of the ships of war of Great Britain. You must combine, in concert with them, all the measures which may have for their object the protection of the interests, the power, or the honour of the flag of the two friendly nations.

You will lend each other, or this end, mutual assistance, whether you are to attack the enemy when hostilities will have commenced, or when the declaration of war shall have been made; or whether you should find yourself, from the present moment forth, in the position of being obliged to defend yourself.

You must grant your protection to the commercial shipping of Great Britain by the same title that the ships of war of England will lend their aid and assistance to the ships of our commerce.

In one word, the two Governments of France and England desire that their armed naval forces should act as if they belonged solely to one of the two nations. I reckon, therefore, that, in as far as you are concerned, you will never lose sight of this rule of conduct, and that you will be able to put it in practice in a manner to cement still more, if possible, the intimate union of the two countries.

As long as the hostilities between France and England on the one part, and Russia on the other, shall not have commenced, or that the declaration of war shall not have been made, you will dispense with taking the initiative in measures of aggression, and you will hold yourself on the defensive. I shall take care, as soon as the moment shall have arrived, to transmit to you the instructions necessary for the attack.

Receive the assurance of my very distinguished consideration.

THEODORE DUCOS, Minister of Marine and Colonies.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, March 12.—2nd Sunday in Lent. St. Gregory.
MONDAY, 13.—Earl Grey born, 1764. Dr. Priestley born, 1733.
TUESDAY, 14.—Klopstock died, 1802.
WEDNESDAY, 15.—New London-bridge commenced, 1824.
THURSDAY, 16.—Battle of Culloden, 1746.
FRIDAY, 17.—St. Patrick.
SATURDAY, 18.—Princess Louisa born, 1848. Horne Tooke died, 1813.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 18.

Sunday.	Monday	Tuesday.	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday.	Saturday
M h m 0 10	A h m 1 10	M h m 1 35	A h m 1 55	M h m 2 20	A h m 2 45	M h m 3 15	A h m 3 30	M h m 3 55	A h m 4 15	M h m 4 35	A h m 4 50

THE WAR WITH RUSSIA.
SAILING OF THE BALTIC FLEET.

GRAND DOUBLE NUMBER
OF THE
ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS,
On SATURDAY NEXT, MARCH 18th, 1854:

Giving a variety of Pictures of this glorious Fleet, which sails early next week from Portsmouth to the Baltic Sea.

The Pictures will be drawn by E. DUNCAN, G. THOMAS, E. WHEDON, and S. READ.

The following Scenes will be fully Illustrated:—

Review of the Fleet by her Majesty.
The Fleet Leaving England.
The Flag-ship of the Commander of the Fleet.
Keeping up the Supply of Provisions and Water.
Sketches on Board a Man-of-War: Gunnery Practice. Firing at a Target. Fitting for Service. Drawing Gunnery Stores. Saluting, &c.

Whole-Page Map of the Baltic Sea. With Description.

Sketches from the Seat of War: consisting of—
Officers presented to the General-in-Chief, Achmet Pachs, at Kalafat.
Turkish Regular Cavalry.
View of the Interior of the Intrenchment of Kalafat.
View of Widdin.
Turkish Convoy Proceeding to the Seat of War.
Yaooub Aga, the Polish Officer Commanding the Irregulars, or Bashi-Bozouks.
Punishing a Bashi-Bozouk.

A NEW NATIONAL SONG for Sir C. NAPIER and the BALTIC FLEET. With Music.

And a variety of other Illustrations.

TWO SHEETS and SUPPLEMENT, PRICE ONE SHILLING. Orders for extra Copies must be sent immediately. Office, 198, Strand.

In consequence of the increased and increasing sale of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, the Charge for Advertisements will be advanced to 1s. 6d. per line.

198, Strand, March 6, 1854.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 1854.

WE announced, a month ago, that Sir Charles Napier would be appointed to the command of the Baltic fleet. This day the magnificent armament under the command of the gallant Admiral will be reviewed at Spithead by her Majesty; and it is expected that a portion, if not the whole, of the fleet, will immediately hold itself in readiness to steam towards the Baltic. Since the day when Queen Elizabeth reviewed the English army at Tilbury Fort, a spectacle more exciting to the patriotic feelings of the nation has not been witnessed. A finer fleet was never borne upon the waters of the ocean, and a more popular commander than the hero of Sidon and St. Jean d'Acre: a braver sailor, or one more thoroughly representing what, to British minds, is the *beau ideal* of a great naval commander, was never appointed. His very name has the twang of victory about it; and there is not a sailor in the fleet who is not proud to serve under him. Lord Palmerston, in proposing the health of the gallant Admiral at the great banquet given to him a the Reform Club, on Tuesday evening, drew, with a few characteristic and masterly touches, the portrait of this rough and ready sailor—a man of action, and not of words; a man without pretence—of simple habits—of unassuming and modest demeanour—but of strong and resolute will; who sees at a glance what is best to be done—and, seeing it, does it in the most spirited and dashing manner, in spite of difficulties and perils, and without any other idea than the great and paramount one of duty. It is of such stuff that great men are made; and the country feels confident of success when its fortunes are intrusted to such keeping.

There is but one feeling throughout the country, indignation against the wanton disturber of the peace of the world, and impatience to begin the onset without further parley. To use the words of Sir James Graham at the Reform Club, every one feels a hope "that the war may be short, and that it may be sharp." The best way to make it short is to make it sharp. The heavier the blows we inflict, and the more rapidly we make them fall upon the head of the offender, the greater will be our mercy, as well as our glory.

THE Emperor of the French and the Czar Nicholas have severally exchanged letters. Both Sovereigns have also issued addresses to their own people, and through them to the civilised world—the Czar in a manifesto, dated at St. Petersburg on the 11th (23rd) February; and the Emperor of the French, in a speech on the opening of the Legislative session, on Thursday the 2nd instant. All of these documents stand in remarkable contrast with each other. Those which proceed from the French Emperor are clear, honest, straightforward, and full of sentiments of the most enlightened patriotism. Those which have been penned or dictated by the Czar, exhibit an amount of hypocrisy, meanness, and falsehood, which it is difficult to characterise without expressions of abhorrence, which seem out of place when applied to a personage so exalted, and holding a position of such dignity and responsibility. The Czar has two modes of speech. When he addresses his own subjects, he disguises and perverts the truth in a manner that astonishes Europe; but which, doubtless, has all the force of truth upon the minds of that ignorant population, who look upon him as head, not only of a State, but of a Church; not only as a King, but as a high-priest; not only as a magistrate, but as the prophet and vicegerent of that God whose name he so constantly and so impiously invokes. The Russians may believe, when their Emperor tells them, that the Turkish Government has listened to "treacherous instigations;" and that "England and France have sided with the enemies of Christianity against Russia combating for the orthodox faith;" but Europe will treat such allegations, and such attempts to mislead his people, with indignation, tempered only with disgust. It is hard to say which is the more abominable, the hypocrisy or the ambition of the man who dares, at this period of the world's history, to preach a new Crusade in furtherance of his own purely selfish projects, and to represent Great Britain and France as of necessity enemies of Christianity, because they are the enemies of his aggressive policy, and because they are determined to maintain the public justice of the civilised world. The letter of the Czar to the Emperor of the French, not being intended for his own people, takes a milder tone, and avoids those appeals to the Deity with which the Russians are so familiar. It is, therefore, less repulsive in its style, though equally hypocritical in its character. It assumes the airs of injured innocence, but abates no iota of his unjust pretensions, and as coolly reiterates the falsehoods of Count de Nesselrode as if they had not been effectually demolished by facts and dates, and as if the true state of the case were not notorious to every man in Europe, with the sole exception of the serfs of Russia.

The allusion to the reverse sustained by the French armies in 1812—which seems to be the only memorable achievement which Nicholas can cite in the honour and glory of his country—is peculiarly ill-timed and insulting to the French nation. It is easy to imagine the contempt with which the French Emperor and his people will regard it. They know full well that it was not the Russians, but the climate that defeated the Emperor Napoleon in his invasion of that country; and that, if the Russians at that period had had nothing else to defend them but their own right arms, Napoleon might have been as successful as he was unfortunate. M. Billault, in the name of the Legislative Assembly, rebuked the fool-hardy Czar with a dignity befitting the French nation. "Our country," said he, "which one has dared to remind of the misfortunes of 1812, has no need to remind its enemies that they had on their side the rigours of a winter more difficult to be struggled against than their arms. It could on its side speak of many other glorious reminiscences, but it considers it best to create new ones." The French are not likely to repeat the error of 1812, and Russia will soon find that she is vulnerable at her extremities, if not in the heart of her empire; and that M. Billault has uttered no idle threat in his calm but significant appeal to the spirit of the French people, to atone for the failures of 1812 by the successes of 1854.

Turning from the epistle and manifesto of the Czar to the more agreeable duty of commenting upon the eloquent speech of Louis Napoleon to the assembled Senators and Deputies of his Empire, it is impossible not to express hearty admiration for the noble sentiments to which he has so opportunely given utterance Events continually disprove the wisest of calculations. In the year 1848, when France was in the throes of revolution, a fear ran throughout Europe that the era of conquest was about to recommence; and that a great military nation, jealous of its glory, would endeavour to regain its ancient limits of Belgium and the Rhine. The continental nations looked towards Russia at that time as the great Conservative power that would stand between them and spoliation. But time has wrought a change. The great Conservative Monarch has proved to be the greatest of destructives, and a far worse revolutionist than ever shouted at the heels of Robespierre or Ledru Rollin. The Emperor of the French has, on the contrary, proved himself the friend of order, the enemy of unjust aggression, and the firm upholder, not simply of the dignity of his own nation, but of the rights and liberties of all Europe. When he proclaims openly "that the time of conquests is passed irrevocably, and that it is not by extending its territorial limits, but by placing itself at the head of generous ideas—by making everywhere prevail the empire of right and of justice, that a nation can henceforth be honoured and powerful," he strikes a chord that will vibrate through every honest heart in the world, and secure to the great French nation a host of friends and admirers. The people of Great Britain will more especially sympathise with his sentiments; and the "ancient rival" of France (rival no more except in the arts of peace and the glories of fraternal emulation) will do her part to realise his anticipation "to tighten the bonds of the existing alliance, and to make it daily more intimate." In such a case the peace of Europe will remain secure. None but a raging lunatic will henceforth endeavour to disturb it.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—*Canonries:* The Rev. W. Wilson to Manchester Cathedral; Rev. J. Baillie to York Cathedral. *Rural Deans:* The Rev. T. Dean to Lancaster; Rev. G. Maddison to Cambridge. *Rectories:* The Rev. B. W. Adams to Clophran, Swords; Rev. D. Brown to Howick, near Alnwick; Rev. T. Cupis to Edlaston, Derbyshire; Rev. J. Baillie to Faugher; Rev. A. H. Barker to Ricknansworth; Rev. A. C. Craven to Horsley, Northumberland; Rev. J. Day to Bedfield, Suffolk; Rev. R. Gell to Workesworth, Derby; the Rev. F. P. Seymour to Hannington, near Newbury; Rev. A. E. Start to Raleigh, near Rochester; Rev. B. H. Darwin to Cheddon Fitzpaine, Somerset. *Vicarages:* The Rev. W. Fleetwood to Swaffham Bulbeck, near Newmarket; Rev. C. J. Hawkins to Hexey, Lincoln; Rev. T. M. Hunt to Oulton, Norfolk; Rev H. Rowndell to Buckingham; Rev. W. Scott to Alsthorpe, near Towcester; Rev. C. F. Smith to Bishops'horpe; Rev. W. V. Turner to Spilsby, Lincoln; Rev. J. H. Wake to Sutton-in-the Forest, Yorkshire. *Incumbencies:* The Rev. S. Arnott to St. Luke's church, Berwick-street; Rev. F. Barker to Baslow, Derbyshire; Rev. E. H. Daniell to Upper Bullingham; Rev. H. Jones to St. Peter's Church, Croydon; Rev. H. Leakey to Trinity Church, Swansea; Rev. H. S. Wright to the new Church of the Holy Trinity, Barsted, Lancaster.

LENT SERMONS.—The Bishop of London has addressed the following communication to some of the incumbents of the older parish churches in the metropolis:—"London-house, Feb. 21, 1854.—Rev. and dear Sir,—The Lent Lectures, which have usually been preached, by my appointment, in four of the metropolitan churches, have of late years been so ill attended, that I have not deemed it expedient to make any appointment this year. But I should be glad if the incumbents of the larger parishes would have sermons in their churches on the Wednesdays or Fridays during Lent, or on both days, preached either by themselves or by clergymen willing to assist them, either at the morning or evening service.—I am, &c., C. J. LONDON."

THE COURT.

The stirring political events of the day have not disturbed the ordinary routine of Court life. Her Majesty continues to transact the duties of her exalted position with that ease and dignity which announce the Queen of a constitutional country.

On Saturday last the Queen had a dinner party, the guests at which included the Duchess of Kent, the Duke and Duchess of Argyll, the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Dowager Countess of Carnarvon, the Earl of Carnarvon, Lord Harris, Sir James and Lady Graham, the Right hon. Edward and Mrs. Cardwell, Vice-Admiral Sir Charles Napier, Colonel Sir Colin Campbell, Colonel Cator (Royal Artillery), and Mr. Fred. Peel.

On Monday Prince Leopold of Saxe-Coburg arrived at Buckingham Palace, on his return from Lisbon, where his Serene Highness had proceeded on a visit of condolence to his brother, the King-Regent of Portugal. In the course of the day, Mr. J. E. Jones had the honour of submitting his carts, for the busts he is about to execute, of her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert.

On Tuesday a Court was held for the reception of Sir Hamilton Seymour, on his return from St. Petersburg; and in the evening her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert, accompanied by his Serene Highness Prince Leopold of Saxe-Coburg, honoured the Haymarket Theatre with their presence.

On Wednesday the Queen held a Levee, and in the evening had a dinner party at Buckingham Palace.

On Thursday the Queen held a Privy Council, at which a proclamation was ordered to be issued, warning persons against infringing certain regulations under the Foreign Enlistment Act. The Prince Consort went to Woolwich accompanied by Lord Raglan, and inspected the Artillery Force about to leave for foreign service. The Queen and the Prince inspected a picture of the "Lying in State of the Duke of Wellington," which was submitted by Mr. Melville. In the evening her Majesty and the Prince Consort, accompanied by Prince Leopold of Saxe-Coburg, honoured the Lyceum Theatre with their presence.

Yesterday (Friday) the Queen and the Prince left town for Osborne, passing through the Baltic fleet, *en route* to the Isle of Wight.

THE LEVEE

The Queen held a Levee (the second this season), on Wednesday, at St. James's Palace. Her Majesty and Prince Albert arrived, from Buckingham Palace, soon after two o'clock, escorted by a detachment of the Royal Horse Guards, and were received by the great officers of state. The Queen and Prince Albert entered the throne-room, attended by the Duchess of Sutherland, Mistress of the Robes; the Viscountess Jocelyn, Lady in Waiting; Earl Spencer, K.G., Lord Steward; the Marquis of Breadalbane, K.T., Lord Chamberlain; Lord Alfred Paget (Clerk Marshal), officiating for the Master of the Horse; and the Ladies and Gentlemen of the Royal household. The Queen wore a train of white Irish poplin, embroidered with the Rose, Shamrock, and Thistle, in colours, trimmed with silk fringe to match. The petticoat was of white satin, trimmed with gold bands. Her Majesty's head-dress was formed of emeralds and diamonds.

Meer Jafur Allykhan, Bahadoor of Surat, appeared at the Court in an Eastern costume of great magnificence, richly adorned with pearls, diamonds, and emeralds.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge was present, attended by Lord William Paulet.

Lord Raglan had an audience of her Majesty before the Levee.

The diplomatic circle having been first introduced, several presentations took place.

The general circle was very numerously attended

The following are the more noticeable presentations, selected from a list filling nearly three columns of the daily newspapers.—

The Duke of Beaufort, by General Lord Raglan.
The Earl Dowe, by the Earl of Beshorough
The Earl of Carrick, by the Marquis of Ormonde.
Viscount Dalrymple, R.T., by the Marquis of Breadalbane.
Viscount Bolingbroke, on his accession to the title, by Lord Foley.
Sir C. Forbes Bart., on his accession to the title, by the Earl of Aberdeen.
Brigadier-General Cator, on his appointment to the command of the Royal Artillery on the Eastern expedition, by Lord Raglan.
Captain E. A. Inglefield, R.N., on promotion and appointment to the command of the Arctic expedition, by Sir J. Graham
Sir Bernard Burke, on his appointment as Ulster King of Arms, by the Right Hon. Sir John Young, Bart., Chief Secretary for Ireland.

THE DUCHESS OF GLOUCESTER.—This amiable Princess continues extremely ill. Her Royal Highness was somewhat better on Thursday, but her cough continues very troublesome; Dr. Ferguson and Dr. Hawkins are in attendance. The Queen and the members of the Royal Family, have called almost daily during the week to inquire after her Royal Highness.

The Countess Colloredo had an assembly on Wednesday evening, at Chandos House.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,
TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, MARCH 9.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer: Highest Reading	Thermometer: Lowest Reading	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
	Inches.	°	°	°	°			Inches.
Mar. 3	30.540	53·0	24·8	40·4	+ 0·4	71	S.E.	0.00
,, 4	30.741	49·2	24·5	36·6	— 4·3	93	N.E.	0.00
,, 5	30.710	50·0	30·0	41·1	+ 1·2	86	CALM.	0.00
,, 6	30.424	46·2	26·5	35·8	— 3·9	92	S.W.	0.00
,, 7	30.419	51·5	28·3	38·1	— 1·6	92	S.	0.00
,, 8	30.227	57·9	43·5	49·6	+ 9·7	92	S.W.	0.00
,, 9	30.242	54·0	47·9	50·4	+ 10·2	78	S.W.	0.00

Note.—The sign + denotes above the average, and the sign — below the average.

The reading of the barometer decreased from 30·64 inches at the beginning of the week to 30.58 inches by the afternoon of the 3rd; increased to 30.76 by 11h. p.m. on the 4th. This reading, reduced to the level of the sea, is 30·85; and is greater than any reading for many years. The reading continued high all the week; at the end it was 30.20. The mean reading for the week, at the height of 82 feet above the level of the sea, was 30.484 inches.

The mean daily temperature of the 9th was 58·0°; and is the highest mean daily temperature at present recorded on that day, the register extending back to the year 1814.

The mean temperature of the week was 42·3°, being 2·4° above the average of the corresponding week during 28 years

The range of temperature during the week was 39·5°, being the difference between the lowest reading of the thermometer on the 4th, and the highest reading on the 8th.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 21·2°. The greatest was 24·2° on the 3rd; and the least 14°, on the 6th.

The weather, during the first three days of the week, was very fine, and the sky was almost cloudless; during the remainder the weather was fine, but the sky was almost overcast.

Fog was prevalent on the 3rd, 6th, and 8th.

No *rain* has fallen since February 23.

Lewisham, March 10, 1854. JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—The number of births registered within the metropolitan districts within the week ending March 4, was 1739: of these, 893 were males, and 846 were females. The deaths registered exhibit a decrease from 1324 in the preceding week to 1135 in last week. The sudden rise was preceded by a fall in mean temperature, from 42° to 36°: the temperature then rose to 42°, and maintained it nearly for two weeks, and a reduction of 200 deaths within the week is the consequence. The actual number of deaths last week is less than the estimated amount by 60. The mortality from hooping-cough is still great, and scarlatina and typhus are prevalent. No death from cholera in the last three weeks. Small-pox seems to be rather on the increase: the number of deaths caused by it was 11 within the week, of which 4 occurred to persons of twenty years of age and upwards.

THE MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.—This, the oldest of the medical societies, held its 85th anniversary on Wednesday last, at the Albion. The president, Dr. Forbes Winslow, in an appropriate speech, presented the Fothergillian gold medal to the successful essayist, B. Richardson, Esq. The medal afterwards delivered by Henry Smith, Esq.; and the treasurer, Henry Hancock, Esq., stated to the fellows that the society its if was in a most prosperous condition. The fellows dined together in the evening.

ROYAL ORTHOPŒDIC HOSPITAL.—Lord Robert Grosvenor, M.P., has engaged to preside over a public festival at the London Tavern on Thursday next in aid of the Royal Orthopœdic Hospital, for the cure of deformities. It appears that patients having received from all parts of the kingdom, an influx of cases has necessitated the erection of a more commodious building, and it is towards carrying out this laudable object that the committee are endeavouring to raise funds.

DINNER TO THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE.—On Saturday the members of "Boodle's" entertained the Duke of Cambridge at dinner, in celebration of his being about to take a part in active warfare—the Earl of Cardigan in the chair. The party, which was necessarily confined to about sixty, comprised a number of noblemen and military officers.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

A PART of Lord Palmerston's speech at the dinner to Sir Charles Napier on Tuesday last reminds us of a passage in a letter from "charming Molly Lepel" to the Countess of Suffolk. Our noble Home Secretary alluded to the *easy* dress of Sir Charles Napier, and the members of the Reform Club recognised the truth of Lord Palmerston's description of their friend by a good-natured laugh and a hearty cheer. Sir Charles is not over-given to tailors; less so, perhaps, than the great Lord Peterborough, of whom Molly Lepel has left so charming a description in a few words. The great General was careless about dress—indifferent, indeed, about what some people would call appearances. Our great Admiral is equally indifferent. What person in London, who knows London, and has his eyes about him, is unacquainted with the figure of Sir Charles Napier?—

Loose in his gaiters—looser in his gait.

Not that "Charley" wears gaiters; but no one line, perhaps, could hit off the gallant Admiral better than the line we have just quoted from the "Rejected Addresses." Not less happy a parallel, in Plutarch's style, is drawn by Molly Lepel between the conqueror of Spain and the Commander in the Baltic. Here it is:—"Lord Peterborough is here (at Bath), and has been so for some time, though by his dress one would believe he had not designed to make any stay; for he wears boots all day, and, as I hear, must do so, having brought no shoes with him. It is a comical sight to see him, with his blue ribbon and star, and a cabbage under each arm, or a chicken in his hand, which, after he himself has purchased at market, he carries home for his dinner." One would not expect to have seen Beau Brummell or Count D'Orsay so burthened, or equipped; but one has seen—we have ourselves seen—Sir Charles Napier in a dress and with encumbrances, that would make a capital companion picture to the Peterborough full-length.

A clever and very well-intentioned young nobleman (Lord Stanley) is desirous of making Blue-Books popular. Is he not trying at something that cannot succeed? Is it not impossible to convert Blue-Books into fairy tales? Here we have a big thick folio of the last session before us, with the taking title of "Public Houses." But what a lifeless mass it is, though abounding in curious particulars well meriting remembrance. What would such a subject be in the hands of Mr. Dickens? But Lord Stanley cannot expect that any Committee of the House is to be imbued with the wonderful faculties of the author of "Oliver Twist." Does his Lordship contemplate asking for an annual vote to successful authors to make Blue-Books readable? Is every examination to be digested into a side dish? Is every Report to be reduced into a leading article of the *Times*? Much might be done by way of popular digest. It is important to make the public acquainted with the inquiries of a session. But is not the public, let us ask, already acquainted with what the House does—and by private means? Surely the public press supplies, by private capital, all, or nearly all, that is valuable in Parliamentary papers. Why, then, should the public undertake to do what it is sure to fail in—and what, moreover, is already done much better than the House can do it, by private individuals?

Our fathers, to say nothing of our grandfathers, would hardly know the west front of Westminster Abbey. Wren, were he permitted to return to the earth for five minutes, would start as in a trance at the metamorphosis before him. Even Sir Walter Scott—more modern than Wren—as he diverged from Tothill-street (a street he liked so much), would look bewildered and lost at the strange building that has arisen, like a mushroom in the night, contiguous to the best-known Abbey in the world. The Dean and Chapter of Westminster, by the line and rule of their architect, Mr. Scott, have recently raised almost within a month a block of eight houses, built half as high as the towers of the Abbey, and in a style almost as mongrel as Wren's unhappy mixture of Grecian and Gothic in the towers adjoining. In the centre of the block is a gateway leading—as of old—into Dean's-yard. The design seems an adaptation from St. Augustine's Gate way at Canterbury, and has some claims to merit as a composition. As a whole, however, we hear little that is said in praise of this recent addition to our London streets.

Artists are asking, and with justice, why the directors of the British Institution are not more alive to the necessities of the Institution; and the directors are asking, with equal justice, why artists are not more sensible that they have been of the advantages of an Institution which has done, and can still do, so much for art. There is not a better exhibition-room in London than the British Institution rooms in Pall-Mall. How admirably they are lighted; how conveniently they are situated. For years they were hung every season with some of the newest and choicest examples of English art. For years the directors gave prizes to the painters of the best pictures upon their walls. Of late artists have not supported the Exhibition as before. Of late the directors have not given prizes. In particular localities, where one was accustomed to look for a high-class picture, as confidently as an angler would look into a certain pool for a certain kind of fish, one now only finds a third-rate Art Union prize. How is this? Surely the Institution was an admirable market for a painter. A better (not a larger) attendance is to be found there than at the Royal Academy. You see all the patrons—you see every well-known purchaser.

Is it found that the Academy Exhibition is not only the best, but also the only good sale-room in London, for pictures? It is of course the desire of every artist, that his pictures should be seen by as many people as possible—as it is the desire of every author, that his books should be read by all who can read. It is still more the desire, however, of an artist, that his pictures should be bought!—that when they leave the walls of the Exhibition room they may not return to their studios in which they were executed. Where, then, could they be seen to a greater advantage, it is asked, than in the British Institution? We confess we are at a loss to understand why the Institution has fallen off. There is, however, a fashion in all things, and the Institution has perhaps had its day.

Subscribers and prizeholders complain, and with reason, that the distribution of the London Art Union is made so late in the season that the best pictures are sold before they are enabled to enter the market. "Is it not enough," says a clamorous prizeholder of last year, "that I have to glean after patrons, but that I must be obliged to select after provincial Art Unions as well? I have paid for a picture last year. I expect, of course—who does not—that a prize will be given to me on this, as on the last, occasion. Well—I obtain a prize, and hurry in a Hansom to the Academy for a picture. I cannot find one to my liking. I run excited to the British Institution, and what do I find there?—that the Glasgow Art Union, or some other provincial institution, has been there before me, and the best pictures are gone. What alternative have I? I must buy a picture, and I cannot get even an ordinarily good one. One is bought for me by the secretaries, or by a committee-man. It is sent home. I do not like it. From the drawing-room it descends to the dining-room; from thence seconds to the garret; and is at last sent to take its place in an auction-room. If the London Art Union would distribute its prizes earlier, I might have had a chance at the British Institution, and that which has gone to a Glasgow Art Union might have been obtained for the patient institution in London." There is much in this. Mr. Godwin and Mr. Pocock (clever men both) should devise some remedy for an evil of this kind.

We have heard with pleasure that the Hand-books to the several "courts" in the Crystal Palace have been placed under the editorial care of Mr. Samuel Phillips. They could not have been placed in better hands; not that Mr. Layard, Sir Gardner Wilkinson, Mr. Jameson, Mr. Scharf, &c., will require much looking after. An editor, however, is necessary; and what the Company and the public want, Mr. Phillips is more than competent to supply.

A NATIONAL SONG FOR SIR CHARLES NAPIER AND THE BALTIC FLEET.

BY CHARLES MACKAY.

Don't you know the wrong you're doing?
Mighty Czar! mighty Czar!
Don't you see there's mischief brewing?
Mighty Czar!
France and England, one in council,
Are impatient for the day,
And are steaming to the Baltic,
Ripe and ready for the fray,
We have hearts that never fail us,
So look out for wounds and scars;
For there's Charley Napier coming,
With his gallant Jack Tars!
For there's Charley Napier coming,
With his gallant Jack Tars!

Oh, you think you're very clever,
Mighty Czar! mighty Czar!
But we'll do our best endeavour,
Mighty Czar!
To convince you of your folly,
We are strong when duty calls,
And since reason will not teach you,
Here's success to cannon-balls!
You shall rue the day you roused us
From the sleep of bygone wars.
So, look out for Charley Napier,
With his gallant Jack Tars!
So, look out for Charley Napier,
With his gallant Jack Tars!

'Tis a foolish course you've chosen,
Mighty Czar! mighty Czar!
Russia's strong, no doubt—when frozen—
Mighty Czar!
'Twas not you that beat Napoleon,
But your ugly ice and sleet;
And we'll profit by the warning,
And we'll try you with our fleet.
Ere you feel the summer breezes,
You may thank your happy stars
If you do not yield to Napier,
And his gallant Jack Tars!
If you do not yield to Napier,
And his gallant Jack Tars!

*** We have much pleasure in publishing the above opportune and characteristic National Song—which will be re-inserted, with appropriate music, in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of Saturday next, the 18th instant.

BANQUET TO SIR C. NAPIER AT THE REFORM CLUB.

VICE-ADMIRAL SIR C. NAPIER, K.C.B., was entertained at a splendid banquet by the members of the Reform Club on Tuesday evening. The dinner took place in the coffee-room of the Club-house, in Pall-mall; but, owing to its limited dimensions, accommodation could not be provided for more than 200 gentlemen. Many members of the club, however, who were unable to obtain seats at the dinner-table, crowded the ante-chambers and the approaches to the coffee-room, in order to hear the addresses of the noble chairman and the invited guests. The only decorations of the dining-room consisted of the French, English, and Turkish ensigns, which were arranged alternately around the apartment. A considerable crowd had assembled in front of the club, by whom Sir C. Napier, Lord Palmerston, and others of the guests, were loudly cheered upon their arrival.

Lord Palmerston took the chair; and among the gentlemen present were Sir J. Graham, M.P.; Sir W. Molesworth, M.P.; Mr. Peto, M.P.; Mr. Ferguson, M.P.; Admiral Berkeley, M.P.; M. Musurus, the Turkish Minister; Namik Pacha; Mr. Keogh, M.P.; Solicitor-General for Ireland; Mr. Sadleir, M.P.; Mr. Oliveira, M.P.; the Hon. W. Cowper, M.P.; Sir J. Lillie, &c. Lord Dudley Stuart, M.P., and Sir de Lacy Evans, M.P., acted as Vice-Chairmen on the occasion.

After the usual loyal toasts the Chairman gave "The health of the Emperor and Empress of the French," which was received with great enthusiasm. Lord Palmerston passed a high encomium on the Emperor for his "single-minded sincerity, energy of purpose, and great straightforwardness." In proposing the health of the Sultan Abd-al-Medjid, the Chairman said there never was a Sovereign who was more the object of the most abominable injustice on the part of others than the Sultan now is (Loud cheers); an injustice which was only to be equalled by that which is described in the old fable of the "Wolf and the Lamb." But the wolf, this time, has made a mistake; it was no lamb he has had to deal with (great laughter and cheering). As to the deeds of the Sultan himself, speaking as a member of the Reform Club, it was surely a title to esteem that the Sultan is a great Reformer. It is true that he had not wounded the consciences and prejudices and habits innate of his subjects. He had been too wise to go at that speed in reform which would defeat his own purposes. But, making allowance for their ancient prejudices, and the rooted habits with which he had to deal, he ventured to say that the Sultan has made greater improvements of all sorts and kinds throughout his wide dominions than has fallen to the lot of any other Sovereign to make in the same period of time, and he was now reaping the fruits of that wise course which he then pursued. There was one act of the Sultan which could never be forgotten by the generous people of England. In 1849 (Cheers), when the Hungarians were overpowered by the united armies of Austria and Russia, and when they were compelled to seek for safety and refuge in the territories of the Sultan, and he, the Sovereign of a weaker power, was threatened with war by his two great and powerful neighbours, unless he gave up those unfortunate fugitives to the vengeance of the powers they had offended, the Sultan bravely, firmly, and generously refused to give them up. Ay, and he refused even before he was assured of the support of England and France, which, when he demanded, we lost not a moment in giving him. But, merit be to him, he did not wait for that assurance, but bravely and generously placed himself as a shield to the unfortunate, and declared that he was ready to encounter any extremity of danger rather than give them up.

M. Musurus returned thanks in French

The Chairman then gave "The Allied Fleets and Armaments of France and England," to which Admiral Berkeley and Sir De Lacy Evans replied.

The Chairman, in proposing the health of Sir Charles Napier, passed a high eulogium on the gallant Admiral. After describing his successes in Syria, by sea and land, Lord Palmerston went on to show that he had not been content with acting a successful part as an Admiral and a General:—

He must needs act the part of a diplomatist too; and that with equal success, for he went to Alexandria and landed there, and persuaded Mehemet Ali to sign a convention which eventually led to the peaceful evacuation of Syria, to the accomplishment of the purposes of the war, and which rescued Syria from the horrors of invasion. Gentlemen, that successful campaign has had no unimportant bearing upon the state of things which we are now considering; for the ruler of Egypt, who was then directing his fleets and armies against the Sultan—the result of that campaign has been what we now see, that the ships and troops of Egypt are ranged side by side with those of the Sultan, and that the Pacha of Egypt is now as loyal as any subject in the Sultan's dominions (Loud cheers). We have reason to hope he will be equally successful in the future as the past; and, bearing that in mind, I cannot refrain from repeating an observation made to me by a very discriminating and calculating friend of mine, who passed some portion of his time in the East at the period to which I have adverted. I mentioned my gallant friend to him, and praised his boldness, his intrepidity, his daring. My friend said "Yes; all that is very true; but there is another quality Sir Charles Napier possesses—I never saw a man in my life who calculated so many moves beforehand as Sir Charles Napier" (Great cheering). Now, when a man calculates his moves beforehand, and has a spirit and genius to execute them, I think that the country which places its fortunes in his hands may well feel confidence in his success (Cheers).

Sir Charles Napier returned thanks for the very handsome manner in which they had expressed their congratulations. With reference to the expedition, he said:—

I cannot say that we are in a state of war, because we are still in a state of peace; but I suppose we are very nearly at war. I suppose that when I get to the Baltic I shall have an opportunity of declaring war (Loud cheering). And certainly, if I have the opportunity, I hope it will end in a prosperous war; because I can safely say that this country never sent out such a splendid fleet as that which is about to go into the Baltic in a few days. My right hon. friend, Sir James Graham, deserves the greatest credit for having, after so long a peace, when we had no seamen, or very few, been able to fit out such a magnificent fleet. Well, with that force—I do not say that it is equal to the force of Russia—but, with the assistance of the screw, we shall be able to attack a very large and a superior force; and I trust every officer and sailor on board the fleet will remember the words of the immortal Nelson, "England expects every Man to do his Duty" (Loud cheers).

Sir James Graham, whose health had been drunk with enthusiasm, spoke also in high terms of the gallant Admiral.

He possesses my entire confidence (said the right hon. baronet) and I rejoice in having had the opportunity on this great occasion to commend him to the choice of my Sovereign. The selection, I believe, is approved by the country; it is approved by the profession; and although the propelling power of the fleets may be changed, though naval tactics may be altered, as he goes forth the commander, not of a pressed body of men (Cheers), but of volunteers in her Majesty's service—though all these old plans may be changed, yet there is one thing that is unchanged—the gallantry and the power of command of my hon. friend. He does not go forth under the hypocritical pretence of conducting a religious war (Loud and vehement cheering); but he goes forth to assert the independence of Europe—peaceful, and I hope successful—to resist, that lawless spirit of aggression and aggrandisement which now threatens to disturb the general peace (Cheers). My gallant friend says that when he gets into the Baltic he will declare war. I, as First Lord of the Admiralty, give him my free consent to do so (Loud cheers). I hope that war will be short. It may be sharp, but I trust that with the spirit and energy that has ever guided my gallant friend, it will be decisive.

The other toasts were "The Turkish Minister," by Sir William Molesworth; "The Turkish Army and Navy" (coupled with the names of Omer Pacha and Admiral Slade), by Lord Dudley Stuart; "Lord Palmerston" (the chairman), by Sir Charles Napier; "The Vice-Chairmen, Lord D Stuart and Sir De Lacy Evans," by the Chairman; "Namik Pacha," by Sir De Lacy Evans; "Admirals Hamelin and Dundas, and Success to the Combined Fleets," by Sir J. Scott Lillie; and "The Reform Club, and continued Prosperity to it," by Admiral Berkeley. The company did not separate till a late hour.

VICE-ADMIRAL SIR CHARLES NAPIER, K.C.B., CHIEF IN COMMAND OF THE BALTIC FLEET.

THE appointment of Sir Charles Napier to the command of the Baltic Fleet was hailed by the public of this country with unqualified delight. It is not less consonant with the more refined civilisation of the present day than with old British instincts, that the blow to be struck at Russia should be sharp and decisive; and to what naval commander could the country look for more dashing service than to this illustrious member of the great Napier family? Apart also from motives of policy, there was the stigma upon his general reputation uttered by one Prime Minister that he lacked "discretion." This hastily-recorded taunt received its triumphant refutation at the banquet given to Sir Charles Napier, on Tuesday, in the assurance of reliance which the Lord Palmerston and Sir James Graham declared in the judgment, foresight, and valour of the gallant Admiral.

Sir Charles Napier was born on the 6th March, 1786, and is the eldest son of the Hon. Charles Napier, of Murchison Hall, in the county of Stirling, a captain in the Royal Navy, by his second wife, Christian, daughter of Gabriel Hamilton, Esq., of Westburn, Lanarkshire. The gallant Admiral is grandson, by a first marriage, of Francis, fifth Lord Napier, brother to Colonel Thomas Erskine Napier, and cousin to Lord Napier, R.N., who, in 1834, died in China.

Sir Charles entered the navy as a first-class volunteer before he was fourteen years old. If we abridge the particulars of his early career, it is not because they are abstractedly without interest, but that a record of his numerous services would impose an enormous inroad upon our space. His life has been one of continued activity in his profession, and involves an infinite variety of services to the State. He entered the navy on the 1st Nov., 1799, on board the *Meteor* sloop, commanded by the Hon. Matthew St. Clair, employed in the North Sea; and, in the spring of 1800, removed to the *Renown*, 74, the flag-ship of Sir John Borlase Warren. He next proceeded to the Mediterranean, where, in 1803, he became a midshipman of the *Greyhound*. After various other employments, he became Lieutenant in Nov., 1805. In March, 1807, he was made Acting Commander of the brig *Pultusk*. In August, 1808, he removed to the *Recruit* brig, of 18 guns, in which vessel he fought a smart action, and put to flight, the *Diligente*, French corvette, of 22 guns, and 140 men. In this action he had his mainmast shot away, and was himself severely wounded. Although his thigh was broken, he refused to leave the deck. In 1809 he served with great distinction in the reduction of Martinique, and in the capture of the *Cleopatra*, 74. In the first instance, he considerably shortened the siege by the manner in which, with only five men, he landed, scaled the walls, and, in open day, planted the union jack on the ramparts of Fort Edward. In the latter engagement, his services were so much appreciated, that he was at once posted to the prize.

Passing over a variety of brilliant services performed, we come to the year 1813, when, in company with the *Surveillante*, 36, which had on board the second battalion of the 10th Regiment, under Lieutenant-Colonel John Pine Coffin, Captain Napier, in the teeth of the fire of four batteries and a tower mounting ten 24 and 18-pounders, two 12-pounders, and two 9-inch mortars, succeeded in taking possession of the island of Ponza. His services in the brilliant expedition against Alexandria drew from Captain James Alexander Gordon, the conducting officer, a remark in one of his despatches, "that he owed this officer more obligations than he had words to express." Captain Napier had been in command of the *Euryalus*, and, in June, 1815, she was paid off, when the gallant Captain was nominated a C.B. He was not again called into activity until 1823; when, for three years, he was employed in particular service in the *Galatea*, 42. In 1833 he succeeded Admiral Parterin in the command of Don Pedro's fleet, and gained a signal victory over the more numerous fleet of Don Miguel, off Cape St. Vincent; a service for which he obtained the title of Count Cape St. Vincent, with the Grand Cross of the Order of the Tower and Sword. In 1839 Captain Napier took the command of the *Powerful*, 84, intended for the Mediterranean, where, in the following year, hoisting the flag of Commodore, he became second in command under Admiral the Hon. Sir Robert Stopford, of the force engaged on the coast of Syria. He was destined, on this new scene, to eclipse even the splendour of his own past services; and, as the events in the East, in which he played so auspicious a part, are more easily within the reach of the reader, we can a little simplify the record of his exploits. On the 10th September, 1840, he effected a landing at D'jounie, on the Syrian coast, in a manner which called forth the eulogy of his Admiral. In the course of the same month he defeated a body of the enemy at Kelbon, and on the 27th he bombarded, and necessarily stormed, with a force of not more than 900 allies and 500 Turks, the town of Sidon, protected by a fort and citadel, and a line of wall defended by 2700 men, all of whom were made prisoners. On that occasion, at the head of the British Marines, he broke into the enemy's barracks, and obtained possession of the castle. On the 8th of the following October he entirely routed an Egyptian force, stationed, under Ibrahim Pacha, in a strong position on the mountains near Beyrout. The result of the forward movement, which had immediately preceded this success, was the surrender of Beyrout itself; and the effect of the victory the entire submission of the army of Soliman Pacha. After co-operating in the memorable attack at St. Jean D'Acre, he proceeded to take charge of the command of Alexandria, where he landed, and concluded a convention with Mehemet Ali. For these brilliant services he was created a K.C.B., included in the thanks of Parliament; and was presented with the Cross of the Order of St. George of Russia, and the Insignia of the second class of the Order of the Red Eagle of Prussia. In November, 1841, after his return from the East, he was made a Naval Aide-de-Camp to her Majesty. He was promoted, in 1846, to the rank of Rear-Admiral of the Blue; and in May, 1853, he attained his present standing of Vice-Admiral.

We may now add a few words upon Sir C. Napier's career ashore. As member for Marylebone, every one will remember his uncompromising opinions upon Reform; everyone will recal, with a keen relish, his terrible onslaughts upon the "shams" and ship-building peculiarities of Boards of Admiralty, both by word of mouth and by his pen. Sir Charles unsuccessfully contested Portsmouth and Greenwich in 1832 and 1837; but, in 1841, he was returned for Marylebone.

We give a specimen or two of the gallant Admiral's bluntness of address and thorough sailor-like style, even when addressing the House

VICE-ADMIRAL SIR CHARLES NAPIER, K.C.B., COMMANDER OF THE BALTIC FLEET.—(FROM A DAGUERREOTYPE BY MAYALL.)

of Commons. We take them at random, simply observing that, in all his speeches, whether from the platform or delivered in Parliament, there lurked, under a sledge-hammer style of expression, a good deal of sound sense and a good deal of humour. In moving the amendment to the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, before the Government of Lord Melbourne quitted office, Mr. Stuart Wortley attacked the Ministry for falsified promises of peace and retrenchment. Sir Charles Napier thought himself qualified to speak to the first point, if not to the second; and he, therefore, retorted upon the hon. and learned gentleman that if his party had been in power, the country might possibly have had large wars, and with them great contracts and loans. He doubted if any other person than the noble Lord (Palmerston) could have preserved the peace of the country in the manner in which that noble Lord had been able to do. The hon. gentleman had accused the Government of making little wars, and said that the Government which had held office for eighteen years before the present Government came into office had made but one war—the war of Navarino; but the Tory Government had also made war with Algiers, and in India had engaged in the Burmese War; but he had also forgotten to admit that, when that Government was in office, they had suffered France to go to war with Spain, and to march 100,000 troops into that country, and put down constitutional Government there. A more characteristic bit of blunt satire grew out of a discussion whether the Hon. Mr. Scarlett should receive compensation for the loss of a legal office he had held. Commodore Trunnion, if he had spoken at this day, would have modified his indignation at the "land sharks," somewhat in the following language of Sir C. Napier:—He had always noticed, he said, that the House of Commons was most liberal in dealing with any case where any gentleman of the law was concerned. It was not long since they had voted £3,500 as a retiring pension for a Vice-Chancellor. Now that would just be the retiring pension which would be given to eight Admirals, after fifty years' service. He mentioned a few of the pensions given to officers on the abolition of the Navy Board (then) some ten years ago. There was Sir F. Seymour, a very old officer, who had lost an arm; he had a patent place, which, being abolished, he was compensated by being sent out to the Brazils, where he died. Another officer, who held a patent place, was compensated by a transportation of three years to South America; and another officer, under the same circumstances, was compensated by five years' employment, and to remain the rest of his life on half-pay. He might also mention the name of Captain Hornby. He enjoyed a patent place of £1000 a year. It was abolished, and he was compensated by five years' employment at Woolwich. He only mentioned these things to *show the difference in the way of dealing with gentlemen of the long robe and gentlemen with short jackets!*

Sir Charles Napier has been rather a prolific author on naval subjects. He has written several articles in the *United Service Journal*. In 1832 he published in that journal "Observations on the Construction and Qualities of the *Vernon* and *Castor*, and Naval Architecture in General," and "Remarks on Steam-vessels." He is also author of an "Account of the War in Portugal between Don Pedro and Don Miguel," and an "Account of the War in Syria." About the year 1828 he submitted to the Admiralty the model of a ship, which was afterwards placed in the United Service Museum; and, in 1846, we find him constructing the notorious *Sidon* steam-frigate, of 560-horse power.

Sir Charles married Eliza, daughter of — Younghusband, Esq., widow of Ewards Elers, Esq., Lieutenant in the Royal Navy, by whom he had issue one son and one daughter.

[The accompanying Portrait of Sir Charles Napier is from a daguerreotype by Mayall.]

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

ARMED DERVISHES ACCOMPANYING TROOPS ON A SKIRMISH.

(*From our Special Correspondent.*)

KALAFAT, February 9, 1854.

THE monotony of camp life at Kalafat has scarcely been once broken since the last advance of the Russians until the 5th. At eleven o'clock on that day a squadron of irregulars, under Yacoub Aga, and a squadron of dragoons, rode out of the entrenchment, in the direction of Golenz, for the purpose of beating up the quarters of the enemy in that village. The enemy's videttes, who occupied the brow of the precipices that skirt the bank of the Danube, were to be driven in, and the moment of their disappearance was to be seized to advance a couple of battalions of infantry, three squadrons of Lancers, and a half battery of three guns, under cover of some hilly and broken ground, in which the whole might lie concealed from the enemy. The bashi-bozouks, breaking out into an irregular line, advanced in a straggling manner, and drove in the videttes, who seemed, however, to be tolerably protected.

They merely retired behind the cover of a set of hayricks, conveniently placed amongst some semliks. The sharp twang of bullets exchanged between the solitary videttes and the bashi-bozouks soon began to swell into a louder and more continuous rattle, as a fresh squadron of horse came up to drive us back. Little harm seemed to be done on either side. Both parties fired at a considerable elevation, for the purpose of increasing the distance of the range; and appeared to take but little aim in consequence. A chance shot brought down a bashi-bozouk, whose horse came flying back without his rider; and a Russian dragoon on the other side bit the dust. Matters, however, did not long remain in that comparatively inactive state. The semliks and hayricks which formed the protection of the Russians were at the angle of a precipice, in the centre of a bend formed by the Danube; and as the skirmishers on both sides were firing dropping shots at each other, a body of horse rushed up a ravine with a loud hurrah, and charged with wonderful speed on the bashi-bozouks. To turn and fly was for them the work of an instant. They galloped off, as it their wont, and scattered themselves in all directions; whilst a squadron of Turkish dragoons broke into skirmishing line, and the fire on both sides was renewed, little damage being done on either part. At this moment an endeavour was made to gather the Irregulars together, in order to form them again into line; but this was a work of some difficulty: many had retired to a considerable distance, and were out of reach of orders; others were unwilling; and the captains were to be seen rushing here and there, bringing up the stragglers and driving on the unwilling. Many, however, appeared deaf to the command of their officers, and refused altogether to advance; and here occurred one of the most curious incidents of the day. Accompanied by a couple of dragoons, the chief of the Irregulars seized three of the worst-behaved bashi-bozouks, whom he ordered to dismount for punishment. The men howled piteously, crying "Amman Effendim" ("Pardon, master!") but the Captain resolutely commenced proceedings. The unfortunate Irregular, having been deprived of his sword, was held down on the ground by two Dragoons, and, in spite of his cries, was beaten with the back of his own crooked sword. Blow after blow came down upon his shoulders and legs, until the Captain, apparently tired, desisted. The same scene was repeated with two others who were then marched off, tottering upon their beaten limbs, tied with ropes, and forced to run on foot after the Dragoons who led them. Meanwhile, the enemy had not been idle; and, whilst your Correspondent stood looking on at this singular scene, the group of punishers and punished, together with the bystanders, were dangerously in the rear of the retreating Turks. A squadron of Russian horse, with two field-pieces, came rushing on at triple speed. The guns were unlimbered, and began firing. The bullets at the same time were whizzing about our ears, and a speedy retreat became necessary. We had hardly retired behind the infantry and guns which lay concealed in the broken ground, when the Turkish guns returned the fire of the Russians, and a smart cannonade followed. The pieces on both sides were ill-served, the shells of the enemy bursting in the air short of the Turkish battalions; whilst the Russians, surprised at the volleys which were fired at them, retired out of range immediately; and the shots on our side also fell short. The bashi-bozouks again advanced as the Russians retired; and the traces left on the ground, together with the discovery of a couple of swords, only proved that the loss on both sides had not been very great. This was the end of what is called here a reconnaissance; an operation, however, which did not seem to us to have the character assigned to it. On the part of the Turks, no knowledge was gained as to what might be the force of the enemy; and on the part of the Russians, there seemed to be no desire to do aught than repel with as little trouble as possible the attack that was made upon them. Much has been heard of the force of the enemy in the surrounding villages between this and Krajova, and some surprise is felt at his apathy at a time when the mildest weather and a pure sky would render operations as easy as in summer. It is said that there are now from 30,000 to 40,000 Russians in Little Wallachia, and their apparent unwillingness to hazard a force of that magnitude against the intrenchments of Kalafat, is considered as a symptom of the respect in which the Turks are held by their enemy. But who shall say what are the real intentions of the Czar?

In the camp, of course, politics are as much discussed as anywhere else. The periodical changes of Ministers in Constantinople are made the subject of loud debate, and the Turks abandon their usual quietude of demeanour in the warmth of contending opinions. The Turks, it must be remarked, are usually much like Indians in their mode of settling questions of importance. In contemplation of a forward movement against the enemy, they hold a *medjlis*, or council; and then the most profound silence is preserved whilst each General or officer broods over what is supposed to be an idea. In the majority of instances silence is not a sign of thought; and the medjlis of the Turks is more frequently without results than fruitful in expedients. In the councils of the great, a mute—*i.e.*, a person who in his youth was considerately deprived of his tongue—is used to bring in the coffee, which prevents the councillors from going to sleep; but, in real truth the mute is merely a thing of supererogation, for a Turkish council is as silent as the grave; and, when decision, which is rare, is known to have marked the proceedings, the mute will be found to have been carefully excluded. Councils are always fatal things. If Clive had listened to their advice we should not have won Plassey. If Charles XII. had held one, would he have won Narva? But, with the Turks, councils are a necessity—a dull one, it is true; but one which they may not abolish without danger. An instance took place not long since which was ludicrous enough. In a reconnoissance that was made in the direction of Citaté, a Captain of Lancers rushed up to inform his commanding officer that the Russians were about to cut us off. "Peki" (good), said the commander, proceeding as if he had not received the information. "What!" said a Captain, "shall we not halt and hold a council?" "D——n your medjlis!" said the Commandant, who was a Pole, to the astonishment of all around. There is no Turkish officer, in such a case, that would not have halted; pipes would have been lighted all round, and by the time a decision was come to, the enemy would, perhaps, have made progress so far as to bring about a catastrophe, which might otherwise have been avoided.

The apathy of the Turks has, however, been somewhat shaken by the intelligence that a change of Ministry had taken place at Constantinople; and that Riza Pacha, lately at the head of the Admiralty, had been promoted to the post of Minister of War. Riza Pacha is supposed, whether with truth or not, to be less favourable to warlike measures than his predecessor in office, and it is feared lest the ascendant of a peaceful Minister may produce some change in the policy hitherto pursued at Constantinople. It need scarcely be said that an attempt to check the ardour of the Turks against the Russians at the present moment might lead to serious consequences. I do not believe that a Ministry of peace would be likely to live any time. The softas of the capital betrayed the feelings of the population, when they grumbled against the Imperial proclamation, of which they had mistaken the tenor; but there are other symptoms which prove the existence of the popular sentiments, and amongst them may be noted one which is strongly telling. The town of Widdin and the camp of Kalafat are this moment full of dervishes, armed with poles, to which are attached scythe blades. (*We have engraved our Correspondent's sketch of the scene, and shall, next week, present other sketches received with this communication.*) These fanatics are, in truth, a disgrace to the Turks, for their avowed intention is the cutting off of the heads of defunct Russians; but the presence of these men in the ranks of the army, where there may be seen at every skirmish calling on the Prophet to destroy the Giaours, is a sign of the fanaticism which now animates the people; and the proof that this fanaticism is shared by the soldiers, is shown by the charity which the latter afford to the Dervishes. The feelings excited by the news of Ministerial changes in Constantinople, have been replaced by others within the last twenty-four hours, by the receipt of a supplement to the Turkish Constantinople journal, in which it is announced that England and France have declared war against Russia. This, however, is a piece of news which is considered to require confirmation.

Intelligence of a character more likely to be true, has come up from Rustchuk. It appears that a few days ago Omer Pachs, appeared in that city, and ordered the bombardment of Giurgevo. The guns in position on the island between the two cities, were belching forth their deadly projectiles during an entire day. It is now rumoured that thirty battalions of Turks have passed the Danube at Sistova, and invaded Wallachia in that direction. Whether this be true, or not, it is impossible to ascertain; but on the day before yesterday a movement was made by the Russians, which tends to confirm the opinion, either that Omer Pacha has already made a diversion, or is about to make one. The enemy was seen to advance at about noon, simultaneously from Payana and from Golenz, with upwards of 20,000 men and fifty-four guns. Nine battalions marched from the former place, eight from the latter, and two battalions moved in the centre. This infantry was further supported by four regiments of cavalry. The enemy came up in this force for the purpose apparently of burning the forage in proximity to the entrenchment. Whilst the Russian infantry remained out of gun-shot, behind the undulations of the ground, parties of Cossacks were to be seen galloping to and fro, and setting fire to hayricks and maize-magazines. This they did without molestation from the Turks, who seemed to look on unconcerned at the destruction before them. Having remained about three hours in order of battle, and doubtless obtained from the heights around a tolerable notion of the strength of Kalafat, the Russians retired, and were only followed by a few of the Irregulars, at whom they fired with six-pounders—rather a useless operation. As the shades of evening drew on, the glare of the fires was distinctly visible, not only in the plains in front of the position, but far away towards Payana, Maglavitz, and Citaté, where huge masses of flame cast up a lurid light upon the hills of sand, and announced a wide and regularly-organised conflagration. Such a proceeding on the part of the enemy seemed to argue a determination to retire; and it was resolved, at night, to reconnoitre the nearest villages, for the purpose of ascertaining if they were still occupied. Achmet Pacha accordingly marched out at eleven o'clock, with nine squadrons of horse, and a few irregulars, and took the road to Golenz. Four guns accompanied the force, which came before the village, without encountering more than a couple of Cossacks. The bashi-bozouks rushed at these two individuals with terrific ardour, firing their fusees and pistols as if a whole regiment were in front of them, but no enemy appeared. A halt was ordered; the guns were brought up, unlimbered, and fired at random in the direction of the village. No reply was given, no Russian appeared, and the General in command, satisfied with what he had done, turned back and came in to quarters as ignorant as to the point which it was necessary to ascertain as when the party set out. I have thought it necessary to state these facts because they show great lack of judgment on the part of the officers who hold command here. The Turks are brave; their discipline has struck me on more than one occasion. It is only a pity that bravery should be liable to such singular misdirection from officers who exhibit ignorance in the details of their profession. More than half the day has passed, and yet we are still ignorant as to whether the Russians are in full retreat towards Krajova or not.

THE CZAR'S MANIFESTO.

From the following proclamation, which appeared at St. Petersburg on the 23rd inst., it will be seen that the Czar is using every means of excite the fanatical zeal of his degraded serfs:—

We, Nicholas I., &c.,—

We have already informed our beloved and faithful subjects of the progress of our disagreements with the Ottoman Porte.

Since then, although hostilities have commenced, we have not ceased sincerely to wish, as we still wish, the cessation of bloodshed. We entertained even the hope that reflection and time would convince the Turkish Government of its misconceptions engendered by treacherous instigations, in which our just demands, founded on treaties, have been represented as attempts at its independence, veiling intentions of aggrandisement. Vain however, have been our expectations, so far

The English and French Governments have sided with Turkey, and the appearance of the combined fleets off Constantinople served as a further incentive to its obstinacy; and now both the Western Powers, without previously declaring war, have sent their fleets into the Black Sea, proclaiming their intention to protect the Turks, and to impede the free navigation of our vessels of war for the defence of our coasts. After so unheard-of a course of proceeding among civilised nations, we recalled our embassies from England and France, and have broken off all political intercourse with those Powers.

Thus, England and France have sided with the enemies of Christianity against Russia combatting for the orthodox faith.

But Russia will not betray her holy calling; and, if enemies infringe on her frontiers, we are ready to meet them with the firmness bequeathed to us by our forefathers. Are we not still the same Russian nation, of whose exploits the memorable events of 1812 bear witness?

May the Almighty assist us to prove this by deeds. With this hope, combatting for our persecuted brethren, followers of the faith of Christ, with one accord let all Russia exclaim, "O Lord, our Redeemer! whom shall we fear? May God be glorified, and His enemies be scattered."

St. Petersburg, Feb. 9 (21), 1854.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

CRIMINAL LAW BILLS.

Lord ST. LEONARDS called the attention of the House to the reports which had been made at various times by the Commissioners appointed for the Codification and Consolidation of the Criminal Law. On these reports bills had been framed, which had been referred to a select committee of their Lordships, and on which the opinions of the Judges had been asked. Those opinions, it appeared, were decidedly against the measure. He wished, therefore, to know the intentions of the Government as to the bills in question.

The LORD CHANCELLOR intimated his intention of referring the bills to a select committee.

Lord BROUGHAM addressed their Lordships (who were by this time reduced to four) at great length, expressing his sorrow at the prospect of fresh delay in giving the public the advantage of a criminal code.

The subject then dropped.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.

Mr. LAYARD wished to know whether, in the event of the Emperor of Russia withdrawing his forces from the Principalities, he would be placed in the same position as he was before the commencement of this war—whether the old treaties were still to be in force?

Lord J. RUSSELL: The proposal made to the Emperor of Russia has no reference whatever to the treaties. We consider that the occupation of the Principalities belonging to the Sultan is a wrongful occupation, and we have therefore requested the Emperor of Russia to evacuate those Principalities by the 30th of April; but if he accedes to that request it is by no means to be conclusive as to the war between Russia and Turkey, nor will it include any treaty between those two Powers.

Mr. LAYARD said, the noble Lord had not answered his question. What he wished to know was, whether this was a definite proposal, which enabled the Emperor of Russia to resume the negotiations which existed at the time when a day was given him to accept certain proposals made to him in consequence of what took place at the Conference of Vienna and at Constantinople. If so, we should return exactly to the *status quo ante bellum*.

Lord J. RUSSELL: I do not know how I can explain further my answer to the hon. gentleman's question. What we proposed was, that the Principalities should be evacuated; and, supposing the Emperor of Russia were to consent to that request, it would then, of course, be open to him and the Sultan to negotiate, and it would be open to the Four Powers to mediate or to take part in any way in those negotiations.

Mr. LAYARD: I beg to give notice that I shall take an early opportunity of bringing the subject in a definite shape before the House (Hear, hear).

THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER brought forward the "consideration of the financial state of the country." Considering the gravity of the circumstances in which the country was placed, the Government thought that they would best discharge their duty by submitting, at that unusually early period of the session, the financial statement for the year, and the measures they thought requisite to be adopted to meet the exigencies, which must make a serious addition to the public burdens. He then proceeded to detail the actual state of the revenue and expenditure. The sums at which he had last year estimated the produce of the different sources of revenue, and the actual receipts, were, in round numbers, as follows:—

	Estimates.	Actual Receipts.
Customs	£20,680,000	£20,800,000
Excise	14,640,000	15,170,000
Stamps	6,200,000	6,260,000
Taxes	2,250 000	2,178,000
Income-tax	5,550,000	5,700,000
Post-office	900,000	1,042,000
Crown lands	320,000	321,000
Miscellaneous	320,000	503,000
Old stores	460,000	481,000

The total amount of revenue for the year, as estimated, including saving by reduction and conversion of debt, was £52,920,000, whereas the actual receipts produced £54,959,000, showing an improvement, as compared with the estimates, of £1,035,000. On the other hand, the expenditure for which the House provided last session was estimated at £52,185,000; but the actual expenditure, though swelled by charges for military operations, was but £51,171,000; so that, while the income of the country was £1,035,000 more than the estimates, the expenditure was £1,012,000 less. Mr. Gladstone then detailed the results of the measures of last year for the remission of duties, and of those for the extension and augmentation of taxes. He had calculated the net produce of the Irish income-tax for the year at £460,000, and the result had been an excess of £20,000, or about £480,000. The extension of the tax downward, in Great Britain, to incomes of £100 a-year would, he expected, yield to the Exchequer at least as much as he had estimated, namely, £250,000. The extension of the spirit duty in Scotland, which he had calculated would produce £278,000, had yielded only £203,000, but the apparent diminution was explained by the increased temperance of the people, and there was not so much as the breath of a suspicion of any revival of illicit distillation. The result of the augmentation of the spirit-duty in Ireland had been altogether satisfactory, the amount for which he had taken credit having been £198,000, whereas the actual amount was not less than £213,000. With respect to the succession duty, so far as regarded the ultimate probable yield, he saw no reason to depart from his conjectural estimate; but certain relaxations would almost overtake the actual receipts. He did not expect to realise more than £500,000 from this tax in the next year; and he had every reason to believe that the florid calculations of those who had predicted that the tax would realise from £3,000,000 to £4,000,000 were visionary. The whole of the facts he had stated, combined together, proved that the finances of the country stood upon a sound and solid foundation. The future, however, must be governed by an altered state of circumstances; and, making moderate allowances, he submitted the following estimate of the probable revenue in the year 1854-55:—

Customs	£20,175,000
Excise	14,895, 00
Stamps	7,090,000
Taxes	2,015,000
Income-tax	6,375,000
Post-office	1,200,000
Crown Lands	320,000
Old Stores	430,000
Miscellaneous	330,000
	£53,849,000

The expenditure for the year was less satisfactory. The charge for the funded debt had indeed been reduced from £27,570,000, to £27,000,000—a difference of £570,000 in favour of the country—which was in part due to the act of 1844, and in part to the measure of last session for paying off certain minor and South Sea Stocks. The charges for 1854-5 would stand thus:—

Funded Debt	£27,000,000
Unfunded Debt	546,000
Consolidated Fund	9,460,000
Army	6,857,000
Navy	7,498,000
Ordnance	3,846,000
Commissariat	645,000
Miscellaneous	4,772,000
Militia	541,000
Packet service	792,000

To the foregoing must be added a provision for the extraordinary military expenditure connected with the existing war, which, he remarked, must necessarily be indefinite. It was proposed to calculate the vote for this extraordinary military service at the rate of £50 per head for 26,000 men, or £1,300,000. Adding this amount to the other estimated charges, the total expenditure would be £56,189,000, and the estimated revenue being only £53,849,000, there would be a deficiency of revenue in 1854-55 of no less than £2,340,000. This sum, however, would not represent the whole cost of the war; but for this event, there would be a surplus of £1,166,000, and, with the saving accruing on the funded debt of £500 000, we should have had a fund for a further remission of taxation of £1,666,000. The total difference of the account against the Exchequer, including the surplus, was no less than £4,506 000. We had, therefore, an actual deficiency to provide for amounting to £2,840,000 a year. How was this deficiency to be made up? He trusted not by interfering with the reduction of taxation already made. The net amount of loss to the Exchequer by the remission of taxes in 1853 was £1,002,000, which might be saved by retracing our steps. He hoped the committee would support the Government in standing by the different branches of the revenue as they existed. They did not propose, in the face of the figures he had stated, and of the circumstances of the country, to part with any of the branches of the public revenue; and, if so, and if money must be had, would it be right to increase the rates of duty of Customs and Excise, or to replace the duties abolished? The answer of the committee would, he hoped, be, like that of the Government, in the negative.

We have entered upon a great struggle, (said the right hon. gentleman), but we have entered upon it under favourable circumstances. We have proposed to you to make great efforts, and you have nobly and cheerfully backed our proposals. You have already by your votes added very nearly 40,000 men to the establishments of the country; and, taking into account changes that have actually been carried into effect with regard to the return of soldiers from the colonies, and the arrangements which in the present state of Ireland might be made—but which are not made—with respect to the constabulary force, in order to render the military force disposable to the utmost possible extent, it is not too much to say that we have in addition to the disposable forces of the country, by land and by sea, at the present moment, as compared with our position twelve months ago, to the extent of nearly 50,000 men. This looks like an intention to carry on the war with vigour, and we wish and hope that her Majesty's Government is that that may be truly said of the people of England, with regard to this war, which was, I am afraid, not so truly said of Charles II. by a country his great poet, Dryden.—

"He, without fear, a dangerous war pursues,
Which, without rashness, he began before."

(Cheers). That we trust will be the motto of the people of England (cheers); and you have this advantage, that the sentiment of Europe, and we trust the might of Europe, is with you. (Renewed cheers). These circumstances—though we must not be sanguine, though it would be the wildest presumption for any man to say, when the ravages of European war had once begun, where and at what point it would be stayed—With circumstances justify us in cherishing the hope that possibly this may not be a long war. I would not go further than the modest epithet I have used. I say that this may be a protracted struggle; but, as long as that possibility exists, I think the committee will agree that it would not be wise, in the endeavour to supply the wants of the country, to do so by a series of measures which would be injurious to different classes and different interests, to different trades and different industries, disturbing everybody's calculations and everybody's operations. I am sure the committee will agree with her Majesty's Government that that is not the course which, in the present exigency, ought to be pursued. (Hear, hear). Whatever we do, therefore, I shall take further for granted, that we are bound in honour to do it with a minimum of disturbance to trade and to industry (Hear).

There were economical reasons and there were moral reasons, that should fasten the House to the sound policy of raising the supplies within the year, instead of having recourse to that system which has been termed "a wholesale and systematic deception of the people"—the raising of funds for the war by loans. There could not be a doubt, therefore, of the course the Government intended to propose. Referring to what he had observed last year of the Income-tax, that it was a great engine of taxation—an engine which might be used to the extent of a great part of the demands of any war—the Government proposed, he said, to repair the deficiency of £2,840,000, and to provide a moderate margin besides, by increasing the Income-tax by one half, levying the whole addition for and in respect of the first moiety of the year, that was, to double the tax for the half-year. The fiscal result of the proposition would be this: he had taken the amount of the Income-tax for 1854-55 at £6,375,000; a moiety of that sum was £3,187,000; but, in the case of the Income tax, the cost of collection diminished in proportion as the amount increased, and he took the real moiety at £3,307,000, which would make the whole produce of the Income-tax £9,682 000. The aggregate income for 1854-5 would then amount to £56,556,000; and the expenditure being estimated at £56,189 000, a small surplus would be left of £367,000. Mr. Gladstone then explained a financial change proposed by the Government, interesting, he said, to the commercial community, relating to stamps on bills of exchange, the law respecting which was in a most unsatisfactory state. We charged bills of exchange drawn at home, and exempted bills drawn abroad, contrary to the policy of France, where the stamps were uniform, whether the b lls were home-drawn or foreign-drawn. Moreover, there was reason to believe that the tax was evaded, and, while the Exchequer was defrauded, the ultimate holder of a bill found it worthless. It was therefore proposed to abolish the distinction between home and foreign-drawn bills, making them pay the same rate of tax—namely, 2d. for each £50, or for each £100, on short bills; and 4d. per £25, or 1s. 4d. per £100, on long bills, up to £3000; the stamps to be not impressed, but adhesive. He did not expect that the change could take effect until the 6th of July; the amount which this duty would produce was calculated at £430,000, against £550,000, the yield of the present duty. He had no doubt, however that the effect of the change would be to throw a good deal of capital into action which had hitherto been dormant; and he estimated that the ultimate revenue would be within £11,000 of the present revenue. He saw his intention, he said, to lay on the table a resolution for a vote of £1,750,000 for an issue of Exchequer-bills. The balances in the Exchequer, he observed, were low at present. They would have gone very low, had there not been no extraordinary demand. The additions to the revenue would not be realised before Christmas, whereas a large portion of the expenditure must be provided for in the next quarter, and he asked for permission to make this moderate issue of Exchequer Bills, not thinking it would be necessary to exercise the permission to its full extent; but, if it should be, the unfunded debt would only stand at present as it stood twelve months ago, when its amount was £17,750 000, and it was now £16,000,000. The Exchequer Bills were connected with the abortive operation of last year upon the public debt; the amount of the new securities taken under that measure was about £3,500,000, so that £6,000,000 had been or would be presented for payment, and the public balances had been, and would be, employed to pay off these stocks, together with the liquidation of debt charged upon the land revenues of the Crown. In consequence of this drain on the public balances, a less sum had been applied than would otherwise have been applied to the sinking fund. But the total saving from the measure had been £30,000. The summary of the whole was, that the Income-tax for the first half-year would be doubled for and in respect of the year 1854-55; and that a provision would be made for the interval by an issue of Exchequer Bills to the extent of £1,750,000, which, if issued, would be paid out of the growing produce of the revenue. He concluded by moving the vote above mentioned.

Mr. HUME thought it right that the revenue should be raised within the year, and that those corporations throughout the country which had been urging the Government to a war, without the information requisite to enable them to judge of its propriety, should now be called upon to pay their share towards the consequent burdens of the policy they recommended.

Mr. W. WILLIAMS entirely approved of the proposal to raise the supplies within the year.

Mr. HENLEY thought it impolitic to keep the balances in the Exchequer at so low a point as to compel the Government to enforce the payment of a whole year's tax within the first six months.

Mr. C. GLYN suggested the propriety of reconsidering the act of 1844, with a view to ascertain whether its operation was not of more than doubtful policy.

Mr MALINS contended that it would be impossible to carry on a great war with a restricted currency.

Mr. J. O'CONNELL thought it unwise to give another turn of income screw to Ireland before the first even had got into operation.

Mr. DISRAELI admitted at once that the House was bound to support her Majesty in all just and necessary wars; and he would not, therefore, oppose the vote. He protested, however, against the doctrine that in a prolonged contest we should rely upon taxation alone for our requisite supplies, or that even in resorting to taxation it might not be necessary to rely upon indirect as well as upon direct taxation. He also felt it necessary to impress upon the committee that the present state of the balances in the Exchequer was unsatisfactory, and might lead to danger. He wished to know what were the balances now in the Exchequer, and what were the engagements the right hon. gentleman had to meet on the 5th of April? At that date the right hon. gentleman ought to have a balance of about £10,000,000, whereas he believed he would only have about £3,000,000, while he would have to meet at least demands to the extent of £6,000,000, and about £2,000,000 more to meet the conversion scheme. Those demands, with the current expenditure, would approach £10,000,000, and he would have only £3,000,000 to meet it. This deficiency would betray a weakness of finance which must always be detrimental, and when he considered that the late Government had left balances to the extent of £9,000,000 in the Exchequer, he was compelled to ask how it came to pass that that balance had disappeared?

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said the fact was, that though the scheme had not succeeded, yet it had not occasioned any loss to the public. On the contrary, so far as it had gone, it had been actually profitable.

Mr. DISRAELI said that his argument was untouched—that it was most impolitic and unwise, when entering upon a great war, to make up for the reduction in the amount of the balances in the Exchequer by the issue of deficiency bills to the extent of at least £4,500,000 per quarter.

Mr. HILDYARD wished to have an assurance that the Government would not, under any circumstances, consent to subsidise foreign powers, and more particularly Austria, whose finances were known to be in a most desperate condition.

Mr. H. DRUMMOND deprecated any return to a paper currency, which was more than hinted at by several gentlemen that evening, some of them connected with the banking interest.

The resolution was ultimately agreed to, and the House resumed.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

The public business was confined to the reception of petitions.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

RELEASE OF FROST, WILLIAMS, AND JONES.

Viscount PALMERSTON, in reply to a question from Mr. T. Duncombe, stated that her Majesty had been graciously pleased to grant a pardon to Frost, Williams, and Jones, the Newport convicts, in the same manner as to Mr. Smith O'Brien; and, also, to extend her clemency to MARTIN and O'Doherty, transported for a minor offence.

POSTAL COMMUNICATION WITH SCOTLAND.

Mr. LIDDELL moved the appointment of a select committee to inquire into the postal communication between London and the cities of Edinburgh and Glasgow, with a view of ascertaining whether greater despatch and punctuality can be attained in the transmission of letters, as well between the termini as the intermediate places

Mr WILSON suggested that the inquiry should embrace the whole subject of the conveyance of mails by railways generally.

After a short discussion, he amended motion, in the form suggested by Mr Wilson, was agreed to.

The Coasting Trade Bill was read a third time and passed.

The Mutiny Bill was brought in, and read a first time; after which the House adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

SUCCESSION TO REAL ESTATE BILL.

Mr. LOCKE KING moved the second reading of this bill.

Sir J. PAKINGTON opposed the motion. The object of the bill was to alter the principle of the law of England with reference to the succession to real estate in the event of intestacy. The example of France, in reference to the breaking up of landed property, ought to convey a warning. Reviewing the provisions of the new Reform Bill, Sir John Pakington deduced evidence to show that Ministers were displaying much aptitude in falling into the views of their democratic followers. He moved that the bill now under consideration be read a second time that day six months.

Mr. BRIGHT ridiculed Sir J. Pakington's fears, and urged that the bill was founded upon the principle of "recast legislation" The object was not to interfere with the right of a man to dispose as he likes of his real estate, but to provide that in the case of intestacy the law shall step in, and make such a distribution of his property as is consistent with justice and the tendencies of natural affection.

Lord LOVAINE detested the democratic principle in the bill, and was convinced it would lay the foundation for abolishing the law of primogeniture.

Mr. M. MILNES maintained that there was no law of primogeniture, with the exception of the law sought to be amended. The existing arrangements depended upon the habits and customs of the people themselves, and not upon direct legislation. It was altogether right that in cases of intestacy property of every description should take the natural course.

Sir F. THESIGER contended that the law of primogeniture does prevail, and not merely the custom. He considered the proposed change at once useless and mischievous -useless, as having no other consequence than to make every person possessed of real property extremely careful to make a will; and mischievous, as declaring that a division of real property among the children is desirable in cases of intestacy.

Mr. HENLEY objected to the bill, which, instead of freeing land from its trammels, would have the effect of tying it up still more, and illustrated the absurdity of carrying out the principle of the measure by stating that in France, under the minute subdivision of land, thirty persons were sometimes found claiming property in a single tree.

Mr. DRUMMOND regretted the opinion of Mr. Ladlaw, that the compulsory subdivision of land would be the ruin of France, and of Burke, that the land, under such an arrangement, would inevitably fall into the hands of the Crown.

Mr. HADFIELD supported the bill, and hoped, if not passed now, the time was not far distant when its wise and beneficial propositions, which were calculated to "sweeten the breath" of families, would be engrafted on the laws of the land.

Lord J. RUSSELL opposed the bill. If they laid down the rule that it was unjust to vest in the person of the eldest son the possession of the real estate, to the exclusion of the other members of the family, they would erect a dangerous platform of discontent and agitation throughout the country, and engender many evils in the social circle.

Mr. PHINN supported the bill, and replied to the objections of Sir F. Thesiger and other opponents.

Mr. DISRAELI did not wonder at the strenuous advocacy which Mr. Phinn gave to the measure. It would certainly, if passed into a law, promote the interests of the legal profession, while there was no doubt that it would prove one of a series of pernicious encroachments upon the institutions of the country, and, in its operations, seriously obstruct the welfare of the whole community.

Mr. L. KING replied, and expressed surprise at the opposition of her Majesty's Government.

A division was taken For the second reading, 92; against it, 203. majority, 111. The bill is, therefore, lost.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH, in asking for some returns relating to the manning of the navy, observed that the Government had experienced considerable difficulty in obtaining the requisite number of seamen to man our fleet. He thought that that difficulty could be at once surmounted by holding out greater inducements to seamen to enter her Majesty's navy, than the merchant service was offering.

The Earl of ABERDEEN said that he had the highest testimony for saying that the fleet that was to start for the Baltic was adequately and efficiently manned.

In reply to Earl Grey, the Earl of ABERDEEN said, that when Lord J. Russell postponed the second reading of the Reform Bill until the 27th April, he did so in all sincerity and true faith, with the intention of proceeding with the measure on the 27th April. If, however, he were asked whether the intention of the noble Lord will be irrevocably executed on the 27th April, in respect to the second reading of the Reform Bill, he must decline to make any positive pledge on the subject. In the present state of this country and of Europe, it was impossible to say what a day or an hour might bring forth.

The Earl of BARROWBY called their Lordships' attention to the report of the Sanitary Commission, especially as regarded the metropolis, and asked the Government to take such steps as were recommended to secure the health of the people.

The Earl of SHAFTESBURY also urged upon the Government the propriety of adopting immediate measures for effecting the removal of all nuisances, particularly in the metropolis.

Lord GRANVILLE said that the Home Secretary was now collecting information on the subject with a view of introducing a bill to remedy the evils complained of.

After a short conversation their Lordships adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

The Thames Improvement Bill was postponed until the 2nd May.

Mr. RICH asked whether the Government contemplated making any provisions for the better discipline of the troops on the occasion of the capture of towns by storm?

Mr. S. HERBERT said that the Commander-in-Chief had ample power over life and death; and he thought that this matter had better be left entirely in his hands.

Sir F. FAGAN moved that the House will to-morrow resolve itself into a committee to take into consideration the law relating to the rate or tax called "Ministers' Money" in Ireland, with the view to repeal the same.

Mr. HUME seconded the motion.

Sir J. YOUNG moved, as an amendment, that, after the first of October next, houses rated under £10 a year should be exempt from the tax; as should, also, all houses, however rated, built in future.

After some discussion, the House divided, when the Amendment of Sir J. YOUNG was carried by a majority of 103 to 88.

Mr. CRAWFORD obtained leave to bring in a Bill to enable Executors

to issue in any part of the United Kingdom, under a judgment in any court in England, Scotland, and Ireland.

On the motion of Lord J. RUSSELL, the issue of New Writs for the Suspended Seats was postponed until the 17th of March.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

Lord Brougham laid upon the table a Bill to Assimilate the Law of Bankruptcy and Insolvency in Scotland to that of England. The bill was read a first time.

THE WAR.

The Earl of SHAFTESBURY moved for papers in continuation of those formerly presented in reference to the state of Christians in Turkey, and, after alluding to the pretences put forward by Russia in justification of her invasion of the Principalities, said it was quite obvious that these hostile proceedings had their origin in ambitious motives. He would undertake to prove that there was in Turkey a far greater degree of religious freedom than in Russia, the whole aim of which power appeared to be to darken all that was light, and to subjugate all that was free. The question was not whether we should range ourselves on the side of a Mahomedan State against Christians, but whether we should permit the principle to be established, that the more powerful states might aggrandise themselves at the expense of their weaker neighbours; and, in ranging ourselves on the side of Turkey, we were resisting that principle in prohibiting the encroachments of Russia. The noble Lord proceeded, in an able speech, to repudiate the principle that this contest could in any way be considered as a religious war.

The Earl of CLARENDON, in conceding the papers, highly eulogised the speech of the noble Earl, which was all that could be desired, both as to its spirit and the moment at which he had brought it forward. Their Lordships would be glad to hear that he had that evening received a despatch from Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, which stated that a firman had been completed by which the Christian and the Mahomedan subjects of the Porte were granted equal privileges with respect to religion.

Earl GREY said that the real facts must not be lost sight of amidst the compliments paid to Turkey. All Christians were still styled "dogs," and Mahometans becoming converts to the Christian religion were liable to be punished by death.

Lord BEAUMONT said that the law condemning proselytes from Mahometanism to Christianity to death was repealed some years ago.

Earl GREY was glad to learn that such was the fact. He regretted that the Greeks of the western provinces were making themselves the tools of Russia. Still, there was every excuse for them; and, if they came into serious conflict with the Turks, he hoped the arms of this country would not be employed to coerce them into submission.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH knew nothing more likely to complicate the future relations of Europe than that we should take the position which we had refused to Russia, and become the protectors of the Christian subjects of Turkey. Insurrection on the part of the Greeks at the present moment was the worst step they could take. They ought to join the Turkish standard, and, by rallying in the defence of their country, take the step most likely to make them equal, practically and legally, with the other subjects of the Porte.

Earl FITZWILLIAM doubted whether the present was the time for this country to make any effort to obtain privileges for the Greeks of Turkey, and he did not think that we ought to give any guarantee for their future protection.

The motion was then agreed to, and their Lordships adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

In consequence of the illness of Lord John Russell, several bills upon the paper were postponed.

On the motion of Sir J. YOUNG, the House went into committee upon Municipal Corporations (Ireland).

Sir J. YOUNG moved a resolution to enable him to bring in a bill to make such alteration in the law respecting Ministers' Money, as he had proposed on the previous evening.

Mr. FAGAN said that he felt himself justified, by the recent proceeding of the House upon this subject, to repeat his motion, by way of amendment, the effect of which was to abolish Ministers' Money; and, in lieu of it, to provide for the payment of the clergy out of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners' fund.

Mr HADFIELD and Mr. BRIGHT severally supported the amendment.

Upon a division the original motion was carried by a majority of 136 to 21.

Mr. HADFIELD said he would oppose the bill when introduced in every stage.

The resolution was then agreed to.

The Marine Mutiny Bill passed through Committee.

The Exchequer Bills (£1,750,000) Bill was read a second time—

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER observing that the issue was in anticipation of the Income-tax, to come in towards the latter part of the year.

Mr. B. ROOKER obtained leave for the appointment of a Select Committee, to consider the best means of improving the ventilation of the House.—Adjourned.

MUSIC.

THE PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.

The first concert of the season took place on Monday evening, and its programme was a fair specimen of the spirit which has generally actuated the management of the Society. As usual, there were two Symphonies of the great masters, each a *chef d'œuvre* of its author—Mozart's sixth Symphony in C, known by the name of "Jupiter," and Beethoven's "Pastorale." As usual, also, there were two Overtures, both highly effective, and calculated to display the powers of a great orchestra—Rossini's Overture to the "Siege of Corinth," and Weber's Jubilee Overture, in which our National Anthem is clothed with such splendid harmony. Mendelssohn's Pianoforte Concerto in D minor, which it is to all intents and purposes a grand orchestral symphony, gave Mrs. Thompson (so long and so much admired under the name of Miss Kate Loder), an opportunity to display her high qualities as a performer. She was received with enthusiasm; a feeling mingled with deep regret on the part of those who knew that this was her very last appearance in public. Her marriage has induced her to retire from the blaze of celebrity into the quiet shades of private life; but it is satisfactory to know that she does not entirely abandon her professional duties, and that she is to continue her useful course, as one of the ablest and most successful teachers of whom London can boast.

DRURY-LANE THEATRE.

The "national demonstration in aid of the wives and children of the British soldiers sent as an expeditionary force," at Drury-lane Theatre on Wednesday morning, did credit to Mr. Smith, the lessee, for his public spirit in originating it, and for his tact and skill in rendering it effective. He obtained the active patronage of the Lord Mayor and the City authorities, who gave debt to the occasion by their presence in all the "pomp and circumstance" of civic state. The theatre was crowded in every part; and the enthusiasm with which the audience received our two great loyal and patriotic songs, "God save the Queen" and "Rule Britannia," was an echo of the feeling now prevalent throughout the length and breadth of our land. The passages, in both these songs, which bore an application to the present crisis, were received with reiterated shouts and acclamations. At the end of this performance Mr. Smith was loudly called for, to receive the expression of public approval; and "Virginius" (in which Mr. Brooke is happier than in any other piece in which he appears) was well acted and received with great applause.

PROCLAMATION.—Last night's *Gazette* contains a proclamation, under the Act of Geo. III., against the "Enlisting or Engagement of his Majesty's Subjects to serve in Foreign Service, and the Fitting out or Equipping Vessels for Warlike Purposes," &c.

THE WIVES AND FAMILIES OF SOLDIERS.—On Tuesday a public meeting was held at Willis's Rooms, King-street, of the association recently formed to relieve the wives and families of those soldiers who have been suddenly sent off to the East. In the absence of the Bishop of London, Lieut.-General Sir Peregrine Maitland took the chair. Amongst the company, which was large, were a number of ladies of rank and influence. Resolutions in accordance with the object of the association were moved and seconded by Lord Shaftesbury, Mr. Hume, Lord St. Leonards, Lord Ingestre, Mr. Colquhoun, and Dr. Cumming.

THE LABOUR PARLIAMENT.—This conference, which commenced its sittings at Manchester, on Monday, appears to have been a failure. On Tuesday they determined to invite Louis Blanc and Nadaud, and letters were addressed to those parties; but it was not expected that they would attend.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

Chichago, which twenty-five years ago was a marsh, is now a city of 60,000 inhabitants. It has six parishes, and a cathedral is about to be built in it.

Government has instructed the General Board of Health to prepare suggestions for a Buildings Bill, to serve for the country as well as for the metropolis.

M. Chacornac, the discoverer of the planets Massilia and Phocea, has been appointed assistant astronomer at the Observatory of Paris.

Mr. Marth, assistant at Mr. Bishop's Observatory, Regent's Park, has discovered, close to the bright star Spica, in Virgo, a new planet, evidently belonging to the group between Mars and Jupiter. It appears like a star of the tenth magnitude.

At the Wexford assizes the widow and children of Samuel Boyce, who lost his life in the *Queen Victoria*, wrecked off Howth on the 14th July, 1853, recovered damages from the City of Dublin Company to the amount of £400, and 6d. costs.

From this time, until the 1st November, the hour of commencing business in the landing and waterside departments of the Customs will be eight, instead of nine o'clock, as during the winter months.

A farmer, in the neighbourhood of Inverness, had last season, on 15 acres, no less than 600 bolls of excellent potatoes, or 40 bolls per acre. The ground had been manured with two tons and a half of Australian guano.

The house of Dickson and Co., Glasgow, largely engaged in the Austra lian trade, has suspended payment. The liabilities are said to be from £360,000 to £400,000.

Marriages are steadily increasing in the rural districts of Ireland. Previous to Lent, this year, the number was far more numerous than in any previous year since the famine, and nearly equal to the average in the most prosperous times.

A flour dealer in New York, in September last, purchased 21,000 barrels of flour, at the average price then current, 5 dols. 75 cents, and sold it a fortnight ago at 9 dols.—net profits, 67,500 dols.

During the month of January last no less than 319 merchant vessels were shipwrecked; in February 179 were lost: making altogether no less than 498 vessels in two months.

At York a servant girl, while at work last week, died suddenly of apoplexy, caused by tight lacing.

A ukase has been issued by the Russian Government, forbidding Jewish women in Poland to wear any kind of head-dress under their bonnets. The Rabbis are forbidden to marry any woman who refuses to obey the new law.

A new railway is projected from the northern counties to London, for the exclusive carriage of coals and other bulky commodities.

The Glasgow spinners, after standing out several months, have resumed work on the masters' terms.

At the meeting of the Institution for the Preservation of Life from Shipwreck, last week, cheques amounting to nearly £600 were signed, to pay for new life boats.

Cholera has made its appearance in Leeds. Out of the first thirteen cases six had proved fatal. In Ireland, also, the epidemic has broken out in a very malignant form

Prince Lucien Bonaparte, brother of the Prince of Canino, has left Paris for Italy, on a special mission from the French Government.

During the period of his command in Turkey, Marshal de St. Arnaud is to receive 60,000 fr. a month above his ordinary pay and other emoluments, besides 400,000 fr. for his preliminary expenses, outfit, &c.

The French Government are about to withdraw their extensive military establishments from Guadaloupe and Martinique.

The number of licensed victuallers in England and Wales, in 1853, was 51,640; of beerhouse keepers, 40,913. The number of licensed victuallers in Scotland was 14,812; and in Ireland, 16,289.

Mr. Samuel Owen, to whom Sweden owes the introduction of steam boats into that country, died at Stockholm the other day, at the age of eighty.

Mr. Hobbs, the patentee of the American lock, has offered 200 guineas for any one who can accomplish the task of picking it.

The works for the Central Italian railroad commenced on the 9th February, in the direction of Castelfranco and Modena

Mr. Grenville Murray, one of the *attachés* of the British Embassy at Constantinople has founded a museum of antiquities and three scholarships at the public school in the island of Lesbos.

Several earthquakes have taken place in Calabria lately, attended with great loss of life. One village, containing 900 inhabitants, has been completely destroyed. Altogether 3000 lives had been lost up to the latest accounts.

Three Princesses of the Sultan's family are to be immediately married: one, of fourteen years old, to Redschid Pacha's son; a second, eleven years old, to Ethem Pacha, son of the ex-Minister, Mehemet Ali Pacha; and a third, ten years old, to Achmet Pacha, son of Fethi Achmet Pacha, the grand master of artillery.

Thirty thousand pounces were paid upon spirits in bond at Glasgow on Friday and Saturday last from a notion that Mr. Gladstone would propose an increase in the duties.

Twelve hundred pounds is wanted for the erection of baths and washhouses in Lynn. Lord Stanley, M.P. for the borough, offers to give one-fourth of that sum if the corporation and inhabitants act liberally.

A new Episcopal church has been built at Cincinnati, which has cost 140,000 dollars.

The Russian Five per Cents have fallen about 35 per cent, since the beginning of last year.

A stratum of coal, about six inches thick, has been discovered in the town of Gloucester, at a depth of eleven feet from the surface.

The *Edinburgh* steamer struck on the coast of East Friesland, on the 27th ult., when twelve persons lost their lives.

It is said that the Earl of Durham will succeed to the Lord-Lieutenancy of Durham, vacant by the demise of the Marquis of Londonderry.

The Duke of Cambridge will pass through Paris, on his way to the East, and has been invited to visit the Emperor. His Royal Highness, it is expected, will reside during his short stay at the Tuileries.

There are now, at Southampton, on their way to Liberia, four liberated slaves from Cuba. They lived in Cuba twenty years, about twelve of which they were in slavery.

A gentleman at Havannah has invented a sewing-machine which makes button-holes and sews on buttons.

Only three Government emigration vessels have sailed from Liverpool for Australia during the past month.

One of the titles of the Emperor Nicholas is "the Most Pious Autocrat" in Russian, "*Bita otcshestvetselchi Avtokrator.*"

The public prosecution of Stockholm has commenced the prosecution of seven women in that city, for having abandoned the Lutheran faith, and embraced that of Rome.

Mr. Webb, of New York, has contracted to build a line-of-battle ship, of 90 guns, for the Czar.

The Maine Liquor-law has passed the Maryland Legislature, and, if applied by a vote of the people, will go into operation in two years.

It is said that M. Isturitz, the Spanish Ambassador, is about to be recalled to Madrid, to mark the displeasure of the Queen of Spain at the freedom used in speaking of her conduct.

A large party of the Spanish insurgents has taken refuge in France.

The seabord of the United States was visited by a most severe snow-storm on the 20th and 21st ult. The average depth of snow was about two inches.

A gentleman residing at Christopher-street, Finsbury-square, was robbed in the City of £1675 in bank notes, on Tuesday. On discovering his loss he apprised the police of the circumstance, and stopped payment of the notes, the numbers of which he knew.

The Senate of Rhode Island have passed a law abolishing capital punishment.

Tillage in Ireland has considerably increased this year; several graziers, tempted by high prices, having broken up their grass-lands.

The 22nd ult., the birthday of George Washington, was celebrated at New York with more enthusiasm than it ever called forth before.

In five consecutive years, ending 1849, the estimated production of yarn in Birmingham was 1,324,329 stand of arms, or an average of 264 865 a year; and the gun-makers are fully prepared to produce a larger number of arms, if required.

The young King of Portugal is to spend some time in visiting the European Courts, but the period of his departure is not yet fixed.

Lord Londesborough has determined to discontinue the preservation of game on his estates in Yorkshire, on account of an accident to the Holderness hounds.

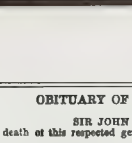
The Royal Agricultural Society have offered a premium of £200 for a steam cultivator which shall do the work of the spade or plough more economically than either of those ancient implements.

A well-known authoress in Dresden is involved in a "criminal process," because she mentioned "Newman's Crimes of the House of Hapsburg," in an account of modern literature in Dr. Kuhne's "Europa," published in Leipzig.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

SIR JOHN CONROY, BART.

THE death of this respected gentleman is announced. Sir John Conroy, born at Caerhyn, in Carnarvonshire, 21st October, 1786, was the descendant of a very ancient Irish family. At an early age (in 1803) he entered the army and served with much credit till 1815. Subsequently, he was placed on the retired list of the Royal Artillery. Many years ago he entered the service of the late Duke of Kent, and after his Royal Highness's death was appointed Comptroller of the Household of the Duchess, which office he continued to hold until the accession of her present Majesty, devoting himself with great zeal and ability to the interests of the Royal personages with whom he was for so long a period connected. In 1837 he was decorated with the insignia of a Knight Commander of the Guelphic order, and in 1841 was created a Baronet of the United Kingdom. He received also the Grand Cross of the Saxon Order of Ernestine and of St. Bento d'Avis, and was a Commander of the Tower and Sword of Portugal. In 1843 Sir John filled the office of High Sheriff of Montgomeryshire, and in 1853 became Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant of that county's Militia. Of late, the worthy Baronet has principally resided at Arborsfield-hall, near Reading, in Berkshire, where he occupied himself much in agricultural improvements. Sir John Conroy married, in 1808, Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Major-General Benjamin Fisher, and niece of Dr. Fisher, Bishop of Salisbury; and by her leaves issue, of whom the eldest son, now Sir Edward Conroy, second Baronet, is married to Lady Alicia Parsons, daughter of the Earl of Rosse.



CHARLES WILLIAM (STEWART) VANE, MARQUIS OF LONDONDERRY, K.G

THIS distinguished nobleman died on the 6th inst., in his 76th year. His Lordship, the eldest son of Robert, first Marquis of Londonderry, by Frances, his second wife, eldest daughter of Charles, Earl Camden, entered the army as Ensign, in 1794, and took part in the unfortunate expedition to Holland, during the course of which he received a severe wound. In the Peninsular campaigns there was no more gallant cavalry officer than Charles Stewart. At Corunna, Talavera, Busaco, Fuentes d'Onor, and Badajos, he was especially distinguished, and received a brevet and one clasp for his services. It was not, however, on the battle-field only that the Marquis earned honourable fame. From time to time he was engaged successfully in important missions to the camps of the Allies. "He was," to use the eloquent words of a contemporary, "as fearless a soldier as ever drew sword, and as undaunted in battle; and it can with truth be said, that there never was one braver in the British army than the Charles Stewart whose death it is our duty to announce."

His Lordship was created, in 1814, Baron Stewart, &c.; in 1822, he succeeded to the Irish honours, at the death of his half-brother (formerly so well known as Viscount Castlereagh). In the following year he obtained the Earldom of Vane, with special limitation to the issue of his second wife, the heiress of Sir Harry Vane Tempest, Bart.

At the period of his death, he was a General in the Army, Colonel of the 2nd Life Guards, a Knight of the Garter, a Knight Grand Cross of the Bath, a Knight Grand Cross of Hanover, and a Knight of the Tower and Sword of Portugal, of the Black Eagle and Red Eagles of Prussia, of the Sword of Sweden, and of St. George of Russia. He was also Lord-Lieutenant of the county of Durham, and Custos Rotulorum of Downshire and Londonderry. At one period he was Ambassador at Berlin, and at another, at Vienna. Without referring to the circumstances attending his appointment to, and relinquishment of, the embassy to St. Petersburg, during Sir Robert Peel's short-lived administration, in 1834-7, it will be sufficient to observe, as connected with the political part taken by Lord Londonderry, that his conduct was generally that of a moderate and independent Conservative. Few men have more freely indulged in the expression of uncompromising opinions upon any subject with respect to which conviction was fairly awakened, and, at the same time, so generally succeeded in avoiding the incurring of personal enmity. Indeed, personal enemies his Lordship had none. His thorough goodness of heart was evidenced by so many acts of kindliness and liberality, that those who knew him best respected and loved him most. The affection entertained for him by his immediate relatives, and by all who came within the sphere of domestic and personal correspondence, was of a warmth which attested his sterling qualities of temper and character. Among his leading impulses was a deep-seated and devoted attachment to the memory of his brother, whose character, when assailed by ignorance, thoughtlessness, or malignity, he spared no effort to vindicate from misrepresentation. This feeling was conspicuously manifested in the one of the latest acts of his life—the publication of the "Correspondence and Despatches of Lord Castlereagh," a work which takes rank as one of the most valuable contributions to the political history of Europe.

Lord Londonderry married, August 1, 1804, Lady Catherine Bligh, daughter of John, third Earl of Darnley, and by her (who died Feb. 11, 1812) had one son, Frederick William Robert, Viscount Castlereagh, now fourth Marquis, who is married to the Dowager Viscountess Powerscourt. The Marquis married secondly, April 3, 1819, Lady Frances-Anne Vane Tempest, only child and heiress of the late Sir Harry Vane Tempest, Bart., by Anne-Catherine, his wife, Countess of Antrim; and by her (who inherited vast property in the county of Durham) his Lordship leaves three sons (of whom the eldest, George Henry Robert Charles, Viscount Seaham, now becomes second Earl Vane), and three daughters, of whom the eldest is Marchioness of Blandford; and the second, Countess of Portarlington.

His Lordship died from the effects of a sudden attack of influenza, which proved too severe for a constitution already weakened by long service and the natural decay of age. His death was free from pain; and his last hours were soothed by the presence of nearly all the members of his family.

BARON DE REHAUSEN.

His Excellency the Chevalier John G. Baron de Rehausen, Swedish Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of St. James, was a diplomatist of long standing, and was very generally and deservedly respected and esteemed.

Baron de Rehausen was born in 1802, and may be said to have passed the greater part of his life in this country; in early boyhood he was sent to England, his father then being a Swedish Minister at the Court of St. James's. The son was, in fact, brought up in diplomatic service: he was successively attached to the Swedish Legations at St. Petersburg, the Hague, and Paris. From the latter capital he was removed to London, where he first became Consul and then Secretary of Legation under Count Bjornstjerna, who for a long period was Minister from Sweden in England: during the occasional absence of the Count Baron de Rehausen was accredited Charge d'Affaires. In 1846, on the recal of Bjornstjerna, Baron de Rehausen was appointed his successor. Since that period, the Baron has discharged the diplomatic functions of his office with great satisfaction both to the Majesties of Sweden and of England.

The Baron died of the small-pox on the 2nd inst. at the house of the Swedish Legation in Halkin-street West.

ESCAPE FROM ASSASSINATION.

(From a Correspondent.)

PESHAWUR, December 30, 1853.

You have probably heard of the Khans or Sirdarzai Chiefs, who receive salaries from our Government, and are consequently supposed to be well affected towards us; but which in reality are jealous of our power—disgusted at seeing the Sikh yoke cast to their tyranny; utter as any religious fanatics could possibly be, and constantly exciting the people against us and our religion; designating us with the appellation of Kaffirs, in which they are frequently assisted by their Moollahs. The most powerful of these Khans is one Kadir Khan, of Teroo, a large village, some three miles distant from Murdan, the site of the Fort for the Corps of Guides. In his service, as a scowr, was an old man named Jellalah, who had been employed by him, and his father before him, in ridding the world of obnoxious people; he had committed eighty murders, and, supported by his high master's name, had been for years dreaded in every village in the Eusufzai. Such was the villain, who, having arrived at the age of seventy years, and feeling that in the natural course of events he could not live much longer, and that a terrible punishment awaited him in another world, wished to do some act which would save him: taught by his Moollahs to think that to kill a Kaffir was the only act which would enable him to gain that object, and knowing that his master wished to be rid of the fort-building infidels, he came to camp *to murder me, and gain Paradise.*

On the morning of the 2nd I had just returned from the lines, and was

WRECK IN COREJOU BAY, ON THE COAST OF BRITANNY.

standing at the door of my tent talking to some native officers, when I saw an old man, covered with a sheet, walking about listlessly. I asked him who he was and what he wanted. He hardly made any reply, and appeared so old and idiotic, that I took no further notice of him. Shortly after I was going over to see some of Hodson's traps, sent to Peshawur, when I saw a snake in the path, and was stooping to kill it, when I received a blow on the back, which I thought was accidentally struck by some one endeavouring to pass me, and kill the snake; and, turning round, there stood the ruffian Jellalah, with a drawn sword in his hand, and a dagger hanging from his neck by a long string. I then put my hand to my back, and discovered that I had been stabbed. Luteef Jemadar, of 1st troop, the only armed man of my party, threw himself between me and the assassin most gallantly, or he certainly would have given me another blow. I then dashed into my tent for my sword; but, before I return-d, the villain had been cut to pieces. Up to this time, no one but myself knew that I had been stabbed, and I said nothing for fear that my men would commence assisting me, before seizing the ruffian, who certainly stood his ground well. I am sorry that Luteef was not the man who cut him down, for, when he found himself opposed hand to hand with the fanatic, he threw his sword at him; at the same time my orderly, Yakoob Ali, threw a "make" (tent-pin) at his head, which caught him in the wrist, and his arm dropped. Thus he laid himself open; and young Secundur, a sepoy, another orderly, pricking up Luteef's sword, dealt him a blow on the head, which brought him to the ground. All this occurred in just about as short a time as you could say "knife," although it takes some time to relate. Meanwhile I was bleeding like a pig; and, now that Jellalah was despatched, I thought it about time to attend to myself; so called for a needle and thread, and a native doctor; sent off four sowars as hard as they could go to Peshawur (fifty miles), to call our doctor—who, luckily, had that day arrived there with the infantry, who were returning from Boree. The man of medicine got on his horse immediately the sowars arrived; and, riding by night (and it's a long and dangerous ride across the Mehrah by night), arrived at about one o'clock, and found me gasping, and in great pain from the inflammation in my chest. By his skilful treatment, in three days I was out of danger, and thank Heaven for a most miraculous escape. The knife entered between the seventh and eight ribs, and, slanting upwards, injured my chest; how my lungs escaped I can't say. I had on a thick posteen at the time, which did much in saving me.

WRECK ON THE COAST OF BRITANNY.

THE scene of the Illustration, a picturesque portion of the coast of Britanny, will be best described in the words of the Correspondent (M. Barrellier,) to whom we are indebted for the Sketch. The name of the wrecked vessel is the *Grace M'Eva;* she was laden with timber, and appears to have been abandoned at sea, by her crew:—

"The place where the ship lay (says our Correspondent) is Le Corréjou, three miles from the village of Plonguenneau, about seven leagues from Brest. The ship is on rocks two miles from the strand. A very strong current runs crosswise, between these rocks and the shore. Several boats were at work, bringing the sails, running rigging, spars, and other articles on shore, where they were stowed under care of the Custom-house officers, of whom ten or twelve were in attendance. As usual, the Marine took possession, and the salvage was carried on with regularity and safety.

"I went off to the ship, and my clerk took the accompanying View of the wreck. I found the vessel broken-backed, stove in in several places, and impossible to be repaired. Her loading ports were open, and the sea making a clean run through these ports, and the holes in the ship's sides. The foremast was carried away close to the board, and the mainmast broken off close to the head, which headpart, attached to the topmast, was hanging as represented in the view. I think it probable that many small articles have been washed out through the ports. The bulk of the cargo appeared untouched. Whilst I was there the ship floated, and were it not for the anchors which the Marine Agent had got out shoreward, there would be danger of her being washed out from between the rocks and carried away to sea.

"The cargo of timber is sure to sell well, timber being scarce throughout the country; the customary supply from the North having failed this year, and prices having risen fifty per cent."

Our Correspondent could not learn the fate of the crew. No effects, provisions, flags, nor any other portable articles being found on board, it is hoped that they were picked off by some other ship, or that they saved themselves in the boats, of which none remained with the ship.

HORTICULTURAL FETE AT COLOMBO.

A CORRESPONDENT, writing from Colombo, date Jan. 12, describes a recent Horticultural Exhibition at Colombo, the principal seaport town and modern capital of Ceylon. This Show, it is hoped, may lead to much improvement in a country where nature so amply repays human exertion with beautiful flowers, luxuriant vegetation, and useful products in the shape of edible fruits and roots.

The accompanying scene of the Fête is from a Sketch by a young native artist of Ceylon, Napoleon Silvoff. It represents a general view of the Fête; the main objects are the Cocoanut-house, and Plantain Grotto, on the left; and next the canvas tent on the right is a talipot-tree, and a building formed of its leaves. The main building, our Correspondent adds, was filled with flowers of the most brilliant hues.

Among the trees indigenous to Ceylon, the cinnamon is the principal; but the cocoanut-tree is the most important to the island. It contributes largely to the sustenance of the people, when the grain crops fail, or are destroyed by inundation. The leaves of this tree, each twelve or thirteen feet long, and three feet broad, together with the flowers, are used by the natives to ornament their dwellings on festive occasions. They are also platted for thatching houses. The uses of all parts of the tree are, however, too various for us to recount. Of its growth it may be instanced that, in 1813, it was estimated there were, between Dondra Head and Calpentyn, ten millions of cocoa-nut trees, which produced, in addition to a great quantity of cocoa-nut oil and 6000 leaguers of arrack, upwards of three million pounds weight of coir. The Palmyra palm is hardly inferior in importance to the cocoa-nut: the leaves are used in the construction of native huts, and also as a substitute for paper and various other purposes. The leaves of the talipot-tree are so large as to be used by the natives to protect them from the sun and rain. With such means and appliances, the Colombo Exhibition presented many curious instances of ingenuity in the adaptation of the products of luxuriant nature to the wants of man.

HORTICULTURAL FETE, AT COLOMBO.

THE NEW ASYLUM FOR IDIOTS, AT EARLSWOOD COMMON, REDHILL, SURREY.

THE NEW ASYLUM FOR IDIOTS.

THE occurrence, on Wednesday, of the Annual Festival of the supporters of this Institution, has suggested the accompanying Illustration of the grand object to which the exertions of the Society are at this moment directed—namely, the completion of the new Building at Redhill, the first stone of which was laid by his Royal Highness Prince Albert in June last. For this purpose, the Secretaries have just issued "A Special Appeal," wherein they state:—

The Board have already received 270 patients and pupils, and they have upwards of 200 now knocking at their doors, and craving admission.

They have declared their readiness to meet the urgent occasion, by providing an Hospital with 400 beds.

Still, the Board cannot look to complete this work of mercy with safety and prudence, except they can, during the erection, secure some £10,000 in addition to what they now have for the object.

They submit the matter in its own urgency and simplicity to a beneficent public, and earnestly entreat the needful assistance.

The New Asylum is now in course of erection, at Earlswood Common, Redhill, near Reigate; half an hour distant from town; and is strongly commended by its salubrity, its convenience, and its capacities for the physical exercise of the inmates.

The building will accommodate 400 inmates, classified in the following manner—84 adult females; 66 adult males, 133 boys; 67 girls, 100 infants. Accommodation is also provided for the Governor, or Superintendent, Matron, Sub-Matron, Steward, Schoolmaster, and Mistress, and their assistants, and an appropriate number of nurses and domestic servants.

The main object in the design of the edifice (after considering the convenience of arrangement and classification) is to present to the eye of the unfortunate inmates nothing that is not calculated to produce an agreeable impression. The apartments will, therefore, throughout be finished in a neat and pleasing, but at the same time economic, style. Provision is, however, made for a few superior cases, or inmates, whose friends are willing to pay for the great advantages, in point of treatment, obtainable in an institution of this description. Some of these have private sitting-rooms, with accommodation for attendants.

The sitting-rooms and dormitories throughout are 13 feet in height; and the allowance of fresh air to each person is believed to be very much greater than in any other charitable institution in England.

The building is approached by a noble flight of steps from an elevated terrace. The visitor, on entering, finds himself in a spacious hall, 30 by 21ft., with waiting-rooms attached. Proceeding directly thence, he passes through the principal staircase (in the central tower, 90 feet high), and, crossing one of the principal galleries, enters the children's dining-hall—a noble apartment, 60 feet by 35 feet, and 40 feet high, with an open timber roof. This room will be used for Divine service on Sundays. Immediately adjoining the dining-hall are the kitchen offices, which are also connected with the other wings of the building at back by light and airy covered ways, 16 feet wide and 520 feet long, in all—which, being formed principally of glass, will serve the purpose of conservatories and greenhouses. The principal recreation galleries are 340 feet long, 11 feet wide, and 13 feet high. From these open the dormitories and sitting rooms. The board-room is a handsome apartment, 30 feet by 21 feet, having an open timber roof and panelled ceiling. The fittings of the principal apartments are of oak; those of the rest of the building are of deal, stained and varnished.

There are ten staircases in the various departments of the establishment. The principal staircase, six feet wide, is formed of stone, from Hopton Wood, in Derbyshire—a splendid stone, perfectly white, almost equal to the finest marble; the other staircases, of a fine durable stone, from Wingeworth, in Derbyshire. The whole of the exterior is of stone, procured in the neighbourhood; the dressings are of Bath stone; and the windows are intended to be filled with plate-glass, which, being bedded in the stone itself, is considered more economical than glass of an inferior description with wood frames, while a much finer effect is produced.

The declivity in the ground on which the Asylum is being erected, has enabled the architect to introduce under one of the wings a basement, containing suitable workshops for tailors, shoemakers, basket-makers, carpenters, upholsterers, and other trades. The inmates of the Asylum are instructed in these trades, and have the advantage of every description of gardening, &c., as the estate of the charity consists of upwards of 120 acres. The building is supplied with bath-rooms, plunge bath, and other conveniences; and everything necessary for the health and comfort of the unfortunates who may have to reside within its walls.

The contract is taken, at the sum of £32,440, by Mr. Jay, the contractor for the new Houses of Parliament. Works to the amount of about £3000, are, how-

ever, not included in this contract. These, with the fittings, &c., will probably make the total cost of the building, fit for habitation, about £35,000.

The architect is Mr. W. B. Moffatt (of the late firm of Scott and Moffatt), of No. 2, Adelaide-place, London-bridge.

The annual festival of this interesting charity was held at the London Tavern, on Wednesday evening. In the absence of the Duke of Cambridge, it was expected that Lord Montegle would preside, but he also was prevented from doing so by the pressure of public business, and Lord Dudley Stuart, M.P., kindly consented to take the chair. He was supported by the Rev. H. Christmas, Rev. E. Sidney, Dr. Conolly, Dr. Tuke, Dr. Little, and other friends of the society.

The usual loyal toasts having been given, that of "The Army and Navy," which came next, was received with great enthusiasm. The chairman made a few appropriate remarks on the subject; and the toast was replied to by Captain Scobell, R. N. and M.P., who happened to be present at the anniversary of the Seamen's Hospital Society, in the house, and on hearing that there was a gathering of Englishmen without a soldier or a sailor among them, he deemed it his duty to say a word or two on behalf of the service. In allusion to the present aspect of foreign affairs, he stated that he had served in the Baltic for three years, during the late war, at the time when England blockaded the Russian fleet. The latter remained close in harbour, and as there were no screw steamers then, the British fleet was unable to reach them. This country had much greater difficulties to contend with at that time than we have at present, as we had both Denmark and Sweden opposed to us. In the war we were now about to wage, England would have plenty to do, but he felt confident that every man would do his duty.

The chairman, in proposing the toast of the evening, enlarged on the benefits derived from the Society by the most helpless class of the community, whose intellectual defects were, by gentle culture, supplied, and in many instances so far removed as to enable the inmates to engage in some active pursuit.

Dr. Conolly, the Rev. E. Sidney, and other gentlemen afterwards addressed the company. The list of subscriptions during the evening exceeded £1300.

CHESS.

CORRESPONDENTS.

E. T.—A Pawn takes diagonally, never by the line of its march. Get some elementary book on the game, or beg some friend to teach you the moves.

"COWLEY ROY" Try again: you are quite abroad at present. According to your defence, Black would be mated in two moves.

J. G. Contributors of games, problems, &c., should always send their addresses. It is very inconvenient and a great waste of time and postage to communicate with them through the newspaper only

M de J., St Petersburg.—Replied to by post immediately.

R. B. M.—All safely received, and under consideration. Solutions correct.

QUERY.—Join the Chess-club at Richmond, which is immediately in your neighbourhood, and rapidly rising into note. The Secretary is Mr Harris, Chemist, Richmond.

SIGMA A.—It shall appear shortly.

HERE O' CHAT Received and acknowledged with thanks.

CAROLUS.—The last sent will be examined. The former was much too easy

I.—Your Solution of No. 523 is wrong. The 6s act in No 524 we have already noticed

Address in future, simply "To the Editor." Communications directed otherwise will not be attended to

ARGUS. You must apply by letter to the Committee of the St. George's Chess-club, 53, St. James's-street Piccadilly, being a stranger.

THE GUERNSEY Chess club will be happy to play a game by correspondence with any other club, or against an amateur. Apply to the Secretary, No. 1, Havilland-street, Guernsey.

OXONIENSIS.—We were so misformed, it appears, with regard to the match in question. It was not playing between the Oxford and Cambridge Chess-clubs, but between the Oxford Club and the Club of Trinity College, Cambridge.

AMATEUR.—Mr Löwenthal is now open to give lessons in Chess to a limited number of pupils. You cannot do better than put yourself in his hands. A letter addressed to him at the Walthamstow Chess-club House, 100, Piccadilly, will no doubt meet a solution.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM NO 523, by Otho Quixano, Fatey, Oldjam, Omicron, Sinilus, J. R. of Melrose, Guillebaud Foxes, Med ons, Philip, Lynx, Subscriber, Reader, L.L.D., Occasional, Invalid, A student, are correct All others are wrong.

SOLUTIONS OF ENIGMAS, by Jack of Worcester Pitt, Dereton, M.P., Mungo, Ted, J. P., Sigma, Rugby, Ernest, Medi, O. F. Q., R. H., Omega, are correct. All others are wrong.

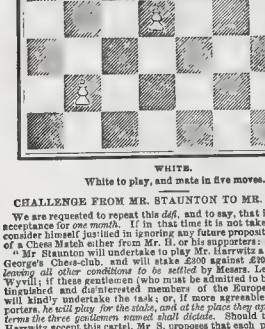
PROBLEM NO 524.

In the diagram of this clever position, the Printer has unfortunately placed a *Black Pawn* instead of a *Blace Bishop*, at Black's Q B 3rd. The reader is requested to substitute the *Black Bishop*, and we will withhold the Solution for a week.

PROBLEM NO. 525.

By A. KEMPE, Esq.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in five moves.

CHALLENGE FROM MR. STAUNTON TO MR. HARRWITZ.

We are requested to repeat this *défi*, and to say, that it will be open for acceptance for one month. If in that time it is not taken up, Mr. S. will consider himself justified in ignoring any future proposition on the subject of a Chess Match either from Mr. H. or his supporters:

"Mr Staunton will undertake to play Mr. Harrwitz a match, at the St. George's Chess-club, and will stake £300 against £200 on the result: *leaving all other conditions to be settled by* Messrs. Lewis, Buckle, and Wyvill; if these gentlemen who must be admitted to be three most distinguished and disinterested members of the European Chess circles) will kindly undertake the task; or, if more agreeable to Mr. H.'s supporters, *by any three gentlemen named, and the place they appointed, upon any terms the three gentlemen named shall dictate.* Should the friends of Mr. Harrwitz accept this cartel, Mr. S. proposes that each party stakes immediately £50 in the hands of Mr. Lewis, as a guarantee of intention to play, according to any conditions which Messrs. Lewis, Buckle, and Wyvill shall stipulate; and that Mr. S., on his own part, and the backers of Mr. Harrwitz, on the part of that player, shall sign an agreement, by which *either party, in default of making good the remainder of the stakes, and playing the match at the time and upon the terms fixed, forfeits the £50 so deposited to the other party.*"

NATIONAL SPORTS.

DONCASTER SPRING MEETING.—TUESDAY.

Trial Stakes.—Snowdon Dunhill, 1. Eulogist, 2.
Sheffield and Rotherham Plate.—Mowbray, 1. Communist, 2.
Hopeful Stakes.—Bendy Palmerston, 1. The Fratterer, 2.
Grand National Steeple-chase.—Bourton, 1. Star of England, 2.
Municipal Stakes.—Penitent 1. Criterion, 2.

WEDNESDAY.

Betting-room Stakes.—Plo'emy, 1. Gamekeeper, 2.
Scurry Stakes — King David, 1. Julius Cæsar, 2.
Juvenile Selling Stakes.—Cinderella, 1. Red Tape filly, 2.
Doncester Handicap.—Alonzo, 1. Catherine Parr, 2.
Innkeepers' Stakes.—Criterion, 1. King David, 2.

SALISBURY RACES.—THURSDAY

Third Triennial Stakes.—Dan Copuld walked over.
Trial Stakes.—Dudley, 1. Orvaine 2
Wiltshire Stakes.—Trifle, 1. Cleveland, 2.

FRIDAY.

Handicap Plate.—Revvitzee, 1. Old Rowley, 2.
Queen's Plate.—St Spiro 1. Little Harry, 2.
Willen Park Stakes.—Ouiston 1. Saucebox, 2.
Bowl Handicap.—Cable, 1. Herbert, 2.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

The determination on the part of the Chancellor of the Exchequer not to increase the amount of the National Debt to meet the expenses of the war with Russia, and the great abundance of money, have kept Consols tolerably steady during the whole of the week. The merchants—chiefly in small amounts, on account of the public—having unquestionably exceeded the sales, money stock has continued very scarce.

A feature of some importance has at length transpired, viz.: the official announcement of the French Loan of £10,0,0,000 sterling. On the whole, it has been well received here: and it is pretty well understood that a large portion of it will be raised in the Stock Exchange. We may, therefore, anticipate very large exports of bullion to meet such portions of the loan as will be subscribed for in this country. Austria, too, has come forward for a loan of £5,000,000: but it may be safely concluded that a very limited amount will be taken in London. Much discussion has taken place in reference to the future payments upon Russian Stock. At present, the Russian Government hold no funds here; and the dividend payments of the Five per Cents have been, as yet, made by Messrs. Rothschild, to whom a remittance of £200,000 is now on its way from St. Petersburg. It is thought that, by the event of war, the dividends will be only payable in Russia. Should such prove to be the case—which is very likely, as all Russian property will become liable to confiscation—the bondholders in this country are in a very poor position as hereafter them.

As the Continental exchanges are still considerably against this country, we have no direct imports of gold to notice; and the arrivals from the United States amount to only 65,000 dollars. From Mexico, the West Indies, &c., £586,000 have come to hand. The total exports have been little short of £300,000; and we learn that very large parcels have yet to follow.

On Monday, Consols were tolerably steady, though the amount of business doing was by no means extensive. The Three per Cents marked 92¾ ⅞ to 93; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 92¾ ¾. India Stock was 235; Bank Stock, 220 to 218. India Bonds were 8s.; and Exchequer Bills, 12s. to 15s. premium. On Tuesday, the Three per Cents were officially quoted 92¾ ⅞ to 93¼ ⅜; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 92¾ to 93. Several transactions took place in Long Annuities at 8½. India Bonds sold at 4s. to 3s.; and Exchequer Bills, 12s. to 15s. premium. The market, on Wednesday, was very inactive, but no material change took place in the quotations. Consols were dearest at 93 ⅛; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 92¾ ⅞ ¾. The New Five per Cents marked 114 and Counter for Account, 90¾ to 91. Long Annuity sold at 8 15-16. Bank Stock marked 210 to 211. India Bonds, 4s.; and Exchequer Bills, 12s.; 15s. premium. On Thursday, the Three per Cents were officially quoted 92¾ ⅞ to 93. Consols advanced about ¼ per cent, the prices being 90¾ 91 to 91¾ ¾ for Money, and 90¾ to 91¾ for the next Account. The New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents were 92¾ ⅞. Exchequer Bills were done at 15s. to 12s. premium.

In Miscellaneous Securities a very limited business has been transacted. Australasian Bank Shares have marked 77½; Bank of Australia, 14½; London and Westminster, 37; South Australia, 40½; Union of London, 22½; Australian Royal Mail Steam Shares have been sold at 6s. to 8s.; and Exchequer Bills, 12s. to 15s. premium. The market, on Wednesday, was very inactive, but no material change took place in the quotations. Consols were dearest at 93⅛; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 92¾ ⅞ ¾. The New Five per Cents marked 114 and Counter for Account, 90¾ to 91. Long Annuity sold at 8 15-16. Bank Stock marked 210 to 211. India Bonds, 4s.; and Exchequer Bills, 12s.; 15s. premium. On Thursday, the Three per Cents were officially quoted 92¾ ⅞ to 93. Consols advanced about ¼ per cent, the prices being 90¾ 91 to 91¾ ¾ for Money, and 90¾ to 91¾ for the next Account. The New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents were 92¾ ⅞. Exchequer Bills were done at 15s. to 12s. premium.

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Austrian Five per Cents, 76; Ecuador, 3⅜; Granada Deferred, 6⅛; Mexican Three per Cent, 24½; Peruvian, 83¾ ex div.; Portuguese Three per Cents, 31 ex div. Sardinians, 73; Spanish Three per Cents, 26¾; the New Deferred, 17⅜; Dutch Two-and-a-half per Cents, 59¾; and the Four per Cent Certificates, 88¾.

Although the Railway Share market has been decidedly flat, the changes in prices have not been extensive. The following are the official closing prices on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Aberdeen, 20¾; Ambergate, Nottingham, and Boston Consolidated, 14½; Bristol and Exeter, 92; Caledonian, 55; Eastern Counties, 12¾; Ditto 8 Stock, 26; Great Northern, 90¾; Ditto A Stock, 80; Great Western, 75½; Lancaster and Carlisle, 94; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 66¾; Leeds Northern, 13½; London and Blackwall, 8¾; London and Brighton, 97; London and North-Western, 101¾; Ditto, Eighths, 1⅜; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 36; Midland, 60¾; Norfolk, 47½; North London, New, £10 Shares, 5¾; Scottish Central, 90; South-Eastern, 62¾; South Wales, 35½; South Yorkshire and River Dun, 32¾; Vale of Neath, 16½; Waterford and Limerick, 2¾; West Cornwall, 5¾; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, 68 ex div.

PREFERENCE SHARES Chester and Holyhead, 17½; Eastern Counties, No. 1, ¾ premium; Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, 52; Great Northern, 5 per cent, 116 ex div.; Ditto, redeemable at 10 per cent premium, 106 ex div.; Ditto, 4½ per cent Scrip, 3⅝ ex div.; London and South-Western Consolidated Thirds, 78 ex div.; Consolidated Bristol and Exeter, Four Per Cent, 105; North British, 107⅞; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 101 ex div.

FOREIGN.—Antwerp and Rotterdam, 4¾; East Indian, 22⅝; Great Western of Canada Shares, 22½; Luxembourg, 7⅛; Ditto, Railway, 4⅝; Northern of France, 20½; Paris and Lyons, 22½; Paris and Strasbourg, 20⅝.

Mining Shares have met a dull and inactive market. On Thursday—Agua Frias were 2; St. John del Rey, 80¾; Cobre Copper, 42 to 41; Linares, 11⅞, and Santiago di Cuba, 3⅜.

Friday Evening.

The Consol Market has been very inactive during the whole of the day. The Three per Cents have been marked 91¾ ⅞ to 92, and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 92 to 92½. The Unfunded Debt, as well as Foreign Bonds and Railway Shares, have been dull. Money has continued in demand.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE (Friday).—To-day's market was but moderately supplied with English wheat, the quality of which was good. For millfeeds, we had rather a steady demand, nevertheless, very little change took place in prices. The supply for forward delivery samples was heavy. The show of foreign wheat was good. Fine dry samples realised late rates. To barley, the demand was in a sluggish state. In floating cargoes, next to no thing was doing, yet they were not pressed for sale. The show of barley was but moderate. The trade was less active, yet the quotations were supported. Malt was in good supply, and fair request at late rates. Oats, beans, peas and flour sold at Monday's prices. The imports of the latter exhibit a falling off.

ARRIVALS.—English wheat, 1,930 qrs.; barley, 1,026; malt, 6,770 oats, 450; flour, 1090. Irish oats, 4100. Foreign wheat, 10,300; barley, 1,800; oats, 800; flour, 1440 casks, 2,400 barrels.

English. Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 67s. to 68s.; ditto, white, 71s. to 72s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 66s. to 68s.; ditto, white, 70s. to 72s.; rye, 47s. to 47s.; grinding barley, 30s. to 32s.; distilling ditto, 33s. to 40s.; malting ditto, 42s. to 45s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 64s. to 70s.; brown ditto, 58s. to 62s.; Kingston and Ware, 66s. to 72s.; Chevalier, 72s. to 75s.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 27s. to 30s.; potato ditto, 30s. to 32s.; Youghal and Cork, black, 25s. to 26s.; ditto, brown, 26s. to 28s.; ditto, white, —s. to —s.; ditto, mixed, 24s. to 26s.; grey peas, 44s. to 46s.; maple, 47s. to 49s.; white, 51s. to 56s.; boilers, 54s. to 60s per quarter. Town-mixed flour, 40s. to 42s.; Essex and Suffolk ditto, 38s. to 40s.; Hants and Dorset, 40s. to 42s. per sack.

Foreign. French,—s. to —s. per 280 lbs.; American flour, 30s. to 44s. per barrel.

Seeds.—Clover seed is steady, and quite as dear as last week. Spring tares are dearer. All other articles are firm.

Linseed, English, sowing, 56s. to 64s.; Baltic crushing, 50s. to 55s.; Mediterranean and Odessa, 52s. to 57s.; hempseed, 40s. to 44s. per quarter. Coriander, 7s. to 8s. per cwt. Brown mustard-seed, 10s. to 12s.; white ditto, 8s. to 9s.; tares, 7s. to 8s. per bushel. English rapeseed, £31 to £35 per last of ten quarters. Linseed cakes, English, £10 5s. to £11 5s.; ditto, foreign, £10 to £11 5s. per ton. Rapeseed cake, £6 15s. to £7 5s. per ton. Canary, 50s. to 54s. per quarter. English clover-seed, white, 54s. to 64s.; ditto, red, 36s. to 64s. per cwt.

Bread.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metr-polis are from 11d. to 11½d. of household ditto, 8½d. to 10½d. per 4lb. loaf.

Imperial Weekly Average.—Wheat, 72s. 3d.; barley, 37s. 10d.; oats, 27s. 0d.; rye, 47s. 2d.; bean, 45s. 10d.; peas, 46s. 8d.

The six Weeks' Average.—Wheat, 80s. 10d.; barley, 40s. 4d.; oats, 27s. 2d.; rye, 49s. 8d.; bean, 4 s. 1d.; peas, 50s. 7d.

Duties.—Wheat, 1s.; barley, 1s.; oats, 1s.; rye, 1s.; beans, 1s.; peas, 1s.

TEA Our market is dull, and prices are barely supported. Common sound congou is offering at 1s. per lb. The sales in London offer a fair estimate.

Sugar.—In most kinds of raw sugar we have a slow sale, and, in some instances, the quotations have a downward tendency. Good to fine colour refining goods, 34s. 6d. to 35s. 6d.; ditto, 34s to 35s., good to fine brown, 32s. to 34s. 6d.; brown Havannah, 34s. 6d. to 36s. 6d.; yellow ditto, 33s. to 34s.; brown ditto, 30s. to 32s. 6d.; low to fine ditto, 28s. 6d. to 30s. 6d.; brown, 30s. 6d. to 31s. per cwt. Refined goods are steady. Brown lumps, 44s. to 45s.; and low to fine grocery, 46s. 6d. to 47s. 6d. per cwt. Crushed commands extreme rates. The total clearances to the 4th inst. were 1 061,833 cwt., against 1,052,763 cwt. in 1853.

Coffee.—There is more doing in this article, at full quotations. Good ordinary native Ceylon has changed hands at 47s 6d to 48s per cwt.

Rice.—Our market continues flat, as barely late rates. Low mild, to good white Bengal, 18s to 19s 6d.; Madras, 14s. 6d. per cwt

Provisions.—Irish butter is in very moderate request, at last week's extreme, fine foreign is 2s. to 4s per cwt dearer; English is steady, and rather higher. There is no re doing in bacon, at the late decline. Most other kinds of provisions are unaltered in value.

Tallow.—There is more doing in this article, on higher terms. P. Y. C. on the spot, 64s.; for March and April, 64s. 3d. to 64s. 6d.; and for May and June, 65s. to 65s. 3d. per cwt.

Oils.—Linseed oil is steady, at 32s 6d on the spot. Other oils are quite as dear as last week. Turpentine is now 36s. per cwt.

Spirits.—Both rum and brandy are dull, and lower to purchase. Geneva and corn spirits sup, ort at previous rates.

Hay and Straw.—Meadow hay, £3 15s. to £5 5s.; clover ditto, £3 15s. to £5 5s.; and straw £1 10s. to £2 2s. per load.

Wool.—Since the close of the public sales all kinds of wool have met a very dull sale. In prices however, we have no change to notice

Potatoes.—The supplies being less extensive the demand is steady, at very full prices. York Regents—waterside open tints—10s. to 160s.; South ditto, 110s. to 130s.; Irish Whites, 100s to 110s.; Rhine ditto, 100s to 110s per ton.

Hops (Friday).—There is rather more business doing in our market, and prices generally are well supported This week's importa are—from Belgium, 210 bales from Denmark, 1 from Hamburg, and 10 ditto from Antwerp Past Kent pockets, 2s 10s. to £13 0s.; Weald of Kent, 5s 0s. to £7 0s.; Sussex, £5 12s. to £6 10s. per cwt.

Coals (Friday).—Carr's Hartley, 21s.; Tanfield Moor, 18s. 6d.; Eden Main, 21s. 6d.; Ball, 21s.; Belmont, 21s.; Stewart's, 21s. 6d.; Hough Hall, 20s. 6d.; South Kelton, 20s. 9d. per ton.

Smithfield (Friday).—To day's market was but moderately supplied with beast, for which the demand was in a sluggish state, at Monday's decline in the quotations. Sheep, the number of which was rather limited, moved off slowly, at barely stationary prices. The few lambs in the market realised from 6s to 6s 8d per 8lbs. We had a fair inquiry for calves, at extreme rates. In pigs very little business was transacted. Milch cows were very dull at from £14 to £17 each, including the small calf

Per stone to sink the offals:—Coarse and inferior beasts, 3s 0d to 3s 2d; second quality ditto, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; prime ditto, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; prime oxen, 4s 0d; Scots, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; coarse and inferior sheep, 3s 0d to 3s 4d second quality ditto, 3s 6d to 4s 2d; prime ditto, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; coarse calves, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; prime ditto, 5s 0d to 5s 2d; large pigs, 3s 0d to 3s 2d; neat small porkers, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; lean ditto, 4s 8d to 5s 0d; suckers and store pigs, 21s. to 27s. each Total supplies Beasts, 2970; cows, 132 sheep, 23670; calves, 190; pigs, 270. Foreign: Beasts, 262; sheep, 479; calves, 100.

Newgate and Leadenhall (Friday). The general demand ruled heavy, as follows:—

Per 8lbs. by the carcase.—Inferior beef, 2s 8d to 3s 2d.; middling ditto, 3s 4d to 3s 8d.; prime large ditto, 3s 8d to 4s 0d.; prime small ditto, 3s 10d. to 4s 0d.; large pork, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 0d.; inferior mutton, 3s 0d. to 3s 4d.; middling ditto, 3s 6d. to 4s. 0d.; prime ditto, 4s 2d. to 4s 6d.; veal, 4s 0d. to 5s 0d.; small pork, 4s. 4d. to 5s 4d. ROBERT HERBERT.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, MARCH 7.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED

W. HOULDSWORTH, Egremont, Cheshire and Liverpool, brewer. W. NESS and T. SNOWDEN, Leeds, tar and naphtha distillers.

BANKRUPTS

G. JONES, Baker-street, Lloyd-square, Clerkenwell, manufacturing jeweller. W. G. LEO, Pyrford street, Walworth, milk-contractor and cowkeeper. J. SYKES, Stratford, draper. C. J. D. CAMPBELL, College-street, Camden-town, John street, Adelphi, and Bedford-terrace, Pimlico, civil engineer. J. BECKER, Stationers' hall-court, engraver and printer. H. GROOM, Bray, Berkshire, miller T. HARVEY, Twyford-street, Caledonian-road, Islington, builder. J. MUNDEN, Newburgh, Dovenshi s, flax and hemp spinner. A. ASHWORTH, Liverpool, near Derby, hotel keeper. J. ELLIS Hanson, Lancashire, joiner and builder. E. LYNCH, Manchester, boot and shoe-maker.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS

A. G. LANG, Glasgow, merchant. J. WALLACE, Glasgow, writer, insurance agent, and dealer in shares. J. MILNE, Glasgow, merchant.

FRIDAY, MARCH 10.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED

2nd Dragoons: Serjeant-Major N. Mills to be Cornet (Riding-Master), vice Hunter.

15th Light Dragoons: Lieut. the Hon. J. W. H. Hutchinson to be Captain, vice White; Cornet R. King to be Lieutenant, vice Dunn.

1st Foot: A. L. S. Curtis to be Ensign, vice Curtis. 7th. Lieut. W. A. Swift to be Lieut., vice Speedy. Ensign F. St. C. Hobson to be Lieutenant (Adjutant) vice Speedy. 23rd: Serjeant Instr. W. C. Corke to be First Lieut., vice Howell. 29th: Lieut. A. A. Dick to be Captain, vice Gordon. Ensign G. Gordon to be Lieutenant, vice Dick. 30th: Cadet E. N. Hill to be Ensign, vice Hobson. 33rd: Lieutenant G. H. Hyde to be Captain, vice Reynolds. Ensign and Lieutenant J. M. Murray to be Lieutenant, vice Hyde. Lieut. J. Cassidy to be Captain, vice Lyon. Ensign F. G. Barker to be Lieut., vice Cassidy. J. Morgan to be Ensign, vice Barker. 74th: Lieut. A. Davies to be Captain vice Ensign H. Davies to be Lieut., vice Davies. 79th: Lieut. A. C. McBarnet to be Captain vice Mowatt Ensign R. N. Addyrie to be Lieut., vice McBarnet, Ensign F. C. Fyshe to be Lieut., vice Addyrie. 82nd: Lieut. G. Hutchinson to be Captain, vice Hogg. Ensign H. Apreece to be Lieut. vice Collings, R. P. Thompson to be Ensign vice Apreece. 84th: Lieut.-Col. C. G. Keogh to be Captain, vice Hogg. Ensign J. R. P. Nicholas to be Lieutenant, vice Keogh. 88th: Ensign A. D. Maude to be Adjutant vice Browning Hall. Lieut. J. Parker to be Captain, vice Hutchinson. Ensign M. Copland-Crawford to be Lieutenant, vice Usher. Ensign C. G. Dewell to be Lieutenant, vice Lee. 94th: Lieut. J. Walsh to be Ensign, vice Lieut. C. E. Blachet to be Quartermaster, vice Ensign A. Lee. 95th: Lieut. W. J. Rice to be Captain, vice Bowen. Ensign E. Welch to be Ensign, vice Stothard 96th: Serjeant-Major W. Browne to be Quartermaster, vice A. Macdonald

Cape Mounted Rifl-men.—R. A. Lyrar to be Ensign, vice Davies

UNATTACHED.—Lieut. W. J. Rice to be Captain

OFFICE OF ORDNANCE, MARCH 9

Royal Artillery: Sergeant W. H. Kickman to be Quartermaster. H. Wilbers to be Veterinary Surgeon, vice Purcell

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED

W. BENNETT, Foster-hill, Yorkshire, draper and cotton-spinner.

BANKRUPTS

J. POTTS, Stoke-upon-Trent, Staffordshire, grocer and confectioner. T. BOOTH, Halifax, tea-keeper. W. J. WATSON, Upper Holloway, builder. C. J. TAYLOR, Birmingham, ca-dealer. W. G. HULME, Higher Broughton, Lancashire, cotton-spinner. D. COUZENS, East Stonehouse, Devonshire, ship-chandler. H. JOHNSON, Tottenham-lane, Cannon-street, and Thames Ditton, m chinist and engineer. J. MEKENNA, Sheffield, draper. F. BIRD, Cornbrook, Lancashire, licensed hotel-keeper. R. SHAW, Birmingham, pocket-book maker. H. J. ROGERS, Callington, Cornwall, surgeon and apothecary. W. J. HICKS, Waltham Abbey, Essex, draper. J. HARRISON, Sunderland, licensed victualler

BIRTHS.

On the 6th inst., at Charles-street, Berkeley square, the wife of G. C. Bentinck, Esq., of a son.

On the 1st inst., at Washington Rectory, Gateshead, the wife of the Hon. and Rev. L. W. Bowes, of a daughter

At the Chateau of Ering, in Bavaria, the Hon Mrs. James Erskine, of a son.

On the 3rd inst., in Queen-square, Westminster, the wife of the Rev. F. T. Pearson, of a son.

On the 4th inst., at 124, Gloucester-terrace, Hyde-park, Mrs. Shaw Reeves, of a son

On the 4th inst., at 8, Ladbroke Villas, Notting hill, the wife of William Stanley Taylor, Esq., of a son.

On the 2nd inst., at Grafton-street, the wife of T. Thistlethwayte, Esq., Southwick-park, Hants, of a son.

MARRIAGES

On the 7th inst., at Wolverhampton, Edward Bird, son of the late Mr George Baldwin, of Stourport, to Mary Ellen, second daughter of Mr Edward Poole, of Goldthorne-hill, Wolverhampton.

On the 3rd inst., at Sillubourgh, J. Halfour, Esq., of Colinton, Morton Bay, to Jane G Graham, eldest daughter of P. Graham, Esq., of Dobcill, Breconshire.

On the 2nd inst., at Stoke, Devon, G. R. Edgell, late Royal Fusiliers, to Emily Graves, eldest daughter of Colonel Nooth, of Beaumont-house Devon.

On the 28th ult., at St. Marylebone Church, by the Rev Roger Burrow, Richard Frankland Evelyn, Esq., youngest son of William Evelyn, Esq., M. P., to Christie, youngest daughter of Francis Evelyn, Esq., of Kyatsham and Curzon, in the counties of Hereford and Sadnor.

DEATHS.

On the 5th inst., at St. George's Hospi al, in consequence of a fall from his horse in Hyde-park, H. J. Blagrave, Esq., late of Gloucester-square, London, and of Orange Valley, Jamaica, aged 38.

On the 3rd ult., at Tortola, Lieut.-Col. J. C. Chads President of the Island, of cholera.

On the 7th inst., at Leamington, Jane Hearne, the wife of the Rev J. Craig, Vicar of Leamington Priors.

Recently, at New York, Henry C. H. Kent, son of the late Samuel Kent, Esq., of Upton-upon-Severn, in the 19th year of his age.

On the 5th instant, Mrs. C. W. Knight, of Charlotte-street, Portland-place, aged sixty-two.

THE BURNHAM MURDER.—Moses Hatto, the groom of Mr Goodwin, at Burnham, near Eton, has been found guilty of the murder of Mary-Anne Sturgeon, the housekeeper of Mr. Goodwin, on the 1st November last. The trial lasted two days. Lord Campbell passed sentence in the usual form on the prisoner.

DEPARTURE OF THE SCOTS FUSILIER GUARDS.

THE inspection of this Regiment by her Majesty and the rest of the Royal family, previous to its departure last week, has been commemorated by our Artist in this day's publication, as one of the most interesting of the day.

At half-past six o'clock on the morning of Tuesday week, her Majesty, accompanied by Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Prince Alfred, and the Princess Helena, appeared at the drawing-room window overlooking the principal quadrangle of the Palace. Their appearance was the signal for a tremendous outburst of cheers from the crowd, who shouted and waved hats, sticks, and pocket handkerchiefs with the most intense enthusiasm. Her Majesty smiled on the window, which opened to the front, and stepped out into the balcony, accompanied by the Royal family, when the cheering became still more enthusiastic. The Queen was attired in a dark green merino morning dress, and a lawn-bordered shawl of the same colour, with a dark green velvet bonnet, the ribbons of which tied under the chin in the fashion might have led one to expect). The Princess Royal (who is now very nearly as tall as her Majesty) wore a dark-coloured merino dress, with cape to match, and mixed straw bonnet. The young Princes wore grey tunics, caps, and belts. Presently the seven colour Sentinels-gates were thrown open, and the Guards commenced their march in slow time, in extended column of sections of companies down Birdcage-walk, and into the esplanade in front of the Palace. At the head of the column marched the splendid regimental band, playing "O where, and O where, is my Highland laddie gone?" the plaintive and rather melancholy air of which gave, for the moment, an impression of solemnity to the whole scene which will become more lively when the band is in the field. This feeling was fully felt at the instant the troops began to pass in front of the Palace, the crowd outside the railings commenced such deafening cheers as quite drowned the notes of the whole band. Amid such marks of enthusiasm the regiment steadily pursued its way until the whole force had passed inside the gateway, where it halted on the esplanade in front of the Palace, every window of which was thrown open and crowded with eager heads. Instantly wheeling the whole regiment into line, the ensigns with their colours stepping out in advance, the Lord Lieutenant, the Duke of Cambridge rode to the front, and ordered the Royal salute. The whole force presented arms as one man—the colours were lowered—the officers saluted—the band tried to play "God Save the Queen," but were fain to desist, for the cheers of the assembled people during the salute Prince Albert and the young Princes uncovered. When the men had "recovered arms," they took off their bear-skin caps, and gave three deaf-ning cheers, and were about to fall into marching order, when the crowd, which had been by no means slow to make itself visible, insisted on one cheer more. Both the Guards and the people gave it, and another and another, till the troops, as if carried away by the enthusiasm of the moment, moved nearer to the balcony, cheering—crying "God save the Queen," waving their muskets, or tossing their huge caps high into the air. The Royal party seemed quite moved by this manifestation of devotion. Prince Albert and the Prince of Wales waved their hats, while the Queen smiled, bowed, and waved her hand repeatedly. After this scene of real en husiasm had lasted about a minute, the regiment again marched forward tolerably quiet, though as each company passed near the Royal party the same scene of vociferous cheering was renewed.

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.—MONDAY, first time, a New Play, called DUCHESS ELEANOUR, with Miss Cushman in a new character, after which, the Hope of the Family. Tuesday, Rosclagh; and the Hope of the Family. Wednesday, a new play, and first time, a domestic tragedy, entitled Willikins and his Dinah. Wednesday and Saturday, Miss Cushman.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE, Oxford-street.—LAST THREE NIGHTS of the PANTOMIME.—Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, Richard III. After which, on Monday, will be produced a new Farce entitled AWAY WITH MELANCHOLY. Tuesday, The Rivals; after the Pantomime. Thursday, the Corsican Brothers; and the Pantomime. Saturday, the Lancers; and the Pantomime.

ADELPHI THEATRE.—LAST THREE NIGHTS of THIRST OF GOLD, and the SEA OF ICE. Thursday, New Drama, by Messrs. Tom Taylor and Charles Reade, called TWO LOVES and a LIFE, with The Serious Family, by Messrs. Webster, Keeley, Murray, C. Smith, P. Bedford, Rogers, Mesdames Cesarò, Keeley, Woolgar, &c.

ROYAL MARYLEBONE THEATRE.—Mr. and Mrs WILLIAM WALLACK will appear on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, in JOHN; and, on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday (for the first time here), in the HUNCHBACK; after which, each Evening, The ORPHAN of the FROZEN SEA, with its wonderful Ice Scene, and the Danish Ship in full sail, &c.

GREAT NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE, Shoreditch.—On Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, Drama of the HUNTSMAN. On Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, GIN AND WATER, or, its Use and Abuse. The GREAT DIAVOLO to be succeeded every Evening, the Queen of the Air, and TIMOUR the TARTAR.

WILLIS'S ROOMS, King-street, St. James's.—Miss WILLIAMS'S SOIREE MUSICALE, TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 1854 (by commence at Eight o'clock). Instrumentalists: Pianoforte, Miss Wheatley; Harp, Oberthur. Clarionet, Williams; Violoncello, Mr. Hassell. Vocalists: Miss Stabbach, Miss Laura Baxter, and Mr. Leffler. Tickets, 5s. each; reserved seats, 10s. Tickets to be had of Miss Williams, 9, Cornwall-road; of Mr. R. Mr. Addison, Old Bond-street; and of Miss Wheatley, 23, South-terrace, Thurloe-square, Brompton.

W. H. HOLMES'S PIANOFORTE CONCERTS, HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, APRIL 19, MAY 3rd, and JUNE 5, at TWO O'CLOCK. Tickets, 10s. 6d.; Subscription, 31s.—36, Beaumont-street, Marylebone.

MR. WILLY'S CONCERT, on MONDAY EVENING NEXT, at the ASSEMBLY ROOMS, HORNS KENSINGTON, assisted by eminent talent. Tickets, 5s., 3s., and 1s.—27, Upper Berners, Kensington.

ST. MARTIN'S HALL.—MENDELSSOHN'S ELIJAH will be performed on WEDNESDAY EVENING, MARCH 15, under the direction of Mr JOHN HULLAH. Principal Vocalists Mrs. Endersohn, Madame Weiss, Miss Dolby, Mr. Augustus Braham, Mr. Weiss.—Tickets, 5s., 3s. 6d., and 1s.

PRINCESS'S CONCERT ROOMS.—WESTBOURNE SECOND CONCERT HALL TO-NIGHT next, 14th instant. Gentlemen's Tickets 10s 6d.; Ladies', 7s. 6d: to be had at his Quadrille Office, 100, Sloane-street. Dancing at Eleven o'clock.

MR. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC, entitled the PEOPLE'S PANORAMA and the SIMPLON, EVERY EVENING (except Saturday), at Eight o'clock; and every TUESDAY, THURSDAY, and SATURDAY MORNING, at Two o'clock. Stalls, 3s. (which can be taken at the Box-office from 11 to 4); Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s.—EGYPTIAN HALL, Piccadilly.

MR. WRIGHTON'S ENTERTAINMENT.—Life and Song—Ballads, and introduced The Head of Lot Cradle song, Babes in the Wood, My mother dear, Beating heart, Never told love, Bedside, Dream of Home, Queen of Slavery Old Tower, Rule Britannia, The Sunflower, and Sweet Home. On THURSDAY next, Hanover-square Rooms.—Admission, 3s.; stall, 5s. Eight o'Clock precisely.

NEWMAN and SON, the unrivalled VENTRILOQUISTS of the day, will deliver an entirely new Characteristic Lecture, Sketch, and Musical Entertainment, entitled Entertainment, on TUESDAY EVENING, MARCH 14th, the Queen's Hall, Lowndes-square, 8 o'clock. Minor Halls, Brighton, March 15th, 16th, 17th. Upper street, Islington; 22nd, Eyre Arms Assembly Rooms, St. John's-wood. Admission 2s. and 1s. Begin at Eight.

W. S. WOODIN'S CARPET-BAG and EVERY-BODY. DEVIL HALL, REGENT GALLERY (3, Quadrant, EVERY EVENING, at Eight, a NEW and HUMOROUS PERFORMANCE EVERY SATURDAY at Two o'clock. Dress Stalls, 4s and 2s.; Stalls, 2s.; Area, 1s. Second, without extra charge, at the Box-office, open from Ten till Five daily, at Mitchell's Royal Library; of Messrs. Andrews, Rhodes, and all the principal musicsellers.

THE PORTLAND GALLERY, 316, Regent-street, opposite the Royal Polytechnic Institution.—The SCIENTIFIC EXHIBITION of the HOLLOW SPHERE and ATTENUATION of FINE ARTS is NOW OPEN, from Nine till dusk. Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 6d. BELL SMITH, Secretary.

EGYPTIAN HALL.—CONSTANTINOPLE is now open for the Season, with its Cafés, Bazaars, and every Evening at Eight. The Lecture is delivered by Mr. CHARLES KENNEY, and has been written by Mr. Albert Smith, and Mr Shirley Brooks. Admission, 1s.; Reserved Seats, 2s.; Children, Half-price

LAST WEEK.

THE ESQUIMAUX FAMILY from Cumberland Straits, having had the honour of appearing by Royal Command before Her Most Gracious Majesty the QUEEN at Windsor Castle, will be EXHIBITED at the LOWTHER ARCADE EXHIBITION ROOMS, Adelaide-street, West Strand, by their Native Costume, with their Huts, Canoe, and other accessories of Arctic Life. Every Afternoon at Three, and every Evening at Eight. The Illustrative Lecture will be delivered by Mr. Lieutenant Buckingham. Admission, 1s.; Reserved Seats, 2s.; Children, Half-price

ROYAL GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street.—SEBASTOPOL, CONSTANTINOPLE, and ST PETERSBURG; the North-West Passage (from Drawings by Lieutenant Bird), and the Interior of the Crystal Palace of the Great Metropolis will finally close on Saturday, March 18th. EXHIBITION DAILY at Three and Eight o'clock. Admission (to the whole), 1s. Stalls, 2s. Reserved Seats 3s. Children, Half-price.

ROYAL PANOPTICON of SCIENCE and ART, Leicester-square. The public are informed that this Institution will be OPENED on SATURDAY, MARCH 18th. Hours of Exhibition, Morning, Noon to Four; Evening, Seven to Ten.—Admission, 1s.; Saturday, 2s. 6d

KING WILLIAM STREET ROOMS, 23, 25, King William-street, Charing-cross.—DIORAMIC LECTURES DAILY at Three o'clock.

1. TOMBS of EGYPT, every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.
2. NINEVEH, the BURIED CITY, every Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday. Admission, 1s. Reserved Seats, 2s.; children half-price.

LECTURE THURSDAY, MARCH 16th, "DANIEL DEFOE," by GEORGE DAWSON Esq. Members free, with the usual privilege for their friends. Non-members, 1s.

37, Arundel-street, Strand. HENRY Y. BRUCE, Secretary.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION. Patron—His Royal Highness PRINCE ALBERT. During LENT, a Popular LECTURE on ASTRONOMY, splendidly illustrated, by Dr. Bachhoffner, on Wednesday and Friday, at Three and at Eight o'clock, in the Evenings. MAGNIFIED PHOTOGRAPHIC PICTURES, and a New Series of Dissolving Views. LECTURE by J. H. Pepper, Esq., on Paper Making and its Decoration with Gold. LECTURE by Dr. Bachhoffner on Wilkins's New Patent Universal Electric Telegraph. Description of RUST'S PATENT TUBULAR PIANOFORTE, and of Russell's Patent Method of Raising Sunken Vessels.—Open Mornings and Evenings. Admission, 1s.; Schools and Children under ten years of age Half-price.

DR. KAHN'S REMOVAL and IMPORTANT ADDITIONS.—Dr. KAHN'S celebrated MUSEUM is NOW OPEN in the spacious premises known as the SALLE ROBIN, 324, Regent-st., opposite the Haymarket. Open for Gentlemen from Eleven till Five, and from Seven till Ten daily. Explanat ons by Dr. Kahn on Wednesday and Friday. A portion of the Museum is open for Ladies only, from Two till Five. Explanations given to the Ladies by Mrs. Leach. Admission, One Shilling.

FOR SYDNEY Direct, will meet with quick despatch having a large portion of her cargo engaged, the magnificent fast-sailing American frigate built ship RACE, 3-deck, 1, and newly coppered. 1866 tons register, JAMES AINSWORTH, Commander, loading in the London Dock. This ship has very splendid accommodation for passengers, Saloon, sterling state-room, and bed and bedding, 50 guineas; second cabin, including use of cabin fixtures, 30 guineas; third cabin (in which should 50 passengers only be taken), 22 guineas. For terms of freight and further particulars, apply to J. G. MARZETTI and SONS 3, Vine-street, Minories. N.B. In the event of no European war, ships of the above flag will command a preference.

CARRIES A GERMAN BAND OF MUSIC.

WALTHEW'S LIVERPOOL LINE of AUSTRALIAN PACKETS. Established in 1845.

Ships.	Destination.	To sail.
JAMES CARSON .. 1600 ..	MELBOURNE. ..	March 20th.
ARABIA .. .. 1200 ..	DITTO	To follow.

These A 1 Clipper-ships load Goods and Passengers on the wharf free of extra charge. Luggage insured at the rate of 5s. for every £10 in value.

For further particulars apply to JAMES M. WALTHEW, 45, Chapel-street, Liverpool; or to THOMAS WOOLLEY, 15, Fenchurch-street, London.

BOSTON, SLEAFORD, and MIDLAND COUNTIES RAILWAY COMPANY. First Call of £1 per Share, making £3 paid up.

The Directors of this company having passed a resolution, making a Call of £1 on each of the Shares of the Company, the proprietors of such shares are hereby required to pay the said Call on or before the 1st day of June next, to one of the undermentioned Bankers, viz.

London.—The London and County Bank, Lombard-street.

Boston—Messrs. Gee and Co.; or, the Stamford, Spalding, and Boston Banking Company.

Sleaford.—Messrs. Peacock and Co.

Interest at the rate of £5 per cent per annum will be charged upon all sums remaining unpaid after the said 1st day of June, 1854.

By order of the Board,
ALFRED WRAGGE, Secretary.

15, Parliament-street, Westminster March 1st, 1854.

THE CONSERVATIVE LAND SOCIETY. ONE HUNDRED RIGHTS OF CHOICE AND FIFTY ADVANCES BY SENIORITY Shares taken before the final numbers are place in the Ballot on WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15th, at Three o'clock, will participate in the advantages of the Sixteenth Public Drawing. In Pre-mature Shares at the Sixth Quarterly General Meeting of the Members. Viscount Ranelagh in the chair

CHARLES LEWIS CRUNESHEN, Secretary.

33, Norfolk-street, Strand, London, March 8th, 1854.

CITY of LONDON TENANTS' INVESTMENT and FREEHOLD LAND SOCIETY.—Only office in town, 70, King William-street London-bridge.

LONDON.

Sir James Duke, Bart., M.P.
Thomas Hen S Lushington, D.C.L.
CHAIRMAN.—James Pennell, Esq., Cornhill.

At a public meeting held this day at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate street, to ballot for Rights of Choice in the Society's first parcel of Shares, situate at Dulwich, James Pennell, Esq. in the Chair,

It was unanimously resolved—That this society is well worthy the confidence of the public, and this meeting pledges itself to it's aid in its hearty support.

The following were the shares drawn at the ballot:—218, 178, 132, 167, 149, 84, 76, 46, 67, 107, 150, 170 74, 64, 133, 106, 118, 214, 63, 110, 31, 189, 193, 172, 201, 224, 154, 55, 113, 223, 160, 141, 184, 192, 48, 169, 177, 73, 207, 144, 176

The purchase of another very valuable estate will be shortly announced to the members.

For Prospectuses and other information apply to any of the Officers or Agents of members in the country, or to

March 4. WILLIAM RAYNER, Managing Director.

Receipt of amounts of £10 and upwards received every day, at £5 per cent.

Day of Sale altered from Friday, March 3, to Wednesday, March 22, of the Hyde-park Estate, within two miles of Chelmsford, in the county of Essex, including Moulsham Hall, for the immediate occupation of a nobleman, seated in a highly ornamental Park of about 600 acres, and surrounded by a Domain of nearly 2000 acres—the whole of the value of upwards of £8000 per annum.

MR. BEADEL has been favoured with instructions to SELL by PUBLIC AUCTION, at the Mart, London, on WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, at Twelve, in one lot, that magnificent Estate known as Hyde Hall, situate about eight miles from Chelmsford, and 27 miles from London. The splendid mansion is perfect order, most elegantly furnished, and adapted for the residence of a nobleman or gentleman—the present proprietor having, at enormous cost, rendered the residence all the car finishing, comfort, or luxury the most luxurious could wish.

It is surrounded by beautiful and ornamental pleasure-grounds, and a Park of about 160 acres, including Cottages, Farm and Lodges, of about 16 acres, with hot-houses, green-houses, conservatories, forcing pits, &c., and is beautifully undulating, gracefully studded with ornamental timber, and belted with luxuriant plantations. From the park there are magnificent views over the park and the mansion are obtained delightful views o the surrounding country. The domains include nearly 2000 acres of land (upon which the game has been strictly preserved), lying almost in a ring fence, divided into suitable farms, and occupied by a most respectable tenantry. This annual value of the property may be fairly estimated at £8000. This estate is one of the most desirable residential properties in the kingdom—its central position in the county, and the necessarily influential character of its proprietor, point it out as a fitting residence for the leading gentry of the county; its easy access from London, either by rail or road, renders it desirable for any one engaged in the upper walks of commercial or political fortune to have here and find every means of enjoyment, whether in the sports of the field or the discharge of useful public duties. Essex is confessedly one of the first agricultural districts in England, is second to none in the practice of improved husbandry, and is famed for its liberal landlords, and the quiet and orderly demeanour of its labouring tenantry. Hyde Hall is perhaps not equal in picturesque beauty or mineral wealth to other districts, it has claims on both these heads which require only to be developed to be appreciated. The purchaser will have the option of taking, by valuation, the herd of nearly 300 deer, the valuable and modern furniture, and articles of taste and vertu with which the mansion is replete. Particulars (3s. each) may be obtained of Mr. Coleman, Accountant, 36, Coleman-street; Mr. Rhodes, Solicitor, 47a, Parliament-street, London; of Messrs. Bourne and Wainwright, Solicitors, Dudley, and at Mr Beadel's Offices, 76, Gresham-street, London. The estate can be viewed only by an order to be obtained of Mr. Beadel, 76, Gresham-street, London.

Harwich.—Days of Sale altered from Thursday and Friday, March 2 and 3, to Tuesday and Wednesday, March 21 and 22. Important and very valuable Freehold and Copyhold Property, in the borough of Harwich, including several Farms, in the parishes of Dovercourt and Ramsey, and numerous Cottages, Houses, and Building Land adjacent to Harwich, forming first-class Investments either for occupation or otherwise.

MR. BEADEL is instructed to SELL by AUCTION, at the MART, London, on TUESDAY, the 21st, and WEDNESDAY, the 22nd of MARCH, at Twelve on each day, in numerous lots, the following PROPERTY, including, in the parish of Dovercourt, in and adjacent to the borough of Harwich—Dovercourt Hall Farm, containing 144a. 3r. 8p. Barn, occupied by Messrs Fowling and Freeman; the Toll gate Farm and Dovehouse Farm, let to Messrs Barber and Durrant, containing 144a. 3r. 8p. together with gardens and lands, let to Messrs Osborne, Peck, Rowland, Johnson, Elwish, and others; and many valuable enclosures of accommodation land, in the occupation of Mr Durrant; the King's Arms public-house, building, and Bowling Green Inn, let to Mr Hewitt; Holly Lodge Farm, with the three residences and gardens, let to Mr Ann Dingle, Messrs. Mercy, Chisnal, four slips of accommodation land in Hail fields, occupied by Mr Fuller; together with about seventeen acres of very valuable building land, and several cottages. In the town of Harwich and parish of St. Nicholas, Church-street, four houses, occupied by Messrs Cousins and others; the Church and Globe public-houses, occupied by Messrs Cousins, Alexander, and others, and the whole of Cobbold's estate in King's Head-street and premises, let to Messrs. Cobbold and others, in Marsh-street, houses and premises, let to Messrs Horlock, Fiery Marborough, and others; in St. Austin's-gate and Orchard-lane, two tenements, let to Messr. Moore and Jowers, in Rectory-street, a house and premises, occupied by Messrs Brogan and Richardson; in Cattlegate street, the bake-office, house, and shop occupied by Mr. Leaman; two houses opposite the Government Victualling Works, let to Messrs. Webb and Beasley; and in Ramsey parish, a most valuable Farm, with offices and gardens in hand, with upwards of fourteen acres of land in the rear, let to Mr Durrant. This valuable property is now in the occupation of the several tenants as tenants from year to year, and the whole is in excellent repair. Particulars (2s. each) may be obtained of Mr. Coleman, Accountant, 36, Coleman-street; Mr. Rhodes, Solicitor, 47a, Parliament-street, London; of Messrs Bourne and Wainwright, Solicitors, Dudley, and at Mr Beadel's Offices, 76, Gresham-street, London.

BRITISH ORPHAN ASYLUM, CLAPHAM RISE.

Patron—The QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

The ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL of this CHARITY will take place at the LONDON TAVERN Bishopsgate street, on WEDNESDAY, 3rd MAY, at eight for half-past Eight Hon. the EARL of HARROWBY has kindly consented to preside. Gentlemen willing to assist the Charity by acting as Stewards, or by attending the Festival on this occasion are earnestly solicited to send their names to the Secretary, Mr. B. J. SPEDDING, at the office, No. 19, Wallbrook. City.

THE PROVIDENT CLERKS' MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE ASSOCIATION (Enrolled under the Friendly Societies Act) and BENEVOLENT FUND.

TRUSTEES.

Thomas Baring, Esq., M.P.
G. G. Prescott, Esq.
Thomas Hankey, Jun., Esq., M.P.
Baron L. N. De Rothschild, M.P.

Trustee of the Benevolent Fund.—John Abel Smith, Esq., M.P.

The Association embraces Life Assurance on the mutual principle in all its branches, and offers to all classes of society the peculiar privilege of securing absolutely to the Widow, Widower, or Children, the amount assured, free from forfeiture, lapse, legacy-duty, or any other charge.

Prospectuses may be had at the Office of the Association. By order of the Board,
PHILIP HENRY BURNE, Secretary.
42, Moorgate-street, 26th February, 1854.

To the CLERGY, the NEAR RELATIONS of CLERGYMEN, and the NEAR RELATIONS of the WIVES of CLERGYMEN.

CLERGY MUTUAL ASSURANCE SOCIETY (established in 1829), 41, Parliament street, Westminster.

Patrons—The Archbishops of CANTERBURY and YORK.

Trustees—The Bishops of London, Durham, and Winchester

Assurances upon this plan may be effected in this Society by the Clergy and the wives of clergymen; also by all the near relations of clergymen, and of the wives of clergymen, such as parents and mothers, sons and nephews and nieces, and sons and daughters, and brothers and sisters. The whole of the profits are reserved for the assured members, and are apportioned to them every five years. There are no proprietors. The sum assured during the last year was £216,343. The total amount assured is £1,600,000.

All persons privileged as above to make assurances upon life in this Society are invited to apply for a prospectus at the office, 41, Parliament-street.

JOHN H DIXON, M.A. } Secretaries.
JOHN BURDER }

GENERAL ANNUITY and ENDOWMENT ASSOCIATION Established 1836.

For securing Annuities to Nominees, Widows, Children, Sisters, &c.

Sex.	Age.	Annuity.
Female	40	£1 0s. 0d.
Male	40	£1 19s. 2d.

Present capital invested with Government, £268,607 1s. 6d.
Annuities granted since 1835 .. .. £126,2 0 0s. 0d.
Expended this year in Annuities .. .. £10,718 0s. 0d.
98, Cheapside. PHILIP CURTIS, Secretary.

N.B.—Public attention is called to the tendency as being one of the cheapest and best modes of providing for families.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.

INSURANCES against RAILWAY ACCIDENTS can now be effected with the RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY, not only for single and double journeys, and by the year (at the Ordinary Railroad Fares) but also for terms of years, and for life, as follows

To insure £1000 for a term of 3 years, premium .. £3 10s.
" 10 years, " .. £6 0
" 20 years, " .. £10 0

To insure £1000 for the whole of life, by annual premiums, on the following scale:—

For the first 5 years, annual premium	..	£1 0s.
" next 5 years,	..	£1 5s.
" next 5 years,	..	£1 10
" remainder of life,	..	£2 5

To insure £1000 for the whole term of life, by single payment, according to the year which the party may be seen alive.

The above premiums include the stamp duty, which is payable to Government by the company

The profits are annually divided by any of the above modes will be paid in case of death, by Railway Accident, while travelling in any case marriage on any railway in the United Kingdom, by proportionate compensation in the event of personal injury.

3, Old Broad-street, Sq., 1854. WILLIAM J. VIAN, Secretary

BRITISH EMPIRE MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, 337, Strand, London.

The Seventh Annual Meeting of this Company was held at RADLEY'S HOTEL, on SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26. Extracts from the Report

"During the year 1853, 981 New Life Policies for £801,000 were effected; the New Annual Premiums thereon being above £3000.

The sums invested in the year were £200,000.

The following Table shows the progress of the Company from its first formation to the Annual Division of Profits at the close of 1853, and from thence to the end of 1853 :—

Period.	Policies Issued. No.	Amount.	Premiums Received.	Claims Paid.
		£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
From 1847 to 1851	3156	553,203	33,794 3 10	2,333 4 9
5th and 6th Years, 1852-53	2331	463,557	49,644 15 10	11,191 10 6
Total ..	5531	1,016 955	83,438 19 8	13,514 15 3

Members' Accumulated Fund at the end of 1851 .. £17 459 5 9
" " at the end of 1853 .. £81,197 13 11

THE BRITISH EMPIRE MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY is conducted on the same principles, and at the same offices

Profits divided triennially. Policies Indisputable. Policies issued to end of February 10,550, for £4,585,831. Next Division of Profits, Mid-summer, 1854. WM. S. GOVER, Secretary and Actuary.

NEW SENATE-HOUSE for the CITY of HAMBURG.—The Commission appointed by the Senate of Hamburg for the erection of a new Senate-house, having invited Artists to prepare and present to them designs for the construction of the same for which purpose 6000 marks (equivalent with Austria and other details) is published at Hamburg, by Mr Molsonor, the printer to the Senate, and sold at 3s. 6d. It contains 20 plates, the Site of the church building-fund, and may be ordered through Messrs. Williams and Norgate, 14, Henrietta street, Covent-garden, London Most gentlemen are not aware of the Plans—one of the Frederick's-dor, and two of 250 Frederiks d'or each.

Hamburg, the 15 February, 1854.

The Commission for the erection of the new Senate-house.

INSTRUCTION IN ART to FEMALE STUDENTS afforded by the DEPARTMENT of SCIENCE and ART.

The SPRING SESSION COMMENCED on the 1st of MARCH, and will terminate on the 5 of JULY.

The CLASS of FEMALE STUDENTS passing through the General Course is at No. 37, Sower-street, Bedford-square. Superintendent, Mrs. M Ian; Assistant, Miss Jones and Miss Wyatt.

Fees:—Advanced Classes, £3 and £4; Elementary Class, 20s; Evening Class, 10s.

A Class meets at Gore House, Kensington, on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

TECHNICAL COURSES,
CARRIED ON AT GORE HOUSE

Porcelain Painting, daily Teach ers and Practice with Studies from Life; Lamp Dep d Modelling, Mr. Simpson and Mr. Bloxam.

Engraving on Steel and Metal for Ornamental Purposes, daily Teaching and Practice, and Lectures. Fee, £2. Superintendents, Mr. Thompson and Miss Waterhouse.

Lithography, daily Teaching and Practice Fee, £4. Superintendents, Mr. Brooks and Miss Channon.

Marlborough House, Pall Mall.

INSTRUCTION in LITHOGRAPHY, for FEMALE STUDENTS ONLY.—The Female Class for Lithography, Mr. BROOKS and Miss CHANNON consists of the practice of Lithography, in Chalk, Pen, and Colour. Students must have acquired the power of drawing from the round before they are admitted. The Class meets every Morning, except Saturdays, from 10 to 4. The fee for the Summer Session, commencing on the 1st of March, and ending the 31st July, £4. Prospectuses and further information may be obtained at the Office of the Department of Science and Art, Marlborough House.

ENGRAVING on WOOD and METAL, for FEMALE STUDENTS ONLY.—The Female Class in this Class by Mr. THOMPSON and Miss WATERHOUSE, consists in the Practice of DRAWING on WOOD and METAL, and WOOD and METAL ENGRAVING on METAL. No Students are admissible who have not acquired the power of drawing from the round.

The Class meets Every Morning (except Saturday), from Ten to Four. Fee for the Session (commencing on the 1st of March, and ending the 31st July), £4.

Prospectuses and further information may be obtained at the Office of the Department of Science and Art, Marlborough House.

JACK'S ALIVE.—NEW GAME.—Now ready, the capital coal-door Game JACK'S ALIVE. Registered, 5 and 6 Victoria, cap. 100, in card at Stationers' hall. The game may be played at any season of the year, and affords the one else to the by, provokes laughter, induces good spirits, and thereby promotes health. May be played by any number of persons, requires no previous tuition and can be played anywhere if there be a Sofa or Sofa-bed. Price 2s. 6d. Sold by all Booksellers, with hard wood balls, 3s.; dittos, with wooden balls, 2s. 6d. JACQUES, 102, Hatton-garden; and all the principal Toy Warehouses.

A SINGLE STAY,
Carriage Free
To any part of the United Kingdom,
On receipt of a Post office Order.
Waist measure only required.
Drawings sent on receipt of a postage stamp.
The Paris Worn Stay (white or grey).. .. .. 10s. 6d. per pair.
The Elastic Bodice .. .. 12s. 6d.
C. and H. L'S ELASTIC BODICE, with single Lacening in front, is strongly recommended by the Faculty
Families waited upon by experienced persons, within ten miles of London free of expense.
CANTER and MIDDLETON, Stay Manufacturers and Importers, 6, Blackfriar-road (over the Bridge); and 5, Stockwell-street, Greenwich. Established 1813.

NEW BOOKS, &c.

The Duke, third edition, post 8vo, 5s.,

ESSAYS on AGRICULTURE. By the late THOMAS GISBORNE, Esq., of Yoxall Lodge, Staffordshire.

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1. Cattle and Sheep.	5. Ancient Agricultural Literature.
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The following can now be had:

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"Without a rival for usefulness and accuracy."—Times.

"To mis out at once what is best worth seeing, and the way."—Examiner

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HANDBOOK to the PUBLIC GALLERIES of PAINTING in and near LONDON. By Mrs JAMESON. Post 8vo. 10s.
JOHN MURRAY, Albemarle-street.

COMPLETION OF FARINI'S "HISTORY OF ROME."

This day, Vol IV., 8vo. 15s.,

HISTORY of the ROMAN STATE. By LUIGI CARLO FARINI. Translated from the Italian, by a LADY, under the direction of the Right Hon W. E. GLADSTONE, M.P. JOHN MURRAY, Albemarle-street.

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FAREWELL OF THE FIRST BATTALION OF SCOTS FUSILIER GUARDS AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE.—(SEE PAGE 214.)

ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS SUPPLEMENT.

VOL. XXIV.] SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 1854. [GRATIS.

THE BRITISH INSTITUTION.

WORKS OF BRITISH ARTISTS.

(THIRD NOTICE.)

WE again return to this Exhibition. To commence with historical, fancy, or figure subjects:—

"Viola and her Child" (16), by G. Holmes, from Bulwer Lytton's "Zanoni," represents the mother sitting watching over her child, who is asleep in a cradle. The picture would be much more agreeable if the artist had eschewed the sickly hue which he has spread over the figures in the foreground, which is aggravated by the trying grey-drab of the wall at the back. We look in vain for the effect of "happy noon"—the sun-rays piercing through the casement, which the author describes.

"Marino Faliero, Doge of Venice" (11), by J. Holland. A scene from Byron's tragedy (Act III.—Scene 1); representing

> A tall warrior's statue
> Bestriding a prond steed, in the dim light
> Of the dull moon.

A purely theatrical subject, represented with all theatrical aids; but as such not badly painted.

"The Balcony" (23), by F. Stone, A.R.A. Here we have a lady with rather a pretty face, leaning on her hand, looking from a balcony into the street. But her features are expressionless, and her blue dress looks sold, and of formal and comfortless make—in fact all is sadly wanting in the roundness and warmth of life.

"Love and Folly" (39), by T. Hall.—A pair of chubby Cupids, floating on the water in a shell: and one of them blowing bubbles. Very conventional in treatment, but the colour bright and catching.

"Venice—The Lovers' Hour" (49), F. Cowis.—A gay cavalier in his gondola seen in the distance below, serenading his mistress; who sits in

[illegible] BY GEORGE LANCE.—FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE BRITISH [illegible].

her chamber, attended by her maid, and appears pleased and moved by the compliment. A little black page is presenting to her her lute, upon which she will shortly realise Rogers's line—

Sung to her lute, her answer, as she sat.

"The Recognition" (90), by G. Pope, represents a lady, in a fine dress, smiling significantly as she gives a piece of money to a man, evidently in forlorn condition, who averts his head. We confess we do not "recognise" the artist's intention.

"Ma Carissima" (101), by C. Brocky—A happy Italian mother, caressing her child, who hangs in a very natural and picture que attitude in her arms. Richly coloured; that of the drapery in extremely good taste. The same artist has another domestic subject—"Now Catch it, Dear!" (409), representing the mother holding out a wild flower over the head of the child, whose arms are out to it; but this production does not please us so well as the first-named.

In No. 107, Mr. H. Barraud attempts a representation of the Madonna and Child, after the fashion described by the author of the "Christian Year"—

Ave Maria! mother blessed!
To whom, caressing and caressed,
Clings the eternal child.

The design and general treatment are meritorious, and afford an example of the danger of dealing with such subjects, in utter disregard of the solemn sentiment which inspired the masters of an earlier and purer school. But for the haloes round the heads there would be nothing in this group to distinguish it from that of any "mother and child" in ordinary life.

"Adam and Eve Discovering the Dead Body of Abel" (110), by T. Brown; and "Christ and the Woman of Samaria" (127), by R. Reynolds, are two more instances of the hopeless decline in sacred art amongst us; which we only mention by way of indicating that we have not overlooked them.

"The Master of Ravenswood and Lucy Ashton" (146), by H. Weigall, jun. A scene from Scott's "Bride of Lammermoor." The hero has an imposing aspect in his black cloak and hat; and Lucy, who is habited in white satin, looks very much like a subdued sylvan.

"The Youthful Artist" (147), by J. Sant, is a clever little study of an intelligent and interesting boy; though, as we stated in our former notice, we recognise in it a repetition of a still more admirable figure in the Academy Exhibition last year, the "Infant Samuel." The paint-brushes and colours scattered about indicate the character assumed; but the expression of the face is too evidently a studied one, and is not altogether appropriate. The colour and handling are unexceptionable. (Of this little work we give an Engraving elsewhere.)

"The Wanderer" (152), by J. P. Drew, is a sketchy, but not ineffective production. The colouring is harmonious, and there is something pleasing in the face. "A Country Girl" (322), in the same style, by the same artist, also has considerable merit.

H. W. Phillips has a careful portraiture of a dark-eyed beauty (189), inscribed—

Ho girato di qua e di là
Sol in Venezia trovai Bella.

The face and figure are of the true Italian mould, and the colouring is rich and sober. The drapery exhibits nice finish.

"Innocence" (229), by G. Wells, is a pleasing little sketch of a girl with a rose. The colouring of the dress is nicely studied chiefly pure and orange, the background in deep shade.

"Othello" (239), by W. Long. A careful study of an Oriental head; but not exactly the head of Shakespeare's Moor. The drapery and turban judiciously sober in tone.

"Othello," Act V. Scene 2 (345), by H. C. Selous. A striking presentation of the fine closing scene in this immortal tragedy. Othello—his deadly purpose speaking too plainly through his flashing eye, lifts aside the curtains of the bed, in which his unconscious victim is yet asleep. There is a good deal of energy in the action, and fineness is bestowed upon the execution. The colouring, however, is a little too high; even the face of Desdemona is flushed as in a high fever; although the poet describes it otherwise:

No scar upon that whiter skin of her's than snow,
And smooth as monumental alabaster.

"An Incident as related in the 'Life of Jo eph Grimaldi,' edited by Boz" (314), by George Cruikshank. Conceived in the full flow of animal spirits which marked the artist's earlier works, and full of masterly drawing. We do not know the "incident" referred to, but presume it is the immortal Joe who sits in the chair, whose wife offers him the physic; when an unearthly grimace by the patient plunges barb r, barber's wife, and a dandified chum of the mime's into an uncontrollable fit of laughter. And they *do* all laugh, and no mistake; Joe himself eats ing the infusion, and laughing too, in spite of his teeth, which protrude marvellously from his capacious maw.

"Ariel" (387), by J. G. Naish.

On the bat's back I do fly,
After summer merrily.

A laboured production, of very lan dscaph appearance. Ariel is represented in *parti colored dress*, perched uncomfortably, rope-dancer fashion, on the back of a bat, in the midst of a waste of pale, stone-coloured canvas. Such affairs are of the *genus* trash; of which, nevertheless, the public purchase largely.

"Ruth" (388), by G. Landseer. This subject has been, and still is, so often called in requisition, that we presume it to be popular. In the present version Ruth is represented alone in the corn-field. The figure

(*Continued on page* 220.)

LITERATURE.

ILLUSTRATIONS OF ANCIENT ART, SELECTED FROM OBJECTS DISCOVERED AT POMPEII AND HERCULANEUM. By the Rev. EDWARD TROLLOPE, F.S.A. 4to. Bell.

We are not quite sure, from the words of Mr. Trollope's preface, and from the terms in which he speaks of his own drawings, now/far he wishes to intimate that this is a collection of previously unpublished materials. To us most of the objects he has delineated appear to be old familiar acquaintances; and we doubt not but most of them will be found in the large works on Pompeii and Herculaneum. Still, as good selection was a book to be desired, and he has given us them in the same time an elegant book for the drawing-room table, and a useful one for those who are commencing the study of any zoology, or who are seeking models of classical taste in the various branches of art which it illustrates. It is more especially the latter object which we presume that Mr. Trollope had in view in the illustrative of the antiquities of Pompeii and Herculanæum, or in reference to Roman antiquities in general, it is a very imperfect work. It is, in fact, a collection of examples of Roman decorated articles belonging to the four departments of religious worship, domestic utensils and furniture, personal ornaments, and arms.

The first plate consists of articles used in sacrifices, and is chiefly remarkable for several interesting examples of censers and incense-boxes. The other sacrificial implements are not very remarkable; they are rather exceptional in their forms; and the selection might, we think, have been improved. The two plates of altars are more varied, and several of them are elegant in form, or peculiarly rich in ornamentation. The most striking articles in the five plates of arms are the helmets and the arm-plates and greaves: the remains found in Pompeii threw quite a new light on the history of armour among the Romans. The helmets engraved in this selection are very nicely decorated; and the construction of some of them bear a considerable resemblance to those of the Middle Ages. Not the least interesting of Mr. Trollope's plates is that which gives us quite a complete collection of the implements used in writing and painting. We are struck with the ele ts of various forms, the styles to write upon them, books, the receptacles in which they were kept, with inkstands and reed pens for writing them; and in like manner we have the painter's easel, and his pane for painting, as well as canvas stretched on a frame; and beside the colour table, pallet, and paint box. We are thus introduced into the very studio of the Roman artist, and are made acquainted with his method of working in a manner in which no written description could convey the same information. We are struck with the ele t of resemblance, even in their forms, between the implements of the ancient painter and those used by his representative at the present day. Next come plates of musical instruments; here fountains and vessels used for the purpo es of bathing and ablution. The examples of heating and cooking apparatus are especially curious. They include small furnaces and ovens and braziers of different dimensions for holding the fires to warm the apartments. Most of the last mentioned articles are elegantly formed and ornamented. Several of these are formed like tea-kettles, and are constructed like the large urns used on our own tea-tables, so as to heat water or other liquid at the same time that they gave out heat. Another is still more ingenious, and will bear comparison with some of our modern portable cooking stoves. Mr. Trollope describes it as "supported on four winged figures, terminating in lions' legs, and supplied with the same number of handles, to render it easily moveable. It consists of a kind of tray, about 14 inches square, joined to which, on the right, is a hollow semicircular vessel, intended to hold water between its inner and outer surface, serving as a boiler. It is surmounted by three eagles, on which any dish or vase might be heated, whilst below the aperture seen in the interior is the receptacle for the charcoal. On the left rises a high circular vessel, fin shed with a beaded rim, and further ornamented with a grotesque face. A lid, slightly concave in shape, covers the top, to which a small bust forms the handle: this acted as a reservoir to the semicircular boiler, a communication existing between them, whilst the heated water was drawn through the mask seen projecting on the right." Another portable cooking and warming stove, but of a simpler form and construction, is engraved in the same plate.

It is hardly necessary to inform any one who has the slightest acquaintance with Roman antiquities that the lamps and candelabra, of which numerous examples are given by Mr. Trollope, are highly ornamental, and that they furnish excellent models for imitation at the present day. There is nothing novel in the tables and seats found in Pompeii; but they are less distinguished by the taste exhibited in their forms than many of the other objects. The articles of jewellery are rather curious than beautiful, and though by no means deficient in richness, we have seen in modern jewellery much superior in style. Mr. Trollope's selection of culinary utensils is extremely good and varied, consisting of water jars, buckets of remarkably elegant forms, cauldrons and boilers, a portable handmill, mortars, stew-pans and frying pans, egg-pans, and various kinds of pale or salt strainers; with funnels, spoons, ladles, and knives, in great variety. The latter part of the volume is devoted to vessels for the table and other purposes, in metal, glass, and earthenware; and it is here especially that we meet with an abundance of those noble forms which it has been the ambition of modern artists in these branches of manufacture to imitate. Many of the silver drinking-cups are of exquisite design, and the forms of the jugs and other vessels in glass and pottery are perfect. Among the plates belonging to this division of objects, given by Mr. Trollope, are coloured representations, on a larger scale, of the beautiful glass jug from Pompeii known as the Auldjo Vase, and of the superb glass amphora called the Naples Vase. A single plate of "miscellaneous articles," at the end of the volume, embraces writers, pens and inkstands, examples of scales and steelyards, a metal gong, and a drawing of the *stocks* which stood in the Forum Nundinarium of Pompeii, a site chiefly occupied by the military. The circumstances connected with the discovery of these stocks are extremely interesting. They were of iron, much corroded when found, and about six feet in length. "The bar forming the foundation was apparently fastened to the pavement beneath by means of spikes driven through the cross-pieces; and, from the bar, rise short upr ghts, t rminating in rings placed at convenient distances, for the purpose of detaining persons, which would be perfectly effected by passing a rod through the row of rings, and securing it by means of a lock, of which there are the remains. . . They were mainly in use at the time of the eruption, four skeletons (supposed to be the remains of soldiers) having been found with their leg-bones inserted in them."

Circumstances like this bring forcibly before us the realities of the city whose remains have furnished us with these interesting memorials of the past. We can hardly imagine anything more horrible than the hopeless position of these four no doubt petty offenders, fixed by the legs, amid the scene of destruction which surrounded them. But even the soldiers, when free, seem to have been addicted to inserting their posts; and there are pictured in these plates the arms of him who happened to be on duty, as sentry, at the time of the eruption, and who died in his position beside the city gate, whence he might have escaped without much difficulty.

This slight view of its contents will give our readers a sufficient den of Mr. Trollope's book. As we have already observed, its object is not to illustrate Pompeii and Herculanæum, but to give a series of examples of Roman art as applied to furniture, domestic utensils, arms, &c.; and, as such, it is a very praiseworthy book. The various objects are in general well drawn, though, to our taste, on rather too diminutive a scale for sufficient distinctness. The text is brief, and hardly goes beyond the character of a catalogue; but Mr. Trollope has been careful in identifying the Latin name of each particular article; and thus, by means of its index, it is a very valuable companion to the student of classical antiquities.

THE BHILSA TOPES, &c. Illustrated with Thirty-three Plates By Brevet-Major ALEXANDER CUNNINGHAM, Bengal Engineers. Smith, Elder, and Co.

This work and Mr. Layard's "Nineveh" are on kindred subjects. A topes means an artificial mound, and the words is applied to the Indian monuments that remain of one of the most ancient superstitions in the world, that of the Buddhists. Major Cunningham, with a brother officer, Lieutenant Maisey, having spent many months in a district of these relics, possesses the record in his present book the sum and the detail of their discoveries. It is the opinion of the author that a thorough investigation of all such remains throughout India ought to be undertaken officially by the East India Company; and that they would throw more light by such a measure on the primeval history of their territory than could be obtained by "the most critical and elaborate edition of the eighteen Puránas." We think it is very likely that the researches recommended would enable us to form a very clear conception of one of those thousand systems of heathenism which men in distant and barbarous times have accepted, and which have, and long, to a large extent, lost their power. That any given form of exploded error should revive, or that error in some form should not continue, is either way, an impossibility. Therefore, the lesson of human credulity, which is illustrated in one instance, is not enforced by minutely adding the details of every other. In these profit of a practical kind in making ourselves less perfect adepts as, perhaps, the most learned hierophants themselves were in their day, in all the rites, and ceremonies, and impostures, and delusions, of some once wide-spread and popular variety of the imagination among barbarous and benighted millions. There is useful learning; and there may be a wearisome display of frivolous erudition: there is a philosophy that betters the condition of the world; and there is a philosophy that merely wastes the hours of the student. And so are there archæological inquiries that recall for our advantage the escaping and fugitive sequestions of past ages; and again, archæological inquiries, which, demanding an equal expenditure of time and of labour, result in nothing.

Certainly, the history of human wisdom contributes to the progressive wisdom of ages; and, better still, towards the same result does the history of wisdom, and of folly, and of Providence overruling all, in the great plot of the destinies of mankind, contribute to help. But all this marvellous exercise of patience and ingenuity to set us right about how people went wrong in some special and artificial form of melancholy absurdity long ago, is, we fear, one vast blunder, growing into fashion.

However, we praise the gallant and able workers, even when the work may be of no value at all, commensurately. Antiquarianism, too, is a passion with many; and hundreds feel an interest so keen in purgations of this nature, that they have essayed to soothe themselves with the intrinsic capability of usefulness which may or may not exist in the various results. Nay, the less they could assign a reason for exulting in any queer discovery, revealing the exact purpose to which it had been applied—we will suppose, how long incomprehensible vessel of sacrifice—the more pure and unalloyed their delight perhaps may be.

But we will not further discuss the *cui bono* of such labours; the person most interested in the solution of that question are those who undertake the labour. The antiquarian and geologist of mankind are far more than it can concern us. His work is before us; and it remains only that we should say in as few words as possible what it contains. It contains 368 large octavo pages of the author's own production; and several of his engravings, furnish a fine antique-looking ruin, in the Oriental originals, with representations of the tumuli themselves, and a general sketch-map—in all some thirty or forty plates, of which several are executed very beautifully indeed. The mass of the text breaks up into chapters on antiquarian and physical engraving; and the style is dry, difficult, unengaging, and fatiguing. In this the production is inferior to Mr. Layard's, which amuses the idle reader very frequently, while interesting the scientific student. We are end not to adjudicate between the intrinsic claims of the respective subjects to be regarded as important. Certainly, Bhilsa is gone—but no more gone, or more obsolete, or more entirely evanished, than Nineveh the Mighty, and Babylon the Cruel. Leaving, therefore, these points, we may further observe that Major Cunningham's book is in reality partitioned into three distinct topics. First, he gives a rapid history of Buddhism; secondly, he explains the tenets of Buddhism; and thirdly, he describes the discoveries which he has made in ransacking the Druid-looking and barrow-like topes of northern India.

The part first mentioned will of course prove by far the most general in its attractions. The second part mentioned, the exposition of Buddhist doctrine is so minute and plenary, that, by "getting it up" well, we have no doubt any young gentleman might make himself a capital theologian in one of the most tremendous and powerful systems of heathenism, and even qualify himself for the degree of Buddhist Doctor of Divinity. The third part, the detail of the monumental discoveries, or recoveries, will fix at once the antiquarian zeniot.

We have now given as full an account as the miscellaneous public can need, or will desire, of such a production. Those who want more intimate acquaintance, can accomplish it by reading the work themselves. Of its kind, it is very spirited in design, and very painstaking in execution.

A LADY'S VISIT TO THE GOLD DIGGINGS OF AUSTRALIA IN 1852-3. By MRS. CHARLES CLACY. Hurst and Blackett.

This is by far the best book produced by the Gold Diggings; lively, picturesque, and truthful. The fair author makes no attempt at fine writing, but tells what she saw, and felt, and feared, and heard; and tells it well. Many of the adventures might, in the hands of a bookmaker, have been spun into a volume, or even three.

Mrs. Clacy appears to have accompanied her brother, who was induced, by the accounts of the Victoria diggings, to fling aside his "Homer" and "Euclid," and, with three weeks' preparation, set out for the modern El Dorado. There he found a sufficient degree of success to content him, while his sister found a husband and made her wedding trip back to England. She seems to have made the copious notes on the spot from which she has prepared this volume. Landing at Melbourne after a prosperous voyage, the first scene occurs on the wooden logs miscalled a pier, where their stout captain, after being obliged to row himself ashore, administers a pugilistic lessons of civility to saucy boatmen. After resting in a clean well-furnished room for a short time, the "bus" for Melbourne arrives—a long tumble to-pieces-looking waggon, not covered in, with a plank down the middle to sit on. Into this ample, with an innumerable series of luggage, are crammed in; a pair of miserable Rosinantes begin to move on through "the beautiful scenery of Australia"—mud and swamp, swamp and mud—relieved here and there by some few trees "which looked starved and miserable as ourselves; the cattle we passed appeared wretched the human beings, all of the Vandemonian cast of countenance." Arrived in Melbourne they long searched in vain for shelter, and began to calculate on sleeping beneath the portico of the Post-office, when, fortunately, they met with a brick in the house-keeper of a surgeon who had gone to the diggings, and at 30s. a week each, obtained one small room for the gentlemen—four in number, with half the housekeeper's bed and board for the fair author.

They set out for the diggings, Mrs. Clacy's brother and four shipmates, with four others who joined, for protection, on the road, with drays loaded with provisions to be sold at the diggings. The following was the order of march:—There were two drays, each drawn by a pair of horses, and the property of two farmers; three packhorses, one laden with a speculation in bran, belonging to a queer-looking sailor named Joe. At length the word of command was spoken. Foremost came the leader, the Captain we had dubbed him, and with him two ship doctors, who carried their tools in the shape of a most surgeon like mahogany box. Then came the two Germans, smoking their meerschaums, and attending to their restless horses and dray." After these came a party of six, including Gregory and two lively Frenchmen. Joe walked by himself, leading his packhorse. Then came our four shipmates, two by two, and last our own particular five. Most carried on their backs their individual property—blankets, provisions for the road, &c., rolled in a skin, and hung across over the shoulders by leathern straps. This is the diggers' swag, it being too great a luxury to place in the dray anything not absolutely necessary. In every heat was stuck either a large knife or a tomahawk, some had thick sticks, fit to fell a bullock, two had double-barrelled rifles. The lady, the only one allowed to ride, was perched comfortably upon the dray, amid a mass of soft lumber; a bag of flour formed an easy support to lean against on either side, well walled in by the canvas and poles of their tent; a large cheese made a convenient foot-stool. Her own dress consisted of a common dark blue serge; a felt wide-awake, and a waterproof coat wrapped round her, made up a costume comfortable, but rather comical." The journey to the diggings is very graphically and amusingly described.

We have not room or space to give the descriptions of the author's gold party: of Frank, the son of a Cheapside merchant, disrobed for a love-match; William, the scholar (not Grecian) of Christ's Hospital; Richard, the music-mad whistler of operas tunes, whose governor, a Stock-Exchange broker, would not allow him a latchkey; Benjamin, the rough-and-ready youth seeking fortune; the doleful prophecies of the Scotchman; the architect; the musical house painter; and the gentleman farmer, who, having been foolish enough to put trust in the Christopher and Bennett scheme of colonisation, gave up a good farm, and took to the pick;—or to recount the adventures of our heroine—now lost in the bush, now attacked by bushrangers; at one time, "being a pocket edition of womankind," nearly drowned in a deserted hut; at another, saved from murder by her humanity to a little girl. We must omit, too, the story of the pretty youth who turned out to be an affectionate wife, disguised in trousers and a blue jersey. For this, and much more of amusing and useful information, we must refer our readers to the book itself.

THE GREYHOUND: a Treatise on Breeding, Rearing, and Training Greyhounds for Public Running; their Diseases, &c. By STONEHENGE. With Illustrations. Longmans.

This is not only the best work on the subject that has ever appeared, but in its style, arrangement, contents, and illustrations, it is a model of what a book devoted to a single animal should be; while the engravings, the paper, the type, the printing, are all of the first class. We hope the publishers will not allow it to stand alone on their shelves, but follow it up with other treatises on the horse, on the ox, and on the sheep, worked out with the same care and completeness. The author, who is master of his subject, and seems to have availed himself of information, both scientific and practical, from every available quarter, has divided his work into seventeen chapters.

In Chapter I he defines the qualities necessary to make a first-rate public courser; and sweeps away some vulgar prejudices on the subject of "blood." Chapter II. contains a very lucid description of the anatomy of the greyhound. Chapter III. is devoted to physiological remarks on circulation and respiration, the digestive organs, the kidneys, and general hints on the treatment of disease. Chapters IV., V., and VI. contain a complete epitome of the diseases of greyhounds, and the best remedies. Chap. VII. is on accidents. Chap VIII. contains advice to young coursers on the best means of obtaining a stud of good dogs. Chap. IX. is a very ingenious and elaborate essay on the art of breeding. Chap. X. contains a capital sketch of each of the four varieties or breeds of greyhounds—viz., Newmarket, Wiltshire, Lancashire, and Scotch. Chaps XI. and XII. are devoted to advice on breeding and the bull dog. cross. Chap. XIII. and XIV. are devoted to instruction for rearing, feeding, and breaking-in whelps. Chaps. XV. and XVI. contain full instructions for training and running greyhounds. The last chapter contains the rules for coursing meetings.

To show by example what is meant, the author has given admirable portraits of the following celebrated dogs, drawn to scale, and given their pedigrees in an Appendix:—Black cok, War Eagle, Cerito, Mocking Bird, Miss Hannah, Ruby, Cressida, Hannah, Jemidesse, Whiff, Cocktail, King Cob, Fearless, Czar, Sam, Monarch, Ruglide Graham, Vixie Foy, and Maid of Islay.

It is difficult to make extracts from such a book; but the following contains a good deal of us ful advice and information in a small compass:—

The first advice I would give to an inexperienced courser would be to start a few greyhounds at the lowest possible price, without any hope of running in public; but in order to gain experience in their management. Of course, it is desirable to get as good dogs as possible; but it is useless for the tyro to hope to procure greyhounds by purchase, of such a character as to win a stake in public; for, except under par icular circumstances, no one will part with them. Even in the case of an entire kennel, there are always some few in the secret who buy up the valuable lots; and the inexperienced eye has little chance in competition with the man who is in the secret, and has made it also the business of his life.

Besides a young hand would be more likely to select a good-looking dog, which has had all his work taken out of him, than one which would be really useful to him. It is better, therefore, to devote all your energies and money to the procuring a good broodbitch or two, and while her progeny are growing up, to try the "practice hand" upon what you can get by buy at four or five pounds a piece, counting your trials to a friendly competition with your neighbours dogs. In this way you will gain the experience at a little cost, which would otherwise empty a long purse to obtain.

BUST OF PROFESSOR GRAHAM.

This Bust is a good example of the talent of Mr P. Park, R.S.A., in portraiture. The features and character of the original are happily caught. The expression of the whole is manly and unaffected, and the arrangement of the drapery is agreeable. It is the portrait of Mr. John Graham, an eminent calico printer, near Manchester, where Mr. Park has a studio

Mr. Graham is a native of Glasgow, where he studied chemistry under his brother, the distinguished Professor in University College. In 1833 he was appointed chemist to the firm of Thomas Hoyle and Sons, the well-known calico printers in Manchester. He there devoted himself assiduously to the study of that business in both its theory and practice, and rapidly rose to be one of the partners of the concern. While he was the active manager at the works at Mayfield, he originated or introduced many improvements in the mechanical as well as chemical processes followed in the print trade, particularly the washing machinery, which is now universally used in bleaching, and which effects a great saving in labour.

Mr Graham, having withdrawn from the firm of Thomas Hoyle and Sons, has established extensive print works at Harishead, near Stalybridge, where he follows his business with his usual energy and success.

BUST OF PROFESSOR GRAHAM.—BY P. PARK, R.S.A.

Mr. Park has in progress beautifully modelled busts of Sir John Potter and Sir James Bardsley, M.D.; the former destined for the Manchester Free Library. In the sculptor's studio is also his plaster model for the Wellington Monument—a circular base, with a series of subordinate figures of the hero's most distinguished Generals all erect, and so arranged, that, in some points of view, five of these figures are seen at once, in others four; and this pentagonal arrangement is claimed by Mr. Park as his own invention.

THE BEARD AND MOUSTACHE MOVEMENT.

(To the Editor of the Illustrated London News.)

Sir,—I was with great pleasure that I read, in the Illustrated London News of the 4th ultimo, your article on the subject of Beards. Your concluding remark is too true Custom is ordinarily too strong for reason. Grey-headed folly will take precedence, with the world, of youthful sagacity. It is the old story of the big bully. Nevertheless, why not make some stand for the rights of reason and common sense?

Here are we, the proud master-creatures of the world, after centuries of boasted civilisation, still humbling ourselves to observances of barbarous fancy, such as in the people of other climes we ridicule and reprobate. On this side of the globe fashion has prescribed the necessity of a certain scraping operation performed upon the visage, called shaving; on the other side she has established, for the proprieties of polite society, the duty of another cognate treatment of the face, in what is called tattooing—a kind of scraping which has more permanent effects. The latter disfigurement we deem barbarous, and attach to our notion of a savage. But why so? Is not our practice of shaving equally unnatural and absurd? He who made "the human face divine" equally formed it with the accompaniment and appendage of freely-growing hair, as with the smooth and delicate skin of soft and sober hue. Surely then, the European barber is as great a barbarian, in his desecration of the work of Providence, as the professional operator with the tattooing prongs in the islands of the Pacific. Was the hair of the face given us for less useful a purpose than hair elsewhere? or why do we suffer such a natural disfigurement to remain over our eyes and upon our heads? Surely fashion has forgotten her vocation. Reformation fell asleep before she had half finished her work. She does not perceive what important steps she has omitted to take in correcting Nature's blunders. Let her look to her office well; she may yet enlighten us to a degree beyond all present conception.

Why, in these days of liberty and independence, do we submit to be slaves still to that fickle tyrant Fashion, to such a degree as to disfigure and unman ourselves? As for the women, they have, we may be sure, too much good sense, after all, to send us to Coventry because we may choose to leave our locks to nature's care. They will not keep up the quarrel long, although they do threaten us so unsparingly at first. Why may not the hair of the beard be kept as clean and becomingly as that of the head?—for they tell us that beards necessitate dirt. Such need not be the case But, consider the pain in time—that article which, to the principal classes of the community, is of the highest value—that would be secured by the change advocated. Consider, also, the advantages that would accrue to military and prison establishments were the daily business of scraping, or of being scraped, dispensed with. But, by far the most serious agreement to be used, and upon which we wish to lay the greatest stress, is on the ground of health. It seems to be universally allowed that the beard not only acts as a most effective protection against the cold and dampness of the atmosphere, but also serves as a defence against the entrance of deleterious particles of matter into the lungs, an effect by no means to be despised, at least by a people too ready a subject to pulmonary diseases, while it imparts generally a genial warmth to the throat—that part of our bodies which, with its glands and arteries, is peculiarly susceptible and dangerously delicate. We are forced to muffle ourselves up with wrappers and respirators, in order to effect the very purpose for which, apparently, beard and moustaches were given us. No sooner have we cut off the natural protection, but we have to fabricate its substitute. What unnatural folly! Why not breathe through our own hair, and leave it to shield our throats and chests from the cold air, rather than make ourselves hideous with suffocaters of white wool and black bombasine? Depend upon it, nature never made what would be useless; God never gave what man should take away.

I am, &c.,

Inkerlib.

TESTIMONIAL

PRESENTED TO THE

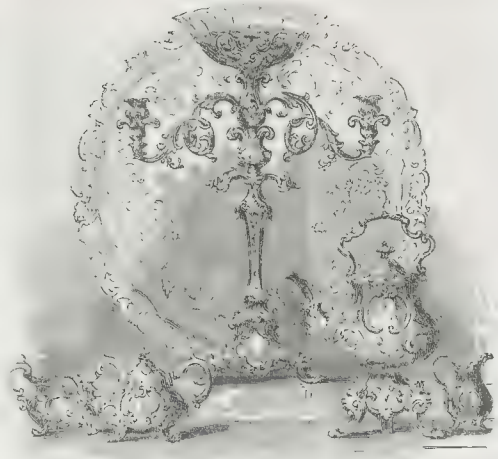
REV. W. C. FENTON.

One of the most valuable Hospitals established for the relief of suffering humanity is the "Yorkshire Institution for the Deaf and Dumb," originated by the Rev. W. C. Fenton, of Mattersey, who has been a firm supporter of the establishment from its commencement to the present time. In order to testify their high sense of the active benevolence of the reverend founder, the subscribers to the Institution have lately presented him with a superb service of plate, consisting of a salver, a candelabrum, and a tea-service, and is so arranged as to value as to be divided into three, so that a portion may be left to the members of Mr. Fenton's family. On the principal pieces is the following inscription, written by Charles Jackson, Esq., at the request of the committee:—

Presented to the Rev. William Carr Fenton, by the friends whose privilege it has been to co-operate in his work of Christian love, as a token of their respectful gratitude to the benevolent mind which originated, and the diligent hand which has fostered, under the abundant blessing of God, and to the relief of affliction in its most deplorable form, through a course of twenty-five years, the Yorkshire Institution for the Deaf and Dumb.—June 16th, 1853.

The presentation of this superb gift took place last June, at Eastfield, when the chairman, W. Aldam, jun., Esq., of Frickley-hall, in an eloquent address, thus referred to the origin of the testimonial:—"It is now twenty-five years since Mr. Fenton began his exertions in behalf of the Yorkshire Institution for the Deaf and Dumb; and I believe it is not too much to say, that if he had not taken it in hand, this institution would never have existed And, without such an institution, what would have been the fate of those unfortunate children now amongst us—unfortunate if they had not been instructed, but, having been instructed, happy, and no longer unfortunate. Having been brought to the means of acquiring knowledge, and taught the duties of religion, they have been trained to their common duties, and are fitted to be active and useful members of society. The consciousness of having taken so great a part in this good work is no doubt in itself a sufficient recompense to a benevolent mind; but it has been thought that such well-spent efforts ought to be marked by some durable and public memorial, to commemorate the merits of the undertaking, and which may show the public sense entertained of such efforts, and be handed down to Mr. Fenton's family as a pleasing subject for their contemplation. With these views, a service of plate has been purchased, to be presented to Mr Fenton; and an inscription has been prepared by a gentleman who is well fitted to carry out the wishes in this respect of the supporters of and contributors to the testimonial. Having read the inscription, Mr Aldam formally presented the gift.

The Rev Mr Fenton thanked the company in an impressive address, and first casually remarking: "When we look round at these 104 deaf and dumb children, and reflect upon the situation which they would have been in as they were once placed; and when we see what a condition they are in now, the result is highly gratifying. I remember a remark that was made by Sir John Johnstone, at a meeting at Scarborough, that in every village we met with deaf and dumb children, pointing to their mouths and ears, and begging for money. This was the case generally throughout the county of York. Now we see that the parents can have their children educated and brought up in such a way as they ought to be some of them not only supporting themselves by their talents and industry, but even supporting their indigent parents. Such a reflection is a pleasure to me which I cannot by words express As an individual I have used some exertions in this cause, and I thank God that I have been enabled to do so, and that he has been pleased to select me to carry out this work of love. And I hope, whenever it may please the Almighty to remove me from this world—which now cannot be long—that I may reflect on my death-bed upon the good that has been done for these poor children, and that I may meet them in another world. This beautiful present which you have given is far too valuable for me ("No, no") But it is not the value of the articles that I estimate, so much as the feeling which has induced you to present them to me. I have a particular feeling upon this occasion, which is, that if I should have no lineal descendants, these articles should revert to the institution, and remain in it as memorials of my humble exertions in its behalf. I wish them to go to no collateral branches of my family; and, should I have no lineal descendants, it is my desire that they should revert to and be the property of the institution."



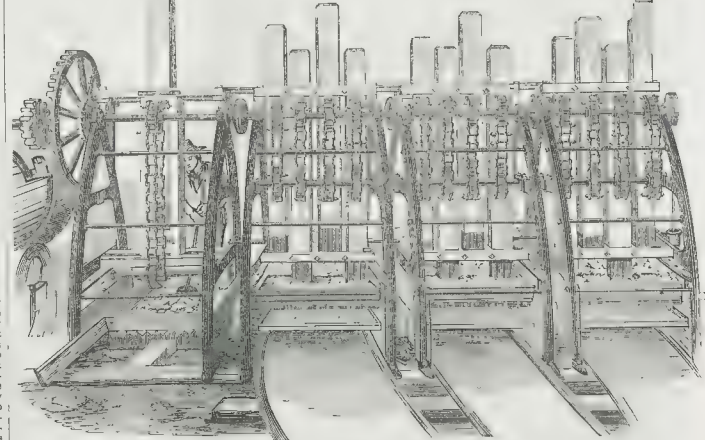
TESTIMONIAL PRESENTED TO THE REV. W. C. FENTON.

At the close of Mr Fenton's address, a vote of thanks was passed to the Chairman, and the proceedings terminated.

QUARTZ-CRUSHING MACHINERY FOR CALIFORNIA.

Although a very large amount of gold has already been gathered in California, without the exercise of much skill, or the aid of machinery, except of the rudest character, it is well known that immense quantities of the precious metal lie embedded in the quartz, and require for their extraction the skilful application of suitable machinery. Mr. Walker, of Cowper-street, City road, has provided for this purpose the apparatus here illustrated. It has been completed for Messrs. Dawson, who have proceeded with it to California

The apparatus consists of a series of stamping frames, arranged in a line, so as to be worked by a main shaft, which runs through its whole length, and is connected at each frame with a coupling and bolts. In the first frame there is a single stamp of great power, iron-shod, and working upon a corrugated iron bed plate; a greater lift being given to this stamp, so as to render its operation very energetic and effective in breaking the larger pieces of the quartz into moderate sized pieces. The smaller fragments are then transferred to the next frames, three in number, in each of which there are four stampers, each stamper having a fall of 18 inches, and through which the quartz is gradually passed until it is so completely disintegrated as to permit the extraction of its metal. At the end of the shaft is a crank, for working a pump, by which, at the same time, water is raised for washing the lighter particles, or refuse, from the gold. Instead of lifting the stamps by wipers or cams in the usual manner, Mr Walker has introduced an endless chain, caused to revolve by the main shaft round a toothed wheel, upon which there are two projections, which take hold of a corresponding one fixed on the stamper; so that each revolution of the chains gives two blows to each stamper. By this simple and ingenious contrivance, considerable fall is conveniently obtained, with great advantage in the saving of power over the old method.



WALKER'S QUARTZ-CRUSHING MACHINERY.

This machine will crush with ease twenty five tons of quartz per day; and, assuming each ton of quartz to contain half an ounce of gold, which is a very small percentage indeed, we are informed this will afford ample profit to the proprietors.

Motive is given to the stampers and pump by one of Messrs Clayton and Shuttleworth's portable steam-engines, of 6-horse power mounted upon wheels, similar to those which have been so extensively manufactured by this firm for agricultural and other purposes. The regular, noiseless, and apparently easy movement of this engine is remarkable; while it requires no skill in fixing or attaching to the machinery, as it stands upon its wheels when at work, and motion is imparted to the stampers through the medium of a wheel and pinion, as shown in our illustration. Mr. Walker states that the small six-horse engine does an enormous duty, and works the stampers as effectively as any 12 horse fixed engine he has ever seen applied to such purposes. The boiler is so constructed that either wood or coal will generate and [illegible] plenty of steam, which is a great advantage, either in California

THE BRITISH INSTITUTION.

(Continued from page 218.)

is carefully painted, but rather stiff. In the elaboration of the straw on the ground, crossing the feet in all directions, the artist has committed an offence against one of the canons of art, which prescribes the neglect of insignificant and accidental details, the more especially when their realisation, as in this case, is calculated to annoy the eye.

"The Rose-bud" (403), by A. H. Corbould. A comical conceit, not devoid of merit. "Mamma's darling," a fine little fellow, is standing, leaning against the wall; his shoulders shrugged up, his eyes cast down, in a charming fit of the sulks. It is evident, however, that it is more than half put on: and that a little coaxing and a large slice of cake will bring him round.

"A Turkish Khowajà" (488), by W. Ross (Anglice, "A Turkish Gentleman"), is a well-painted portrait of an intelligent-looking Oriental, in Turkish costume.

"A Sleeping Boy" (495), by Miss E. Hunter, is a small picture, nicely painted, and fondly realising Hood's lines—

'Tis a perfect picture to see him lie,
As if he had supped on dormouse pie, &c.

"Sancho Panza Informing his Wife of his coming Dignity, and of his intention to make his Daughter a Countess" (509), by J. Gilbert. In this picture Mr. Gilbert has achieved a success which he has not attained in some recent efforts in a more severe school, and has discovered a talent for the humorous—a rare quality when genuine—which we trust he will be encouraged to indulge in abundantly for the future. The scene is familiar to all who are read in "Don Quixote":—

"I tell you, wife, that did I not expect ere long to see myself the governor of an island, I should drop down dead upon the spot."

"Go you, husband," replied Teresa, "to your governing and islanding, and puff yourself up as you please; as for my girl and I, by the bones of my mother, we will neither of us stir a step from our own town." *Don Quixote*, Part ii., ch. 5.

Sancho, of course, occupies the centre of the picture, and is the very ideal of the bragging, gutfilling, credulous squire. Throwing himself back in the chair, his feet perched on the bar in front, his pompous mien is no assumption, but a reality, as he waves his hand with supreme contempt and horror at the onions with which his wife is about to prepare his *olla*. The latter's face shows a mixture of contempt and pity, and even the dog observes his master's extravagant conduct with bewilderment and misgiving. The colouring shows a nice gradation of hues from the rubicund focus, through rich yellow, brown, and plum-colour, to pale green and stone grey; and the finish is very delicate.

"The Vicissitudes of Science—First Subject" (555). Such is the title by which Mr. E. Hopley introduces a picture (one of an intended series, probably) representing "Sir Isaac Newton explaining to the Lord Treasurer Halifax his Theory of Colour." It is recorded in the Biography of Newton, by Sir David Brewster, that the philosopher had a lovely and accomplished niece, who presided over his household, and for whom the Earl of Halifax entertained the most profound friendship, leaving her at death, the bulk of his property. Moved more by this "attraction," probably, than that of "gravitation," he made frequent visits to Newton's house, under pretence of studying the various branches of natural philosophy. In the present picture Newton is expounding to him the theory of colour, as exemplified by the prism, which Halifax holds in his hand, whilst the pretty niece holds a sheet of paper upon which the rainbow hues fall. But the gallant student is obviously indifferent to the phenomena which the Doctor is gravely expounding; his eyes being fixed upon the young lady. The study of the niece is from a picture by Kneller, in the collection of the Earl of Portsmouth, and that of Newton from the records in the possession of the Royal Society.

"THE YOUTHFUL ARTIST."—PAINTED BY J. SANT.—EXHIBITION OF THE BRITISH INSTITUTION.

We have already mentioned some of the principal efforts in landscape in this Exhibition; some few, however, still remain to be noticed. Linton's "Scene on the Lagunes of Venice" (139) is effective at a distance, full of clear architectural detail, and the atmosphere and water in subdued and well blended tones. But, upon nearer approach, the thick dabs of colour, laid on with a coarse brush, offend and disappoint the eye. "Wind on the Thames" (102), by E. C. Williams, is an agreeable little composition, of low flat scenery, with a barge in the midst to break the monotony. Copley Fielding has two views—one in Yorkshire, the other in Scotland; and a sea-piece, "Scene at the Entrance of Dover Harbour—Stormy Weather" (113), which we remark as very spirited: executed chiefly in blacks, greys, and whites. Callow has a "View of Venice" (112), which is a successful exhibition of lineal perspective. W. A. Knell has a very glittering "Evening on the Thames;" but surely such a sky as he has contrived was never seen in nature. G. E. Hering's large landscape of "The Monte Monterone, and the Borromean Island" (174), is a work of no ordinary merit. Under a doubtful sky is a wide expanse of sea, extending, in parts, to the extreme limits of vision. After travelling over the varied effects which so extensive a landscape naturally combines, the eye rests upon a spot of rich green in the midst of the foreground, which affords admirable relief to the hazy blue of the distance. "Mount's Bay, Cornwall" (286), is a picturesque coast-scene, with a bold mountain in the midst. In the landscape, by W. P. Jackson, a ship is introduced on the beach. The general effect is good, but the colouring in parts is dabby and uncertain. J. W. Huntington has a very meritorious piece, "Cave Mountain, Belfast" (459); treated with great unity and simplicity of purpose. The sun is setting gloriously behind the steep dark mountain; in the shade beneath which the houses which skirt the shore are dimly seen. The sea, which occupies the foreground, is as calm as a lake; and the surface is here and there gilded with the soft reflex of the sun's broad parting rays.

We have already honourably mentioned T. Danby's brilliant little picture, "A Summer Evening in North Wales," which may be pronounced one of the gems of its class in the room. We now greet pictures in producing an Engraving of it.

Lance exhibits four of his magnificent Fruit Pieces, upon one of which (30) he has lavished all the resources of his florid pencil. It is of considerable dimensions, and comprises almost every variety of fruit; amongst which a cut melon is a principal object. The jewelled cup and crystal glass are also brilliantly painted. (We have engraved this superb picture on the front page.) Miss E. H. Stannard has a pleasing specimen, "Fruit Painted from Nature" (164); and W. E. D. Stuart an indifferent one which he facetiously denominates "Belshazzar's Feast" (321).

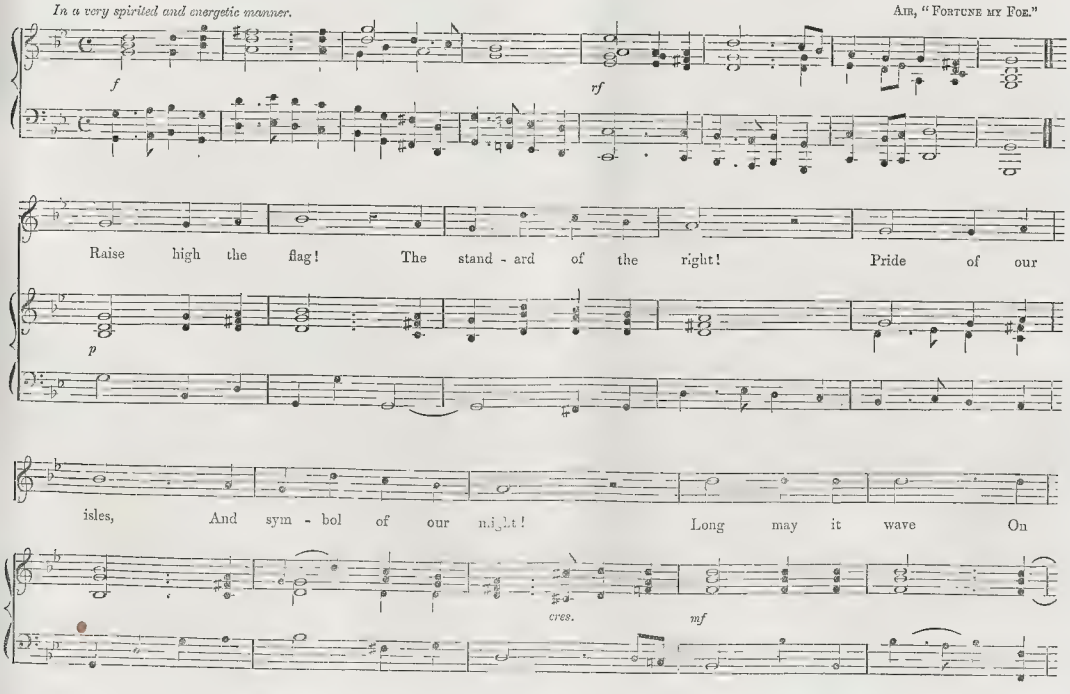
"A SUMMER EVENING IN WALES."—PAINTED BY T. DANBY.—EXHIBITION OF THE BRITISH INSTITUTION.

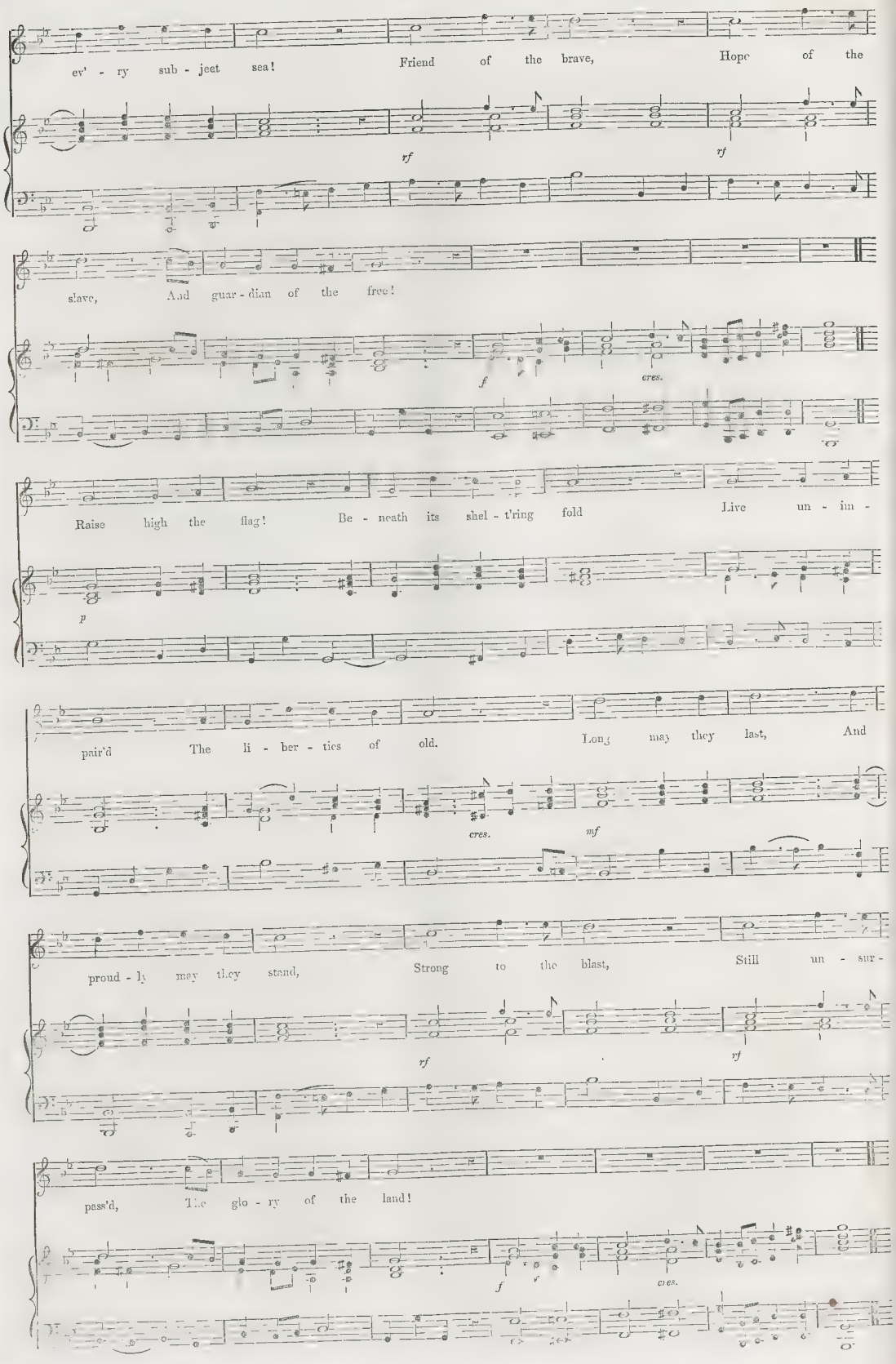
ENGLISH SONGS AND MELODIES

THE POETRY BY CHARLES MACKAY. THE SYMPHONIES AND ACCOMPANIMENTS BY SIR H. R. BISHOP, KNT.

RAISE HIGH THE FLAG!

In a very spirited and energetic manner. Air, "Fortune my Foe."




ev' - ry sub - ject sea!
Friend of the brave,
Hope of the
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And guar - dian of the free!
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Raise high the flag!
Be - neath its shel - t'ring fold
Live un - im -
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The li - ber - ties of old.
Long may they last,
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Strong to the blast,
Still un - sur -
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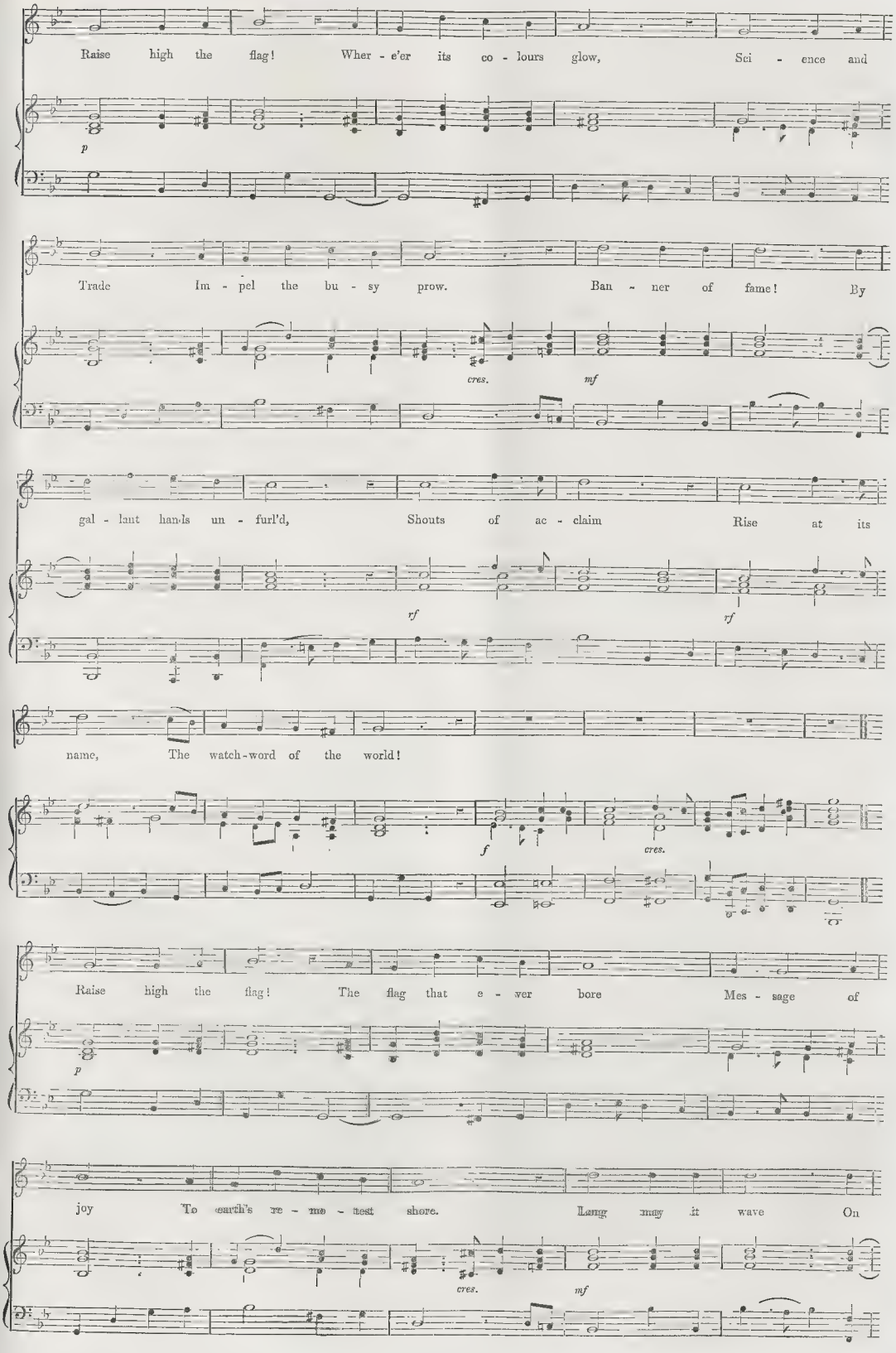
Raise high the flag! Wher - e'er its co - lours glow, Sci - ence and
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Trade Im - pel the bu - sy prow. Ban - ner of fame! By
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Raise high the flag! The flag that e - ver bore Mes - sage of
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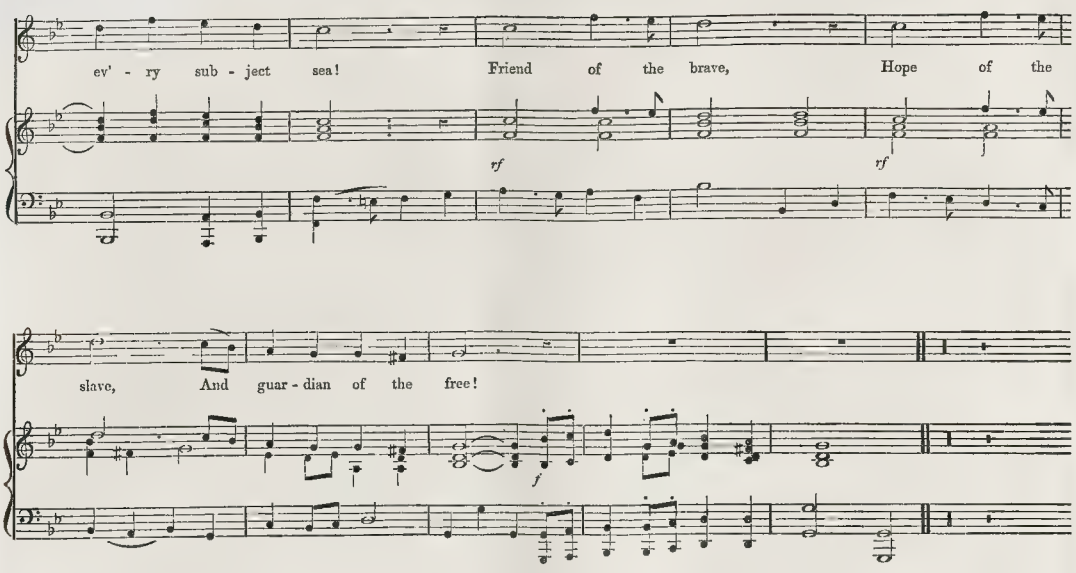

NOTE, BY SIR H. R. BISHOP.

RAISE HIGH THE FLAG.

"Fortune, my Foe."—The fine ancient ballad-air of "Fortune" may be found in "Queen Elizabeth's Virginal-Book," which contains nearly 300 compositions, and is now preserved in the Fitzwillian Museum, Cambridge. The melody of "Fortune" was arranged, with variations, by the famous Maister William Byrd, who contributed seventy pieces of music to the above singularly curious volume. Among them are the old tunes entitled, "John, come kiss me now," and the "Carman's Whistle," both of which Bird has ingeniously arranged. The variations composed by him to the first of these are so elaborate and difficult of execution (for Byrd was a skilful performer on the virginal and organ), that Dr. Burney refrained from publishing them in his "Musical History;" and we may imagine them to have suggested some parts of the laboured eulogium written in 1591 by Byrd's great admirer and contemporary, John Baldwine, who, in "very humble verses" (as Sir J. Hawkins rather satirically remarks), says that

With fingers and with penne he hath not now his peere;
For in this worlde so wide there is none can him come neere:
The rarest man he is in musick's worthy arte
That now on earthe doth live,—I speak it from my harte,—
Or heeretofore hath been, or after him shall come:
None such I feare shall rise that may be calde his sonne.

It has been stated that the old ballad called "Titus Adronicus' Complaint" (which furnished the subject of Shakspeare's play of "Titus Andronicus") was originally written to the tune of "Fortune, my Foe;" and it is also probable that this bold and inspiring air was composed at a much earlier period than the latter part of the sixteenth century. There are extant of it some slightly different copies, from which I have selected the one that appeared to be most in accordance with the sentiment of the present words.

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

No. 673.—VOL. XXIV.] SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 1854. [WITH TWO SUPPLEMENTS, 1s.

NEW LIGHTS ON THE EASTERN QUESTION.

THE Eastern Question has begun to complicate itself at a time when everything seemed about to become clear, and to prognosticate that war, and war only, was to settle it. A somewhat serious difficulty has been started by Turkey. The Sultan objects to the terms imposed upon him by the Allies as the price of their assistance. They have required, it seems, that he shall place the Christians of his Empire upon a perfect equality of rights and privileges with his Mahometan subjects. Although willing and anxious to extend the principles of civil and religious liberty among the Christians, he has two reasons for objecting to the demand of the Allies. The first is, that, by conceding perfect equality to Christian with Mussulman, he would be acting in opposition to the solemn injunctions of the Koran; the second is that compliance with such a demand would be as much a sacrifice of his independence, as submission to the demands of the Czar. We cannot say that the Sultan is in this respect either obstinate or unreasonable. To degrade him in the eyes of his whole people, as the price of fighting his battles against his encroaching neighbour, is to render him a very questionable service. If any proof were needed beyond those which cool reflection would supply, of the impolicy of imposing such a condition upon the Sultan, it might be found in the eagerness with which the Emperor of Russia has endeavoured to turn the fact to his own advantage; and in the zeal with which his views have been forwarded by his pusillanimous and vacillating brother-in-law, the King of Prussia. The Czar, it appears, declares, "that a concession of so much importance, if obtained, would render the protectorate claimed by Russia over the Christians without any object; and, that being the case, he would be disposed to treat, in common with the great Powers, for the regulation of the general position and rights of the Christian population in the Ottoman empire." The Czar has astuteness enough to see that the terms sought to be extorted from the Sultan would, if acceded to, destroy the independence of the Turkish empire. Provided that result were attained, it does not signify greatly to him whether the instruments of its accomplishment be Great Britain and France, or himself and his armies. The humiliation of the Sultan, come from what quarter it may, is the triumph of Russia. Having waited, since the days of Peter the Great, to gain possession of Constantinople, the Czars would be well content to wait a little longer, provided they could see that progress was making, however slow. Happily, it is not too late for the Allies to deprive Russia of the opportunity. It will be enough for them to recommend to the Sultan, as a matter of expediency and sound statesmanship, to grant as many privileges to his Christian subjects as be consistently can. He must be free to act, or we shall injure him in the attempt to defend. The Governments of Great Britain and France may safely trust him. There is more religious liberty in Turkey than there is in Russia; and the Sultan is, in every respect, a more liberal and enlightened Sovereign than the Czar. The Greek Christians of Moldavia and Wallachia, who consider the Russians as heretics, look with no favour upon the idea of Russian supremacy over their faith; and the religious pretence of interference on the part of Russia is by this time known to the whole world to have been a false pretence from the beginning. We expect, therefore, to hear either that the Allies have made no such imperative stipulation with the Sultan, or that, having made it, they have withdrawn it.

A flood of light has been poured upon the subject by a remarkable article in the *Journal de St. Petersburg*, and which has evidently been written under the inspiration of the Czar. Lord John Russell having complained, in his place in Parliament, that Russia, in the assurances which she had given to this country, with respect to the objects of Prince Menschikoff's mission, "had exhausted every form of falsehood," the Emperor Nicholas, in an evil moment, felt himself goaded to reply. In alluding to what it calls this "brutal outrage" on the part of Lord John Russell, the *Journal de St. Petersburg*, speaking for the Czar, insinuates that the British Ministry need not have expressed any surprise on the occasion, for that it perfectly well knew what the real objects of Russia were. Whatever might be the grounds of mistrust entertained by other Powers, the English Ministry, it alleges, had no reason to doubt the views of Russia; as, at a period anterior to Prince

THE BALTIC FLEET.—HER MAJESTY'S RECEPTION OF THE ADMIRALS ON BOARD THE ROYAL YACHT.—(SEE PAGE 243.)

Menschikoff's mission, the Emperor Nicholas had "spontaneously communicated with the Queen of England and her Ministers, for the purpose of establishing an intimate agreement with them, even in the event of the most formidable contingency which could befall the Ottoman empire." In other words, the Emperor Nicholas, fancying that he foresaw the approaching dissolution of the Turkish empire, sounded the British Government to know whether it would become his accomplice in expediting that event, and in sharing the plunder. In Jan., 1853, Sir Hamilton Seymour, our Ambassador at St. Petersburg, was invited by the Emperor to a private conversation on this subject. He was also invited to communicate the details to the British Government, and to request their opinion. We are not informed by the Russian organ what the reply was, but Lord Aberdeen, released by the act of the Emperor himself from any secrecy upon the subject, explained to the House of Lords the character of the answer made by Lord John Russell, who temporarily held the office of Secretary for Foreign Affairs, when the communication was made to him. Lord John Russell made a similar statement to the House of Commons. The whole correspondence has been ordered to be printed, and the country will then be enabled to judge whether Lord John Russell spoke out upon the occasion as became a British statesman. Nor was this the only occasion upon which the Czar, with a strange miscalculation or ignorance of the views and interests of the British nation, endeavoured to enlist our Government in his nefarious projects against Turkey. Ten years ago—when he visited this country, and was received with a respect which he little merited, and with an adulation on the part of some, which, to say the least of it, was fulsome as well as unnecessary—he expressed similar views with regard to the proximate dissolution of the Ottoman empire; and endeavoured to find supporters, among the honourable statesmen of England, for his dishonourable policy. We do not doubt, in the slightest degree, the indignant character of the refusal which he met from such men as the Earl of Aberdeen, the late Duke of Wellington, and Sir Robert Peel. These overtures, and the replies, have—as we learn from Lord Aberdeen's speech on Monday evening—been reduced into writing, and will, doubtless, be produced, for the satisfaction of the people of this country, and for the edification of the few amongst us who still believe that the war has a religious character—who feel a regret that Christian nations should arm against Christians in defence of Mahometans.

The Emperor of Russia has been truly unwise to dig up these facts. Honest men will rejoice, however, that he should be the instrument of his own exposure; and that his own hand should have levelled to the ground the vaunted religious pretext under which he lodged the purely selfish object of an ambition that may have loved the Greek religion a little, but that loved the Turkish territory far more. Neither he nor any of his apologists can pretend that the question of the Holy Places, and the privileges granted by the Porte to the Latin Christians, excited him in 1844 to beat up for allies in the dismemberment of Turkey. He is convicted and reconvicted of duplicity in every effort which he makes to vindicate himself. What he in reality feared in Turkey was not Turkish oppression, but Turkish liberty. He dreaded that, by a liberal and enlightened course of policy, the Turkish Empire would grow strong, and able to resist his and all other foreign aggression. He had no care for the Christians; but, on the contrary, as we learn from his own showing, he blamed the Sultan for departing from the ancient principles of Islamism "From the year 1829," says the Emperor, in his avowed official organ, the *Journal de St Petersburg*, "his Majesty followed with great attention the march of events in Turkey. The Emperor could not shut his eyes to the consequence of the changes which were, one after the other introduced into that State. *Ancient Turkey disappeared from the time when it was sought to establish those institutions diametrically opposed as well to the genius of Islamism as to the character and usages of the Mussulmans—institutions more or less borrowed from modern Liberalism, and, consequently, entirely opposed to the spirit of the Ottoman Government. It became evident that Turkey was undergoing a complete transformation, and that these experiments, at least doubtful so far as regarded the re-organisation of the empire, seemed rather calculated to lead to a crisis which would overturn it.*" Thus the Emperor Nicholas stands unmasked, and his own hand has done the deed. It is not as the friend of the Greek Christians, that he is anxious to fight, but as the enemy of liberal principles all over Europe; principles, he knows, which, sooner or later, must find their way into his own stronghold of St. Petersburg, and which are only kept down at Warsaw by an army of a quarter of million of men, whom he dare not move beyond the frontiers of Poland. After such avowals as these, it seems impossible that the Governments of France and Great Britain can impose any further conditions upon the Sultan. Christianity, or the rights of Christians, have nothing to do with the subject.

FRENCH SHIPS FOR THE BALTIC.

PARIS, Thursday Evening.—The French fleet, being occupied in the Mediterranean in transporting troops to the East, will for the present be only represented in the Baltic by the *Austerlitz*. At a later period the squadron of Admiral Parseval Deschenes will enter that sea to join the fleet of Admiral Napier.

The Three per Cents closed at 66f. 30c., and the Four-and-a-Half per Cents at 92f. 20c., for the end of the month.

Lord Stratford has been empowered by the Turkish Government to grant from time to time, and as occasion may require, the requisite permission to Russian vessels which have been freighted by Englishmen to pass the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles."

We are enabled to state that the only Cavalry regiments at present under orders for the East are—the 4th and 5th Dragoon Guards, the 8th and 11th Hussars, and the 17th Lancers. It is reported that Major General the Earl of Lucan will be appointed to the command. Colonel the Honourable Yorke Scarlett is named as Brigadier General to the heavy brigade, and Colonel the Earl of Cardigan to the light brigade. The 8th Hussars and 17th Lancers have drafted their old and untrained horses, and the vacancies have been supplied from other corps. The establishment intended for each regiment will be 250, making a total altogether of 1250 horses.

TRADE WITH RUSSIA.—The Board of Trade has decided that, in the event of war, every indirect attempt to carry on trade with the enemy's country will be illegal; but, on the other hand, *bonâ fide* trade, not subject to the objections above stated, will not become illegal, merely because the articles which form the subject matter of that trade were originally produced in an enemy's country.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

The preparations for the departure of the troops form, of course, the principal subject of interest for the moment. The health of the Maréchal St. Arnaud continues to present obstacles that few men would overleap, even in so honourable and distinguished a mission, but his resolution to accompany the troops remains unshaken. Madame St-Arnaud, who is many years the junior of her husband, intends to accompany him, at all events to Constantinople, and probably farther. Since the period of her marriage, in 1847, till the return of M. St. Arnaud in 1851, from Algeria, the Maréchale has attended him in all his campaigns, frequently accompanying him in the most difficult expeditions, and sharing all the fatigues, privations, and dangers to which he and his soldiers were exposed. The Maréchal takes with him all the staff attached to his person as Minister of War, and a large retinue besides.

A rumour—one of the thousand afloat—goes so far as to hint that the Prince Napoleon may have a personal, as well as a national interest in the expedition in which he is about to engage: that the Czartoryski and other great Polish families have proposed, in the event of the success of the coming struggle, to offer him the crown of Poland! Doubtless, the frequent presence of the Prince Czartoryski at the Palais Royal, and the intimacy known to exist between the Prince and the Count Branicki, who is to accompany him in the expedition, is the ground on which so strange a story is founded. M. Méry, the *spirituel* author, poet, and conversationalist, is, we believe, to be one of the followers of the Prince, as far as Constantinople. He is then, after passing some time at the camp, to proceed on a voyage to Egypt and different parts of Asia, partly on a voyage of pleasure, partly to recruit his health, which requires the sun of a hot climate.

None of the officers of the Emperor's household, who solicited permission to join the expedition, have obtained the authorisation demanded, and only two officers among all those about to serve, have ever held posts about the Emperor—the Maréchal St. Arnaud, late *grand veneur*, and M. Excelmans, formerly Officier d'Ordonnance, now commanding a steamer of the Baltic squadron.

The Legislative Body is engaged in the organisation of a grand banquet, where the deputies are to fraternise with the general officers about to start for the East. The dinner is to take place in the Jardin d'Hiver. A *chant de guerre*—the words composed by a Legislator, whose name is not declared, the music by M. Vogel—is to be performed on the occasion.

A few words more respecting the Abbé Lamennais, which we are sure cannot be uninteresting to our readers. Béranger, the *chansonnier*, the old and intimate friend of Lamennais, is preparing, in his retreat at Beanjon, a short biography, which is, we believe, to appear the end of this week. The talent of the writer, the opportunities his close intimacy with the subject of the memoir have afforded him for the study of character, and the collection of those minute details which give such charm and reality to such a work, promise a book of no common value and interest. We beg to rectify a mistake in our last letter, in which we stated that the Abbé had not been able to complete his translation of the "Divine Comedy." This is happily terminated; it was an introduction to this work, on which Lamennais was engaged, when his fatal illness arrived to interrupt his labours.

The *rédacteurs* of the Assemblée Nationale, lately struck with the sentence of temporary suspension, contemplated the plan of establishing a literary weekly journal, but the idea is not, we believe, likely to be carried out. It appears that the *Union* is to be distributed to the subscribers of the Assemblée, while the sentence continues in execution.

On Sunday took place the first steeplechase of the season, at La Marche, near Versailles—the principal course, for this sort of race, in the neighbourhood of Paris. The extreme beauty of the weather, which indeed has been uninterrupted for nearly three weeks, caused an unusual assemblage; and the best-appointed equipages, and most elegant toilettes of the capital, made their appearance on the ground. The prizes were 1000 francs for the first horse, 500 for the second, and 300 for the third; fifteen started, and the race was won easily by Hopeful, belonging to Mr. Henry Gibson. A second steeplechase is to take place at the La Marche, on the 2nd of April: on this occasion two races will be run.

The Gymnase has brought out one of those charming little *tableaux de mœurs* which it and the Théâtre Français are alone possessed of artists capable of representing, among all the theatres of Paris. This is a little comedy, from the pen of M. Octave Feuillet, one of the purest, most delicate, most observant, and most moral of the living French writers in this style. "La Crise," the piece in question, though new on the stage, is not so in the literary world. It was published, some short time since, in a charming collection, entitled, "Scènes et Proverbes," all from the same hand. We recommend this volume to our readers, as one of the best specimens of the kind extant. Some of the pieces—"La Clef d'Or," "Le Jeu de Dominos," and one or two of the others contained in it, are *chef-d'œuvres* of sentiment and expression. The personages of "La Crise" are represented by Madame Rose Cheri, Dupuis, and Lafontaine, with all the tact, grace, finesse, and nature, which those admirable performers never fail to display in all their parts. The Ambigu Comique has a sufficiently interesting drama, entitled, "L'Enfant du Régiment." Mdlle. Thuiller has a brilliant success in the part of the youthful hero of the piece, the general effect of which is decidedly satisfactory.

UNITED STATES.

By the steam-ship *Canada*, we have letters and papers from New York to the 28th ult., and Boston to the 1st instant. The *New York Herald* scouts the idea of Russian agents being engaged in inducing persons in the States to send out privateers, in the event of a war with Russia. A despatch from Washington states the British and French ministers had called upon Secretary Marcy for the purpose of protesting against the fitting out of Russian privateers in the United States. It was also understood that they informed the Secretary that such vessels would be treated as pirates by their respective Governments. The reply of Secretary Marcy had not been made public.

Letters from Havannah, of the 25th, report a rumour to the effect that a negro insurrection had occurred east of Cardenas. A change of troops had been unexpectedly made at Puerto Principe. In Havannah all was quiet.

In the Illinois Legislature a resolution had been offered against the aggressive policy of the Emperor of Russia. The resolution concludes:—"Resolved, that the Governor be required to forward to the aforesaid Czar a copy of the above resolution."

SOUTH AMERICA.

The screw steamer *Brazaderia* arrived in the Mersey on Saturday, with dates from Buenos Ayres, to the 28th January, nearly a month later than those previously to hand. The social and political aspect of affairs at Buenos Ayres presented little of striking importance. Activity in business, buoyancy of the money market, and gaiety of the upper classes were the chief characteristics of the time, and the *British Packet* could see nothing to endanger the internal peace of the province, or the stability of the Government.

INDIA AND CHINA.

The steamer *Calcutta* arrived at Trieste on the 11th of March, in 117 hours from Alexandria, with advices from Calcutta to the 10th of Feb., Shanghai to the 20th of January, and Bombay to the 14th of February. The condition of Burmah is rapidly improving. Dacoitie is declining, and there is a promise of an abundant harvest. The Nizam's country is overrun by bands of predatory cavalry, which are being hunted down by the troops of the contingent. The *Auckland* had returned to Bombay from the Persian Gulf, and left all quiet at Bushire, Teheran, and Bagdad.

From Shanghai the most important news was that the Imperialists were likely to make themselves masters of that city.

THE WAR.

RUSSIA DECLARED IN A STATE OF SIEGE.

The *Moniteur* of Thursday, under the date of St. Petersburg, March 7th, gives copies of five official documents (dated March 5th), declaring various parts of the Russian dominions to be in a state of siege.

The first states that his Majesty thinks it necessary to declare the Government of Ekatherinowsla and the arrondissement of Taganrog to be in a state of siege, and places those localities under the orders of the General of Cavalry, M. Khomoutoff.

The second ukase declares St. Petersburg to be in a state of siege, and places the Government under the authority of the Grand Duke, heir to the throne, with the prerogatives accorded to the Commander-in-Chief of the Army.

By the third ukase, the Government of Esthonia and Livonia are placed in a state of siege; Esthonia to be under the orders of General Berg, and Livonia under Count Suwaroff-Kiminsky, Governor of Riga.

The next ukase declares the Government of Archangel to be in a state of siege, under the orders of Vice-Admiral Boël.

By the fifth ukase, the kingdom of Poland, and the Governments of Courland, Kowno, Wilna, Grodno, Volhynia, and Podolia are declared to be in a state of siege, under the authority of Prince Paskewitch, the Commander-in-Chief of the active army.

The ukase states that the Government of Podolia, the part of the Government of Cherson, situated on the right bank of the Bug and Bessarabia, shall be placed under the authority of General Prince Gortschakoff.

The ukase then provides that the kingdom of Poland and the Governments of Courland, Kowno, Volhynia, and Grodno, during the absence of the Field-Marshal, shall be under the authority of General Rüdiger, and that General Osten-Sacken shall retain in Bessarabia and in the Government of Cherson, the powers granted to the commanders of detached corps by the ukase of November 19, 1853.

RUSSIAN PREPARATIONS.

A gentleman who left St. Petersburg on the 27th ult., states that along the road from Narva to Riga, and from Riga to Mittau in Kurlandia, Livonia, and Courland, he observed a considerable movement of troops. At St Petersburg the departure of the Imperial Guard was spoken of, but without any precise date being fixed. An extraordinary activity pervaded all the navy offices, those of the War Department, the Foreign Affairs, as also at the private Chancellerie of the Emperor. A service of special *estafettes* was organised for the province of Baltic Russia, with which an uninterrupted exchange of couriers is kept up. The garrisons of Helsingfors, Sveaborg, Frederikshamn, Rotschenshin, had been greatly augmented. That of Sveaborg, which the Russians are wont to call the Gibraltar of the Baltic, has been reinforced to the amount of 10,000 men. A few days before he left St. Petersburg, an aide de camp of the Emperor, a general officer, had been despatched with orders to inspect all the coasts on this side of the Gulf of Finland. His orders were to proceed to Revel, and provide the promptest and the surest means of placing the fleet in safety from a *coup de main* of the Anglo-French squadron. Other general officers of the engineers and artillery were also received orders to urge on the completion of the works in the military posts and the fortresses of the coast. These are not the only measures of defence that the Russian Government adopts. He describes it as doing everything to excite the national pride and the fanaticism of the nation. All their efforts tend to give to the impending struggle a character of religious ardour, which is not that of 1812. Thus the Greek Cross appears everywhere as the sanctifying symbol of the present war, and on every side may be heard the words repeated of "Orthodox faith," "Holy confidence," "Holy Russia," &c. Texts from the Holy Scripture have come to be mingled with the jargon of the fashionable saloons. The Emperor himself adopts them in conversation of the most ordinary kind, and in all his public addresses; and he appears struck with the monomania of preaching and haranguing to all about him in a manner that is truly ridiculous. Very recently, and in presence of the whole Court, he uttered a sort of sermon, which terminated nearly with the following words:—"Russia, whose destinies God has especially entrusted to me, is menaced. But woe, woe, woe to those who menace us! We shall know how to defend the honour of the Russian name, and the inviolability of our frontier. Following in the path of my predecessor—faithful, like them, to the Orthodox Faith—after having invoked like them, the aid of the Almighty God—we shall await our enemies with a firm foot, from what side soever they come, persuaded that our ancient device, 'The Faith, the Czar, and the Country,' will open to us, as it has ever done, the path of victory."

Nicholas is making important dispositions at Cronstadt, on various points of the Gulf of Finland, and the Gulf of Bothnia. He has increased the armament of the forts of Cronstadt, and constructed several batteries on the island at the water level. It had also been decided to increase the garrison by a supplementary force of 12,000 men drafted from the Imperial Guards. Three ships (partly propelled by steam) of 90 guns each—the *Georgy*, the *Constantine*, and the *Orel* (Eagle), have been put into commission. They are intended to join the first division of the Baltic fleet, which is to be raised to twenty-seven or twenty-eight vessels. But, among these men-of-war, several belonging to the divisions of Revel and Helsingfors are in a sorry state; nor can they be repaired, since at neither of these harbours are there the requisite materials. The Russian Admiralty has given orders to build at Vyborg, Abo, and Sveaborg, 200 gun-boats, on the model of those which are in the Cronstadt channel.

A letter from St. Petersburg of the 2nd, in the *Cologne Gazette*, says:—

People only occupy themselves here with the warlike preparations for all eventualities by land or sea. Twenty thousand pounds of gunpowder for the navy have been sent from Cronstadt and St. Petersburg to Petrozamock, and cannon and shells have been sent to Cronstadt and Archangel. About 40,000 lbs. of gunpowder are to leave for the latter town. The sea forts are being fortified, and the coast batteries strengthened. The Guards and Prince Paskiewitch are to leave us shortly. The Prince will first of all go to Warsaw. Patriotic donations are continuing to be made.

On the 28th ult. the Czar visited the fortifications of Cronstadt, accompanied by his son, the Czarowitch and hereditary Grand Duke Alexander.

GREAT ALARM IN THE BALTIC.

According to advices from the Russian Baltic provinces, the utmost perturbation and alarm exists among the inhabitants of the sea-border towns, from the neighbourhood of Cronstadt to the frontier near Memel. At St. Petersburg, many families are preparing to depart for the interior; and it is asserted on good authority, that orders have been issued by the Emperor to the effect that all women and children should quit Revel, and all other open, or even closed towns, subject to the assaults of the terrible squadrons which are about to sweep the Baltic. The name of Napier, whom some compare to the redoubted Suvaroff, strikes terror into all minds; and the more so since no one can foretell where the gallant Admiral may establish his first school for the "culture of laurels." The Swedes are actively engaged in repairing and strengthening their maritime fortifications, and in placing their coast defences in a good state, especially upon the island of Gothland, to which place seven battalions have been sent to hold garrison.

THE RUSSO-GREEK INSURRECTION.

The intelligence from Greece and Albania is so contradictory that it is difficult to avoid falling into error; but the following information appears to be the sum of what has happened lately. The inhabitants of the villages in Thessaly, which lie close to the Greek frontier, have joined the insurrectionary party; but the towns are quiet. The excitement in Athens and in the Greek provinces has subsided, since it has become evident that, if necessary, the great Powers will interfere; and in Epirus the insurrection has no chance of success. On the 27th of February, the garrison of Arta made a sally, and inflicted a serious loss on the besiegers. The Greek troops which have joined the insurgents may amount to 500. Emissaries are extremely active in the Morea, but have hitherto met with little success. The English and French vessels now at Piræus took provisions for the garrison of that city, which is in no danger. The citadel at Arta was in the hands of the Turks on the 3rd, and is likely to remain so. Janina is well provided with all the necessaries for a vigorous defence.

The latest news from Constantinople is, by telegraph, to the 5th inst. Disturbances were said to have broken out at Samos, attended with a great massacre. The French steam-ship *Mercure* had been despatched to the scene of confusion and bloodshed, for the purpose of protecting the European inhabitants; and a Turkish steamer, with troops on board, was to follow. At Jerusalem there had been quarrels between the Greek and Latin inhabitants. The Latin Patriarch, Valerga, was expelled by the Greeks, and the French Consul, not having been seconded by the authorities, felt it his duty to accompany him to Jaffa.

Nothing of importance had occurred in the Black Sea.

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

KALAFAT, Feb 16, 1854.

SINCE the day when the Russians committed the apparently wanton devastation of burning all the hay and maize-ricks within a circuit of eight miles, the equanimity of the people of Widdin has been disturbed by the intelligence that a vast number of caïques, or boats, had been brought together at a village on the banks of the Danube, above Citate, for the purpose of passing a Russian force into Servia. The Turks have taken the precaution of despatching Selim Pacha, with three battalions of infantry, three squadrons of cavalry, and a battery of six field guns, to prevent any attempt on the part of the enemy to pass the Danube; but these precautionary measures appear to many to be a waste of resources. Had the Russians any serious intention of passing into Servia, there is every reason to believe that they would have concentrated a force at a place where there was no danger of encountering an enemy. It would be folly in the Russians to land a force in Bulgaria, and on this side of the frontier river Timok, at the risk of opposition, when they might make the same movement higher up the river, without let or hindrance, and land their forces at once in Servia. But the Russians have much to do at the present moment besides invading Servia. They have taken up such a position in front of Kalafat as to render all communication between the Turks and the interior impossible; and there they will remain, no doubt, until reinforcements arrive, which may enable them to attack the intrenchments here. The supposition founded on their recent advance, and their burning up of every species of forage, has turned out to be unfounded. They have not retired as it was supposed they would. They still occupy the villages on all sides of Kalafat, and it is ascertained from a spy, who was captured a few days since within the lines, that they still hold Poyana with two regiments of infantry, a regiment of hussars, a battery of six guns, and a battery of horse artillery, consisting of eight guns. They are, moreover, intrenched in front of Poyana, and do not live in the houses, but camp in the open ground.

The corps of Osten Sacken, which, as is now ascertained, only reached Bucharest on the 11th ult., must, by its arrival, enable the Russian General, Gortschakoff, to bring together a considerable force in Lesser Wallachia; and, unless a serious diversion is made by Omer Pacha, it is probable that an imposing force will be assembled to the attack of these lines. The idea of invading Servia can only, therefore, be a bugbear of the timid. Nor do I believe, indeed, that it is the policy of Russia at the present moment to take a step so serious. The Servians are divided into partisans of Turkey and partisans of Russia. The latter, perhaps, are the most numerous, and to be found amongst the lower class of the people. The Government and the educated are, in a great measure, friendly to Turkey. The appearance of a Russian force invading Servia would be the signal for a civil war, from which more than one result might be expected. The *corps d'armée* in reserve at Sofia would immediately march into the Principality and rally round it the partisans of Turkey. Austria could not afford to allow the quarrel to be settled without its interference, and she also would march in with her armies and her budget of persuasions. There is no knowing, then, what might result from such a move, if once it began. The Hungarians might seize an opportunity to revolt, the Transylvanians to rise, and such a storm might then ensue, as I can scarcely conceive it politic on the part of Russia to have raised. If Russia were to be victorious in her struggle against Turkey, she would hardly think of appropriating Servia. That province might, perhaps, become the reward of Austrian assistance; but, in that case, why should Russia undertake what Austria may do herself. Russian intrigue has been carried on in Servia for the purpose of keeping up amongst the Sclavonian populations the great prestige of Panrussism; but no immediate or present advantage can be expected to accrue from it, on the part of Russia, in the way of territorial aggrandizement.

The principle of Panrussism, which Russia calls by the misnomer of Panslavism, is one which has been pursued with increasing tenacity, by the policy of the Czars; it is a policy as hostile to Austria as it is to Turkey; but its effects can only be felt by the former, after the latter has been humbled. Russia has no interest in spending her energies now, on what must presently benefit Austria, rather than herself. Let Russia be victorious, and Turkey lowered in the scale of nations, and Servia cannot for the moment become aught else than Austrian; but Russia, bordering on Servia, will find a pretext to absorb, not merely Servia, but even the Banat, the Nolvadina, perhaps Bohemia. These are distant visions which might be realised by Russian victories, but the triumph need not be in Servia; and the end will be attained as well at Kalafat or Schumla, at Bucharest or Adrianople, as at Belgrade or Semendria. It is a great misfortune for the Czar that such a nation as the Rouman should interpose between his dominions and the Sclavonian populations bordering on Germany. The mode in which Russia works upon the hopes and fears of the Sclavonic populations can scarcely be expected to have much influence upon Wallachia and Moldavia, and, in order to attach the latter, other means must be employed. The Russians have, therefore, been generous in promises of late, and have fed the imagination of the Roumans with visions of thorough independence, a constitutional Monarchy, and what not. But are the Roumans likely to be gulled by such pretences? It is very true that they are by no means a wise or a far-sighted population. Long enslaved and kept within the bonds of serfdom, they might with ease be led into a belief that all these promises are fair, and likely of fulfilment; but they have had some slight experience of the worth of Russian promises; and they cannot but remember that the men who made them were those who, in 1848, marched in to deprive them of their new-born liberty. By the movement which then took place, the peasants entered into a new existence. No longer tied to the glebe by the tenure of their holding, no longer forced to pay in labour for the right to cultivate their own fields, they saw with pleasure, and accepted with eagerness, the measures which made them independent, which enabled them to have a will of locomotion, and to possess the ground which they had tilled from childhood. The revolution did not make them freeholders—it altered their connection with the landlord, and they were no longer serfs. This arrangement, after all, was one as beneficial to the landed proprietors as it was enticing to the peasant; for the latter, in consideration of the new advantages held out to him, was willing to pay the former an amount of rent much greater than he did before.

But the Boyards could not look upon this emancipation of their serfs without jealousy. Russia entered the Principalities, and, with the assistance of the Boyards, smothered the privileges of the Roumans at their birth. Is it possible that a people so treated can forget such a deprivation? Is it probable that the Roumans should cease to think of '48? There are facts to prove that they preserve the memory of their transient benefits, and are still anxious to attain them. A gentleman whose movements in their favour had caused him to be exiled at the entrance of the Russians, paid a visit lately to a village near this place. He called the people round him—reminded them of the time when a peaceful revolution had produced those beneficial changes which they must now regret; and asked them had they quite forgotten the principles for which he and they had fought and suffered. They answered not by words, but they led their friend and leader to the church, and there behind the screen they showed him the tri-color flag—the symbol of their freedom which had lain concealed until that moment. They expressed their readiness at once to unfurl the standard, and prove their attachment to the principles of 1848. On the following day the Russians entered the village, and beat to death the priest who had permitted a revolutionary flag to be preserved so long within the sacred precincts of a church. With such sentiments alive amongst the Roumans, Russian rule can never keep a hold in the Danubian Principalities. The great idea of Panslavism has no charm for them. On the contrary, they oppose it; and, should the Russians even succeed in wresting these vast territories from the Turks, the moment of emancipation from the Porte must be the signal for a movement in favour of national independence. But Russia thinks this, doubtless, an obstacle to her onward progress. She conquered the Crimea and reduced the Tartars; by the exercise of her rule she has reduced the latter to the feeble number of 30,000 families, and surrounded them by a mixed population of Greeks and Russians. She may hope to efface the Roumans as she effaced the Tartars; but the eyes of the world are too much directed towards the northern Colossus to permit of a nationality being crushed; and thus the Roumans must continue to remain a bar between Russia and the fulfilment of her Panslavistic views.

Four days have now elapsed since the rumour of an advance of Russians into Servia was spread, and as yet no sign of anything is visible. Yesterday, however, one of those harassing movements to which the enemy have accustomed the Turks took place in the direction of Chuperchin—a village occupied by three battalions of infantry, three squadrons of horse, and two guns. The Russians, in number two battalions, with two regiments of horse and six guns, endeavoured to cut off this Turkish force. Under cover of a fog created by the intense cold they succeeded in passing between the videttes, but they were luckily met by a patrol who gave the alarm. The Turks retired in good order, and suffered no damage from a continued fire from the Russian guns, which remained most of the time too distant to be within good range.

The only item of intelligence to be added to these, is that of an encounter which took place on the 3rd instant, at Rustchuk. Opposite the lower extremity of that fortress is an island, on which a battery is placed. Opposite the island, on the Wallachian side, is the village of Siabodzie. On the 3rd, a battalion of Turkish infantry, about 600 men and 300 irregulars, with two guns, crossed to the Wallachian side, drove in the Russian picquets, and burnt some houses. They were protected in this operation by the guns of the battery on the island, as well as by the heavy ordnance from Rustchuk. The Turks advanced, however, beyond the cover of these defences, and were then attacked by the enemy. The Russians, it is said, came out with a force of three battalions—say 2500 men—a regiment of cavalry, and six guns, but probably much less, and attacked the advancing Turks, who gradually retired. A company of Turks from Rustchuk crossed over to the island in the meanwhile, with one gun; and from this and the batteries on the island, and the heavy guns of the fortress, the Russians suffered considerable loss: the Turks state it to have been 800 killed, and a comparative amount wounded. This must be taken with considerable reservation. The Turk themselves lost thirty-five killed and 102 wounded. Both retired without coming to close contest.

We hear from Constantinople that General Guyon, who had been sent to Asia to re-organise the Turkish army, has been entrusted with the command of a division at Batoum. Colonel Beschanowski, a Pole, whose name has been coupled with honourable services in Poland, in Africa, and in Hungary, is raised to the dignity of Pacha, together with Colonel Breniski, also a Pole. They have taken their departure for Anatolia.

It is stated that Russia has asked again at Constantinople for a conference with Turkey alone; and that this has been refused. I am happy to say that, in lieu of the old system, which consisted in giving 100 piasters for the ears of an enemy, the Turkish Government now offer the same sum for every prisoner brought in alive. There is thus a chance of prisoners being saved from the excesses of irregulars.

THE CZAR'S REPLY TO LORD JOHN RUSSELL.

The *Journal de St. Petersburg* of the 2nd inst. contains the answer of the Russian Cabinet to Lord John Russell's speech on the 17th of February. The article begins in the following words:—

It is not here the place to repeat brutal outrages of which every faithful servant of the Emperor will preserve the recollection, but which do not reach the august person to whom they are addressed. We shall confine ourselves to remarking that the Parliamentary annals might be searched in vain for an example of such intemperate language from the mouth of a Cabinet Minister in reference to a Sovereign against whom the country of that Minister had not yet declared war. What are of importance in this speech are not the invectives of the Minister, but the nature of the determinations of the Government which the speech reveals. It must be very evident henceforward that the peace of the world does not depend upon chance only, but that war forms a decided element of the plans of the English Ministry. From this cause has necessarily arisen that fatal distrust which in the Eastern Question was the origin of all the previous difficulties, and which will lead at last to the most deplorable results.

The article then goes on to affirm that, whatever might be the grounds of mistrust entertained by other Powers, the English Ministry had no reason to doubt the views of Russia, inasmuch as at an early period preceding Prince Menschikoff's mission, the Emperor Nicholas had "spontaneously communicated with the Queen of England and her Ministers, for the purpose of establishing an intimate agreement with them, even in the event of the most formidable contingency which could befall the Ottoman Empire." It further stated that, in the course of Lord John Russell's brief administration of the Foreign-office—that is, in January, 1853—Sir Hamilton Seymour was requested by the Emperor, and empowered by his own Government, to enter into a detailed private conversation with the Emperor himself on this subject, and a correspondence ensued, not of an official character, and the secrecy of which does not concern the Emperor alone; but which disclosed in the fullest confidence the views of the Court of St. Petersburg with reference to the approaching dissolution of the Ottoman Empire.

In reply to Mr. Disraeli, on Monday evening, Lord John Russell has declared his willingness to produce the correspondence referred to.

RUSSIAN CIRCULAR NOTE.

The *Journal de St. Petersburg* of the 3rd inst. publishes in a supplement extraordinary a circular addressed by the Russian Cabinet to all the Ambassadors and diplomatic agents of the Emperor of Russia, giving an account of the negotiations on the Eastern question, and justifying, according to the opinion of the Russian Cabinet, all its proceedings. The circular fills not less than seventeen columns of the *Journal de St. Petersburg*, and is ten times as long as that prepared by M. Drouyn de Lhuys for the French Government with a similar object. The greater part of the Russian circular, however, consists of a history of the Eastern affair, inter-spersed with arguments, which have all been brought forward in the notes of Count Nesselrode and the letter of the Emperor of Russia, published in the French and English Journals. Throughout this historical review the desire for peace and the moderation of the Emperor of Russia are much spoken of, and he is represented as having been constantly thwarted by doubts, suspicion, and distrust, which he had done nothing to deserve. An attempt is made to make the world believe that the Eastern question has been brought to the present crisis, not by any refusal on the part of the Czar to make all the concessions which were compatible with his honour and dignity, but by the want of confidence in his declarations evinced by the French and English Governments.

Great complaints are made that Turkey was not made to accept the Vienna Note, and still greater that Count's Nesselrode's "examination" of that Note, which fixed upon it the meaning ascribed to it in Turkey, should have been given to publicity, through "a culpable breach of confidence, the source of which is unknown to us." The Emperor endeavours to justify the shameful outrage at Sinope, which he asserts was "only a legitimate act of defence." The Circular concludes by affirming that a policy of intimidation has been carried out by France and England, while the conduct of Russia is described as a succession of sacrifices.

THE NEW OVERTURE BY THE CZAR.

The object of the diplomatic mission of the Prince of Hohenzollern-Sigmeringen is said to have been the presentation to the Western Powers of new proposals towards peace. The Emperor of Russia, having learned that England and France were taking active steps to induce the Porte to place the Christian subjects of the Sultan on an equality with the Musulmans, declared that a concession of so much importance, if obtained, would render the protectorate claimed by Russia over the Christians without any object; and that being the case, he would be disposed to treat, in common with the great Powers, for the regulation of the general position and rights of the Christian population in the Ottoman Empire. If the negotiation were accepted on this basis Russia would evacuate the Principalities, on condition that England and France would at the same time withdraw their fleets from the Black Sea. Prussia undertook to make this communication to the Cabinets of London and Paris, with the understanding that if the last offer on the part of Russia should be rejected, the Prussian Government was determined not to take any part in the war against Russia, and to preserve the neutrality which it had already announced, and which it was determined not to depart from, excepting in the case of the interests of Germany being in danger. So far as can be ascertained, the mission has been a failure.

THE PRUSSIAN NEUTRALITY.

An address signed by several members of the Prussian Chambers has been presented to the Government, calling upon Baron Manteuffel to give some explanation as to the position of Prussia in the impending war, to state whether its intimate relations with the Cabinets of Vienna, London, and Paris are maintained, and to establish by a frank declaration that confidence which can alone oppose "the illegitimate voices" that seek to present themselves as organs of the country. To this requisition Baron Manteuffel replied, on Monday last, that the Government would shortly make some communication to the Chamber on explanation of its policy, and that the fleets about to enter the Baltic Sea are those of the Powers with which Prussia is on good terms and at peace. However incomplete this intimation of the Prussian Cabinet may be, the King of Prussia has already given another indisputable proof that he admits the necessity of offering some explanation of the recent change in his policy; for he has despatched Prince Hohenzollern Sigmaringen to Paris on a confidential mission for that purpose; he has sent General Groeben to England on the same errand.

LINES

ON THE DEATH OF MR. JUSTICE TALFOURD.

THE instantaneous plunge from life to death
Is ever awful: if it be the votary
Of empty pleasure, that completes the fulness
Of his brief time amid the revel's roar;
Or soldier, in hot blood, while taking life,
Losing his own. But more profoundly deep
The lesson strikes, when, startled we behold,
The Judge called from the judgment-seat to judgment!

* * * * * *

Let Hope (most giv'n to scan the future) now
Turn to the past, regardful of *his* deeds.
And, through her tears, look upward and exclaim,
"May that sweet MERCY which he lov'd on earth,
Welcome his gentle soul to peace in Heav'n!"

Garrick Club, London. SAMUEL LOVER.

MR. JUSTICE TALFOURD'S LAST ADDRESS.

The cause of Mr. Justice Talfourd's sudden death, which took place at Stafford, last Monday, was an attack of apoplexy, brought on by the excited feelings under which he was addressing the grand jury in reference to the atrocious crimes by which the calendar of Staffordshire is stained on the present, even more than on ordinary occasions. His Lordship, in alluding to the state of the calendar, containing a list of upwards of one hundred prisoners, many of them charged with the most atrocious crimes short of murder, called the attention of the grand jury to the fact that there were no fewer than seventeen cases of manslaughter, and thirty cases where persons were charged with the crime of highway robbery. Many of these might be traced to intemperance, "the greatest English vice," which was so prevalent in the mining districts; but that would not account for them all. No small amount of the crime by which the calendar was stained, he ascribed to another cause:—

I cannot help thinking (said his Lordship), that it may in no small degree be attributed to that separation between class and class which is the great curse of British society, and for which we all, in our respective spheres, are, in some degree, more or less responsible. This separation is more complete in this district, by its very necessities and condition, than in agricultural districts, where there is a resident gentry, who are enabled to shower around them not only the blessings of their beneficence and active kindness, but to stimulate by their example. It is so much a part of our English character, that I fear we all of us keep too much aloof from those dependent upon us, and they are thus too much encouraged to look upon us with suspicion. Even to our servants we think that we have done our duty in our sphere when we have performed our contracts with them—when we have paid them the wages we contracted to pay them—when we have treated them with that civility which our habits and feelings induce us to render, and when we curb our temper and refrain from any violent expression towards them. And yet how painful the thought that we have men and women growing up around us, ministering to our comforts, supplying our wants, and continual inmates of our dwellings, with whose affections and tempers we are as little acquainted as if they were the inhabitants of some other sphere. This feeling arises from a species, from a kind of reserve which is perhaps peculiar to the English character, and which greatly tends to prevent that mingling of class with class—that reciprocation of kind words and gentle affections—those gracious admonitions and kind inquiries, which, often more than any book education, tend to the cultivation of the affections of the heart and the elevation of the character of those of whom we are the trustees. And if I were asked what is the great want of English society, I would say that it is the mingling of class with class. I would say, in one word, that that want is the want of sympathy. Now that is never more entirely felt to be so than in the case of that man who is engaged in pits in the bowels of the earth during a large portion of his time. The large ironmasters and coalmasters have a great number of men in their employ, with whom it is utterly impossible for them to cultivate sympathy; the overlookers and sub-agents, themselves engaged in the active duties of life, and having the claims of their own families on their sympathies, are unable, even where they are not unqualified by want of education, from entering into the domestic relations and circumstances of the middle aged and the young amongst whom they themselves move; and thus it is only when a lurid light is cast by some acts of crime like those in the calendar, that we really understand what the habits and pursuits of these people are.

While commenting upon these topics, his Lordship became considerably excited and flushed in the face, and those near him noticed that the veins became somewhat thick and inordinate; and, on a sudden, he fell forward with his face upon his book, and then swayed on one side towards his senior clerk, and his second son, Mr. Thomas Talfourd, his Lordship's marshal, who caught him in their arms. Dr. Holland and Dr. Knight, two magistrates, who were on the bench at the time, immediately rushed to his Lordship's assistance, removed his neckcloth, &c., and called for water; but it was of no avail. His breathing was stertorous and his face livid, and but a feeble action of the pulse could be felt. Mr. Justice Wightman was hurriedly summoned from the Civil Court, and hastened to the spot, but only arrived in time to see his brother Judge borne in mournful procession on the shoulders of six gentlemen, to the Judge's lodgings adjoining the court. On arriving there it was found that life was quite extinct.

DEPARTURE OF THE PARIS GARRISON FOR THE EAST.

On Sunday the 5th inst., that portion of the Paris garrison which was under orders for the East was reviewed by the Emperor, in the court of the Tuileries. The Empress, attended by the ladies of her Court, was seated on the balcony of the palace, which was covered with crimson velvet. On the following day the troops took their departure for Toulon, but not amidst such a display of popular enthusiasm as was exhibited in London on the departure of the Guards. So quiet was the leave-taking of the French troops (of which our Artist has given a Sketch), that none of the Paris Correspondents of the London papers mention the circumstance at all. Among the crowd attracted by the movement of the Paris garrison were a number of the conscripts of the class of 1854, who had just been drawn. They hailed the soldiers as they passed, shouting "We shall soon rejoin you."

The greatest enthusiasm is manifested by the French army who are eager to measure their strength with the Cossacks. Upwards of 400 corporals

DEPARTURE OF THE REGIMENT OF THE GARRISON OF PARIS FOR THE EASTERN EXPEDITION.

and sergeants have thrown up their ranks, and have entered other regiments as privates. All the non-commissioned officers of the 70th Regiment of the Line have entered as privates in the 74th Regiment now at Toulon.

The *Moniteur* of Monday contains an Imperial decree, ordering chaplains to be named to the various bodies of troops now proceeding to the East. They are to be named by the Minister of War, according to the wants of the service. A superior chaplain, charged with the task of centralising the whole religious service of the French army of the East, and an assistant chaplain, are to be appointed to the head quarters of the army. A chaplain is to be attached to each division, and another to each large moveable hospital. The superior chaplain is to receive the pay and allowance of a chef-de-bataillon in the infantry, and the other chaplains those of a captain of infantry of the second class. Each chaplain besides, during the expedition, is to be allowed a horse for his service.

Generals Canrobert and Bosquet left Paris on Monday morning for Toulon, preparatory to their embarkation for the East.

Marshal Saint Arnaud leaves Paris on the 24th inst. General Canrobert takes with him the commission of Commander-in-Chief in the event of anything occurring to the Marshal, whose health is still delicate. Prince Napoleon will embark on the 8th of April at Marseilles or Toulon. An aide-de-camp of General Prim left Paris on Monday night for Marseilles, *en route* for Turkey. The General himself will soon follow.

THE BANQUET TO SIR CHARLES NAPIER, AT THE REFORM CLUB.

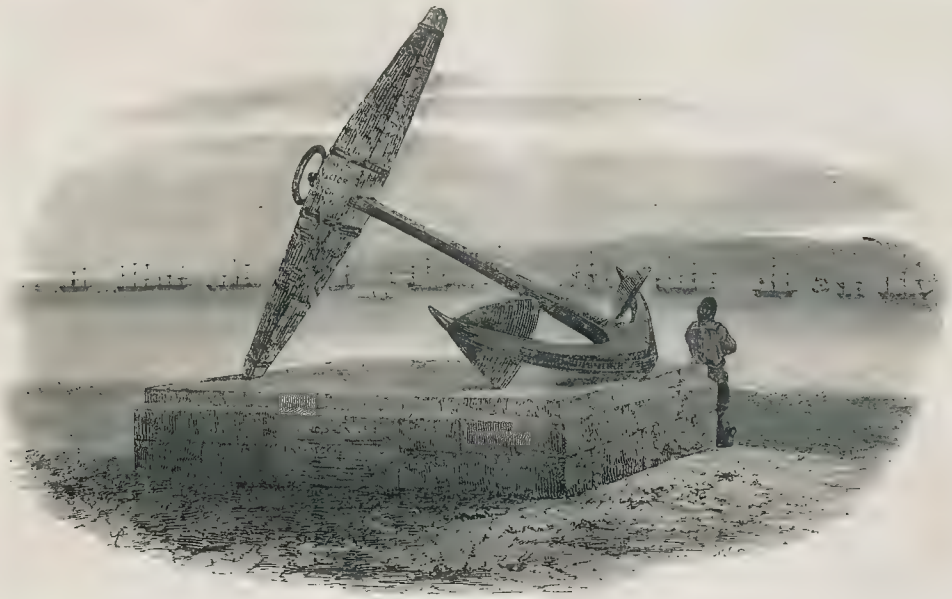
In propitious association with the events of the great war upon which we are about to enter must be regarded the splendid entertainment given at the Reform Club, on the 7th inst., to the Commander of the Baltic Fleet. Our series of Illustrations would, therefore, be incomplete without a commemorative Picture of this Festival, alike characterised by an enthusiasm truly English, and well bespeaking the national feeling upon this momentous occasion.

The descriptive details of the Entertainment were fully reported in our Journal of last week. We now engrave a Sketch from the principal table.

Sir Charles Napier, upon the right of the Chairman (Viscount Palmerston), is addressing the company, in return for his health. Next Sir Charles Napier are seated Sir James Graham and Admiral Berkeley and on the left of the Chairman are the Turkish Minister and Namik Pacha.

In the rear are the only decorations of the dining-room, for the Festival, namely, the French, English, and Turkish ensigns—which were arranged alternately around the apartment.

THE BANQUET TO VICE-ADMIRAL SIR CHARLES NAPIER, AT THE REFORM CLUB, PALL-MALL.



"THE VICTORY'S" ANCHOR, ON SOUTHSEA BEACH.

THE "VICTORY'S" ANCHOR, ON SOUTHSEA BEACH.

This very interesting memorial attracted much attention during last week, when so many thousands assembled at Portsmouth to witness the departure of the Baltic Fleet.

The *Victory's* Anchor is placed upon a pedestal upon the beach at Southsea, as related in the following inscription:—

Close to this spot embarked the
HERO OF THE NILE,
Alas or the last time, to take command of the British Fleet,
That fought and conquered
At TRAFALGAR, where our NELSON fell.
This tribute of respect is placed in humble admiration of
the departed Hero
by
LORD FREDERICK FITZCLARENCE,
Lieutenant-Governor of Portsmouth.
1852.

WRECK OF A WAR-STEAMER.

We have been favoured by a Correspondent with the following details of the wreck of the H.E.I.C. war-steamer *Medusa*, Lieut. H. A. Fraser, I.N., commanding; with the accompanying Sketch of the scene, made by Lieut. B. Ford, Adjutant of the Madras Sappers.

This remarkably fine little steamer was politically employed under Lieut. Fraser, I.N., in communication with the principal Commissioner in Pegu (Captain Phayre), for the protection of British interests on the frontier, and in the execution of which duty took place the unfortunate occurrence depicted in the Sketch.

The vessel was proceeding from Prome towards Kamma, which is situated fifteen miles north of Prome, and on the right bank of the river Irrawaddy. The steamer had accomplished about half the distance, when she struck on a sunken rock, where to all appearance the proper channel existed. The hull is an iron one, and the injury received was very considerable, as she immediately commenced to fill, the compartments bursting as the water rushed in the fore part of the vessel; and although every exertion was made by the officers and men to get sails over the bows, she settled down fast; and they had barely time to place her near the bank of the river, when the vessel sunk head-foremost. The crew and officers jumped overboard to save themselves, which they happily did, with the exception of one man, the Captain's cook, who got entangled in the ship's awnings.

Next day Lieut. Fraser proceeded to Prome, leaving Lieut. T. W. Aylesbury, I.N., with one of his gun-boats for the protection of the wreck; and for the purpose of saving any thing that might float to the surface of the water. On Lieut. Fraser's arrival at Prome, Brigadier General Sir John Cheape most kindly and readily placed all available aid from the several departments there stationed at that officer's disposal; and the next day he proceeded with the flat, *Luckior*, Captain Sevenoaks commanding, in tow of the H.C. steamer *Lord William Bentinck*, to the scene of the wreck. Lieutenant Fraser was accompanied by Lieutenant Ford, commanding a detachment of Madras Sappers and Miners, having pontoons and rafts of casks, and other naval apparatus with him. The exertions of these men and their officers deserve great praise. The quick manner in which they formed their rafts; and their diving in four fathoms water, first cutting the awnings of the vessel away, and then slinging the guns, was the admiration of everyone who witnessed the operation; and it was entirely through the great exertions of this fine corps and their gallant officer, Lieutenant Ford, that the whole of the vessel's guns were saved.

WRECK OF THE WAR-STEAMER "MEDUSA," IN THE IRRAWADDY RIVER.—RECOVERY OF THE GUNS.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, March 19.—3rd Sunday in Lent.
MONDAY, 20.—Spring commences.
TUESDAY, 21.—Benedict. Duc d'Enghien shot, 1804.
WEDNESDAY, 22. First English Protestant Charity School opened, 1638.
THURSDAY, 23.—Southwark-bridge opened 1819.
FRIDAY, 24.—Earl of Chesterfield died, 1773.
SATURDAY, 25.—Annunciation. Queen Elizabeth died, 1603.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 25, 1854

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
M. A. 8 5	M. A. 8 55	M. A. 9 35	M. A. 10 15	M. A. 10 55	M. A. 11 35	M. A. No Tide
h. m. 8 17	h. m. 9 5	h. m. 9 45	h. m. 10 25	h. m. 11 5	h. m. 11 53	h. m.

THE BALTIC FLEET.

We have much pleasure in announcing to our Readers, that Mr. O. W. Brierley, the well-known Marine Artist, has sailed in the *St. Jean d'Acre* for the Baltic; and that we hope to receive from him several interesting Sketches, which will immediately appear in our Journal.

*** Our Notices of the Exhibition of the National Institution of Fine Arts (opened on Monday) is unavoidably deferred till next week.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 1854.

Some uneasiness begins to be felt as to the course which will be pursued by the Governments of Austria and Prussia in the approaching war. Were it given to the people of Germany to decide upon the attitude which they should assume towards Russia, there can be no doubt what the decision would be. A firm and cordial alliance with Great Britain and France would be inevitable. The baneful influence and Upas-like protection exercised by Russia in the affairs of Germany have long been the sources of humiliation to the intelligent classes in the great and minor kingdoms and principalities of the Confederation. But, unfortunately, the dynastic interests, or supposed interests of the Emperor of Austria and the King of Prussia have more to do with the decision of the question than the wishes of their subjects. To both of these Sovereigns the aggressive policy of Russia cannot be other than distasteful. Any disturbance of the existing equilibrium of Europe is fraught with peril to their thrones; and their obvious policy is to prevent a war, if it be possible, or to take part with Great Britain and France, if the Emperor of Russia persists in his designs against the Ottoman Porte. In spite, therefore, of the past and present wavering of these two Potentates, and their determination to remain neutral in the struggle, there can be little doubt, if the war proceed, that they will not only be compelled to take part in it, but that they will join the rightful side. The mutual jealousy between Austria and Prussia for the leadership of Germany is not the least powerful of the causes that have hitherto prevented those States from assuming their proper position during this great European crisis. But the leadership, even if it did not belong to Austria, must be assumed by that Power, in virtue of the energetic character of the young Sovereign, of the sagacity of his advisers, and of the dangers that menace the Empire. From the King of Prussia little is to be expected, and that little only on the compulsion of an overwhelming necessity. He is a man of good intentions, but of weak judgment and irresolute will. He is prone to enthusiasm; but it is unstable and short-lived. In the convulsions of 1848 and 1849, his good intentions and his foolish conduct were near upon producing his expulsion from the throne. His Imperial brother-in-law knows as well as any man how little he is to be depended upon. If he have a strong feeling upon any subject, it is for a cellar of choice wines. His stock of Clicquot's champagne is said to be unrivalled; and the grim Czar once gave him, in a playful mood, the contemptuous soubriquet of *M. Clicquot*. The two Sovereigns, as may be gathered from this and other circumstances, have but little personal liking for each other. The neutrality of Prussia, if circumstances allow her to maintain it, will, in all probability, have a bias hostile to Russia; and if Austria, alarmed for Italy and Hungary, should determine on joining the Anglo-French alliance, Prussia will be compelled to follow, whatever may be the personal feelings of the King. The chief interest, therefore, attaches at the present time to the conduct of Austria. Prince Metternich, the venerable Nestor of the Empire, is strongly opposed to Russia; and the influence of his age, his character, and his talents, is naturally great over the Princes of the House whom he has served so long. Count Buol and the more modern statesmen who surround the Emperor, participate in the views of Prince Metternich; and, sooner or later, there seems every reason to believe, Austria will take the part which becomes alike her interest and her honour. If Prussia follow, instead of leading, the Germanic movement, the discredit of previous vacillation will attach to the King, and not to the people of that country, and will be remembered against him by his own subjects. It would seem as if the Czar himself were wavering; and if Prussia and Austria, instead of being alarmed by the prospect of war, would boldly, and without hesitation, throw their influence into the scale against Russia, it is possible that, even now, the war would be averted. The mission of Prince Hohenzollern Sigmaringen to Paris, with the object of reconciling the French Government to the absolute neutrality of Prussia, is understood to have signally failed. A similar fate will follow the mission of General Groeben to London; and the Prussian Monarch will gain nothing by his efforts at isolation but present discredit and future peril. Baron Manteuffel, in the name of his Government, has promised that communications shall shortly be made to the Prussian Chamber in explanation of its policy. He has, in the meantime, declared "that the fleets about to enter the Baltic are those of Powers with which Prussia is on good terms, and at peace." It is not only the Prussians, but France and England that require a more explicit declaration.

Oxford Circuit.—The Lord Chancellor has appointed Mr. Russell, Q.C., to transact the remaining business of the Oxford Circuit, in the place of the late lamented Mr Justice Talfourd; and Mr. Gurney has appointed Mr. Ryland to act as his deputy in the Sheriffs' Court of London during his own necessary absence therefrom

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

ADMIRAL CORRY'S DEPARTURE FOR THE BALTIC.

Admiral Corry's flag-ship the *Neptune*, 120, and the *Bulldog*, 6, sailed from Spithead on Thursday for the Baltic; and the *St. George*, 120, with the *Desperate*, 8, left Plymouth Sound on Thursday evening for the same destination—the *St. George* sailing at Spithead to complete her crew.

Rear-Admiral Corry's departure from Spithead was honoured by the presence of her Majesty. Immediately on the *Fairy's* arriving within a couple of miles of the three-decker, the latter opened a Royal salute, which was taken up by the *Prince Regent*, 90, Captain Smith; *Boscawen*, 70, Captain Glanville; and *Frolic*, 16, Commander Nolloth. The *Neptune* and *Bulldog*, paddle-frigate, Captain W. H. Hall, then leaving through the squadron and receiving the homage of the crews in the *Prince Regent*, *Cæsar*, *Boscawen*, and *Frolic*, followed the huge *Neptune*, until outside the Nab, when another demonstration was made, the men clambering up to her trucks to shout again and again in vociferous loyalty.

Her Majesty and Prince Albert, from the deck of the *Fairy*, acknowledged Jack's enthusiastic loyalty, the Queen by waving her handkerchief, and the Prince his hat. Her Majesty, however, appeared unwilling to part company with the gallant crew, and proceeded with the noble ship a short distance outside the Nab, notwithstanding a fresh gale which was blowing, and the roughness of the water. A large war steamer appearing in the distance, her Majesty ordered the "demand signal" to be run up, and received in reply that it was the *Penelope*, a fine paddle-steamer from the coast of Africa. Her Majesty is fully conversant with the code of signals, and on board the Royal yachts not unfrequently takes that department under her own management, selecting and reading the signals with as much promptitude and accuracy as many of her own officers. Having ascertained the name of the *Penelope*, the *Fairy* were round, at a quarter to twelve, and for the third time the *Neptune* manned her rigging, and gave a loud, a long, and an enthusiastic parting hurrah—her Majesty still lingering on the spot, as though reluctant to leave the good ship. Passing the *Bulldog*, which accompanied the *Neptune*, and the anchorage, on her way to Osborne, her Majesty inspected the rigging, and cheered her Majesty, who arrived at Osborne shortly before one o'clock. The *Neptune* and *Bulldog* will anchor in the Downs, and wait orders and despatches, when they will proceed to join the other portions of the fleet, either at Wingo Sound or Kiel Bay, a capacious harbour, with good anchorage, within the Belts, and on the eastern coast of Holstein, a short distance south of Schleswig.

GENERAL INSPECTION OF THE 19TH REGIMENT.

In obedience to orders received on Thursday evening from the Horse Guards, for a general inspection of the 19th Regiment of Foot, preparatory to embarkation to join the first division of the Expeditionary Army in the East, the garrison of the Tower, consisting of the above-mentioned corps, and a company of the Royal Artillery, was under arms at nine o'clock yesterday morning, and a crowd of spectators assembled. On the arrival of Lieut.-General Turner, the Colonel-in-Chief, the regiment having formed line and presented arms, the band playing the National Anthem, the men were most minutely inspected, and subsequently went through the manual and platoon exercises, and such evolutions as the circumscribed nature of the ground would permit, with admirable precision. Close column of divisions having been formed, the General addressed the men in the most enthusiastic language, recommending them, when on active service, to persevere in the same line of conduct that they had hitherto pursued. Lieut.-Colonel Unett, the several captains of companies, and Lieut. Burne, adjutant, were highly complimented on the discipline and fine appearance of the men. Line having been again formed, and a general salute given, the General withdrew.

THE CZAR'S DECISION.

Rumours were current at the Paris Bourse on Thursday that a telegraphic despatch had been received from Berlin, announcing the refusal of the Czar to accept the *ultimatum* addressed to him by the Western Powers. The announcement is incorrect. The messenger who carried the *ultimatum* to St. Petersburg could not have arrive there before Tuesday. If an answer be returned at all, it will probably not be given before the expiry of the six days, which will be Monday next; and it will take at least six days more to bring the substance of the answer from Berlin by telegraph to Paris. In that case we cannot expect to have any positive information on the subject before the 26th of the month.

THE FRENCH PREPARATIONS.

Some surprise is expressed in Paris at the apparent inaction of the French Government as to the embarkation of the army of the East, but it appears that the delay has been one of necessity. The necessary number of vessels could not be collected so soon as could have been wished, and there was a deficiency of coal for the steamers. A great number of officers, however, have already embarked, and must have arrived at Constantinople. Marshal de Saint Arnaud is in the country endeavouring to recruit his health, and will, it is said, wait to accompany Lord Raglan and the Duke of Cambridge, who are expected daily at the Tuileries, where apartments are prepared for them on the ground floor.

SWEDISH PREPARATIONS.

A despatch from Stockholm, of March 7, announces that the Swedish Government has ordered the fitting-out of seven line-of-battle ships, with crews amounting to 2807 men. Prince Oscar had gone to Carlskrona, to visit the fleet. Two camps are to be formed, one at Carlskrona, and the other to the north of the capital. The garrison of the island of Gothland, inclusive of the local militia, is to amount to 16,000 men.

THE MINISTERIAL CRISIS IN DENMARK.

A telegraphic despatch from Copenhagen announces that in the evening sitting of the 13th last. the Danish Chambers adopted, almost unanimously, the address to the King, presented on the 11th, requesting his Majesty to maintain the Constitution and dismiss his present Ministers.

THE GREEK INSURRECTION.

The French and English Ambassadors had an audience of King Otho on the 3rd, and communicated to him their instructions; at the same time promising assistance in case the insurgents should foment disturbances in the Greek territory. The King engaged to observe a strict neutrality, and expressed a hope that there would be no necessity for aid.

The latest intelligence from Athens comes down to the 9th. The first sortie of the Turkish garrison at Arta was repulsed by the insurgents. A second was carried to the Greek territory, where it was stopped by the Royal troops.

Lieut.-Colonel Mundy has been appointed Military Assistant Under-Secretary to the Secretary of State for War and the Colonies.

Pirates off the Sea of Marmora.—Advices from Umea, dated Feb. 20, state that the *Hedwig Sofie*, Larsen, from Limerick, which arrived at Constantinople Jan. 13, was hailed by a pirate on Jan. 12 off the Sea of Marmora, which, under the plea of obtaining a supply of water, ranged up alongside, but finding the crew armed, and ready to defend themselves, sheered off again.

Reform Meeting at Birmingham.—On Thursday evening a meeting, convened by J. Baldwin, Esq., Mayor, was held in the Town-hall, for the purpose of considering the new Reform Bill. The Mayor took the chair, there being on the platform the following gentlemen:—W. Scholefield, Esq., M.P.; W. Matthews, Esq.; P. H. Muntz, Esq.; &c. The following resolution was carried:—"That this meeting urges upon the Government, in the most emphatic manner, not to abandon the bill, but to persevere to the utmost in carrying it through both Houses of Parliament during the present Session." Resolutions of a similar nature have been passed by public meetings at Yarmouth and Maidstone.

South-Eastern Railway.—On Thursday the half-yearly meeting of this company was held, at the Bridge house Hotel: Mr James Macgregor, M.P., in the chair; when the report of the Directors was adopted, and a dividend of 12s. per share declared. In consequence of the expression of the opinion of the shareholders by their proxies, the retiring directors declined to offer themselves for re election, and Sir John Campbell, Mr. Matthew Forster, and Mr. Seymour Teulon were elected; the Bromley Branch Extension, and other disputed questions, being reserved for the consideration of the new board.

THE COURT.

The past week has been rendered memorable by her Majesty's visit to the Fleet at Spithead preparatory to its departure for the Baltic. The Queen and the Prince Consort, with the Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred, the Princess Royal, and Princess Alice, attended by the Ladies and Gentlemen in Waiting, embarked on board the Royal yacht *Fairy*, at a quarter past twelve o'clock on Saturday, for the purpose of inspecting the Baltic fleet at Spithead. Sir James Graham, First Lord of the Admiralty, and Vice-Admiral Sir Thomas Cochrane, also embarked in the *Fairy*, and had the honour of attending her Majesty. A Royal salute having been fired from the ships on the Queen's approach, signal was made for Vice-Admiral Sir Charles Napier, Commander-in-Chief, and all the Rear-Admirals and Captains, to come on board the Royal yacht, where they severally had the honour of being presented to the Queen by Sir James Graham. On their return to their ships—the order having been given to weigh in succession—each ship sailed past the Royal yacht, which had proceeded towards the Nab Light, manning their rigging and cheering as they passed. The Queen returned to Osborne at a quarter before five o'clock.

On Sunday the Queen and Prince, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, and Princess Alice, attended Divine service, at Osborne. The Rev. G. Protheroe officiated.

On Monday the Queen and Prince, accompanied by the Princess Helena and Princess Louise, drove out in an open carriage.

On Tuesday the Queen gave audiences to the Earl of Clarendon, the Prussian Minister, and the Count de Groeben, who has arrived in the country on a special mission from the Court of Berlin. The party had the honour of dining with her Majesty.

The Countess of Mount-Edgcumbe has succeeded the Viscountess Jocelyn as Lady in Waiting.

The Duchess of Gloucester.—We are happy to announce that her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester is better. The Duchess of Kent paid a visit to her Royal Highness on Thursday afternoon.

His Serene Highness Prince Leopold of Saxe Coburg left town, on Friday the 10th instant, for the Continent.

The Marquis of Anglesea continues to improve in health. His Lordship took a drive in the Parks, on Sunday, with his daughter, the Viscountess Sydney.

Lord William Paulett, and Major the Hon. J. Macdonald, will be on the staff of his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, with the army destined for the East.

On Wednesday evening the Earl of Clarendon, Foreign Secretary gave a grand banquet, of a farewell nature, to his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, Lord Raglan, the Earl of Cardigan, and other members of the staff destined for the East. There were also assembled on this valedictory occasion his Excellency the French Ambassador and his Countess Walewski, the Duchess of Sutherland, the Countess of Newburgh, the Earl and Countess of Bessborough, Lord Brougham, Lord Burghersh, Sir Hamilton and Lady Seymour, Major the Hon J. Macdonald and Mr. Norman Macdonald. The Countess subsequently held her first reception for the season, when a brilliant circle of the *corps diplomatique* and nobility assembled.

MUSIC.

The production of "Elijah," at St. Martin's Hall, on Wednesday evening, under the direction of Mr. Hullah, did the highest honour to his energy and ability—to his energy, in having been able, by his own unassisted efforts, to set on foot a series of choral concerts of such great magnitude and importance; and to his ability, in giving one of the finest performances of Mendelssohn's *chef d'œuvre* that have ever been heard in England. The chorus, numerous and powerful, was selected entirely from among the pupils of his own schools; and their admirable manner of singing, so correct, intelligent, and expressive, attested the merits of his system of tuition. The solo parts were ably sustained. Mr. Weiss supported the grand and lofty character of the Prophet, and sang the music with a magnificent voice, and the skill of a consummate artist. The other principal parts were sung by Mr. Augustus Braham, Mrs. Endersohn, Madame Weiss, and Miss Dolby. Mr. Braham, it appears to us, is pursuing well-directed energies; and is rapidly improving. He already possesses a precious gift—too rare among English vocalists—a distinct and emphatic elocution; and he seems to be getting rid of the mannerisms which have hitherto vitiated his style. Miss Dolby stands at the head of our English contraltos; and Mrs. Endersohn and Madame Weiss are both singers of great merit. The hall was crowded to the doors; and the audience were warm in their expressions of approbation.

An opera, called "Leonie," was produced at Drury-lane on Tuesday night. It possessed no dramatic merit, being a tedious development of a little plot. It called "Monsieur Jaques," brought out in an English dress some years ago, and now entirely spoiled by being spun out into an opera which occupied four hours in the performance. The music is by Mr. Duggan, a young composer who has shown considerable talent as a writer of songs and ballads; but is evidently unskilled in dramatic composition. The opera, however, had that sort of fictitious success which generally attends the first night of a new musical piece, and which misleads the uninitiated, but is perfectly understood by those who are at all conversant with theatres. The house was packed with friends and *claqueurs*, who applauded indiscriminately, forced upon the audience encore after encore, in spite of opposition; and enabled the manager next day to announce the piece as "the immense hit" and "great attractive success, when, in truth, it was a decided and palpable failure. How, indeed, could it be anything else, when, had the music been in itself ever so good, there is not a single individual worthy to be called a singer in the establishment? It is, after all, a short-sighted policy. It may draw two or three houses for the manager, and may "get out" a few copies of the songs at the music-shops; but it never does either author or manager any substantial good, while it does the public a great deal of harm, by increasing the obstacles to the establishment of a proper National Opera.

The Royal Italian Opera is to open on Tuesday week, the 28th of this month. Mr. Gye has returned from Paris, whither he went in order to make arrangements for the production of Meyerbeer's new opera, "L'Etoile du Nord," which we may expect in the course of the season.

Post-office London Directory.—The March edition of this work has just appeared: usually, it varies from this published at Christmas only in the addition of the supplemental names, and the reprinting of the postal and parliamentary port one. This year it has been necessary to re-print the entire work; and, although time has not admitted the re-arrangement of the whole, many very important alterations have been introduced. The Official, Parliamentary, and Postal Directories have been entirely re-compiled and corrected. The publishers have also made the experiment of distinguishing the different divisions of the work by various colours, in addition to printing the name with a dark line, showing to which division the name applies. We need scarcely add, that these emendations add considerably to the utility of the work.

The Late Marquis of Londonderry.—The mortal remains of the late Marquis of Londonderry were removed from Holderness House to the Terminus of the Great Northern Railway, on Monday night, en route to Wynyard, where they were to lie in state on Wednesday, preparatory to their interment on the following day at Long Newton. The body was conveyed in a hearse drawn by six horses; after which followed two mourning coaches and four, and about a dozen carriages, belonging to the relatives of the late Marquis.

The Preston Strike.—The attempt of the masters to supply the place of the men on strike by importing new hands has led to considerable exasperation in Preston, and the authorities have forbidden the holding of public meetings in the town, in consequence of some attempts to mob the imported operatives. The proclamation of the magistrates to this effect was added to by the following document. On Saturday last an immense gathering of Blackburn and Preston operatives took place near Hoghton Tower, half way between the two towns; and on Sunday a still larger meeting was held at the same place. Hymns were sung and speeches made in favour of the ten per cent. Mr. Cowell told the meeting on Sunday that, if the present struggle were successful, lock-outs would be put down for ever.

Captain Nolan, 15th Hussars, was summoned to town by telegraph last week, and immediately despatched to Constantinople on "particular service."

Royal Orthopedic Hospital.—On Thursday the fifteenth anniversary festival of this institution, established for the cure of club foot, lateral curvature of the spine, and other contractions and deformities, was celebrated at the London Tavern; Lord Robert Grosvenor, M.P., in the chair. It appeared, from the speech of the noble Lord, that during the past year 1705 in and out patients had been received; the number of in-patients being 72, of whom 58 had been discharged cured. There were now nearly 200 patients seeking admission, but the hospital was not sufficiently large for their accommodation. After some eloquent appeals to the company, a subscription was announced, amounting to upwards of £2000.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK, ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

THE author of "Jon" is no more. The able and kind-hearted Judge—who added grandeur to the law by his skill in literature, and added to the dignity of literature by his sympathy with its necessities and his skill in removing them—died in his robes of justice, on the beach, on Monday last. He could not have died better, had he died with what Milton calls his "singing robes" about him. We had the pleasure and honour of his acquaintance. His range of information was not, it is true, very large; and we suspect that, of late years, his reading was confined to his judicial necessities and to current literature; but he had been, in early life, an assiduous and an attentive reader; and what he had acquired thus early, he retained and employed with skill. His memory was great; and while, at one time, you suspected he was a better poet than lawyer, you were not long in finding out that he was as good a lawyer as poet; that he was subtle and large-minded with his wig on, and often a true poet (even in prose) when without it. Unlike Lord Chief Justice Jefferies, he had no rough side to his tongue; at least, if he had, unlike that monster, he never used it. In society he was esteemed by a very large circle of friends, whom he delighted to see about him. He was, we suspect, the first English judge who courted literary society. Lord Mansfield, who owed his early rise to his friendship with Pope, and who should have had a visible sympathy with authors, appears to have cared little about them: he preferred heads with horse-hair upon them to heads bound with the laurel—assigned alone to conquerors and poets.

As a poet Sir Thomas Talfourd will not hold a high place. His chances to remembrance rest on his play of "Jon," which, as it keeps, so is it also likely to retain, possession of the stage. The character of *Jon* is one which any young and aspiring actor will desire to appear in. The story, too, is good, and the interest well sustained throughout; while, in the level of its poetry, it never rises higher than Smith's "Phædra," Tenison's "Marianne," or Hughes's "Siege of Damascus." But Talfourd has other claims to remembrance than from one clever play. His friendship with Charles Lamb will lend an enduring interest to his name. His "Life of Lamb" is far from a good specimen of biography. His prose style is too ambitious, and he is apt to give an undue consequence to small matters. He does not treat a book like a picture. He is apt to put everything in the foreground. As an orator he was fervid and manly, often indulging in well-sustained outbursts of true eloquence. He was, however, frequently turgid and unaffecting, and, oddly enough, about matters which he understood the best. There are fine passages in his Copyright Speeches; and never, while there is a grain of gratitude among authors, will his name be unremembered among them for the leading part he took in restoring to literary men a portion of those rights of which they were robbed by an Act ostensibly for their benefit.

When Talfourd ascended the bench, he did not, like Blackstone, sing a farewell to the Muse. He courted her less frequently, but his heart was sensibly with her; and when he could escape from his arduous duties as a judge, he would sketch a scene or pen a stanza. His liking, and his unwillingness to acknowledge publicly such a liking, were well known to his friends, who would, however, at times tease him upon the subject; and one (the wittiest man alive), is known to have observed to him, on his repudiating all further intimacy with the Muse—"What! have you no more Ions (irons) in the fire?" The poet-judge was not too well pleased; for he is said to have been engaged, at the time, on another tragedy already in print, and designed by himself for publication a little after Easter. How little we can foresee events immediately near! The play (it is in Mr. Moxon's hands) will, we trust, be made public; it is wrong, with such a man, to suppress what the author himself thought worthy of publicity.

On the very day on which the author of the most successful tragedy of our day was taken so suddenly from among us, a new tragedy in five acts was produced for the first time at the Haymarket Theatre. Oddly enough, the tragedy (if it still lives) ends with a funeral, done in a style worthy of Mr. Banting, of St. James's-street. The circumstance has occasioned some good-natured remarks in theatrical circles, and one critic (celebrated for his want of moroseness) has been heard to compare the anonymous writer of the play with the Honourable James Howard, whose unhappy "United Kingdoms" suggested the "Two Kings of Brentford," and gave birth to the funeral so charmingly ridiculed in "The Rehearsal.' Mr. Howard be gan his play with a funeral—a bold stroke for a poet—but he was unable to "pit, box, and gallery it;" and, as it began with a funeral so it ended with one, for it died the first night. Such a beginning and such a fate were fine subjects for the pen of the Duke of Buckingham, and Mr Howard and his play are thus humorously introduced:—

Bayes: Gentlemen, because I would not have any two things alike in this play, the last act beginning with a witty scene of mirth, I make this to begin with a funeral.

Smith: And is that all your reason for it, Mr Bayes?

Bayes: No, sir; I have a precedent for it besides. A person of honour and a scholar, brought in his funeral just so; and he was one, let me tell you, that knew as well what belonged to a funeral as any man in England, I'gad.

If it were still the fashion to act "The Rehearsal" (and why it has dropped from the stage it is not easy to discover), the new tragedy at the Haymarket would hardly escape a hit or two; for it was usual with the actor who played *Bayes* to glance, often sarcastically, at the leading defects of recent pieces.

People who laugh at antiquaries (and there are many that deserve to be laughed at) are expressing a good-natured surprise at an official advertisement issued by the Society of Antiquaries announcing the discontinuance of its annual dinner. Here, it is said, is a society actually in existence to preserve old customs, setting an example of innovation only worthy of a Society of Moderns. "Surely," exclaims a hearty laugher at your Dryasdusts and Oldbucks, "the Society of Antiquaries was established for the maintenance of Guy Faux, and attendance at church on King Charles's martyrdom. Men born to preserve and illustrate customs should support and attend bull and bear-baitings; petition to re-transfer the Zoological Gardens to the Tower of London; and memorialise her Majesty to coin rose-nobles and two-guinea pieces. But here are men who should do these things actually abandoning the old English custom of a dinner on St. George's-day, held by their predecessors since the foundation of the society—now more than a century ago. The next step will be to turn the cocked-hat (the ensign of the society) into a Bread-street four-and-ninepenny silk." We shall see.

The private library of the deservedly well-known Mr. William Pickering, the publisher, passed this week under the hammer of the auctioneer. The scattering of a library, the formation of which had been the labour of a life, is always suggestive of serious thoughts. Mr. Pickering not only dealt in books, but he bought books for himself. He had his favourite authors, and loved to read them in the editions which they themselves had seen. Thus, he was curious about Milton, and Fuller, and Ken, and old Izaak Walton—and his shelves were rich in choice editions of their writings. Nor was he alone in his liking. There are many who share his taste. Fullers never sold so high before. Indeed, whatever was very good brought war prices. A fair copy of the first edition of "Paradise Lost," with Milton's name in it, (in some say) his own handwriting, sold for £13; but the autograph is at least questionable. The copy of the first edition of Milton's "Minor Poems" (1645), that belonged to Jonathan Richardson, the earliest enthusiast about our great epic poet, brought £6 6s. Some choice small pictures by Stothard (with which the sale concluded) realised good prices, and would have sold for more had they been shown to any advantage. We have seen since the sale the "Venus Rising from the Sea," which sold for £13. It looked worth more in the room it was sold in; but now, by the cheap aid of a little warm water and a silk handkerchief, it looks a little Raphael. The fortunate purchaser of this very choice Stothard was Mr. Murray, of Albemarle-street.

THE THEATRES.

HAYMARKET.

A new five-act play, entitled "Duchess Eleanour," was produced on Monday. It is the production of Mr. F. H. Chorley. The plot is sufficiently romantic, and, in some respects, even melodramatic; but the action is, nevertheless, languid. The heroine who gives name to the tragic business, has been a great actress, and is the *Duchess of Ferrara*. The *Duke* (Mr. W. Farren) makes, however, but an indifferent husband; and suspicions are afloat, to which one *Count Aleiard* (Mr. Howe) gives currency, that he had been pre-contracted to one *Lady Violet* (Mrs. S. Buckingham). Meanwhile, troubles begin to accumulate on the *Duchess*, naturally over-careful of appearances, and, indeed, herself of immaculate propriety. She is the daughter of an infamous father, who had hated her while he coined her talent into the means of supplying his own vices; but whom she believed to be dead. Wrecked he had been, but not lost; and now inconveniently appears as the *Incognito* (Mr. George Vandenhoff) to perplex her with his demands. Moreover, he appears to have been an old acquaintance of the *Duke's*, to whom he had sold another daughter as an intended wife, the very *Violet* aforesaid, who is, therefore, though unknown to her, *Eleanour's* sister. Fearful mistiness hangs over the action of the play, from the revelation of these and other particulars being withheld, until the deeds are done of which they form the proper motives. Mr. Chorley must be warned against this mode of construction—one more vicious it is impossible to adopt. None, besides, is more perilous. Intelligible motives and expectations are the mainsprings of dramatic success. The result of the circumstances we have detailed is, that the *Duke* is slain by the disreputable father, in the presence of his wife, who thus falls under the suspicion of the people; she is about to clear herself by means of the ordeal, when the murderer is himself brought in wounded to death. There is also another character, one *Bellotto*, a conjuring charlatan (Mr. Rogers), who had given asylum to the miscreant parent, and ultimately becomes his betrayer; but whose position, though somewhat prominent, we could not precisely understand.

The play was in parts much applauded; but the religious ceremonies of sepulture in the last act displeased some fastidious folk, whose sibilation was, however, properly discouraged. Miss Cushman well deserved the plaudits that she received, and at the conclusion of the play was called for. The appointments and scenery were costly and picturesque, and do the utmost credit to the management.

"Willikind and his Dinah" rendered so popular by Mr. Robson's singing of the doleful ballad, has been made into a pleasant burlesque by Mr. Sterling Coyne. Several scraps of the ballad are scattered through the piece, in dialogue and lyric illustration, both of which are ably supported by Mr. Buckstone, Miss Louisa Howard, and Mrs. Fitzwilliam. The performance was eminently successful.

LYCEUM.

Two new pieces have been added to the repertoire of this theatre: one for the introduction of a new actress, whose personal qualifications for the assumption of the brilliant heroines of the drawing-room are indisputable. The piece in which this lady appeared is called "The Charming Widow"—a slight adaptation of M. Alfred de Musset's comedy of "Un Caprice;" and Miss Talbot undertakes the conversion of the courteous husband (Mr. C. Mathews), whose *penchant* for purses made by herself is ingeniously corrected. Miss M Oliver, as the suffering wife, was touching. The second piece is of more elaborate structure, under the title of "Number One round the Corner." It is in two acts, and the production of Mr. William Brough, owing some little to a vaudeville by MM. Lefranc, Labiche, and Nyon, entitled, "En Manche de Chemise," but for the most part the work of the English adapter. "Number One" is a pawnbroker's office, whither *Mr. Flipper* (Mr. C. Mathews) takes a coat, not his own, and then applies the money received for it in the purchase of a pair of boots. The owner of the coat, *Mr. Nobler* (Mr. Roxby), gets possession both of the boots and the duplicate, and, in turn, selling the boots, raises the means of redeeming his garment, but is short of two pence for interest. Both parties, who are fellow-lodgers, afterwards meet; and an outrageous quarrel ensues for this small balance, neither of the parties having a farthing towards it. As both of them had, however, interchanged certain social charities during the period of their tenancy under the same roof, a reconciliation, and ultimately an explanation takes place. The motive for Flipper's anxiety to get a new pair of boots, vanishes, on discovering that *Nobler* is the person advertising a place worth five pounds a week for the consideration of twenty pounds, out of which he had hoped to dupe some expectant correspondent. Two characters like these, exactly fit Messrs Mathews and Roxby, and it is needless to add that the piece was triumphantly successful.

DRURY-LANE.

A piece, called a "new farce, entitled "My Cook and My Housekeeper," was produced here on Thursday week. It is merely another version of the little drama better known as "A Phenomenon in a Smock-frock." Mr. Belton takes the part formerly played by Mr. C. Mathews—in the character, however, of a bod-man instead of a milkman; and much dialogue has been added to the Housekeeper's *rôle*, supported by Miss Featherstone, who makes quite a feature of the character, and acts it admirably.

PRINCESS'.

A new farce, entitled "Away with Melancholy," was produced at this theatre, on Monday evening, preceded by the play of "Richard III." The house was densely crowded, and the noble acting of Mr. Charles Kean, in the part of *Richard* (without exception the finest performance on the modern stage), elicited the most enthusiastic applause. At the conclusion Mr. Kean was thrice called for, but did not respond to the call.

The new farce was of the broadest character, and was completely successful. The main humour of the piece consisted in the unaccountable forgetfulness of the air "Away with melancholy," by the hero *Windsor Brown* (a part admirably sustained by Mr. Fisher), who undertook to sing it as a signal at the door of a house, of whom he was enamoured. At the appointed moment he could have sung any tune in the world but that, and in his confusion of mind, he begun to hum the air of "Buffalo Gals." This by an unlucky *contretemps* brings out the wrong lady in the person of *Kitty Cobb* (Miss Daly), a pretty pastrycook, with whom he had previously had some flirtations, and with whom he by no means desired to renew his acquaintance. A whole scene of comical incidents are the result. The narration might be dry even if we could render it intelligible, but the performance was ludicrous in the extreme, and kept the house in a continual roar. The other characters were sustained by Mr. Meadows, as *Mr. Trimmer*, a rival claimant for the hand of the fair widow; whose rendering of the part was full of quaint humour and irresistible drollery; and by Miss Murray, who took the part of the heroine, and acquitted herself in a manner that greatly tended to the success of the piece.

SURREY HALL.—We were present, on Wednesday, at a reading of "Othello," by Mr. Adolphus Francis, and can speak of it in terms of commendation. The variations of voice distinguishing the characters were managed with apparent facility and certainly with effect. In other respects, the speeches were delivered judiciously, with occasionally power and skill, and sometimes with considerable passion. There is no much that is expressive in Mr. Francis's countenance, or imposing in his personal appearance, but he has the requisite qualifications of voice and judgment for the task he has undertaken.

HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS.—A novel entertainment, under the title of a Musical and Elocutionary Monody on "Life and Song," was repeated on Thursday, by Mr. Wrighton, who, both in its composition and execution, shows much originality and power. Like Rogers's poem on Human Life, it is poetical essay on the progress of man from the cradle upwards—treating of infancy, childhood, adolescence, matrimony, maturity, and, above all, of the delights of "Home, sweet home." The lyric illustrations of this interesting theme were well rendered; in the elocutionary part Mr. Wrighton was less happy: nevertheless, he won considerable and well merited applause.

WILLIS'S ROOMS.—On Wednesday Mr. J. H. Stocqueler delivered a lecture, on the war between Russia and Turkey, in which he proposed to depict its causes, progress, and prospects, and its probable influence on British interests. It is needless to say that the lecture was neatly composed and well delivered. It was, in fact, remarkable for the clearness of its historical details and its logical inferences. The manner of the lecturer was, moreover, as easy as his style was intelligible.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

The Queen has been pleased to signify her intention to confer the Order of the Garter, vacant by the death of the Marquis of Londonderry, upon the Earl of Ellesmere.

The Spanish Bishops have taken alarm at the turning and speaking tables. The Archbishop of Toledo has published a pastoral letter commanding the clergy and faithful to have nothing to do with them.

A general battle took place at Coimbra, during the Carnival, between the "town and gown" men, in which several were killed, and many wounded.

SIR Charles Hobart, the new Governor of Victoria, is to take his departure from England in the *Queen of the South*, which will carry the Australian mail of the 4th of April.

Rubini, the great tenor, died, a few days since, at Bergamo, in his fifty-ninth year.

The New Brunswick papers announce the death of the Rev. Dr. Gerdes, the oldest missionary connected with the Church of England in the British colonies.

M. Zalewski, a clerk of the Bank of Poland, and M. Pieffzinski, a Polish actor, have had their propery confiscated, in consequence of having gone abroad and joined the Democratic Polish Association.

The members of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce met on Tuesday, and passed resolutions against privateering.

The Professorship of Greek, King's College, Aberdeen, has become vacant by the death of Dr. Hugh Macpherson, who occupied it for fifty-seven years. The patronage is vested in the Senatus Academicus, but lapses to the Chancellor, Lord Aberdeen, should the Senatus fail to elect within thirty days from the date of the vacancy. The emoluments amount to about £600 per annum, with a free residence.

The Hon. R. Somerset, son of Lord Raglan, who holds an appointment at the Court of Hanover, has arrived from the Continent to leave of his noble and gallant father.

The American Clipper-ship *Red Jacket* was sold at Liverpool last week, for the sum of £30,000, the largest amount ever got for a ship in Liverpool.

George Walker, a shipbroker, was committed for trial at Liverpool, on Monday, charged by the Post-office authorities with having fraudulently obtained possession of a letter and money enclosure for the sum of £11 16s 10d.

The Rev. Hugh Fowler, of Bideford, North Devon, has been elected Head Master of the Gloucester College School, in the room of the Rev. Dr Evans, deceased.

The Hon. Henry Edward Stanley, son of Lord Stanley of Alderley, has gone to assume his duties as Secretary of Legation at the Court of the King of Greece.

At the French Opera-house, New Orleans, three persons were killed the other day, and upwards of fifty wounded, by the falling of the gallery.

The Bishop of St. David's has given thirty guineas to University College. The Council has also received offers of a rich case of fossils from Sir Roderick Impey Murchison, and of another valuable collection of fossils from Mr. G. B. Greenough.

A Liverpool, who had been an inmate of the Bethnal-green union workhouse for the last twenty years, died a few days ago at the advanced age of 104.

The number of American vessels engaged in the fisheries is 3160; British, 3715; French, 580. The capital invested is—American, 8,880,018 dollars; British, 8,900,175 dollars; French, 1,255,000 dollars. While the value of the annual products is—American, 4,018,030 dollars; British, 5,650,000 dollars; French, 1,849,000 dollars.

The long-pending appeal of the Mayor and Corporation of London *versus* Combe, Delafield, and Company, after nearly a quarter of a century's litigation, was brought to a close on Tuesday, the Corporation having undertaken to withdraw the appeal and defray the costs.

The Duke of Cambridge has consented to be put in nomination to fill the vacant office of President of Christ's Hospital. The Lord Mayor is also a candidate.

The paper manufacturers of Holland have memorialised the Government against the exportation of rags free of duty, on the ground that such a course would completely ruin their business, by making paper so dear as to forbid competition with other states.

Her Royal Highness the Infanta Isabella Ferdinand Bourbon of Spain, gave birth, at Brussels, on Tuesday, to a Prince, who has received the names of Charles Frederic Augustus Leopold Melchior Wladislas. His godmother is her Royal Highness the Princess Mary Amelia of Saxe, daughter of the late King Maximilian: his godfather, his Royal Highness Duke Charles II. of Bourbon, Infante of Spain, Duke of Lucca and Parma.

Mr. James Heywood, teacher of chemistry at the Wesleyan College, Sheffield, while preparing for a lecture, last week, accidentally inhaled the breaking of a large bottle of sulphuric acid, the fumes of which he inhaled, that he died next morning.

When the proposed copyright treaty between Great Britain and the United States comes on for discussion in the American Senate, Mr. Everett will propose a clause limiting the benefit of the treaty to such British works as shall be reprinted in America by their authors.

The *Times* publishes a letter from Dr. Cullen, of Dublin, announcing that he has remitted to the editor the sum of 3,000*l.* for the benefit of the Archbishop of Friburg and his clergy.

Whilst Mr. Justice Cresswell was "administering justice" in the Crown Court, at Durham, last week, some audacious scoundrel actually entered his Lordship's retiring-room, immediately behind the bench, and carried off his luncheon!

On the 1st April, and thenceforward, increased facilities will be afforded in procuring money orders and obtaining payment of them, when such payment is to be made through a bank.

The King of Prussia has presented the convent of Einsiedlen with a splendid bound copy of the "Monumenta Coleranæ," a work well known to the learned world. The founder of the convent, the pious Meinrod, in the ninth century, was an ancestor of the house of Hohenzollern.

The archiepiscopal see of Pisa having lately become vacant, the Pope and the Grand Duke named to it Cardinal Corsi, a Florentine of noble family. The Cardinal has declared that he will not assume his functions until the Ecclesiastical Courts, abolished by the Leopoldine laws a century ago, are re-established.

The Newfoundland House of Assembly has refused to transact any business whatever, until they are put in possession of the views of the Colonial Secretary on the subject of responsible government, in reply to the memorial recently submitted to him.

In consequence of the indifferent harvests of the last five years, and the slow arrival of foreign corn, great distress prevails in many of the Swiss cantons. At Berne, it has been found necessary to augment the number of cheap soup establishments.

The progress of railways in Virginia has lately been so rapid that the Board of Works has recorded its opinion that "the lines now in progress and projected are fully sufficient, for the present, to engage the energies and consume all the available means of the State."

It is proposed in Manchester that any one who likes to turn "jarvey" may do so, obliging him, however, to have painted upon his coach, in legible characters, what he will run for per mile, and to that he must adhere.

The demands at the Royal Mint for supplies of the new copper coinage during the last fortnight have been so great, that the quantity they have received from Birmingham (50 tons), as the first portion of the contract with the Master of the Mint, is now nearly exhausted, and much difficulty is experienced in obtaining to the amount of even a few hundred of pounds worth.

The Archbishop of Armagh has declined to join the Dublin Protestant Association.

The mansion-house and garden of Croft-an-Righ, once the property of the Regent Murray, have just been purchased by her Majesty's Board of Works, in the view of contemplated improvements on the grounds of Holyrood Palace.

Three thousand five hundred pounds have already been subscribed for the benefit of the passengers by the *Tayleur*.

Mr. Henry Drummond, M.P., in a pamphlet just published, called the "Fate of Christendom," proclaims the end of the world to be immediately at hand.

The Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway Company have made arrangements for two steamers to run weekly between Grimsby and Hamburg, and the like number from Grimsby to Rotterdam.

At the meeting of the directors of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures, last week, five small specimens of coal, recently discovered in Natal, were exhibited.

It is computed that during the last ten days an aggregate amount of *upwards of one million sterling* in gold has been withdrawn from the Bank of England, in consequence of the drain of bullion to the Continent.

The well-known and wealthy Prince Demidoff lately gave a grand fancy ball at Florence, to the society of that place. The lights were scarcely extinguished, when he received a summary order to return immediately to Russia.

The Town council of Bury St. Edmund's, Suffolk, have selected the plans of Messrs. Bidlake and Lovatt, of Wolverhampton, for the new Provision market to be erected in that town.

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

PUNISHMENT OF THE BASHI-BOZOUKS.

We now engrave the Sketches received from Kalafat, with the letter of our Special Correspondent, which we inserted in our Journal of last week, rather than delay its intelligence until the completion of the Engravings. The first incident illustrated is

MILITARY PUNISHMENT,

wherein the Captain Yacoub Aga is punishing on the field one of the bashi-bozouks (irregular cavalry) for cowardice, or misbehaviour before the enemy. The Captain is a Pole (now a Musulman), and is dressed

REGULAR CAVALRY.—LANCER.

like a Regular, except that he wears a blue shawl round his head; and, although attached to the regular army, has been intrusted with the command of a force of nearly 800 volunteers, called *bashi-bozouks*. This scene was witnessed by our Artist, upon one of the reconnoitring points before Kalafat. The culprit was ordered to alight from his horse, and to lie down on the side of a ditch, when the Captain took the offender's own sword, and, with the back of the blade, inflicted some twenty blows, as shown in the Illustration. The Captain then threw the sword as far as he could, whilst the offender was ordered to go and pick up the weapon, and make better use of it in future. The man was, however, deprived of his horse, and sent to the camp. This incident is more fully described in our Correspondent's last letter. In the background of the Sketch bozouks are galloping, and in the far distance may be seen Cossacks, and masses of columns of infantry, with rising smoke; as the Russians have always their artillery in their sorties. The country is the plain before Kalafat, the Danube being hidden by the hills on the left. On the right, in the extreme distance, are the steeple of the church of the village of Foyana, and the advancing Russian outposts.

TURKISH CONVOY.

This Scene was sketched on the barren hills between Rustchuk and Widdin. The convoy are proceeding to the seat of war; foremost in the line advancing between the hills, are cars drawn by two and four bullocks. The officer is mounted on a horse; but the persons in the cars and on foot are mostly Bulgarian peasants, wearing black and white caps, large trousers, and white woollen wrappers tied round their legs.

KALAFAT.

The large Sketch in the centre is a view of the interior of the intrenchments at Kalafat, on the left bank of the Danube, facing Widdin. In

KALAFAT, WIT

REGULAR CAVALRY.—SQUADRON OF CARABINIERS.

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

TURKISH CONVOY PROCEEDING TO THE SEAT OF WAR.

the horizon, are the snow-capped Balkans; in the middle the line of intrenchment is broken, but protected by a semicircular parapet, there being an open passage, right and left, through one of which a column of Lancers is advancing; the head being already within the intrenchment; while a column of irregulars (bashi-bozouks) is defiling on the left. The heads of horses and men rise above the conical roofs of the *zemliks*, or underground huts, which serve as barracks for the garrison. Inside the parapets are soldiers, placed at two feet distance, and arms are piled. Each bastion has three cannons, and in a cavity behind each are two artillery waggons. In the foreground is the cart of a water-carrier.

ENT.

REGULAR CAVALRY.

In the lower Illustration on the left hand, and the smaller one above it, are portrayed specimens of the Turkish regular cavalry; the single figure is a Lancer, and the squadron beneath are Carabiniers. The mounted figure in the middle is Yacoub Aga, the Polish officer commanding the bashi-bozouks, who is shown dismounted in the first Sketch.

Each regiment of the Regular Cavalry (of French formation) is composed of four squadrons or four troops of 24 men; in all, officers, trumpeters, &c., some 120. The men wear a sort of tunic, with three rows of buttons, and lace like Hussars. Over the tunic they wear a coarse dark grey cloth great-coat, with a hood; they have coarse woollen leggings, or gaiters (sometimes rags tied up with common rope), over which are pulled their boots. The officers wear a blue frock-coat, with fur collar and cuffs; and large boots like our leather hunting leggings. Over the hind-quarters of the horses are coarse woollen cloths, or blankets.

PRESENTATION OF OFFICERS.

The lower right-hand Illustration is a rude picture of military state—a sort of out-door levee upon the plains of Kalafat—held by Achmet Pacha, the General-in-Chief of the garrison. Two Piedmontese

YACOUB AGA (POLISH OFFICER) COMMANDING THE IRREGULARS.

officers are being presented to the Pacha, beside whom stand our Artist and his two fellow travellers, introduced in his interview with Omer Pacha. Immediately to the left of Achmet is the Correspondent of a London morning journal. Around are the aides-de-camp of the General. On the right is the hut, or cabin, of the Pacha, his charger, and his black servant. In the middle distance are tents; and on the left is a hay-rick, with soldiers, and a waggon loaded with hay.

PIEDMONTESE OFFICERS PRESENTED TO ACHMET PACHA, BEFORE HIS HUT, AT KALAFAT.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

THE RUSSIAN MANIFESTO AND THE "TIMES" NEWSPAPER.

The Earl of DERBY referred to the document published in the *St. Petersburg Journal*, purporting to be an official answer from the Emperor of Russia to a speech of Lord John Russell in the House of Commons. It appeared from this document that, through unreserved communications made to Sir Hamilton Seymour, the British Government had no right to express the least surprise at the course pursued by Russia with respect to Turkey. The noble Earl referred to the comments made by a morning paper upon this document, and complained of the betrayal of State secrets, which could only be made by the Cabinet and the Sovereign. The noble Earl at the head of the Government might disclaim all connection with the paper referred to, but not all his disclaimers would persuade any man of common sense that Cabinet secrets could be published without some person or persons having betrayed them. The *Times* said that the representations of the Emperor of Russia were met by an indignant refusal on the part of the Government, and that Lord John Russell's answer to the Russian overture would give him no dishonour How had this newspaper become possessed of the nature of this answer? The *Times* also referred to another circumstance. It stated that when the Emperor of Russia visited this country (the noble Earl being then Foreign Secretary), he had attempted to gain over this country to his designs. Under these circumstances, he wished to put two questions to the Government—first, whether they would lay on the table the whole of the correspondence, confidential though it might be, which preceded the refusal to be challenged by Russia; and, next, whether there was any authority for the statement that there had been similar communications made in 1844, when the Emperor of Russia was in this country?

The Earl of ABERDEEN said the question raised by the noble Earl was one of considerable interest and importance. The correspondence referred to had not been printed in the papers laid on the table, in consequence of its character. The Government did not think it proper, consistent with that respect and delicacy, which they were bound to preserve towards a Sovereign with whom they were still in alliance, to produce papers which had the character described by the noble Earl. There appeared, however, to be no reluctance on the part of the Russian Government to the publication of the correspondence, and therefore her Majesty's Government were relieved from all anxiety upon the subject. Not only this; he begged to say, that, if no reference had been made to it at all, her Majesty's Government would have felt it their duty to lay it upon the table. Reference had been made to the hasty comment made by the *Times* upon the document published by the *St. Petersburg Journal*. Until that very morning he had not seen the comments; and neither directly nor indirectly had he the remotest conception of their origin He was perfectly ignorant of the source from which they were derived; nor could he conjecture, unless it might be from a clerk in the Foreign-office, appointed by the noble Earl who was no longer in that department. With regard to the second question, he had to say it was true that when the Emperor of Russia was in this country, he had some verbal communications with the Duke of Wellington—and he believed, but was not sure, with Sir R. Peel—on the subject of Turkey. These communications had been put in the form of a memorandum by Count Nesselrode. He had not seen this document for the last ten years, and was not prepared to say whether it would be produced; but he would ascertain

The Earl of MALMESBURY complained of the assertion that he had appointed the party who might be supposed to have betrayed confidence. Was the noble Earl quite sure that he was correctly informed? He wished to know whether the noble Earl would name the party.

The Earl of ABERDEEN said he did not know it.

The Earl of DERBY contended that the name of the party ought, under the circumstances, to be disclosed.

Earl GREY complained of offic al information having been published through the newspapers before being communicated to Parliament. He did not consider the explanation satisfactory, though of course he placed every reliance upon the assurances of the noble Earl, that he knew nothing of the case referred to.

After a few words from the Earl of Ellenborough and Earl Fitzwilliam, the Earl of MALMESBURY said he had not received the satisfaction which he expected at the hands of the noble Earl. He had made only three or four junior appointments whilst he held the seals of the Foreign-office, and unless the names were mentioned, the stigma of the accusation would remain upon all the department.

After a few words from the Earl of GLENGALL, the subject dropped.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

THE DINNER AT THE REFORM CLUB.

Mr. F. FRENCH referred to the report in the *Times*, of the 8th inst., of a public dinner given to Sir Charles Napier, the previous evening, at the Reform Club, at which the First Lord of the Admiralty gave Sir Charles Napier liberty to declare war when he entered the Baltic. He wished to know by what authority the right honourable Baronet had delegated that power to Sir Charles Napier?

Sir J. GRAHAM: Although not altogether disposed to admit the right of the hon. gentleman to put a question to me with respect to what passed after dinner—(Loud laughter)—I have no objection (Renewed laughter)—it might not, perhaps, be thought respectful to this House if I should not give some answer to his inquiry. I have to state, therefore, to the hon. gentleman that, with respect to the authority given by me, as alleged in the report to which he refers, Sir C. Napier had observed that he hoped that, before entering the Baltic, he might have authority to declare war. I, following him, said that, when he entered the Baltic, I hoped there would be no difficulty on his part in declaring war. At present there is no declaration of war, nor has any order been given to Sir Charles Napier to enter the Baltic; but when war is declared, the proper explanation will be given to the House (Cheers).

Mr. BRIGHT rose amid a scene of some confusion, and said that, lest he might be out of order, he should move the adjournment of the House. He was not satisfied with the way in which the right hon. gentleman had disposed of the question by speaking of "after dinner" speeches. But there was another and more important connection with this question, which affected the Government as a Government. The projected dinner at the Mansion-house, to distinguished officers of both services, had been put off in consequence of an intimation from authority—either from the Cabinet, or from the head of the Government—that he (Mr. Bright) had been much pleased thereby. The dinner at the Mansion-house accordingly did not take place, but the dinner at the Reform Club "came off" He did not want the Government to put an end to dinners at the Reform Club; dinners celebrated for their gaiety; and as in that House, so, too, in clubs—many members found the preparing for their dinner, and the eating of it, the chief object of their existence during the day (Loud laughter, and marks of disapprobation). But, although it was no part of the duty of the Government to put an end to dinners at the Reform Club, he should like to know by what parity of reasoning it could be shown that, if it were inexpedient to have a dinner at the Mansion-house, it was befitting that there should be one at the Reform Club, and that three Cabinet Ministers, and the Admiral who had been appointed to the command of the fleet, should be present at it (Hear, hear). He suspected that that House should one day have to ask who was the Minister at the head of affairs, and who were the Cabinet, and where were they to look for the Executive of this country (Laughter). He looked upon the case to which he was referring as affording evidence that there was some majority and minority in the Cabinet, and some difference of opinion upon this, as probably upon other important questions. He would not say anything of the good or bad taste of Ministers of the Crown in attending the dinner at the Reform Club. He could imagine, however, that, after Ministers had succeeded in bringing this nation to the verge of the precipice of war, they would not be very particular as to the means they took to stimulate and keep alive the passions of the public, in order that some blunders they had themselves committed, might, under the prevailing frenzy, be undiscovered (Sensation). It was understood that the noble Lord the member for the City of London had been invited, if not to preside, at least to attend, at the dinner, but that noble Lord who, through the many changes, reverses, and vicissitudes of his career, had generally managed to show that he had some respect for his dignity and character, was supposed to have declined the invitation. The noble Lord, the member for Tiverton, was chairman on the occasion He (Mr. Bright) would not go into an inquiry whether the noble Lord should have been chairman or not, but he could not help contrasting the language which the noble Lord used when he talked of the "high minded sincerity," the "good faith," and the "honour" of a certain ruler abroad, with the language which the same noble Lord used not more than two years ago, when he sought to frighten this country by describing the imminent probability that 60,000 marauding Frenchmen would land upon the southern shores of England in the course of a single night. Another exhibition at the dinner gave him (Mr Bright) still more pain—that which was made by his right hon. friend the Chief Commissioner of Public Works. It was wonderful to observe what a change twelve months of official life made on a man (Laughter). Horace Walpole, remarking on the difference between the frankness of the language which members used in opposition with the tone of diplomatic insincerity which characterised their speech when transferred to the Treasury bench, said that the Ministerial language was the easiest of all languages, and that a man might learn it in a week. The right hon. Baronet (Sir W. Molesworth) had taken some twelve or fifteen months to lose all taste for that principle of non-intervention upon which, in 1850, he gave a vote emphatically condemning the foreign policy of the noble Lord the member for Tiverton. He (Mr. Bright) had read the account of the proceedings with pain and humiliation. This war might be justifiable, or it might not; but whether justifiable or not, war was an awful thing to any nation which engaged in it. If war were not in itself a crime, it was the inevitable parent of innumerable crimes. Thousands of lives depended upon it, and the happiness of millions was involved in it. Was it right for his noble friend the member for Tiverton—was it becoming—to entertain the country with stories and jokes at a time like this? This was one of the greatest questions which could be discussed by a country or a Legislature, or undertaken by a Government, and the reckless levity which had been displayed with reference to it was, in his opinion, discreditable in the very last degree to the grave and responsible statesmen of a Christian nation (Laughter and partial applause.)

Lord PALMERSTON rose amid loud and general cheers, and said: The hon and reverend gentleman (Laughter)——

Mr. COBDEN rose to order. The noble Lord had used an expression which was not justified by the rules of the House. He (Mr. Cobden) believed that the noble Lord would not charge him with misinterpreting his meaning when he said that the noble Lord had used a word which was intended to be personally offensive—a word which the House would probably concur with him in regarding as flippant and uncalled-for.

Lord PALMERSTON: I will not quarrel with the hon. member for the West Riding as to words, but I was going to say, that as the hon. member for Manchester has been pleased to advert to the circumstance of my being chairman at the dinner to which he refers, and as he has been kind enough to express an opinion as to my conduct on that occasion, I deem it right to inform him that any opinion he may entertain either of me personally, or of my conduct, private or political, is to me a matter of perfect indifference (Loud cheers); and I feel persuaded that the opinion of the country with regard to me or my conduct will not be in any way influenced by anything he may think fit to say (Continued cheering). I meet his censure with perfect indifference and utter contempt (Loud cheers, and cries of "Oh!"). That may be Parliamentary or not—if not, I do not insist upon it (Laughter, and cheers.) He says he has felt the greatest pain in reading the proceedings which took place at that dinner. That pain arose, no doubt, from the manner in which the members of the Reform Club were pleased to testify their confidence in Sir Charles Napier, and their satisfaction at finding a distinguished member of his profession, who also happens to be a member of the club, selected for a most important post, at a period of great public emergency (Cheers). The hon. gentleman would, I dare say, read with great pain any manifestation of opinion on the part of any number of men tending in any degree to express the opinion that recourse to arms ought on any occasion to be resorted to, whatever may be the interest, or whatever the cause for which that resort might be made. I have no doubt that he sympathises with that respectable gentleman to whose pamphlet I felt it my duty, on a former occasion, to call the attention of the House, and I dare say he thinks that this country should submit to any degradation rather than have recourse to war. That is an opinion he is quite justified in maintaining. I do not dispute his right to hold such a doctrine, but he stands almost singly in that doctrine, with the great majority of the country against him. For my own part I felt very proud to be being invited by the Reform Club to preside on that occasion. I thought it an honour to preside at a dinner given to Sir C. Napier. The hon member for Manchester, however, thinks that these dinner arrangements must be Cabinet questions. Now, I can assure him that they are open questions—(Laughter)—and are not discussed in the Cabinet at all. But, although I confess that the speech of the hon. gentleman was not calculated to excite friendly feelings in my breast, I will only say that if he will get himself elected a member of the Reform Club (Laughter)——

An HON. MEMBER.—He is a member.

Lord PALMERSTON.—Oh, he is a member—a most unworthy one, I must say (Laughter). Well, if, being a member, he will fall into the humour of the Reform Club, and attend the next dinner that may be given in honour of a distinguished officer who has been selected for an important public service, we shall be happy to hear a speech from him, even though it may interrupt the conviviality of the evening (Loud laughter); and I am convinced that, whether he is in that state which he has complimented my right hon. friend (Sir James Graham) for not having been in (Laughter), or whether he is able to go through the festivities of the evening with the same clearness of tongue and intellect which he displays here, we shall be ready to discuss with him any question, public or private, of peace or war that may come to order; and I for one shall not think that he has disgraced himself by attending an entertainment which the club may think right to give to a distinguished officer, when it is about to depart on a service of the deepest national importance (Loud cheers).

Sir W. MOLESWORTH denied that he had changed his opinions on the subject of non intervention, as the hon. member for Manchester had endeavoured to show.

I never belonged to the hon. gentleman's school, nor do I acknowledge his guidance; for, although I admit him to be an able man, I believe he is full of illiberal and narrow-minded prejudices (Cheers from the Government and Opposition benches).

Mr. DISRAELI thought the matter had been taken up too seriously. It was quite a mistake to suppose that Ministers meant anything but the reverse of what they said; and therefore, when Sir Charles Napier was told that he would be at liberty to declare war whenever he entered the Baltic, this merely meant that Sir Charles would maintain peace, as it was well known that he never obeyed orders.

Mr. COBDEN expressed his willingness to indorse every word which Mr. Bright had uttered, both as regarded the charge brought against the honourable member for Sunderland, and the remarks on the dinner at the Reform Club. If there was one man in the world whom he would have expected to abstain from attending a dinner at the Reform Club on such an occasion, that man was the right honourable Baronet.

TIL.. "ST. PETERSBURG JOURNAL" AND "THE TIMES."

Mr. DISRAELI alluded to the statement made in a late article of the *Journal de St Petersbourg*, that confidential communications had taken place in the early part of last year, between the Emperor of Russia and the British Government, in which Lord John Russell then held the office of Foreign Secretary. And he wish to know from the noble Lord would consent to produce that correspondence, and also the communications asserted to have been made by the Emperor of Russia in the year 1844, during his visit to this country.

Lord J. RUSSELL said, with regard to the correspondence of last year, since its existence had been divulged by the *Journal de St. Petersburg*, there could no longer be any scruple as to producing it. It would, therefore, be laid on the table; and he hoped it would show that Ministers, while paying every respect to the Emperor of Russia, had rejected every suggestion made that tended to the dismemberment of Turkey. When the Emperor of Russia visited this country in 1844 he had held conversations with the Duke of Wellington, Sir R Peel, and the Earl of Aberdeen. The substance of these had been reduced to the form of a memorandum, of which Baron Brunnow, lately Russian Minister, admitted the correctness. He could not say positively whether this memorandum would be produced, it not having come under the view of the members of the Government.

THE INSURRECTION IN ALBANIA.

Mr. MONCKTON MILNES called the attention of the House to the circumstances of the Greek insurrection in Turkey, and expressed apprehensions that the most disastrous consequences would follow if it were permitted to be suppressed with unrestrained cruelty and violence. It was the duty of this country to endeavour, by mediation and every fair means, to put a stop to these calamities; and the appointment of a British Commissioner to watch the contest might be attended with the best effects.

Lord J. RUSSELL agreed very generally in the opinions expressed by the honourable gentleman. It was necessary for the British Government to discourage the insurrection, even whilst sympathising with the sufferings to which the Christian population of Turkey was often exposed

Mr RICH held it to be unquestionable that the measure we were giving to Turkey against the unjust aggressions of Russia, entitled us to make conditions in favour of the Christian population

Lord PALMERSTON was not disposed to rate too highly the danger to be apprehended from the Greek insurrection, which was well known to owe its origin rather to excitement and instigations from without than to national or religious enthusiasm.

Mr. GIBSON expressed alarm at the different versions of Ministerial policy given by the various members of the Government, and the indefinite responsibilities we were incurring in the East. He called for the production of the convention said to have been concluded between Great Britain, France, and Turkey.

THE INCOME TAX RESOLUTION.

The House having gone into Committee of Ways and Means, after some opposition, the resolution for doubling the income-tax was proposed *pro formâ*, the Chairman was ordered to report progress, and the further proceedings were postponed until Friday.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

CABINET SECRETS.—THE FOREIGN-OFFICE.

The Earl of MALMESBURY, referring to the complaint made on Monday of the publication of Cabinet secrets by the public journals, alluded to the statement of the noble Earl at the head of the Government, that it was very probable a clerk in the Foreign-office had scandalously betrayed his duty in this respect. The noble Earl added that this clerk had been appointed by himself. He (Lord Malmesbury) had since looked over his memoranda, and found that, during his tenure of office, he had appointed only four junior clerks. Three of those gentlemen were still in the Foreign-office; the fourth, therefore, was the only person to whom the noble Earl could have referred; but he had left the office six months ago, not compulsorily, but in consequence of his marriage with a lady of considerable fortune. Under these circumstances, he hoped the noble Earl would frankly say he had been mistaken when he said that this gentleman was the party who had communicated the nature of the correspondence to which allusion had been made to the *Times* newspaper. The editor of the *Times* had been called upon, and he had distinctly stated that he never received any communications whatever from the gentleman in question, and that he had no acquaintance with him.

The Earl of ABERDEEN said he was very desirous that this matter should rest upon the most accurate foundation It would be recollected that the noble Earl opposite (the Earl of Derby), when he introduced this subject, imagined that he (the Earl of Aberdeen) was the source from whence the information proceeded; and, in peremptorily rejecting this imputation, he had said it was possible the information might have been derived from a clerk in the Foreign office who had left the department. He had now to say that this gentleman knew of the existence of the correspondence, and he had talked of his knowledge of its nature without hesitation or concealment. If the gentleman, on being referred to, said he had not mentioned the existence of this correspondence and its nature, he (the Earl of Aberdeen) would confess he had been more deceived than any man ever was. He had, however, ascertained the fact from quarters which he could not doubt.

The Earl of MALMESBURY said it was very remarkable that the noble Earl was not in possession of this information on the previous night He thought the manner in which the charge had been made, and the way in which the noble Earl had closed it, reflected very little credit on their Lordships' house.

TESTAMENTARY JURISDICTION BILL.

Several petitions having been presented for and against the Testamentary Jurisdiction Bill,

The LORD CHANCELLOR moved the second reading of the measure, the details of which he recapitulated in a speech of considerable length. If the bill were read a second time, he proposed to have it referred to a select committee admitting that it had been framed in a hurry, and required some modifications to reduce it to working order.

Lord BROUGHAM offered many comments upon the measure, whose objects he approved; but hoped that some means would be found to avoid sacrificing the interests of the existing proctors.

After a short discussion, the bill was read a second time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

SUBSTITUTION OF DECLARATIONS FOR OATHS.

Mr. PEACOCKE very moved for leave to bring in a bill to substitute declarations for oaths. The object of the bill was to carry the principle of civil and religious liberty one step further, and the application of the measure would be to all cases in which oaths were now required.

Viscount PALMERSTON would not object to the introduction of the measure, but would reserve to the Government the power of dealing with it as they chose on the second reading. He could not consent to the abolition of testimony taken on oath in courts of justice.

After a few words from Mr. HUME and the ATTORNEY-GENERAL, the House divided, when there appeared For the motion, 109; against it, 108; majority in favour, 1.

HIGH TREASON.

Mr. WHITESIDE obtained leave to bring in a bill to assimilate the law and practice existing in cases of high treason in Ireland to the law and practice existing in cases of high treason in England.

DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY—CONVENTUAL INFLUENCE.

Mr. WHITESIDE moved for leave to bring in another bill, to secure to persons under religious vows the free exercise of their lawful rights in the disposal of their property. He was essential, he observed, to apply a remedy to the overbearing exercise of spiritual influence on the same principle as that which courts of equity applied to cases of undue influence of another character. He explained the grounds upon which these courts interfered in cases of guardian and ward, husband and wife, and other relations, where influence was presumed; and to the anticipated question, why it was necessary to interfere with deeds executed within the walls of a convent, he replied that the necessity arose from the difficulty of getting at evidence as to what took place within those walls He referred to cases of alienation of property where the alienor was denied the exercise of free will, and which demonstrated, he said, the necessity of his bill, showing that the practical working of the system placed persons in a worse position than before the Reformation, previous to which a nun was held to be civilly dead and incapable of making any transfer of property. The remedy proposed in his bill was by enacting that any deed, gift, &c., executed by any female who had been a religious vow, should be deemed to have been executed under the coercion of such vow and against her own free will, unless the contrary be proved before a judicial tribunal; thereby throwing the *onus probandi* upon those who obtained such deed, gift, &c.

Mr. G. H. MOORE opposed the motion, for this reason—that if the intention was to place nuns in the same situation as married women, the measure would be found completely nugatory.

Mr. J. O'CONNELL likewise opposed the introduction of such a bill, the preamble of which condemned establishments forming an important and useful part of the machinery of his church, while its principle was repugnant to the ordinary rules of jurisprudence, in requiring proof of a negative.

Mr. J. O'CONNELL characterised the bill as a wanton and mischievous measure, for which no case had been made out.

Mr. MALINS supported the motion, and justified the principles upon which the bill was based.

Mr. LUCAS said, upon the very showing of the advocates of this bill, the law, as it now stood, was practically effective for the object in view. Moreover, a committee was about to be nominated to inquire into the whole subject.

Lord PALMERSTON thought there was some force in the last objection; and although, upon principle, he was not disposed to object to the measure, yet he suggested that, if the bill was brought in, Mr. Whiteside should postpone the further stage until the committee had made a report.

Mr. WHITESIDE was ready to adopt this suggestion, and to refer the bill to that committee.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL could not convince himself that nuns were such passive instruments as Mr. Whiteside represented. If they were, it was undoubtedly the duty of the State to interfere, and the measure should go further. If there were abuses, he would not hesitate to set up a barrier against them; but, if Parliament did legislate, it should legislate effectually.

Mr. NAPIER and Mr. KINNAIRD made a few observations; and, the House having divided, the motion was carried by 68 against 40.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

PAYMENT OF WAGES.

Mr. C. FORSTER moved the second reading of the Payment of Wages Bill.

Mr. HUME opposed the bill. Since 1824, when the Combination Laws were done away with, the operatives had had nothing to complain of in the state of the law. The practice sought to be put down (the truck system) was purely local, and did not extend beyond a few counties.

Mr. CRAUFURD moved, as an amendment, the appointment of a select

committee to inquire into the laws affecting the relations of masters and workmen.

Mr. HEYWORTH seconded the amendment.

Mr. DRUMMOND supported the bill. The plea urged by Mr. Hume amounted to this—that the defrauded workmen were bad political economists, and that the robbery could not be helped. The question, therefore, came to be whether the Parliament or the rogues were the strongest.

Sir J. Walmsley, Mr. Booker, and Mr. H. Bruce, supported the bill.

Mr. BRIGHT opposed the bill, and omitted Mr. Booker with opposing truck shops, while he had, with all his might, maintained as long as he could the great national truck-shop, established by the landed interest for their exclusive benefit. He did not think there was any defect in the existing law which the workmen could not correct. He held it to be tyrannous to prohibit an ironmaster, or any other employer from keeping a shop for the sale of any article he chose. Any such proposal was tainted with protection.

Mr. FORSTER defended his bill, and quoted the opinion of Mr. Huskisson as a set-off to the opinion of Mr. Hume Should the principle of the measure be affirmed, he would agree to send it to a select committee

Lord STANLEY objected to the bill as unsound in principle, and unnecessary. Although passed into law, it would prove inoperative. Its supporters assumed that the workman was in the hands of the employer; but recent occurrences had shown that such was not the case. But, although he was, it did not follow that the proposed measure would mend the matter. The master's gain from the truck shop did not necessarily involve the workman's loss. The House must exercise the utmost delicacy in interfering further between workman and employer.

Mr. MOFFATT thought the appropriate description of the bill would be "protection to shopkeepers."

Mr. BOUVERIE spoke of the ill-will, discontent, and heart-burning, which the existing state of things created in the mining districts of Scotland. The present law was evaded, and the object of the proposed measure was the reasonable one of putting a stop to evasion.

Sir G. GREY did not concur in the propriety of several of the proposed enactments, although he thought that some correction of the existing act might be necessary.

On a division, the second reading was carried by 166 to 56.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

The following bills were read a second time, viz., the Coasting Trade Bill, the Mutiny Bill, the Commons Inclosure Bill, and the Highways (South Wales) Bill.

The Consolidated Fund (£8,000,000) Bill was read a third time, and passed.

The Testamentary Jurisdiction Bill was referred to a select committee. —Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

In reply to Mr. Disraeli, Lord J. RUSSELL stated that no new propositions had been submitted by Russia.

Mr. F. PEEL informed the House that the Colonial Office, in consequence of its having now acquainted with the conduct of Mr. Stoner in connexion with the Sligo election, would not confirm his appointment to the office of Judge in the colony of Victoria.

LAWS OF MORTMAIN.

Mr. HEADLAM asked for leave to bring in a bill to consolidate and amend the laws relating to mortmain, and to gifts for religious and charitable purposes.

Mr. HADFIELD seconded the motion.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL, on the part of the Government, said that he had no objection to the introduction of the measure.

After a few words from Mr. BOWYER, the motion was agreed to.

ENDOWED SCHOOLS.

Mr. A. FELLATT moved an address for the appointment of a Royal Commission of Inquiry into the state, average number of pupils, discipline, studies, and revenue, of endowed schools of England and Wales; also of the endowments for scholars, their number, and revenue; likewise of all bequests of libraries, and endowments for their support; the character, number, and condition of the books; the number of the librarians, and their salaries—with the view of increasing the educational, and other advantages, to the public in general

Lord J. RUSSELL said that the motion would lead to a very great expense, and to an interference with the proceedings of the Commission appointed last year. He thought that the Government should, before taking any further steps, ascertain what had been already done in the way of inquiry; and under these circumstances, he moved, as an amendment, the previous question.

Mr. BUME hoped his hon. friend would withdraw his motion, as the objects he had in view must necessarily come under the supervision of the Commission already appointed.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

The Earl of MALMESBURY called their Lordships' attention to the charge made by the Earl of Aberdeen against a gentleman who was formerly a clerk in the Foreign Office, of violation of duty, in disclosing some secret correspondence in that department; and read a letter from the young gentleman in question, denying in the most positive terms that he had ever been guilty of any breach of confidence.

The Earl of ABERDEEN expressed his deep regret at having cast the aspersion upon this gentleman; but said that, when he did so, he believed the charge to be well founded. He would furnish the noble Earl with the authorities he had for making the charge.

The Earl of DERBY thought that his noble friend ought to accept the explanation given by the Earl of Aberdeen, in respect to the matter. In such as it ought to prove most satisfactory to all parties. He, however, must complain of the manner in which some of the secrets of the Foreign office had been communicated to the *Times* newspaper; and referred, as an instance of such di closure, to the publication of the ultimatum sent by this country to Russia, which was published in the *Times* newspaper the second morning after the sitting of the Cabinet at which such ultimatum was agreed to.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE moved for copies of the late correspondence between her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and her Majesty's Consul at Riga, regarding the export of the produce of Russia belonging to her Majesty's subjects, and to the rights of neutrals in the event of war. The noble Marquis urged the importance of adopting measures to protect the rights of neutrals, many of which were connected with the mercantile institution of the country, and whose property had been paid for.

The Earl of CLARENDON said, that inasmuch as this country was connected with a great naval power, he could not state the exact course that would be taken in this respect; but the greatest liberality would be shown to the property of neutrals.

The motion was agreed to.

The Marine Mutiny Bill, and the Exchequer Bills (£1,750,000) Bill were severally read a second time.

The Coasting Trade Bill, and the Commons Inclosure Bill severally passed through Committee.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

Mr. T. DUNCOMBE asked Lord John Russell, in the event of war taking place, whether the purchase of Russian produce would become illegal and liable to seizure on its transit overland, viâ Konisberg, in England; or would Russian produce, purchased by the subjects of any neutral state, and re-purchased of them by English merchants, be illegal or liable to seizure on its transit from such neutral state to the port of London.

Lord J. RUSSELL said, if the goods were seized on the high seas, the question as to their liability would be one for the Admiralty. With respect to the transit overland he could not see how it would be liable to seizure.

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD.

Lord J. RUSSELL moved for leave to bring in a bill to make further provision for the good government and extension of the University of Oxford, and of the colleges therein. He said he had carefully considered the report of the Commissioners, who were favourable to the measure he was about to introduce, as was also his right hon. friend the member for the University (Mr. Gladstone). In considering the question, he proposed to take in their order the subjects which he had last year pointed out on the matter of education. Formerly the University itself took the lead in education, having no less than 300 halls for that purpose, but in more modern times the colleges took up the subject and the halls had become extinct. If, however, education was to be confined to those colleges, it was evident that it would be confined to certain branches of study to which they might have devoted themselves, instead of giving a useful and solid education. It appeared to him that they had an opportunity of combining the advantages of sound general education with those of the tutorial system There were two classes of persons for whom this educational system was required—those who were about to enter upon professions, and those who sought to obtain fellowships and scholarships. The restrictions applicable to the latter class excluded many of the most eminent scholars in the University, and should be removed. Rules should also be laid down, so that the revenues of the University should not only be sufficient for the liberal maintenance of the professors, fellows, and lecturers of the University, but should also be applicable to further and extend the extension of the objects of education. There were no objections to the present mode of distributing revenues. The only question being as to their better application for the purpose of rendering the University more efficient for the purposes for which it was established. Parliament had not only the right to apply those endowments to the best advantage in promoting education, but it was in fact its bounden duty to do so. In early times there were sums set aside by the colleges for lectures on divinity, natural and moral philosophy, &c.; but he had it on the authority of Dr. Routh, of Magdalen College, that in modern times there was only one lecture given on these subjects at the close of every term. This was not as it should be, for the students should have the means of acquiring a thorough knowledge of whatever they contemplated pursuing in after life. What he proposed was that, instead of the present Hebdomadal Board there should be a Hebdomadal Council consisting of twenty-four persons, to consist of the Vice-Chancellor and two Proctors—the Vice Chancellor of the preceding year, and the remainder to be elected by the teaching staff of the University. There should be six Heads of Houses elected, one to be named by the Chancellor of the University. There should be eight professors, six to be elected—one to be named by the Chancellor, and one a Professor of Divinity; and that the greater portion of the council would be elected by the resident congregation. He proposed also to abolish the oaths by which they bound themselves not to reveal or allow changes in the statutes of the University He al o proposed to give the power of opening private halls to any M.A. obtaining a license for that purpose from the Chancellor. With respect to the expenses of the University, however desirable it might be to check habits of expense upon the part of the pupils, he did not believe that it could be effected by the interference of Parliament. He proposed that a commission of five persons should be appointed, to have the power of approving any statutes which might be voluntarily made by the several colleges of the Universities; and, in the event of none such being made, the Commissioners should have the power, under certain restrictions, of enacting rules. After some further observations, the noble Lord concluded by making leave to introduce his bill.

Some discussion then took place, the tone of which was generally in approval of the measure.—The motion was agreed to.

On the motion for going into Committee of Ways and Means,

Mr. M. GIBSON moved an address to her Majesty, praying her Majesty to give special instructions to the officers commanding her Majesty's cruisers, in the event of war, to abstain from interfering with neutral vessels on account of any goods or property not contraband of war that may be considered therein; and praying her Majesty to direct her Ministers to consider the policy of entering into treaty stipulations with the United States of America, and any other foreign country willing to entertain the same, on the principle that free ships shall make free goods, and the neutral flag give neutrality to the cargo.

Lord J. RUSSELL said that the Government were waiting only to consult the Government of France upon the subject; and they hoped to make such an arrangement as would put the question regarding neutrals upon a clear and intelligible footing.

The House having gone into Committee of Ways and Means,

On the Income-tax resolution being proposed, Mr. HUME moved an amendment, the effect of which was to make the tax applicable to incomes as low as £60 a-year.

After a few observations from the Chancellor of the Exchequer against the amendment, and from Mr. DISRAELI against proceeding further at that late hour of the night, Mr. Hume withdrew his amendment.—Adjourned.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

MR. JUSTICE TALFOURD.

THE sudden death, on Monday last, of this eminent man—the distinguished orator, lawyer, and poet—has created the most painful sensation and the most poignant regret.

Few men of any period, placed in so elevated a position, have succeeded in securing so large a measure of personal regard as this eminent Judge. The most winning amiability was the marked feature of Sir Thomas Talfourd's character; and it may be truly said that the only pang he ever caused to his friends was by his untimely death.

Having, on a former occasion (No. 822), given a Portrait and full Memoir of the learned Judge, we will now subjoin only a brief statement of his career.

Thomas Noon Talfourd was born January 26th, 1795, at Reading, in Berkshire, where his father carried on the business of a brewer. His mother was the daughter of the Rev. Thomas Noon, a Dissenting minister; and, when at an age to be removed from her care, he was placed in the Reading Grammar-school, then under the superintendence of Dr. Valpy, no less celebrated for his classical acquirements than for the severity of his scholastic discipline. With such a master, a pupil like young Talfourd could hardly fail of making a great and early progress; and, accordingly, we soon find him in high favour with the stern Doctor, who, if he had little mercy for dulness or indolence, gave all encouragement to industry and talent. As he advanced in his studies, the young scholar began to show a marked predilection for literature, and in a short time had indited verses enough to fill a small volume, besides sending congratulatory rhymes to a newspaper upon Sir F. Burdett's liberation from the Tower.

When only eighteen years of age, our youthful student went to London for the purpose of studying the law, and placed himself under the eminent pleader, Chitty. He did not, however, fail to qualify the dryness of this new pursuit by occasional excursions into the haunts of the Muses, as well as by contributing largely to various periodicals.

In 1817 Mr. Talfourd began to practise special pleading on his own account, and in 1821 he was called to the bar by the Society of the Middle Temple, when he joined the Oxford Circuit and Berkshire sessions. Here a large round of valuable connections coming in aid of his natural talents, he quickly rose to the lead of the circuit; a post of honour he maintained against all competitors, although amongst them were many names of eminence.

In 1833 he applied for a silk gown, but, his request being denied, or delayed, he took the self of a serjeant. To make amends for this disappointment—if it were a disappointment—he was the same year elected member for his native town of Reading, where he sat continuously till 1841. He then retired from Parliament for a time; but, having been elected for Reading in 1846, he retained his seat till he was knighted, and made a Judge of the Common Pleas in 1848.

Such is a concise summary of the career of Mr. Justice Talfourd. As an orator, he was distinguished for elegance and fluency of diction. As a member of Parliament, his name will long be remembered in connection with two important statutes the one called the Custody of Infants Act, the other the Copyright Act of 1842; as a lawyer, he ornamented by his learning and virtue the Judicial Bench; as a poet, he has sealed his claims to public approval in the chaste and exquisitely poetic play of "Ion," a most perfect imitation of the ancient classic drama.

EDWARD DENISON, B.D., LORD BISHOP OF SALISBURY.

THIS prelate died on the 6th inst., aged 82. His Lordship was younger brother of the present John Evelyn Denison, Esq., of Ossington Hall, Notts, and second son of the late John Denison, Esq., M.P., of Ossington. He was born in 1801; received his education at Oriel College, Oxford; was elected a Fellow of Merton College in 1827; and was consecrated Bishop of Salisbury in 1837. He married first, in 1830, Louisa Mary, second daughter of the late Henry Ker Seymer, Esq., of Hanford, Dorsetshire, which lady died 22nd Sept., 1841; and, secondly, 10th July, 1845, Clementina, daughter of the Venerable Archdeacon Charles Baillie Hamilton.

SIR JAMES WYLIE, BART.

THIS venerable Baronet, for so long a time physician at the Russian Court, has just died at St. Petersburg.

Sir James, who was by birth a Scotchman, entered the Russian service in 1790, as senior surgeon in the Ekatsky Regiment; in 1798 he was appointed Physician to the Imperial Court, and, in that capacity, attended Paul I. in his travels to Moscow and Kazan. In 1799 he became Surgeon-in-Ordinary to the Emperor, and Physician to the Heir-apparent, the Grand Duke Alexander. In 1804 he formed the *status medicus* of the Medical Academy of St. Petersburg and Moscow, of which he was President thirty years. In 1806 he was made General Inspector of the Board of Health of the Army; and, in 1812, Director of the Medical Department of the Ministry of War. In 1814 he attained the rank of Physician-in-Ordinary to the Emperor Alexander, and was, at the period of his decease, Inspector-General of the Board of Health of the Russian army, Director of the Medical Department of the Imperial Court, and Actual Privy Councillor; Knight of the Order of St. Wladimir, of St. Alexander Newsky, of St. Anne, of the Red Eagle of Prussia, of Leopold of Austria, of the Legion of Honour, and of the Crown of Wurtemberg. He received from the Prince Regent (George IV.) the honour of knighthood at Ascot Heath races, in 1814, conferred by the command of the Emperor Alexander, and was created a Baronet, 2nd July, in the same year, at the request of the Emperor Alexander, on his departure from England.

Sir James, having no issue, is reported to have bequeathed the whole of his very large fortune to the Czar Nicholas.

THE PANOPTICON, IN LEICESTER-SQUARE.

THIS new "Institution for Scientific Exhibitions, and for Promoting Discoveries in Arts and Manufactures," was opened for private inspection yesterday, and on Thursday, and to-day is opened to the public. The building occupies a large space on the centre of the east side of Leicester-square, for many years a great focus of metropolitan exhibitions. The Panopticon, however, belongs to a higher class than the majority of the sights previously located in the Square. Of the exterior of the edifice we gave a view in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for Jan. 31, 1852. The style of the architecture is reputed Saracenic; and its minarets and horse-shoe arches are of that period of art; but its escutcheons, which are prominent features of the elevation, represent the most important branches of the arts and sciences, in the arms of their professors; in addition to the Royal arms, and the bearings of the Panopticon itself, with the motto, "Mente et manu." The site has, moreover, olden scientific repute; for, upon this spot, John Hunter collected his valuable museum, and in one of the adjoining houses was temporarily located "the National Repository," some four-and-twenty years since—this being the first "Polytechnic" Exhibition in the metropolis.

Having passed through the vestibule, which is pleasingly decorated with encaustic tiles and English alabaster, next is the internal porch, "strictly ornate Saracenic," and then we reach the Rotunda here Engraved. The centre is occupied with a magnificent fountain, and throughout the circle are two galleries, with ornate fronts, stalls, and richly decorated ceilings. The great central dome is radiant with gold and colour, and through the glass crown a circle of small stars, and a series of semicircular windows, the vast apartment is lighted. This room is about 97 feet in diameter, and the same in height, and the total inbreal area of the Hall and its recesses are about 500 000 feet, in addition to the space occupied by the boxes and the organ-gallery. At night it will be lighted by lamps of design in keeping with the character of the decorations. The fountain throws up a centre jet to the height of the dome, and eight minor jets, each 40 feet, converging to the centre; the water being obtained from an Artesian well 346 feet deep. The fountain is worked by a powerful pneumatic apparatus, aided by a steam-engine.

In the lower gallery is a Photographic Room, which may be reached by the staircases, or by an ascending carriage up a shaft. Around the Rotunda are the Laboratory and adjoining apparatus-rooms; and, descending, you reach the circular railway, engine-room, &c. North and south are Lecture-rooms. The ventilation and warming are by "Gurney's Warming Battery," which is described in the "Handbook" sold in the establishment. To the same source we refer the reader for the details of the apparatus to be exhibited here to illustrate diving; turning and planing, drilling and boring, the combustion of steel; aurora-borealis and thunder; pin-making and needle-making, and gas cookery; freezing mercury; the liquefaction and solidification of carbonic acid; ballooning under water; galvanism, magnetism, and the electric light; and a large collection of machinery, models, &c. In the first gallery is a "Royal stand" sumptuously fitted with scarlet and gold.

The east side of the Rotunda is filled from the first gallery with an organ, by Hill and Son, which state that it exceeds in tone and compass every other organ in the metropolis, and the organs of York and Birmingham. It consists of 4 manuals, each from C C to A in alto; and a pedal organ, from C C C to F, 30 notes. It contains 60 stops, 7 bellows, 10 composition pedals, 1 crescendo pedal, and 46,004 pipes. There are seven bellows, of different pressures of wind, *worked by steam*.

The scheme of the Panopticon promises much for the popular spread of science in its application to the arts and manufactures; to which are to be added the attractions of painting, sculpture, and music; and we shall be happy to record its success.

THE SOUTH METROPOLITAN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS AT SUTTON, SURREY.

IN a former volume, we gave a View of the large Pauper Schools erected near the Anerley Station on the London and Epsom Railway, and we now present a View of another of even greater extent, which is in progress of erection near Sutton, on the same line of railway.

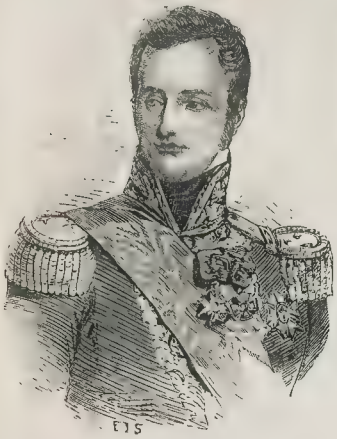
The act of Parliament under which Schools of this kind are constituted was passed some years ago, yet little progress in carrying out its provisions was made until recently—the City of London Union Schools, at Norwood, and the Forest Schools, at Leytonstone, having been the first in operation near the metropolis. They are for the maintenance, education, and industrial training of the pauper children appertaining to any particular parish or union of parishes, in a mode whereby it is decreed the much moral, physical, and economical advantage will be obtained by bringing the children together in an out-of-town locality, and under a special discipline, instead of rearing them within the confined walls of an ordinary workhouse, where the means of suitable education are limited and imperfect, and where also the demoralising influences and associations are very great. The new system embraces the occupation of several acres of land, upon which the elder boys are made to work at spade labour, and at farming and other manual operations, thereby invigorating their constitutions, and at the same time raising a considerable produce for the support of the establishment; and the results already experienced create increased confidence in the ultimate success of the method.

The Schools at Sutton are erected for a district comprising ten parishes, and are designed for the reception of 1000 children in three classes—of girls, boys, and infants; each class being in a distinct arm of the building, and having, also, a separate playground. The apartments of the governor and matron, the committee-room, and other offices connected with the chief supervision, are in the centre. Behind the governing department, and in the middle of the whole range of buildings, is the centralling department—comprising the dining-hall (126 feet by 33 feet), the kitchen and its various offices, and store-rooms, and the bakehouse; also a boiler-house, in which will be produced hot water and steam for cooking, warming, washing, and for working a steam-engine to pump water from a well into tanks placed over the large staircases above the level of every floor in the building. The wash-houses and laundry are near at hand on one side of the kitchen yard, and on the other side are carpenters', tailors', and shoemakers' workshops. The schools, dayrooms, and dormitories, occupy the long arms extending each way from the centre. The infirmary is a detached building in the rear. The homestead for farming, between fifty and sixty acres, has not yet been commenced; and, moreover the extreme ends of the building have been for the present omitted. The extreme length of the building will be 580 feet, and the depth from front to back 370 feet, and its situation is upon a fine bank of elevated ground with a chalky subsoil. The architect is Mr. Edwin Nash, of London, and the design was selected in competition in 1850.

ADMIRAL ROUSSIN.

THIS distinguished officer, who has just been snatched away from that branch of the service upon which he has shed so much lustre, was born at Dijon on the 81st of April, 1781. When only twelve years old, he entered the service as cabin-boy, on board the *Républicaine*. At that early age his education was necessarily imperfect; but he fortunately possessed a desire to learn, and, by steady application, he soon made up for his previous deficiency. At the age of twenty he obtained the degree of aspirant of the first class, in which capacity he took part in several expeditions. In 1803, having been raised to the rank of Ensign, he was attached to the division of Admiral Linois, then ordered to India and China, where France and England were so frequently brought into collision from that time up to 1810. The young Ensign distinguished himself personally in five engagements while there, and was soon after appointed second in command of the corvette *Jena*, of fourteen guns. With that vessel he encountered an English frigate,

La Modeste, of forty-four guns, and was made prisoner on the coast of Bengal after a defence so heroic as to be deemed a triumph. The English are said to have been so struck with the bravery displayed by the officers and crew of the *Jena* that they actually lodged them in the Governor's palace at Calcutta, as a mark of their esteem. An exchange of prisoners took place soon afterwards, and Lieutenant Roussin went to the Mauritius, where he was again appointed second in command on board the *Minerve*. Under Admiral Duperre, he took part in the engagement with a division of the English fleet, at Grand Port, Mauritius, which lasted three days; and at the conclusion of it was named captain of the frigate. On the capitulation of the Mauritius he returned to France; and in 1812, having been appointed to the command of the frigate *Gloire*, he showed his bravery and skill on several occasions.

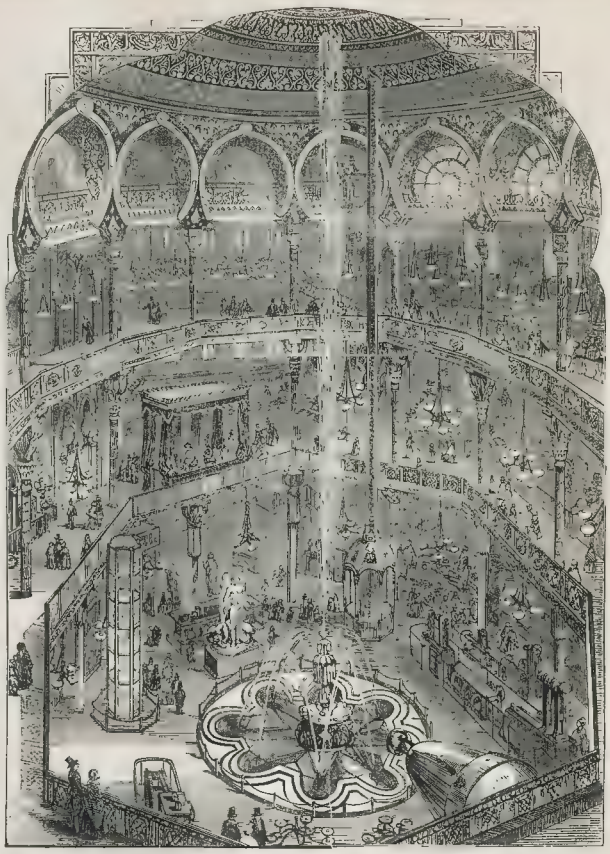


THE LATE ADMIRAL ROUSSIN.

At the establishment of peace, in 1814, Captain Roussin was sent to Plymouth to exchange prisoners with Great Britain. In 1817 he was sent to make a hydrographical survey of the western coast of Africa; and, on his return, was appointed to the command of the French station at Brazil, with instructions to prepare a chart of that coast. At the end of this important undertaking, in 1820, he was created a Baron. In 1822 he was made Rear Admiral, and invested with the command of the South American station, where he rendered some important services to French commerce. In 1824 he was appointed member of the Council of the Admiralty. In 1828 he received the command of the naval forces appointed to enforce the negotiations relating to certain differences between France and Brazil, which were fortunately settled amicably.

The scientific labours of Admiral Roussin, carried on through a long series of years, led to his being elected, in 1830, member of the Academy of Sciences, in the section of Geography and Navigation. About the same time, also, having been charged with the direction of the Ministry of the Marine, he left that post for that of Maritime Prefect at Brest. In the following year, the Portuguese government having refused certain demands which France had made, Admiral Roussin presented himself at the mouth of the Tagus, at the head of a squadron. On the 11th of July, he forced an entrance, an act of vigour which was acknowledged on all hands, to be one of the boldest ever achieved, and the result of which was the prompt and satisfactory arrangement of the French claims. For his conduct on that occasion M. Roussin was promoted to the rank of Vice-Admiral, and during the year afterwards was created a Pear of France, and appointed Ambassador at Constantinople, where he ably represented the interests of France for the next seven years. He returned home in 1839, and in the following year was deemed worthy to fill the post of Minister of Marine; but the breaking-up of the Cabinet sent him into private life for a short time. Under the Guizot Administration he was again called to the head of the Marine, which he did not retain long, however, as he was forced to retire on account of ill health.

Admiral Roussin has left three children, two daughters and a son. The latter, although young, ranks already among the most distinguished officers in the French naval service. His conduct at the siege of Saint Jean d'Ulloa was highly praised at the time.



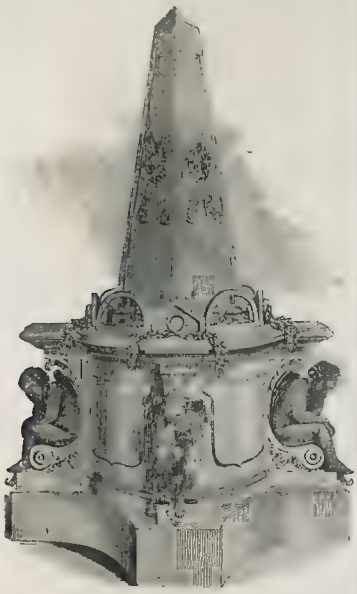
INTERIOR OF THE PANOPTICON, LEICESTER-SQUARE.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

THE SOUTH METROPOLITAN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS, SUTTON, SURREY.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

MONUMENT TO THE LATE G. B. THORNEYCROFT, ESQ., FIRST MAYOR OF WOLVERHAMPTON.

A noble bronzed cast-iron monument has lately been erected in Wolverhampton General Cemetery, to the memory of Mr. Thorneycroft, a leading member of the great iron trade of that district, and equally well known and respected in the mercantile world.

The memorial, being novel in design, and of good execution, has proved a great attraction in the Wolverhampton cemetery, and is, therefore, worthy of illustration. So great was the respect for Mr. Thorneycroft that his funeral was attended by more that 20,000 persons. His family have erected to his memory a noble monument; and near it is placed the testimonial here engraved, which has been raised by the clerks, managers, and workmen of the deceased. A foundation of Grinshill stone supports an iron base ten feet square, with massive plinth, having the angles replaced by bold segmental recesses; the whole supporting a well-proportioned cylinder, bearing shields with the family coat of arms and the inscription subjoined. Attached to the cylinder, and jutting out toward the angles of the base, are four brackets ornamented with leaves of the acanthus and scrollwork of honeysuckles, &c. A figure of a seated angel, in mournful meditation, relieves each bracket, and adds greatly to the general effect. The entablature contains in alto-relievo funereal urns, tazzas, the hour glass, and Bible, with well-arranged drapery; and at each corner rest pendant wreaths of "immortelles." A pyramid, surmounting the whole, has panels decorated with inverted torches and wreaths of palm-leaves. A railing of novel and pure design surrounds the monument. The iron-work is carefully bronzed, and reflects the highest credit on the Coalbrookdale Company (by whom it was executed); the details are correct and noble in design; the castings sharp, clean, and in perfect execution; and the whole ingeniously put together by internal fastenings to prevent oxidation.

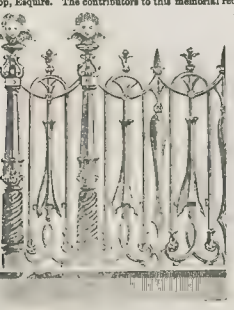


MONUMENT TO THE LATE MR. THORNEYCROFT, IN THE WOLVERHAMPTON GENERAL CEMETERY.

The family of Mr. Thorneycroft must derive high gratification from the praiseworthy feeling which prompted and has carried out so ably and satisfactorily this well-merited memento; and the clerks, managers, and artificers—a thousand in number—may be justly proud that their humble contributions have, in thus gracefully testifying their gratitude and respect, produced a specimen of art-manufacture which will long continue a noble example of the great staple trade of the district.

The following is the inscription:—

Erected by the grateful offerings of nearly a thousand workmen to the memory of their old employer, George Benjamin Thorneycroft, late of Chapel Ash, in this county, and of Hadley Park, in the county of Salop, Esquire. The contributors to this memorial record with mournful pride the high position which the Divine blessing on a life of uniform industry and uprightness permitted the deceased to obtain in public estimation, no less than in their own: a position alike honourable in the individual instance and beneficial to posterity, as a social precedent. His commercial enterprise multiplied the means of employment, and developed the resources of a trade that rose in graceful reciprocity, like his own fortunes, from obscurity to importance. He was chosen by the universal suffrage of the Municipal Council the first Mayor of Wolverhampton; the poor of which borough deplore in him a patron whose living benevolence reflects its posthumous image in the benefaction to future generations of honest indigence of a thousand pounds, as the inaugural oblation that enshrines in the memory of its clients the epoch of his Mayoralty and of the Civic Charter. In the Commission of the Peace for the counties of Stafford and Salop, he administered justice with impartiality, illustrating, on the bench, that patience, judgment, and integrity, which had raised himself there. As the Warden of the Collegiate Church he made its ancient walls enclose a monument to his own years of office: when finding its interior appointments inadequate and crumbling to decay, he left them enlarged, beautified, and in efficient repair. Death bereaved his connections of a kind, considerate, and paternal principal; and society of a generous supporter of its charities, and of an exemplary discharger of its duties. His lamented decease struck a note of general sorrow throughout the great iron trade, for a master of the craft had fallen! The sympathies of thousands drew them to his funeral obsequies, and the Mayor and Corporation, the resident County Magistracy, the High Sheriff of the County, and other public functionaries of the province, accompanied by all his workmen, together with a vast concourse of all classes of the inhabitants, bore him with spontaneous honour to the grave. In humble Christian faith, commending his soul to the covenant mercies of God, in his son Jesus Christ, and looking only to him, he slept in peace, April 28th, Anno Domini 1851, aged 63 years. "A merchantman seeking goodly pearls, who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went."—Matthew, c. xiii., v. 45 46.



PORTION OF THE RAILING OF MR. THORNEYCROFT'S MONUMENT.

On the north front of the monument is the family coat of arms, with motto—"Fortis qui se vincit."

THE ADELAIDE MEMORIAL WINDOW IN WORCESTER CATHEDRAL.

This beautiful Memorial of the excellent Queen Adelaide has lately been placed in Worcester Cathedral; and has been highly commended for the admirable manner in which the entire work has been executed. The artist of the design is Mr. Frederick Preedy, of Worcester, by whom the treatment is thus described:—

It has been my aim in the design to select the most prominent female Saints and Holy Women, also, some of the most conspicuous Queens and Rulers from the Old and New Testaments, as figurative of the pious deeds of the good and gracious Sovereign whom the window is intended to commemorate; and further, to make the whole subject suited to the position which it occupies in the Cathedral (namely, the south end of the western transept), on the supposition that the subject of other windows of the Cathedral *westward* of this transept may be chosen from the Old Testament history; and the subjects for windows of the choir and all windows *eastward* of the transept, from the New Testament. As authority for some such arrangement of type and antitype, we constantly find the remnants of a complete series of subjects, which once adorned the windows of many of our churches—as, for instance, Canterbury and Lincoln Cathedrals, and Malvern Abbey.

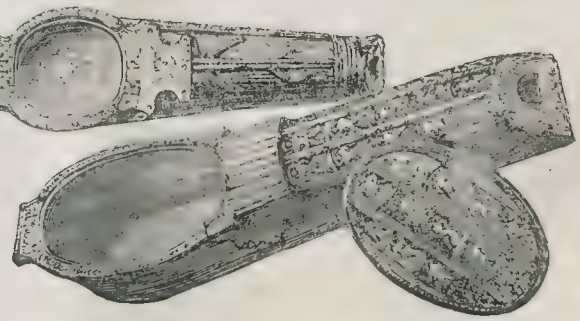
The inscription at the foot of the window, written by Lord Lyttelton, is as follows:—

In majorem Dei Gloriam,
Et perpetuam, si detur, memoriam
Adelaidæ Reginæ,
Olim in hoc agro commorantis
Clementissimæ
Beneficentissimæ
Piissimæ
Hanc Fenestram adornavimus,
A.D. MDCCCLIII.

The centre of the window (which is of three lights, of the Early English period) represents a stem or root of Jesse, descriptive of the genealogy of Christ, and is intended to form a connecting link between the old and new dispensations. It is in illustration of Isaiah, ch. xi, v. 1, 2. Jesse lies recumbent at the foot; from his side issues the stem or vine, branching out into foliage, supporting figures of the twelve lesser and four greater Prophets, and forming a vesica-shaped medallion for the reception of each of the principal figures in the order following, reading upwards:—1st David, bearing sceptre and harp; on either side of him the Prophets Hosea and Joel 2nd. Solomon, bearing a sceptre and book, with Prophets on either side. 3rd. Salathiel, bearing a scroll, inscribed J. genie Filius, Neri Filius. 4th. Zorobabel, bearing a model of a temple in his left hand, and an olive-branch and golden candlestick in his right, he having laid the foundation of the second Temple. The Prophet Zechariah points to the olive branch as representing Zorobabel (See Zech., chap. iv). 5th. Joseph, the husband of Mary, bearing a book and lily. 6th. The Virgin, with infant Saviour, the Saviour being crowned, holding the globe in his left hand; the right in attitude of benediction. 7th. Christ in majesty: in the same compartment are the four greater Prophets, above whom the branches of the vine form seven circles, containing the seven spirits described in the text from Isaiah before alluded to.

The western light has at the foot, St. Wulstan, with angels bearing a scroll inscribed with Psalm cxxvii., v. 1. The figures above (reading upwards) are Deborah, Hannah, Abigail, Esther, Judith; angels support a crown of glory over the head of each. Abraham's bosom, or Paradise

THE ADELAIDE MEMORIAL WINDOW, IN WORCESTER CATHEDRAL



COFFINS FROM THE SITE OF BABYLON, JUST ADDED TO THE BRITISH MUSEUM.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

occupies the summit of the western light. The corresponding part of eastern light has an angel conveying the souls of the faithful to Paradise. At the foot of the eastern light is a bust of Queen Adelaide, with angels bearing scroll inscribed with text, Isaiah, c. xlix, first part of verse 23. The figures above are Lydia, Dorcas, Mary Magdalene, Anna, Elizabeth, with angels bearing crowns, as in western light.

Mr. Preedy states that in this Window he has adopted the peculiar method of shading the lines in use in early glass, and which, though very simple, is effective and transparent; of which latter quality modern glass-painting is generally deficient. The lead ag is also an intricate work, the leads being made to form lines of the folds of drapery, as much as possible. The glass and leading have been ably executed by Mr. G. Rogers, of Worcester; and the stone-work by Mr. J. Norman, also of Worcester, from the designs of Mr. Perkins, architect to the Dean and Chapter.

This Window has been erected by public subscription, in testimony of the many virtues of the late Queen Adelaide, who was especially endeared to the inhabitants of the county of Worcester, by her residence at Witley Court. The sum collected amounts to £680 14s 6d., of which has been expended £538 14s. 9d.; leaving a balance of £97 10s. 4d.

THE BRITISH MUSEUM.—BABYLONIAN COFFINS.

These curious relics, discovered beneath the Mound of Warka, S. Babylonia, by Mr. W. K. Loftus, have recently been added to the relics of the antique world in the British Museum.

The construction of these coffins is very peculiar: the lower part is closed, and an oval opening left for the introduction of the corpse, the orifice being covered with a separate lid. They are formed of green glazed earthenware, much resembling the common pottery of the present day. At present, little is known of the Mound of Warka; and its identification with any known place of the ancient world is not yet made out; but from the circumstance of Mr. Loftus having returned to the spot, with ample powers to prosecute further researches effectually, many interesting details may shortly be expected.

The date assigned to these remains is considered to be less ancient than that generally called the Old Assyrian period. Their probable date is of from two to three centuries before Christ.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Carl (A), W. of Guernsey.—Neat, but too easy for our collection. Try again.

Tyro.—Many thanks, but we must repeat that "first attempts" are of no service to us. We only want the contributions of performers.

E. T. R. An unusually ingenious position. Is it original? We have an idea of something like it.

A Subscriber, Newmarket.—1 Your solutions are correct. How is it your club does not appear in the monthly List of Chess-clubs on the wrapper of the *Chess Player's Chronicle*? Where can it be found? Who is the secretary?

Fergus.—You may obtain a copy of the new rules of the St. George's Chess-club by application to the secretary.

Celt.—The Treatise on the opening by Prince Sergeus Ourussoff, which was expected to be ready for the press this coming season, is likely to be delayed for some months.

An (11) Member.—The "Cercle des Echecs" in Paris is no longer conjoined with the "Café de la Regence," but holds its meetings in comfortable rooms situate in the Palais Royal.

A., of Hyde, Hereford, and others.—Since the amendment given in our last Number, we do not see how Problem 524 can be solved in less than five moves.

A. J., Norwich.—Having once declared you should claim a Queen, we do not think you could, upon consideration, demand another piece instead. Our very imperfect Chess laws, however, make no provision for such a contingency.

M. T. S. and "Derby."—You had better procure the first volume (New Series) of the *Chess Player's Chronicle* for 1853 and take the numbers as they appear on the 1st of every month. The work contains all the rules, and gives also a list of the British Chess-clubs, with the names of their officers, and the time and place of meeting of each. Published by Kent and Co., Paternoster-row.

Subscriber.—The St. George's Chess-club have altogether left their old quarters in Cavendish-square, and are located at No. 23, St. James-street, President, the Earl of Eglinton; Vice-Presidents, Viscount Cremorne and C. H. M. Talbot, Esq., M.P. Apply (by letter) to "the Secretary of the St. George's Chess-club," and you will obtain the information desired.

L. W., Sunbury.—Place a Black Pawn at Black's K 6 6th.

T., of Bradford.—It shall be examined. Where does the Bradford Chess-club hold its meetings, and who are the officials?

J. S. G.—You can have two or more Queens on the board at once.

A Student would be glad to pay a game, by correspondence, with an amateur of *moderate* skill. Address, Theta, 3, Byer's-buildings, Holborn.

Regina.—Your question is answered above

Reading and Berkshire Chess-Club. The annual meeting and dinner of this well-known Chess Society, are appointed to be held at the Bear Hotel, Reading, on the 30th inst. On the 29th a Chess Soirée, to commence at six o'clock, p.m., will be held at the New Public Hall; on the following day the sub-rooms will be thrown open for play, and in the evening the sports are to be wound up by a dinner, the George Hotel.

Solutions of Problem No 526, by Sylph, E. E., M. T. M., Vicar, L.S.D., Hugo, D.D., Mus. Doc., O. Q., Jack of Worcester, Albert, F. B. of D., E. D. M., Pete, Czar, Thoseus, Frederick, S. S. A., Dewsbury, Dr. L., are correct. All others are wrong.

Solutions of Problem, No. 525, by G. W., J. F., Syren, Nepler, Fracula, Onyx, S.P.Q.R., S. S., Waltham, F. F., Argand, Paris Club, Perseus, are correct. All others are wrong.

Solution of Problem No. 523.

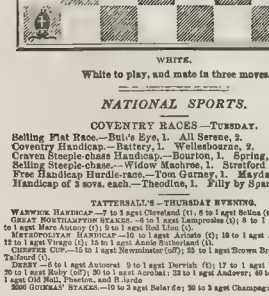
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. R to K 8th (dis K to Q sq ch)	P takes R (double ch)	3. K to Q Kt 4th 4. B to Q 6th	Any move (a) Any move (a)
2. R to Q Kt 6th	P takes R (double ch) best	5. Kt to K 6th (ch) K to his sq 6. R to K 7th—Mate	

(a) If at move four or five Black play his Kt, White mates with his Bishop

PROBLEM No. 526.

By Mr. W. Grimshaw.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in three moves.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

COVENTRY RACES—Tuesday.

Selling Flat Race.—Bull's Eye, 1. All Serene, 2.
Coventry Handicap.—Battery, 1. Wellesbourne, 2.
Craven Purse Handicap.—Duncombe, 1. Sparring, 2.
Selling Steeple-chase.—Widow Machree, 1. Stretford Lass, 3.
Free Handicap Hurdle-race.—Tom Gurney, 1. Mayday, 3.
Handicap of 3 sovs. each.—Theodine, 1. Filly by Spanish Jack, 2.

TATTERSALL'S—THURSDAY EVENING.

Warwick Handicap.—27 3s 3 agst Cheviot (1), 8 to 1 agst Soltea (2).
Great Northampton Stakes.—8 to 1 agst Lampoules (3); 8 to 1 agst Defiance (4), 13 to 1 agst Mars Asbury (5); 9 to 1 agst Red Lion (6).
Metropolitan Handicap.—30 to 1 agst Alcade (6); 10 to 1 agst Jonathan Martin (5); 12 to 1 agst Virago (1); 15 to 1 agst Annie Sutherland (3).
Chesters Cup.—15 to 1 agst Nemesis (of); 30 to 1 agst Brown Brandy (3); 33 to 1 agst Tailcord (2).
Derby.—6 to 1 agst Autocrat 9 to 1 agst Dervish (t); 17 to 1 agst Wild Huntsman (5); 20 to 1 agst Ruby (of); 30 to 1 agst Acrobat; 33 to 1 agst Andover; 40 to 1 agst Rescue; 50 to 1 agst Old Mell, Phantom, and Sardis.
2000 Guineas' Stakes.—10 to 3 agst Belardo; 20 to 3 agst Champagne.

The Championship of the Tyne.—This great scullers' contest, between Messenger, of Teddington, and Candlish, of Gateshead, was determined on Tuesday upon the Tyne, in the presence of a vast concourse of spectators. Messenger was the favourite at seven to four. The race was appointed for an hour before high water, the distance being from a boat moored off the Wanston-houses to Scotswood. Messenger took the lead and maintained it throughout, winning easily by twenty lengths. The time occupied was half an hour.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS, TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, MARCH 16.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading	Thermometer. Lowest Reading	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degrees of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
	Inches.	°	°	°	°			Inches.
Mar. 10	30.008	56·0	42·1	51·8	+ 11·4	68	S.W.	0.00
" 11	30.164	51·0	42·0	49·5	+ 8·8	83	S.W.	0.01
" 12	30.049	65·2	32·0	49·2	+ 8·4	71	CALM.	0.00
" 13	29.954	54·9	34·6	51·8	+ 10·6	59	S.	0.00
" 14	29.855	55·2	42·5	49·0	+ 7·6	74	S.S.W.	0.01
" 15	30.145	59·2	35·0	47·6	+ 6·1	83	S.W	0.00
" 16	30.068	54·1	45·9	50·7	+ 9·3	87	S	0.01

Note.—The sign + denotes above the average.

The reading of the barometer has varied but little during the week—the highest reading being 30.23 inches during the afternoon of the 15th, and the lowest 29.92 inches during the morning of the 14th. The mean for the week, at the height of 82 feet above the level of the sea, was 30.025 inches.

The mean daily temperature of the 10th was the highest mean daily temperature recorded on that day since the year 1836, when it was 54·1°; those of the 11th and 12th were the highest since 1830, when they were 51·6° and 49·0° respectively; that of the 15th was the highest since 1836, when the mean daily temperature was 51·9°. The mean temperature of the period from the 8th to the 16th was 50·8°, being 9·8° above its average value, and the highest mean temperature for this period, consisting of the same consecutive nine days, at present recorded, the register extending as far back as 1814. The nearest corresponding values are 46·9° in 1841, and 46·4° in 1833.

The mean temperature of the week was 49·9°, being 8·8° above the average of the corresponding week during 38 years.

The range of temperature during the week was 33·2°, being the difference between the highest and lowest readings of the thermometer on the 12th.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 20·2°. The least was 7·9°, on the 15th, and the greatest, 30·2°, on the 12th.

Rain fell slightly during the week, but to no great depth

Lunar halo was seen about 9 p.m. on the evening of the 14th.

The weather on the 10th and 11th was very fine, and the sky was cloudless on both days. During the rest of the week it was fine, but the sky was cloudy.

Lewisham, March 17th, 1854. James Glaisher.

Health of London.—The births of 1800 children were registered in the week ending March 11. Of these 946 were boys, and 854 girls. The averages of the same week in the nine preceding years were 761 and 720 respectively. The number of deaths registered was 1045, being greater than in the preceding week by 136, and was 245 above the calculated amount by 152. Changes in the weather seem to have had an injurious effect upon the public health. It will be seen by reference to our Meteorological Table, that the changes in temperature in the week were great. The variation in the mean daily temperature from the 6th to the 9th amounted to no less than 19°2. The excess of deaths has been caused by disease of the lungs, or organs of respiration, and in epidemic diseases. Deaths from bronchitis rose from 106 in the preceding week to 147; those from pneumonia from 112 to 135. The total number caused by diseases of the respiratory organs is 295, exceeding the average by 38; and the number referred to the class of epidemic diseases is 254, exceeding its average by 33. Scarlatina, 20, North Wharf road, 29; the 9th March, a man, formerly a shoemaker, died at the advanced age (as stated) of 102 years. The deceased would have completed his 103rd year next month.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

Notwithstanding that the French Loan—which has been thrown open to the public, consequently the exact amount of it to contractors have been saved—has been received with much favour both here and in Paris, the value of Consols has been tolerably well supported during the week. The purchasers of stock have been by no means large, and we have heard of no extensive speculations for Time. There has been rather an increased demand for money, and the rates of discount have been very firm. First-class Bills may at any time be run, to discount at from 1½ to 1¾ per cent.

It is thought that from £2,000,000 to £3,000,000 of the new French Loan will be taken in this country. Should such be the case, we may look forward to large shipments of bullion to meet the various instalments. The exports of gold have continued to be considerable—about £200,000 having been sent off since we last wrote—and several parcels have been forwarded to other quarters. The imports have amounted to £136,000 in gold from Australia, £50,000 from Mexico, £21,000 from New York, and £14,000 from the Brazils, &c. The stock in the Bank of England is expected to show a decided falling off during the next three or four weeks, unless, indeed, large contributions are received.

Notice has been given by the East India House, that the rate of exchange at which the Company will receive cash for bills on Bengal and Madras, at all future periods, is the same as at present. From this we learn that the remain ng portion of the Five per Cent Loan—£7,000,000 sterling—has been converted. In China, silver was quoted sufficiently high to admit of shipments from this country at a good profit.

The last account of the Bank of France shows an increase in the stock of bullion of £650,000; but a falling off in the discounts of £1,200,000. Since August last, the total drain has exceeded £20,000,000 sterling.

On Monday, the Three per Cent Consols were done at 91¾ ⅜; and for the Account, 91¾. Bank Stock, for the Account, was marked 220 to 221½. Exchequer Bills were at 10s. to 16s. premium. Long Annuities, 4 15-16 5. The business doing on Tuesday was limited. The Three per Cents were 91⅝; Long Annuities, 4 15 16; India Bonds, 4s.; Exchequer Bills, 10s. to 16s. prem. Very little was doing on Wednesday. The Three per Cents ruled at 91½. Exchequer Bills were 10s. to 14s. pm. Much inactivity prevailed on Thursday; and the Three per Cents, for Money, were 91½; and for Account, 91⅝ to 91. Exchequer Bills declined 2s., viz to 8s. and 12s. prem.

All Foreign Bonds have sold heavily; in prices, however, no material change has taken place. Five per Cents have been 77; Chilian Six per Cents, 101½; Danish Three per Cents, 76; Mexican Three per Cents, 24½; Russian Five per Cents, 91 ex div; Ditto Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 82; Spanish Three per Cents, 27½; Brazilian Five per Cents, 93; Buenos Ayres Six per Cents, 65½; Sardinian Five per Cents, 79¾. Upwards of £4,000 000 Portuguese Stock yet remains to be converted.

The whole of the Continental Exchanges are still against this country.

Nearly all Miscellaneous Securities have met a dull market, as follows:—Australasia Joint Stock Bank, 79½; Chartered Bank of Asia, 3⅞ to 4; English, Scottish, and Australian Chartered, 6¾; Oriental, 42. Australian Agricultural have been done at 40; Crystal Palace, 6¾; Peel River Land and Mineral, ½ dis.; Portland Iron Company, 2½; Scottish Australian Investment, 2¾; Van Diemen's Land, 1¾; Berlin Water-works have been 2⅞; Rast London, 131; Do., New, 2⅝ prem.; Grand Junction, 73¾; Do., New, 114; Kent, 80; Southwark and Vauxhall 90, West Middlesex, 110, ex div.; Do., New, 17; London and South-Western, 92; Great Northern, 125; Liverpool, 126; European, 20; Globe, 137; Guardian, 58¾; Imperial Fire, 370; Ditto, Life, 20; London, 30; Palladium, 3 ex div.; Pelican, 45, Phœnix, 185; Royal Exchange, 178; Royal Insurance, 92; Union Fire, 52½; Ditto, Life, 65. Bungerford Bridge, 12; Waterloo, 5½; Vauxhall, 21. South ampton Dock, 30; Australasian Pacific Mail Packet Company, 13 to 13½; Canada Six per Cent Debentures, 110; General Steam Navigation, 3 ex div.; North British Australasian, 1½; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, 57.

Railway Shares have been dull nevertheless, the quotations have been fairly supported. The following were the official closing prices on Thursday:—

Ordinary Shares and Stocks.—Aberdeen, 23; Bristol and Exeter, 91½; Caledonian, 65; Chester and Holyhead, 15½; Eastern Counties, 12⅝; East Lancashire, 82; Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, 73; Great Northern, 91½; Ditto, A Stock, 81; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 93; Great Western, 77¾; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 69⅜ ex div.; Leeds Northern, 13½; London, Tilbury, and Southend, 8½; London and Brighton, 99; London and North-Western, 100⅜; Ditto, Eighths, 12½; London and South-Western, 79; Midland, 61; Ditto, Birmingham and Derby, 28¾; Norfolk, 46; North British, 33; South Eastern, 62½; Vale of Neath, 16⅜; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, 67½.

Lines Leased at Fixed Rentals.—West Valley, 29½.

Preference Shares.—Great Northern, Five per Cent, redeemable at 10 per cent prem., 8½; Great Western and a Half per Cent Stock, 9½; Great Western Four per Cent, irredeemable, 84; London and Brighton Five per Cent Stock, 115⅜; Consolidated Bristol and Birmingham Six per Cents, 126; Norfolk Preference Four per Cent, 88; Ditto, Five-and-a-Half per Cent, 106; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 100½.

Foreign.—Antwerp and Rotterdam, 4⅜; Great Western of Canada Shares, 2⅜; Luxembourg, 2; Mining Shares, that the quotations have been almost nominal. On Thursday Agua Fria were done at 2; Anglo-Californian, 5⅛; Cobre Copper, 43; Colonial Gold, 1; Ponighaul Silver-Lead Mining and Smelting Company, 16; Quartz Rock, 1⅛; Saulago de Cuba, 3⅜.

Friday Evening.

We have had an exceedingly inactive market for Cons ls to day. The Three per Cents have marked 90⅝ ⅞, 91, 90⅞. Exchequer Bills have marked 8s. to 12s prem In Foreign Bonds and Railway Shares scarcely any busin ss has been done.

THE MARKETS.

Corn Exchange (Friday).—The present week's arrival of English wheat up to our market, coastwise and by land carriage, has been very moderate. To-day the show of samples was larger than on this day se'nnight. Owing to the large imports from abroad the demand for all kinds of wheat of home produce ruled heavy, and to effect sales lower prices must have been accepted. Foreign wheat—the show of which was large—moved off heavy, and most parcels were easier to purchase. Floating cargoes were very dull and droppier. Barley met a dull inquiry, at barely Monday's currency. The malt trade was very dull, but no actual change took place in prices. Oats ruled heavy, at late rates. Beans, peas, and flour command not very little attention.

Arrivals.—English wheat, 7720; barley, 3710; malt, 7360; oats, 3060; flour, 910. Irish: oats, 7260. Foreign: wheat, 32,780; barley, 2540; oats, 7270; flour, 6370 sacks; 13,170 barrels.

English.—Essex and Kent, red, 65s to 70s; ditto, white, 68s to 74s; Norfolk and Suffolk, red 67s to 70s; ditto, white, —s to —s; rye, 45s to 50s.; grinding barley, 35s. to 36s.; distilling 40 s, 36s. to 40s.; malting ditto, 40s to 44s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 64s. to 66s.; brown ditto, 58s. to 62s.; Kingston and Ware, 68s. to 72s.; Chevalier, 72s. to 73s.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 21s. to 26s.; potato ditto, 26s. to 28s.; Youghal and Cork, black, 23s. to 26s.; ditto, white, 27s. to 29s.; tick beans, new, 44s. to 46s.; ditto old, 44s to 48s.; grey peas, 44s. to 46s.; maple, 47s. to 48s.; white, 56s. to 58s.; boilers, 56s to 60s. per quarter. Town-made flour, 68s to 72s.; Suffolk and Norfolk, 55s. to 58s.; Scotch and Yorkshire, 57s to 62s. per 280 lbs. *Foreign:* French flour, —s. to —s. per sack; American, 32s. to 42s. per barrel

Arrivals.—Lower seed—both red and white—is in good request, at full prices. Linseed and cakes are quite as dear as last week.

Linseed, English, sowing, 62s. to 64s.; Baltic, crushing, 60s. to 58s.; Mediterranean and Odessa, 58s. to 59s.; hempseed, 40s. to 42s. per quarter; coriander, 17s. to 18s. per cwt. Brown mustard-seed, 12s. to 14s.; white ditto, 13s. to 15s.; and tares, 7s. to 9s. 6d. per bushel. English rapeseed, 23l to 23l per last of ten quarters. Linseed cakes, English, 11l to 11l 5s.; ditto, foreign, 11l 5s. to 11l 10s. per ton. Rape cakes, 6l 15s. to 7l 5s. per ton. Canary, 50s. to 54s. per quarter. English clover seed, red, 56s. to 64s.; white ditto, 54s. to 64s.; trefoil ditto, 24s. to 34s. per cwt. Brown.

Bread.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 11d. to 11½d., of household ditto, 8d. to 10d. per 4lb. loaf.

Imperial Weekly Average.—Wheat, 79s. 6d.; barley, 38s. 7d.; oats, 27s. 2d.; rye, 49s. 5d.; beans, 43s. 2d.; peas, 44s. 2d.

The Week Ending March 11th.—Wheat, 80s 3d.; barley, 39s. 7d.; oats, 27s. 2d.; rye, 48.; 10d.; beans, 43s. 1d.; peas, 44s. 1d.

Potato and Foreign Corn.—Wheat, 1s.; barley, 1s.; oats, 1s.; rye, 1s.; beans, 1s.; peas, 1s.

Tea.—The dee and for all kinds of tea is very inactive, at about stationary prices. Several public sales have been held this week.

Sugar.—The market continues dull. In some instances the quotations have a downward tendency. Fine qualities are unaltered, and quite as dear as last week. Inferior parcels neglected. In the value of English and foreign, very little change has taken place. Bacon is held at full quotations. Hams and lard are unaltered.

Tallow.—The business doing is but moderate. P. Y. C., on the spot, 64s.; and for forward delivery, per cwt. Town tallow, 56s. per cwt.

Coals.—In used coal has advanced to 35s. on the spot, and 37s. for May and June. Rates in the river are unaltered. Other coals are steady. Sprits of turpentine, 44 15s.; in puncheons, 43 10s.; rough, 1is. per cwt

Hay and Straw.—Monday hay, £3 to £5 5s.; clover ditto, £3 15s. to £6 6s., and straw, £1 16s to £2 4s. per load

Wool.—Fine long-fib wools are in steady request, at very full prices. Otherwise, the demand is quite at a stagnate state.

Potatoes.—The supplies have rather on the decrease, the demand is steady, at fully late rates. Regents, 70s. to 90s.; Scotch ditto, 50 to 80s.; Rocks, 40s. to 50s.; Irish whites, 105s. to 120s.; Foreign do 50s. to 115s per ton.

Hops (Friday).—On the whole a fair business is doing in our market, at last week's currency. The imports are—57 bales from Ostend and 27 from Hamburg. Mid and East Kent markets, at 110s. to 210s.; Weald of Kent, 65 0s. to 77 0s.; Sussex, 45s 12s to 65 10s. per cwt.

Coals (Friday).—Holywell, 21s.; Old Adelys, 19s. 6d.; Braddy, 20s.; Hilton, 21s.; Hawthorn, 20s.; Lemton, 19s 9d.; Brough Hall, 21s.; net cash.

Smithfield (Friday).—The supply of beasts in to-day's market was seasonably good. All breeds were very dull in sale, at barely Monday's prices. Amongst the forage stock we had a fair show of sheep, but only a limited number of prime Downs, moved off slowly. In the quotations we have no alteration to notice. Lambs sold at from 6s. to 6s 8d. per 8lbs. Calves and pigs met a very heavy inquiry, on former terms. Prime small porkers, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; ordinary ditto, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.

Per 8lbs. by the carcase.—Inferior beasts, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.; middling ditto, 3s. 8d. to 4s.; prime large oxen, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; prime small ditto, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; large pork, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 0d.; prime small ditto, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; Scots, 4s. 4d.; coarse and inferior sheep, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; middling ditto, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d.; prime ditto, 5s. to 5s. 2d.; prime Southdown, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; large lambs, 5s. 8d. to 6s.; small ditto, 6s. to 6s. 8d.; large calves, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 6d.; small ditto, 4s. 8d. to 5s.; large hogs, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 0d.; neat small porkers, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 10d.; suckling calves, 28s. to 38s.; and quarter of store pigs, 21s. to 27s. each. Total supply—Beasts, 2,665; sheep, 10,300; calves, 140; pigs, 300. Foreign: Beasts, 324; sheep, 700, calves, 20.

Newgate and Leadenhall (Friday).—Such kind of meat sold heavily, on the following terms

Per 8lbs. by the carcase.—Inferior beasts, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.; middling ditto, 3s. 8d. to 4s.; prime large oxen, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; prime small ditto, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; large pork, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 0d.; neat small porkers, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 10d.; middling ditto, 5s. 0d. to 5s. 4d.; prime ditto, 5s. 6d. to 6s. 0d.; veal, 4s. 0d. to 4s. 6d.; small pork, 4s. 8d. to 5s. 0d.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, March 14.

Office of Ordnance, March 14.

Royal Artillery: First Lieut. G. H. A. Forbes to be Second Captain, vice Robertson; Second Lieut. C. D. Jones to be First Lieut., vice Forbes; Second Lieut. C. Hunter to be Second Captain, vice Lambert; Second Lieut. H. Gardiw to be First Lieut., vice Hunter.

J. Goble, Shoreham, Sussex, miller. M. Guggenheimer, Aldermanbury and Forest-street, City, importer of foreign goods. A. Ford, Lowndes-street, Belgrave-square, surgeon. H. Meadows, Kellingborough, Northamptonshire, draggist. W. H. Cooper, Great James-street, Bedford-row, upholsterer. W. Houghton, Kennington-oval, Lambeth, licensed victualler. T. Long, Londesborough-street, horse dealer. J. Head, keeper, Isleworth.

Scotch Sequestrations.

J. M'Done'J., Ballieston, Lanarkshire, draper. G. Buchanan, Glasgow, dealer in shares. R. Cochran, Port Glasgow, manufacturer. G. G. Dustan and J. Stewen, Glasgow, carrhiers.

Friday, March 17.

Admiralty, March 9.

The Right Hon. B. A. Talbot, Esq., of Bromwich-hall, to be Vice-Admiral of the county of Chester The Right Hon. C. A. Anderson-Pelham, Earl of Yarborough, to be Vice-Admiral of the county of Lincoln

War-Office, March 17.

Jed Dragoon Guards: W. G Stewart to be Cornet, vice Dick. 6th: H. H. Hay to be Cornet, vice Godman.

8th Light Dragoons: Regt.-Sergeant Major H F Lane to be Quartermaster, vice Landers; 10th: A. A. de Bourbel to be Cornet, vice Clark 13th: J. Deedes to be Cornet, vice King

1st or Grenadier Foot Guards: The Hon. J. C. Stanley to be Ensign and Lieutenant, vice Montgomerie.

Scots Fusilier Guards Ensign A. C. Campbell to be Ensign and Lieutenant, vice Mostyn.

7th Foot: Second Lieutenant H. M. Jones to be Lieutenant, vice Palmer. 19th: Ensign A. M. Cardew to be Adjutant, vice Barrett. Sixth: G. W. Beaumont to be Second Lieutenant, vice Haddock 23rd: Ensign T. N. Young to be Lieutenant, vice Baldwin. 2nd: Major R. W. Bunbu y to be Major, vice P. J. Phillot; G. S. Hulse to be Second Lieutenant, vice Clarke 1. Sergeant-Major J. Anson to be Quartermaster, vice Grant 24th: J. Trent to be Ensign—by purchase, vice Lloyd. C. B. Brooke to be Lieutenant, vice Teague. 47th: Lieut. T. Hope to be Adjutant, vice Pinkerton. 67th: J. Hall to be Second Lieutenant, vice M. Jones. 69th: Ensign H. Vaughan to be Lieutenant, vice W. F. Gosselin; J. W. Marshall to be Ensign, vice Vaughan 69 h: Lieut and Adjutant J. L. Macleod to be Captain, vice Parker. 75th: A. M. Leith to be Ensign, vice A. C Campbell. 86 h: Quartermaster-Serg H Hammond to be Quartermaster vice J. Jerome. 91st: Ensign A. C. Rose to be Lieutenant, vice Norman; R. E. Glass to be Ensign, vice Bruce 98th: Ensign W. L. D. Reares to be Lieutenant.

Rifle Brigade: Lieut. J. T. Colborne to be First Lieutenant, vice P. Macdonald; Second Lieut. H. G Lindsay to be First Lieutenant, vice Colborne; W. Norris to be Second Lieutenant, vice Lindsay.

4th Veteran Regiment: A. G. Onslow to be Ensign, vice Goble.

Royal Marines: Lieut.-Colonel D. M'Adam to be Colonel Second Commandant, vice Elliot; Brevet-Major B Hawkins to be Lieutenant-Colonel, vice M'Adam; First Lieutenant H. S. Leonard to be Captain, vice Hawkins; Second Lieutenant F. E. Halliday to be First Lieutenant, vice Leonard.

Bankruptcy annulled.

T. Gatley, Derby and Birmingham, draper.

Dividend.

W. Forbes, Birmingham, stationer and bookbinder. J. Mathias, Swansea, Glamorganshire, linen draper. J. Shannon, Liverpool, linen-draper. Mary Parkes (Goldenshire, linen draper. J. Shannon, Liverpool, linen-draper. Mary Parkes (Golden-square) printer and publisher. J. Hughes, Birkenhead, Cheshire, coal-merchant. T. Colwell, Bristol, Holborn, licensed victualler. C. Pilgrim, Hunt's-place, Bermondsey, draper. H. Newman, Kensington-gravel, grocer. W. Jones, Liverpool, sailor and pilot. J. H. Sedull, Cardiff, Glamorganshire, potato merchant. J. Symmons, Bristol, colonial and wine brokers merchant. J. Hatch, Manchester, brewer. T. Moss, Little Tower-street, tea and colonial dealer. J. Hunter, Faraley, Staffordshire, tape and lace manufacturer.

BIRTHS.

On the 9th inst., at Park-crescent, the wife of W. Hartley, Esq., of a daughter.

On the 13th inst., at Wymondham, Norfolk, the Hon. Mrs. J. Beresford, of a son.

On the 8th inst., the wife of J. M. Carter, Esq., Alresford, Hants, of a daughter

At Edinburgh, on the 9th inst., the wife of F. Mackwight Crawford, Esq., of Carsburn, of a daughter.

March 4, at Bodwell near Weymouth the lady of W. Langdon Esq., of a son.

March 15, at Gateshead, the lady of Rev. C. Gibson, of a son.

March 15, at Lewisham, the wife of Rev. Edward Hamilton Nelson, of a daughter.

On the 8th inst., at 3, Upper Avenue-road, St John's-wood, the wife of the Rev Edward Hamilton Nelson, of a daughter.

On the 8th inst., at Bath, Lady Wade, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 16th of March, at St Paul's Church, Hunt's-road, Islington, Lowdon, Mr Benjamin Milne to Sarah, 3rd daughter, and at the same time and place Mr William Henry Phelps, of the East India House, youngest daughter of the late Rev Symonds, Rect., of the Hon Artillery Company

On the 16th inst., at the Buckland Church, by the Rev P Holmes, Sir William Nevill, 5th Lord Rest of Merivale park Barks, of 11, 23rd Royal Welsh Fusiliers to Florence, second daughter of Lieut.-Colonel Clarke Clarke, late of Dorchester House Pimlico, Surrey, and Bernardine.

On the 4th inst., in Rhenish Prus ia, R. T. Dundas, Esq. of Manor, N.B., to Rosalinda, third daughter of the late Rev. H. Cholmondeley, of Vale-house, Cheshire.

On the 15th inst., in Dublin, R. Orme, Esq., 89th Connaught Rangers, to Fanny, third daughter of the late Rev. Thomas Hamilton, of Dublin.

On the 9 h inst. at Battersea St Mary's Church, North-end, Capt D H Hoste, R.A., son of the late Sir G Hoste, K C B., to Jane Mary, daughter of the Rev J Barrington, Rector, Burnham.

DEATHS.

On the 9th inst., at Theresa-terrace, Hammersmith, the Rev. G. Chisholm, D.D., Rector of Ashmore, Dorset, aged 76.

On the 8th inst., at Edinburgh C S. R. B. Hamilton, Commissary de Habion, the wife of Francis, Comte de Rubien aged 28.

On the 8th inst., at St Mary's College, St Andrews, the Very Rev. R Haliday, D.D., F R S E., Principal of St. Mary's College, and first minister of the parish of St Andrews

At the Royal Naval Hospital, H. A. Fitz Roy Phipps Naval Cadet of her Majesty's ship *St. Jean d'Acre* aged 16

On the 14th inst., at No 25, Penbridge street, Tavistock-square, Jane, the wife of Thomas Sutherland, Esq

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.—MISS CUSHMAN'S NIGHTS. MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, and FRIDAY. Monday, Faxio, Wednesday, Guy Mannering; Friday, its Strange. Mathias, Meg Merrilies, and Mrs. Haller. Miss Cushman being her last night but five. Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, Rosalind. Watkins and Ryse Thirwall, for every night.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE, Oxford-street.—Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, Richard III. After which, on Monday, a new Farce, A STORM IN A TEA CUP. Tuesday, The Rivals; and Away with Melancholy. Thursday, the Corsican Brothers, and the Lemons. Saturday, a new Drama.

ASTLEY'S ROYAL AMPHITHEATRE.—Triumphant success of the New Spectacle.—On MONDAY, March 20th, and during the week, The WOODMAN'S HORSE; or, The False Knight. Scenes of the Arena; and the domestic drama, Sons of the Soil.

ROYAL MARYLEBONE THEATRE.—On MONDAY next, March 20th, Mrs. J. W. Wallack will make her first appearance as Romeo, and Mr. J. W. Wallack as Mercutio, Miss Cleveland will also make her first appearance for fourteen years as the first piece, every evening, GILDEROY. Acting Manager, Mr. Edward Murray.

GREAT NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE, Shoreditch.—On MONDAY, Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday, The SON of the WAVE. OLD and YOUNG, in which the Ravenna Children will sustain Six Characters; and BLUE JACKETS. To conclude on Tuesday and Friday with Richard the Tartar. To conclude on Tuesday and Friday with Richard the Third

JAPANESE EXHIBITION.—The FIRST DIRECT IMPORTATION from JAPAN is NOW OPEN for EXHIBITION, at the GALLERY of the SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER-COLOURS, 5a, Pall-mall East. By request, the period for closing is extended for a few days only, the Society requiring the Gallery on the 25th instant for their Paintings.—Admittance, 1s.

ROYAL GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street.—The LAST WEEK.—SEBASTOPOL, CONSTANTINOPLE, and St. PETERSBURG, the North-West Passage (from Drawings by Captain Inglefield, R.N.); and the Diorama of the Ocean Mail, as in land and Australia. Daily at Three and Eight o'clock. Admission (to the whole), 1s. Stalls, 2s. Reserved Seats, 3s. Children, Half-price.

MR. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC, including the BERNESE OBERLAND and the SIMPLON, EVERY EVENING (except Saturday), at Eight o'Clock; and every TUESDAY, THURSDAY, and SATURDAY MORNING, at Two.—Stalls, 3s. (which can be taken at the Box-office, every day from 11 to 4); Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s.—EGYPTIAN HALL, Piccadilly.

EGYPTIAN HALL,—CONSTANTINOPLE is now OPEN every day at Half-past Three and Half-past Seven o'clock. Nightly. The Lecture is delivered by Mr. CHARLES KENNEY, and has been written by Mr. Albert Smith, and Mr. Shirley Brooks. Admission, 1s.; Reserved Seats, 2s.

LOVE IN A NEW ENTERTAINMENT.—MONDAY, MARCH 20, and TUESDAY 21, Mr LOVE will appear at the ROYAL ARMS, in his Novel Entertainment, with new appointments throughout, entitled THE LONDON SEASON. Nightly at Eight. Tickets, 3s., 2s., and 1s. March 22, at Crosby-Hall, March 23, at Twickenham, March 24, at Gladstone.

THE PORTLAND GALLERY, 316, Regent-street, opposite the Royal Polytechnic Institution.—The SEVENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of the NATIONAL INSTITUTION of FINE ARTS is NOW OPEN, from Nine o'clock till dusk. Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 6d. BELL SMITH, Secretary

ROYAL PANOPTICON of SCIENCE and ART, Leicester-square. NOTICE is hereby given that 1 is preliminary Meeting of this Institution on SATURDAY NEXT, will be extended during the whole of the following Week. Admission, 1s. Saturdays, 2s. 6d. Hours of Admission from Eleven to Four, and from Seven to Ten.—March 14, 1854.

HUNGERFORD-HALL, Strand, will OPEN on MONDAY EVENING, the 20th inst., at Eight o'Clock The GREAT MOVING DIORAMA of LONDON, showing the Dead of Wellington, the Lying in State in Chelsea College, the Lying in Chapel, State Funeral Pageant; Gorgeous Panharmonic Royal and Civic State Carriages, and the Imposing Ceremonial in St. Paul's Cathedral with Portraits of the Horses as they appeared along the whole Line of Procession.—Gallery, 6d.; Reserved seats, 1s.; Stalls, 1s. 6d.

DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM is NOW OPEN, in the Mansion formerly known as 54, SALISBURY, Piccadilly. For Gentlemen, from Eleven till Five, and from Seven till Ten daily. On Wednesday and Friday a portion of the Museum is open for Ladies only from Two till Five.—Admission, 1s.

ROYAL ACADEMY of MUSIC.—The FIRST CONCERT of the Season, for the EXHIBITION of the STUDENTS, will take place on SATURDAY MORNING, MARCH 25, at Half-past Two precisely, to commence at Three o'clock. Single Tickets, for Family Tickets, to admit four, 10s.; to be had at the principal Musicsellers, and at the Royal Academy of Music, Tenterden-street, Hanover-square.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, EXETER-HALL, Conductor, Mr. COSTA. On FRIDAY NEXT, MARCH 24th, as a SUBSCRIPTION CONCERT, Mendelssohn's LOBGESANG, and Haydn's REQUIEM. Vocalists: Miss Birch, Miss Dolby, Mr Sims Reeves, and Herr Formes. With Orchestra of nearly 700 performers. Tickets 3s., 2s., and 1s. 6d. each, at the Society's Office, No. 6, in Exeter-hall.

THE SURREY BACHELORS' BALL, in Aid of the Funds of the WALWORTH LITERARY and SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTION, will be held at the WHITTINGTON CLUB, Strand, on MONDAY EVENING. The celebrated Hungarian Band will attend. In national costume, and perform selections from their National Music immediately after the Quadrille Band. The Polka, &c.) composed expressly for the occasion Mr Frampton, M.C.—Gentlemen members of which is Stand, 10s. 6d.; gentlemen's, 8s. 6d.; and ladies', 5s each; including refreshments.

HERR ERNST PAUER has the honour to announce that his remaining SOIREES MUSICALES will take place at his ROOMS, on WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22nd, and APRIL 5, to commence at Eight o'clock precisely. On which occasion he will be assisted by Mesdames Weiss, Sainton-Dolby, Herr Kumpel, and Mr. Weiss. Piano Mize Jane Jackson (pupil of Herr Pauer), Miss Agnes Salmon, Mr Ions, and Aylen. The Harp, Mr. Bigmor Platti and M Paque. Tickets for the series to reserved seats, or three tickets for one admission, £1 is each; single tickets, 10s 6d. To be had at all the principal Music Warehouses, and of Herr Ernst Pauer, 32, Alfred-place West Thurloe-square.

NELSON.—The LIFE of a SAILOR. Illustrated by DIXON & SONS. Mr. HARLEY of the Theatres Royal, Drury-lane and Lyceum, will every evening recite that he will give the National Recitation of NELSON'S LIFE AND A SAILOR, Illustrated by Dixon & Sons, at the MUSICAL STORE, SIDNEY, on MONDAY, MAR 20, 1854, at 3 every following Monday, at 8 o'clock, at 3 guineas, 2 guineas, 1 guinea, reserved seats, 2s 6d.; to be had of the principal Musicsellers. Stalls and Private Boxes to be had only of Messrs. Leader and Cock, 63, New Bond street, corner of Brook street

MUSICAL WINTER EVENINGS, WILLIS'S ROOMS.—THURSDAY, MARCH 23rd.—Quartet, in G, No. 79, Haydn. Trio, B Flat, Op. 97, Pianoforte, &c., Mollique. Quintet in D, Mozart. Variations Pianoforte and Violoncello, Mendelssohn. Executants: Mollique, Goffrie, Hill, Rice, and Pratt. Pianist, Halle, who will come to London expressly for this performance. Single Tickets, Half-a-Guinea, to be had of Cramer and Co., Regent-street; Chappell and Co., Bond-street. Doors open at Eight o'Clock. The Gallery and most of the seats seats are not reserved. Parties of five can engage a Sofa, in a good situation, on applying in the Director J ELLA.

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March 7, 1854.

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MALTA: VALETTA, FROM THE QUARANTINE HARBOUR

THE BRITISH EXPEDITION.—THE VOYAGE TO MALTA.

THE ease, celerity, and comparative comfort with which the greater part of the brigade of Guards and the 28th Regiment have been conveyed to Malta, in some measure justify the enormous laudation which we have bestowed on ourselves as a great maritime state, with vast steam locomotive power. The 28th Regiment, in the *Niagara*, made a remarkably fine passage, and suffered but little discomfort; not any, indeed, beyond that which invariably attends on some 800 "men at sea," who are imprisoned for the time being with the Johnsonian alternative of being drowned; but the *Orinoco*, who made a run of 16 days from Cork, with the aid of canvas alone, had no reason to complain very much, even though they were not quite so rapidly conveyed as if they had been impelled by steam. Had the Guards, who left Southampton Water on Thursday morning, Feb. 23, been stowed on board sailing vessels instead of steamers, they would have met a constant current of baffling winds, which were too light frequently for effective tacking, and were obstinate enough to defeat plain sailing; with these same winds they would have taken fourteen days to have got to Gibraltar alone, and their further voyage to Malta would have required about as many days more. The *Leander*, a 50-gun frigate, has been thirty days going from Gibraltar to Malta ere this, under similar circumstances. The only disadvantage attendant on steamers is the heat to which the men on the main-deck, about the engine, are necessarily exposed, and the reduction of accommodation *pro rata*, in consequence of the space required for the machinery; but this is more than—or, at all events, as much as—counterbalanced by the certainty of getting through the water in a shorter time.

The huge swarm of red-coated insects which settled on the decks of the *Ripon*, the *Orinoco*, and *Manilla* on Wednesday, the 22nd of February, and which buzzed and bustled about so actively, nearly all that night, after the day of marching, of excitement of leave-taking and cheering and hunger, was hived, ere morning, in hammock, or blanket for the most part, as the vessels rode quietly amid the heavy rain in the waters of the Solent. They had been accompanied to their moorings off the Leap Buoy by the *Guernsey* steamer, filled with friends, if not "sweethearts and wives," and when darkness set in they were left alone even by those. Soon after daylight anchors were tripped, and with full steam off dashed the little fleet. The *Ripon* was off by seven o'clock a.m. on Thursday, followed closely by the *Manilla*, and soon afterwards by the *Orinoco*.

They ran past the Needles at 8.15, and were soon bowling along with a fresh breeze on the bow (N.W.), in weather which sailors, by some strange perversity of the usual terms relating to the state of the atmosphere, denominated "moderate and fine," right from the land, and making straight for the Bay of Biscay. The breeze was, with all deference to Jack Tar, strong and blusterous; but, with the excitement and novelty of the situation, the mind ruled the stomach, and the men were not sick, even though there was a long swell from westward; and they evinced the usual degree of anxiety as to the time for eating and drinking, which shows that the pastiest and most anti-gastric of all maladies had not seized them. The crews of the ships busied themselves swinging hammocks for the men. Fourteen inches is man-of-war allowance, but eighteen inches were allowed for the Guards. The hammocks were not strictly luxurious: they consisted of the hammock canvas, one blanket, and the military overcoat if they liked to use it. Knapsack stowing was wondrous work for the time; but even it failed after an hour or so, and there was nothing but looking at sea-gulls, smoking pipes, watching each other smoke, and wondering if "they were going to be sick."

On Friday, the long swell from the westward began to tell on the troops. The figure heads plunged refreshingly into the waters, and the heads of the poor privates hung despondingly over gunwale, portsill, stay, and mess-tin, as their bodies bobbed to and fro with the creaking, tumbling tabernacle in which they were encamped. It was satisfactory to see that the paroxysms of the complaints were more characterised by resolute toil, and a sullen determination "to do or die," than by the ecstatic misery of the Frenchman, or the prostrate inanity of the German. It showed that the last drop of Viking blood had not been purged out by the vapours of the fens or the fogs of the borders. Even at night they brightened up, and when the bugle sounded at nine o'clock nearly all were able to crawl into their hammocks for sleep. On Saturday the speed of the vessels was increased from 9½ to 10 knots per hour; and the *Manilla* was left by the large paddle-wheel steamers far away buffeting with the swell and head-winds. On Sunday all the men had recovered to a great extent, and when the ship's company and troops were mustered at 10.30 for prayers, they looked as fresh as could be expected under the circumstances. In fact, as the day advanced, they became as lively as ever, and the sense of joyfulness for release from the clutches of their enemy were so strong that they cheered "a grampus," which blew close alongside, in reply to stentorian demand for "three cheers for the jolly old whale!" Monday was passed with the usual observances of cleaning decks, cooking, eating, steaming; but at four p.m., in lat. 37 deg 48 min., long. 8 deg. 9 min. west, all hands roused up to look at a strange vessel with a dismasted vessel in tow. The *Ripon*, which came close to the stranger, hoisted her ensign, whereupon the stranger who had lost bowsprit and jib-boom, and seemed to have been in collision with the towes, ran up Russian colours. The Guards on board burst into a hearty cheer, but why it would be hard to say, unless that they drew breath at the first sight of the dubious enemy, and continued gazing on her, and the poor log of a Dutch galliot, which she dragged after her, till she was lost in the distance. On Tuesday the *Ripon* passed Tarifa, at 5.50 a.m.; and anchored in the quarantine ground of Gibraltar, to coal, half an hour afterwards. In consequence of the quarantine regulations, there was no communication with the shore, and the *Orinoco* passed, without stopping, through the Straits, but the soldiers in garrison lined the walls, and the men of "the Cruiser" manned yards, and as the *Ripon* steamed off at 8.30 p.m., after taking on board coals and tents and tent poles, they burst into hearty cheers, which were replied to with goodwill by the soldiers. The voyage continued with fine weather, but head winds, and on Thursday a target was run up to the fore-top-gallant stun-sail-boom of the *Ripon* for practice with the Minié rifle. By some extraordinary chance it turned out that this target was painted like a Russian soldier, and in half an hour it was so thoroughly riddled as to be useless. Running along at the rate of ten knots an hour, the *Orinoco* reached Malta on Sunday morning, at ten a.m., and the *Ripon* on Saturday night, soon after twelve o'clock.

As the several steam and sailing transports glided into the harbours of Malta, they were received with deafening cheers by their companions in arms, who thronged the battlements. The first division of Guards landed at two p.m. on the 4th, in miserably wet weather—four companies occupying Fort Manoel, three others the Lazaretto, and one company Fort Tigné, at the entrance of the quarantine harbour of Marsamuscetto, the horses of the field-officers and staff being sent into the Lazaretto cattle-sheds. The 28th landed on the same afternoon—three companies occupying the naval hospital store in Bighi Bay, at the entrance of the grand harbour of La Valetta; two companies, Fort St Salvador, nearly adjoining; the head quarters and two companies, the new works at Fort Verdala, within the Cottonera lines; and one company, Zabbar Gate, the first post beyond these works. The second division of Guards had the advantage of finer weather, and landed at one p.m. on the 5th, in the *Lazaretto*.

The arrival of the troops naturally increases the gaiety of the town, and slightly increases the market; but lodgings are still to be had in plenty, nor are the hotels all full. The Union Club have increased their subscribers, and allowed the new officers to join for a month on paying a pound. The Maltese Club members have invited the officers of the new regiments to the hospitality of their rooms during their stay. Nothing could have been, by any possibility, better arranged than the landing of the troops: not an accident nor a misfortune, and the soldiers look as fresh and in as good order as if just fresh from their barracks. They all speak in the highest terms of the very comfortable manner in which they came out—feeding excellent and plenty, better even than in their barracks in England.

The General has issued a strict order that all the officers shall dress in uniform, so that our streets appear very gay. The soldiers mix freely with the inhabitants, who, in a quiet way, give them a hearty welcome; and, on Sunday, the coffee-houses were all full, and the Maltese freely treating the soldiers. The wine, towards evening, had its effect on their heads, but did not interfere with their tempers; and everything has gone on smoothly and pleasantly, not a single complaint having reached the police. The soldiers are looking clean and respectable, walking about seeing the lions, and receiving every mark of civility and kindness from the inhabitants, in the same spirit that it is offered.

THE BALTIC FLEET

ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS SUPPLEMENT

MARCH 13, 1854

[No. 674.] "THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON," FLAG-SHIP OF VICE-ADMIRAL SIR CHARLES NAPIER, WEIGHING ANCHOR.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

THE DEPARTURE OF THE BALTIC FLEET.

THE departure of the Baltic Fleet, on Saturday last, grand and inspiriting as it may have been, was not intended for a show. It was the commencement of serious business. Though a beautiful sight, the many thousands of people who witnessed it were no doubt impressed with emotions of a deeper character than those which would have been excited by any merely holiday performance. The assemblage of such an armament is happily a new thing to the present generation; and pride in the resources and energies of the country, that could in a few months equip and prepare for sea, so magnificent a fleet must have been the predominant sentiment in the mind of every spectator. But the pride and the enthusiasm were tempered by natural anxiety. When the Queen of Great Britain, by a sudden evolution of her yacht, the *Fairy*, got in advance of the foremost vessel of the fleet, as if to lead it on the way to glory and to victory; when the sails of the noble vessel felt the impulse of the favourable wind, and it seemed as if the auxiliary and superior power of steam were scarcely necessary to convey them triumphantly to their destination, it was impossible to avoid a feeling of elation. Not only were the ships among the finest and most powerful that were ever constructed, and their gallant commander a man in whom the Government, the naval profession, and the whole public had an equal confidence; but—what distinguished the armament from those mnd yed in the previous wars of this country—the crews were animated by the patriotic spirit of the people. They had not been gathered, either wholly or partially, from the highways and by ways, by the cruel and degrading system of impressment, but had voluntarily enrolled themselves in the service of their country, and were as eager to come to blows with the enemy as if the war against the Czar were a quarrel personal to each of them. These considerations, added to the general conviction that the conflict in which we were about to engage was both just and inevitable, were more than sufficient to inspire the hope that the previous naval glories of the country are yet to be surpassed, and that the names of men still living will ere long become household words amongst us; and that the remembrances of the Nile and of Trafalgar will have competitors on the waters and shores of the Baltic destined to endure as long, and to shine as brilliantly, in the annals of the nation. The anxiety that threw a shade over these feelings was personal rather than national. It was impossible to avoid the melancholy inquiry, How many of these gallant fellows are fated never to return to the country for whose interest and glory they are about to struggle, and at what cost of human life are our victories to be purchased?

As Sir Charles Napier has more than once taken occasion to remind the public, it is not wise to underrate the strength of an enemy. But it is almost equally unwise to overrate it. For a period of forty-two years Europe seems to have fallen into the last-mentioned error with respect to Russia. The signal discomfiture of the Emperor Napoleon in 1812—not by the valour or even by the numbers of the Russians, but by the severity of the climate and the vastness and barrenness of the country which he had so recklessly undertaken to conquer,—gave the Russians a factitious reputation for invincibility, which they have ever since contrived to turn to profitable account. The glory which more refined and vigorous nations acquire by activity and prowess, Russia has managed to extract from her inaccessibility and her inertia. The coming war will speedily test her real strength. That she is strong we do not doubt; but that her fleet in the Baltic can match that of Sir Charles Napier, even without the assistance of our gallant French allies, we utterly disbelieve. We suspect that the Czar himself entertains a similar opinion, and that he has even less hopes of the safety of his Black Sea armament. A naval service, in which it is a rule that no attack shall be made upon an enemy unless the attacking force of all number three vessels for every two of their opponents, can scarcely have much confidence in itself. Yet such is the principle of Russian tactics; a principle which if attempted to be enforced as a rule for the guidance of the gallant fleets of England would, we are certain, excite the contempt both of officers and men, and be the forerunner of humiliation and of defeat. Our brave sailors would scorn to act in such a cowardly squadron. Neither England nor France, nor any other great country that we ever read of, in ancient or modern times, ever avowed or entertained such a rule of conduct. Ship to ship, or man to man, is what we and our allies considered a fair fight. When we look over the glorious and precarious struggles, both with civilised and uncivilised nations, we are reminded of the glorious fact, that many of the most splendid of our victories, and those which have been productive of results the most lasting, and the most beneficial, have been achieved with numbers greatly inferior to those of the enemy opposed to us. It is a popular belief among the gallant seamen of the British navy, that each Englishman is as good as three of any foe that can come against him; and the same daring notion has pervaded the British army, in every struggle in which it was ever involved. Such ideas inspire valour, even when they are ill-founded; but the Russian idea bespeaks a nation of slaves.

Independently, however, of all such considerations, the fortunes of the Black Sea and the Baltic fleets will be regarded with peculiar interest. At the close of the last European war, the power of steam was scarcely known. In the same year in which Napoleon invaded Russia, the first steam-boat ever launched upon the waters made its way slowly and painfully down the Clyde, amid the doubts of the wise and the jeers of the foolish. When Wellington and the Allies restored the peace of the world in 1815, a steam vessel was a rare sight even upon the river Thames. So recently as fifteen or twenty years ago, many admirals and captains of the British fleet looked with suspicion and mistrust upon steam propulsion, and scouted the idea that a day would ever come when the "wooden walls" of Old England, in which Blake Camperdown, Howe, Jervis, Nelson, and other heroes had achieved so many victories, would ever be superseded by ships of a different build and construction, propelled by a power that would render them independent of the winds. But all these prejudices are now as antiquated as if they had not been heard of for two or three centuries, although there are men still alive, and still young, who shared in them. But a steamfleet has never yet been engaged in battle. These new leviathans of the deep—no longer compelled by adverse winds, as the ships of Nelson and his predecessors too often were, to cruise hopelessly about for many months before they could fall in with their enemy—will make their way directly to their point. With far greater rapidity than the Emperor of Russia could march another army into the Danubian provinces, the fleets of Great Britain and France can take up their stations at the entrance of the Baltic, and force the Russians into conflict, or into the shelter of their forts. Celerity is thus the greatest of the new elements with which steam has introduced into modern warfare. Even should the screws and machinery of these floating monsters be damaged by collision with the foe, they can trust to their capabilities as sailing vessels for the means of advance, and remain, though partially disabled, as effective for all the real purposes of war as the old three-deckers that established our naval supremacy. Although the science of maritime warfare has thus been revolutionised to a great extent by modern progress in the mechanical arts, it is a feeling of curiosity rather than anxiety that is excited to learn how our new bulwarks will acquit themselves in the hour of need. If science have done much for our opponents, it has done more for us. It is to English genius and energy that the world owes the mighty power of steam. All its great developments have either originated or been brought to their present state of efficiency in this country. With well-founded confidence, therefore, in the justice of our cause, as well as in the strength and completeness of our armaments, every British heart will wish success to the Baltic fleet, and join in the spirit-stirring cry of

VICTORY! VICTORIA!

THE ARSENAL OF PORTSMOUTH.

FROM Portsmouth—one of the greatest naval arsenals in the world—sailed Nelson, in 1805, to gather the never-fading laurels of Trafalgar; and from the same port sailed the gallant Exmouth, to chastise and subdue the Algerines. Spithead, at the conclusion of the last war, in 1814, was honoured with the presence of the Prince Regent and his Imperial and Royal visitors to a sham naval fight; and in August last the same spot witnessed a review and similar fight, under the gracious presence of Queen Victoria, Prince Albert, and a portion of the Royal Family. Once in each generation it is permitted, it would appear, for a British people to witness the imposing and interesting spectacle of its fleets going forth to war. Our fathers tell us of a time when the eastern cliffs of England were black with the congregated thousands who assembled there to bid God speed to squadron after squadron as it sailed from the Downs to chastise the enemies of their native land; and when from the heights of Kent an army of volunteers sig ed to be led forth to the great conflict. There are limeless veterans, multilated relics of that heroic age, who, at Greenwich, in the halls of one of England's noblest palaces, although hoary with age and enfeebled in voice, still chant with enthusiasm of a time when

With the spring fleet they went out,
The British Channel to cruise about,

and we listen with enchained and credulous attention, while in rough and perhaps unmusical numbers, they sing of the noble deeds of valour of all that belonged to that jovial crew of "the saucy *Arethusa*."

And it may occur that Saturday, the 11th of March, 1854, will become a memorable day; for on that day the FIRST DIVISION OF THE BALTIC FLEET left the anchorage at Spithead for its destination, in the presence of her Majesty and the Royal family, amid the cheers of myriads of spectators, and accompanied by the best wishes of the whole country: the sending forth such a fleet in such a cause—truth, integrity, honour—confers the noblest attribute on any country.

Of the great naval force which has been, for some time, mustering at Portsmouth, only three vessels were left on Saturday. The *Neptune*, the *Prince Royal* and the *Rosseven* remained to form the nucleus of the second division, which, under the flag of Rear-Admiral Corry, has been ordered to follow Sir Charles Napier to the Baltic.

ROYAL VISIT TO THE FLEET, ON FRIDAY.

In our late edition of last week we briefly recorded the Visit of her Majesty to the Fleet, which we this week illustrate in the large Engraving in the centre of the present Sheet. At noon, the Queen, attended by the Court, arrived at Portsmouth from London; and, proceeding on board the *Fairy* yacht, passed through the Ball to fleet at Spithead, on her way to Osborne. A few minutes before the guns of the *Victory* announced the arrival of the Royal train, the signal to dress the ships was made from the *St Jean d'Acre*, in which Sir Charles Napier has his flag flying, and the order was immediately obeyed; and every ship was seen with her yards manned. Then, after a short pause, the *Fairy*, with the Royal standard floating from her mainmast, came going out of the harbour, and instantly, the crowds assembled on shore, raised their loyal cheers for the Queen. Sending her course past the Platform Battery, the guns of which poured forth their we come, the yacht steered at once for the head of the fleet, where the flag ship lay. The salute then began, and was volleyed forth in grand style. Hardly had the flash of the first gun blazed from the side of the *St. Jean d'Acre*, when all the other ships were following her example, and for about a minute there was a tremendous roar of artillery. When the dense cloud of smoke had passed away, the *Fairy*—which looked in contrast with the vast ships, very like a Thames wager-boat—was steaming swiftly through the fleet, on her way to Osborne. The cheering was taken up by ship after ship, as they were passed in succession, with deafening shouts and precision. The *Royal George* and the *Duke*—the only three-deckers in the fleet—delivered their "Hurrahs" with thrilling effect. The *Black Eagle* followed the *Fairy* in her course, with a distinguished company on board. This truly animated scene is depicted in the large cut in our Engraving.

Up to a late hour on Friday night myriads of persons continued to pour into Portsmouth. So far as regards that demonstration it was very like the review time in August last. Every hotel, every lodging-house, and even stable lofts, were eagerly seized upon. Illuminations took place on a scale never before witnessed at the port; and streets were crowded up to twelve o'clock by thousands of sight-seers.

SATURDAY MORNING.—THE "NEPTUNE," FROM SPITHEAD.

The preparations for the great event of the sailing of the fleet, commenced at an early hour on Saturday, and all Portsmouth was abroad and stirring in order to be spectators of the scene. Shortly after eight o'clock, the *Neptune*, of 120 guns, one of the finest models of naval architecture in the world, which for more than twenty years has been in harbour, was towed out to Spithead by a small steamer. It was a strange sight to see that majestic hull towering aloft with its three decks and its lofty masts, and taken as a helpless prisoner by a petty steam tug, which could have been stowed away without inconvenience in any part on the deck of the noble vessel. The superiority of science over bulk could hardly have been better illustrated than in this case. Here was one of the finest line of-battle ships in the world lying sluggishly at the mercy of the reluctant breeze, when, lo! a little black magician appeared, and taking the huge leviathan by the fin, coolly places her in her place in the proper order of departure. It is quite clear that sailing line-of-battle ships will soon be matters of history in this country. Vast crowds of people were assembled on the ramparts to see the ship pass out; and the ship's band playing many well remembered tunes, gave to the proceeding, in connexion with the assembled fleet at Spithead, a more than usual degree of interest.

The flag of Admiral Napier was shifted from the *St Jean d'Acre* to the *Duke of Wellington* shortly before the *Neptune* arrived at Spithead

SIR C. NAPIER AT THE GUILDHALL.

The gallant Admiral having attended at the Guildhall to receive an address from the Town Council (the proceedings of which will be found in another column), proceeded to the Victualling-office, to go on board the *Sprightly*, which had been placed at Sir Charles's disposal by the Portsmouth Commissioners. Admiral Thomas Cochrane, for the purpose of conveying him, some members of his family, and two or three friends on board his flag ship. The pier, which was crowded with people anxious to witness the embarkation of the gallant Admiral, was gaily decorated with the flags of England, France, Turkey, Austria, and the United States, and with a large banner, bearing in huge letters the words "God save the Queen," and give Success to Admiral Napier and our gallant Tars." It is impossible to exaggerate the enthusiasm with which Sir Charles was greeted, and it was with difficulty that he could make his way through the crowd, or clear himself of those who thronged around him to shake hands previous to his departure. Sir Charles was accompanied on board by his daughters, Mrs. Hay, Mrs. Lacy, and Mrs. Jones, and on board the *Sprightly* he was received by Admiral Berkeley and Sir Baldwin Walker. As soon as the *Sprightly* got alongside the flag-ship, the crew gave the Admiral a cheer, so long, so loud, and so hearty, as to furnish a proof of how they welcome his appointment.—(*See the Illustration of Sir Charles Napier's Departure, at page* 244.)

ARRIVAL OF THE QUEEN AT SPITHEAD.

A few minutes before one o'clock, the *Fairy*—having on board her Majesty, his Royal Highness Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred, the Princess Royal and Princess Alice, with the ladies and gentlemen in waiting, and accompanied by Sir James Graham, First Lord of the Admiralty, and Vice-Admiral Sir Thomas Cochrane—followed by the *Elfin*, *Fire Queen*, and *Black Eagle*, was seen approaching the fleet; and, on the signal from the admiral, a general Royal salute was fired in admirable style. Her Majesty, it was expected, would have come on board the *Duke of Wellington*; and the ladders, with a portion of the main and lower decks, were covered with scarlet cloth for her reception. She did not, however, inspect any of the ships. As the Royal yacht neared the anchorage, all hands were piped on deck to man the rigging; and certainly few sights could be more interesting than that which immediately presented itself. Standing on the quarter-deck of the huge vessel, no signs of animation or life could be seen on the vessel, save where the Admiral walked musingly, telescope in hand; or where Commodore Seymour and the officers of the ship and of the watch moved about the deck.

A moment after, and from every part of the ship came forth a mighty mass of human beings, and above a thousand men crowded the decks; away they ran up the rigging, and hung clustering together upon every rope and spar, like swarming bees. Five hundred men whom the rigging would not hold crowded the pinnaces and boats of the ship, or formed a line of blue jackets on the forepart; the marines drew up as guard of honour on the quarter and main decks, the ship's band struck up the National Anthem; and, unregulated and unconstrained by the "pipe," the crew sent forth such a deafening cheer as would almost have sufficed to drown the noise of one of their ship's broadsides. From every floating line and human swarm that formed part of this goodly fleet went forth the same thrilling and ungoverned burst of enthusiastic loyalty. It was a remarkable cheer—one which may be heard once, but never forgotten in a lifetime.

(*The Illustration at page* 244 *represents "The Fairy" passing Southsea Castle.*)

In spite of all the enthusiasm, however, no one who witnessed the naval review last year could help contrasting the scene which now presented itself with the impress produced by the former spectacle. The naval review of last summer was a great national holiday, with the people in their holiday clothes and the ships in their holiday colours. The Sovereign came out in her yacht to participate in the spectacle, and to admire those wonders of naval architecture which modern science had just then added to the formidable array of "castles on the sea," in which the people of these islands rest their great hope of national security. But Saturday's proceedings had no holiday air about them. Boats passed from ship to shore incessantly, signal-men were in constant requisition, weeping female faces might frequently be met, as fathers, sons, or brothers, sped away to join their ships; and even the people, who came in thousands from all parts of the country to see the fleet off, wore an earnest and thoughtful expression of countenance, and seemed fully alive to the importance of the coming struggle in which Admiral Napier and his brave sailors are expected to play so conspicuous a part. The popular demonstrations in favour of that distinguished officer were, on the day of his departure, of the most enthusiastic and unequivocal character.

THE ADMIRALS AND CAPTAINS ON BOARD THE ROYAL YACHT.

As the *Fairy* came up, signals were made for the Admirals and Captains of the fleet to repair on board. The Royal yacht, having run to leeward of the fleet, hove to, and Admiral Napier, the Admirals Commanding-in-chief, and the Admirals of Division, Corrie, Chads, and Plumridge, with the Captains of the Fleet and Commodore Seymour, proceeded on board, and were presented to her Majesty by Sir James Graham and the other Lords of the Admiralty. After a short stay on board, the officers returned to their ships, and at half past one Admiral Napier gave the general signal to the screw fleet to get under way with sail.—(*In the Illustration upon the front page of the Number published with this Supplement, shows the Reception on board "The Fairy."*)

THE FLEET "UNDER WAY."

The *Royal George* was the first to be ready. Her sails were set and her anchor at the bow in about ten minutes, when she were round like a cutter, and sailed away steadily with a pleasant south-west breeze, amid the cheers of thousands of spectators.

The spectacle now visible from the quarter-deck of the *Wellington* became one of intense interest. The admiral stood, glass in hand, giving orders to the ships to "weigh" in succession; and immediately the signals were run up with magical celerity, and answered by the ships addressed in a moment. The shrill sound of the boatswain's whistle came faintly over the air, and the sailors were seen to crowd aloft and spread themselves along the yards. Soon the great sails were sunken out, swelling majestically in the breeze; and the ships indicated by unerring movements at their anchorage the precise of a newly-applied momentum. The captains could be heard at work to the sound of the fife, and soon the great anchors were seen dangling from the bows, and the ships creeping slowly away.—(*See the Illustration upon the front page.*)

The *St. Jean d'Acre* and *Tribune* were soon under way, under single-reefed topsails; and the *Impérieuse*, *Bienheim*, *Amphion*, *Princess Royal*, *Edinburgh*, *Ajax*, *Arrogant*, and *Hogue* followed in quick succession. The *Royal George* was now making away for St Helen rapidly, and as she was filled with the billows of her sails she might be hard to imagine a more perfect type than she presented of beauty, symmetry, and power. The paddle ships, *Leopard*, *Valorous*, and *Dragon* came next, rushing on under steam, and adorning, in their plunging movements, a striking contrast to the steadily pace of the screws.

The first division of the fleet being now fairly started, the signal was given for the "Great Admiral" herself to "weigh" and make sail; each of these operations were performed with the celerity and precision which might be expected from the science and aptitude of the crew, and the skill and experience of the commander. Every rope was hauled "home" in a moment, by the silent but simultaneous effort of a hundred men. The rigging was soon literally black with sailors; and, while the eye detected everywhere the greatest energy and activity, to the ear there was no sound perceptible but the boatswain's whistle and an occasional command from an officer, short sharp, and decisive.

The *Fairy* now shot past, receiving a cheer as she passed; and the visitors bade farewell to the *Duke of Wellington*, and returned to their first quarters in the *Sprightly*. The ladies of Admiral Napier's family were put on board this vessel, and were accompanied by Admiral Berkeley and Sir Baldwin Walker. Both of these great naval authorities seemed never to tire of gazing at the flag-ship, but ordered the captain of the *Sprightly* to keep close company, in order that they might watch and enjoy her appearance under canvas. It would require the skilled eye of a naval man fully to appreciate the quantities she now developed; but the magnificence of the spectacle came home to every one—and, once seen, could never be forgotten.

HER MAJESTY "LEADING" THE FLEET TO SEA.

By this time the *Fairy* headed the fleet, her Majesty literally leading them out to sea, standing on deck all the time, and watching every movement with an interest that never tired.

The headmost ships had proceeded as far as St. Helens when they were signalled to shorten sail, to allow the *Duke* and the *Leopard* to come up. At this period her Majesty, as she returned to Osborne, was cheered by each ship which she passed, and as she crossed the bows of the *Duke*, the Admiral dipped his ensign. The *Fairy* hove to for some time to see the *Duke* fairly under sail: the crews manned the rigging and gave a most hearty and tremendous cheer. One of the crew climbed up to the truck of the maintopmast, and, seated upon it, waved his hat and cheered in the most enthusiastic manner. The tar, with two of his comrades, perched on the tops of the fore and mizen masts, and several others who were holding on to the top—struggling for the lofty perch, attracted the notice of her Majesty, who returned the cheer of the brave fellows by waving her handkerchief, and Prince Albert also acknowledged it by waving his hat. Her Majesty, having seen the fleet,

fairly off, returned to Osborne, where she arrived at 4.30 p.m. *(The Engraving at page 236 shows the Departure of the Fleet.)*

FORMING DIVISIONS

Having reached open water the order of sailing was formed in two divisions Admiral Napier's and Admiral Chads' ships heading the divisions, consisting of the following ships:—

STARBOARD.			PORT.		
The Duke of Wellington (Admiral Napier)	..	131	Edinburgh (Admiral Chads.)	..	58
St Jean d'Acre	..	101	Hogue	..	60
Royal George	..	12	Blenheim	..	60
Princess Royal	..	91	Ajax	..	58
Impregnable	..	61	Arrogant	..	30
Arrogant	..	47	Amphion	..	34

The *Leopard*, *Valorous*, and *Dragon*, paddles, were on the weather beam and as repeating ships; and in this order the naval "Cinematus" brought his flock of "early lambs" to the green anchorage of the Downs, where they arrived at five o'clock on Sunday morning.

SMART HANDLING OF THE FLEET.

The manner in which the ships were handled by their crews was the subject of general approbation among the officers on board the *Duke*. The *Royal George* was particularly conspicuous for the short time in which she got under way after having received her signal. The *Tribune* took one of the smartest ships in the navy, and reported to be a match for any three first-rates of her size, got away in splendid style. The *Impérieuse* and the *St Jean d'Acre* also fully sustained their previous reputation, and upon no occasion was there ever a squadron which got under way in such excellent order. The double power which the screw has given to many vessels was admirably displayed in the manner in which the ships, filled with their heavy engines, fuel, and armaments, stood out under canvas alone.

COMPARISONS ON FORMER FLEETS AND THE PRESENT.

The chief expression which probably can be given to the thoughts of all who saw the fleet depart from Spithead will probably be found in the bald but telling statistics of the mighty fleet, which Sir Charles Napier has been chosen to command, and of the division with which he had put to sea. Its aggregates can only at present be set forth in general terms, the details being left for the next few weeks to work out. Of the division which set out for the Baltic, on Saturday, we can speak more definitely. It comprises eight screw line-of-battle ships, four screw, and four paddle-wheel ships of inferior rank, making a total of seventeen war-steamers; of which two—the *Duke of Wellington* and the *Royal George*—have decks; while three carry double flags—Admiral Sir Charles Napier's in the *Duke*, Admiral Chads' in the *Edinburgh*, and Admiral Plumridge's in the *Leopard*.

There is not a single ship in his Division dependent upon sails alone for propulsion; while there are twelve, including all the line-of-battle ships and the four largest frigates, which, being screws, are equally available a steamer or sailing vessels, or both combined. In to know through the fleet those who are conversant with naval matters will readily distinguish for themselves the old from the new—the fast from the slow and the general characteristics and antecedents of each. For the general public, however, who have not such a special knowledge it may be interesting to state that the *Duke of Wellington*, *St Jean d'Acre*, the *Princess Royal* and *Impérieuse*, and the *Tribune*, are those most recently turned out from our dockyards; that the *Blenheim*, *Hogue*, *Ajax* and *Edinburgh* have recently been empowered as block-ships, and that the *Amphion* and the *Arrogant* were among the first, if not the first, men-of-war fitted with screws. The *Royal George* was built at Chatham so long ago as 1827; the *Blenheim*, the *Ajax*, and the *Edinburgh* have all borne the brunt of war service already, the last especially, having been at St Jean d'Acre; so that Sir Charles Napier takes with him to the Baltic both the most strong memories of former triumphs to help him in gaining new ones. The four paddle wheel frigates will, no doubt, serve a useful purpose in the fleet, though their present position is less favourable for fighting than the screws.

Of these latter, the division consists of the earliest and the latest examples in the service, the difference of speed between the *Amphion*, which was launched so that form of propulsion in 1846 and the *Tribune*, which was built at Sheerness in 1853, serving to show the progress which has been made in the last seven years. The most splendid and perfect specimen of naval architecture in this division, and in every way worthy to be the flag-ship of the British fleet, is unquestionably the *Duke of Wellington*. She furnished a steamer out to the Peninsular and Oriental Company's service for the *Madrid*, which, shrunk in all the splendour of fresh paint, and puffing out volumes of angry steam, formed no inconsiderable feature of the marine spectacle in Spithead. The great number of her heavy guns, and the amount of reserved strength difficult to come into action, so terrible when awakened. The commercial leviathan, divided as it was between the conditions of her own which she made no secret of showing, while her fiery red roaring funnels seemed to growl out the whole wrath of the country at Russian aggression.

"PLEASURE" AND "BUSINESS" IN FLEETS.

There were some points about the proceedings on Saturday which could not fail so forcibly to attract the notice of protators. As we have already remarked there was a marked difference in the manner in which the movements, such as landed the review of the fleet last August—the dressing of ships or manœuvres, but a business-like aspect marked every movement, there was work to be done, and it was done without any unnecessary parade. The intense enthusiasm of the crews was a subject to be remarked; and this was seen, not only in the reception which they gave her Majesty and the Admiral but also in the manner in which they saved the time for professional operations. As some of the excursionists passed alongside the *Duke of Wellington* and cheered the gallant Admiral and his noble flag-ship, some of the blue jackets extended themselves beyond the port-holes, and threw their arms round the huge guns—as though they were carrying some noble steed, or fondling some faithful mastiff; and, as they slapped their hands upon the muzzles of the guns or kissed their fist mouths, they expressed most significantly their confidence in the objects of their strange affection. One feeling alone appeared to weigh on the spirits of poor Jack, and that was, that the fleet of to-day would not be able to "bring the Russians down on their knees," to let the good people of England see them, but that they should be only distressing themselves to push them at their anchorage.

Compliments among the numerous vessels sailing to witness the spectacle was by no means confined to the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's, the *Atrato*. The elegance of her build excited universal admiration. Notwithstanding the immense number of craft of all kinds which the Royal Yacht put to sea—which would have far more than sufficed to have brought the boats right out, and the rocks as numerous as when they were—the smoke of the large ships or crowded round the Royal yacht were not aware of the occurrence of any fatal accident, although a somewhat serious one was very narrowly avoided.

A DANGEROUS ACCIDENT AVOIDED.

A large number of pilot-boats were clustered around the *Duke of Wellington*, filled with women who had taken leave of the crew, when the *Sprightly*, conveying the Admiral and his friends on board, ensnared in a most alarming manner a boat having some forty or fifty women on board. The confusion on board the boat was fearful, and all the efforts of Sir Baldwin Walker, who sprang into the apparently sinking boat, were unavailing to restore anything like order among the shrieking passengers. Captain Gordon, with admirable presence of mind, ordered the lower port-holes to be opened, and the ship's boats to be lowered, and a large body of sailors came to their assistance, and ultimately every person in the boat was hifted or dragged safely through the port-holes, happily much more frightened than hurt. The boat itself was seriously injured, and her sides bulged in.

THE PORTSMOUTH CORPORATION AND ADMIRAL NAPIER.

The Mayor, Aldermen, and Town-council of Portsmouth, having determined to present the admiral with an address, half-past ten o'clock on Saturday was fixed upon by Sir Charles for receiving it; and at that hour he proceeded to the Guildhall cheered and followed by crowds. There the Mayor addressed him as follows:—

Sir Charles—It becomes my duty to announce to you that the Town-council of this ancient borough have resolved to present an address to you on your embarking from these shores to lead her Majesty's fleet. I feel it is sincere, most sincerely, trust, to add fresh triumphs to the list of those glorious victories which have shed imperishable lustre on the British navy. We further trust that, if it please God, you may be the instrument for producing in the mind of the Sovereign of Russia such impressions as will induce him to yield to the peaceful suggestions of Europe, and to desist from those schemes of aggression which have disturbed the peace of Europe. But whether you return as the triumphant conqueror or as the messenger of a peaceful settlement of the Eastern question, we shall ever feel that your career stamps you as one of the greatest men of the age, we have great pleasure, Sir Charles, in tendering to you our deepest respect on this occasion when you are about to lead forward to action the younger members of that service of which you are so distinguished an ornament (Loud cheers).

The Town-clerk then read and presented to Sir Charles Napier the following address:—

TO VICE-ADMIRAL SIR CHARLES NAPIER, K.C.B.

Sir Charles—We, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the ancient borough of Portsmouth, having learnt that you were about to embark from our port to take command of the powerful fleet destined for the Baltic Sea (to which have been added reserves have been imposed by the favour of her Most Gracious Majesty), are anxious, ere you leave the British shores for the probable scene of actual conflict with that Power which has been duly characterised as "the common enemy of Europe," in defence of the just and honourable cause which this nation, in conjunction with its allies, has espoused, to express our earnest hopes that you will be enabled, if the necessity arrive, to lead the mighty armaments of which you have the command to some great and glorious victory, and thus compel the Autocrat, who has so wantonly disturbed the peace of the world, to appreciate the courage and resources of England and France united, which he has hitherto dared to set so completely at defiance.

Great, indeed, is the responsibility which rests on you, and great are the expectations and anxieties with which the British people will be filled while you are engaged in the difficult and perilous duties to which your Queen and country call you. In those duties may the God of battles aid and prosper you; and may the combined force under your control, fighting in cordial union in a righteous cause, succeed in materially assisting to bring the warfare to a speedy and decisive issue.

You, and the equally brave and gallant men who will rally round you, will have the earnest aspirations not only of the inhabitants of this borough, but of the whole people of the United Kingdom. We wish you "God speed!" and pray that the war which has been thus needlessly forced upon Europe may eventually result in a still more lasting peace, check the barbarous policy of aggression, and promote the civilisation of the world.

Given under the common seal of the borough, this 16th day of March, 1854. G. C. SYGANT, Mayor.

Sir Charles Napier, who was vociferously cheered, said, in reply:—

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,—When I tell you that I have had only twenty four hours to get ready to go afloat, you will not be surprised if I decline to make a long speech; however, I beg to thank you for this very kind and handsome address. I believe it is not usual when a man is so abroad to have addresses of this kind presented to him, but all I can say is this—that I will do the best I can to prevent the Russian flag from being tarnished. I know a great deal is expected from the fleet; but, gentlemen, you must not expect too much (Cheers) We are going to meet no common enemy; we are going to meet an enemy well prepared. I am sure every officer and man in the fleet will do his duty gloriously; but, as the same time, I warn you again that you must not expect too much (Cheers). The fleet is a new one; the system of warfare is new; great consideration is required to steer and how it is best to manage a fleet urged by steam. The system of warfare is entirely different now to what it was formerly; but we will do our best (Cheers), and I am sure I shall remember to the last day of my life the kindness of the people of Portsmouth (Loud cheers)

While the Admiral, having given this reply, returned to the George Hotel, the Corporation in their robes went in formal procession to the Victoria-pier, in order to be present at his embarkation. Sir Charles, as is enthusiastically cheered on his way, arrived there about eleven o'clock, and (as before said) after much difficulty got on board the *Sprightly*, and was conveyed to his flag ship at Spithead.

PROBABLE PLAN OF OPERATIONS.

There is much speculation, of course, in naval circles as to the probable plan of operations. The more ardent of the gossips speak boldly of the bombardment of Cronstadt, and point to the large quantity of Moor's bombs shipped as a proof that extensive mischief is contemplated at the construction and materials of this terrible projectile is a Government secret; and so important is it deemed, that each ship's supply is numbered and registered in a book; and, whenever one is used, the why, the when, and the place for which it is fully noted down, and the details forwarded to the Admiralty. This, it is said, looks like bombardment: but the more cautious shake their heads, and say that to attack Cronstadt with its 800 guns would be sheer madness. Others again speak of blockade; and a third hint at the capture and occupation of the Island of Aland, as commanding the Gulf of Finland, and at once settling the doubtful neutrality of Sweden. In support of this hypothesis, it is alleged that Sappers and Miners go on, and that the ships take on a supply of long pikes and other siege apparatus. A few months will put to rest all these speculations, and perhaps add another to Professor Creasy's list of the decisive battles of the world.

ARRIVAL AND ANCHORING IN THE DOWNS.

It having been stated that the fleet would pass Dover early on Sunday morning, all were on the *qui vive* eagerly expecting its appearance. I was not, however, until about one o'clock that any positive intelligence could be obtained; it was then earned that the fleet was four or five miles to the south-west of Ha ting's, when it passed at eleven a.m. At the time the excitement among the inhabitants became very great. Large numbers crowded all the best positions for seeing the imposing pageant, the cliffs, piers, and beach being densely thronged with eager spectators.

One of the steam-boats brought over no less than 400 of the French from Boulogne; and for miles the vociferous cheers of our gallant neighbours were heard. The *Queen of the French* had the French people on board, and, in honour to our allies, she hoisted the French flag at the main, having the Turkish flag at the fore. As this vessel passed the British men-of-war the Royal ships dipped their ensigns in acknowledgment of the enthusiastic plaudits which cheered them on their way.

The South-Eastern Company despatched a vessel from Dover to meet the fleet at 12 40 p.m., which first sighted it at one p.m., disposed in two long lines, as nearly in mid-channel as possible; the colossal *Duke* forming the outer line, closely followed by the *St Jean d'Acre*. The weather was as favourable as could be wished; not a cloud was to be seen, and the sea was almost unruffled. The fleet passed Dover at three p.m., and proceeded to the Downs; where they anchored at half-past four, and were saluted by the *Castle*, *Duke of Burgundy*, 51, screw, from Sheerness, and the *Dauntless*, 33, screw, from Portsmouth.

[As the Review at Spithead in August last has been referred to in the several accounts of the departure of the Baltic fleet, it may be interesting to refer and the reader that a copiously-illustrated report of the above Review appeared in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS (No. 640) for August 20, 1853. In addition to the details of the day's proceedings, and the Engravings of the leading manœuvres, this Number of our Journal contains an interesting *resumé* (principally from official sources) of the several vessels which were employed at the Spithead Review in August; and which include nearly all those now under the command of Sir Charles Napier. (See pages 150 and 151).]

THE SAILING OF THE BALTIC FLEET.

(From our own Reporter.)

UNDER the most favourable auspices, with favouring gales and brilliant sunshine, cheered by the best wishes and acclamations of hundreds of thousands of their countrymen, and inspired by the presence and under the guidance of their Sovereign, the stout ships and gallant crews composing the first division of the Baltic Fleet, departed on Saturday from Spithead, on their momentous mission. Never have we witnessed stronger or more unmistakable evidences of national enthusiasm and sympathy than were exhibited by all ranks and classes who swarmed into Portsmouth towards the close of last week; and never, in the annals of England's naval triumphs, has a more powerful and efficient fleet been prepared with so much despatch. We may add, that never have the resources of science and the aids of machinery been more strikingly demonstrated than in the almost magical celerity with which twelve sail of the line were armed, manned, and fully appointed, within the brief space of a few days, to vindicate the national honour and protect the interests of Great Britain and her allies. It is unnecessary to say that Portsmouth and its tributary towns, Portsea and Gosport, evinced all the animation and excitement which the presence of the fleet, the hurrying on of the naval preparations, and the vast influx of visitors from all parts of the country was calculated to produce. The interest and bustle reached its climax on Saturday morning, when Sir Charles Napier, the Admiral-in-Chief, who has received in advance all the honours and ovations of a great naval victory, was invited to the Guildhall by the Mayor and Corporation, and, in the name of the inhabitants, presented with an address well calculated to cheer and encourage him in his perilous task. Her Majesty, with her usual kindly consideration, postponed her visit to the fleet to afford time for the presentation of the address; and at eleven o'clock the gallant Admiral, amid the most enthusiastic demonstrations of popular favour, proceeded through the crowded streets of Portsmouth to the Victoria pier, where, accompanied by his family and friends, he embarked in the *Sprightly* for his flag-ship the *Duke of Wellington*. The piers, the whole beach of Southsea, the long line of fortifications, and the heights commanding a view of Spithead, were by this time thronged with countless thousands eagerly watching all the movements to and fro seaward; and the steamers and railway-trains from the metropolis and the great towns continually poured in additional numbers; while steamer after steamer, loaded to the water's edge, and presenting nothing but a sea of heads, with yachts, pleasure-boats, long-shore boats—and, in short, every thing that could swim, down to the little cockle-shell with a hankerchief for a tryseil—stood out to Spithead, and were soon lost under the gigantic shadows of the floating fortresses there assembled. Nothing could be more propitious than the weather for this grand naval spectacle; a brisk south-west breeze just sufficient movement and animation to the numerous craft to divest it of its holiday look; but there was not one enough to affect the most sensitive, or excite the qualms of even the cockney seaman who, in rough pilot-coats, low-crowned shiny hats, and telescopes at high at themselves, were doing "the nautical" with epigastic impunity. Around each of the men-of-war were clustered swarms of shore-boats and luggers, filled with the wives and sweethearts and relatives of the seamen, and bearing last packages and messages, and freighted with final adieux to the gallant tars: all of these hung on or hovered about till the vessel got under way. Meantime, the excursion steamers and pleasure-boats went through the fleet, affording the visitors ample opportunity to view the formidable armament, the gigantic proportions, the massive construction, and the numerous and gallant crews who crowded the decks. The ships lay in grim repose, their sides bristling with artillery, their decks thronged with armed men, and their whole bearing evincing all the stern reality of war, as contrasted with the holiday pageant which took place the previous summer in those waters. Noon had long past, and those who knew her Majesty's punctuality, and who were unaware of the alteration in the arrangements, began to entertain serious misgivings that the Queen would not come, and that the fleet would not get under way. The practised eyes of the look-out men at length detected a light cloud of smoke in the direction of Osborne, a signal was run up to the mast-head of the Admiral's ship and a Royal salute of twenty-one guns broke forth from each ship of the fleet: the loud acclamations of the people, and all other sounds, being lost in the roar and thunder of the artillery, while the fleet and its swarm of a tendant craft were enveloped in a thick cloud of smoke. As the wind drove the smoke to leeward, the little *Fairy*, with its Royal freight, and carrying the Admiralty flag at the fore, the Royal Standard of England at the main, and the Union-Jack at the mizen, was seen cutting her way rapidly through the water; followed by the *Elfin*, the *Five-Queens*, and the *Black Eagle*, on board which were the Duchess of Sutherland, Lady Graham, and a distinguished party. The Royal squadron steamed through the fleet, the several vessels manning the rigging and cheering enthusiastically as her Majesty approached, and the steamers and pleasure-boats, with their crowded freights, falling up the line in swift their decks by but not less hearty acclamations; the bands of the several ships playing the National Anthem. The Admiral's flag ship had her side ladders and deck covered with scarlet cloth, and a guard of honour of the Royal Marines, drawn up in the waist, in anticipation of a visit from her Majesty; but the little yacht held on her course through the crowded floating mass, and hove to, to the leeward of the fleet, at the same time making a signal for "Admirals and Captains to repair on board." The barges and gigs of the several vessels were instantly lowered and manned, and the whole directed their course towards the *Fairy*; the Admiral's barge leading the way, with Sir Charles and his Captain in the stern sheets. By this time the crowd of steamers, yachts, and pleasure-boats had approached as near as propriety permitted, to the Royal yacht, the larger vessels taking up their station on the outside of the circle. Among them, the giant bulk of the *Atrato*, West India Royal Mail steamer, was conspicuous, and the *Medway*, Peninsular and Oriental steamer. The vessels of the Commodore and Ryde Company, and numerous others from Southampton, Brighton, Newhaven, and other places, might also be observed. Her Majesty, with the Prince, the Royal children, her attendants, Sir James Graham, the First Lord of the Admiralty, and Vice-Admiral Sir Thomas Cochrane, were on deck to receive the naval officers as they arrived. Sir Charles Napier, with Commodore Seymour, Captain of the fleet, were the first on board. They were presented to her Majesty by Sir James Graham, and the Queen conversed for some few minutes, with much apparent animation, on with the gallant veteran, who repeatedly bowed to her Majesty, and, if we may judge from the smile of gratification on the gallant Admiral's face as he retired, there were words of trust, and confidence and encouragement addressed to him, which could not fail to rouse every feeling of loyalty and determination in his breast. It has been said that her Majesty was somewhat affected while addressing the officers of the fleet, but whatever her personal feelings might be as to the solemn and important nature of the duty on which these stately ships and their gallant crews were about to depart, they were carefully repressed; and, from personal observation, we can state that the Queen's countenance was radiant with hope and satisfaction, and that her word and her smile were full of confidence and encouragement. The presentations were quickly terminated. As the barges from the nearer ships moved off, those from the more remote vessels came alongside; and by this means all confusion and crowding were avoided. On their progress to and from the *Fairy*, the Admiral and his brother officers were loudly and repeatedly cheered by the company on board the excursion vessels. The Queen was all animation, and apparently as much pleased with the enthusiasm of the people as with the complete nautical efficiency of the formable floating fortresses by which she was surrounded. Her Majesty wore a dark silk dress, a sable muff and victorine, with a blue veil and parasol—the latter, probably in compliment to the Admiral's flag. It is needless to say that the Queen's reception was most gratifying; and that, wherever the little *Fairy* appeared, the cheering and shouting were kept up without intermission. The yacht, in her light and brilliant paint, her tasteful carving and gilding, formed a striking contrast to the rude and massive forms of the men-of-war, and re-enabled a light and beautiful butterfly, as it sported over the waves, followed by its attendant steamers.

At two o'clock a gun was fired from the *Duke of Wellington*, for the fleet to get under way; and now all was excitement. The shrill whistle of the boatswain was heard from the *Tribune*, 31 guns, the leading ship of the leeward line; and in an instant the rigging and yards were crowded with men; another moment the top-sails and top-gallant sails fell simultaneously, and the ship was covered with a cloud of canvas. The sails were soon sheeted home; and the head-sails being set, she swung round slowly and gracefully under the influence of the breeze, and proceeded towards the Channel. The *St. Jean d'Acre*, 101 guns, which had been in the meantime getting up her anchor, performed the same manœuvre, and in a few minutes was also under way, following in the wake of the *Tribune*, at a few hundred yards' distance. The *Impérieuse*, 51 guns, was the third ship; and the *Fairy*, which until now had been lying to, made a rapid movement round the fleet to windward, followed by her attendant steamers, and took up her station a little in advance of the leading ship, as if marshalling the way for them to fame and glory. The movement was skilfully accomplished, and the effect was extremely fine. The enthusiasm of the people and of the crews of the men-of-war broke out afresh in repeated bursts of cheering; and never did her Majesty appear to greater advantage than when, in right of her proud position as mistress of the seas, she led the way for her gallant and well-appointed fleet. The *Amphion*, 34 guns, was the fourth ship under way; and then came the *Barbadoes*, 60 guns one of the guard-ships, painted with one streak like a frigate, but concealing in her lower deck a powerful armament of heavy guns which would most dangerously astonish a Russian three decker: the *Hogue*, *Ajax*, and *Edinburgh*, have also the same peculiarity, and are all of much greater real than apparent power. In common with all the larger men-of-war, the *Princess Royal*, the *St. Jean d'Acre*, the *Duke of Wellington*, the *Impérieuse*, and others, carry a ten-inch gun as dishops, for throwing hollow shot, or shells; and another new and formidable engine of modern warfare, Moorsom's shells, have been supplied to all the ships, the destructive effects of which, in bombardment or in close action, are well known to our naval authorities. At three o'clock, the *Royal George* came round, and a few minutes afterwards the *Duke of Wellington*

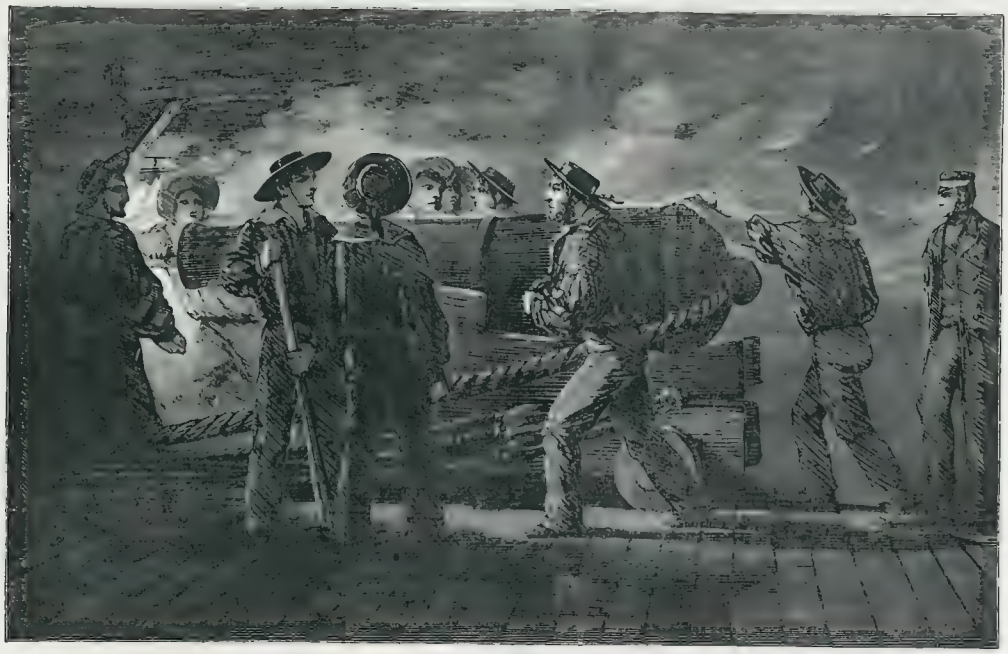
HER MAJESTY, IN "THE FAIRY," PASSING SOUTHSEA CASTLE.

ton, the Admiral's ship, followed, bringing up the rear of the men-of-war. The whole of the twelve ships are screw steamers, but they all went out under canvas, the wind being favourable—the object being to economise their fuel. The *Leopard*, *Valorous*, and *Dragon*, paddle-wheel steamers, followed; and in this order they proceeded in single line, towards the Nab light, followed by a whole swarm of boats and steamers. Within about a mile of St Helens, the *Fairy*, which had till then taken the lead, was stopped, and the fleet went ahead under easy sail. Each vessel, as she passed the Royal yacht, again manned her rigging, and lowered her top gallant sails, the crews giving three hearty farewell cheers, and the Queen and other distinguished personages on board the *Fairy*, waving handkerchiefs and hats in token of farewell. By the time the *Duke of Wellington* had approached the Royal yacht, the headmost ships had made a good offing, and were scarcely discernible in the horizon. The crew of the flag-ship, instead of stopping at the top, sprang up the rigging to the topmasts, one gallant fellow seating himself on the truck of the maintopmast, and in this perilous position cheering and waving his hat. As soon as the flag-ship had passed, the *Fairy* again got under way and returned to Osborne, which the Royal party reached at half-past four o'clock. Much comment and observation has been made upon the mode in which the several ships were handled in getting under way, and in the manning the rigging and yards: but we had an opportunity of observing very closely the manœuvres of every ship in the fleet, and do not hesitate to say that all of them acquitted themselves most creditably. We are borne out in this remark by the opinion of many naval veterans, who expressed their high admiration of the rapidity and precision with which the newly-collected crews of the fleet executed the various movements, and who assured most favourably from the manner in which these preliminary duties were executed. As soon as the fleet had made a good offing, signal was made to close and form in double line, the three paddle-steamers closing the line; and before dusk the ships had got well up the Channel, standing to the north-east, under easy sail.

With the exception of a shore-boat stove in by the *Sprightly*, while going alongside the flag-ship with the Admiral on board, not the slightest accident took place, amidst the many hundred vessels of all sizes which crossed and jostled each other during the day—loaded so as to be a most unmanageable, and heeling over now and then in a manner that would terrify any persons who were not under the influence of some extraordinary excitement. In the shore-boat stove in alongside the flag ship were a large number of women who were quickly dragged through the lower-deck ports into the ship, and who appeared to regard their immersion as a providential dispensation, as it afforded them another opportunity of taking leave of their friends and relatives among the crew.

Independently of the deeper and more absorbing interest of this grand and imposing naval spectacle, it was one of great brilliancy and beauty the fresh gale, the buoyant ripple of the water

SIR CHARLES NAPIER LEAVING PORTSMOUTH.



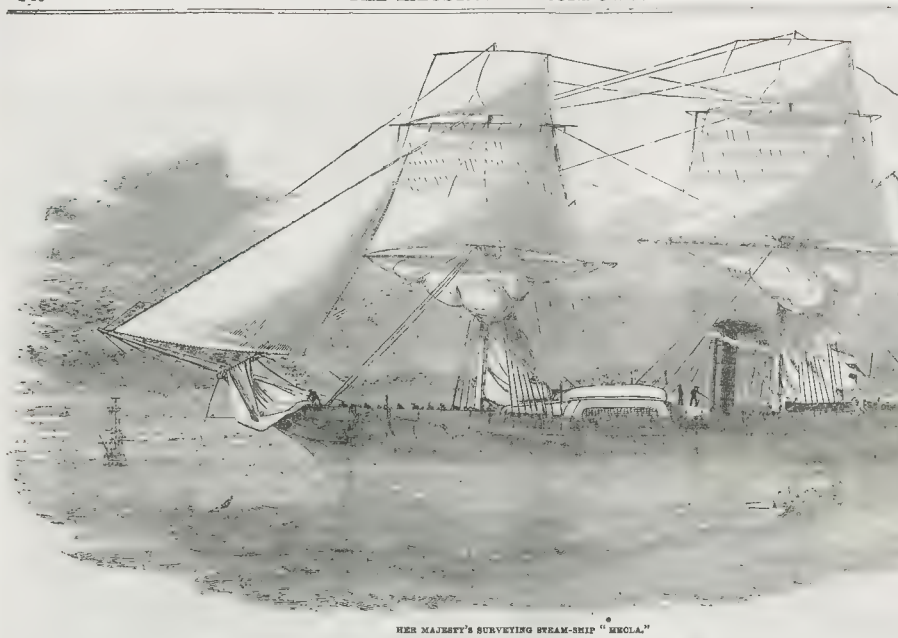
GUNNERY PRACTICE — LOADING — ON BOARD "THE ST. JEAN D'ACRE."

the occasional gleams of sunshine, followed by masses of heavy clouds, the vast number of vessels moving about under canvas or steam, the weighing anchor and departure of the noble fleet, and the presence of Royalty, formed a *tableau* which no verbal description can do justice to. Few of the present generation have beheld anything approaching to it in naval grandeur, and no one could have witnessed it without being deeply impressed with the evidences before him of the great maritime strength, the enormous material resources, and the indomitable energy of the country. Before dusk the great bulk of the visitors had been safely landed and conveyed to their destinations. There were a few complaints here and there of parties having purchased excursion tickets, who were left behind by the steamers, for the very sufficient reason that they could carry no more, and of others who had come down by the trains, and could not get back to town at the precise moment specified. Our only surprise is that, with the vast amount of extra traffic the service was so efficiently conducted, and upon the whole, we believe there were as few real grounds of complaint on this as on any former occasion of a public spectacle of such magnitude and importance.

FITTING FOR SERVICE.

Early last week it was pretty generally known that the first instalment of the Fleet at Portsmouth would leave within a few days, and, probably on a very short notice. On board the ships therefore, every one, from the Captain down to the youngest boy, was fully occupied "*fitting for Service*," and for active service, too, was the order of the day. Fitting for service is a most comprehensive phrase. The ship being given all that makes a ship complete remains to be done. The Captain finds full occupation in procuring all appliances and provisions from the Dockyard authorities and from those of the Victualling Department, and his subordinate officers are equally busy in supplying things so procured to their proper uses. "Keeping up supplies of Provisions and Water," was one of the many essential operations which a visitor had frequent opportunities of observing during the period of preparation. "Drawing Gunnery Stores," shot, shell, and such interesting items, also gave pretty constant occupation to ships' crews. These operations are so systematically done, that neither delay nor confusion can occur. The general results are truly wonderful, till one comes to analyse the means by which they are arrived at. When we see the untiring zeal, and the practised ability and skill, of those who command, and observe the thorough good will with which orders are carried into execution by those under command, all wonder ceases. There is not a class of men in existence who are more ready to see the proper uses of any material under their control, or more prompt to put it into use than sailors. Money is perhaps an exception to this rule. The noble ships which sailed from Spithead on Saturday was one of many manifest proofs of naval energy and skill. Even had no great purpose been embodied in those massive hulls which rode so tranquilly at their anchorage on Saturday morning, one look at them would have been ample compensation for a visit to Portsmouth. The Admiral's ship was, in itself, a picture not to be forgotten easily by those whose good fortune it was to see it. To manipulate those 131 terrible engines of war, this magnificent vessel carries within its giant flanks the population of a good sized town, eleven hundred men, each man in his proper place, having his own peculiar duty to do, and doing it. After some weeks of constant activity, in the manner already indicated, and also in pretty frequent "gunnery practice," "firing at a

GUNNERY PRACTICE.—FIRING.—ON BOARD "THE ST. JEAN D'ACRE."



HER MAJESTY'S SURVEYING STEAM-SHIP "HECLA."

target," &c., the fleet was honoured with a visit from her Majesty on Friday. At one o'clock on Saturday the Queen again visited the fleet, and gave the signal for their departure, escorting them for some miles on their voyage. On this occasion the ceremony of "saluting" was performed with more than ordinary good will. The boom of the cannon rolled eastward with the breeze, and was heard along the south coast as far as Worthing, a distance of some forty miles from Portsmouth. The Royal salute over, signal was made at a quarter before two o'clock to "put to sea."

The two groups at pages 252 and 253, Man-of War's Men and Royal Marines, have been drawn from life by George Thomas; and are fine specimens of the men forming these branches of the service.

THE FIRST DIVISION OF THE BALTIC FLEET.

Ships of the Line (screws).	Guns	Men.	H.-pr.	Commanders
Duke of Wellington	131	1100	780	Flag of the Commander in Chief Vice-Admiral Sir C. Napier, K.C.B., with Commodore Seymour as Captain of the Fleet, and Captain Gordon as Flag Capt.
Royal George	120	820	400	Capt Codrington, C.B.
St. Jean d'Acre ..	101	906	600	Capt. Hon H Keppel.
Princes Royal ..	91	850	400	Capt. Lord C. Paget.
Cressy	80	750	400	Capt. Warren.
Edinburgh	60	000	450	Flag of third in command, Rear-Admiral Chad, C.B., with Captain Hewlett as Flag Captain.
Blenheim	60	600	450	Capt Hon F. Pelham.
Hogue	60	600	450	Capt. W. Ramsay.
Ajax	58	600	450	Capt. Warden.

STEAM-FRIGATES, &c.

Ships.	Guns.	Men.	H.-pr.	Commanders
Impérieuse (screw)	51	810	360	Captain Watson, C.B.
Euryalus (screw)	51	600	400	Captain G. Ramsay.
Arrogant (screw)	47	460	360	Captain Yelverton.
Amphion (screw)	34	320	300	Captain Key.
Dauntless (screw)	33	320	300	Captain Ryder.
Leopard (paddle)	18	300	560	Captain Gifford.
Dragon (paddle)	6	200	560	Captain Wilcox.
Valorous (paddle)	16	320	400	Captain Buckle.

Thus, the first division of the Baltic Fleet, will consist wholly of steamers—amounting to 17 ships, 1017 guns, 8370 men, 7370-horse power. Besides which there are four steamers—the *Desperate*, *Vulture*, *Basilisk*, and *Hecla*, employed in services connected with the North Sea, which may join the fleet

The following now ready and fitting, in various ports, will form the Second Division of the Baltic Fleet:—

SHIPS OF THE LINE.

SAILING.	Guns.	Men.	H.pr.	Captains	Ports
Neptune	120	970	—	Flag of Rear Admiral Corry, Capt. Hutton	Spithead.
St. George	120	970	—	Capt Fyres, C.B. ..	Plymouth.
Warspite	120	970	—	Capt. Lord F. Kerr ..	Sheerness.
St. Vincent	101	800	—	Capt. Scott	Portsmouth.
Prince Regent.. ..	90	820	—	Capt. Smith, C.B.	Spithead.
Monarch	84	750	—	Capt. Erskine	Sheerness
Boscawen	70	740	—	Capt. Granville	Spithead.
SCREWS.					
Cæsar	91	850	400	Capt. Robb	Spithead.
James Watt	91	850	600	Capt. Elliott	Devonport.
Nile	91	850	400	Com Martin, C.B. ..	Devonport.
Majestic	80	750	400	Capt. Hope, C.B.	Chatham.

FRIGATES, SLOOPS, &c.

SCREWS.	Guns	Men.	H.-pr	Commanders.	Ports.
Miranda	18	175	250	Capt. Lyons	Sheerness.
Archer	14	160	200	Capt. Heathcote	Woolwich.
Conflict	8	130	400	Capt. Foote	Devonport.
PADDLES.					
Odin	16	220	560	Capt. Yelverton	Portsmouth.
Bulldog	6	160	500	Capt. W. K. Hall.. ..	Spithead.
Gorgon	6	160	320	Com. A. Cuming	Portsmouth.
Driver	6	160	280	Com. Hon. L. Cochrane	Sheerness.
Rosamond	6	160	280	Com. Wodehouse	Sheerness.
Prometheus	6	145	200	Com. Rice	Woolwich.
Alban	3	60	100	Com. Otter	Woolwich.
Lightning	3	60	100	Capt. Sullivan..	Woolwich.
SAILING.					
Frolic	16	130	—	Com. Norleth	Southend.

Making in the whole, as before stated, a glorious and powerful fleet of 44 vessels, 2200 guns, 16,000-horse power, and 23,000 sailors and marines!

THE CUBAN SLAVES.—Lord Clarendon having had the case of the liberated Cuban slaves now at Southampton, on their way to Liberia, brought under his notice, has ordered the Admiralty authorities in that town to see that every care is taken of them at the Government expense, and has promised them a free passage to Africa.

SURVEY OF THE BALTIC BY HER MAJESTY'S SHIP "HECLA."

THE steam-sloop *Hecla*, commissioned for the special service of conveying a large number of surveying officers to the Baltic, to make soundings for the approach of Sir Charles Napier's fleet, returned to Spithead on Monday morning. The *Hecla* had on board several masters of the navy, and some younger brethren of the Trinity House, under the command of Mr. Peter Wellington, Master, R.N. She mounts six guns: two 10 inch shell guns of 84 cwt.; and four 32-p unders, 65 cwt. We annex the details of the Survey, which took her over 3000 miles of sea: she met with no ice in the Baltic.

The *Hecla* left Hull on her outward voyage on the 19th ult., and anchored in the harbour of Flekkefiord on the 22nd, and left on the 24th for Christiansand (weather very threatening, and snow storms very prevalent), where she anchored the same evening, and Mr. Wellington communicated with the British Consul; from Christiansand she proceeded to Christiania, and carried a line of soundings across the harbour, thence to Fredericksvarn, a small port near Laurvig, where she anchored on the 24th. The Commandant of that port furnished a Government pilot and a set of Norwegian charts for the whole of Christiania Fiord. She left on the 25th for Laurvig Bay, and steamed about there, then proceeded up Christiania Fiord, past Horten, to Drobach, where she anchored in the evening. The anchorage of this place was found very bad. The *Hecla*'s party went across to Christiania in sledges, and were well received. She left on the 28th, and proceeded down the Fiord of Christiana. On the 1st instant she sighted the lights of Wingo Sound at midnight, hove to, proceeded at daylight in through Warholm, Flemuh, and Hawke-road, and in and out of the north, middle, and south channels. She left Wingo Sound on the 2nd, made for the Skaw, on the coast of Jutland, and proceeded along Aitbeck Bay and Frederickshavn. She sounded all the way; in the evening anchored in Nyborg-roads; and, on the 3rd, passed between Kalsko and Spogo, noting the leading marks in and out; also the marks on the Vemeasse shoal. Then she went by the Langland Deep S.S.W. through the Great Belt, and anchored at Kiel the same night. Here she received orders to return to the Downs, in consequence of some Russian frigates being in a dangerous vicinity. It would have been a grand chance for a powerful Russian frigate to have grabbed all the masters belonging to the Baltic fleet. The masters as well as the pilots were told off, and stationed at the guns, in case of falling in with a Russian of superior force

The *Hecla* left Kiel about eight o'clock in the evening of the 3rd, and arrived off Copenhagen on the 5th, having made Dars Point on the previous morning, and examined the locality of the Plantagenet shoal, where a line-of battle ship sank some long time since. She found the shoal accurately marked on the chart; and commenced her return on the 7th, so as to be in the Channel on the 12th (as ordered). The Danish Government, she found, had recently issued an order that no vessel should anchor within a certain distance of the Trekroner Battery. The *Hecla* found that the Great Belt is easily navigable. Christiansand appeared to be the best port for a fleet to anchor in on the coast of Norway; Wingo Sound, on the coast of Sweden; Nyborg, in the Great Belt; and Kiel Bay, on the eastern coast of Holstein, a little to the south of Schleswig—the most advantageous of any for a large fleet. It is a capacious and most beautiful bay, and possesses the paramount advantages of communication by railway with Hamburg, besides any amount of victualing supplies, which are both good and cheap. Coals also are plentiful and may be had at a reasonable contract price.

The *Hecla* arrived in the Downs at one o'clock on Sunday morning, and left for Spithead at 10 a.m. She fell in with Sir Charles Napier's fleet, off Dover, at half-past 1 p.m, in two divisions, under steam, and all plain sail. The Admiral made signal to shorten sail, and for the *Hecla* to commence supplying the weather division with the masters and second masters belonging to them, and two pilots (forty of whom she had on board) to each. She commenced with the last ship of the lee division, and did not finish transhipping all the officers until 7 p.m. Sir Charles expressed to Master Commander Wellington his high satisfaction at the opportune punctuality of falling in with him, and the manner in which he had performed the duty intrusted to him. After disembarking Commander Scott, R.N., and Captains Fenwick, Bailey, and Sidney Webb, of the Trinity-house, the *Hecla* proceeded for Spithead, where she arrived between seven and eight on Monday morning. She went into harbour in the afternoon, and commenced coaling, to return to the fleet with despatches, and some necessaries for the Commander-in-Chief.

THE BALTIC SEA.

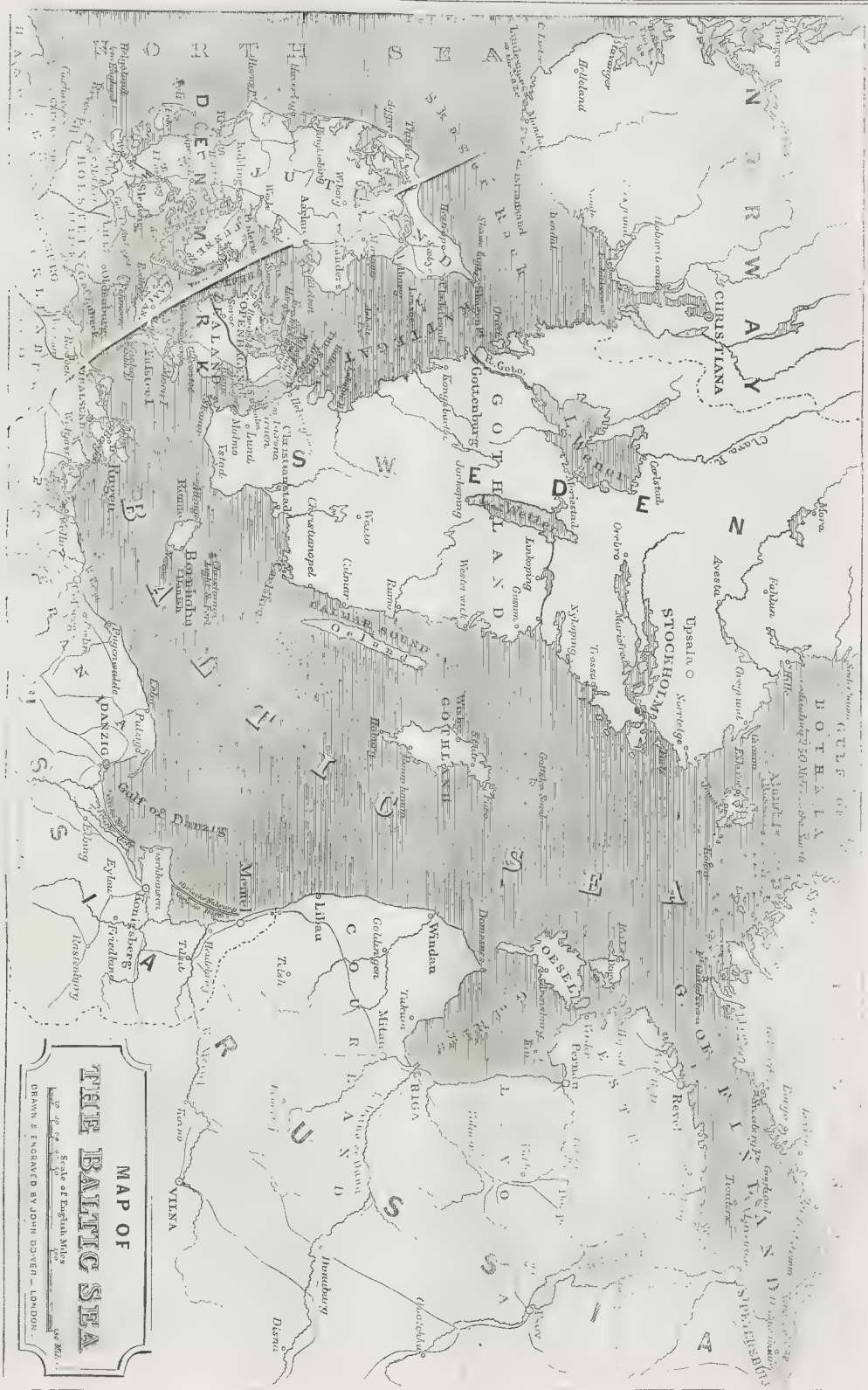
THERE is no marine excursion in Europe more capable of beguiling the leisure, or of gratifying the curiosity, of the practical traveller than a sail, at the right time of year, up that labyrinth of isle-entangled and coast-sheltered waters, which so many gallant Englishmen are now about to visit in a very different manner. But it is necessary that they should go thus to render it possible that others should continue to repair to the same scenes, either for personal pleasure, or for the profit derivable in an immense and beneficial commerce—checked and paralysed at present by the ungovernable ambition of one tyrant, who appears to be as deaf to the voice of common prudence, as to that of political honesty and public law. That magnificent fleet—which, under the command of Vice-Admiral Sir Charles Napier, will, we trust, soon vindicate the outraged rights of nations, relieve Europe for all future time from the menaces of the modern Huns and Vandals, restore the intercepted currents of traffic and of business to their thousand channels, and establish the true interests of the world on a basis of civilisation so firm and solid as not to be soon or easily shaken again—will pass by many a beautiful and memorable spot, and will first awaken its thunders amid scenes which never echoed to the like before; and never, indeed, in some instances heard the artillery of a great naval armament, fired in anger, since the world began. For, of course, the theatre of action lies much further east than in our last Baltic expedition. Artillery, indeed, and worked in anger and in earnest, has resounded over the Gulf of Finland; but it was that of land troops, when, in the depth of winter, armies have marched and fought on the safest pavement of ice, carpeted with snow, which overspread the waves of that inland sea. Our expedition is of a different nature, and must wait for a different season, and for the thaw of the Baltic

The first thing to be remarked in its geography is, how it bears as to mere distance relation to the main practicable entrance of new ships, additional equipped. There never yet was an armament so completely furnished with the formidable agencies of steam, and steam in its most efficient form of warlike application—steam with the screw propeller, the motive machinery of the ship being considerably below the water mark, and out of the range of the enemy's fire. On the other hand, there is, perhaps, no sea in Europe where there might be more pressing occasion for steam to facilitate the war like operations of a fleet. In the Black Sea, where there are sudden and violent storms, steam might often save a vessel; and, indeed, this new power must be an advantage everywhere. But, in the Baltic, which is almost wholly formed by the concentric discharge of great rivers, and where very little wind-power, or opportunity from ocean currents, can ever be anticipated, the moment for an operation might without the resources of steam, pass away before the ships could be concentrated at the required spot.

The next peculiarity of the Baltic is the length of its gulfs in which it terminates, is exceedingly important. The fleet does not leave the whole of that sheet of waters simultaneously; the western part are already so much sooner than the eastern; and, from west to east, the process of liberation once begun stretches further and further, by well known gradations. Now the Russian fleet is not concentrated in any one place; and if it were possible (which is for Sir Charles Napier's judgment, and not for that of laymen) safely to enter the nearer waters, the moment they are free, and to follow the thaw as it advances, it is evident that the Russian ships, found successively in various ports, or intercepted in their egress, or overtaken in their flight, must fall in detail, easy and blood less prizes, almost without a blow. The attempt would have its hazards; and those most accustomed to that navigation, and to the localities, might fare the best. Many a good vessel has perished just after the thaw, amid rocks which no chart can indicate—the rolling masses of half-sunken ice, which for many days infest the whole of that expanse, from shore to shore

Having beheld the magnificent pine crowned cliffs of Norway, and threaded the isles of the Skattegat, our expedition will approach, between beautiful scenes and famous coasts the two formidable gates of the Baltic—in the direct line, the Sound; and, by a little circuit to the right, the Great Belt. Nothing can be compared to the difficulty of these entrances (if they were in the hands of an enemy) except the Dardanelles. Russia, on the other hand, is under arrest in her own dominions, with sentries at the only egresses, and must never go, except by permission and on sufferance, in to the high seas

All the scene around the expedition is the ancient nursery ground of existing Europe. the Scandinavian fastness, or system of fastnesses; the home of the Scald, the sanctuary of the Saga, the starting point of the restless Norman, the cradle of all those modern empires which have developed their municipal greatness out of the feudal but heroic societies, issuing of old from here. Having passed renowned Elsinore, and fairly entered the Baltic, the fleet may be imagined to "refuse" Sweden, and to be pushed, well in hand, between Borgholme (legendary land) and Rugen, along the lower or southern shore. Beyond Dantzig and the mouths of the Vistula our brave seamen will expect immediate business, and sail with watches still more alert. At Kemel they will leave all that is even nominally neutral behind them, and try what the gripe of the bear is really worth. There runs the frontier of Russia. Not far, on the Niemen, stands Tilsit, memorable in the history of the last Emperor of Russia, brother to Nicholas. The Niemen (or Russ, or Niemen) pours its waters into the Baltic, on this side of the town of Memel; and from that to Riga there is no great port to shelter Russian vessels. If our fleet passes on, it is likely that these Russian vessels will not venture into open sea, but will wait till Sir Charles comes back and invites them to follow him; but meantime he will have done something worth notice at the great naval depôts, in Archangel, terminating the Gulf of Bothnia, preliminarily at Cronstadt and St. Peter-burg. If Sir Charles can pass Cronstadt (and we have long since heard an opinion attributed to him on this head), the war will not last a month beyond the forcing of that vaunted barrier. On his return he should take a glance at Narva, for the sake of the memory of his name-sake, poor Charles XII., and he should look in at Revel, on many accounts. Revel is interesting. Revel has been, at various times, a Hanseatic town, a Danish seaport, a fief of the Livonian Teutonic Knights and a Swedish dependency. It was obtained from Charles XII. by Peter the Great. It was under Denmark till 1347; under the Teutonic Order till 1561; under Sweden till 1700; and has been under Russia ever since. To whom will it belong in the summer of 1854? Is it possible the Scandinavian nations should not feel which side in this quarrel their interests and their honour should espouse?


MAP OF
THE BALTIC SEA
DRAWN & ENGRAVED BY JOHN DOVER — LONDON
Scale of English Miles
NORWAY
SWEDEN
DENMARK
PRUSSIA
RUSSIA
CHRISTIANA
STOCKHOLM
Upsala
Gothenburg
Carlstad
Orebro
Mora
Falun
Avesta
Wisby
GOTHLAND
Copenhagen
Elsinore
Helsingborg
Malmo
Lund
Ystad
Ronne
Bornholm
Christiansoe
Rudkiobing
Svendborg
Nyborg
Odense
Middelfart
Aarhuus
Randers
Aalborg
Hirtshals
Skagen
Frederikshavn
Hjorring
Thisted
Lemvig
Ringkiobing
Varde
Ribe
Tondern
Apenrade
Flensburg
Sonderburg
Alsen
Fehmarn
Travemunde
Lubeck
Wismar
Rostock
Stralsund
Greifswald
Stettin
Swinemunde
Usedom
Wollin
Damm
Gollnow
Stargard
Pyritz
Cammin
Treptow
Rugenwalde
Stolpe
Leba
Leutsch
Rixhoft
Putzig
Hela
DANZIG
Gulf of Dantzic
Elbing
Marienburg
Marienwerder
Graudenz
Thorn
Culm
Strasburg
Neidenburg
Soldau
Mlawa
Plock
Lipno
Rypin
Brzesc
Kowno
Wilna
Grodno
Bialystock
Tilsit
Memel
Konigsberg
Friedland
Eylau
Preussisch Eylau
Heiligenbeil
Braunsberg
Frauenburg
Elbing
Liebau
Windau
Goldingen
Tukum
Mitau
Schaulen
Polangen
Libau
RIGA
Pernau
Arensburg
OESEL
Hapsal
Baltic Port
Reval
Narva
Wesenberg
Wesenberg
Weissenstein
Fellin
Dorpat
Werro
Pernau
Riga
Wenden
Wolmar
Walk
Pskow
Ostrow
Dunaburg
Disna
Oschmiana
Lida
Grodno
Bialystock
Tilsit
Memel
Konigsberg
Friedland
Eylau
Preussisch Eylau
Heiligenbeil
Braunsberg
Frauenburg
Elbing
Liebau
Windau
Goldingen
Tukum
Mitau
Schaulen
Polangen
Libau
RIGA
Pernau
Arensburg
OESEL
Hapsal
Baltic Port
Reval
Narva
Wesenberg
Weissenstein
Fellin
Dorpat
Werro
Pernau
Riga
Wenden
Wolmar
Walk
Pskow
Ostrow
Dunaburg
Disna
Oschmiana
Lida
Grodno
Bialystock

HER MAJESTY LEAVING PORTSMOUT

VISIT THE BALTIC FLEET.—(SEE PAGE 242.)

The Poetry by Charles Mackay

The Music by John Gray.

Briskly.

May be sung in D flat.

Don't you know the wrong you're do-ing? Migh-ty Czar! migh-ty Czar! Don't you see there's mis-chief brewing? Migh-ty Czar! France and En-gland, one in coun-cil, Are im-pa tient for the day, And are steam-ing to the Bal tic, Ripe and rea-dy for the fray. We have hearts that ne-ver fail us, So look out for wounds and scars; For there's Char-ley Na-pier com-ing, With his gal-lant Jack Tars! For there's Char-ley Na-pier com-ing, With his gallant Jack Tars!

THE BALTIC FLEET.

I.

Don't you know the wrong you're doing?
Mighty Czar! mighty Czar!
Don't you see there's mischief brewing?
Mighty Czar!
France and England, one in council,
Are impatient for the day,
And are steaming to the Baltic,
Ripe and ready for the fray.
We have hearts that never fail us,
So look out for wounds and scars;
For there's Charley Napier coming,
With his gallant Jack Tars!
For there's Charley Napier coming,
With his gallant Jack Tars!

II.

Oh, you think you're very clever,
Mighty Czar! mighty Czar!
But we'll do our best endeavour,
Mighty Czar!
To convince you of your folly.
We are strong when duty calls,
And since reason will not teach you,
Here's success to cannon-balls!
You shall rue the day you roused us
From the sleep of bygone wars,
So, look out for Charley Napier,
With his gallant Jack Tars!
So, look out for Charley Napier,
With his gallant Jack Tars!

III.

'Tis a foolish course you've chosen,
Mighty Czar! mighty Czar!
Russia's strong, no doubt—when frozen—
Mighty Czar!
'Twas not you that beat Napoleon,
But your ugly ice and sleet;
And we'll profit by the warning,
And we'll try you with our fleet.
Ere you feel the summer breezes,
You may thank your happy stars
If you do not yield to Napier,
And his gallant Jack Tars!
If you do not yield to Napier,
And his gallant Jack Tars!

BLUE-BOOKS ON THE EASTERN QUESTION.

(Continued from page 191.)

In our rapid, but, we trust, clear and available, condensation of these voluminous papers, we have now reached the point where our Cabinet, about the end of March, last year, not content with counter-manding Colonel Rose's summons for the Malta fleet, sent him, as an exp anation of their decision, a brief and frigid despatch, which virtually and implicitly amounted to a reprimand. Ministers were soon rewarded for the patience of their honourable, but too confiding, and too costly, credulity, by receiving the most emphatic and profuse thanks from the Army, in a despatch of Count Nesselrode's, which we reproduced in last article. Our Government were pleased with the message, and were confirmed in their error. Fresh intimations were given to the public that the Eastern dispute was approaching a pacific and satisfactory termination. Nevertheless, in spite of the most sanguine hopes which an obstinate belief in the resolute and probity of the Emperor Nicholas's personal character continued to excite in the minds of Lord Aberdeen, Lord Clarendon, and some other eminent English politicians, there was something so grave, something so dark, or, at the least, so indistinct, in the colour which the embroilment had assumed, that Lord Stratford de Redcliffe was ordered to return at once to his post. Even that able diplomatist—to judge from one remarkable expression used by him in a former and early despatch—had originally, like the rest, given the Russian Emperor credit for principles incompatible with the projects which were now slowly coming to light. Colonel Rose appears at no time to have been deceived; and, if his Government, for a moment, subjected him to more obloquy and treated him as a prejudiced alarmist, he was soon vindicated by the most convincing of all advocacy—that of events. The mistake is, at this time, to suppose that, by ordering up the fleet in March, 1853, to the Greek waters, to join the French squadron, a war must immediately have been entailed; or even the chances of a peaceful adjustment rendered, in any sense, or in any degree, more solid. Undoubtedly, Russia thanked Lord Aberdeen and Lord Clarendon, with fervent alacrity, for the passive attitude they then maintained; acrimoniously censuring France, in the same despatch, for the contrary policy. But, after the passage of the Pruth, we should have had a right, without justly incurring war, to have gone not merely to the Greek waters, but (lurky conceiving) to the Black Sea. About that right there was, and there could be, no dispute. That which alone was then apparently in question was, how far we were disposed to stand upon rights, and how far to waive them and to neglect them—even when momentous interests and the safety of Europe depended upon their maintenance. Russia, which felt its way all through the earlier stages of this transaction, was then watching our movements with close and intent study. Her first error about our indifference was, of course, countenanced unawares; her other illusion, that we were disinclined to act with France, was also encouraged and strengthened; for, on the one hand, France was seen to take a step; and, on the other hand, for merely proposing a similar step, we were seen to give one of our ablest and most zealous English envoys an official slap in the face.

The next stage of the transaction may be said to date from the moment when our Ambassador to the Ottoman Court had arrived once more at his post. This was on the morning of the 5th of April; and on that very day our active Envoy addressed himself to his work. At first, the business seemed to soften. Prince Menschikoff, holding back in impenetrable mystery the ulterior demands which he had come to urge, used great insistance respecting the question of the Holy Places. The wisdom and moderation of the French Emperor rendered it evident that no serious difficulties would arise about that point; and, on the whole, Lord Stratford was in hopes that this heightened disturbance would be appeased, and that the peace of Europe would be maintained. Still the Russian armaments were prosecuted with extraordinary activity; and, when explanations on this head were asked at St. Petersburg by Sir H. Seymour, Count Nesselrode returned answers which, from the outset, were felt to be at least evasive, and soon were proved to be prevarications and falsehoods. Another circumstance was, that the tone adopted by Russia was evidently different, in the different scenes of this widespread transaction. The language of Count Nesselrode was not consistent, for example, with that of Prince Menschikoff; so that, despite of some transitory and occasional appearances of the likelihood of an amicable settlement, there were very sinister and very ominous signs remaining, which kept every Government in Europe and the whole commercial world in a state of disquietude and suspense.

On the 5th of May, the mask of this question was finally removed; in so far that, from that day forth, Prince Menschikoff could no longer make the Russian claims for certain privileges at the Holy Sepulchre, &c., the ostensible motive of the menaces or of the preparations of his "orthodox master." The question of the shrines was settled conclusively and definitively on the day in question; and it would be hard to exaggerate the praises due to the French Government and its Minister, M. de la Cour, for the temperate and conciliatory manner in which they carried the previous negotiations to a close; or those praises which, with equal justice, belong to our own Ambassador for the ability of the counsels with which he facilitated and expedited the arrangement.

This matter being done, and "done with," it would now be seen at what Russia was really aiming in the minatory and half-armed mission of Admiral Prince Menschikoff. The representatives of France and England could henceforth act in concert; and they did.

We approach a serious point in the progress of events. We have remarked that, now, Prince Menschikoff would be obliged to speak out. He lost no time. Fourteen days, and no more, after the settlement of the Shrine dispute, the Russian Envoy departed from Constantinople, shaking the dust from the soles of his shoes. This departure of the Russian Plenipotentiary occurred on the 22nd of May. All the significant firmness of the French Ambassador—all the eloquent and officious (or extra-official) efforts of Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, to prevent the fatal step, were in vain. Prince Menschikoff demanded such powers of internal intervention and protection for the Emperor of Russia, in regard to the Greek subjects of the Porte in European Turkey, that, had they been conceded, they would have made the Sultan, who, in that part of his dominions has but 4,000,000 of Mussulman vassals and 10,000,000 of Greek subjects—a mere Lieutenant of the Czar, and, indeed, his tenant-at-will in occupation of the Byzantine peninsula. The Emperor of Russia would at once have become absolute master of Turkey in Europe, with this additional insolence (beyond the violation of treaties, and the insecurity, and indeed ruin, entailed upon the whole of Europe), that the first exercise of his new authority must have taken effect, not by means of a peaceful phrase but by means of a bloody and desolating revolution. The "Christian" majority might rid themselves of the heathen minority by a "religious" carnage, justifying an orthodox Te Deum in the chapel of the Winter Palace at St. Petersburg; and then an installation of the Russian Emperor at St. Sophia, and a great intonement of the Greek Creed (with "Filioque" omitted), thundering over the waves of the Bosphorus. In logic, in policy, in basis, the whole proposition of which Prince Menschikoff's ultimatum consisted had the look of a joke; but it was urged and pressed with tragic earnestness, and with every artifice of bullying and of menace. It was rejected with serious courtesy, and with unalterable firmness; and, at last, to repeat our quotation from the French Emperor, "the Powers of the West awoke from their sleep." Too long, indeed, had that somnolent confidence, or generous "credulity," continued. Even in the waking, there was a lingering reluctance to believe in the worst. But it was only believing in the facts. No alternative remained.

It is remarkable that the despatch in which Lord Stratford announces Prince Menschikoff's departure contains also intelligence that, both at Galatz and at Trebizond, there were already "*appearances of a military advance.*" Reconcile this. If it be possible, with the pacific professions of Russia; bearing in mind that the result of this Menschikoff mission could not yet be known at St. Petersburg; reconcile it, if that be practicable, with honourable or straightforward intentions of any sort. Suppose, for instance, that the Menschikoff proposals had been accepted by Turkey (as they very nearly were; for the Divan was, at one moment scared out of all presence of mind and completely panic-stricken), the advance of troops must have equally taken place; it was manifestly so directed and so commanded, that it was not dependent on the result of the negotiations—that result being uncertain, when the military measures were actually in operation. What, then, was the design of the treacherous and unprincipled aggressor? To coerce the reluctance of Turkey, if she refused, and to destroy her if she complied; for, be it remarked that, by compliance, the Porte would have parted with all virtual authority, and all practical means of control over the immense majority of its European subjects, the Greek Separatists, banded in conspiracy, ready for an armed rising, and abetted by the advancing Russian forces: and the very same act which would have thus unbridled the Greek malcontents, would simultaneously have enraged the Mussulman population, estranged it from the throne, and deprived the Sultan of those enthusiastic defenders, of those very champions, whom his firmness has since rallied to his defence. Well, indeed, might Count Nesselrode thank the English Cabinet for refusing to send our fleet to that identical scene of action, towards which, at the same moment, the Russian troops were stealthily converging, both in Europe and in Asia, under predetermined orders, and with all the expedition that the fell energy of rapacious despotism could impart to their movements.

The French Government now took the start of ours. Disclaiming again, by an official and supererogatory precaution, all intention or wish to obtain a protectorate over the Latin Christians of the East, and thus doubly and trebly justified in resisting the Greek Protectorate claimed by the Czar, the Emperor Napoleon determined to send the French fleet to Besika Bay; a resolution notified to our Cabinet by Lord Cowley, on the 5th of June. Three days later, on the 8th, Baron Brunnow communicated to Lord Clarendon the decision of the Emperor Nicholas to seize the Principalities, and to keep them as "a deposit," until all his claims upon Turkey should be allowed.

The Turks encountered the emergency with a spirit as well as with material resources, which astonished all men. On the 15th of June, our Cabinet learned from a despatch of Lord Stratford that Omer Pasha had gone to Schumla in command of a very considerable force. How that force has since been augmented, been fourfold multiplied by the volunteers from Asia, by the contingents from Egypt, and by the general effort of the exertions of the Ottoman Government, we need not record. And now a singular page is turned; where we find military and diplomatic operations simultaneously adopted, war on the Danube, and negotiations for peace, all over Europe. To show the colour which these negotiations were ultimately certain to assume, it is necessary to do no more than intimate how Austria spoke, even at that early moment. There was no country in so critical or so difficult a situation as Austria in affairs directly provoking the activity or involving the interests of Russia. Hesitation could be understood and excused. But there was no hesitation; there were no chess and re-serve, and a grave, and even solemn attitude; but, from first to last, there has been no change of language, except to say with greater and greater emphasis, as the discussions proceeded, what had been more mildly and gently hinted at the beginning. In the early part of June, last year, Count Buol expressed himself on the conduct of Russia as to elicit the strongest acknowledgments of satisfaction from the English Government; and on the 15th of that month Lord Clarendon wrote to Lord Westmoreland to the purport indicated. Had not the Czar been demented, he would not, even at the outset, have mistaken the sincere solicitude of Austria to escape from impending war for an intent on to take part with Russia if war did become inevitable.

Knowing, now, how fruitless were all the labours at conciliation, and merely extracting from the mass of unavailing proceedings this important general fact for perpetual remembrance, that all the powers then engaged in discussion with Russia, were cordially and honestly anxious to preserve peace, and that but one cause frustrated their endeavours—the intractable, insurmountable, and delirious arrogance and pride of the Emperor Nicholas—marking and setting aside that great fact for future record, we may pass briefly over the unprofitable though protracted course of negotiations. An incident occurred on the 3rd of July, which approved that the Czar, who would debate in order to mislead, was bent, even then, upon removing the question from the Court of pacific discussion and public law, and on placing it under the influence and arbitration of the fiercest passions, and of popular fanaticism. *On that day, by command, the manifesto of Nicholas was read in all the Russian churches.*

Curiously enough, on the same 3rd of July the fatal step of crossing the Pruth was taken—all, we see, betokening early preparations and foregone conclusions. Four days later Lord Stratford de Redcliffe learned the fact; and on the 20th of July Lord Clarendon received his despatch announcing it (No. 196, Vol. I., p. 389). The dates are here of immense importance, and will be so in perpetuity; for Russia pretends that she crossed the Pruth because we entered the Dardanelles. It is remarkable that not only was the passage of the Pruth not negotiated by any violent measures but *no definite agreement* yet subsisted, or was even now framed, between France and England. Russia therefore, flattered herself she might proceed—and that no one would stop her predetermined course of temporising in words, and striking hard in deeds.

The celebrated Vienna Note was disapproved and rejected by the Porte towards the end of August. That note is the most amusing diplomatic blunder on record. It was understood *by those who framed it* in one sense, and by both of the two parties for whom it was framed in another; and, in this last, which was its real meaning, it was applauded by Russia as conceding Prince Menschikoff's demands (*which it was designed to ignore*), and condemned by Turkey for the same reason. The authors of the Note finally recognised this, and, adopting the Turkish modifications in it, sent it to St Petersburg, where it was now positively refused by the Czar. This refusal was communicated by Baron Brunnow to Lord Clarendon on Sept. 16.

At length, on Sept. 23, after reiterated and urgent instances on the part of the French Government, Lord Clarendon, in the name of our Cabinet, authorised Lord Stratford to summon part of the English fleet to Constantinople; and, on Oct. 1, both the French and English Ambassadors were empowered to call up the whole squadrons. On the same day (under remarkable coincidence, for the former fact was not yet known) the Porte relying on England and France, declared war; and on the 25th the combined fleets entered the Dardanelles. This was at instigated Russia to cross the Pruth on the 3d of the previous July!

Even after this, Russia succeeded once more in imposing upon the Powers of the west, by professing her willingness to negotiate.

Now, be it remembered that though France and England (the Porte consenting, or rather asking, and a state of war subsisting) had the clearest right, guaranteed by treaty, to enter the Dardanelles, and attack and capture any armed Russian vessel which they might, after notice, encounter; and though Russia had no such right when she took the initiative, which set her opponents free to act as we have described, but, on the contrary, committed a flagrant act of piracy in forcibly seizing the Principalities, and in treating as conquered their 4,000,000 of Turkish subjects; yet, we say, the instructions given to the combined fleets forbade them to interfere, *even yet*, with the transport of Russian troops between Russian ports (No. 152, Vol. II.). The whole history of international negotiations affords no parallel to this moderation. It was only after the atrocious carnage of Sinope (communicated to our Cabinet on the 12th of December, by a despatch from Lord Cowley) that orders were sent to confine the Russian ships of war to their own ports. These orders were not sent from London till the 27th of December. We will close this summary with the following excellent despatch from Lord Clarendon to our Minister at St Petersburg, and with the short letter in which, eight days later, he announced the conclusion of all attempts at negotiation:—

No. 4.

THE EARL OF CLARENDON TO SIR G. H. SEYMOUR.

Foreign-office, January 21, 1854.

Sir,—I herewith inclose the copy of a note addressed to me by Baron Brunnow, whose name will have appeared to you in the course of the negotiations which have taken place during the last few months, the purport of which is sufficiently recorded in the despatches which I have addressed to you, and which are therefore unnecessary to be repeated in this instruction.

I have only to add that I have received the most positive assurances from Baron Brunnow, by orders of his Government, that the Russian fleet in the Black Sea, which, at the commencement of the present year, consisted of 15 sail of the line, 11 frigates, and 7 steamers, has received no reinforcement whatever, and that the number of ships of war now in that sea is precisely the same as it was at the commencement of the year.

I have also the copy of a despatch from Count Nesselrode, which Baron Brunnow, by orders of his Government, placed in my hands, the purport of which is to express regret that I should have felt it necessary to call upon Russia to withdraw her troops from the Principalities, and to assure me that it is prompted on her Majesty's Government

MAN-OF-WAR'S MEN.—DRAWN FROM LIFE BY GEORGE THOMAS.

COLOUR-SERGEANT, ROYAL MARINE ARTILLERY. PRIVATE, ROYAL MARINES. DRUMMER, ROYAL MARINES.

TROOPS FOR THE WAR.—ROYAL MARINES.—DRAWN FROM LIFE, BY GEORGE THOMAS.

FINLAND:

ITS IMPORTANCE IN CONNEXION WITH THE PROBABLE OPERATIONS OF THE BRITISH FLEET IN THE BALTIC.

It is now above forty years since this populous and industrious country was by the perfidious policy of the late Emperor Alexander, in the midst of profound peace, and without the slightest provocation, wrested from Sweden, upon pretexts as frivolous and untenable as those now advanced in extenuation of the occupation of the two Principalities belonging to the Ottoman Empire.

In an evil hour, by an overwhelming Russian army, in the heart of a severe winter, and unable, at that time, to receive any succour from the mother country, the brave Finlanders, nevertheless, valiantly defended their territory inch by inch, till at length, overcome by masses of the enemy's troops, they were obliged to yield.

Since that period, the country has been ruled by an iron rod. Cajoled at first, oppression and tyranny have since everywhere distinguished the Russian domination. Taxes, conscriptions for army and navy, restrictions on commerce, military occupation of most of the towns, Russian functionaries and spies in every part—these are among the sufferings which have befallen the once happy but now unfortunate inhabitants.

Remembering the mild sway of their former rulers, the Finlanders have never ceased to wish for return to the dominion of the Swedish crown. They have repeatedly sent deputations to Sweden, especially during the reign of Charles John, the late King, to know if their country could hope once more to join the Swedish brethren? His Majesty, closely watched by Russia, could only console them with the following laconic answer:—"*Messieurs, espérer fait la vie de l'homme*." The same spirit still animates the brave people; continuing to endure accumulated injustice from their oppressors, they only wait for a fit opportunity to shake off the Russian yoke.

The Grand Duchy of Finland, as it was formerly called, with a population of above 1,000,000 of intelligent, industrious, warlike, and active people, is a most desirable country. It is, in truth, the most valuable gem in the Russian crown. Producing abundance of corn for its own consumption, as well as for exportation, with a profusion of cattle of every description, it possesses immense forests, yielding the finest timber for naval purposes, of which not a small quantity is annually exported to Great Britain, where it highly appreciated. From its lakes and rivers, with which the country is interspersed, abundance of fish, particularly salmon of a superior quality, are taken, and exported to foreign parts, either smoked or pickled. The finest game is found in every part. To these productions may be added immense quantities of tar and pitch, which are shipped to every part of Europe, and are a source of great wealth to the Finlanders.

In most of their towns, which are partly washed by the waters of the Baltic, partly by those of the Gulf of Bothnia, there are excellent dock-yards and wharves for building ships; the science of naval architecture is carried to a great perfection, that few countries, Great Britain and the United States alone excepted, can boast of sending such fine ships to sea as the Finlanders. Receiving models from abroad, their naval architects try as much as possible, if not to improve, at least to equal them. They also build ships of any size, but are obliged to consult the intricate navigation of the Gulf, which, at places, does not admit of any great draught. Many are sent to London to be coppered after which they are to be met with in every part of the globe. Of subject, they have the finest specimen. Hence Russia draws her best supply for manning her fleets in the Baltic as well as in the Black Sea. Sober, hardworking, steady, and active, they perform their duty with cheerfulness; though it sometimes happens that, arriving in an English port, they are seduced by crimps to run away; but these are rare occurrences.

The principal towns in Finland are Abo, the present capital, and Helsingfors, the intended one, close to which is the strong and, by many, believed impregnable fortress Sweaborg, built by a native Finn Tavhom, the celebrated architect and engineer, Count Ehrenswärd, soon after the disastrous wars of Charles XII. It is of immense strength, and requires, according to report, a garrison of nearly 20 000 men to defend it properly. Considered formerly as the key to Sweden, it is regarded, during the present eventful contests, all attempts at possession. It was only in the course of the unfortunate war of 1808 and 1809, that the command, and, at one time, the country, whose name is justly lauded in the great sea romance, allowed himself to be seduced by the *promise of* Russian gold, *which he never received* (something like the reward Hungarian chieftain, Görgey), surrendered this stronghold to the Russians. The event created at the time the greatest dismay in Sweden as well as Finland, it enabled Russia to dictate her own hard terms, and peace was signed at Fredrikshamn.

Sweaborg has since been the hands of the Muscovites, who have added to its original strength. Should this fortress happen to be among the first points of attack by the British fleet, it will be a task of considerable risk and danger, as the same naval hero who display'd, not many years ago so much gallantry and valour at the reduction of St. Jean d'Acre, till then considered impregnable, should also upon the present occasion have to add to the British laurels by conquering Sweaborg. By the possession of this fortress the road to St. Petersburg is quite open. Two towns are only to be met with, namely Frederickshamn and Wyborg.

In addition to the two capitals, Abo and Helsingfors, mentioned above, Finland possesses the following towns, all more or less in a thriving condition, with dockyards, &c.:—Ulleaborg, Gamla Carleby, Nya Carleby, Jacobstad, Wasa, Björneborg, Christinestad, Borgo, and Lovisa, carrying on a considerable commerce to various parts of the world with their own ship

Let us now glance at the influence which this country may be destined to exercise in the pending contest between Great Britain and Russia. The Finlanders, as we have already observed, are warmly attached to Sweden, and will only wait for a favourable opportunity to shake off their present fetters. The presence of a British fleet on the coast, with a promise of support in the event of a general rising, would have an electric effect on these brave people, and be a death-blow to Russia.

Sweden, whose policy probably is, or will be, to side with the great Western Powers, since Russia has declared her determination not to respect her profferred neutrality, will not lose sight of her former kingdom of Finland. She will, in her own interest, send a well-equipped army to Finland, in support of any insurrectionary movement, and, by acting in concert with the British fleet and her own naval forces, soon scour the country of the last Russian and restore the brave Finlanders to their pristine happiness. It is, after all, if the express law may be allowed, but recovering stolen property. An appeal to arms would produce a good effect.

To Russia, as we have said before, the loss of Finland will be irretrievable. Sustained by, and on the celerity of the British fleet, it is to be hoped that neither snow-storms, nor any equinoctial gales, rather unusual in the north in the course of March, may impede its progress. If it can enter the Baltic, and arrive at the port of Kiel, an excellent harbour for shelter, before the Russians can get their heavy ships in open water, a good account will no doubt be given of them.

It is pretty evident that the object of Russia is to detach, by an early hostile demonstration, the Courts of Sweden, Norway, and Denmark, from their adopted system of neutrality, and to get them to carry out the contemplated operations; but Sweden and Norway, as far as it is known, and probably Denmark also, have resolutely refused to deviate from their fixed plan; and, uniting the action to the word, are making the most strenuous efforts to be ready for action both by sea and by land. A strong army is reported to have been despatched to the Island of Gotland, greatly coveted by Russia; and every precaution taken to guard Stockholm against a *coup de-main* from the Island of Aland, and to man-of-war stationed within a short distance from the capital. The Swedish Admiral is determined to enter into the intentions of the British Admiral to take immediate possession of this fortress, which, in the hands of the Muscovites, is a continual source of alarm and terror to the inhabitants of Stockholm.

EXPLOSION OF AMMUNITION.—The Health of the Treasury, having received information that firearms and other munitions of war [illegible] were frequently desired [illegible] would not likely to be made, have been in recently carried to her ports to which permission would not have been granted. In order to meet such attempts the Commissioners of Customs, that in all cases where permission is given by their officers for the export of gunpowder, fire-arms, ammunition, or other articles prohibited by the recent proclamation to any foreign country, a bond shall be taken that the same articles shall be duly landed at the port for which they are professed to be shipped and which bond shall be discharged only by a certificate from the British consul at such port that the said articles have been landed there. Similar precautions have been taken with regard to the removal of such articles coastwise, and their Lordships have directed the Commissioners of Customs to take steps to give effect to this arrangement as quickly as possible.

THE WAR IN THE EAST.

(From a Correspondent.)

CONSTANTINOPLE, 25th Feb., 1854.

The most startling event that has recently occurred in connection with the Eastern Question is the demonstration that has been made by large bodies of the people in the kingdom of Greece in favour of the pretensions of the Emperor of Russia. How far the same spirit may extend among those of their own race who are the subjects of the Sultan, has not been accurately ascertained. There can be no doubt but that they lean more to the side of his declared enemy than to him; but unless, in combination with some striking reverse on the side of Turkey, it is not supposed that their partisanship will assume any dangerous shape.

Russia is accused—and not without reason—of having fomented these hostile feelings that have been shown by the King of Greece's subjects. Othe himself is also said not to discourage them. What is his motive does not seem quite so clear. Religious liberty and equality, of course, are the cry not up by the leaders of the people; but that plea, in reality, has very little to do with the business, for toleration is here granted to men of all persuasions. The bitter remembrance of former wrongs and oppressions inflicted by the hands of the Turks and the fond belief that their power is tottering to its fall, are some of the real causes of this declaration of hostility towards their former masters.

Ambitious aspirations after national greatness are other elements that may be at work in their minds. It has, of late, been often proposed by political enthusiasts, and speculators, who, of course, have never gone through the practical part of legislation, that the Turkish rule should be swept away, and a Greek one constructed in its place. There is in that idea much that is pleasing to the Greek mind. But that the Allied Powers of Europe will overthrow a long-settled and acknowledged Government, to which they have already pledged their faith and protection, that they will cut out a new country, form the Greeks into a distinct nation, and give them an independent Government, is a mere chimera. The present difficulties of the Allies are quite formidable enough. Such a task would enhance them to an indefinite degree.

The Greeks have had their day. It is long gone by. Their empire, like that of others equally great, has passed away; and they must be contented, like many other fallen nations, to mix with the common races of mankind.

The fleets have made no hostile move yet, nor is there any sign of any rencontre with the Russian ships occuring. Their presence in the Black Sea, must, however, effectually prevent the repetition of any such catastrophe as took place at Sinope, and a power of vast service to the troops in Asia, in securing for them regular supplies of stores and provisions.

It is now generally understood that no operation against Sebastopol shall take place.

Passing down to events of less note, we may mention that the steamers that arrive here are doing a brisk trade in bringing up volunteers for the Sultan's army. The French steamer arrived the other day from Marseilles and the Italian ports. Every available part of the vessel was crowded with passengers, one half of whom were men who came with the intention of tendering their services to that new-raised chief, Omer Pasha. A very miscellaneous collection these adventurers formed, and they seemed to eye one another not only with feelings of intense curiosity, but of considerable jealousy. Every one appeared quite confident of being about to enter upon a successful career. Not a few were in pecuniary straits enough, we understand to believe that, by one jump, they would clear all obstacles on the road to fortune, and attain to a position in the military profession which, in ordinary circumstances, demands nearly a life-time of patience, steadiness, and courage to reach. Some were French, who, with the restless spirit of their nation, were anxious to figure in the stirring strife; others, again, at the same time, it could not be brought to a successful issue without their co-operation. Others, Hungarians, who had come from exile in America, to improve the double chance that might occur of having pay and promotion in the Turkish army, and of taking part in another insurrection of the Magyars. Others were Italians, who have been deeply implicated in the revolutionary events that took place, not, in 1848, in almost every state in Italy—willing to be employed in almost any work, until their native country shall be ripe for another struggle. Not the least part of the number was our own countrymen. They were almost to a man officers in the army, and their appearance was referable to their profession. To complete the list, there was a proportionate supply of doctors and apothecaries, speaking various languages.

A few words of caution we think not out of place to persons at home or elsewhere, who may contemplate coming out here for the same object. To test their expectations of promotion in the Turkish army on their fancied or real superiority in military matters over the same class in that service, is a most erroneous way of calculating on success. The method of finding out what their chance is, would be to ascertain what is the feeling of the Government in reference to such offers, without regard to their own individual merits. The Government has no idea of removing its own field officers and of replacing them with lower grades of British officers, however well up to their business these may be. Should our captains and lieutenants have influence enough to be brought under the notice of the military chiefs here, they must be content to occupy a position under a Turkish commander, who may not only be ignorant of his profession as understood in our army, but be unacquainted with the usages and refinements of good society. At such a connection, I am satisfied nine tenths of the officers of our army would revolt, and from which they would retire in disgust. Any more liberal scheme of promotion can hardly be expected to prevail even under the dangers that threaten the country against the long-established conservatism of the Turkish system. Adherence to the old practice is the great peculiarity that pervades all the institutions here; and although reform has to a great degree swept away many of their military prejudices, yet the handing over the command of large bodies of their forces to foreigners, is a change which the selfish interests that are at work in the army are too strong to permit. The foreigners, with few exceptions, who have acquired rank in their army, have not done so suddenly, and by passing over the heads of others, but by going through most of the grades of the service. They have become naturalised, and are in their feelings essentially Turks. Turkey is their adopted country. Its language and customs they comprehend as well as the native who has been familiar with them from his infancy.

I have only to add that a man cannot be many days here without having his eyes opened to see that many of the ideas entertained by the British public in favour of this people, are mere delusions—the creations of romance and of a perverted imagination.

VIATOR.

NAVAL COMFORTS.—The health and requirements of the troops destined for Russia have been especially cared for. Many necessaries not to be had in barracks have been ordered; and the humblest in the regiments is destined to have as many comforts which would have surprised the commanders of by-gone campaigns. Even the *governess* of a soldier's children will not be left behind, for the Duchess of Kent has given a free passage to that officer, to provide each man with an extra blanket (under Gibbon's patent) to last the trip. In this respect Russell is better off than the sailor, who, we believe, with a hard exception or so, is still obliged to use a soap for his ablutions which is totally useless in salt water.

THE NEW REFORM BILL.—A public meeting, called and presided over by the Lord Mayor, in the Council-house of the Town hall, for the purpose of considering the provisions of Lord John Russell's New Reform Bill, was numerously attended last Saturday evening. Mr. Alderman Wire moved a resolution to the effect that it contains objectionable clauses which, he considered, would destroy the principles and that the new Reform Bill fairly entitled to the undivided support of all sincere Reformers, was carried.

FIRST IMPRESSIONS OF SINOPE.

It was moonlight when the last of the leviathan ships of the combined squadron of England and France reached her anchorage in the now-peaceful Bay of Sinope, whose waters had, but a few days before, run red with the blood of the Turk, and closed over the remains of so many brave and devoted men. We looked upon the lofty and picturesque outline of the circular Bosphorus-like steep slopes, which had so recently echoed back the Russian thunder, were strongly defined by a bright background of cloudless sky; in the little town beneath, twinkling lights shone out from the casements of such of the houses as were included by the walls. Night threw her mantle over the unroofed mosque, the shattered minarets, the shot-torn hills and the wreck of many a gallant ship. It was difficult to realise in the quiet beautiful scene that now met our view, the sad tragedy which had so recently enlisted the sympathies of Europe, and confined to bring to this unfrequented port one of the noblest fleets that had ever put to sea, manned by the world's best warriors, the brave champions of the oppressed.

Early a few hours morning dawned upon Sinope. A very Turkish-looking place it was, as seen from the anchorage, with its red-tiled overhanging roofs, and its wooden houses standing in the midst of cypresses and other dark evergreens; its picturesque Orientalism was not a little marred by the shattered walls, which concealed that portion of the town which the fire had devastated.

We landed, not forgetful that Sinope was the birth-place of Diogenes, and once the capital of Mithridates. Passing through the small dockyard (where, strange to say, a fine fifty-gun steam-frigate, in the course of construction, had escaped the hand of the destroyer), we entered the uninclosed church, chiefly occupied by the Greeks. Here, on either side, traces of recent war met our view. Clean round holes, of different sizes, through which the shots from the Russian ships had passed, were still unrepaired in the front and sides of the wooden habitations; while, in some of stronger build, the iron missile still remained embedded. One of these intruders was pointed out to us, which had passed through the door of a house and, after ripping and expending two large casks of wine, had buried itself in a neighbouring wall.

As we ascended the hill, and approached the outskirts of the town, the symptoms of such visitations were more frequent. Wherever we appeared, inhabitants and children fled from us with exclamations of alarm. Closing their doors, they cautiously reconnoitred us from behind their jalousies; but a few kind words and looks of sympathy soon reassured them. Little children, some of whom were singularly beautiful, came out and invited us into their houses, that they might show us the "large iron balls" which had fallen amongst them, and they were apparently delighted to explain to us the mischief done. Their childish glee and simplicity accorded well with their animated countenances and graceful movements. In our progress we observed a poor woman, who was watching us from her latticed window, whilst we were examining her shot-pierced house. She pointed us to the direction whence had come the ball which had entered her quiet dwelling, then, making a sign to us that it had passed through the heart of one of her family, she burst into tears, and rushed away. Many of these unoffending people were thus destroyed; and it is said that no less than a hundred and fifty, amongst whom were many sick, were thus killed, or perished in the flames.

The Christian Consul's house had not escaped; and we found the hill above the demolished, but temporarily re-constructed, fort, polished up and perforated with shot and shell, in every direction. Beneath, lay the bones of one of the Turkish artillerists, who had chosen to die and the ground was literally covered with burnt fragments of her timbers and portions of her wreck.

Returning through the Turkish quarter of Sinope, inclosed within the walls, we found how complete had been the work of destruction. It was there that the Russian shells had fallen and set fire to the town, and the greater part of it was a black and irreparable ruin. The eyes rested only upon heaps of stones, and half-consumed walls: mosques, baths, and fountains had shared the common fate. One tall minaret still stood, erect among the ruins, although scorched by the flames, and battered by cannon. It was sad to see, in this scene of devastation, melancholy-looking groups of wretched sufferers sitting amongst the remains of what had been their houses, for lost or burned property; and sadder still to see, crouching beneath the accustomed but unroofed wall, more than one family of homeless men.

There sat one of the sufferers—a surviving woman, whose face of sadness, her pink yashlik, or head-dress, only half concealed—surrounded by her miserable children. Looking and domestic troubles were around them—it was still their home—but it was desolate. With great wistfulness she poured forth her lamentations, interspersed with numerous ejaculations upon the "Moskov" and the "Russ," for by both these names are the Russians designated by the Turks. We tried to comfort her by saying that the Moskov could come no more; but she only looked upon her children with a wild fury, raised her hand to heaven, and muttered "Inshallah, Inshallah!" (Would to God it were so!)

We passed by but one fountain, which the fire had not destroyed. Through the western gate we proceeded down on the massive gigantic walls of the old fortress and the breaking billows of the Black Sea, as they dashed up their spray to the very battlements. Here the numerous cannon had been most violent. Here the site of newly-made graves, extending far along the sandy shore, and the wrecks of many ships lying around, pointed out too truly the fatal tragedy. The sand had been loosely thrown over these graves, on which the called remains of the victims had been interred so hurriedly, that here and there, as we passed them, a limb of the dead might be seen to protrude. The sea had just thrown up the bodies of two Turks, and they were left lying upon the beach, which was strewed with every variety of fragment belonging to a ship's equipment. The place was almost impassable, from the mass of miscellaneous articles which had been cast to the destroyed vessels. Furniture and the grass and fields were covered with burned fragments of the town—pots and pans, copper bolts and chains, and spars, and shreds of clothing of the poor fellows whose bodies had been scattered to the winds.

More than two hundred yards from the beach, midway up a lofty hill, and at least a quarter of a mile from the remains of the ship from which it must have been thrown, we found an anchor weighing nearly fifteen hundred weight.

A cottage on this hill overlooked the scene. It had been struck by the balls of Russian thunder, which lay imbedded in its garden. A shabby-looking old Mussulman sat on one side, smoking his chibouque. His calm, magnificent countenance exhibited no signs of emotion; your true Turk never shows any—he continues to smoke in the midst of the battle, or our remarks on the deserted scene. What was it to him? It was his kismet (his fate) and he smoked on.

The massacre of Sinope (for by a milder term such an unequal contest can scarcely be called) must ever be a dark spot upon the Russian name, a stain upon the Muscovite flag. Many hundreds of the brave sons of Turkey and of Egypt sleep upon Sinope's shores, or bathe in the wild waves which lave them. They sank unconquered with the flag they would not strike. All honour to their memory!

AN OFFICER ON BOARD H.M.S. "BELLEROPHON."

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS*).*

From the commencement of the publication of your very useful Journal, I have been in the habit of taking copies of it weekly for the benefit of friends at a distance, as a means of conveying a larger amount of information than they would like to wade through in letter-press. The Drawings have almost invariably been executed with very great taste, but beyond that, with a correctness which affords evidence of no little acquaintance with the details of the subject under its treatment.

That I have always noticed and admired; but the late numbs rs of your Journal, referring to the War on the Danube, have conveyed such abundance of useful and truthful information on the subject, that I do not hesitate to volunteer my evidence as to the extreme correctness of all the Illustrations, of which the originals are known to me, feeling that it must be very satisfactory to you to receive such [illegible] from a person who has lately travelled through a great part of the country in question. Moreover, as your Engravings are most peculiarly useful in rendering immediately intelligible the mass of information which, otherwise, the country through other sources would be required to study before it could be [illegible] to your readers to know that such valuable can be paid on to receive any of such Illustrations.

I am, &c.,

A SUASCRIBER.

London, March 10, 1854.

P.S.—I send you my card.

THE SOUND DUTIES.—The United States Government is said to have formally protested against the toll taken at the Sound; as the Danish Government has put the paper away in the same department of the public archives which already contains a myriad of similar protests to this. It is probable that the Danish Government will negotiate with Jonathan on this subject.

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THE BALTIC FLEET LEAVING SPITHEAD.—(SEE PAGE 243.)

ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS SUPPLEMENT.

VOL. XXIV.] SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 1854. [GRATIS.

THE BRITISH INSTITUTION.

WE have this week the pleasure of publishing four Engravings from pictures, in various classes of art, in the present year's Exhibition at the British Institution.

"SANCHO PANZA AND HIS WIFE."—BY J. GILBERT.

The place of honour is given to Gilbert's spirited picture. "Sancho Panza informing his Wife of his coming Dignity, and of his Intention to make his Daughter a Countess." Our engraving of it will fully confirm and justify our praise, in a previous notice, of the admirable manner in which the figures are studied and the story told. How exactly the expression of the countenances are in harmony with the vigorous dialogue:—

"I tell you, wife, that did I not expect ere long to see myself the governor of an island, I should drop down dead upon the spot."

"Go, you, husband," replied Teresa, "to your governing and islanding, and puff yourself up as you please; as for my girl and I, by the bones of my mother, we will neither of us stir a step from our own town."—*Don Quixote*, part ii., ch. 5.

The costumes are strictly national and historical. The dog, and various articles of furniture and company, are well in keeping, and faithfully represented; and the colouring, of which we particularly spoke in our last notice, is admirable for judicious selection and harmonious arrangement.

(*Continued on page* 260.)

"SANCHO PANZA AND HIS WIFE."—PAINTED BY JOHN GILBERT.—FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE BRITISH INSTITUTION.

WITHDRAWAL OF TROOPS FROM THE WEST INDIA ISLANDS.

(From our Military Correspondent.)

The motive influencing Government to withdraw her Majesty's troops from several of the West India islands propounds an enigma not readily solved. Barbadoes, Trinidad, and St. Lucia, are the favoured stations where the Queen's soldiers are to be garrisoned. Detachments furnished for the protection of St. Kitt's and Dominica were called into head-quarters on the 5th January last. Those from Tobago and St. Vincent have likewise been embarked. As a temporary measure, Antigua and Grenada retain their complement, on account of the difficulty of providing quarters for them at present in any of the three islands previously mentioned; but eventually they will be removed. The barracks at Barbadoes are now filled, while three companies are encamped on the Savannah. The commissariat and store-keepers are under orders to proceed to head-quarters from the posts vacated, on completing their accounts; and a gloomy anticipation of the future is reserved for the proprietors who remain on their estates.

Barbadoes was conquered in 1625; Trinidad, in 1797; and St. Lucia, in 1803. St. Kitt's was ceded in 1623; Dominica, in 1783; Tobago colonised in 1763; Grenada, in 1783; and St. Vincent in the same year. At the smaller islands of Nevis, Montserrat, and Tortola, it has not been customary to locate troops; but the recent outbreak in the latter colony might have led to further disastrous results, had it not been for the friendly assistance afforded by the Dutch, from St. Thomas's.

When these several islands were conquered or ceded to the British Crown, and colonisation encouraged, the promise of military protection formed a leading feature, influencing men to emigrate from England, and engage in the speculation. Had such concession been withheld, it may be questioned whether English capital would, at that period, have been risked. The Caribb Islands were then populated by a race now nearly extinct, having been succeeded by the African blacks imported as slaves. Since emancipation, the value of West India property has greatly deteriorated, and the enforcement of the present measure cannot tend towards a reaction. The supporters of the abolition of slavery merit the highest commendation; but has not the anticipated good exceeded the result? The negro is proverbially averse to any description labour; and, provided he can exist without the fatigue of work, it would be difficult to make him comprehend and advantages derivable from exertion. In a country abounding with fruit, vegetables, and fish, and with a climate obviating the necessity of procuring warm clothing, he prefers a precarious livelihood—no matter how obtained—rather than honestly to earn a subsistence. The majority of a population being so disposed, there is no satisfactory guarantee for quiet and peaceable conduct. The presence of the military has hitherto imposed an immediate check on occasions of violence and disturbance. Negroes have not courage to face the Queen's troops; but, if animated with the spirit of revolt, evil passions might prompt them to the commission of any crime, if uncontrolled by a disciplined force. In the smaller islands the number of police does not amount to more than from fifteen to twenty men; and these would be found of small utility in the event of sudden and serious outrage. To what source, then, can the planter look for assistance in the time of trouble, the soldiers of the line having been removed from the possibility of affording aid? The proprietors of estates are now left at the mercy of the blacks, to act as caprice or bad feelings dictate. By the last arrived West India mail, information was brought that St. Vincent was already threatened with an outbreak. The Lieutenant-Governor had applied to Barbadoes for a company, offering to pay £2500 per annum out of the island treasury, if permitted to retain soldiers for the protection of the inhabitants.

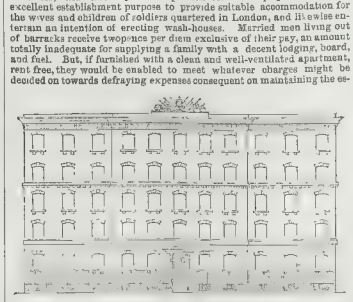
If retrenchment is the desired object on the part of the home Government, it will not be attained by simply stationing the present establishment among three islands. The saving must be achieved by reducing the general staff in the command. It is currently reported at Barbadoes that every department will be more or less curtailed. The appointment of General Commanding the Troops, will, it is said, devolve on a Major-General instead of being held as at present. That arrangement would substitute an Assistant Military Secretary for the higher grade. One Aide-de-Camp would be struck off, and five Fort Adjutants return to their corps. A Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals is spoken of in place of the Inspector. Three first-class Staff Surgeons will in that case be borne on the strength in lieu of six, and so on through the other grades. It is likewise expected retrenchments will be effected in the offices of the Deputy Adjutant-General and Deputy Quarter-Master General, as well as in the Commissariat and Ordnance Storekeepers' departments. The officers of these several branches who have resided head-quarters from the vacated stations, being supernumeraries, are to return to England by an early opportunity.

The result of these changes will unquestionably diminish expense, but the end will be achieved by a formidable loss to the colonists in being deprived of security, not alone for their property, but at the same time placing in jeopardy even the lives of themselves and their families. It may be judged "expedient" to carry out the project, but it is assuredly a cruel measure. The feeling of safety so long enjoyed by sojourners in the West Indies will rapidly give place to painful consideration regarding their now helpless condition. Should turmoils arise, the ungarrisoned islands cannot receive succour until after the mischief is accomplished, when interference must necessarily prove fruitless. These, and other points of pressing importance to the planter, should be well and carefully considered before Government leaves him to his fate, surrounded as he is by an indolent and uneducated race. Persistance in the new plan will increase the too prevailing embarrassments constantly complained of, and few men will voluntarily reside on an estate in perpetual disquietude through apprehension of impending calamity. By withholding military support, the better class of persons in the neglected islands will be necessitated to abandon their possessions, and it will prove no easy matter to find new purchasers for plantations under such discouraging circumstances.

VICTORIA LODGING-HOUSE, WESTMINSTER.

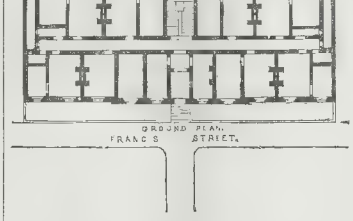
Those whose energy and interest are exerted towards attaining a philanthropic object, become speedily conversant with the difficulties inseparably attendant on applications for pecuniary support. Reasons for non-compliance are readily advanced, and oftimes the objections raised appear unanswerable. In no country throughout Europe can be found so many benevolent institutions, supported by voluntary contributors, as in England. There is scarcely a class in the community that does not boast of some refuge being available in cases of extreme need. Houses of reception are open for the homeless wanderer, and even crime finds shelter and inducement for reformation. The donations bestowed, and legacies annually bequeathed, for charitable purposes in the United Kingdom are immense; but the position of the wife and children of the British soldier has hitherto been passed without salutary amendment. So great an oversight may possibly be attributed to the natural conclusion that Government would assuredly provide against demoralising influences, which in a civilised age we may well blush when acknowledging that until now have been utterly disregarded. The degradation to which women living in barracks are conspicuously necessitated, has already been demonstrated in this Journal. Even if originally impressed with sound moral notions and religious feelings, it is impossible a female can escape undefiled from the contamination she constantly breathes. Recruited as the English army is, the habits and language of the private soldier cannot in a few instances be quoted as irreproachable. What, then, is to be expected from a woman who passes her days and nights in a room occupied by ten or perhaps thirty men?

Hundreds of individuals withhold donations from incertitude as to their appropriation, rather than from disinclination to bestow the bounty. In the case of the Victoria Lodging house no such objection can be started. The names of the trustees offer sufficient guarantee on that point. Honour is due to the officers of her Majesty's household troops and others, who have set an example which doubtless, will liberally be responded to. The projectors of this excellent establishment purpose to provide suitable accommodation for the wives and children of soldiers quartered in London, and likewise entertain an intention of erecting wash-houses. Married men living out of barracks receive twopence per diem exclusive of their pay, an amount totally inadequate for supplying a family with a decent lodging, board, and fuel. But, if furnished with a clean and well-ventilated apartment, rent free, they would be enabled to meet whatever charges might be decided on towards defraying expenses consequent on maintaining the establishment. Thus, freed from the pollution to which narrowed means force them to subject their families, the wives will be afforded opportunity for industry, and the children brought up respectably and in comfort.



THE VICTORIA LODGING-HOUSE.

The Victoria Lodging house now building is designed for the accommodation of fifty-four tenants. That proportion is comparatively small when the number of married soldiers is taken into consideration; but the building could rapidly be enlarged were the influent to commensurate their bounty by the incalculable good they might confer on those whose devotion and loyalty have ever shone conspicuous when called upon to uphold the honour of their Sovereign and their country. Unlike most other institutions, the Victoria Lodging-house will be enabled to defray its own expenses after completion. His Royal Highness Prince Albert has been pleased to notify his approval of the undertaking by heading the list of subscribers; and, when a generous and humane project is substantially based, it would be difficult to point out an instance where the support of her Majesty's Consort is withheld.



GROUND PLAN OF THE VICTORIA LODGING-HOUSE.

It would be easy to particularise the prime movers in this benevolent and truly righteous enterprise; but those who conscientiously labour to do good are the very last to wish their names bruited abroad in terms of approbation; and the bitter humiliations endured by the soldier's wife has long furnished a prolific theme for animadversion. But it was reserved for the officers of the Guards practically to lay a foundation for that reform which it is hoped the Secretary at War will vigorously follow up throughout the army. So noble and disinterested an example cannot fail in ensuring support; and it never can be contemplated that human endeavours to rescue women and young children from scenes and conversation alike repugnant, will be retarded in effect, from paucity of funds. That which is now commenced, should long since have been completed by Government; but, as pecuniary outlay forms the rock whereon benefits launched in legislative councils generally wreck, let it be shown that the liberality of individuals can cheerfully tender aid in behalf of the soldier's family, and thus rescue hundreds from degradation and vice.

A CRUISE IN THE BLACK SEA.

(From a Correspondent.)

We have just returned from another cruise in the Euxine. On the afternoon of Friday (28th January) we got orders to prepare for sea, and to take the *Firebrand* under our orders. We both anchored for the night at the mouth of the Bosporus, and early next morning proceeded into the Black Sea. We then waited for two Frenchmen, *Gomer* and *Sane*, who came out soon after. We at first thought that our destination was Varna, but the French made signal to steer for Kaffa, on the Crimea, not very far from Sebastopol. Before entering the Euxine we loaded with shot, and made warlike preparations, such as getting shell into the steerage, &c. We made Kaffa on the 31st; but before going in we sighted a large vessel under topsails running along the land inshore. Being foremost steamer, we immediately signalled an enemy, beat to quarters for action, and stood in for the vessel with our guns run out and pointed at her. However, she was no Russian after all, for, on seeing us bear down, she hoisted Austrian colours, and we then made her out to be a large merchant ship. We bore up for Kaffa, the weather really frightfully cold; thermometer standing ten degrees below zero. The only building we made out were two spires of churches, the rest of the town appear d completely buried in snow, and all the country round one mass of white. There were three small Russian steamers lying here, and a good many merchant vessels, but we only looked in, I believe, to see if the Russian fleet were there. We then shaped our course for Varna, which we reached on the evening of the 3rd of February. It is beautifully situated, and pretty to look at outside; but, like all Turkish towns, muddy and dirty within. All things seemed good and very cheap there. We left next evening, and arrived in the Bosphorus the morning after, anchoring at Buyukdere for the forenoon, as it was snowing heavily, and too thick at that time to go down amongst the fleet. In the afternoon we anchored at Beicos, and to-day (5th February) commenced coaling.

Colonel Sykes, F.R.S., of the Hon. East India Company's service, has been elected to the office of Lord Rector of the University of Mareschal College, Aberdeen, by three of the four nations; and by a numerical majority of votes of 140 to 105. The installation is to take place on a late day in March.

Rendle's "Price Current and Garden Directory."—This is a scientific catalogue of the seeds of garden plants, by Mr. Rendle, of Plymouth, the eminent nurseryman: the pamphlet will be very suggestive to all who are fond of a garden, as it contains not only a classified list of every necessary or ornamental garden seed, but also the fullest description of the plants and mode of cultivating them. We rarely find so much information in so small a compass.

THE CORPORATION OF LONDON.—A DAWN OF HOPE.

We have devoted to the consideration and discussion of matters connected with the Corporation of London much more than our space would usually warrant. Some of our readers may have thought the shortcomings of that ancient body have been made more prominent than it deserved. That, however corrupt may have been its conduct, however extravagant its expenditure, and however iniquitous its administration; still it is comparatively an unimportant, and, in some respects, an insignificant part of the great metropolis. Those who entertain such views forget how deeply and widely its influence ramifies. There is not a sewer, creek, wharf, or ordinary landing place, from Staines to Yantlet Creek, unmfluenced by its government. There is not a portion of the great valley of London where its lack of wisdom is not felt, nor could there be found, we verily believe, five hundred persons in a population of 2,500 000 who would not unhesitatingly declare that the Corporation, instead of being a benefit to the people, has been the greatest obstacle to public improvement. When we remember that the population of London is larger than either of four kingdoms on the continent of Europe, nearly as large as Scotland, and contain a larger number of human beings than existed in England during the reign of Henry VIII.;—when, furthermore, we know that our columns reach every class of the population, embracing every sphere of life, and are probably perused by half a million of people, whose residences may be found within the radius of twenty miles, measured from St. Paul's Cathedral, the whole of whom are directly interested in the investigation now proceeding—all being subject to the unwise duty on coal—we have felt ourselves justified in giving all the information within our reach. By thus endeavouring to educate the general mind, we have enabled public-spirited men to suggest such improvements as may lead to a thorough system of municipal government for the whole metropolis. The time of action is at hand; and, if the ancient Corporation be not completely revised, the fault will be, not with the public press, which is unanimous upon the subject; nor with the Commissioners, who already, by their searching questions, strongly indicate the decision at which they will arrive; but, with the pusillanimity of the people whose interests are directly involved. If the citizens of London desire a complete and perfect economical system of government; if surrounding districts earnestly wish to curb the presumption of the City, and strictly to define the area of its influence, now is the time for action. Let every parish, district, and township within twenty miles of St. Paul's Cathedral, petition Parliament to effect an entire change: point out the anomaly of the nineteen-twentieths of the population being taxed for the advantage of the twentieth part, without having either a voice in its proceedings, or any advantage from its administration. Government requires no spur, it needs no argument; it only asks the support of the aggrieved as one incentive to warrant the completeness of the reformation they desire to introduce. Let this be given, not tardily, but fully and promptly, and with an energy as if it were meant; and no jesuitry, however clever—no reasoning, however specious—will save the Corporation of London from the doom that awaits it.

In our series of articles we have hastily glanced at the condition of the streets, the river, the bridges, the markets, and almost every matter of interest to the public. We have reviewed the evidence given against the Corporation, and referred to the elaborate answer drawn up by the officers of the Corporation, under the superintendence of the Consolidated Committee. It has been our duty to go into the discussion as a matter of public interest, to weigh deliberately every argument, so as to determine whether the charges were refuted or remained in force. Now, we are bound to record that, after reading all that has been said on both sides, the Corporation stands entirely and most completely condemned. Contradictions have been numerous, denials of the truth of previous evidence frequent; but none of the gravest accusations have been disproved. Charges of malversation have not been made; therefore, the honesty of the Corporation has never been impugned. Charges of incompetence have certainly been given; but, as they are only matters of opinion, and cannot be held to be criminal, must go for what they are worth, and the public will adopt or reject the evidence according to the faith they have in the witness.

The great charge undeniably is that of general wasteful extravagance, and that has not in any way been denied except by a few of the officers—and, inasmuch as they are interested parties, their opinions must be taken with caution. An intelligent and newly-created deputy has declared that, in his opinion, and in the opinion of the public, the inquiry has entirely failed in showing any defect in the management of the Corporation. His evidence is rather the expression of a cherished desire to have things remain as they are, than the opinion of a perfectly clear and unbiassed witness. Another witness, instead of adhering to the large questions involved, went off on collateral issues; but was speedily drawn back to the proper point, and desired to direct his evidence to the charges made. His remarks on Smithfield were held to be beside the question: that matter being settled, it was considered undesirable to re-open it. He then attempted to rebut certain opinions in regard to the bridges of the metropolis; and was again reminded that matters of fact in regard to the Corporation, and not matters of opinion, having reference to bridges, were then before the Commission. Foiled and half-baffled by his own bewildering devices, he declared that no article had ever been sent to the public papers at the instigation of the Committee, or through the instrumentality of its agents; and, therefore, he gave the evidence of Mr. Bennoch on that head the flattest contradiction. The gentleman seems to have forgotten that Mr. Norris and Mr. Acland had certified the fact. Nay, more. Mr. Scott himself had not only bought a paper in which to insert such articles, but declared on oath that £100 had been spent on *literary* men and lawyers. For what purposes were the literary men engaged? Some witnesses avow that articles were written and paid for by the Corporation. If the money went to bribe persons having influence on a newspaper, and the proprietors were only to be rewarded by the purchase of the prescribed number of copies, the case is in no way mended; only instead of being a direct bribe to the newspaper proprietors, it was a roundabout way of arriving at the same result. Instead of corrupting the principal reservoir, they only polluted one of the tributaries. The end was the same. Judging from the ostentatious mention of the names of certain respectable papers, we can only conclude that either those papers shared in the infamy, or were mentioned to bolster up and give an air of credibility to an otherwise ridiculous, if not infamous, statement, unsupported by any evidence, and in direct contradiction of the best-informed members of the Corporation. We place very little faith in the opinion of the witness, for we understand that he was the great opponent of the removal of Smithfield—the chief cause of its being placed in a locality nearly as crowded as the one from which it has to be removed; and now takes credit for supporting plans which will involve an expenditure of £350,000. An impartial reader might gather from the evidence under consideration that Mr. Taylor was the most thorough reformer connected with the Corporation, and he takes credit for some new design for meat markets, and a railway to connect the northern railways with the Post-office. This gentleman is clearly a reformer by compulsion; for, on referring to a file of newspapers, we discover his name prefixed to speeches opposing the introduction of railways to Farringdon-street, the construction of bridges, the removal of Smithfield, and in favour of compelling all dealers within the City to take up their freedom. By some singular process of legerdemain, or an extraordinary assurance, he seems foremost in opposing every proposition for improvement, and, also, ever foremost in claiming

credit for the establishment of what he opposed. Verily, there is little occasion to search far for abundant proofs that consistency of character and harmony of conduct are not Corporation virtues.

The evidence is getting excessively diluted. The leading men of the Corporation, and all the principal officers of the ancient municipality, have been heard; and, so far as we can judge, they have increased the tide of popular disfavour, rather than stayed it, by their evidence. Petty jealousies, personal attacks, misrepresentations, misquoted evidence, and opinions vague and unsatisfactory, have been the staple of their tedious examination. Not one of them has dared to defend either its system of accounts, or the items of which they are composed; while the best-informed witnesses make them the lever by which the Corporation is to be moved into its proper position, and £70,000 or £80,000 saved in its annual expense.

More important matters to the universal public will now engage our attention and occupy our space. The discussions in Parliament, the issues of war, and the good of the world are more momentous than the affairs of any given locality, however interesting they may happen to be. Although we close with this article all formal expositions of the conduct of the Corporation, we shall, nevertheless, watch the proceedings of the Commission, and look forward with deep interest to the report of the three able men who are so judiciously conducting the inquiry.

Here we might have stayed our strictures; but, advocates as we have ever been for the establishment of a thorough system of National Education, we hail with satisfaction every indication of a move in the right direction, and are cheered by a dawn of hope. There are specialties in education, as in everything else. Up to a certain point, education must be "massive unity, as the trunk of a tree is massive and one," beyond a certain point, it may and must stretch its branches in the direction the human being is intended to follow: legal knowledge for the law, theology for the Church, and anatomy and physiology for the medical practitioner. So we might go through every branch of study and industrial occupation. It is with more than ordinary satisfaction that we find independent witnesses opening up the affairs of Gresham College—not in a spirit of antagonism to the Corporation, but with the expressed object of rendering that institution a living spirit among the people, and not permitting it to continue a dead carcase, encumbering the earth. To this idea, the Corporation witnesses, as well as the Gresham professors, cordially assent. So, if, after all, nothing better should spring from the Commission now sitting than the restoration by vigour of the College founded by Sir Thomas Gresham, much good will have been done. The exposition referred to has already had this good result. Several institutions have begun to consider how they can adapt their rules to the rising wants of the age; and we have heard it stated—with how much truth we know not—that the Gresham Trust Committee, the London Institution Managers, the Mercantile and Maritime College Committee, and the Travers Testimonial Committee have conceived the propriety, and are considering the possibility, of consolidating their interests—their aim being the same—so as to establish a Mercantile, Maritime, Commercial, and Nautical College, managed by merchants, bankers, traders, and navigators; and thus elevate, by a thorough system of training, the various classes indicated by the names enumerated. This is a work worthy our time, and worthy the metropolis, and we earnestly hope that no jealousy or spleen will prevent a cordial co-operation of the several parties. The accomplishment of such a work will be honourable to all, and we shall be most happy to lend our aid to bring about so desirable a result.

TESTIMONIALS IN GOLD AND SILVER.

THESE superb pieces of Plate have been designed and manufactured at the establishment of Mr. Hunt, 26, of Bruton-street, and present fine specimens of working in metal; and are worthy of illustration, as examples of that department of design.

THE GOLD CUP AND COVER

Is made of Australian gold, sent over for the purpose by the Hebrew community residing at Melbourne, as a mark of their respect to the Chief Rabbi. The design consists of a circular foot, with chased border, whence springs a banana-tree, which expands into and supports the cup. This is divided into four compartments, on two of which are chased medallions of the "Lion and the Lamb," and the Chalice and open Bible. The other two are occupied by the accompanying inscription, in Hebrew and English. Festoons of flowers gracefully depend from the lower part of the body; while the cover is embossed with wreaths of laurel:—

TESTIMONIALS IN GOLD AND SILVER.

This Cup, made from gold the produce of the mines of Victoria, is presented to the Rev. J. Nathan Marcus Adler, Chief Rabbi of the British Jews, as a token of the high esteem and love he is held by his brethren in this colony; and to mark their sense of his distinguished exertions in the Hebrew Congregation and Education in Melbourne, Victoria, July 12, 1853. A.M. 5613.

THE WILLIAMS' TESTIMONIAL

Is a magnificent silver Candelabrum, of the Louis Quatorze style, formed by a pillar, surrounded by the Three Graces, bearing wreaths of flowers. These are surmounted by branches of a graceful form, to hold eight lights, and in the centre of pierced scroll-work, containing a glass for flowers. The base is triangular, having on one compartment the arms of J. Williams, Esq.; on another, the arms of Macclesfield; and, on the third, the following inscription:—

To record their gratitude for faithful and assiduous services in Parliament, and to testify their esteem and admiration of private worth and virtue, this offering is respectfully presented, by the Reformers of Macclesfield, to JOHN WILLIAMS, Esq.; who for five years—1847 to 1852 inclusive—left their populous borough in the House of Commons, and during that period was the zealous and consistent advocate of Progress, Retrenchment, and Freedom, Civil and Religious: in the firm but humble hope that a life so valuable may long be preserved, for the benefit of his fellow-countrymen, as well as for the adornment of a private station, the inhabitants of Macclesfield desire thus to express their sincere regard for the character of an amiable man and an estimable citizen.

THE CAPEL TESTIMONIAL,

Is a Silver Centre-piece, consisting of a column encircled by two gracefully formed figures, representing Peace, and surmounted by three branches, supporting glass dishes for fruit, and a centre basin for flowers. The base is elaborately worked and finely proportioned, and bears this inscription:—

From the Spanish Bondholders, to JAMES CAPEL, Esq. 1852.

LIFE IN AUSTRALIA.

(BY A WORKING MAN)

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

QUEENSCLIFF, SHORTLAND'S BLUFF, 28th September, 1853.

Many thanks for your kindness in publishing my letter of December 26, 1852, and more so for the kind expression of your opinion of the humble writer of the same. Should you deem this worthy of a space in the pages of your paper I hope that what I am about to say may be of use to many who are thinking of seeking a home here in this far distant land, and, perhaps, may amuse a few others who may know me, and shall read these lines.

When I last wrote to you I was in the Surrey field party of Mr. A. J. Skene, our camp at Mr. Griffith's station, now a member of the Legislative Council. He was formerly a nominee of the Crown; but, not liking such an unpleasant and subservient situation, he resigned his post, came forward at the late election as an Independent member for one of the pastoral districts (I forget which), and, though he does not profess to be a popular Liberal member, as I what I have seen of his conduct in the Council Chamber, through the columns of the Melbourne Argus, he is one of the most liberal-minded men in the colony. He left us with a gentleman's stock-whip, the thong of which was plaited by the hands of the Aborigines, as a token of kindness. We had out here two sections of about ten chains each, marked on trees by a missioner, for a surveyor of the name of Hall, I never saw; and I had a good opportunity of judging of its production as the farmers were in the midst of harvest when we arrived there. The wheat is superior to any I ever saw in a garden at home. I had the pleasure of eating some of the potatoes grown there—fine large ones, and as mealy as any Irishman could desire. The soil is black and rich in the extreme, in depth about four feet. It is a large valley—I should say six miles in length by three in breadth. Through the middle runs the river Werribee, a small running stream in summer, but in winter, when the rains descend, and the flood gathers from the many hills and mountains through which the Werribee runs, it becomes much swollen, and a portion of the march is and water for a few days, whilst the fall is so great that the water is soon carried off. Mr. Bacchus was the first settler here, and the place takes its name from him; but I see by a late Argus that the farmers have held a meeting to consider the propriety of changing the name to Spring Vale, which I am sure will be far more appropriate than its present cold repulsive one. At this place there are two large public houses on the line of road from Melbourne to the gold-fields: the first one—belonging to a Mr. Crook, a fine specimen of the Yorkshireman—is a building, or a number of buildings, equal to any gin palace in your metropolis, and much reminds one of the good old road-side inn with which the old country abounds, but which are scarce here; the other one is a large wooden building, only one story in height. Good beds are kept at both these houses, which are extremely clean. This element of comfort I am happy to say, is the prevailing feature of the two establishments; and I may say with truth that the fortunate owners of them will be able to refresh a few years hence from Melbourne—Tuesday and Friday; 'twas there I posted my last to you; a bakehouse, a smith's shop, two shoemakers and menders, a flour-mill (worked by steam), a small Catholic chapel, and I believe the Scotch Presbyterians meet on a Sunday morning in one of the farmer's houses for divine worship. A large stately mansion adorns the scene with its presence, which might do credit to any English esquire or millowner. This was formerly the residence of Mr. Bacchus, but is now the property of the Government, for the double purpose of police-office, lock-up, and residence of a magistrate. I should say the inhabitants in and around the neighbourhood number near 200, chiefly from bonny Scotland and Erin's Green Isle, with here and there a fine sample of the Saxon branch of the great family of mankind. I had near forgot to say that the water of the Werribee is beautiful and clear, and sweet to drink. Almost all the settlers have got wells of good water, at least those who like to be at the trouble and expense of sinking for water can get it here, which I assure you is a great desideratum in this country. The visit to this place was for the purpose of laying out a township, on the left bank of the river in quarter and half-acre allotments. While I was here I went twice to Geelong and once to Melbourne; in the former case to send two five-pound drafts home; and in the latter, to get my boxes out of the steerage-room where they had been from the time of my leaving the ship. In coming back the first time to the camp I lost myself for two days, or what is commonly called here got bushed—wandering about in the burning sun, without water, a heavy load upon my back, no road, footpath, or bridle-path, or mile-stone to direct me to my destination; for wandering to Carlsruhe without knowing whither I went, so that I put me with a friend, who had a habitation to give me a drink of water and rest me a bit. After a little suffering from sore throat, and pain from extreme weak nerves, I got at last to the camp, and found that I had travelled in such a roundabout way, as, starting from Backfriarsbridge, up Holborn, Regent's-circus, Charing-cross, to the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS office. While we were camped here we caught plenty of eels and black fish, the Werribee abounding in both, and the bush in wild ducks and pheasants.

We started on the 16th March, surveying a road from the New Township to Geelong, a distance of thirty five miles, and reached the latter place on the 20th. We arrived here on the 8th of April, and pitched our tents in a small enclosure, so that we could have a good view of the bay. On Monday, 11th, commenced to survey the sea coast for about five miles, and a glorious base line it did afford us, on account of the numerous black swans upon it. Afterwards began to lay out the new township here. About a fortnight after I had been here, a man who had contracted to build a number of houses for the police, called me work at 15s per day, as a mason's labourer, and to quarry stone, with a wooden sled to be in, made in the form of a tent. I at first demurred to this offer, and had another party engaged. I gave Mr. Skene notice to leave at the end of the month, 30th of April. On Monday, 2nd of May, drew a cheque from Mr Skene for the amount of wages due in his hands; walked to Geelong; went to the bank, got it cashed. Went to Melbourne, as I had seen letters advertised for my name, as lying at the post-office there. When I made application, there was none for me: I expect they had been given in a mistake to another party, and he had not the honesty to return them; so I had lost of time, trouble, and expense for nothing. I must not forget to mention that I wrote three different times to the Postmaster-General, at Melbourne, to know if there were letters lying at the post-office for me, and if there were, to forward them; but I regret to add, that I never got an answer. The third time I enclosed postage stamps for an answer, thinking that they would not answer letters unless a stamp was sent for an answer. Need I say, sir, how different this would have been at home, had I written to the Postmaster-General in London? It gives me much pleasure to say that I have had occasion recently to write to the Postmaster of Geelong twice, and my communications have been promptly answered.

I left Melbourne on the 9th of May, for Williamstown; saw the pilot-master there, told him I was engaged at Shortland's Bluff, upon the houses for the pilots; he sent me down with the first pilot in the ship *Athlone*, of Liverpool. We were three days in getting down, through contrary winds. Three times we had the anchor up and down. I must not forget to mention the kindness of the captain, who invited me into the cabin, and at whose table I ate and drank all the time I was on board. Landed on the 13th May, about noon, and began work the same morning. There were six men altogether employed; and as there was a little unpleasantness regarding the cooking, I undertook, in consideration of 5s. per week extra to cook, in addition to my own work, the greater part of which was done early in the morning and late at night. I remained here till the 4th of August, when I engaged with Captain D. M. L. Campbell, Custom-house officer, as cook for him and his boat's crew, 12s. per diem, Sunday included, and found in board, with a good tent to sleep in. My present situation is something like £2 per week better than the last, taking into account loss of time from various causes yet not one of my own, and £1 per week for board; so that you see I am rotating by learning to cook. By the *Victoria* steamer I sent £25 home; and by the same post that brings you this I shall send £20 more, to bring out a relative of mine, to whom I am deeply indebted, and whom I am bound by gratitude to assist, making a total of £50 I have sent home; and I did not fairly begin to work till the 30th of last November (1852). My first situation was at a farm six miles from Melbourne, £40 per annum, and to leave when I could mend myself; stopped a fortnight, and got cheated out of this by the farmer; but I did not care. I engaged with Mr Skene on the 10th of November—£25 a year, and found, stopped with him six months. Then engaged with a stone-mason—14s. a day, charge of board £1 per week: stayed eleven weeks and three days. Changed again to my present employment—four guineas per week clear money. So that you will see how I have progressed, step by step, in spite of the adage that "a rolling stone gathers no moss."

I cannot undertake to encourage emigration upon a large scale of the great bulk of the population to this country, except those employed in the building trade. There will be plenty of work for those in that branch of industry for a number of years, with good remuneration for their labour; but for the great mass of the men now flowing into this country I can see no hope. The *Times* is right: they are not the class of men for a new country, they are a drug in the market; the gold fields are their only resource, and God knows that is a sad alternative for them. While there is much to encourage, there is much to discourage, the new comers. To me the greatest cause of regret is, that every body seems to make money for the sole purpose of flying from the country as from a place infected with the plague or pestilence. There is no inducement held out to the mass of the people to remain. The squatters have got firm hold of the land, that I much fear, unless the home Government interfere some way or other, the people will rise *en masse*, and declare the lands free to the people who wish to cultivate them, and made lovely and beautiful the face of our good mother-earth—that emigration will begin to flow from here. We have a squatting Government to the back-bone: nearly all the members of the Council are squatters; and three-fourths of the Council are elected by squatters. This squatting class interest hangs like a millstone round our necks—like an incubus it oppresses us, and weighs us down to the earth; and will require a Cobden, Bright, and Co., with a League at their back, to remove it. But few care; it will last some time. This is no home for them; their thoughts and hearts are elsewhere. There is nothing to attach us to the soil, to the country, or its institutions; and the Government seems determined there never shall be; and I can see no hope, no bright star in the heavens, to cheer one on. The work to be done is of a peculiar nature; and men are so engrossed with money-making, upon the one hand, and of guarding their territory and large interest, upon the other, that the public welfare is never thought of. We have only discovered a colonist by a tacit consent on the part of the Government regarding the franchise. The next question will be the unlocking the lands to the people, the township areas are not the powerful rocks with the Home Office. The people are apt to ask the question "What has the British Government to do with the lands of this country?" That question will be heard many times yet, and will be answered in the end, and also the propriety of extending the suffrage to the digging population, neither of which the Government will attend to or the public care about until the pent up feelings of the masses break out into open defiance, and a strong demand is made which cannot be resisted, unless at the price of public peace and safety. It is a sad state of things when a Government teaches its people that they can obtain no redress of their grievances, except when they are prepared to set it nought at law and order, and help themselves; yet such is the policy of Mr. Latrobe's government; and he will be honoured by her Majesty with the title of Baronet for the, and her Ministers will find him another place of emolument and large patronage. For what? Studying his public welfare? No; but for preserving the interests of a class, and that a small one, from the encroachments of the common weal.

My great hope and ambition was, that in this far region I might become the owner of a bit of land to settle down upon, and live in peace, and contentment, and, what is still better, independent of the whim and caprice of an employer, but, sad to say, I am further off than ever. I am at home is cheaper than it is here; and, if things do not alter very much during the next few years, I hope to return to my dear old country once more, with a well-filled purse, a grateful heart, and a mind full to overflowing with the experience I have no taste or desire; and yet, believe me, dear sir, I do not despair, because I shall win wealth here—that will be one part of my mission, and the word is before me. There are other lands as fair and bright as this.

28th Nov., 1853.

My dear Sir,—I was on my letter to say a few words more, ere I post this for the *Great Britain*, which she sails on the 3rd of December. The last named ship carries many last words to you; may I hope, sir, that when she returns to this part of the world, that she will bring me a token of your kind remembrance in the shape of a letter? I am sure I need not tell you how joyfully it will be received.

Since I last wrote we have had another wreck, and two vessels were run ashore to prevent them sinking, on Monday, the 14th March, five p.m. Several sail in sight. About half past five a French ship, the *Marie*, in entering the Heads, struck upon a sunken rock, known as the Corsair's Rock. It had only been surveyed about a month before this, and the bearers published, but strangers entering without a pilot would know nothing of it. The *Marie* made seven feet of water directly, and ran ashore about two miles from here, was lightened, the cargo landed, and taken up to Hobson Bay. Half an hour after the ship *Ontario*, from London, with a general cargo, on entering, struck the same rock. She filled directly, for in twenty minutes after she struck, she was on shore. Mr. B. Reilly, his wife, and six small children, and one single man passenger, fortunately. Had she been an emigrant-ship, the loss of life would have been terrible, or had it been a rough day, or had the ship been flowing at the time. It is questionable whether one of them would have been saved; it was just about the turn of the tide as it happened; there were about twenty vessels at anchor off Sorrento at the time, and nearly all sent their boats, in addition to the two pilot-boats, the boat of the Health-officers, and our boat. At one time I counted ten boats near her. The crew lowered their own boats, and were about the only ones that were not. One of the pilot-boats took them in tow, as they had a good sail, and brought them ashore here. So quick was the thing done, that the captain came down with a pair of hand-irons, he having without any covering for her head except a handkerchief.

Some time on the Monday night the ship went to pieces, and for two days the beach was strewed with parts of the wreck and cargo, which was a very valuable one.

The *Clusium* mail-steamer arrived here on the 19th inst., and is now daily expected back from Sydney, and will leave here in twenty-four hours after. I will now conclude this long narrative, hoping that it will not be unwelcome, and should this meet with a favourable reception, you shall hear from me again. In conclusion, dear sir, believe me to remain yours sincerely,

WILLIAM NIXON.

(*Continued from page 257.*)

"MARKING THE COVEY." BY H. HALL.

Harry Hall's picture of "Marking the Covey" will be admired and appreciated by the votaries of field-sports, as well as the admirers of art. It is a capital sporting group, in a true sporting country; the old gamekeeper seated on his donkey, and pointing to the distant covey as they are about to settle, is true to the life; the rough shooting pony and boys in attendance indicate that the party are waiting or the setting out of the 'squire, heir master; to whom appearances omise a good day's sport.

"MIA CARISSIMA." BY C. BROCKY.

This is a pretty study of an Italian peasant woman, with her child dangling in her arms, whom she addresses impulsively in words equivalent to "mother's darling," and other pet phrases which have become traditional in nursery life. The head of the child is cleverly studied, the attitude also happily conceived, and the treatment generally vigorous and effective.

"THE EASTERN STORY-TELLER." BY COKE SMYTH.

"The Eastern Story-teller" (471), by Coke Smyth, we have already spoken of with approbation. In now engraving it we have another opportunity of pointing out the varied merits which it exhibits. The face and figure of the "story-teller," his uplifted hand, his excited eye, the lighted tobacco spit out of the bowl of his chibouk, indicate that he has wrought himself up to a perfect frenzy by the details of the narrative which he is about bringing to a close. His auditors are all deeply engrossed with the subject, although they are differently moved by it. The young are wrapped in admiration of the more dazzling achievements recorded; the old are excited to indignation at some acts of cruelty or wrong; the females are all heart for the tender distresses of the lovers (what story is there without lovers?); whilst the Nubian slave near the door betrays, by a vacant grin, that he has but a very confused notion of some of the more salient features of the narrative, and that he is as much amused at the story-teller as the story. Indeed, the variety in the expressions of the heads is remarkable, and shows a great deal of study and discrimination. It may be questioned whether the group as a whole, particularly as relates to the females, is Oriental in character; and in the solitary instance, in which the *yashmac* or veil is introduced, it is certainly not accurately represented being too thick in material, and not properly put on. The drawing throughout is very careful; but, it must be added, that the colouring is not quite so successful, wanting in brilliancy and transparency.

We take this opportunity, and a few words will suffice for the purpose, of noticing the works of Sculpture which contribute to the attractions of the present Exhibition. They are only fifteen in number mostly of small dimensions; and none of extraordinary merit. The best is a marble group of two children, by Patric Park, entitled "Sisterly Affection and Protection." There is great naturalness about the figures, and a childish innocent expression in the features, which is pleasing; but there is a stiffness and dryness of style which mars the effect. "The Usurper," by J. G. Lough, is a droll conceit, cleverly carried out—a young Cupid has shot an eagle with his little bow and arrow, and lies sleeping in his nest. J. H. Foley has a good marble of a "Youth's Head." "A Sleeping Child and Dog," by A. Wiches; "Innocence Fetted," by J. Kirk; "Cupid," described as "a sketch," by R. A. Wilson; "Nature's Mirror," by E. G. Physick, are models, with a view to execution in marble, or other material, should they suit the public "taste," or, in other words a demand occur for them.

LANDSCAPE—"EVENING." BY CLAUDE.

THERE are those (few, we are glad to say) who dispute Claude's long-asserted position as a landscape-painter; deny his genius of conception, his mastery of hand, his perfect truthfulness and love of nature. Reynolds was of a different opinion, for he asserted that the world might sooner see a second Raffaelle than a second Claude Lorraine. Those who pretend to make little of him, and to call him theatrical, made-up pretender, have not studied him in all his endless variety; have not sympathised in the sublime feeling of repose, and the sylvan rustic simplicity which marks by far the larger number of his works. Of this character is the little picture of which we give an Engraving, and of which an etching exists by the hand of the master, dated, as we recollect, 1660; and, therefore, when he was about sixty years of age. In more than one respect, it is a remarkable specimen of his talent. It is known that, as a rule, he gloried in producing the firmament of heaven and the gorgeous sun, the crystal waters and the elements generally, in a state of perfect repose; no storms would he admit to disturb their calm. In the case of the production before us he has slightly deviated from this rule; the air has freshened at sunset, and the leaves of the trees are driven backward and upward by its force, the clouds are drifted past in the upper sky, and even the water is slightly agitated. This material unquiet is contrasted with the moral repose which breathes through the whole of the poetry of the picture. The herd are leisurely fording the well known stream on the way to their homestead: here, one loitering to slake his thirst in mid passage; there, another snatching a mouthful from a spot of favourite herbage. The occupa-

"MIA CARISSIMA."—PAINTED BY C. BROCKY.—FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE BRITISH INSTITUTION.

"THE EASTERN STORY-TELLER."—PAINTED BY COKE SMYTH.—FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE BRITISH INSTITUTION

"MARKING THE COVEY."—PAINTED BY HARRY HALL.—FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE BRITISH INSTITUTION.

tion of the herdsman, playing the pipe, completes the idea of the release from the toils and cares of labour, which, in rustic life, comes with the close of day. If we deeply feel the sentiment which breathes through this charming composition, quite equal is our admiration of its artistic merit in every individual particular. The character and massing of the fine old trees, particularly those in the centre, is not to be surpassed in the whole range of landscape art: here and there we see leafless branches, which tell that they are coeval with the dilapidated mansion in the distance, and which, whilst they are pictorially most effectively introduced, add a tinge of melancholy—the melancholy of fond old memories—to the more joyous impulses of such a scene. Nothing can exceed the masterly manner in which the rays of the sun—low down, just upon

"EVENING."—BY CLAUDE.

the point of [illegible] below the horizon—in the extreme right of the picture, dart in a narrow stream athwart the foreground, dancing and glancing off the backs of some of the cattle; thus giving air and distance in the very part of the picture where their absence would be most felt.

As we have already intimated, Claude practised the art of etching as well as that of painting. He was not so successful executively in the former art as his great contemporary, Rembrandt; but still, to the educated eye, his etchings reveal the fine creations of his genius, his magical mastery of light and colour, in a manner which gives them a high position in the art. A complete list of his etchings would, and in fact actually does, [illegible] they are about fifty in number. In the first [illegible] the plates are of little value; but, in the latter, [illegible] they are much esteemed by collectors, and [illegible] rare copies of this kind having been sold publicly for fifty pounds each. A copy [illegible] is the most costly, the [illegible] is worth twenty guineas. The British Museum is now very rich in the finest proofs of Claude's etchings, but the two most valuable collections of them in England are those of Dr. H. Wellesley, of Oxford, and Mr. Cadman, of Hall

LITERATURE.

JOURNAL OF A RESIDENCE IN THE DANUBIAN PRINCIPALITIES, in the Autumn and Winter of 1853. By PATRICK O'BRIEN. Bentley.

An intelligent observer, who writes with fidelity about what he has personally studied and who just comes from the scene ready to put his transcript, which at the moment engrosses the attention of the whole world, emerging, indeed, even deeper in hand out of the very thick of those events, and the very centre of that deplorable and fast-increasing fermentation—could scarcely produce any but an interesting and valuable work. Mr. O'Brien evidently belongs to that very small number of persons who really "see what they see, and hear what they hear." He is, in a word, a practised observer; which cannot be said, with truth, of one individual in thirty thousand. But even among the few who remark with habitual attention what passes around them, all are not, necessarily, able to do justice, in narrative and comment, to the results of their research. Their power to communicate what they have [illegible] is not always proportioned either to the [illegible] and amount of their materials, or to the rapid ability with which they may have been obtained. Those who can do both are perhaps [illegible] a more agile, pliant, and [illegible] a more vigorous constitution and [illegible] readily. Mr. O'Brien, unlike [illegible] reasons for outline and [illegible] nothing, except to record what he has seen, and to come before the personal notice, upon a theme which is now over the attention of everybody, he is of course [illegible] abundant picture.

In the beginning of Autumn, 1853, Mr O'Brien started from Constantinople on a visit to Widdin and Wallachia—Principalities [illegible] made famous with honour, against the whole power of the Ottoman empire, when here was not a mere warfare of a mere potent empire on earth [illegible] much life wards become a great frontier, or barrier state, of any [illegible] constitution and [illegible] prone. Widdin, Wallachia possesses one of the richest of soils, one of the finest of climates, and of one of the most calamitous of geographical situations. If [illegible] nothing but peaceful industry and honest commerce prevail among nations—if nothing we pursued in life but what sustains it and adorns it—the very position of this region would be an additional bount. [illegible] the bounties of nature. Its immense productions would [illegible] all further in the market-place, accessible, and transferable [illegible] which would be secured to the [illegible] But all these things, *requiem ex machinâ*, are but the provocations of rapine, and the prizes of successful freebooting; and the opulence with which art and [illegible] have now covered the land, and its long heritage of martial fame, revealing the very genius of it with a sort of nimbus in the consideration and recollections of the East of Europe, combine but to make it at once cause of battle and a battle-field. The Russians want the [illegible] granary of Europe, and thy begin by desolating [illegible] which would [illegible] the blight if their [illegible] lay to their [illegible] of [illegible] Turks [illegible] and [illegible] to [illegible] Wallachia [illegible] and shut into quarantine, they convert to as vast bark-yard, and one emporium which they had the stirring, and splendid, and free emporium which they had [illegible] Mr. O'Brien [illegible] with freedom and under [illegible] a good system, this noble region should be able to support, in abundance and civilization, twenty millions of souls. Russian management hardly knows how, at this moment, to provide for a hundred thousand troops quartered there, amidst a population whom they have reduced to famine and despair!

Treating it altogether, this is an agreeable, lucid, and useful little production, a practical itinerary, and a gossiping treatise.

THE KNOUT AND THE RUSSIANS, or the Muscovite Empire, the Czar, and his People. By GUSMAN DE LAGNY. Translated from the French by JOHN BRIDGMAN. Bogue.

M. de Lagny's book we have not seen in the original; we cannot, therefore, say much respecting the manner in which it is here translated by Mr. Bridgman. Presuming that the version is faithful, then it is in other respects excellent, being couched in English which flows naturally, easily, and delightfully.

In one point of view this work, which is a "volume of travels," is something more. It affords the usual amount of information, regarding the [illegible] of society and of physical nature which seemed to be the [illegible] re-engaged, and special topic of literary wanderers. This information, too, is conveyed with all the dexterous lightness of a French [illegible] summers, customs, aspects, incidents, and adventures, become re[illegible] upon the theme: [illegible] description and picturesque narrative. And, to complete, as it were, the character of the production, and to colour more violently the indications by which it is customary to classify such works, it comes before us in its present shape profusely illustrated. We are not going to say anything about the artistic merits of these decorations; but, at least, they qualify the graver pretensions, and still further tend to *aerate* the sprightly and effervescent portions of the book.

So it is a book which claims to be ranked with [illegible] the thoughtful [illegible] with the wholly [illegible] quite as much [illegible] works of more ambitious aim. We prefer, from applying that [illegible] views are always incontestable, and far from professing to [illegible] them with our own, but he thinks, and makes the reader think, on various occasions, as he [illegible] through the rapid changes of [illegible] and subjects. Nor does he ever leave himself unprovided [illegible] corroborative fact. These of [illegible] precede his remarks, which then fall with judicial brevity and weight, carrying much of his force at [illegible] appliances.

For example, page 189, after a luminous description, (extending [illegible] several chapters) of the moral and social condition of [illegible] remarkable community, M. de Lagny [illegible] "Russia is [illegible] not [illegible] strange, because a little [illegible] commonplace." After all, Russia is [illegible] more [illegible] in which every [illegible] is [illegible] that for the free [illegible] of [illegible] human [illegible] is [illegible] M. de Lagny [illegible] his work into seven [illegible] the first four are [illegible] army, the nobility, the clergy, and the navy; the [illegible] chapters he has devoted to the "magistracy, justice, and the [illegible] another to an assessment of the [illegible] and the [illegible] the remaining [illegible] entirely [illegible] and [illegible] sketches of local description, and personal record, furnished by [illegible] and by the character and history of the Emperor Nicholas. [illegible] introduction to a close. We recommend it to our readers.

THE HEROINES OF HISTORY. By MRS. OCTAVIUS FREIRE OWEN. Routledge and Co.

[illegible] unit [illegible] memorable examples of [illegible] [illegible] them. A second [illegible] produced in Oxford [illegible] to of "Memoirs of several Celebrated Ladies;" and there [illegible] many minor works of the same class, recommended by the [illegible] their interest, and the sweet uses of the traits of long suffering, [illegible] and endurance which their pages record. The volume before us [illegible] range of character, in presenting us with some five [illegible] biographies. Of these, Heroism, classed in periods, as in the Jewish, Classic, and Modern. We scarcely need remark that the memoirs bristle with actions; and although Jael and Judith open the volume finely, they are followed by strange, eventful histories of human action, of less positive character, if not more ennobling excellence. The "Classic Era" [illegible] from Semiramis to Zenobia; and the "Modern Era" from Eleanor of Castile to Marie Antoinette. The narratives of the antique world are not formed out of the dry bones of history; but their leading traits are, by the ingenuity of the author, clothed with living interest. The "Modern Era," which occupies two-thirds of the volume, will, however, prove attractive to the largest number of readers. It includes Eleanor of Castile, Jane de Montfort, Philippa of Hainault, Joan d'Arc, Margaret of Anjou, Isabella of Spain, Catherine de Medici, Lady Jane Grey, Mary Queen of Scots, Madame de Maintenon, and Marie Antoinette. The book is gracefully written throughout. It [illegible] dashed with historic dates and facts, but the [illegible] plentiful are every [illegible] the narrative. The author, [illegible] narrative, [illegible] by Bartolozzi and Woollett, are valuable, if [illegible] possess. Apply to [illegible]

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

No. 675.—VOL. XXIV.] SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 1854. [WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.

THE "SECRET AND CONFIDENTIAL" CORRESPONDENCE.

THE extraordinary overtures made to the British Government by the Emperor Nicholas, in the spring of 1853, have been communicated to the world. In the intercourse of Sovereigns, it is probable that negotiations as important as these have often taken place, though it is rare, if not unprecedented, that the details have found their way to the public ear, until the lapse of time has deprived them of all value, except as historical documents. When the Czar endeavoured, by these means, to render the British Government the accomplice of his ambition, he probably imagined that the particulars would not see the light until he himself and all his doings, for good or evil, had receded into the dim twilight of history or tradition, and he had become almost as much of a myth as his predecessor Peter the Great, or Ivan the Terrible. But it is he himself that has betrayed his own secrets. Desirous of embarrassing the British Government, and of sowing mistrust between England and France, he taunted Lord John Russell with having long been privy to his projects. Released from secrecy by the act of the Emperor, the British Government have published the whole of the documents. Never was publication more opportune. Their effect will be prodigious throughout Europe. They unmask the hypocrite; they expose the robber; they show in his true colours the disturber of Europe, and the enemy of the civilisation and the peace of the world.

The Emperor Nicholas is the fitting successor of the able but bad woman who accomplished the partition of Poland. He sits upon her throne and carries out her policy. His zeal for religion is but a cloak to cover his lust of dominion and his avarice of territory. It was not in 1844, when he sounded the Duke of Wellington and Sir Robert Peel, that he first grew covetous of Turkish provinces: the idea was instilled into him from his earliest childhood, grew with his growth, and, like other men's vices, "hardened with his bones." The great States of Europe will regard these disclosures with different feelings. In this country indignation against the Emperor is mingled with satisfaction at the high tone assumed by the Ministry and their Ambassador. The correspondence could not have been more conciliatory, respectful, and cautiously worded towards the great States of Europe if every despatch had been intended for the fullest glare of immediate publicity. It is not possible to despise so formidable a foe as the Czar; yet something like contemptuous wonder must be felt at the utter ignorance of the British character and temper which he displayed when he imagined that such nefarious projects could be favourably received, or that the bribe of Egypt and Candia, or any other bribe whatsoever, could have made this nation the participator in his crimes. But we can scarcely wonder at the lax morality of a man who sings "Te Deums" in honour of the treacherous massacre of Sinope, and who continually proclaims to his people "that God is with him" in his attempts to appropriate the dominions of his neighbour. To serve his own ends, he continually acts upon the supposition that Turkey is in a moribund state. It is possible that he believed the fact to be as he represented it. In opening his mind to Sir Hamilton Seymour, he more than once spoke of the Ottoman Empire under his favourite images of a "sick man" and a "dying man;" yet it never seems to have occurred to the Imperial mind, that to plunder a sick man was quite as heinous an offence as to steal from a hale one; and that murder committed upon a bedridden and decrepit octogenarian was as monstrous a crime as the murder of a man in the full strength and maturity of his powers. But guilty ambition must of necessity impair all the moral perceptions. One monster vice effaces the boundary lines of truth and error, deadens the moral faculties, and obfuscates the intellectual ones. But *Ce Monsieur* (to employ towards himself the phrase by which he designated the Sultan) will no longer impose upon the people of this country. We should think that by this time, even the members of the Peace Deputation must be ashamed that they should have gone near him.

Opportune as the publication of these despatches has been as regards England, it will be still more opportune as regards France. The Emperor Napoleon and our generous Allies will learn of how small account the Czar considers them in the settlement of the affairs of Europe; that he not only designed to mis-appropriate Constantinople, but that he hoped to make England his ally against France in the inevitable opposition which the attempt would excite. If anything were needed to raise to fever-heat the blood of the gallant French army and navy, it would be found in the manner in which the Czar chose to ignore the right of that great nation to be consulted in such a matter as the dissolution of the Turkish empire. The fact will lend energy to the arms of France, and will tend not only to strengthen for the present, but to perpetuate, in the future, the alliance so happily established betwixt them.

> Suis-nous, O vieille Europe où l'honneur nous appelle,
> Deux peuples forts et guerriers
> Se tendent l'un à l'autre une main fraternelle
> Pour vindiquer l'humanité.

The Austrian Government, so seriously interested in the restoration of peace, will, it is to be hoped, find additional reasons, in this correspondence, for making common cause with Great Britain and France against the public enemy. The Czar condescends to mention Austria in the business; but he speaks of her as of a Power completely under his influence, whose opposition is not to be thought of, and which, if it were, would signify nothing if England would but accept Egypt and Candia, and help him to murder the "sick man," and parcel out his heritage.

It was an unlucky day for Austria when, sorely pressed by Kossuth, she accepted the fatal aid of the armies of Russia. It would have been better for her to have granted all that the Hungarians desired than to have owed the possession of Hungary to the good offices of the Czar. It is not yet too late for Austria to rid herself of the deadly incumbrance of Russian friendship. France and England desire no territorial aggrandisement to repay them for the war; but it will be for the interest of all the civilised states of Europe, as well as of Austria, that the mouths of the Danube—that great Austrian river—should be rescued from Russian domination. Austria has every conceivable motive to take part against Russia. We do not know of one that could influence the mind of any intelligent Austrian statesman or subject in favour of the Czar. Even if interest and duty did not compel Austria to join the Western Alliance, prudence, if not fear, might induce her not to make enemies of

THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF ABERDEEN.—SKETCHED IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

States which, at a word, could let loose the Lombards and the Hungarians to distract her councils, and to find such full employment for her armies that she would not have a soldier to spare for aggressive warfare. Austria has hesitated long enough. The instinct, no less than the reason, of all Germany points out the course she must adopt. Germany has no other leader, and will follow with enthusiasm when Austria gives the signal. Any reasons for neutrality which might have been adduced from a belief in the Czar's reiterated declarations that he only insisted upon rights recognised by treaties, and that he sought no territorial aggrandisement at the expense of the Sultan, have been removed by the publication of the Czar's "secret and confidential" overtures. All doubt upon the subject will be as impossible in Austria as it is in France and England.

Prussia, that has taken part in all previous negotiations, as if she were one of the great Powers of Europe, is not once mentioned by the Czar. His contempt for *M. Clicquot* has long been known, but it could scarcely have been anticipated that the feeling extended to the whole Prussian people. But if the King of Prussia be a vacillating and timorous man, the Prussian nation is jealous of its honour and of its place in Europe. It will neither tolerate the insulting silence of the Emperor of Russia, nor the virtual abdication of its place as a first-rate Power, which is implied in the cowardly neutrality announced to the Prussian Chambers by M. de Manteuffel. With the ill-fortune which so often follows the acts and words of evil-doers, whether on a large or on a small scale, the Emperor of Russia has contrived, in his confidential communications to Sir Hamilton Seymour, to give just ground of offence to every Power interested in these transactions. It is, perhaps, the British Government that has been most insulted; but France, Austria, and Prussia have each sufficient ground for indignation against the overbearing despot, who, either with or without their concurrence, would seek to remodel the map of Europe. Even the slow mind of the King of Prussia may yet be prompted into action by the contagion of the disgust which his people must entertain towards a potentate who so coolly ignores their existence in a struggle that will affect them as vitally as any other people in Europe.

One word in conclusion as to the conduct of the British Government in receiving and commenting upon these despatches. They knew the real objects of the Emperor in the spring of 1853; and, although they may not have been guilty of too much courtesy in acting towards the Emperor in all their open transactions as if they believed his public protestations in preference to his private avowals, we think they might have been prepared for the *ultima ratio* at an earlier period than the spring of 1854. On the very day (March 23rd, 1853) when the Foreign Secretary very ably and temperately explained and reproved the schemes of the Emperor, a letter was despatched from the Foreign-office to Colonel Rose, at Constantinople, blaming that clear-sighted functionary, for requesting Admiral Dundas to bring the British fleet to Vourla. Colonel Rose knew nothing of these "secret and confidential" despatches, and yet he recommended a line of conduct, which a knowledge of that correspondence would have rendered still more advisable. A little more energy at that time would have done no discredit to the British Ministry. In fact, it is highly probable that the presence of a British fleet in the Dardanelles in 1853 might have prevented the war altogether.

THE PREMIER IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE Portrait of the Earl of Aberdeen, engraved upon the preceding page, was sketched in the House of Lords, a few evenings since, while his Lordship was speaking. The likeness is admirable.

Of the Premier a copious memoir appeared in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS No. 601. The accompanying characteristics of his Lordship are from a volume of graphic vigour, entitled the "History of the Session 1852-3. A Parliamentary Retrospect."—

Lord Aberdeen is honest—patriotic—anxious that his premiership should be distinguished by national satisfaction; and it is not possible that, at sixty-eight, his motives in taking power could be other than the purest and noblest. And his influence will be proportionate to the consciousness that he is above and apart from the ambitions and schemes of the moment—that he is aiming at national good. But, perforce, he will have to think through others, and to decide on a balance of arguments presented to him by his various colleagues. Lord Aberdeen, at this moment, is precisely what might have been expected of a Peer who early entered on the magnificent education which Parliament provides—who was forced into ambition, and offices, and trust, and who, driven to hard work, was compelled to eschew delights and indolence, and so urged and kept in the regular habits which preserve mental and physical health. He never had cleverness—he never had a seat in the House of Commons, which might have provided the oratorical knack which soften, sharpens for cleverness, and is, in truth, a very practical gift. But he was from the first, as his position provided, a soundly judging, accurate, tactful, well-informed, and thinking statesman, too hard, always learning, always observing, as, after forty years of work and watching, I of wisdom—which is remembrance of the results of observation. Of a nature known to the public, he is especially fitted for the task assigned by the Queen, of being the centre of a combination of parties, or, with all the talents in one Cabinet, an entity preferable to genius in the chief. Premier of sixty-eight speaks with a force that Lord Derby, with the fatal facility of vigorous fluency, could never attain; those who heard the speeches of these two men recently, in the House of Lords, would only contrast favourably the heavy, low-voiced, slow, conversational, or rather soliloquy-like style and manner of counsel, grey headed largely-nurtured Lord Aberdeen, with the "many-come-up-at-able" volubility and pettiness which characterise the mind and nature of Lord Derby.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—*Rectories:* The Rev. W. St. L. Aldworth to West Barsham, Norfolk; Rev. J. Baistle to Faucher; Rev. H. Beckwith to St. Mary, Bishophill, York; Rev. P. Brett to Mount Bures Essex; Rev. M. E. S. Champneys, to Epperstone, Notts; Rev. L. Dowdall, to Rathfarnham, Dublin; Rev. J. Dowson to Horsley, near Lewes. Rev. T. Harrison to Newchurch, Kent; Rev. J. Healey to Redmile; Rev. R. Hersman to Brompton Ralph, Somerset; Rev. A. Hill to Charnield, Gloucestershire; Rev. W. Lamprière to South Warnborough, Hampshire; Rev. N. B. Mules to Colley Weston, Northamptonshire; Rev. H. Morgan to St. Andrew's, Monmouthshire; Rev. G. Parker to Tedderdown, Cloyne; Rev. C. L. Pemberton to Curry Mudel, Wilts; Rev. W. I. Preedy to Kittisford, Somerset; Rev. J. C. Rowlatt to St. Paul, Exeter; Rev. G. Whitlock to Milton Bryant, Bedfordshire; Rev. W. L. Newham, Hackford, Norfolk. *Vicarages:* The Rev. C. B. Awdry to Seagry, Wilts; Rev. H. C. Grey to Wartling, Sussex; Rev. J. R. Jones to Burghill, near Hereford.

TESTIMONIALS.—The following testimonials have recently received tokens of affection and esteem:—The Rev. J. Fox, by the members of St. John's Church, previous to his leaving Whitby for the Vicarage of Hector, near Hull; the Rev. J. Heap, Curate of Great Horton, near Bradford, Yorkshire, as a token of respect and affection from the Sunday-school and friends; the Rev. T. Harrison, Incumbent of Trinity Church, Maidstone, by the Church Schoolmasters' Association of that town, the Rev. J. Reddall, Senior Curate of the parish of St. Alkmund's, Derby, by his parishioners, on his resignation; the Rev. G. F. Greene, late Minister of St. John the Evangelist, Knotty Ash, by the congregation of that church; the Rev. J. Rate Oxley, prior to his leaving Huddersfield for Whitechapel, near Hull, by his teachers of the Trinity Church School; the Rev. H. Parnell, by the members of the bible class, on the occasion of his leaving Darlington; the Rev. J. G. Lonsdale, by the members of Bishop Ra field's Hall, Durham; the Rev. G. Mockler, on his being appointed one of the chaplains to the troops under orders to the East, by the congregation of St. George's-in-the-East.

PREPARATIONS FOR WAR.

THE BALTIC FLEET.

WE have been favoured by one of the officers of the steam-sloop *Miranda*, of 14 guns, with the accompanying sketch of that vessel, the pioneer of the Baltic fleet, saluting the Three Crowns battery of Kronborg Castle, Elsineur, on the 14th inst. Her arrival excited considerable interest, and the joyous roar of her cannon pealed forth at the very moment when the Upper House was almost unanimously voting its want of confidence in the Russian despotic Ministry.

As the King of Denmark had, in February last, withdrawn the permission for foreign vessels of war to lie within the Three Crowns battery range, the *Miranda* anchored in the offing, at about an English mile from the battery. A boat put off soon after; and from the officers and crew it was ascertained that she was ten days from England, whence she had been despatched previous to any naval review, and in such haste that many indispensable purchases had still to be made in Copenhagen. The *Miranda* was instructed to wait for further orders in the Sound, on the

H.M.S. "MIRANDA," THE PIONEER OF THE BALTIC FLEET, SALUTING KRONBORG CASTLE, ELSINEUR

16th she left for Kiel. The promotion of Captain Lyons to this vessel has afforded the greatest satisfaction to his numerous Swedish friends in Stockholm. Unfortunately, the gallant Captain is labouring under a severe indisposition.

The fleet under Sir Charles Napier has already been made up to twenty-six sail, twelve of which are ships of the line, and of these nine are fitted with screw propellers. The three sailing vessels of the line are the *Neptune*, 120, the *Monarch*, 84, and the *Dominion*, 70. The total number of guns in the fleet, under Sir Charles Napier, is now 1363; of men, 14,015; of horse-power, 9810. To these will be added, in a few days—irrespective of the French force, part of which is on its way—nine vessels, five of which are screw steamers, and mounting altogether 80 guns, not to speak of ten smaller ships, chiefly moved by steam also.

Sir Charles Napier arrived at Copenhagen on Monday last, in the *Valorous*, 16, and immediately landed. The rest of the fleet was expected there on Tuesday or Wednesday. The *New Prussian Gazette*, under date of Kiel, 15th, says:—

The English Baltic fleet will not enter our port before the 21st or 22nd, as orders have been given to it not to enter the Baltic until after war shall have been declared by England against Russia. Thus, when you shall learn that the English fleet has entered this port you will also know that Russia has rejected the ultimatum of the Western Powers, and that England has declared war. We know nothing yet of the French fleet.

The *Lightning* steam-vessel, 3, left Woolwich on Tuesday morning, at five o'clock, for Sheerness, preparatory to her proceeding to the Baltic, where she is to be employed in laying down buoys where the navigation is difficult; and will be succeeded in that service by the *Albion*, 3, now stationed at that port by Captain Otter. The *Lightning* had twelve buoys put on board at Woolwich; but her duties will be of no ordinary kind, as it is understood that the Emperor of Russia has ordered all the buoys serving as guides to the safe navigation of the approaches to and in the Baltic to be removed previous to the arrival of the British fleet. The *Lightning* and the *Albion* are to be prepared to lay down about 350 buoys, which will be taken out a few in each of the ships of war and war steamers proceeding to the Baltic. These buoys being British property, it will be with great peril that any other power ventures to remove them while Sir Charles Napier is in the Baltic.

THE COMMISSARIAT FOR THE EAST.

Not the least important announcement, in connection with the expedition which we are despatching to the East, is that contained in a Treasury minute issued a few days ago, whereby directions are given to the Commissariat department for supplying the troops with malt liquors, preserved potatoes, chocolate coffee, tea, sugar, rice, and Scotch barley for broth. These articles of diet are in addition to the ordinary rations of bread and meat, and to be supplied in detail at their nearest wholesale cost, without payment of duty, and excluding incidental expenses, thus leaving the public to bear the expense which will be incurred for freight, packing, and other incidental charges. The following tabular statement shows the supplies provided, the cost price, and the rate of proposed charge:—

Articles.	Quantities provided.	Cost Price.	Rate of Proposed Charge to the Troops.
Porter	64,800 gals.	3s. per bar. of 36 gals.	3d. per qt.
Pale ale (for the Officers)	2,700 ,,	46s. per ditto ..	4d. ,,
Preserved Potatoes ..	50,000 lbs.	5d. per lb.	5d. per lb.
Chocolate	10,000 ,,	£1 16s. per cwt. ..	4d. ,,
Coffee..	80,000 ,,	£61 10s. per ton ..	6½d. ,,
Tea	8,000 ,,	1s. per lb.	1s. ,,
Sugar..	100,000 ,,	£1 1s. 6d. per cwt. ..	2d. ,,
Rice	200,000 ,,	£28 10s. per ton ..	3d. ,,
Scotch Barley for Broth	10,000 ,,	24s. 6d. per cwt. ..	1½d. ,,

The regulations under which the different articles are to be delivered in bulk by the Commissariat to each regiment, and then distributed in detail, will probably be left to Lord Raglan to determine, and his Lordship will, no doubt, fix a limit to the quantity allowed to officers and men, in order that the boon thus conferred may not be converted to other purposes than the soldier's benefit. The importance of this precaution is pointed out in the Treasury minute, it being very naturally presumed that in the article of beer especially the predilections of our troops are likely to undergo no change from service in the East. The foregoing arrangement must give great satisfaction not only to those gallant fellows who will be directly benefited thereby, but also to their countrymen at home, who will have all the more confidence in the triumph of our arms when they know that the "pluck" of our soldiers is sustained by a liberal Commissariat. Should the plan succeed with the expeditionary force, as is expected, it will probably be extended to the troops ordinarily serving abroad.

EMBARKATION OF THE ROYAL ARTILLERY.

The embarkation of Captain Levinge's troop of Royal Horse Artillery and the half of the men and horses of Captain Anderson's company, was effected at Woolwich on Saturday last, most successfully. The period of embarkat on was kept a secret until the last moment, the first intimation of the intended movement being made by the arrival of Captain Riddell, Deputy Assistant Quarter-master-General of Artillery, at a quarter past twelve at night, at the dockyard, to communicate to Commodore Superintendent John Shepherd, that the troops would embark in the horse transport ships, shortly after six a.m., and that several waggons, with stores, would arrive at an early hour. The men were awakened shortly after five o'clock, a.m., and told that they had to get up and embark immediately. The intelligence surprised them, but on such occasions, soldiers under the eye of their superiors, only know the term "duty," and by a quarter past six they were all mustered in route order. The troops left the garrison at a quarter before seven o'clock. The band did not play, and the troops marched so quietly that few of the inhabitants of Woolwich were aware of their departure. On entering the dockyard as seven o'clock, the horses were unharnessed on the dockyard parade ground, and the harness packed into cases for each gun detachment. The embarkation of the horses then commenced, and the whole of the guns and ammunition-waggons were put on board, and the six ships taken out of the basin and towed to moorings at the Royal Arsenal by half past three o'clock p.m., without the least inconvenience or accident whatever. One of the horses slipped and fell into the basin between the *Pyrenees* and *Her Majesty*, horse transport ships, but was not injured. The wives of the men were admitted into the dock yard at two p.m. to bid their husbands adieu, and seven women were allowed to embark with each troop or company, but no children.

Captain Milne, the member of the Board of Admiralty who has the arrangement of the onerous service, minutely inspected the ships before their departure. Fifty men, with their horses guns, ammunition, and complete equipment, have been allotted to each of the six transports, and such excellent arrangements have been made by Captain Milne, that when the ships arrive at their destination, each will deliver perfect in every respect its fifty men, horses, and guns ready for the field. The ships were towed down the river by tugs, so as to lose as little time as possible.

THE FRENCH PREPARATIONS.

The first portion of the French expedition, under General Canrobert, sailed on Sunday night from Marseilles, for its destination in the East. It is said that the whole of the expeditionary army of France will be embarked by the 26th, at the ports of Toulon, Marseilles, and Algiers, and that these divisions will go directly to Gallipoli, a small Turkish town on the peninsula which forms the European side of the Straits of the Dardanelles, and sometimes called the Peninsula of Gallipoli. It is a town of about 12,000 inhabitants, and is celebrated in history as being the first place in Europe captured by the Turks. The port is a good one. This town has always been the rendezvous of the Turkish fleets on their way to or from the Mediterranean, and it was there that they were refitted and provisioned. The point is a very important one in a strategic point of view, and appears to be a good selection. At this place the French army will find itself nearer to Adrianople than if it were to make Constantinople its headquarters, and the country around it is much more healthy than the swampy district around the Gulf of Enos, which was, in the first instance, fixed upon as the head quarters of the French army. In the event of the Russians crossing the Danube, the expeditionary army will be able, in four marches, by way of Kutan and Demotika, and by keeping the left bank of the Maritza, to reach Adrianople. By this means the expeditionary army will be at once in a position to bar the road to Constantinople against the Russian army, which it will have succeeded in crossing the Balkans. Besides this, Gallipoli, being a very good maritime station, the fleet's coal in case of necessity, re-munitioning them to any point of the Black Sea where their presence may be necessary.

The inhabitants of Marseilles are already making arrangements for a grand fête to be given to the Duke of Cambridge, on his arrival in that city, where he is to embark for the East. The reception at Paris will also be everything that could be wished.

More than 6000 mechanics, and nearly an equal number of convicts, work day and night in the Arsenal of Toulon, where immense quantities of ammunition and other materials for the prosecution of the war have been collected.

The *Moniteur* announces that the *Austerlitz*, of 100 guns, left Brest on the 20th inst. for the Baltic. The *Hercule Duguesclin*, and *Trident* have left Toulon for the same destination. The *Duperre* was to leave on the 24th to join the Baltic fleet, and the remaining vessels will leave very shortly. Admiral Parseval Deschenes left Paris on Monday for Brest, to take the command of the Baltic squadron.

FUNERAL OF MR. JUSTICE TALFOURD.—The mortal remains of the late Sir Thomas Noon Talfourd were removed from his late residence in Russell square, for interment at the Cemetery, Norwood, on Monday. In the first carriage following the hearse were the three sons of the deceased—Francis Talfourd, William Talfourd, and Thomas Noon Talfourd, and Mr. P. Talfourd, his brother. The second carriage contained Mr. Patteson Rutt, Mr. Northcote Rutt, Mr. John Salter, and Mr. William Salter, his brothers-in-law. In the remaining carriages were the other more intimate friends. The only private carriages that followed Justice Wightman, Mr. Baron Platt, Mr. Charles Kean, and Mr. Buckstone, R.A.

A report is current that M. Mazzini is preparing to show himself among his partisans in Italy.

The French police authorities give the entire number of English in Paris as 3800, exclusive of children.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

THREATENED COMMENCEMENT OF HOSTILITIES.

The latest news from Constantinople is of a warlike character. On Saturday, the 11th, a circular was communicated by our Consulate here to the merchants and shipowners, to inform them that the Russians had endeavoured to impede the navigation of the St. George's mouth of the Danube, by throwing in rocks, sand-bags, anchors, and rubbish; and that of the Sulina mouth, by stretching a chain across, with a temporary opening in the centre for small vessels. This information came from the English Consul at Galatz. It is not stated whether these precautions were taken to prevent the ingress of the British and French steamers, or the egress of all merchant vessels. A private letter from Belcos, dated the 12th, alludes to the affair in the following terms:—

"The English sent yesterday, at three o'clock, the fine steam-frigate the *Retribution* with orders to force the stockade which the Russians have established at the mouth of the Danube, and which compels all persons to perform quarantine, even the river, which, for commercial purposes only, they had suspended. If the Russians oppose the destruction of that stockade, the *Retribution* has orders to fire upon them. It is probable that the affair will be the commencement of hostilities. The French steam-corvette the *Coton* left with that frigate. We shall know in five or six days the result

THE RUSSIAN NAVY.

Various statements have been published of late as to the strength of the Russian marine, but of a highly inconsistent, and, for the most part, erroneous, character. The *Fremden Blatt* professes to give the following statement as a reliable and trustworthy view of the actual state and effective condition of the Russian navy; and to have derived its information from the best sources. The return is not without some interest, at a moment when the Russian navy is about to meet with something more than its match:—

The entire marine of Russia is collected at two stations, those of the Baltic and of the Black Sea. Of these, that of the Baltic sea is divided into three sections, and that of the Black Sea into two. But this does not include the various gun boats and small craft. Each division of the Baltic consists only of one three-decker, eight two-deckers, six frigates, one corvette, and five smaller vessels. Thus the Baltic fleet would number 27 vessels of the line, including 3 three-decers, 18 frigates, and 5 corvettes brigs, and smaller vessels, besides a considerable number of steamers and gun-boats, besides the very considerable forces of steamers and gun-boats, which the Russian inspiration places at 400 or 500 vessels. The actual force of the Russian crews is given at 50,000 men; of whom 30,500 belong to the Baltic, and 19,500 to the Black Sea fleet. The grand Russian three-decker are the *Empress*, of 130 guns; the *Twelve Apostles*, of 120 guns; the *Three Saints*, of 120; and the *Warsaw*, of 120. Admiral Prince Menchikoff is at the head of the naval staff; the Grand Duke Constantine is High Admiral of the Russian fleets; Von Kobakoff and Von Ricord are also Admirals. Among the Vice-Admirals are persons named Greenness, Kruschelof, Von Berg, Count Heyden, Von Litke, Baron Karnilloff, Nachimoff, Butmann, Melchoff, Bogdenovitch, Von Glister, &c.

THE RUSSIAN FLEET IN THE BLACK SEA MISSING.

From a short account in the French papers of a trip which the *Vauban* made lately in the Black Sea, it appears that the Russian fleet is concealed somewhere. The *Vauban* made her appearance on the 25th ult. before Selastopol, but out of cannon shot; though, at that distance, she could perceive that the vessels in the port, which consisted of ten sail of the line, of which three were three-deckers, and a frigate. Seven of these vessels were moored in a line across the entrance, and outside this line, in the narrowest part of the channel, a chain was drawn, similar to that which protects the entrance to the port of Brest. At the approach of the *Vauban* the chain was lowered, in order to allow of the entrance of a corvette which had been cruising in the offing, and again raised as soon as she had passed. The steamers were lying in the inner port. The fort and all the batteries on the coast were manned all ready for action. The *Vauban* hoisted the French flag, and then made sail. The Russian flag was flying on the forts and on board the ships, but the Russians made no demonstration. The *Sartorius* anchored off Odessa; she saluted the Russian flag with 21 guns, which was returned by a similar number; but no Russian vessel of war could be seen at Odessa. It appears from these reports that the defenses of Sebastopol were completed, so as to make any attack by sea very hazardous, and that eight sail of the line and several frigates, part of the Russian fleet of the Black Sea, have taken refuge on some point not yet known. It is supposed that they must be lying in some of the harbours on the coast of Circassia, situated between Anapa and Soukoum-Kaleh; for all the other parts of the coast have been visited. This point will, however, be soon cleared up, as some frigates were to be sent in that direction to reconnoitre.

THE NEW MAP OF EUROPE.

Much excitement has been created in Paris by the appearance of a pamphlet with the omi...ous title of "La Revision de la Carte d'Europe." The writer proposes that Finland, one of the provinces of which, Vyborg, was conquered and annexed to Russia by Peter the Great, and the remainder wrested wrongfully by the same Power in 1809, should be restored to Sweden. The Polish provinces, by means of which Russia can now penetrate too far into the territory of the Western Powers, must be consolidated; but, as the independence of a separate kingdom of Poland would not long survive, he proposes that Poland should be annexed to Prussia. The constitution of the Moldo-Wallachian provinces, with their semi-independence, their half-acknowledgement of a Suzerainté of the Porte, and the influence of Russia, cannot exhist. He suggests, then, that these Principalities, with Bessarabia, shall be annexed to Austria, and that Turkey shall receive, as compensation, the Crimea. In order to counterbalance the advantage acquired by Austria in the possession of the Principalities, Lombardy to be consolidated with Piedmont, forming one Italian kingdom. Of England and France nothing is said. Such is the outline of the plan recommended by this anonymous writer, and which has excited so much curiosity. The writer does not appear to be an ordinary *publiciste*. He surely condescends to support his view of this sweeping revision by much reasoning or argument. He goes to his work in rapid, spirited style; and, instead of taking pains to show the propriety of doing this or doing that, he says that such a thing ought to be done, and no other. The Government disavows all participation in, or knowledge of, the work in question. The proofs have been seized, and the publication prohibited.

THE PRUSSIAN NEUTRALITY.

On the 18th inst., M. Von Manteuffel laid before the Second Chamber Royal message demanding a credit of four millions and a half sterling, which the Government hopes not to need, but which he says it must have at its disposal in order to be prepared for eventualities which at the present critical juncture nobody can foresee. The Minister read a declaration which claims to be accepted as a clear and open indication of the course which Prussia will pursue in the face of the war commencing between its western and eastern neighbours. The document is, however, but a string of sentences, worded with the studied care of pledging the Government to nothing at all.

UNITED STATES.

By the *Europa* we have advices from New York to the 8th inst. The news is not very important.

There had been considerable excitement in Congress on the Nebraska Bill, which has at length been disposed of so far as the Senate is concerned. In that Chamber the debate was brought to a close at a late hour on the 3rd, or rather at an early hour on the 4th instant, and upon the vote being taken, there appeared for the bill 37, and against it 14.

AUSTRALIA.

By the *Sydney* steamer we have received intelligence from Australia to the 7th of December—some days later than the dates by the *Great Britain*. A falling-off in the produce of some of the gold-fields is reported, owing to the want of water, and the rush of the diggers to new quarters. The Ballarat and Forest Creek sides seem to be the principal attraction. The week's produce from Bendigo had fallen off about 7000 ounces; but many of the diggers were hoarding their gold to spend at Christmas. The price was steady at 76s. 9d. Mr. Khull, in his circular, reports, upon good authority, that there was still abundance of gold to be obtained when the proper season came round. The quantity shipped for the year, up to the 10th December, was 2,141,876 ounces, which may be valued at £9,567,504. Drafts against gold on London were at one per cent discount. The Ovens diggings were yielding largely.

MUSIC.

The Second Concert of the Philharmonic Society took place on Monday evening. It was, on the whole, a good concert, but, containing no novelty whatever, it affords little room for remark. The instrumental music was of the very highest order. It included Beethoven's first Symphony in C, one of his early compositions, and in a simpler and lighter style than his later works of the same class, but not excelled by any of them in beauty; Mendelssohn's famous Symphony in A minor, known by the name of the "Scottish Symphony," because it is founded on the impressions received by the composer from the national music of Scotland when he visited that country; Weber's overture to "Euryanthe," Mozart's overture to the "Zauberflöte," and a charming concertante of Spohr's for two violins, admirably executed by Mr. Sainton and Mr. H. Blagrove. All these pieces were performed under the unerring guidance of Mr. Costa, with the perfection which characterises the orchestra of the Philharmonic Society.

The New Philharmonic Society began its third season on Wednesday evening, at St. Martin's hall, to which it has transferred its concerts from Exeter-hall, where they had hitherto taken place. The change is evidently for the better. Exeter hall is the best place in London for oratorios and other choral performances on a vast scale, but St. Martin's hall is much better fitted for orchestral symphonies and overtures, and for a specimen of the lighter music of the modern school. The orchestra of the New Philharmonic Society is diminished in numbers, this season, probably on account of the smaller size of the hall. This has produced the inconvenience of rendering the balance of sound very defective. The stringed instruments—the essential part of an orchestra—are weakened, while the brass and other wind instruments are necessarily kept up to their full complement. Though the orchestra did its duty admirably, under the able direction of Herr Lindpaintner (who has this season resumed his post of conductor), yet the effect was often seriously felt. The programme contained much that was excellent, though some things were indifferent; and others, good in themselves, were out of place. The chief feature of the concert was Beethoven's "Sinfonia Pastorale"—one of the most sublime of the mighty master's orchestral works: it was performed in a manner worthy of its grandeur, and made a profound impression. Equally admirable, but in a different style, was Mozart's Concerto in D minor, played by a very clever young pianist, Miss Arabella Goddard, with a degree of finish, refinement, and expression which we have never heard surpassed. She was vehemently applauded, and recalled after she had left the orchestra, to receive additional marks of enthusiasm. A selection from the "Freischütz" of John Sebastian Bach, from which manner in which it was announced in the programme, was evidently designed to be one of the most prominent points of the concert. But it failed to produce the expected effect; it was found dry and heavy, and very coldly received. Bach is a great and profound master; but his vocal music is very little known in England, and what is known hardly seems to justify the extravagant and exaggerated admiration. The introduction of a violin solo (Mr. Blagrove) was injudicious. Though extremely well played by Mr. Cooper, it was a mere piece of fiddling—a collection of tricks *a la Paganini*, which nothing less than Paganini's own magic of bow and finger could render acceptable. Weber's song in "Oberon," the original of which he composed to make room for the snow pieces written for Braham, was well sung by Reichardt, and is certainly much the better of the two. Mozart's Canzonet sung the scena from the "Freischutz" "Und ich reise mit ihm," so well that, backneyed as it is, it was received with warm applause. Such were the principal features of a very good but by no means faultless concert. The hall was very full.

The Directors of the Royal Italian Opera have put forth their prospectus of the season. Every thing material which it contains may be comprised in a few words. The principal soprani are to be Grisi, Viardot, Trevelli, and Bosio. In regard to Grisi, it is announced that this is positively her last season. The contralto is Mdle Didiée, the same we had last season: she is much too weak for the position. The tenors are Mario, Naudin, and Gardoni; and the basses Tamburini, Lablache (who, having stuck by the old house to the last, has now come to the new), Ronconi, Badiali, and Zelger. The name of Formes, we regret to see, is not included. These great performers (not to speak of those of the second class) will form a powerful company. The theatre is to open on Thursday next, the 30th instant.

The Countess of Wicklow gave a concert, under the direction of Sir Henry R. Bishop, on Tuesday evening last, which was numerously and fashionably attended. The principal artistes were Miss Dolby, Miss Birch, Mdlle. Vestvali (lately arrived in this country from Milan), Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Lawler, and Signor Belletti.

THE THEATRES, &c.

PRINCESS'

"Trifles light as air" are, to the experienced farce-writer, only "strong confirmations" of his skill, and "proofs" of his having thoroughly acquired the art of so treating his subject, however slight, that he can create an interest out of almost nothing. Mr Bayle Bernard achieved a triumph in this way on Monday, when a new farce of his was produced, under the title of "A Storm in a Tea up." The title intimates the author's design to make much out of a little; and in this he was most undoubtedly assisted by Mr. and Mrs Walter Lacy, who gave to the writer's idea a substance and body that invested it with distinct personality and living interest. A piece which depends on the development and action of a single incident is necessarily difficult to describe, since the statement of the incident can convey no notion of the elaborate process by which it is made to move or please the audience. We may state that *Mr. and Mrs Felix Summerley*, about to make a holiday, and packing their portmanteaus and carpet-bags for a Continental excursion, are interrupted in their proceedings by the arrival of a post-order, the direction on which is almost obliterated by the servant having accidentally split some ink on it, so that it cannot be clearly deciphered whether it is meant for the husband or the wife. The latter has every claims it, and, blinking it comes from a friend in Boulogne secures it in her pocket without reading it; whereupon the husband's suspicions are awakened that it comes from a former lover, and his jealousy gradually gathers strength, until the "storm" in the tea-cup" commences. This theme exhausted, the tables are turned upon the husband, by the discovery that the post mark is not Boulogne, but Bordeaux, and the "storm" continues, though flowing in a different direction. Ultimately it transpires that the letter was intended for neith r, but for their respected papa, and related to an order for wine. We have already indicated that this farce was successful, and that the two principal performers were deserving of high recommendation. It is due to our gratification in recording the success of this little drama, to be able to say that it is original, and not a version from the French. It has, however, all the neatness of the Parisian vaudeville; and the dialogue is not only polished, but witty.

LYCEUM.

A new piece, entitled "Wanted a She-Wolf," was produced on Thursday. The characters are German, and the action is exceedingly slow and sluggish; but there is sure, and occasionally wit, in the delineations and dialogue, which secure it success. The plot, in fact, turns upon a child in a basket being sent to *Herr Doctor Dreiserus* (Mr. Frank Matthews), and its "surreptitious paternity" being charged on *Herr Professor Fiechte* (Mr. C. Matthews), the mother being supposed to be the Doctor's niece, *Clara* (Miss M. Oliver). The *Burgomeister Babenhausen* (Mr. B Baker) makes himself busy, and in particular charges the two persons just named with the responsibility of the infant; but, finding the master too far advanced a declaration from his own daughter that it is her off-spring, she having married in private a proscribed exile, named *Conrad* (Mr. Templeton). The *Burgomeister's* repentance is manifested by a profound silence, and divers expressive embracings of the parties whom he has implicated. The title of the play is derived from the fact that the Doctor and Professor have called the babe *Romulus*, and propose to advertise for a nurse under the name of a She-wolf. There is a pretty and playful concerning *Thaddeus* and *Clara*, who are scarcely in love, and a declaration of whose mutual affection is elicited by the circumstances detailed. The piece was well received, but the author's name was not given.

ADELPHI

We have recently had instances of failure from the want of skill in dramatic structure. This week we have to record a triumph almost altogether due to the presence of that skill. The author of "Mask and Faces" have already entitled themselves to public confidence; and their fresh venture on Monday, entitled "Two Loves and a Life," a "new and original drama" in four acts, is well calculated to increase their claims. Messrs. Taylor and Reade are fond of quaint appellations, and the present piece excites attention by a similar peculiarity. The "Two Loves" are ladies with a strong affection for a Jacobite gentleman, whose "Life" is forfeited to the law. Both heroines strive to save him. One, to whom he is married while in prison, *Anne Musgrave* (Miss Woolgar), effects his escape, while *Ruth Bonnygar* (Mdme. Celeste) procures his pardon from the *Duke of Cumberland* (Mr. Selby), whose life she had formerly saved on the Leven Sands, and whose signet she accordingly bears, in proof of her claim to recompense. One of the best scenes in the play is that in which *Ruth* pleads for the life of *Sir Gervaise Rokewode* (Mr Leigh Murray). There was an intense eloquence in the style, a fervour and reality in the passion, and so distinct a characterisation in the *Duke's* manner—rough but kindly—that the authors may take credit here for an example of dramatic dialogue of rare merit. In the catastrophe of their pathetic story they have been equally happy. The scene on Tower hill, with the apparatus of a public execution, and the anxious crowds assembled, was not only excellent as a mere stage arrangement, but also for the disposition of the drama to interest. Poor *Ruth*, on finding that she had saved the hero for another, is at first inspired with a sentiment of revenge; but her better feelings prevail; and, having lately discovered her father, *Rudel fix* (Mr Webster), she resolves to devote herself to filial duties. The character we have just mentioned is one of the most marked in the piece, and acted with that distinct individuality which Mr. Webster is so capable of assuming. A result, in the costumes of a Quaker and a smuggler, he proceeds in his career of *Jacobite* man, with a quietness of manner, produced both by the depth of his religious convictions and the force of his sorrowful experiences. The tale of his sufferings, as told to his daughter, was most pathetically rendered. Notwithstanding its great merits, however, this play is not without its faults. These chiefly regard one part of its machinery. The events are principally brought through the cupidity of *Nunwire*, the postmaster of Ulverstone (Mr. O. Smith), who, not being able to read himself, causes his daughter *Anne* to open all letters previous to the delivery, and interpret to him their contents, of which he takes advantage to drive good bargains in the market. The more consequent on acts like these gives Miss Woolgar some fine opportunities for the expression of compunctious feelings, and of the struggle which it produces against the domestic tyranny under which she suffers. But it is evident that, in communicating to her father this correspondence, she might have omitted what she wished; nor is it credible that a man so intent on the kind of information would not have so far applied himself to the delivery, and interpret to him their contents, of which he takes advantage to drive good bargains in the market. The more consequent on acts like these gives Miss Woolgar some fine opportunities for the expression of compunctious feelings, and of the struggle which it produces against the domestic tyranny under which she suffers. 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OLYMPIC.

A new musical comedietta, entitled "The Wrong Box," was produced on Monday—a slight affair founded on the French piece of "La Nuit aux Soufflets," and relating to an accidental box on the ear given to the *Duke of Brewery, Hereules III.* (Miss F. Horton.) Slender as is the interest of this drama, it is wrought up with great skill, and the characters are exceedingly well-drawn and contrasted. The *Duke*—a young ruler, who adopts for his model the great monarch Louis Quatorze—is a sort of playful leopard, who seduces his victims into familiarity, and then springs upon them fatally at some unexpected moment. The *Count de Carabelle*, a Frenchman of the court, through the mistake alluded to in the title of the play, has brought himself within the danger of this deceptive love of, by whom he had previously been petted and trusted. Mr. Wigan, in both passes of the character, acted admirably. Overdoing in the first, and, indeed, reckless; but, in the second, terrified almost to imbecility. A lady, his ward, *Hélène d'Orgilaise* (Miss Wyndham), serves for "the medium," to effect his delivery from the snare into which he has fallen. A story is quoted to the Duke of the magnanimity of the great King whom he had accepted as his exemplar, and how he had pardoned a similar insult on finding it to proceed from a lady's hand. The fair *Hélène* pretends that she is the true culprit, and is, on the ground of the historical association, of course, forgiven. The piece served for the introduction to these boards of Mr. Robinson, as *René de Montdidier* the lady's lover. He was well received. The little drama was perfectly successful.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

An Ex-Member, &c.—No. 825 cannot be solved as you suggest. What is to hinder Black on his first move, from taking the Kt with his Queen's Pawn? We shall be glad to see the games when played.

E. B. of Bristol.—The celebrated Staunton Chess-boards are to be had of the original manufacturer, Jewell, 26, Lisle-street, London.

Ignoramus.—You have copied our diagram incorrectly. In that, there is a Black Pawn at the 3rd K's sq.

Provincial.—The annual subscript on to the St. George's Chess-club, for country members, is one guinea only. Apply for a copy of the new rules, to the Secretary, we have not room to give them at this busy moment.

Barnes, Hyde park corner.—We do not know upon what terms Mr. Löwenthal gives lessons at present in the game. You had better apply to him personally, at the Wellington Chess Rooms, 169, Strand.

E. B. C.—Each article.

E. B. C.—We do not at all approve of what are miscalled "Blindfold" or "Bewilderment" games. In the diagram sent to us, these pieces are continually coming off, until are thus the cause of frequent errors.

St. George's Chess-club.—At a meeting of the Committee on Wednesday last, Mr. Von Heydebrand der Lasa, the distinguished author of the "Handbuch des Schachspiels," was unanimously elected an honorary member of the Club.

R. D. M.—We quite approve of the first and third rules. With the second, however, we are not so well satisfied.

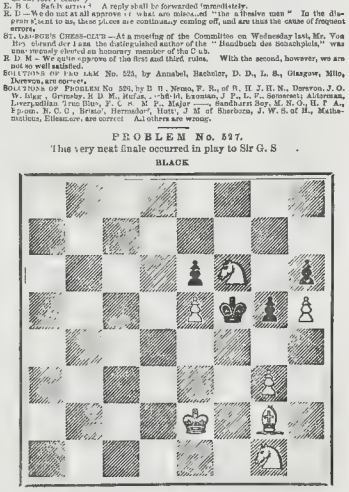
Solutions of Problem No. 825, by Annabel, Bachelor, D. D., L. S., Glasgow, Milo, Inverness, are correct.

Solutions of Problem No. 826, by B. B., Nemo, F. R., of H. J. H. N., Dawson, J. O. W., Isaac, Grimsby, R. D. M., Rufus, —ch-ld, Ignotus, J. P. L. F., Somerset, Aldermoor, Liverpudlian, True Blue, F. C. S., M. P., Major ——, Sandhurst Boy, M. N. O., H. F. A., Ignoramus, N. G. O., Bristol, Hernando, Harry, J. M. of Sunbury, J. W. S. of H., Mathematicus, Eldersloe, are correct. All others are wrong.

PROBLEM No. 827.

The very neat finale occurred in play to Sir G. S

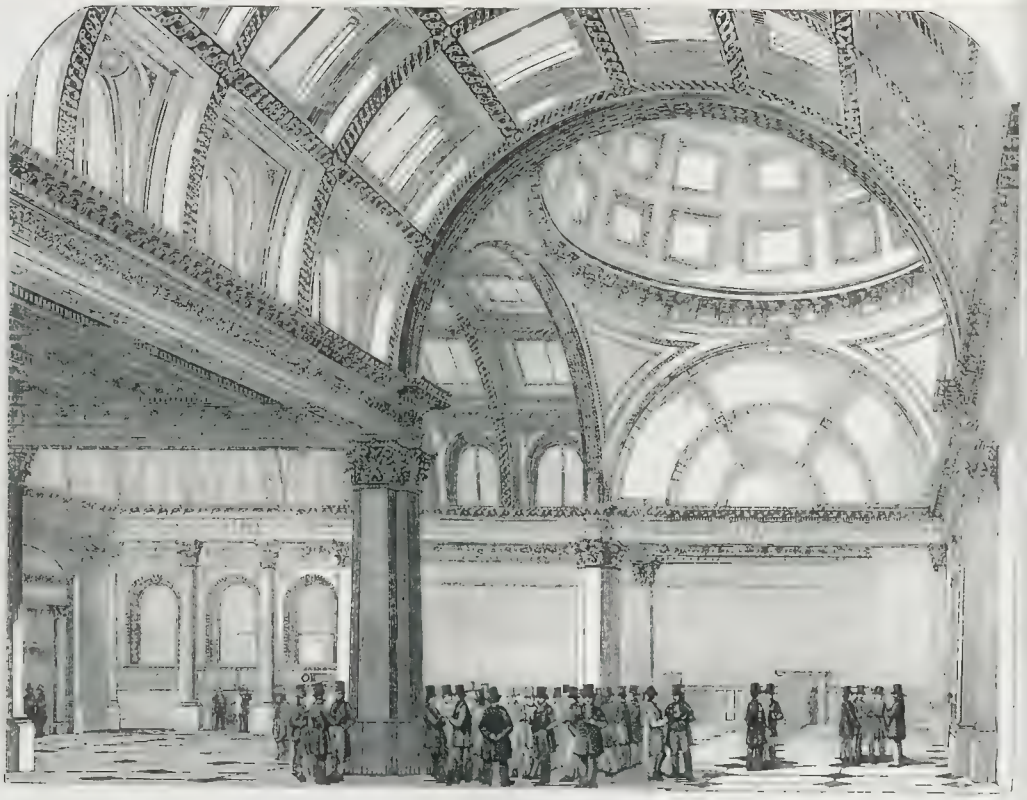
BLACK



WHITE.

White (Sir G. S.), having to play, announced mate in four moves.

Reduction of Colonial Postage.—The reduction of postage between this country and the colonies to a uniform rate of 6d. on letters not weighing more than half an ounce, commenced on the 23rd inst. with regard to the following colonies, viz.:—Canada, Prince Edward's Island, Bermuda, British West Indies (Barbadoes and Turk's Island excepted), British Guiana, Bahamas, Belize, Malta, and Gibraltar; and on the 1st May the same reduction will be made in the postage on letters between this country and Ceylon, Hong-Kong, St. Helena, and the Gold Coast.



THE NEW LONDON SIGHT—EXCHANGE.

MESSRS. FAWSON AND CO.'S WAREHOUSE, ST. PAUL'S CHURCHYARD.

THE STOCK EXCHANGE.—LONDON WAREHOUSES.

In Illustration of the largest Money-market in the world, and the st extensive buildings in the metropolis, for purposes of trade, y be appropriately associated upon the same page, since they possess kindred interest in being great centres of our commercial prosperity. commence with

THE STOCK EXCHANGE.

n origin of the Stock Exchange, although not commencing with the stence of a National Debt, yet arose out of it. There were formerly y two recognised modes of obtaining funds for great national emer- cies—subsidies levied by the arbitrary will of the Sovereign, and ns from wealthy merchants or corporations. The financial history of country, up to the time of the second James, presents but one un- ied system of rapacity and bad faith, on the part of each succeeding vernment. In every reign money was wrung from the pockets of any s or from any individual who was supposed to possess it. Richard I. estened to sell "London itself if a larger subsidy were not raised to lish his army for the Holy War." King John forced money from the ots and higher clergy. At one time outrageous monopolies were ly another, arbitrary fines were imposed, or as arbitrary taxes e levied; at another, "benevolences" were claimed; while many a n the Crown jewels were sold or pawned, to meet the exigencies of Sovereign.

he first gleam, and it was but a gleam, that shone through all this ty atmosphere of wrongfulness, comes to us in the time of Sir Thos. shum. Those arbitrary subsidies, so odious and so objectionable, be- e, under his financial administration, the exception rather than the . Gresham's advice to Elizabeth was, "Keep your credit, and dially with your own merchants; for it is they who must stand by , at all events, in your necessities." The principle thus enunciated— very pivot on which works the system of mutual reliance between a on and its rulers—though acknowledged, was not fully acted on l the Revolution, which placed William of Orange on the throne.

With the accession of William III. commenced that enormous accu- mulation known as the National Debt, supported and upheld in its ga- thering by its strict observance of Gresham's great principle, "Keep your credit." Mr. Macaulay has said that the Revolution did not import the practice of creating a debt—it merely introduced the system of ho- nestly paying it. Before the Revolution the National Debt amounted to £664,263, producing an annual charge of £39,855, chiefly in the form of terminable annuities. At the present moment the Debt amounts to up- wards of seven hundred and sixty-one millions, producing an annual charge of more than twenty-seven millions.

The growing importance of the English Funds soon produced exten- sive jobbing in the various securities, and the scene of these transac ons was the Royal Exchange. In 1698, however, the jobbers found a more convenient locality, in 'Change-alley. Here, looking south, stood Jon- than's Coffee-house—as much the resort of the stock-jobbers, brokers, and their clients, as "the Alley" itself; and here assembled men of all ranks and characters, infected with a spirit of gambling that reached a culminating point with the bursting of the South Sea Bubble in 1720. The rumour effects of this latter scheme created so strong a prejudice against speculation in the public securities, that the House of Commons in that year, passed a vote to the effect "that nothing can tend more to the establishment of public credit than preventing the infamous practice of stock-jobbing."

Another objection to the "doings in the Alley" was made in the pro- visions of the bill brought in at the instigation of Sir John Barnard, in 1733, against "time bargains," which, from that time, became illegal. The crusade against "the Alley," in fact, seems about this period, to have been at its acme; the proceedings of the jobbers in the public Funds were decried as "a complete system of knavery, founded on fraud," and the whole town was said to be "converted into a corporation of brokers and usurers, which could lie the Government into credit one week, and out of it the next."

Yet the virtuous indignation against the stock jobbers which swelled the immaculate bosom of the State, was slightly at variance with the practice of the Government in encouraging lotteries for its own profit. And, with a singular want of consistency, too, no indignation was vented against the traffic in seamen's tickets: a considerable portion of the fortune accumulated by Guy, the founder of the hospital bearing his name, was made by this traffic.

From some unexplained cause, but possibly from "Jonathan's" not being sufficiently extensive, in consequence of the increase of stock-job- bing business, those engaged in it removed to a room in Threadneedle- street; and in a newspaper dated July 15, 1773, we find that "the brokers and others at 'New Jonathan's,' yesterday, came to a resolution that, instead of its being called New Jonathan's, it should be called 'The Stock Exchange,' which is to be wrote over the door. The brokers then collected sixpence each, and christened the house with punch."

The still increasing scale of transactions in the public Funds, however, rendered another removal necessary; and at the close of the last cen- tury subscriptions were raised for the erection of a new Stock-market; the site fixed on being Capel-court, on the east side of Bartholomew- lane—the spot where formerly stood the residence of William Capel, Lord Mayor of London in 1504. The first stone of the new building was laid on the 18th of May, 1801. It records that "at this era, the first year of the union between Great Britain and Ireland, the public funded debt had accumulated in five successive reigns to £552,730,924." And the inscription adds—"The inviolate faith of the British nation and the principles of the Constitution sanction, and secure the property embarked in this undertaking. May the blessing of that Constitution be sacred to the latest posterity."

Hitherto—at all events, while it was held in 'Change Alley, and at Jonathan's Coffee-house—the market had been an open one, into which any person could go as freely as he could pass along a public thorough- fare; but, on the creation of the new Stock Exchange, none but members were admitted, who were elected by ballot, and who paid an annual subscription.

All business in the Foreign Funds was still transacted in the Royal Exchange, and so continued up to 1822, when the jobbers in those securities removed to the market in Capel-court. It is worthy of re- mark, as regards Foreign Stocks, that bargains in them "for time," do not come under the category of Sir John Barnard's Act; and differences

MESSRS. COOK, SONS, AND CO.'S WAREHOUSE, ST. PAUL'S CHURCHYARD.

rding to the decisions of several Judges, may be recovered by the er against a repudiating client.

e Stock Exchange, for all purposes of its internal government, is ruled committee of thirty of its members, who have a power of expulsion, nsion, and reprimand. A person desirous of admission must be in- ced by three members, each of not less than two years' standing. each of whom becomes security for the new member in £300 for ears. In the event of the latter being unable to meet his liabilities. ll or discount broker, nor any person engaged in business not con- ed with the Stock Exchange; no clerk in the Bank of England, India House, South Sea House, or in any public or private es- shment, is eligible to become a member. Neither can any person initted whose wife is engaged in business.

e members are divided into two classes, brokers and jobbers: the r are the agents of the public for the purchase or sale of and shares, and are remunerated by the charge of a commission; alter a e two dealers, and buy of, or sell to, the broker, remuna- g themselves by the "turn" of so much per share or per cent. "turn" varying according to the value of the stock or share, and onsequent extent of the risk.

e fluctuations in price are regulated by the simple economy of ly and demand; and the market rises or falls in proportion. The ction of any event—such as a war, or a good or bad harvest— upon prices by anticipation.

mething of the "old leaven" of prejudice against jobbers, which sted in bygone times, is still to be met with at the present day. y cannot "see the necessity" for the jobber's interference, and over look upon the "turn" of the Market as so much lost to the er or seller. The corn jobber was at one time regarded with a more evil eye than the stock-jobber; and the laws, for many

ly the 5th and 6th Edward VI., cap. 14, whoever bought any corn or with intent to sell it again, should be reputed an unlawful sser, and should, for the first fault, suffer two months' imprison- , and forfeit the value of the corn; for the second, six months' im- sonment, and forfeit double the value; and for the third, be set in the y, suffer imprisonment during the King's pleasure, and forfeit all his

centuries aimed at annihilating the dealer in corn; endeavouring to hinder any middle-man from coming between the grower and consumer. The positions of the stock and corn-jobber bear a relative affinity to each other, and the agency of such a middle-man is necessary to main- tain a just balance between the supply and demand, and to regulate an equitable price for the commodity.

The Stock Exchange having been found too small for the accommo- dation of its members, who now number 1350, besides 500 clerks, its en- largement was commenced about a year ago, the Committee hiring the Hall of Commerce until the completion of the alterations of their own house. This has just been accomplished, and the new structure was opened last week.

It has been erected by Messrs. W. Cubitt and Co. from the designs of Mr. Thomas Allason. About £6000 was expended in securing additional space prior to the commencement of the works, and the cost of the new edifice will exceed £10,000. It stands in the centre of the block of buildings fronting Bartholomew-lane, Threadneedle- street, Old Broad-street, and Throgmorton street. The principal en- trance is from Bartholomew-lane through Capel-court. There are also three entrances from Throgmorton-street, and one from Thread- needle-street. The area of the new house is about 75 squares, and it would contain 1100 or 1200 members; there are, however, seldom more than half that number present.

The site is very irregular and enforced some peculiar construction in covering it, into which iron enters largely. For the cupola laminated ribs are used. The vault which covers the centre of the building, 39 ft. span, is of timber and iron. The whole of this, together with the dome, &c., is covered with lead to the extent of about 80 tons, and is an ex- cellent piece of plumber's work.

Besides the "house," or large room, there are strong rooms, com- mittee rooms, reading and refreshment rooms, &c.

To ventilate the building, fresh air is admitted at the basement into two large chambers, filled with coils of warm-water pipe (by Jeakes), heated at a very low degree, for the purpose of tempering, but not warming, the air. A communication is formed between these chambers and the house behind the wall-framing; and the tempered air is ad- mitted into the house at a height of about six feet from the floor. The vitiated air is got rid of by an extracting chamber on the apex of the dome, heated by a gas sun-burner with 300 jets. During the day the sun-burner is concealed from view by a sliding perforated metal screen; but, when required, sufficient illuminating power is to be obtained, we are told, by withdrawing the screen, to light up the house without addi- tional burners.

The building is warmed by large open fires. The floor, ceiling, and sides of the new strong-room are formed of hollow-metal iron girders, ten inches from centre to centre, with flanges five inches wide, having trans- verse wrought iron bars five by three eight even nine inches; the whole filled in with blue Staffordshire bricks in pure cement. The walls are lined with one hardened steel, and fitted up with wrought-iron boxes. There is an external wall, two feet thick, round the strong room, to prevent fire from coming in contact with the metal girders. The floor between the refreshment-room in the basement and the house over is formed by rolled T iron joists, two feet six inches apart, having the lower flange placed downwards, and three courses of plain tiles in cement resting on it: the whole is covered with twelve inches of concrete, and a wood floor over. We have abridged these structural details from the *Builder*. The interior, as our Illustration shows, displays very beautiful ornamentation; and the new house is altogether one of the most elegant edifices of its class in the metropolis.

LONDON WAREHOUSES.

Whoever of late years has paid much attention to the extraordinary changes which have taken place in the conduct of business, whether in relation to the production or the dissemination of saleable goods, can hardly have failed to mark that the economy of commerce, of whatever kind, has been undergoing very important modifications. Old systems are breaking down, and, like old machines past work, are pushed aside to make room for new improvements. In the departments of manufacture, on the one hand, science is taxed to discover the means of effecting the maximum of produce from a given amount of raw material; and, as one of the results of her investigations, such words as "waste," and "rubbish," and "refuse," are beginning to be expunged from the manufacturer's vocabulary. Everything is found to have its use, and to be available for purposes of profit; and a multitude of articles of mer-

chandise are now bought and sold which are manufactured from materials that a generation back were regarded as utterly worthless. In the departments of distribution and sale, on the other hand, a system of ingenious adaptation and order, almost amounting to a science, has grown up contemporaneously, and is fast spreading into general use. Its grand object is the economization of time and labour, which are as much the capital of the merchant, who pays his business agents for the time they spend in his service, as are his raw material and machinery that of the manufacturer, who remunerates his agents for the work they execute. Thus, it is one principle which is at work in both instances—the principle to which commerce owes its progress, and will owe day over its ultimate perfection the principle, to wit, of a prudent, provident, and politic economy.

We are led to these reflections by a morning's visit, which by the courtesy of the proprietors, we have been allowed to make, to some of the monster warehouses standing within the shadow of St Paul's Cathedral. It may be worth the reader's while to follow us at least through a portion of the route, and to witness the spectacle it presents of industrial energy and order. We will land him first, with his permission, in the Receiving-room, an underground chamber on the basement floor, of the Messrs. Pawson and Co.'s establishment. It is a simple affair enough, being an ordinary room filled with bales and boxes, and differing only from other underground rooms by abundance of light, and a more than usual degree of cleanliness. An inclined plane communicates with a back street, and down this almost every article of merchandise sold in the establishment finds its way into the premises, and from them as the sale is effected, finds its way out again from a chamber of exit but a few paces distant from it. But it is the history of the goods, between their entrance and their exit, with which we have to do. Being received and unpacked, and checked off per invoice, they are consigned to the custody of one or other, according to their description, of twenty-seven different managers—that being the number of departments into which the establishment is divided. By them they are arranged and displayed in different apartments and galleries, for inspection by the retail traders and foreign agents; and, when purchased, are despatched to all parts of Britain and of the civilised world.

But we are as yet on the basement floor. Near the Receiving room is the Private Order-room, where goods are presented for the registering of such orders as are given personally by tradesmen. Near that is the Travellers' Order room, where the same number of clerks enter the orders received from a dozen or more travellers engaged in the provinces. Then comes the Town Order-room, for the registering of town travellers' orders; the Shipping-room, for the entry of goods sent to all parts of the globe; the Country-room, for buyers from the country; and the Ready-money room, which is, of course, a second Town room. Then there is the Scotch weigh-room, two rooms below ground always on the *qui vive* in Norway, and sending home plenty of orders. Next we have a roomy area monopolised by the packing department, where we see a prodigious quantity of goods on the point of bidding farewell to St Paul's churchyard. A people into a somber-looking vault, called the Fireproof-room, where sundry strong boxes repose, like coffins, behind an iron door, and we pass into the Calico-room, where we are up to the eyes in stacks of Manchester goods; and thence into the Linen-room, at once ever head and ears in Irish, Scotch, and foreign linens; and finish the basement floor in the Flannel-room, amid flannels enough to tuck up the whole Corporation of London, and leave plenty to spare.

This establishment being composed of two separate buildings, connected together by the underground floor, we must of necessity visit them one at a time, after ascending from the basement. Both divisions occupy the area of several entire houses. We ascend first into the older building, which occupies the ground floor of its first. On the ground floor, level with the street, we find the Haberdashers' department, built up with every species of haberdashery; and an extensive fancy depository, teeming with ornamental manufactures of every kind; which have given employment to workers in wood, in ivory, and in marocco, in brass, in leather, and in bronze; to cutlers, japanners, modellers, and carvers; and to the possessors of numberless ingenious arts and devices coming within no specific designation. Engravings from the works of the first modern masters adorn the walls, while everything fans fai fo. the drawing-room, the boudoir, or the toilet, is ranged on all sides in orderly abundance. Ascending to the first floor, we find that appropriated entirely to the silk trade, and filled with the produce of Yorkshire and the West of England, together with fabrics of a coarser texture from Germany. The second floor is allotted to the ready-made shirts and clothing, which latter department also extends into the third floor; a portion of which, as well as the whole of the fourth or topmost floor, is used for the depository and sale of furs.

Descending again to the basement, and passing under the banking-house of Messrs Puget, Baisbridge, and Co., which separates the two divisions of the establishment, we come to the ground floor of the new house, catching, as we pass, a momentary vision of a row of clerks quietly at work, in a long gallery at the side. We are struck, as we ascend, with the amplitude of the new building, which covers a large area, and with the efficiency of the contrivance for securing an abundance of light in every part. This is effected by a series of parallelogrammic wells, each some twelve by twenty feet in area, cut sheer through the successive floors, and admitting a flood of light from the sky. Taking into account the ventilation had to be built downwards from the top—that it was, in a manner, designed as it proceeded, to meet certain sudden and awkward exigencies—it presents an extraordinary example of skill and success. The ground floor is occupied by the printed cambrics and muslins of Scotland and Manchester, and the stuffs from Bradford and elsewhere. Here, also, are the receiving-rooms for the deposit of goods manufactured in London for the house—to say nothing of a whole series of counting-houses. The first floor is set apart for Delaines and fancy dresses, Spitalfields silks, Manchester silks, French silks, French merinoes, and various fancy fabrics. On the second floor we meet with hosiery, gloves, bandannas, trimmings, a forest of umbrellas, and a prostrate plantation of parasols, besides accommodation for 10,000 of the fair sex, in the shape of stays. Rising to the third floor, we are in a paradise of exquisite colour, amid pyramids of "flowers of all hues, and, without thorn, the rose," which, had we met with them in a Royal conservatory, we should never have taken for "wet cloth," by the artificial and imitative products of female industry. Here, too, are the marvellous productions of French taste, in ribbons of endless variety and exquisite design, together with the Coventry ribbons, which lag far in the rear of those of France. Here is the shawl department, in all its exuberance of design and colour, and both of home and foreign manufacture. Here are the lace rooms, the straw-plait rooms, and the mantle rooms, where ladies in full dress, but minus heads and feet, standing in graceful attitudes, accord the visitor a silent welcome.

If, from the upper part of either division of this huge mart, we go out upon the roof, we see it covered with broad tanks, supplied with water by the New River Company, which communicate by pipes with every floor in each floor code of the new division of the house, and by means of these, which are accessible at any moment, a plentiful supply of water can be furnished instantly to any part of the building, so that, in fact, were it not for the panic that invariably ensues upon an alarm of fire, there would be little or no risk of inflammable articles, are most of its contents, but little real danger in case of a fire occurring.

While wandering through such large accumulations of material wealth—perhaps, perhaps, he sees a hundred thousand pounds' worth of goods in a single department—a stranger is apt to infer that such a monster speculation must necessarily involve the elements of confusion in the management. Nothing can be farther from the truth. So perfect is the system of accounts, so effectual its double check it ensures, that a mistake rarely occurs, and when it does occur, may be said to rectify itself: and, we have it from the best authority, that, so complete is the working of the entire machine, the head of the concern can, if he choose, on arriving any morning, have the whole multitudinous stock, even to the smallest minutiæ, taken in a single day, and carry the account home with him at night!

Having thus looked at the commercial aspect of this establishment, we will glance at its effects on its domestic accommodations. Our merchants have long been aware that "property has its duties as well as its rights," and it has been found out, too, that attention to such duties brings its own reward. Time was when employes can do nothing for the employed beyond the rigid exaction of service; that time has passed away, and now the employer finds it his interest to nourish and to cultivate the integrity and the intelligence, which are the components of good service. As a consequence, when we cross the street at the back of these business premises, and enter the domestic home of the employed, we find home comforts abounding, and the presence of everything inducing to self respect and assisting to self-culture. We chance to come upon a hundred or so of young men in the act of dining, in a lofty, well-ventilated apartment, and pass a group of porters engaged in the same interesting ceremony in a separate room. We find an admirable library, well stocked with valuable works of the highest class of literature. In the upper floors we pass through a suite of airy dormitories, where light and ventilation have been cared for, and cleanliness is the order of the day.

In the kitchen we are introduced to a novel species of cooking apparatus, of most formidable capabilities, by means of which frying and grilling, and boiling and steaming, and roasting are carried on upon a power fully wholesale scale, without raising the temperature of the department beyond a few extra degrees. No fire is, in fact, visible; and though a dozen substantial joints are at this moment roasting, and our modern waters instinctively at the odour, there is neither spit nor jack, nor unctuous cook-maid, with a fiery face; but, instead, a series of ornamental iron cabinets, which a remarkably cool *maitresse de cuisine* superintends with literal *sang froid*. She opens one of them, and within are half a dozen goodly joints, just roasted to a turn, without having turned once, being cooked in a state of quietude by the heat from hundreds of diminutive spurs of gas surrounding them on all sides. In other cabinets other viands are cooking by similar agency; and a large boiler, heated by the same means, generates steam for a series of steaming-kettles, available for various culinary purposes. Altogether, the apparatus is marvellously compact and efficient, and, we were given to understand, is decidedly economical.

Two things are especially remarkable in the aspects of this establishment, both commercial and domestic; these are the order which regulates operations in every department; and the cleanliness, amounting to the entire absence of anything like dust, soil, or dirt, which reigns in every square foot of the premises. Even in the stables this latter feature is predominant; and that the pains which ensure it are well bestowed, is evident from the admirable condition of the animals.

We must now turn our attention to a neighbouring establishment, that of Messrs. Cook, Sons, and Co., standing but a stone's throw distance from the one we have just quitted. In imposing façade of this really magnificent building, which looks up towards Cheapside, must be familiar to many of our readers. It is not, however, from without that a just idea can be formed of its architectural character. Unlike most of the buildings in the heart of London, it is not an assemblage of small buildings, incorporated from time to time to meet the exigencies of business, but a complete whole, admirably designed for the purpose to which it is applied, and finished throughout with a view to picturesqueness of effect, as well as to the convenience of commerce. The edifice may be said to consist of three parts—the front warehouse, which looks into St. Paul's Churchyard; the back warehouse, which opens into Carter-lane; and the grand central warehouse, which connects the two together. On entering we are met by the same presence of abundant light, produced by similar means to those adopted in Messrs. Pawson's new house, but carried out in a style of greater magnitude and more artistic proportions. In addition to the four-sided wells which pierce the several floors in various places, there is in the centre of the building a grand elliptic lantern, adorned with elegant friezes at the several stories, which admits a flood of light from the sky, illuminating every stage. The galleries are supported by slender Doric columns; and solid walls are superseded by lateral series of elegant arches, which, viewed from various points of elevation, present picturesque vistas suggestive of indefinite space and distance. The structure was erected by Mr. J. T. Knowles, and in point both of design and execution, it leaves nothing to be desired. To most people, in fact, it would appear more like a Walhalla than a warehouse: the interior decorations are so chaste and simple, the lines that meet the eye are everywhere so graceful, and the colours employed, being chiefly a subdued white, broken with a light neutral tint, are so soft and unobtrusive, that the building, great as are its intrinsic merits, is subordinated to its purpose as the repository of the valuable and beautiful productions of human ingenuity and toil. Call it a Walhalla if you will, but you will not call it by it as a simple, sacred, not to poesy and the arts, but to mechanical genius and industry.

In its internal economy, this establishment combines resembles very much the one we have already described; but of that we know nothing. We noticed, however, that the luggage and other wares are done by a steam engine; and we rode from bottom to top through the successive floors in a moving chamber traversing a perpendicular shaft. On the roof are cellular water-tanks, ready in case of fire, and appliances for the discharge of water tantamount to seventeen fire engines are ever at hand on the premises. The whole fabric is warmed by steam, laid down in pipes beneath the floorings; and everywhere the same scrupulous cleanliness prevails which marks the perfection of order and business management.

Were we to extend our researches to Messrs. Grucock and Co.'s establishment in Bow Churchyard, we should find the same system of order and subdivision controlling the operations of a somewhat different line of business, the same facilities for the economy of time and labour, and evidences of the same growing appreciation of the indissoluble connection which exists between the interests of the employer and his responsible agents.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, March 26.—4th Sunday in Lent. Duke of Cambridge born, 1819
MONDAY, 27.—Peace of Amiens, 1802. Gunpowder invented, 1380.
TUESDAY, 28.—General Abercrombie killed, 1801.
WEDNESDAY, 29.—Siege of Acre, 1799.
THURSDAY, 30. Allied sovereigns entered Paris, 1814.
FRIDAY, 31. Beethoven died, 1827
SATURDAY, April 1.—Expedition to the North Pole sailed, 1818.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,

FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 1.

Sunday.	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday.
M. h. m.	M. h. m.	M. h. m.	M. h. m.	M. h. m.	M. h. m.	M. h. m.
0 15	0 45	1 15	1 35	2 0	2 20	2 45
A. h. m.	A. h. m.	A. h. m.	A. h. m.	A. h. m.	A. h. m.	A. h. m.
12 50	1 15	1 45	2 5	2 30	2 50	3 15

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.—Monday and Wednesday, Guy Mannering. Meg Merrilies, Miss Cushman. Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, Randolph. Friday, Henry VIII. Queen Katherine, Miss Cushman for her last night but two. Wilkins and Mrs Dixon every evening.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE, Oxford street.—Monday Wednesday, and Friday, Richard the Third. Tuesday, The Married Unmarried and the Comical Countess. Thursday, the Married Unmarried and the Lancers; Saturday the Married, Unmarried, with other entertainments.

ROYAL MARYLEBONE THEATRE.—Brilliant success of ROMEO and JULIET. Romeo, Mrs. J. W. Wallack; Juliet, Miss Cleveland Mercutio, Mr. J. W. Wallack. New Pantomime in preparation. Every Evening (Monday excepted). Due notice will be given of the most recent alarm of the Struggle for Gold. EDWARD MURRAY, Acting Manager

GREAT NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE, Shoreditch. ENGAGEMENT of Mr. T. MEAD, of Drury-Lane; Miss Addison, and Miss F. Williams. This (Monday) Evening, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, the Way to Pay Old Debts; on Friday, the Stranger. To be followed by Cardinal Alvo. On to be succeed d by the Banian Children, to conclude with Bold Jackets. Private boxes 2s. 6d., 2s; 1s. 6d.; and 1s; Pit, 6d; Gallery, 3d

MR. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC, including the BERNESE OBERLAND and the SIMPLON, EVERY EVENING at Eight (exact 8 to the minute), and every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday morning, at Half past Eight. Stalls, 3s (which can be taken at the Box-office every day from Seven to Seven). Area, 2s. Gallery, 1s. Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly.

VENTRILOQUISM.—UNRIVALLED.—NEWMAN and SON will deliver an entirely New, Characteristic, Vocalic, Mimikic, Multiformeal, Monologuean Illustrated ENTERTAINMENT, on MONDAY EVENING, MARCH 27th, Horse KENSINGTON; 28th Lecture hall, Deptford; 29th, Lecture-hall, Camberwell; 30th, Institute Blackheath; 31st, Lecture-hall, Walworth. Admission, 2s. and 1s. Begins at Eight.

MESSRS. GRIEVE and TELBIN beg respectively to announce that the DIORAMA of the OCEAN MAIL will positively CLOSE on SATURDAY, APRIL 1st, for the necessary preparation for a new subject of great interest, representing the Route of the Indian Mail, from Southampton to Alexandria, which will open the Mail Diorama, which has been entirely renovated for the present occasion.—Royal Gallery of Illustration, 14, Regent street.

CONSTANTINOPLE at the EGYPTIAN HALL is NOW OPEN every Day, at Half past Two o'clock, and every Evening at Eight. The Lecture is delivered by Mr. Charles Kenney or Mr J. H Stocqueler, and has been written by Mr. Albert Smith and Mr. Shirley Brooks. Admission 1s., reserved seats 2s.

DR. KAHN'S MUSEUM is NOW OPEN, at the SALLE ROBIN, Piccadilly. For Gentlemen, from Eleven till Five, and from Seven till Ten daily. On Wednesdays and Fridays the Museum is open for Ladies only, from Two till Five. Gentlemen are still admitted on these days from Eleven till Two, and from Seven till Ten.—Admission, 1s

EXHIBITION of the SOCIETY of BRITISH ARTISTS.—Incorporated by Royal Charter.—The THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL EXHIBITION of this Society is NOW OPEN, from Nine a.m. until Dusk. Admittance, 1s. Suffolk street, Pall-Mall East. ALFRED CLINT Hon. Secretary.

ST. MARTIN'S HALL.—Miss BIRCH has the honour to announce that her GRAND SEVENTH CONCERT, with Orchestra complete in every department, will be given next TUESDAY EVENING, MARCH 28, under the direction of Mr. John Hullah. Tickets, 1s., 2s 6d., and 7s.

MISS EMMA BUSBY'S CHAMBER CONCERT, WILLIS'S ROOMS, King-street, St. James s, WEDNESDAY EVENING, MARCH 29th. Tickets 10s 6d—Cubitt, at the Musicsellers; and of Miss Busby, 18, Upper Gloucester-place, Dorset-square.

ERNST.—This eminent Violinist will make his FIRST APPEARANCE three years at the fourth MUSICAL WINTER EVENING, WILLIS'S ROOMS, on THURSDAY NEXT. J. ELLA

BACH SOCIETY.—The First Performance in this Country of the GROSSE PASSIONS-MUSIK, composed by JOHN SEBASTIAN BACH, will be given by the above Society, at the HANOVER SQUARE ROOMS, on THURSDAY EVENING, APRIL 6th, commencing at Eight o'clock. Conductor, Mr. W. STERNDALE BENNETT. Tickets, Five guineas each, may be obtained of all the principal Musicsellers.

ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, Regent's Park.—Fellows and Visitors are informed that a pair of GIANT ANT EATERS, and an adult pair of INDIAN LIONS have been added to the Collection. Admission, 1s. Monday, 6d.

NATIONAL FREEHOLD LAND SOCIETY, 14, Moorgate-street, Lothbury.—The Freehold Estate, sold by AUCTION, at GARRAWAY'S, on MONDAY the 27th inst. Members entitled to prior to of choice will have the option of choosing in their order from the estate on the 27th, 28th and 29th inst.

Those may not be left after that time, they may be taken by any person paying the price, or possessing or purchasing the right to borrow the money, and if the whole should not be sold during the MEETING, the remaining one may be taken by any person on payment of ten per cent, and the balance, with interest, within twelve months. Persons not having rights of their own, but wishing to obtain early shares, can do so by purchasing the rights of others, and a register of rights offered for sale with prices is kept at the office. Plans, with conditions of sale, may be had on application. March 16, 1854 W. E. WHITTINGHAM, secretary.

COUNTY FIRE OFFICE, 50, Regent-street, and 2, Royal Exchange-buildings, London. Established in 1807.

The Rates of Premium charged by the County Fire Office are upon the lowest scale consistent with Security to the Insured

When a Policy has existed for a period of Seven Years, a return of 25 per cent. or one fourth of the amount of premium paid during that period is declared upon such policy.

The Returns paid to the present time amount to nearly £200,000

All Losses are settled with promptitude and liberality.

It is respectfully invited to purchase Policies in this office, the renewals of which fall due at Lady-day, that the same should be paid on or before the 6th of April. The receipts are lying at the offices in London, and in the hands of the several agents.

CHARLES STEVENS, Secretary.

THE CHARTERED BANK of INDIA, AUSTRALIA, and CHINA. The Subscribers, Allottees, and Scripholders, who are opposed to this Bank letting for her proposed with, are requested to forward, without delay, to Messrs ATKINSON and PILGRIM, 88 Sotters, Church court, Lothbury, London, the number and par ics are of the shares and Scrip held by them respectively, it being desirable that the Committee appointed at the Meeting held at the London Tavern on the 16th instant, should be put in possession of the information as soon as possible.

The Committee take the opportunity of stating that, although the call of £2 per Share, declared by the Directors, is payable this day, no forfeiture of shares can take place until the expiration of one Calendar Month previous to which time an adjourned Meeting will be held, of which due Notice will be given.—25th March, 1854

STEAM to AUSTRALIA, carrying her Majesty's Mails.—The Royal General Screw Steam Shipping Company's splendid Iron Steam-ship, QUEEN OF THE SOUTH, 1800 tons (Captain NORMAN), WILL SAIL from Southampton for Adelaide, Port Phillip, and Sydney (carrying on the 4th APRIL. This splendid vessel having been one of the Company's fastest steamers on the Indian line, and noted for her very superior accommodations—offers an excellent opportunity to intending Passengers. Her speed of the South has enough and her passages between Southampton and India will be equally unsurpassed, thereby justifying the anticipation that she will make one of the fastest runs to Australia on record. Passage money from 50 to 100 guineas. For plans and full particulars, apply to Messrs. GRINLAY and CO., 124, Bishopsgate-street; or 9, St. Martin's-lane, Charing-cross.

*** Several articles of interest are unavoidably omitted from the present Number.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 1854.

THE money and intrigues of Russia, though unsuccessful in procuring friends for the Czar in civilised Europe, have been to some extent successful among the semi-barbarians of modern Greece. The insurrection fomented by Russian agents continues to spread in Albania and Epirus, and seems to be openly encouraged by the Government of King Otho. It will become the immediate duty of the allies of Turkey to aid the efforts of the Sultan in extinguishing this revolt. The foolish sentimentalism that, thirty years ago, led France and England to act with Russia in the establishment of a Grecian kingdom, has long since died away. People are, by this time, pretty generally convinced that it was a gross anachronism to revive the name of Greece for a country whose inhabitants possess none of the virtues or characteristics, and but little of the blood, of the ancient people who formerly inhabited it. But the error as regards true policy has proved even greater than the anachronism. Under the Government of King Otho, Modern Greece has not only brought discredit upon its former patrons, but has proved itself unworthy to rank among the civilised Powers of Europe. That such a Government should be permitted to complicate the affairs of the world at a moment like the present is not to be tolerated. We can fully understand why, under Russian protection, King Otho and his piratical subjects should do their best to gain possession of Albania and Epirus; and we can imagine that a "private and confidential" correspondence, between the Czar and the Court of Athens, may have long ago settled when this insurrection was to break out; to what extent the King was either secretly or openly to encourage it; and that equivalent rewards were promised him, as the price of his complicity. But the Western Allies are fortunately in a position to defeat any such projects, if they exist, as well as to co-operate with the Sultan, in restoring peace in the disaffected portions of his dominions. When military officers, high in the service of King Otho, assume the command of large bodies of insurgents, and invade the Turkish territory without resigning their rank or their pay in the Greek army, and without any public disavowal of their conduct on the part of their Sovereign, King Otho and his Government become their accomplices, and will justly be held responsible for all the evils that may ensue. The insurrection in Albania will be easily quelled, if it be not aided by the predatory hordes of the neighbouring kingdom; and the allies will act a merciful part towards King Otho, by letting him understand at once that the slightest attempt on his part to aid the insurgents will be summarily and condignly punished by the fleets and armies of France and England. Greece is vulnerable on every side, and the possession of Athens would cost the allies but little trouble. King Otho, and the Russianized German Court by whom he is surrounded, have not governed Greece in such a manner as to make friends even among the Greeks themselves. Independence has done nothing for the Greeks; and the re-annexation of the country to Turkey, if it effected no change for the better in their condition, would not sensibly operate for the worse. King Otho has already had a specimen of the manner in which Great Britain can punish duplicity and breach of faith. The remembrance of his former humiliation should have taught him to beware how he braved a second time the just retribution of this country.

THAT war produces many evils is a fact which has been often stated, and as often deplored. But war also is the parent of some benefits and virtues. It produces fortitude courage, self-reliance

and patriotism. The time of war is one in which self sacrifice is a pleasure to some, and a duty to all. The individual who would cheat or rob his country in a time of peace, hesitates at committing such an atrocity during a war. It is only the vilest of the vile who betray their country in the hour of difficulty. The deserter meets with no sympathy, and the man who becomes a spy, and sells his country to the enemy, is abhorred by everybody, even by those who employ him. And what shall be said of the trader who contracts to supply his Government with wholesome food or necessaries for the army or navy at a reasonable price, and wilfully foists unwholesome or abominable trash upon them instead of the article which he undertook to furnish? Such a man deserves not only the epithets of "miscreant" and "criminal," which Lord Ellenborough, the Duke of Newcastle, and other Peers, have showered upon him, but the severest punishment that an offended nation can inflict. Such a case has unhappily occurred within the last few days, and has elicited the disgust and indignation of the whole country. The subject was brought under the notice of the House of Lords on Tuesday night by the Earl of Ellenborough. It appears that a person who gave the name of Sturgeon, of Grays, in Essex, undertook to supply the British Government with a quantity of pressed hay for the service of the Artillery horses destined to be employed in the war on the Danube. A portion of this hay had been shipped before it was discovered that the trusses were merely external coatings of hay, and that the insides were formed of straw, shavings, rubbish, and even offal. It was furthermore discovered that the trusses had been wetted so as to increase their weight, by which means a risk was incurred of spontaneous combustion on board ship. It is enough to make an Englishman blush for his country that such a fraud should have been perpetrated at such a time. If the knave had been a Russian, though the fraud might have been as great, the disgrace would not have been so intolerable. If he had owed allegiance to any Sovereign on the globe except to the Sovereign of these isles, the people might have found some degree of comfort in the reflection that he was an alien. If, as is feared, the criminal law cannot reach such an offender, it is more than enough to make an Englishman wonder at the short-sightedness of our law-makers. We trust, however, that this nefarious trader—if he be not the last of his kind—will be the last who shall escape the severest punishment which it is advisable to inflict. His offence, if it had not been discovered in time, might have endangered the safety of one valuable arm of the British service; and might even have led to the failure, more or less complete, of military manœuvres, on which the fortune of the campaign depended. Words can scarcely express the detestation with which such an offence must be regarded. We do not agree with the noble Lords who considered that the publication of the man's name to the abhorrence of his countrymen would be a sufficient punishment. To men of honour such a punishment seems too great for endurance; but persons who commit crime have thick hides, and can bear an immense amount of obloquy. It is likely enough that if a ragged urchin in the streets had robbed this delinquent of his pocket-handkerchief, he would have felt himself bound, as a "respectable man," to prosecute the offender as a warning to other reprobates of his class. We earnestly hope that the law will be found elastic enough to reach a case infinitely more dastardly and mischievous. If it be not, the greatest amends that Mr. Sturgeon can render his country, will be to betake himself to St. Petersburg, and to remain there. Certain we are, in the present temper of Parliament and the people, he will be luckier, if he escape, than any other person who shall hereafter imitate his example in his dealings with the British nation.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS, TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, MARCH 23.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading.	Thermometer. Lowest Reading.	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
	Inches.	°	°	°	°			Inches.
Mar. 17	30.·63	50·1	32·1	41·7	+ 2·0	68	N.	0.01
„ 18	30.115	54·0	28·5	40·5	— 1·3	91	N.W.	0.22
„ 19	29·86	42·3	31·0	37·5	— 4·4	97	N.E.	0.17
„ 20	30.·01	45·0	32·4	36·8	— 5·2	96	N.	0.09
„ 21	30.·16	52·9	30·0	42·6	+ 0·6	75	N.W.	0.00
„ 22	30.·04	51·1	31·5	40·5	— 1·7	80	N.W.	0.00
„ 23	30.·51	42·2	30·0	44·1	+ 1·8	76	N N E	0.00

Note.—The sign + denotes above the average, and the sign — below the average.

The reading of the barometer decreased from 30.37 inches at the beginning of the week to 29.94 inches by the morning of the 19th; increased to 30.32 inches by the morning of the 21st; and decreased to 30.29 inches by the afternoon of the same day; increased to 30.49 inches by the 22nd, and decreased to 30.351 inches by the end of the week. The mean for the week, at the height of 82 feet above the level of the sea, was 30.262 inches.

The mean temperature of the week was 40·8°, being 1·2° below the average of the corresponding week during 38 years.

The range of temperature during the week was 26·8°, being the difference between the highest reading on the 17th, and the lowest on the 18th.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 17·9°. The greatest was 25·5° on the 18th; and the least 6·3°, on the 19th.

Rain fell on three days during the week, to the depth of four-tenths of an inch.

The Weather, on the 17th, 21st, and 23rd was fine, and the sky tolerably free from cloud. The rest of the week was cold and dull. The wind throughout the week has been almost constantly north.

Lewisham, March 24, 1854. JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—In the week ending Saturday, March 18, the births of 1764 children were registered: 883 were boys, and 881 were girls. The averages of the same week in the nine corresponding years were 764 and 747 respectively. The number of deaths registered within the same week was 1156: of these, 606 were males, and 582 females.

PRESIDENT OF CHRIST'S HOSPITAL.—On Thursday the Governors of this ancient institution met for the purpose of choosing a new President, in the place of the late Alderman Thompson. The Lord Mayor Sidney was proposed by Mr. Hoare, and his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge by Mr Hankey, M.P. At three o'clock the glasses for the ballot were closed, and the numbers declared as follow:—For the Duke of Cambridge, 216; for the Lord Mayor, 87: majority, 129. The proceedings then closed.

LONDON PROVIDENT INSTITUTION, MOORFIELDS.—On Thursday the directors of this institution issued their annual report, which states that the money transactions in the course of the year 1853 numbered 78,358, and that the increase in the amount of balances due to depositors was £15,782 7s. 1½d.

THE HIGHLAND SOCIETY.—Tuesday evening, being the fifty-third anniversary of Sir Ralph Abercromby's victory and glorious death, the Highland Society held a high festival, at the Freemason's Tavern, in honour of the event: the Duke of Hamilton and Brandon in the chair.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

FRENCH PREPARATIONS FOR WAR.

The latest accounts from Brest state that the *Jemmapes*, the *Inflexible* (on board which Admiral Deschênes is to hoist his flag), and the steam-frigate *Darien*, were in the roadstead; the *Souffleur*, the *Vigie*, and the *Erèbe*, would be ready for sea directly; and the equipment of the frigates *Hyche*, *Aventure*, *Néréide*, and *Calypso*, was proceeding with the greatest activity. Letters from Toulon of the 20th mention that the embarkation of troops had not yet commenced, but was expected hourly. At Marseilles the most extraordinary exertions prevailed in despatching vessels daily. At Algiers everything had been arranged for the departure of troops for the East.

It is said that terms have been entered into between the English Government and the French railway companies, by which the latter engage to forward horses to any of the ports at the rate of 20s a day.

NEUTRALITY OF SWEDEN.

Russia has recognised the neutrality of Sweden, on the terms insisted upon by the latter Power. It remains to be seen what course will be now adopted by Denmark, as, notwithstanding Russian influence in that country, a treaty providing for joint action between Sweden and Denmark is known to exist.

THE RUSSO-GREEK INSURRECTION.

Private letters from the provinces represent the state of affairs most favourably, and tranquillity reigned everywhere, with the exception of the Greek frontier. The insurrection at Samos is far from being so serious as it was represented by the Greek journals.

The Porte has resolved to send a naval division to the Archipelago. It is to be composed of one frigate, 52 guns; one corvette, 22 guns; two brigs, and one steamer. This squadron was to sail immediately for Prevesa, and not under the orders of Fuad Effendi, the Frontier Commissioner. When affairs are terminated in that direction it will cruise among the Greek Islands.

The term of six months allowed to Russian subjects to remain in Turkey expires on the 26th inst. The Porte has officially notified to the American intermundo that, at the expiration of that delay, they must quit the Ottoman empire. In Constantinople there are 317 Russian subjects, but in Turkey they number upwards of 4000.

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

Letters from Kalafat to the 16th, speak of several skirmishes during the previous week, but nothing of importance had occurred. The general news from the seat of war is extremely scanty. The *Soldaten Freunde* learns that English and French officers are now employed by Omer Pacha in arranging the details of the various projected operations. It is generally known that the Turkish troops now in the Bulgarian pass and fortresses on the Black Sea will march to Schumla in the month of April, in order to make room for the Anglo-French auxiliaries, who, on their arrival, will assemble somewhere in the neighbourhood of Constantinople, and repose for a time from the fatigues of their voyage. None of the auxiliary troops will be sent to the Danube; but the reserve division of the French General Forey will, perhaps, be posted in Roumelia, to the south of the Balkan. A very strongly intrenched camp is being formed at Fokshany.

General Sir J. Burgoyne, accompanied by two Turkish staff officers, proceeded by the *Caradoc* to Varna, on the 8th inst.; from thence he will visit Schumla, and the fortifications along the Danube. On his return to Constantinople, he will be received in audience by the Sultan, and then quit for London, leaving Colonel Tylden in his place.

THE TRIPARTITE TREATY.

Advices from Constantinople of the 13th instant announce that the tripartite treaty between the Porte and England and France was signed on the 12th.

THE EAST INDIA AND CHINA MAILS.

The *Sultan* steamer arrived at Southampton yesterday with the heavy portion of the India mail. She left Malta on the 15th. Two French steamers were lying in Gibraltar Bay on the 18th, and a French screw steamer arrived half an hour previous to the *Sultan's* departure, but her name was unknown.

THE COURT.

The birthday of the Princess Louisa occurring on Saturday last the Duchess of Kent paid a visit of congratulation to her Majesty at early hour. In the afternoon her Majesty visited the Duchess of Gloucester, at Gloucester House. In the evening the Queen had a winner-party, which included the Duchess of Kent, the Bavarian Minister, the Earl of Aberdeen, Lord Seymour, Lady Fanny Howard, the Baroness de Speth, Lord and Lady Claud Hamilton, Lord and Lady Alfred Hervey, Major-General Sir Richard England, and Colonel Wylde.

On Sunday the Queen and Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, the Princess Alice, the ladies and gentlemen of the Court, and the domestic household, attended Divine service in the private chapel of Buckingham Palace. The Hon. and Rev. Gerald Wellesley officiated.

On Monday the Prince Consort, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, rode out on horseback. The Princesses Helena and Louisa visited the Zoological Gardens in the Regent's park, during the forenoon. In the evening the Queen had a dinner party, the guests including the Duchess of Kent, his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, the Duchess of Sutherland, Madame Tricoupi, the Neapolitan Minister and Princess de Cariati, the Earl and Countess of Derby, the Earl and Countess of Desart, the Earl and Countess of Lucan, Lord and Lady de Ros, and Major-General Sir de Lacy Evans.

On Tuesday the Queen, attended by the Hon. Matilda Paget, Viscount Torrington, and Captain the Hon. Charles Grey, visited her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester. Her Majesty received visits from the Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess Mary. In the evening the Queen and the Prince honoured the Olympic Theatre with their presence.

On Wednesday the Queen held a Levee.

Lord de Tabley and Lieut.-General Sir Edward Bowater have succeeded Lord Waterpark and the Hon. Mortimer West, as the Lord and Groom in Waiting on her Majesty.

The Court, it is understood, will return to Windsor, for the Easter holidays, on Saturday, the 15th proximo.

THE LEVEE.

The Queen held a Levee (the third this season) on Wednesday, at St. James's Palace. Her Majesty and Prince Albert, attended by the Ladies and Gentlemen in Waiting, arrived from Buckingham Palace at two o'clock, escorted by a detachment of the Life Guards.

Her Majesty wore a train of white and gold moiré antique silk, bordered with white flowers, and trimmed with gold blonde and white satin ribbon. The petticoat was white satin, trimmed with gold blonde and white satin ribbon to correspond with the train.

The Queen's head dress was a diamond circlet.

Among the more notable presentations were the following:—

The Marquis of Lothian, by the Marquis of Salisbury.
The Earl of Dunmore (succeeding to the title), by the Marquis of Londonderry.
Lord Audley (on his lordship's succession), by Lord Seymour.
Lord Belhaven, by the Marquis of Londonderry.
By Admiral Sir Thomas Hastings, by the Earl of Aberdeen.
By Sir John Hay, Bart., by the Baroness de Speth here.
By Major-General Sir Richard England, on his departure for foreign service, by Viscount Hardinge.
Lieut. Hon. L. Carnegie, on appointment to the Staff, by General Lord Raglan.
Colonel Birkhall Earnest, on appointment to be Brigadier-General and Deputy-Adjutant-General to the Army of the East, by Viscount Hardinge.
Captain H. O'Brien, Secretary to the First Lord of the Admiralty, on return from abroad, by Sir J. Graham.
Mr. Alderman Moon, on his appointment as one of her Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the county of Middlesex, by the Marquis of Salisbury, K.G.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester continues to improve in health daily, and her medical attendants have great hope that she will shortly be convalescent.

His Excellency the French Ambassador and the Countess Walewski gave a grand dinner on Tuesday evening, at Albert-gate, the new residence of the French Embassy, to his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge and Lord Raglan, preparatory to their departure to join the expedition nary army in the East.

Viscount and Viscountess Palmerston gave a grand banquet on Saturday evening to his Excellency the French Ambassador and the Countess Walewski, his Excellency the Danish Minister, his Excellency the Portuguese Minister and the Countess Lavradio, and a distinguished circle. His Lordship has been suffering from an attack of gout this week.

Lord John Russell has been indisposed this week, with a cold, but is now better.

Lady Mary Wood had an assembly on Thursday evening, in Chesham-place.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

The Irish Exodus still continues on a large scale. The *Waterford News* says, "The Marquis of Waterford is exceedingly short of workmen on his farms."

A company is about to be started at Paris to run pleasure trains, and Marseilles, to Constantinople, at a charge of 300 francs.

A conference of medical and scientific men in Birmingham is spoken of, to consider the systematic and alarming adulterations of food, and articles of general consumption.

The Duke of Buccleuch is erecting a range of first-class dwellings at Kirkford, in Roxburghshire, to be occupied by the day labourers and others on his estate.

The aggregate receipts from all sources of traffic, by all the railways in the United Kingdom, during the first six months of 1853, amounted to £7,196,551 3s. 8½d.; and during the corresponding half-year of 1853, to £8,184,056 8s. 5d.

The total number of persons employed by the railways already opened, of the United Kingdom, in the first half of 1853, was 83,409; of whom 66,367 were employed in England and Wales, 8979 in Scotland, and 5163 in Ireland.

The French Council of State is now examining a project of law, by which prepaid letters are to be carried to any part of France for four sous. Unpaid letters are to pay six sous.

Mr. Latrobe, Lieutenant-Governor of Victoria, was expected to leave Melbourne for England in January.

Mrs. Chisholm sails by the *Ballarat* on the 4th April, for Australia, having been disappointed in the ship which was to have conveyed her, with a large party of female emigrants.

The tenders received for the construction of the new Westminster-bridge are as follows:—Myers, £305,000: Crawshay, £275,000; Mare, £301,000.

The balance of the debt against Prince Edward Island, which in 1851 was £24,375, is now only £2058; and the revenue, which in 1849 was £18,615, had risen in 1853 to £25,845, including £2800, the produce of an education rate.

Within about three months six fires in New York have destroyed buildings and their contents to the value of between five and six millions of dollars.

Lord Batteman has accepted the chairmanship of the Shrewsbury and Birmingham Railway Company, vacant by the decease of Robert Clive, Esq., M.P.

Paris is being supplied now in considerable quantities by rice grown in the south of France. It is considerably less in price, and the quality is good, in fact they report better than the rice of Piedmont and India.

The gross receipts, for 1853, of the Duchy of Cornwall amounted to £67,158. After deducting the amount of salaries, repairs, and other expenses, and leaving a balance of £6000 in hand, the sum of £57,925 was paid over to the Trustees and Treasurer of the Prince of Wales, who is Duke of Cornwall.

The Dublin committee have approved of the model furnished by Mr Christopher Moore for the bronze statue, to be erected in honour of Thomas Moore.

As Ivy Tor Consols, Cornwall, the miners have dug into a "chamber of crystals, as varied for beauty as the scenes in the late Crystal Palace."

At Panama a new steam company has been got up under the name of the "Central America and New Grenada Steam Navigation Company," for the purpose of opening up trade with the ports of Central America.

The preparations for the French Grand Exhibition are actively continued. As Prince Napoleon, the President of the Commission, is about to leave France on foreign service, it is expected that the Minister of State will succeed him.

An attempt had been made at St. Domingo to assassinate the President, and a conspiracy has also been discovered to burn and destroy the town of St. Jago.

English cotton shirts, on which the concise contents of the Koran are roughly printed in blue, are now selling in the Turkish camp. They are eagerly bought up at tenfold their value, as the Turkish soldiers attach to those talismanic extracts the gift of making the wearer invulnerable in battle.

The four liberated slaves from Cuba, on their way to Liberia, have left Southampton for London, where free passages on board the West Coast of Africa steamer *Faith* have been taken for them by order of the Government.

Of the 14,077 churches in England and Wales, there are only 732 churches that are open three times on a Sunday; and 4740 which are open only once on a Sunday.

The Panama railroad is now open to Obispo, which obviates the necessity of any more boating on the Chagres river. The whole of the Panama railway will be opened by the 1st of August next.

Cowell, Grimshaw, Gallaher, Lang, Gardner, Wood, and Brocklehurst, the Preston delegates, have been committed to take their trial at the Liverpool assizes, but have been liberated on bail.

Prince Carl Oscar, the son of the Prince Royal of Sweden and of her Royal Highness the Princess Louise of the Netherlands, died at Stockholm on the 15th inst., at the age of fifteen months.

The young King of Portugal is expected shortly at the hotel of the Portuguese Legation in Brussels.

The statue of Gustavus Adolphus, which was some time since cast on shore on Heligoland, from a wreck, has been purchased by the senate of Bremen for 6000 marks, and will be shortly erected in the market-place of that city.

Mr. Ewart has obtained leave to introduce a bill to amend the Libraries Act. The principal scope of the new measure is to place the power of founding town libraries on the same footing as that of founding baths and wash-houses.

The Mayor of Genoa has issued a circular to all the families of that city, requesting them to forward to him the names of all their relations that fell in 1848 and 1849, fighting for Italian independence. These names are to be engraved on a marble slab, to be placed in the Civic Palace.

Alsace has lately been overrun by an immense number of field mice, which have caused much damage. By the use of a mouse-trap of a particular kind, 15,315 of these animals were caught in thirty-six days, on a surface of fifty acres.

There is every appearance of the Madeira vine crop being blighted again this season.

The *Messagere di Modena* states that it is the intention of the Commander-in-Chief of the French forces at Rome to establish an entrenched camp near Civita Vecchia, with a view to fortify that place on the land side.

The weather, which for some weeks had been precociously warm and pleasant in Belgium, has suddenly resumed its winter severity, and snow has again fallen in various localities.

The Turkish loan for £2,000,000 has been taken by Messrs. Rothschild. The price is 85, the money to be remitted at six fifteen days from the date of issue, and it will pay nearly nine per cent on these terms.

In the Lenten Indult just issued from Rome by Cardinal Wiseman, he enjoins "that, as soon as war shall be publicly announced, there shall be inserted in the prayer recited after mass on Sundays for her Majesty the Queen, the clause (*for* forty years omitted) 'that she may conquer her enemies.'"

The streets of Paris are inundated with songs calculated to stir up the warlike spirit of France against Russia. The Czar and the Cossacks are held up as demons, and even Nicholas himself is painted in colours that might make him be taken for his namesake. The whole of these songs are sanctioned by the Minister of the Interior, and each copy bears the stamp of his office.

The French Government proposes to despatch a special fast steamer from Marseilles to Constantinople every five days, to convey couriers and official despatches for the joint Governments.

Official portraits of the Emperor and Empress of the French have been painted, at Winterhalter, to serve as models. They are now in the Louvre, and are said to be excellent likenesses.

The *Alta California* says, a specimen of the zoology of that country, in the shape of an animal allied to the porcupine, "twenty-two feet in length!" was lately sent to the San Francisco Academy of Natural Science.

In consequence of the Convention concluded between Austria and Piedmont, the telegraph lines of the two countries have just been connected at Bufalora. The telegraphs of the Pontifical States are now in direct communication with Piedmont, through Milan.

The *New York Herald* states, some very rich guano islands have lately been discovered in the Caribbean Sea.

General Giulay, the military Governor of Lombardy, has seized upon all the money belonging to the sequestrated properties of the emigrés.

Care has been taken for the wants of the Highlanders at Malta. An Inverness spirit merchant has received orders to ship a quantity of old high-and whisky to the Mediterranean.

The committee of the Maryland Senate have unanimously reported against the proposed prohibitory liquor bill.

H.M.S. "NEPTUNE."—REAR-ADMIRAL CORRY SALUTING THE QUEEN, AND GETTING UNDER WAY.

REAR-ADMIRAL CORRY'S DEPARTURE FOR THE BALTIC.

On Thursday week, as we stated in a portion of last Saturday's publication, her Majesty, accompanied by Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred Princess Helena, and Princess Louisa, visited Admiral Corry's squadron, lying at Spithead; immediately after which it was expected that the whole of the ships at the anchorage would have got under way, and have proceeded to the Baltic. The ships, six in number, which formed the squadron at Spithead, were the *Neptune*, 120; *Cæsar*, 91; *Prince Regent*, 90; *Boscawen*, 70; *Prolic*, 16; and *Bull-Dog*, 6. With the exception, however, of the *Neptune* and the *Bull Dog*, none of the ships were ready for sea. The *Cæsar*, not having her guns on board, was engaged in refitting her rigging; while the *Boscawen* and the *Prince Regent* had not made up the complements of their crews. At half-past ten on Thursday morning the Royal yacht, *Fairy* and *Elfin*, left Cowes Harbour, and proceeded to the anchorage Immediately on their arriving within a couple of miles of the *Neptune*, the latter opened a Royal salute, which was taken up by the *Prince Regent*, 90, Captain Smith; *Boscawen*, 70, Captain Glanville; and *Prolic*, 16, Commander Nolloth. The *Neptune* and *Bull-dog*, paddle-frigate, Captain W. H. Hall, then weighed—the former under topsails and top gallant sails, and ultimately royals; the latter under steam. The *Neptune's* sails were set as if by a simultaneous movement effected by machinery. At one moment she lay at anchor with all sails furled, and not the slightest indication of a movement; the next, down fell every stitch at once, and she wore round like a cutter, and stood majestically away for the Downs, followed by her smaller steam consort, whom she outstripped while yet inside the Nab. The splendid manner in which this ship was handled exceeded anything which has been witnessed at Spithead for some time, and reflects great credit on Captain Hutton and his excellent crew. There is probably no large ship in commission at the present moment which has a finer crew than Admiral Corry's flag ship: the greater portion of the men are from the *Prince Regent*, and so highly is Captain Hutton respected that he would have had no difficulty in obtaining a much larger number of hands for his ship, had they been required

The *Neptune* got away at eleven o'clock, with topsails, topgallant sails, royals, and jib, in admirable style. This being her first trip, her conduct under canvas was watched with considerable interest, and her performance fully realised every expectation formed of her; and, notwithstanding the immense weight of stores which she takes out, the ship made excellent way. The *Fairy* followed the *Neptune* out for some distance; and signal being made that she was about to part company, the rigging was manned, and what was considered the parting cheer was given. The same daring and exuberant enthusiasm which manifested itself on Saturday on board the *Duke*, was displayed on this occasion, and on the giddy top of the main, fore, and mizen trucks, was perched a tar who, holding one hand aloft and with the other wildly waving his hat, expressed alike his daring and his loyalty.

Her Majesty and Prince Albert from the deck of the *Fairy*, acknowledged Jack's enthusiastic loyalty—the Queen by waving her handkerchief, and the Prince his hat. Her Majesty, however, appeared unwilling to part company with the gallant crew, and proceeded with the noble ship a short distance outside the Nab, notwithstanding a fresh gale which was blowing, and the roughness of the water. A large war steamer appearing in the distance, her Majesty ordered the "demand signal" to be run up; and receiving, in reply, that it was the *Penelope*, a fine paddle steamer from the coast of Africa. Her Majesty is fully conversant with the code of signals, and on board the Royal yachts not unfrequently takes that department under her own management, selecting and reading the signals with as much promptitude and accuracy as many of her own officers. Having ascertained the name of the *Penelope*, the *Fairy* wore round, at a quarter to twelve, and for the third time the *Neptune* manned her rigging, and gave a loud, a long, and an enthusiastic parting hurrah—her Majesty still lingering on the spot, as though reluctant to leave the good ship. Passing the *Bulldog*, which accompanied the *Neptune*, and the anchorage, on her way to Osborne, the ships once more manned the rigging, and cheered her Majesty, who arrived at Osborne shortly before one o'clock.

REAR ADMIRAL CORRY, COMMANDER OF THE SECOND DIVISION OF THE BALTIC FLEET. FROM A DAGUERREOTYPE BY MAYALL.

The *Neptune* and *Bulldog* were under orders to anchor in the Downs till next day, and wait orders and despatches, when they sailed, to join the other portions of the fleet at Kiel Bay.

REAR-ADMIRAL ARMAR LOWRY CORRY.

We abridge from O'Byrne's valuable "Naval Biographical Dictionary" the following brief Memoir of the Commander of the Second Division of the Baltic Fleet:—

This officer entered the navy, as a first-class volunteer, in August, 1805, on board the *Diadem*, Captain Sir Home Popham; and, after assisting in the operations against the Cape of Good Hope and Buenos Ayres, returned to England, as a midshipman in the *Sampson*, Captain W. Cuming, in May, 1807. In the ensuing bombardment of Copenhagen, he was on board the *Leda*; and was afterwards wrecked, on the January 31, 1808, near the entrance of Milford Haven. The *Warspite*, 74, was his next ship; and in her he served, on the home and Mediterranean stations, till he obtained his commission as Lieutenant, on the 28th April, 1812. Mr. Corry, during the years 1812, 1813, and 1814, served in the *Nereus* and *Montagu*; and, on the 28th May, in the *Impregnable*, 98, flag-ship of H.R.H. the Duke of Clarence (afterwards William IV.), he escorted to England the Emperor of Russia (Alexander) and the King of Prussia. Lieut. Corry afterwards served in the *Tay*, 24; and was promoted to the rank of Commander in 1815. He sailed for the East Indies, in October, 1820, in command of the *Satellite*, 18; and in the July of the next year he became Flag-Captain to Admiral the Honourable Sir Henry Blackwood, who was an old and esteemed friend, and with whom he continued until he was invalided home in the *Samarang*, in February, 1822. In April, 1825, Captain Corry took command of the *Barham*, 50, and in that ship conveyed the late Earl of Durham to Constantinople. He afterwards took charge of a squadron on the east coast of Spain; and obtained the thanks of the Queen of Spain, her Ministers, &c., for his exertions in landing with the various ships companies under his orders, and pr serving the cities of Barcelona and Valentia, for her Majesty. From 1830 to 1844, Captain Corry was on half pay; but in September 7th, he was appointed to the *Firebrand* steam-frigate; and in December of the same year, he was transferred to the *Superb*, 80, to take charge of various ships in experimental cruises. Captain Corry obtained his flag as Rear-Admiral, on the 8th of March, 1853; and was appointed to the command of the cruising squadron which went to the Tagus on the recent death of the Queen of Portugal. On his return he was appointed second in command of the Baltic fleet, and his flag as Rear-Admiral of the White is now flying on board the *Neptune*.

KRONBORG CASTLE, ELSINEUR.

This important fortress is situated on the north-east point of the island of Zealand, in Denmark. It was erected about 1580, in the reign of Frederick II.; the style is Gothic, and the material white stone. The Castle is surrounded by fortifications of a comparatively-modern construction, the powerful guns of which sweep the Sound of the Baltic in all directions.

On the opposite coast is the Swedish town of Helsenborg, distant about three miles; and the two places form most formidable objects of annoyance to an enemy entering or leaving by this highway the Baltic. In 1801 the British fleet, under Sir Hyde Parker, with Nelson second in command, forced this passage of the Sound previous to the bombardment of Copenhagen.

Under the Castle are capacious casemates, capable of accommodating upwards of 1000 men; and the lighthouse at the north-west corner commands a beautiful and extensive view of Elsineur and its neighbourhood, the distant town of Helsinborg, and a long range of Swedish coast, with the Baltic bounding the horizon on the south.

There are many interesting associations connected with Kronborg. It has been immortalised by Shakspeare making its ramparts the meeting-place of *Hamlet* with his father's ghost. According to the traditions, its vaults are sacred, as the dwelling-place of the Danish Roland, the hero of a thousand legends, who never appears on the surface of the earth but when the State is in danger; and the dungeons of Kronborg have a melancholy interest attached to them from the unfortunate Caroline Matilda, Queen of Christian VII., and sister of George III. of England, having been imprisoned here. In the lively "Letters from the Baltic," the approach is thus described:—

Our voyage now increased in interest; the coast of Jutland and Kronborg Castle—or, as tradition calls it, Hamlet's Castle—like a square mass on the waters, in sight, and vessels far and near studding the expanse around, and indicating the line of boundary 'twixt sea and sky, which the misty glow of a cloudless sun had almost fused into one.

At Elsineur, that key which unlocks the narrow sluice-gates of the Baltic, an hour's delay occurred to pay those dues which are no mean compensation to Denmark for the scantiness of her absolute territory, and to take in a pilot to conduct us through the narrow slip which alone is navigable of this narrow sound. Our present locality recalled many naval reminiscences; and the new pilot at the helm occasioning a temporary leisure, we came in for some interesting particulars of our captain's life. Deriving his birth from the same county which sent forth Nelson, he had come under the particular charge of this great man; had served in his ship from the almost infantine period of his entering the navy; had assisted at the bombardment of this very Castle of Kronborg, which had attempted an opposition to their advance on Copenhagen; and had seen a brother, post-captain at the age of nineteen killed at his side a few days after his promotion.

Kronborg has already become a point of interest in our naval expedition to the Baltic; and, in another part of the present Number, we have engraved the pioneer of the fleet saluting the Castle in passing.

KRONBORG CASTLE, ELSINEUR, ENTRANCE OF THE SOUND.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

POSTAL CHARGES TO THE BALTIC FLEET.

Viscount CANNING, in answer to Earl Grey, mentioned that application had been made to the Treasury for authority to reduce the postal charge of letters to officers serving in the Baltic fleet from 1s. 8d. to 8d. the half ounce. For seamen and marines the charge would continue to be a penny.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.

Mr. LAYARD postponed his question relative to the affairs of the East until the House should have an opportunity of digesting the very important and extraordinary correspondence upon the subject which had been recently laid on the table.

INCOME-TAX.

The House having gone into Committee of Ways and Means, the resolution for doubling the income-tax for the coming half year was agreed to without any discussion.

MINISTERS' MONEY (IRELAND) BILL.

The second reading of this bill was carried, by a majority of 208 to 97.

COLONIAL CLERGY DISABILITIES BILL.

The second reading of this bill was carried, after a short discussion, by a majority of 126 to 63.

PREVENTION OF BRIBERY AT ELECTIONS

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved for leave to bring in bills for the prevention of bribery in the election of members to serve in Parliament for the city of Canterbury, and the boroughs of Cambridge, Barnstaple, Kingston-upon-Hull, and Maldon. To remedy this state of things, he proposed simply to disfranchise the guilty parties whose names were reported by the Commissioners; and about whom, therefore, there could be no difficulty.

Sir J. HARMER also opposed the motion, and condemned the practice of issuing such commissions as those upon whose reports these bills were founded.

Mr. NAPIER thought that no man was bound to give evidence which would subject him to any species of forfeiture, and such forfeiture would therefore be held to be incurred in the indemnity. In this view the bill would be a breach of the honour of the House, if it passed.

Mr. WHITESIDE contended, that according to the fair and liberal construction of the Act of Parliament which gave the indemnity, the parties giving evidence could not be subjected to forfeiture of any kind.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL contended that the bills of the Attorney-General were quite in accordance with the Act of Parliament which gave the indemnity, and gave it for the express purpose of enabling the House to legislate on the evidence thus to be obtained.

Mr. WALPOLE held that the object of the bill was to make "inquiry," and not to "disfranchise." In his opinion, the proposed measure involved a violation of the fundamental law of England.

Sir A. COCKBURN replied, and in the course of his remarks referred to the silence of Sir Fitzroy Kelly as symptomatic of non-coincidence in the opinions of those who sat on the same side of the House.

Sir F. KELLY rose in consequence of this remark, and expressed his full concurrence in the opinions of Mr. Walpole. At the very least, the Act of Parliament was sufficiently ambiguous to entitle the witnesses to claim indemnity from all consequences whatever. The bill was one of pains and penalties. It was a delusion, a deception, and a fraud.

On a division, leave was given to introduce the bill by 189 to 118.

Leave followed for bills to accomplish the same object in the four other boroughs (Cambridge, Barnstaple, Kingston-upon-Hull, and Maldon), whose writs had been suspended.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

PAYMENT OF SEAMEN.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH complained of the inconvenience which arose from allowing the coast guard-men who enlisted into the navy a higher rate of pay than was given to able seamen.

The Earl of ABERDEEN remarked that the experiment was a new one, and time was required to determine upon its final arrangements.

THE EASTERN EXPEDITION—FRAUDULENT CONTRACT.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH referred to an alleged case of fraud perpetrated by a contractor who had engaged to furnish hay for the transport vessels which were conveying troops to the East.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE admitted that such a fraud had been attempted. Every means would be used to bring the offender to justice; but there was much difficulty in finding a law that could reach the case.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

THE INCREASED INCOME-TAX.

On the question that the report of the Committee of Ways and Means (Increased Income Tax) be received,

Sir H. WILLOUGHBY moved an amendment that the collection of the additional moiety extend over the whole year, and not be levied during the first half of the year. The Chancellor of the Exchequer having obtained the sanction of the House to issue, if necessary, £1,750,000 in Exchequer bills, there was no necessity for exacting the additional Income tax within six months

Mr. FRENCH seconded the amendment, adverting specially to the hardship inflicted upon Ireland by the increase in the Income-tax.

Mr. T. HANKEY was one of those who heard with surprise the remark of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, when explaining his Budget that it was a matter of congratulation that the balances of the Exchequer were so low. Mr Hankey went into details to show that Mr Gladstone had committed some errors of judgment in financial operations, the results of which had been inconvenience and loss. In April next the Chancellor of the Exchequer, must, in all probability, be a borrower to a larger extent than he anticipates. It was not good policy in the Government to place itself under too great obligations to the Bank of England.

Mr. W. WILLIAMS maintained that the course taken by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in reducing the balances, and lowering the interest on Exchequer-bills was judicious, and profitable to the public.

Mr SPOONER prophesied that, should the war continue, the inconvenience of the restriction would be felt to an alarming extent.

Mr. BUNCE, in reference to Mr. Spooner, in his character of prophet, remarked, that his predictions during a period of thirty years had always been falsified. He thought that the Chancellor of the Exchequer was justified in reducing the rate of interest on Exchequer-bills at the time that he did so.

Mr CAYLEY prognosticated that ere long the Act of 1844 would have to be suspended.

Russia was, he would prove a less formidable enemy than the Act of 1844.

Mr MALINS was certain that, if the real character of the law of 1844 was known to the public, it would not remain in force for six months.

Sir F. BARING, in adverting to the strong opinions expressed against the Act of 1844 by several members, thought the better course for them to pursue would be to bring forward a specific motion expressive of their views. With respect to balances of the Exchequer, Sir Francis thought the Chancellor of the Exchequer would have been in a more comfortable condition had he passed the Budget less than he does at present; but that was no disparagement to him. No man can foresee with certainty all the circumstances which may affect his calculations. With regard to the proposition involved in the Budget, he regarded it as the best arrangement which could have been made.

Sir F. KELLY, anticipating a costly, and it may be a lasting war, thought it the duty of the House to look manfully at its difficulties. Had Mr. Gladstone not neglected the warnings of Sir F. Kelly, and those on the Opposite of the House, the Treasury would have had a large amount at its credit.

Mr DISRAELI contended that the Government were justified in demanding increased taxes to provide for a war only upon the condition of proving that the war was unavoidable. This they had not done; and, after making out a case by the production of a voluminous series of documents, had within the last few hours issued a supplemental volume, giving a totally new aspect to the question. As time had not allowed him to study these new documents, he was not obliged to take the proposition now before the House just as it stood, leaving for future discussion the question whether the Ministry had deserved the confidence of the House or the country by the conduct which had led to their requiring enhanced revenues. Mr. Disraeli then passed on to the subject of the Exchequer balances, computing that the ready money that would be at the disposal of the Government next month would amount to a comparatively insignificant sum so few, indeed, as to be dangerous and impolitic, even if the country were in a state of profound peace. Assigning as the cause of this impoverishment the various reductions of interest and conversions of stocks attempts with much minuteness, he characterised them as having been injudicious, ill-advised, and persisted in against the opinions of the most competent authorities, and in the face of symptoms which should have shown the Chancellor of the Exchequer the peril he was incurring. The final result would be to force the Minister to raise a loan, which would only be obtained upon worse terms the longer it was delayed. Meeting the objection that no criticism should be pronounced on the Ministerial policy if the critic were not prepared to propose a vote of no confidence, the right hon. member urged that it was apparent the Government had no confidence in the House or even in themselves, and contrasted the expression of different Ministers at different times to show how loose and conflicting had been their opinions on the great question of peace and war. The war itself had been occasioned by this divergence of opinion. A united Cabinet would have averted it altogether—it was a coalition war. He believed that the Finance Minister would want more money than he could get, and it was not right to incur embarrassments.

The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER, in adverting to the discursive nature of the topics which had been touched upon in the course of the prolonged debate, said, the amendment actually before them had occupied but a small place. Replying to Mr. Disraeli, he observed that the omission to propose a vote of want of confidence was defended upon the very grounds that should have prompted it; and characterised the conclusion, in which that right hon. member had landed his argument, as illogical and recreant. Mr. Gladstone then proceeded to vindicate his policy with regard to the reduction of interest on Exchequer-bills, the conversion of stock, and the partial employment of the Treasury balances in buying up the public debt. He denied, in reference to the remarks of Mr. Hankey, that Government had sought accommodation from the Bank of England, except upon the ordinary terms of the discount market; or were in any way bound under special obligations to that establishment. He concluded by enforcing the policy of defraying the expenses of the year by the supplies of the year.

The amendment having been negatived, the report of the resolution was agreed to; a bill was ordered to be brought in; and the House adjourned soon after two o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

SIMONY LAW AMENDMENT BILL.

Mr. R. PHILLIMORE moved the second reading of the Simony Law Amendment Bill. It was practically the same as the measure introduced last year, absolutely prohibiting the sale of any ecclesiastical preferment, or a next presentation thereto, after decease of the present holder. The honourable member described the abuses which existed under the law as it now stood and declared that his bill had received the approbation of nearly all the Judges.

Mr BERNAL moved that the bill be read a second time that day six months, which was carried, after a short discussion, by a majority of 86 The bill was consequently lost.

The second reading of the Payment of Wages (Hosiery) Bill was carried by a majority of 120 to 73.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

ROYAL ASSENT.

The Royal Assent was given by commission to the following bills, viz :— The Consolidated Fund (£8,000,000) Bill, the Exchequer Bills (£1,750,000) Bill, the Coasting Trade Bill, the Mutiny Bill, and the Marine Mutiny Bill.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

THE NEW JUDGE.

On the motion of Mr. HAYTER, a new writ was ordered to issue for the Borough of Lincoln, in the room of Mr. Crowder, who has accepted the office of one of the Puisne Judges of the Court of Common Pleas.

FORAGE FOR THE ARMY.

In reply to a question from Colonel Blair, Mr. B. OSBORNE stated that the parties who were guilty of supplying an inferior description of hay, under a forage contract, for the horses proceeding to Turkey, were Sturgeon and Sons of Grays, Essex.

Sir J. GRAHAM said that the Solicitor to the Admiralty had been that day instructed to prosecute the party. Should the law prove insufficient to meet such a case, he would come to Parliament with a bill to prevent the recurrence of such frauds for the future.

GAMING HOUSES.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved for leave to bring in a bill for the suppression of gaming houses. He said that strict as was the existing law against gaming-houses, it had been found inefficient to put down the evil. They were barricaded in such a way that before the police could effect an entrance, there was ample time to destroy the gaming implements; and there was an impossibility, therefore, of obtaining evidence on the parties arrested therein Under these circumstances, he proposed that it should be a substantive offence, punishable by penalties, to prevent the entrance of officers legally authorised to obtain admission. He also proposed, by the bill that the magistrate—where a *prima facie* case was made out—should have the power of assuming the guilt of the parties, so far as to throw upon them the *onus probandi* that the house was not a common gaming-house. He also proposed to give the magistrate the power of selecting the persons whom he deemed it right to prosecute, and to liberate the others. One other proposal, upon which he set considerable value, was that of making it a substantive offence to give a false name.

After a few words from Sir J. SHELLEY, in approval of the measure, leave was given to bring in the bill.

THE INCOME-TAX BILL.

This bill was read a second time.

On the motion of Mr BRADY, the Medical Practitioners Bill was read a second time. Adjourned.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY

The COMMON-LAW PROCEDURE (1854) Bill was read a second time, with the understanding that it was to be referred to a Select Committee.

The Bill Ways (South Wales) Bill, and the Registration of Bills of Sale Bill, were read a third time, and passed.

The Valuation (Ireland) Act Amendment Bill was reported, with amendments.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

Mr. F. DUNDAS asked what measures would be taken by the Government for the protection of the fisheries on the north-east coast of Scotland, and the islands of Orkney and Shetland, in the event of war being declared?

Sir J. GRAHAM said he should be very much disappointed if a single Russian ship of war would be able to get into the neighbourhood of the fisheries at all

Sir F. KELLY asked whether it was the intention of Government, in the event of a declaration of war against Russia, to adopt any measures having reference to private property on board neutral vessels, or to the searching of neutral vessels, or to the letting out of privateers?

Lord J. RUSSELL said he hoped very soon to be able to give the requisite information. It might be by an Order in Council, or it might be necessary to have a bill in Parliament on the subject

In reply to a question from Sir F. Thesiger, Lord J. RUSSELL said he would proceed with the Oaths Bill on Friday next, unless more pressing business should interfere. He would give a more definite answer on Monday.

SETTLEMENT AND REMOVAL BILL.

Mr. BAINES moved the second reading of the Settlement and Removal Bill.

Mr STAFFORD moved, as an amendment, that the bill be read a second time that day six months, and complained that the Irish members, like the House generally, were kept in the dark as to the intentions of the Government. It had been yesterday announced in the lobby that Government had ascertained that Scotland and Ireland should be included in the bill, whereas it now appeared that they were not to be included, but that there would be a separate bill on the subject for them. The hon. gentleman then proceeded to take objections to the proposed measure, which he contended would, instead of improving the condition of the poor, increase their misfortunes, by removing the stimulus which at present existed to landlords to employ them. It would give the Commissioners at Somerset-house too great a control over the property of the country; it would break up altogether the present parochial system, and greatly increase the taxation of the country.

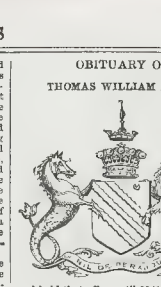
Lord D STUART seconded the amendment.

After a lengthened discussion the debate was adjourned until Monday.

The Income-tax Bill passed through Committee.—Adjourned.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

THOMAS WILLIAM ANSON, EARL OF LICHFIELD.



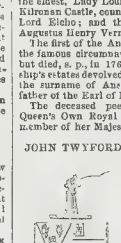
THE death of this nobleman occurred on the 18th inst., at Hill street, Berkeley-square. His Lordship was born 20th October, 1795, the eldest son of Thomas, Viscount Anson, by Anne Margaret, his wife, second daughter of Thomas W Coke, Esq., of Holkham, county Norfolk, afterwards Earl of Leicester He succeeded to the Viscounty of Anson at the death of his father, 31st July, 1818; and was advanced to the Earldom of Lichfield 8th September, 1841. In 1835 he became Postmaster-General,

and held that office until 1841. He was also at one time Master of the Buckhounds. The Earl married, 11th February, 1819, Louisa Catherine, daughter of the late Nathaniel Philips, Esq., of Slebech Hall, county Pembroke; and leaves issue, Thomas George, Viscount Anson (now second Earl of Lichfield), three other sons, and four daughters: of whom the eldest, Lady Louisa, is married to Edward King Tenison, Esq., of Kilronan Castle, county Roscommon, the second, Lady Anne, is wife of Lord Elcho; and the third, Lady Harriet, is married to the Hon. Augustus Henry Vernon.

The first of the Ansons who attained the Peerage was George Anson, the famous circumnavigator He was created Baron Anson in 1747, but died, s. p., in 1762, when that title became extinct; but his Lordship's estates devolved on his nephew, George Adams, Esq., who assumed the surname of Anson, and was father of Thomas, Viscount Anson, father of the Earl of Lichfield.

The deceased peer was Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant of the Queen's Own Royal Regiment of Staffordshire Yeomanry Cavalry, a member of her Majesty's Privy Council, and a Doctor of Civil Law.

JOHN TWYFORD JOLIFFE, ESQ., OF AMMERDOWN-PARK, COUNTY SOMERSET.

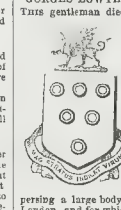


THIS much respected and lamented country gentleman died, after a lingering and painful illness, on the 16th inst., at his beautiful seat, near Bath.

Colonel Joliffe was eldest son of the late Thomas Samuel Joliffe, Esq., M.P. for Petersfield, by Mary Anne Twyford, his wife, heiress of Kilmeeston; and grandson of John Joliffe, Esq., M.P., whose father, Benjamin Joliffe, Esq., of Copton Hall, county Worcester, represented a family of considerable antiquity in the counties of Stafford and Worcester. Colonel Joliffe was Lieutenant-Colonel in the First Somerset Regiment of Militia, and a Magistrate and Deputy-Lieutenant for Somersetshire So great was the public good effected by this excellent gentleman's benevolence, and by his influence as an extensive landholder, that his loss will be long and deeply felt by a numerous tenantry. His hereditary estates devolve by entail on his only surviving brother, the Rev. Thomas Robert Joliffe, now of Ammerdown. There was one other brother, Charles Joliffe, an officer in the army, who fell at Waterloo.

GORGES LOWTHER, ESQ., LATE OF KILRUE, CO. MEATH.

THIS gentleman died on the 23rd ult., at his residence, Hampton Hall, Somerset, in the eighty-fifth year of his age. He formerly possessed large estates in the county of Meath. His father and grandfather represented the county of Meath for many years in Parliament; and the latter, Gorges Lowther, Esq., was father of the Irish House of Commons, having sat for a period of fifty years. On his death, the House, by unanimous consent, went into mourning for three days. Mr. Lowther, whose decease we record, was for many years member for the borough of Ratoath. He commenced his career in the 5th Dragoon Guards, and afterwards commanded for sixteen years, a troop of Light Dragoons, in the county of Hants, where he had estates; and on one occasion was instrumental in dispersing a large body of malcontents, on their way from Portsmouth to London, and for which he received the thanks of the county. Mr. Lowther was descended from William, fifth son of Sir Christopher Lowther, of Lowther; the present Earl of Lonsdale being descended from Sir John, the eldest son. Mr. Lowther was educated at Winchester College, and at the Military College of Angers, in France. He was an author of no inconsiderable eminence, having published several works of a controversial character. He married Julia, daughter of the Rev. Thomas Huntingford, D.D., and niece of G. J. Huntingford, Lord Bishop of Hereford, by whom he leaves issue, five sons and four daughters.



THE REV. DR. JENKYNS

THE Rev. Dr Jenkyns, Master of Balliol College, Oxford, and Dean of Bath and Wells, died on the 6th inst., at the Master's Lodgings of his College. Dr. Jenkyns' career was one of much respectability and high classical repute. He matriculated at Balliol College, May 5th, 1800, and took his degree of M.A., the 3rd October, 1806. Although at that time the system of awarding classes at the examinations was not in operation, it was evident that Dr Jenkyns passed through his examinations with great credit, for he was made Master of the schools in 1809 and 1810, and subsequently a public Examiner in Literæ Humanioribus. In the year 1819, at the time that he was Tutor and Bursar, he was elected Master of Balliol College, on the death of the Rev Dr. Parsons, Bishop of Peterborough. In 1824 he served the office of Vice-Chancellor of the University of Oxford, and distinguished himself by his firmness, his courtesy, and his aptitude for his duties. In 1845 he was appointed Dean of Bath and Wells. At the time of his decease, Dr. Jenkyns was a delegate of the press and of accounts in the University. He was, when he died, in his 71st year.

EXECUTION OF MOSES HATTO.—Moses Hatto was hanged yesterday (Friday) at Aylesbury. Subsequently to his conviction he had made a full confession of his crime a long rambling story affording not the slightest palliation for the murder.

A FATAL JOKE.—At Monaghan, last week, a "wake" was being held, and, as usual in rural districts, was the scene of much merriment. Amongst other frolics, a mock trial was held on a young man for the abduction of a young girl. Judge, jury, counsel, prisoner, and prosecutor were all enacted, and a verdict of guilty returned. The prisoner was placed on a chair, with a rope noosed round his neck, the other end cast over a beam, and unfortunately secured by some accident the chair was kicked from under the man, he dropped—the spine was dislocated, and instant death ensued.

THE NORTH COUNTRY SEAMEN.—There is a very unhappy feeling existing between the shipowners and seamen in the north-east ports. A union man will sail with none but such as have medals, and the associations dictate the amount of wages that have to be earned by them per month or per voyage. The shipowners of Shields, Sunderland, and Hartlepool have met this combination by a counter-combination, and in each port offices are established, called "Shipowners'-offices," for the employment of non-union men. Seamen offer £5 for a London voyage, but the unions refuse to allow their hands to go to sea under £6 10s.

DISCOVERY OF GOLD.—Last week, three labourers who were at work at Ballykilty, county Clare, upon the property of Mr. Blood, through which the Limerick and Ennis Railway is to run, accidentally turned up with a spade a large quantity of valuable antique Irish gold ornaments, of which they equally possessed themselves, and one of the parties, who filled his hat with the precious metal, was simple enough to sell 10¼ ounces of it for £30. The gold is of the purest description, consisting of armlets, ringlets, bracelets, collars, &c., and worth £4 per ounce.

ROYAL SEA-BATHING INFIRMARY.—On Thursday the half-yearly court of this charity was held at the London Tavern. The report stated that, though the year's expenditure, owing to the state of the markets, had been greater than that of the previous year by £164 5s. 8d., yet it was most satisfactory to state that the income also showed an increase of £211 1s. 6d., leaving a balance at the end of the year of £731 0s. 11d. The patients during the past season numbered 613.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

THE Government scheme for the reformation of the Civil Service of the country, which Mr. Gladstone is about to bring before the House, has formed the subject of conversation in literary circles during the present week. It is praised and dispraised, complained of and defended, at tables that are not literary; while among authors and candidates for distinction, either on the press or at the bar, it is thought to open a channel to distinction, all but closed to authors, since the memorable Ministry of Queen Anne. There are writers of repute, who dream, and r the new scheme, to rise, like Prior, to ambassadorial distinction, or to hold, as Addison held, the seals of one of the principal Secretaries of State. Government purposes to throw open to public competition, as vacancies arise, the 16,000 situations held by the 16,000 civil servants of the Crown. The son of a Whitechapel butcher may enter into competition with the son of a Peer of the realm. A Howard or a Cavendish is to have no better chance than a Snooks or a Jim Baggs. Absolute fitness is to be the only test for every situation. The prizes to be contended for vary from £6000 a year to £90 a year; and the number of prizes in this lottery of distinction are said to average from £150 to £250 a year. The scheme has much that is excellent in it, but surely it is a little romantic. Who are to be the examiners—and what is the nature of the examination to which candidates are to be subjected? Very different talents are required for very different situations, and it is clear that the very best examin rs will give a widely different importance to particular branches of information. Sir Isaac Newton spoke of poetry as ingenious nonsense; and Gray, the poet, looked on mathematics as an idle pestering of the brain. Lord Derby, as an examiner, would consider Lord Aberdeen as very unfit for the office of Prime Minister, and Mr. Disraeli would by no means consider Mr. Gladstone as the person the best fitted in the three kingdoms for the situation of Chancellor of the Exchequer. We know what boys and men know for—we know, moreover, that precocity is seldom lasting, and that a readiness in an examination answer is anything but a safe test of the higher and more valuable qualifications so essentially necessary in a public servant. Still, the scheme may be made to work well; and, in common with authors ambitious of ambassadorial distinction, we shall watch its progress with the interest it deserves.

There is a talk, and something more, of raising a public subscription for a monument to the memory of the late Mr. Justice Talfourd; but what shape the monument is to take is as yet wholly undetermined. Some of his admirers contemplate a handsome cenotaph over his grave in the cemetery at Norwood; others recommend a statue in Westminster Abbey; and many have suggested a Talfourd dramatic scholarship or medal. Any memorial over his grave placed by public subscription, might be thought to interfere with what his children may naturally prefer doing for themselves. Westminster Abbey is already overcrowded with statues and tablets; while Wordsworth and Byron are without monuments in Poet's Corner, a statue of Talfourd would be somewhat out of place there. The scheme of a dramatic scholarship—not to perpetuate his name, but to show our sense of his talents, and his services to the drama—merits every consideration; indeed, it deserves to be carried out. Whatever is to be done should be done quickly. It is difficult to revive the first gush of sympathy. Friends are soon forgotten; and people are apt to exclaim, when asked for subscriptions for men already cold in the grave, "O, this should have been done before: it is too late now." If we want any instances of the evil of delays in such matters, we have only to call to mind the starved memorial to Mrs. Siddons, and the still lagging subscription to the memory of Sir James Mackintosh.

On the very day on which this number of our paper is published the famous marble eagle, one of the leading treasures of the strawberry-hill collection, will pass to some new proprietor, under the hammer of Messrs. Christie and Manson. It is, in every respect, a very fine work, and has justly been the attraction in art in London during the past week. Our readers will, doubtless, remember its history. It was dug up in Italy, and is the eagle about which Walpole raves so admiringly in so many of his letters. The plumage is a masterpiece of carving. The British Museum should be its resting-place; but its destiny, and the price it sold for, we shall duly record in our next week's column. How little did Walpole foresee its fate!

Good autographs are rising in value. The fall in the Funds seems to have no effect on property not often in the market. A letter, in the handwriting of Oliver Cromwell, addressed to Mr. Cotton, "Pastor to the church at Boston, in New England," has just been sold by Messrs. Puttick and Simpson for £36. This is the highest price ever given for a Cromwell letter. It has gone to America—an excellent market for whatever is illustrative of English history and manners.

The Stowe copy of Houbraken's "Illustrious Heads," bought by Mr. Pickering, at the Stowe sale, for £91, was knocked down, on Thursday last, by Messrs. Sotheby and Wilkinson, for £97. This is unquestionably the finest copy known of one of the finest books of engraved portraits. It was formed by Alderman Boydell, and contains ninety-five first proofs, before any letters; eighty-five proof impressions, besides many additional proofs; and nine etchings of the utmost rarity.

We recorded, a few weeks ago, the fate of one of the two famous cedars in the Botanic-gardens, at Chelsea. We have now to record, as a piece of landscape gardening news, the planting of a tree in Hyde-park, which is in every likelihood, destined to be familiarly known to two centuries and more of English fashion and beauty. At the west end of Rotten-row, where the road to the right runs to the bridge over the Serpentine, and the road to the left descends to Kensington, the new Chief Commissioner of Woods has just planted, in the very centre of the road, a young vigorous sapling—an elm, we take it to be—with a plain substantial fence around it, where it serves at present for a sort of half-way shelter, like a lamp-post in London, for timorous adventurers to cross. When this tree shall have thrown its branches into the air, it will form a trysting-tree for lounging admirers—we had nearly said lovers—upon horseback. Reynolds boasted, and not unjustly, that he had painted two generations of English beauty—in other words, an entire century of English loveliness. Under this tree may meet—not greater loveliness, perhaps, but certainly a much greater amount of it. Our chronicling the period of its setting may be of interest hereafter.

Mr. Martin, the painter, has not left behind him—what painters generally leave—a number of finished and unfinished pictures upon canvas, and at least some ten or twenty portfolios of sketches for works completed or never commenced. We believe that his unsold pictures are not above three, and his sketches literally none. He has left, however, some sixty exquisite water-colour drawings—chiefly transcripts from nature—made with a poet's eye and a painter's skill in rendering all that is beautiful before him. We have seen these drawings: there are three of the Windcliff, in South Wales, that are perfect marvels in water-colour art.

Jacob Albert, of Baltimore, who died three weeks ago, has left two millions of dollars.

M. de Villèle, French Minister of Finance, under the Restoration, died at Toulouse on the 13th instant.

REPRESENTATION OF WESTMORELAND.—Nothing is yet known as to who will succeed the late Alderman Thompson, M.P. for Westmoreland. The county has not been contested since 1826, when Lord, then Henry Brougham, near y succeeded in beating the Lowther interest, which has long been nearly paramount in Mr. Thompson succeeded to his seat on the elevation of Lord Lonsdale to the peerage, in 1841, previously to which both seats were monopolised by the house of Lowther.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

WARWICK AND LEAMINGTON SPRING MEETING.—TUESDAY.

Sweepstakes of 5 sovs each.—Cerise, 1. Fingerlet, 2.
Woodcote Stakes.—The Deepbell, 1. Oddity, 2.
Free Handicap.—Alonzo, 1. Forist, 2.
Trial Stakes.—Orestes, 1. Redsplash, 2.
Willoughby Handicap.—Fourton, 1. Ethelwolf, 2.
Farmers' Plate (Hacks).—British Sailor, 1. Jenny Jones, 2.

WEDNESDAY.

Sweepstakes of 5 sovs. each.—Cerise, 1. Mraheau, 2.
Welter Handicap.—Tutterstone, 1. Warwick, 2.
Debdale Stakes.—Tipperary Boy, 1. The Farmer's Friend, 2.
Great Warwickshire Handicap.—Ethelwolf, 1. Ethelwolf, 2.
Two-year-old Stakes.—Border Chief, 1. Bessie, 2.
Handicap Plate.—Kohinoor, 1. Gaylad, 2.
Maiden, 100 p. p.—Mr. Boyle's Great Bear Lucy Glitters.
Farmers' Handicap Hurdle Race.—British Sailor, 1. Sworford, 2.

THURSDAY.

Gold Cup.—Torrent, 1. Cervus, 2.
Sweepstakes. Billy, 1. Beckford Lass, 2.
Welter Stakes.—Peepnpr Tom, 1. Liberty, 2.
Veteran Stakes.—Capt. France's Donative, 1. Capt. Lucas's The Lad, 2.

FRIDAY

Scurry Handicap.—Battery, 1. Jack Leeming, 2
Annual Steeplechase.—Trout, 1. Oscar, 2.
Hunters' Stakes.—Emperor, 1
Hurdle Race.—Mr. Boyle's Gerard, 2.
Sweepstakes.—Census, 1.
Free Handicap Steeplechase.—Stretford Lass, 1. Widow Machree, 2.
Hunt Cup.—Tipperary Boy, 1. Lobster, 2.

CITY BETTING.—THURSDAY

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE STAKES.—3 to 1 agst Defiance, 5 to 1 agst Mr. Sykes; 8 to 1 s. Langrecles, 10 to 1 agst Little Jem.

VISITATION OF NUNEATON.—A large and respectable meeting of Roman Catholics was held on Tuesday, in St. Marnock's hall, for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of the bishop's visiting her next parish. Resolutions to that effect were taken by the Hon. Charles Langdale. Resolutions concerning such interference were carried without opposition.

THE VACANT JUDGESHIP.—Mr. Crowder has been appointed to the seat upon the bench vacant by the death of Mr. Justice Talfourd. This appointment creates a vacancy in the representation of Lisk aard.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

During the whole of the present week the Market for Consols has been in a very unsatisfactory state. The warlike preparations on the part of England and France, the continuous drain of bullion from the Bank of England for shipment to the Continent, and the numerous sales of stock, have tended to depress prices, and increase future difficulties. However, the fall has not been extensive; but the operations entered into for further decline have been large. The Unfunded Debt has felt the effects of a fresh issue of Bills. The previous bill fallen ours greatly, and an additional number of Exchequer Bills on the Market is calculated further to depress the quota ions.

No further cuts in rates have been announced, and some of the larger rather heavy amounts. The demand for money has increased. Although we have no change to notice in the rates of discount, the Lombard Street has become somewhat lighter. Money on "call" is now worth 4½ per c nt.

A new Turkish Loan for £2,200,000 has been announced. The amount is for Six per Cent Stock, at 85. Ten per cents are to be made in five instalments, and the loan will be repaid, at par, within fifteen years, in equal annual amounts. It is thought that the subscription lists here will not be heavy, as the loan is not guaranteed either by England or France; but it must be borne in mind that the Ottoman Porte repaid the whole of the last loan contracted here, with a bonus of three per cent.

The imports of bullion are £102,000 from the West Indies, and 127,854 dollars from New York. The shipments have comprised £275,000 to India, and 90,000 to France, Holland, &c. Our latest advices from China state that silver was selling extremely high to admit of large shipments from this country at a good profit.

Great fairness was experienced in the Consol Market on Monday. The Three per Cents were done from 84¾ to 85, for the Account, and for Money 85¼. Exchequer Bills were 8 to 10s. premium. On Tuesday, very few money purchases were effected. Consols for Account sold at 90 to 84½; and the Three per Cent Reduced, 85¼ to 85½. Bank Stock, 212. Opening Jan. 5, Exchequer Bills, 5s to 7s. prem um. On Thursday, the Market for Consols was flat, and prices were further depressed. The Three per Cents were quoted at 84¾ to 85. Bank Stock, 212. Exchequer Bills were very dull, at 7s. discount to 8s premium.

All Miscellaneous Securities have met a very dull market, and prices almost generally have given way, excepting Bank Stock, which has realised 213. Exchequer Bills, 8s to 10s. premium. On Tuesday, very few money purchases were effected. Consols for Account sold at 90 to 84½; and the Three per Cent Reduced, 85¼ to 85½. Bank Stock, 212. Opening Jan. 5, Exchequer Bills, 5s to 7s. premium. On Thursday, the Market for Consols was flat, and prices were further depressed. The Three per Cents were quoted at 84¾ to 85. Bank Stock, 212. Exchequer Bills were very dull, at 7s. discount to 8s premium.

All Miscellaneous Securities have met a very dull market, and prices almost generally have given way, excepting Bank Shares have realised 75; British North American, 63; London Chartered of Australia, 16; London Joint Stock, 23; Oriental 45; Union of Australia, 65; Ditto, New, 46; Australian Agricultural, 22; Ditto, New, 3; Colonial, 44; Eastern Mail, 2; Berlin Waterworks 2; British American Land, 75. Crystal Palace, 6 ex new; Peel River Land and Mineral, 3; Portland Iron Company, 3; Scottish Australian Investment, 2; South Australian Land, 2. The East London Waterworks have sold at 18; Ditto, New, 2 prem.; Grand Junction, 73; Ditto, New, 4; Kent, 80; Southwark and Vauxhall, 90; Lambeth, 97; West Middlesex, 1-0, ex div.; Ditto, New, 17. Insurance Companies have marked as follow:—Albion, 92; Atlas, 30; County, 125; European, 34; Globe, 137; Guardian, 5½; Imperial Fire, 370; Ditto Life 50; London, 30; Pelican, 45; Phœnix, 183; Royal Exchange, 235; Sun Fire, 260; Ditto Life, 65. Hungerford Bridge, 12; Waterloo, 4; Vauxhall, 9½. East and West India Docks, 107; to 108. London, 103; Westminster Pacific Mail Packet Company, 18; Australian Royal Mail, 2; British American Land, 75; Canada, 77; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, 65; Royal Mail Steam, 99.

Foreign Bonds have been exceedingly heavy, and prices almost generally have given way. Brazilian Five per Cents have been done as low as 98; Danish Three per Cents, 74; Greek's Deferred, 6; Mexican Three per Cents, 22; Peruvian Four and-a-Half per Cents, 36; Russian Five per Cents, 86; Russian Four and-a-Half per Cents, 74; Spanish Three per Cents, 36; Ditto New Deferred, 17; Ditto Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 5; Ditto Four per Cents 88; Ditto Six per Cents, 101; Litto, Three per Cents, 72; Ecuador, 3; Greek Bonds, red, 5; Swedish Four per Cents, 80. Venezuela Three-and-a-Half per Cents, 26; Sardinian Five per Cents, 75; Portuguese Four per Cents, 34.

Railway Shares have ruled dull and drooping. Very few transactions have taken place for investment. The following are the closing prices on Thursday:

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Aberdeen, 21; Amberate, Nottingham and Boston, 4; Caledonian, 52; Chester and Holyhead, 14; Dublin and Belfast Junction, 4; East Anglian, 1½; Eastern Counties, 11; East Lancashire, 69; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 55; Great Northern ex; Ditto A Stock, 74; Ditto B Stock, 119. Great Western, 74; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 80; Ditto, Fifths, 9; London and Blackwall, 7; London and Brighton, 96; London and North-Western, 96; Ditto, Fifths, 11; Ditto, Eighths, 1; London and South-Western, 69; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 20; Midland, 87; Midland, Great Western, and Derby, 32; Newry and Enniskillen, 2; Norfolk, 44; North British, 30; North Staffordshire, 10; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 29; Scottish Midland, 54; South Devon, 14; South-Eastern and Dover, 37; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, 62; Ditto, Extension, 10; York and North Midland, 64.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Eastern Counties, No. 2, premium; Ditto, Six per Cent Stock, 13; Great Northern, Five per cent, 110; Ditto, Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 98; Great Western, Four per Cent, Half per Cents, 95; Midland, Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 1 dis; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 37; South Eastern, 22 ex div.

FOREIGN.—Last Indian, 72; Great Western of Canada Bonds, 108. Lyons and Geneva, 8; Madras, 9; Namur and Liege, 7; Paris and Lyons, 21; Paris and Orleans, 43.

In Mining Shares next to nothing doing. Agua Fria have been quoted 1; Australian Freehold, 1; Baden, ; Colonial Gold, 1; Nouveau Monde, 1; St. Johndel Rey, 1; Cobre Copper, 40.

Friday Evening.

Great depression has prevailed in the Consol Market, to-day, and prices have fallen one-half per cent. The Three per Cents have marked 84¾ ¾ ¾. The Unfunded Debt has declined 2s. to 2s prem. Foreign Bonds and Railway Shares have ruled dull and lower.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE (Monday).—The arrivals of English wheat fresh up to this morning's market, coastwise and by land carriage, were very moderate, but there were several of Mear ay s unsold samples on offer. Owing to the immense imports of foreign, the demand for all kinds of wheat of home produce was heavy in the extreme To have effected sales, to be 2s per quarter less money must have been accepted. For new wheat, the how of which was large, it sel excessively dull, and most kinds were offering at a farther decline of 2s. per quarter. For fine ng samples were quite no leased We had a fair inquiry for barley, at 1s. per quar er less money Malt was offering at 1s. per qr. rise decline. The sat trade was heavy, at 6d. to 1s. per quarter below Monday's rates. In beans, peas, and flour neat 1s. nothing was doing.

ARRIVALS.—English wheat 1120, barley, 3290, malt 7060; oats 1740, flour 5, Irish: oats 2620. For ign wheat 9290, barley, 13 470; oats, 780; flour, 353 sacks, peas, 1

ENGLISH MARK LANE AND KENT, (Monday).—Wheat, 45s. to 57s.; ditto, white, 52s. to 59s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 44s. to 54s.; ditto, white, —s. to —s.; rye, 34s. to 36s.; grinding barley, 26s. to 28s.; malting barley, 30s. to 40s.; malting ditto, 42s. to 44s.; distilling ditto, 34s. to 36s.; malt, 60s. to 68s.; brown ditto, —s. to —s.; Kingston and Ware, 68s. to 70s.; Chevalier, 71s. to 72s.; white and Lincolnshire, 71s. to 74s.; Scotch, 72s. to 76s.; potato ditto, 52s. to 55s.; Youghal and Cork, 44s. to 45s.; ditto, white, 52s. to 53s.; Sligo, 44s. to 45s.; ditto, white, 52s. to 53s.; Limerick, 44s. to 45s.; ditto, white, 52s. to 53s.; Londonderry, 44s. to 45s.; ditto, white, 52s. to 53s.; Dublin, 44s. to 45s.; ditto, white, 52s. to 53s.; Belfast, 44s. to 45s.; ditto, white, 52s. to 53s.; oats, new, 22s. to 24s.; ditto, old, 25s. to 26s.; Dublin and Belfast, 25s. to 26s.; Scotch, 25s. to 26s.; beans, new, 44s. to 46s.; ditto, old, 45s. to 48s.; peas, 42s. to 45s.; maple, 42s. to 45s.; white, 38s. to 39s.; harlers, 28s. to 30s. per quarter. Town-made flour, 40s. to 42s.; Suffolk, 34s. to 36s.; Yorkshire and Derbyshire, 36s. to 40s. per 280 lbs. *Foreign:* French, —s. to —s. per 280 lbs.; American flour, 31s. to 41s. per barrel.

Seeds.—For all kinds of seeds the demand is steady, and in 1 week's currency is well supported. Duty remained very full price.

Linseed, English sowing, 60s to 68s.; Baltic crushing, 52s to 53s.; Mediterranean, 51s; Odessa, 50s to 50s.; Bengal, 60s. to 64s. per quarter. Carraway —s. to —s. per cwt. Brown mustard-seed, 10s. to 14s.; white ditto, 12s. to 13s.; red tares, 7s. to 8s. 6d per bushel. English rapeseed, £21 to £22 per last of ten quarters. Linseed cakes, English, £10 5s to £11 5s.; ditto, foreign, £9 10s to £11 10s per ton. Rapeseed cakes, £7 5s to £7 10s per ton. Canary, 50s. to 54s. per quarter. English clover-seed, white, 58s to 64s.; red, 50s to 58s per cwt. Trefoil, 20s to 24s per cwt.

Bread.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 10½d. to 11d. of household bread, 8½d to 10d. per 4 lb. loaf.

Imports.—Of cattle, —; sheep, —; Wheat, 70s. 8d.; barley, —s. 0d.; oats, 27s. 7d.; rye, 50s. 9d.; beans, —s. 0d.; peas, —s. 0d.

The Smithfield Markets.—Wheat, 70s. 8d.; barley, —s. 0d.; oats, 27s. 8d.; rye, 50s. 9d.; beans, 45s. 0d.; peas, 42s. 0d.

The Baltic.—Of sailings from the Sound, since our last report, with a heavy demand.

Provisions.—Pine Irish butter, 118s. to 120s. per cwt.; of which a small parcel, in bad condition, sold at very low prices. In other kinds only a limited business is doing, on former terms. Bacon in very slow request, at late rates. English is quoted at 64s. to 66s. The home market is rather dull, at late quotations. Other kind of provisions are dull.

Coals (Friday).—In the Pit Market, to-day, there was a fair amount of business doing, at late rates. Hasswell 16s 6d; Lambton 19s; Hetton 20s 6d.—Steamp.

Hops. (Friday).—The market is tolerably well supplied with all descriptions of last year's growth, which is but moderately sought after, and prices are well supported. This week's imports are 4b bales from Hamburg, Mecklenburg, and East Kent pockets, 7s 10s to 12 12s 6d; Weald of Kent, 6s 6d to 7 7s 6d; Sussex, 5s 15s to 6 6s 10s per cwt.

Wool.—The public sales of colonial wool, which commenced on the 14th inst., have gone on in the most animated manner. We estimate the quantity of wool offered for sale during the week at 12,000 bales, and the whole of which has been disposed of at an advance of 1d per lb on the rates obtained at the previous sales. Fine wools are in good request, as from 1s 4d to 1s 6d per lb; and the middle and inferior sorts are fully supported. In pulp very little was doing.

Per ibs. to smk the offals.—Coarse and middling Scots, 3s 10d to 4s 0d; prime ditto, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; prime large oxen, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; prime Scots, 4s 4d; and small ditto, 4s 6d; coarse and inferior sheep, 3s 6d. to 3s. 8d.; second quality ditto, 3s 10d. to 4s 4d.; prime Southdown ditto, 4s 6d. to 4s 8d.; prime Scots, 4s 4d. to 4s 6d.; large Lambs, 5s 0d. to 5s 4d.; coarse calves, 4s. 6d. to 5s 2d.; prime small ditto, 5s. 4d. to 5s 8d.; large pigs, 3s 8d to 3s 10d.; middling ditto, 4s. 0d. to 4s 2d.; small ditto, 4s 4d. to 4s 6d. Total supplies: Beasts, 1100, cows, 160, sheep, 3 600; calves, 180; pigs, 300.

Newgate and Leadenhall (Friday).—The general demand ruled steady, at very full prices. For the time of the year—Inferior beef, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; middling ditto, 3s 10d to 4s 0d; prime large ditto 4s 2d. to 4s 4d; prime small ditto, 4s 6d. to 4s 8d.; large pork, 3s. 8d. to 4s 0d.; prime ditto, 4s 2d. to 4s 4d.; small ditto, 4s 4d. to 4s 6d. ROBERT HERBERT.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, MARCH 21.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

J. SINGLE, Bath-street, East India-road, Poplar, mat. cr. J. FIELDIN, Old-city, Derby, ... Nottingham.

BANKRUPTS

J. SHAGER, Basingstoke, draper. H. C. ... Mead, St. ...-end, B ... R. and W. ... Rathbone-place, ... R. S. REVNOLDS, Charlwood, Surrey, ... P. EMERY, Brighton, licensed victu... er. F. SHOVE, Bacon, East ... J. and ... WADDINGTON, Wakefield, Yorkshire, draper. C. H. ... and W. Crawshaw Wakefield, Yorkshire, draper. C. H. ... and ... Wormwortt, Hulme, ship-builders.

FRIDAY, MARCH 24.

WAR-OFFICE, MARCH 21.

2nd Life Guards Lieut.-Genera. Lord Seaton ... to be Colonel, vice Lieut.-General Charles William Marquis of Londonderry, K.C.B., deceased. 3rd Light Dra. oons Cap tain Hussey Vivian to be Major, vice Clay. 8th Capt. M. Sheridan to be Paymaster, vice Barber. 10th Capt. A. C. Mitchell to be Captain, vice Beddoman, who has been promoted. 11th Lieut. Sir Richard Levinge, Bart. to be Captain, vice M. Murdo. 2nd Lieut. Richard Hart to be Adjutant, vice Levinge.

1st Foot Staff Surgeon of the Second Class C. H. Hearn to be Surgeon ... to be Assistant-Surgeon ... Cap tain W. Adams to be ... 2nd ... Assistant-Surgeon A. McArthur, M.D. to be Surgeon, vice ... 3rd ... Assistant-Surgeon ... to be Assistant-Surgeon. 4th Lieut. ... to be Lieutenant, vice Mayne. Ensign J. Wade to be Lieutenant, vice Knaigh. ... Pratt, 2nd ... J. H. Ware, M.D., to be Assistant-Surgeon. 6th Lieut. ... to be Captain, vice Bracy Knight. Lieut. Hon. Frederick Stanley Calthorpe to be Lieutenant, vice Bracy Knight. Lieut. Holmes to be Lieutenant, vice Hamilton. 7th Lieut. ... to be Captain, vice Holmes. Ensign ... to be Lieutenant, vice Hamilton. 8th Lieut. ... to be Lieutenant, vice Hamley. 2nd Lieut. H. Hayes to be Lieutenant, vice Hamley. 2nd Lieut. H. Lewis to be Lieutenant, vice Lieut. Hamilton, who has been promoted. 9th Lieut. ... to be Lieutenant, vice Lieut. Kingdon, who has been promoted. 10th Lieut. ... to be Lieutenant, vice Harrison. 42nd Assist.-Surgeon W. J. Mackenzie to be Assistant-Surgeon. 43rd Capt. ... to be Major, vice Lowther. Lieut. ... to be Lieutenant, vice Boyce. 53rd Lieut. ... to be Captain, vice Lowther. Ensign ... to be Lieutenant, vice Boyce. 54th Lieut. ... to be Lieutenant, vice Blackett. 55th Lieut. ... to be Captain, vice Lieut. Lawes. Ensign G. Peebles to be Lieutenant, vice Harrison. 72nd Assist.-Surgeon W. Mackenzie to be Assistant-Surgeon. 73rd Capt. ... to be Major, vice Lieut.-Colonel Ensign ... to be Lieutenant, vice Boyce. 82nd Lieut. ... to be Captain, vice Lowther. Assistant-Surgeon ... to be Assistant-Surgeon. 85th Lieut. ... to be Lieutenant, vice Blackett. 88th Lieut. ... to be Captain, vice Bracy Knight. Lieut. ... to be Lieutenant, vice Hamilton. 89th Lieut. ... to be Captain, vice Lieut. Lawes. Ensign ... to be Lieutenant, vice Harrison. 93rd Lieut. ... to be Captain, vice Lieut. Lawes. Ensign G. Peebles to be Lieutenant, vice Harrison. 94th Assist.-Surgeon W. Mackenzie to be Assistant-Surgeon. 95th Lieut. ... to be Captain, vice Lieut. Lawes. Ensign G. Peebles to be Lieutenant, vice Harrison. 96th Lieut. ... to be Captain, vice Lieut. Lawes. Ensign G. Peebles to be Lieutenant, vice Harrison. 97th Lieut. ... to be Captain, vice Lieut. Lawes. Ensign G. Peebles to be Lieutenant, vice Harrison. 98th Lieut. ... to be Captain, vice Lieut. Lawes. Ensign G. Peebles to be Lieutenant, vice Harrison. 99th Lieut. ... to be Captain, vice Lieut. Lawes. Ensign G. Peebles to be Lieutenant, vice Harrison. 100th Lieut. ... to be Captain, vice Lieut. Lawes. Ensign G. Peebles to be Lieutenant, vice Harrison. 101st Lieut. ... to be Captain, vice Lieut. Lawes. Ensign G. Peebles to be Lieutenant, vice Harrison. 102nd Lieut. ... to be Captain, vice Lieut. Lawes. Ensign G. Peebles to be Lieutenant, vice Harrison. 103rd Lieut. ... to be Captain, vice Lieut. Lawes. Ensign G. Peebles to be Lieutenant, vice Harrison. 104th Lieut. ... to be Captain, vice Lieut. Lawes. 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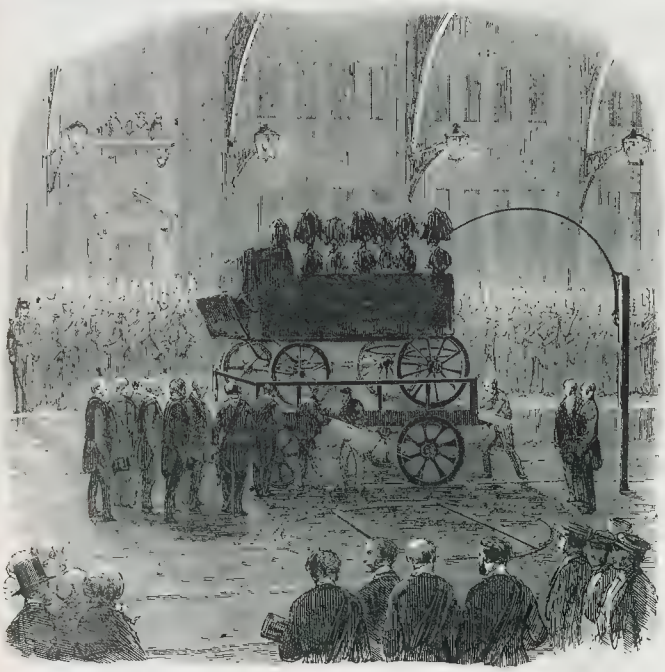

ARRIVAL OF THE REMAINS OF THE MARQUIS OF LONDONDERRY AT THE GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY STATION.

FUNERAL OF THE MARQUIS OF LONDONDERRY.

HE funeral of this distinguished soldier has been attended with some ervances of melancholy interest, and high tributes of respect to the ceased. in the metropolis, at the family mansion, and at the last ting-place of the remains, Wynyard.

On Monday night (last week) the remains were removed from Holnesse house to the terminus of the Great Northern Railway at ng's-cross, *en route* to Wynyard, where they were to lie in state on adnesday, preparatory to their interment on the following day at Long rton, the ancient burial-place of the Vane family.

The body was conveyed in a hearse drawn by six horses, after ich followed two mourning coaches and four. In the first rode the ree sons of the deceased nobleman—Viscount Castlereagh (now Mar- is of Londonderry); Viscount Seaham (now Earl Vane); and Lord dolphus Vane. The second carriage conveyed the Earl of Portington, son-in-law of the deceased, and his two nephews, Captain ood and Mr. Stewart of Ards. The private carriage of the deceased bleman, and about a dozen other carriages belonging to the nearest atives of the late Marquis, followed.

The officers and men of the deceased nobleman's regiment (2nd Life ards) having expressed a desire to pay the last tribute of respect to ir Colonel, by attending at the station as a guard of honour to re- ve his remains, the assent of the family was obtained, and at eight lock on Monday night, the whole regiment, with the Colonels and cers at its head, marched from the Regent's-park barracks to King's- ss, where the men were drawn up in double column at the south end the railway platform.

On the arrival of the hearse containing the body within the station closure, the fine band of the regiment, led by Mr. Grattan Cooke, commenced playing "The Dead March in Saul," which was continued during the time occupied in placing the hearse upon a railway travelling truck; which, being done, it was moved slowly towards the train to which it had to be attached; the sons of the deceased, with Lord Portarlington and the two nephews, following uncovered. The present Marquis was deeply affected, and the other relatives appeared greatly moved. The solemn music continued until just previously to the train being set in motion, and the sons of the deceased remained in attendance until the latest moment.

Captain Wood and Mr. Stewart, as executors to their deceased relative, accompanied the remains

In conformity with the expressed wish of the deceased Peer, his funeral was essentially private. The body arrived at Wynyard on Tuesday morning, and was immediately deposited in the private chapel of the mansion, which was hung with black cloth, and appropriately decorated. In the centre a bier had been erected, upon which was placed the coffin, covered with crimson velvet, and bearing a massive gilt inscription-plate. A black velvet pall, ornamented with escutcheons of the family arms, was thrown partially over the coffin, upon the head of which rested the coronet and cushion, and at the foot the helmet, sword, and sash, worn by the deceased Marquis.

At noon, on Wednesday, the public were admitted. Captain Wood and Mr. Stewart sat at the head of the corpse from noon until three o'clock, during which limited period upwards of a thousand persons passed through the chapel.

The Corporations of the city of Durham, as well as of Sunderland, Stockton, Seaham, and other towns, met and unanimously determined that business should be altogether suspended on Thursday. At Sunderland, as well as at Seaham, the flags of all the vessels in harbour were hoisted half-mast high, and the bells at the different churches tolled from an early hour. The works throughout the extensive collieries and quarries belonging to the deceased Peer were also suspended by the voluntary act of the workmen.

At nine o'clock, the principal tenantry on the Wynyard estate (all of whom had made application to be permitted to attend the funeral) began to assemble. They were mounted on horseback, attired in deep mourning, and provided with scarfs and hatbands.

At ten o'clock the mournful cortège left the mansion in the following order:—

Two Mutes bearing wands. The tenantry on the Wynyard Estate, on horseback, two and two. A coach and four, conveying the master of the deceased's household, bearing the coronet; and his Lordship's valet bearing the sword, &c. A lid of plumes. The Hearse, drawn by six black horses, conveying the coffin, and ornamented with escutcheons of the family arms. The favourite charger of the deceased, led by his groom, with boots and spurs suspended from the saddle. A mourning coach and four, conveying Viscount Castlereagh, Viscount Seaham, the Earl of Portarlington, and the Earl of Roden. Followed by six other mourning coaches, and the family carriage, containing the relatives, agents, and professional advisers of the deceased.

The procession advanced through the family domain by the road, towards its destination at Long Newton, some twelve miles distant from Wynyard. At Stockton on-Tees, the shops were all closed, and the Mayor and corporate authorities on the Londonderry-bridge received the cortège, and preceded it through the town. A considerable number of the townspeople joined the procession at this place, many of them accompanying it to its destination.

Long Newton is principally the property of the Marchioness of Londonderry. The picturesque little church is indebted to her Ladyship's munificence for an organ and three painted windows which decorate the chancel. The edifice itself is plain and unpretending. There are no other monuments than those of the Vane family, whose vault is in the chancel, immediately beneath the altar.

At the village of Long Newton, assembled the Mayors, and Corporations of Durham, Sunderland, Seaham, and other important towns in the county. The gentry and magistracy, for many miles around, also met at this place, to join in the last tribute of respect to the memory of their lamented Lord Lieutenant. At a quarter before one, the procession entered the hamlet; a few minutes previously, the widowed Marchioness of Londonderry, and the female branches of the family, having arrived in the churchyard. The mounted tenantry filed off on either side the road, and allowed the procession to pass between them. The coronet and cushion, and the helmet and sword were followed by a lid of funeral plumes. The coffin succeeded. The pall was borne by the Duke of Cleveland, Lord Hatherton, the Earl of Roden, Col. Sir H. Browne, Col. M'Dowell, and Col. Williams. Immediately behind the coffin walked Viscount Castlereagh as chief mourner, followed by Viscount Seaham and the Earl of Portarlington. Mr J. Stewart and Captain Wood came next, the other mourners following; and in the rear were several officers of the 2nd Life Guards. The coffin having been placed upon a bier in front of the altar, the church doors were closed, and the service for the burial of the dead proceeded. At its conclusion the mourners returned to Wynyard.

LONG NEWTON CHURCH, THE BURIAL-PLACE OF THE MARQUIS OF LONDONDERRY

ORNAMENTAL LIBRARY BELLOWS.

ONE of the noticeable events of last week, as possessing a peculiar and significant interest at the present time, and as showing the latent taste which exists in various departments of British industry, is the completion of a pair of very costly and elegant Library Bellows, by Mr. John C. Onions, the extensive bellows manufacturer of Birmingham, for presentation to his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of the French. We engrave this curious specimen of industrial art, which exhibits much beauty and appropriateness of design. The materials employed in its production are curiosities. They consist of portions of the celebrated willow which hung over the grave of Napoleon I., at St. Helena; and the no less celebrated Stratford elm, memorable as the tree under whose branches Shakespeare was wont to spend the "sunny hours of childhood." The former relic was obtained from Mrs Tarbutt, the proprietress of the estate on which the tree grew, and its genuineness is proved by documents in the handwriting of General Monthelon and Count De las Casse, both of whom were with Napoleon during the last hours of his exile. The other relic was cut down only a few years ago, when it came by purchase into the hands of Mr. Onions. For these reasons, this pair of bellows is a rarity; but it has also other qualities to recommend it. As a specimen of manufacturing art, it is singularly beautiful. The carving, which is characteristic of the period of Louis XIV., is executed with great skill and delicacy. The fittings are blue and white kid, secured by silver nails, adorned with national emblems. The pipe, likewise, is of silver, chased and engraved. As a whole, we have seldom seen a more perfect specimen of Birmingham manufacture, or one better calculated to advance the reputation of the large and ancient establishment whence it has emanated. Ancient we may say, truly enough; as it appears that the ancestors of Mr. Onions were almost the first to introduce the trade of bellows-making into Birmingham; and as far back as the year 1650, the family was somewhat celebrated for its manufacture of this article. The present representative of the family, however, has far outstripped his ancestors. He has effected many important improvements in the trade, employs nearly 200 pairs of hands, and may be said to make more bellows than are made by all the other manufacturers in England put together.

LIBRARY BELLOWS PRESENTED TO THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH.

This unique gift was last week forwarded to Paris for presentation to the Emperor at the Tuileries.

EXHIBITION OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTION OF FINE ARTS

"THE TEN VIRGINS."—PAINTED BY J. E. LAUDER, R.S.A.

THE Seventh Exhibition of the young and industrious Association of Artists has opened for the season at the Portland Gallery, 316, Regent-street. The number of works exhibited is 180, by far the greater proportion of which are landscapes. In this favourable line the Williamses, Sidney Percy, J. W. Bunny, Peel, A. Gilbert, Harland, Willis, Bell, Bates, &c., are largely contributors.

E. Williams sen. has seven pictures: the "Old Coach-road—Market-morning" (114), with a group of rustics at the door of an inn, is full of material and carefully painted, but a little tame in effect, not so in either respect "Sunset, Having the Common Early Morning" (107), in which the red dawn is strongly marked in color and effect, and is variously broken by figures just on the horizon on the right hand.

G. A. Williams exhibits fifteen productions, among which are several winter scenes, and all fully treated, the occasional sunbeams, and appropriate warm shadows, coming in to soften the asperities of the snow drift and ice-bound foreground. In "The Fisherman's Haunt" (104) the glowing rays of the setting sun, piercing through the foliage, produce an attractive and striking effect.

S. Percy, in his "Stream from the Mountains" (11), betrays an increasing propensity for the severer aspects of nature. The mountain scene, broken in places with blocks of rock, slate, &c., deriving increased asperity from the cold, bleak atmosphere which covers it. The slightest tinge of mellow tone would be a real boon to the eye, besides materially increasing the artistic merit of the picture. Mr.

"A PEEP BY THE COAST."—PAINTED BY F. CALDWELL.

Percy should study Salvator Rosa, and see how he condescended to admit some atmosphere of warmth in his most desolate, and savage creations.

A. Gilbert's "A Calm Evening" (48) is at once a clever and agreeable work. In the left of the picture is a mass of rich foliage overhanging a calm river's surface; the right is occupied by an expanse of low ground, above which the sky is gilded with the abundant rays of the setting sun.

Willis's "Scene on the Conway, near Bettws-y-coed—Evening" (39), is well painted, and is especially commendable for its breadth and airiness of effect. His "Pleasant Nook in North Wales" is also pleasantly rendered—the cattle nicely painted. A similar remark will apply to "The Lazy Herd—a Scene on the Conway (138)," by F. W. Hulme and H. B. Willis.

With this we close, for the present, our review of the landscape department of the collection; and proceed to take a glance at the few efforts in the higher walks of art which it comprises. And here for a moment we pause, to consider whether we ought to include portraiture in the aforesaid "higher walks" or not. Certainly the managers of the Institution seem almost to invite one to do so by the prominence with which they have honoured their works in this line—Mr. Barraud's portrait of the Marquis of Conyngham (1) occupying the place of honour over the chimney-piece in the first room; and Mr Bell Smith's group, of "Mrs W. Maxmore Williams and Children" (90), the second place of honour, opposite; and Mr. Middleton's "portrait" (227), understood to be of himself, being hung over the chimney-piece in the second room. But we will not be provoked to criticism of them, and so pass on to other matters.

C. Rossiter has a goodly pen of colouring, in "La Fleur's Courtship" (20) from the "Sentimental Journey;" the figures, too, are hard, and the giddy gallant sentiment is not realised.

Anna Mary Howitt (daughter, we believe, of the author) comes across us with a very creditable essay—"Margaret Returning from the Fountain" (128), after the passage in Goethe's "Faust:"

Margaret, having heard the harsh judgment of her companions at the city fountain, returns home tortured by self-accusation.

The attitude of the figure, and the expression of the half concealed face, correctly illustrate the emotion intended; and the drawing and handling are in all respects satisfactory, though the arrangement of the picture is evidently studied under pre-Raphaelite influence.

J. E. Collins has two agreeable female studies, in ovals—(35), "Giannetta," a dark-eyed brunette, with a basket of grapes; and (44) "Made line," removing "wreathed pearls" from her hair; as described in a line in the "Eve of St. Agnes."

Charles Dukes is more successful in the composition, drawing, and expression of his pretty little every day group of "The Mother" (80), than in the colour, which is far too much toned; that the expanse of grey would call for pink or red trimmings, instead of cold blue, and this alteration would further help to support the rose, which, held out in the hand, is now isolated, and produces a spotty effect. His companion piece, "A Rustic Group" (133), is tame compared with the other, and confusedly coloured.

F. Underhill has two capital rustic groups, treated with an honest genuine purpose. "Babes in the Wood" (82) are not the sentimental babes of the nursery-tale version, but real ruddy flesh and blood; and the boy has an arch intelligent expression which prepossesses us in his favour. In "A Rest by the Way" (153), which we engrave, we have a scene of harvest in North Wales—a village matron gravitating on his back, fast asleep—snoring, of course; while two others lean against a stile, enjoying his happy condition. A third picture by this artist is a clever study of "Little Nell" (305).

"Do Too Virgins" (83), by J. R. Lauder, is a small picture, somewhat original in design, and, as to grouping, carefully studied in every part. In the centre, and towards the right, are the five wise virgins, preparing to depart to meet the bridegroom; on the left are the foolish ones—three of whom are asleep, two others having fallen awake, and one of whom earnestly implores their more fortunate companions for some of their oil. The group on the left is in deep shadow, while the middle and right of the picture display a good breadth of light. The colouring, perhaps, is not little wanting in keeping, and somewhat deficient in harmony; but, with this exception, the picture is a good one, and we have much pleasure in producing an engraving of it.

R. S. Lauder has a picture on a larger scale than the last described, of "The Marys at the Sepulchre" (24), in which there is good drawing, and much general ability in parts; but the figures are so widely separated, as to form two groups on either side of the canvas, the centre being a dark void. This is obviously an error of composition, which no artistic appliances in the execution can atone for. The same artist has also an ingeniously contrived work, "The Lady of Shalott" (332), the face seen in profile, and full face in the glass, as

In her web she still delights
To weave the mirror's magic sights.

G. F. Herring's "Inter or of a Stable" (228), with his favourite white horse, in fine coat condition, displays all that nicety of surface treatment for which he is celebrated.

"Hamlet, Horatio, and Osric" (300), by Marks—

Hamlet Your bonnet to its right use—'tis for the head.
Osric. I thank your worship—'tis very hot.

A violent conceit of prater-pre-Raphaelitism. Osric is equipped after the extreme fashion of a Court fool; and his expression and pose are in keeping.

Glass has another equestrian performance—one of those astonishing night adventures in which he is unrivalled. The present subject is "the Flight of Mary Stuart from Lochleven." The time is described as that of early dawn; but the full moon is too high in the sky for that period of the day; and the blue grey gloom is the same as the splashing water is the same; and the head and neck rush appears the same as in the "Night March," and other nocturnal scenes by this artist.

MARLBOROUGH HOUSE—ANCIENT ITALIAN ART.

A very interesting exhibition has just been opened at the Museum of Ornamental Art, consisting of models in wax and terra cotta, supposed to be by various Italian masters, including Michael Angelo, Donatello, Ghiberti di Bologna, and (one specimen only) by Raphael. These objects, whether authentic or not (and after a first hasty glance we are inclined to give an affirmative opinion in respect to many), have long been laid away in obscurity, and have only recently come to light at Florence. They belong to Madame Gherardini; by whom they have been offered for sale successively to the Austrian, the French, and now to the English Government. Their exhibition, under the care of the Department of Practical Art (which will continue for a month), is "with a view of eliciting from the public and the artists of this country such an expression of opinion as to their value and genuineness as will justify the purchase or the rejection of the collection by her Majesty's Government." The ordinary mode of proceeding, which it had been well at the Government and its advisers had always pursued in these art ventures. Considering the subject to be one of public interest, we shall recur at some length to it in our next, when we shall also give Engravings of some of the models.

LARGE ARRIVAL OF VESSELS FROM THE NORTH OF EUROPE.—Since Sunday the river has received an unusual appearance, owing to the arrival of 200 or 300 vessels from the ports in the north of Europe (the first trip with many of them since the breaking up of the ice) which have been detained, labouring about in the North Sea, by the south-west easterly winds. Late on Saturday, however, there was a change to the north-ward and eastward, and the next tide or so the windbound fleet made its appearance at the mouth of the Thames. Amongst the number, there Russians laden with grain. So rapid was their arrival at Gravesend that the Custom-house authorities had to use extraordinary expedition in putting officers on board of them. On Monday the number of ships entered inward at the Custom-house amounted to upwards of 150.

IMPROVED EMIGRANT SHIP.—The emigrant ship *City of Manchester* is provided with commodious baths for the use of the emigrants; and a bakehouse for supplying soft bread twice a week; she is fitted on an entirely new principle, by which the berths are divided off into sections of twelve persons, with tables in the open spaces towards the portholes, which hoist up and in, and render each section as private as if in a separate cabin, curtains being made to fall down over the sleeping places, and providing a clear passage all round the interior of the ship.

REFORMATORY INSTITUTION.—A reformatory institution is to be erected on that part of the Curragh of Kildare cut off by the Great Southern and Western Railway, and containing between 300 and 400 acres. The aim of the institution will be self-supporting. Suitable buildings will be erected, capable of affording accommodation for 400 boys.

THE VALUE OF DUST.—The privilege of removing the dust and ashes of the parish of St. Andrew, Holborn, above Bars, has been sold for £160 a year, for which last year only £80 was given, and a few years ago the parish had to pay, instead of being paid, for its removal.

"LIKE A GENTLEMAN."

Say's Nick to John, "I have something to say,
Just in a confidential way,
Of an unfortunate friend of ours,
On whom dark destiny dimly lowers,
He's breaking up as fast as he can—
In short, he's a very unfortunate man.
Ruin surrounds him above and below;
With no one to help him, and Fortune his foe,
So, with you, I should like his case to scan,
Quite *en ami*, and *en gentleman*.
Poor fellow! He's *very sick*, they say;
And lies at the Crescent, over the way,
In that shaky hotel at the sign of the Crown,
Which, I've reason to fear, is tumbling down;
And his case to consider, as well as we can,
Is the part of a friend and a *gentleman*."

"'Tis very proper," says John to Nick,
"And we'd try to help this poor fellow that's sick."

"Just so," says Nick, "for, indeed, 'tweuld be cruel,
When a man is *so* sick, not to give him his gruel;
And we'll play the good Samaritan:
In short—behave *like a gentleman*.
You see, if he's left to himself, my friend,
I fear he'll come to a very bad end,
The waiters about him will soon be trying
To prig what they can from the man that's dying;
And his watch, and his rings, and such little things,
They'll filch, and they'll rob; unless we've a plan
To fly to his aid, on pity's wings,
And watch over him—*like a gentleman*:
For you and I can better dispose
Of his watch and his chains than fellows like those.
I'll take the *chains*, for I've use for *them*;
The *watch* you'll keep." Cried John, "Ahem!
The watch I'll keep—you say quite true;
(*Aside*) I'll keep a watch on you."

"Now," says Nick, "when he dies"——Says John, "Don't hurry him,
One would think you were going to bury him."
"By no means," says Nick, "I would save that expense,
For his case is such, we may raise the pretence
That the cause of science 'twould very much aid
If a private *post mortem* dissection were made—
For *I'm sure he'll die*," says Nick, with a wink,
"And 'twould be an excellent plan, I think,
To dissect him between us, in friendly alliance,
Just for the good of practical science—
Of course we'd do it as clean as we can;
I mean by that *like a gentleman*."

"But, sir," says John, "the man's not dead yet
Perhaps you'll find his *spirits not fled yet*;
And that phrase, *post mortem*, is unhappily said,
In my apprehension, till bodies *are* dead."

"Pooh, pooh!" says Nick, "what a squeamish elf—
Then I must cut up the fellow myself;
And I'll declare to each *Royal* college
That 'twas only done in pursuit of knowledge;
For 'knowledge is power,' philosophers say,
And the *power* I'll have"—if the d——'s to pay!"

"Beware," says John, "it may cost you your life,
You may be indicted as 'Nick of the knife;'
And your judges the potent distinction may urge on,
'Twixt 'surgeon barber' and barbarous surgeon;
However, if you *will* insist to go through with it,
Observe, my good sir, I'll have nothing to do with it."

Then Nick, with a scowl (but the D——l could match it), he
Drew his knife—like grim *Shylock*—to finish the tragedy,
But the man "that was sick" had a kick in him yet,
As Nicky found out; for, before he could get
Within reach of the *heart* of his victim—his *heel*
Made a serious impression where ruffians *can* feel.
If all other parts boast of insensibility,
There, at least, may be planted a wound on gentility,
And Nick, with his kick, from the sick Oriental man,
Cried "Zounds! what a way to behave to a *gentleman!*"

SAMUEL LOVER.

DEPARTURE OF THE BALTIC FLEET.

We have been favoured by Mr. Brierley with the very interesting scene engraved at page 280. The moment represented is that when the fleet, under sail and steam, had passed Beachy-head, and were nearing the Straits of Dover.

During the afternoon of Saturday they had weighed, from Spithead, in obedience to a signal from the flag-ship and stood out to sea, headed by her Majesty, in the *Fairy*, which, off the Nab Light, lay to, and allowed the whole fleet to pass her. Each ship manned her rigging, and kept up such cheering as spoke well for English lungs and loyalty. Ordinary etiquette prescribes that the lower rigging only should be manned, and three cheers given; but, on this occasion, the tars crowded aloft, even to the trucks, and shouted with enthusiasm, as affecting as it was uncontrollable.

During the night the wind fell nearly to a calm, and though, at the time represented in our Sketch, there was a good breeze, it needed the assistance of steam to bring them into that beautifully regular position the fleet was formed into three lines. To windward, the paddle steamers were headed by Admiral Plumridge, in the *Leopard*; abreast, or a little ahead of him, Admiral Sir Charles Napier, in the *Duke of Wellington*, led the starboard, or weather line; and, at the head of the lee division, is seen the *Edinburgh*, flag ship of Admiral Chads. In our illustration the Admiral has made a general signal to the fleet, which, having been acknowledged by the "answering pendant" at the mast-head of each ship, he is hauling down.

Next to the Admiral is the *St. Jean d'Acre*, a little out of the line, as it will be seen; her great speed rendering it necessary occasionally to veer from her course, to avoid running into the flag-ship ahead.

The run from Spithead was one continued ovation: from every little port they passed, steamers, full of enthusiastic excursionists, dashed into the fleet, greeting each ship with cheers, which each gracefully acknowledged by dipping her ensign.

Towards sunset, as the fleet steamed into the Downs, one of those sights occurred which, seen once in a life, remain graven on the memory for ever. Many hundred merchantmen, of every nation—among them some Russians—were lying, with all sails set, and floating idly in the dying wind. Threading their way among them, and looming like mountains by the contrast, came the giant line-of-battle ships, looking, as they glided along with bare yards, as if their motions were the result of mere volition. Bands were playing on their decks; and, as the sun touched the horizon, there was a rattle of musketry from the sentries of the fleet; down came the ensigns from the peak, a heavy plunge from the bows of the Admiral told that his anchor was down, and his position taken up: each ship followed his example and anchored in line, in reversed order of sailing.

THE RUSSIAN OVERTURES TO THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT.

THE "secret and confidential" despatches of which the existence was betrayed by the *Journal de St Petersburg*, as stated in our last, were placed before Parliament on Friday evening, the 17th, and published in the daily journals of Monday last. We have made some observations in another portion of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS on these important and very remarkable papers, which we present to our readers with but very slight abridgment, leaving intact the conversations of the Emperor, as detailed by Sir G. H. Seymour; the reply of Lord John Russell to the Czar's overtures; and the confidential memorandum of Count Nesselrode.

No. 1.

SIR G. H. SEYMOUR TO LORD J. RUSSELL.—(Received Jan. 23.)
(Secret and confidential.)

St. Petersburg, Jan. 11, 1853

My Lord,—On the evening of the 9th inst. I had the honour of seeing the Emperor, at the palace of the Grand Duchess Helen, who, it appeared, had kindly requested permission to invite Lady Seymour and myself to meet the Imperial family.

The Emperor came up to me, in the most gracious manner, to say that he had heard with great pleasure of her Majesty's Government having been definitively formed, adding that he trusted the Ministry would be of long duration.

His Imperial Majesty desired me particularly to convey this assurance to the Earl of Aberdeen, with whom, he said, he had been acquainted for nearly forty years, and for whom he entertained equal regard and esteem. His Majesty desired to be brought to the kind recollection of his Lordship.

* * * * *

The Emperor went on to say—"I repeat that it is very essential that the two Governments—that is, that the English Government and I, and I and the English Government—should be upon the best terms; and the necessity was never greater than at present. I beg you to convey these words to Lord John Russell. When we are agreed (*d'accord*) I am quite without anxiety as to the west of Europe; it is immaterial what the others may think or do. As to Turkey, that is another question; that country is in a critical state, and may give us all a great deal of trouble. And now I will take my leave of you," which his Majesty proceeded to do by shaking hands with me very graciously.

It instantly occurred to me that the conversation was incomplete, and might never be renewed, and, as the Emperor still held my hand, I said, "Sire, with your gracious permission, I would desire to take a great liberty." "Certainly," his Majesty replied; "what is it? let me hear."

"Sire," I observed, "your Majesty has been good enough to charge me with general assurances as to the identity of views between the two Cabinets, which assuredly have given me a great pleasure, and will be received with equal satisfaction in England; but I should be particularly glad that your Majesty should add a few words which may tend to calm the anxiety with regard to the affairs of Turkey, which passing events are so calculated to excite on the part of her Majesty's Government. Perhaps you will be pleased to charge me with some additional assurances of this kind."

The Emperor's words and manner, although still very kind, showed that his Majesty had no intention of speaking to me of the demonstration which he was about to make in the South. He said, however, at first with a little hesitation, but, as he proceeded, in an open and unhesitating manner—"The affairs of Turkey are in a very disorganised condition, the country itself seems to be falling to pieces (*tombe en ruine*); the fall will be a great misfortune, and it is very important that England and Russia should come to a perfectly good understanding upon these affairs and that neither should take any decisive step of which the other is not apprised."

I observed in a few words, that I rejoiced to hear that his Imperial Majesty held this language; that this was certainly the view I took of the manner in which Turkish questions were to be treated.

"Tenez," the Emperor said, as if proceeding with his remark, "tenez, nous avons sur les bras un homme malade—un homme gravement malade; ce sera, je vous le dis franchement, un grand malheur si, un de ces jours, il devait nous échapper, surtout avant que toutes les dispositions nécessaires fussent prises. Mais enfin ce n'est point le moment de vous parler de cela."

It was clear that the Emperor did not intend to prolong the conversation. I, therefore, said, "Votre Majesté est si gracieuse qu'elle me permettra de lui faire encore une observation. Votre Majesté dit que l'homme est malade; c'est bien vrai, mais votre Majesté aurait mauvaise grâce si j'en fais observer, que c'est à une mauvaise et fort dérangée l'homme malade et faible."

The Emperor then took leave of me in a manner which conveyed the impression of my having, at least, not given offence, and again expressed his intention of sending for me on some future day.

* * * * *

I have, &c.,
G. H. SEYMOUR.

No. 2.

SIR G. H. SEYMOUR TO LORD JOHN RUSSELL. (Received Feb. 6.)
(Secret and confidential.)

[Extract.]

St. Petersburg, Jan. 22, 1853

My Lord,—On the 14th inst., in consequence of a summons which I received from the Chancellor, I waited upon the Emperor, and had the honour of holding with his Imperial Majesty the very interesting conversation of which it will be my duty to offer your Lordship an account, which, if imperfect, will, at all events, not be long read.

I found his Majesty alone; he received me with great kindness, saying, that I had appeared desirous to speak to him upon Eastern affairs; that, on his side, there was no indisposition to do so, but that he must begin at a more remote period.

"You know," his Majesty said, "the dreams and plans in which the Empress Catherine was in the habit of indulging; these were handed down to our time, but while I inherited immense territorial possessions, I did not inherit those visions—those intentions. If you like to call them so. On the contrary, my country is so vast, so happily circumstanced in every way, that it would be unreasonable in me to desire more territory or more power than I possess; on the contrary, I am the first to tell you that great, perhaps our only danger is that which would arise from an extension given to an empire already too large.

"Close to us lies Turkey, and, in our present condition, nothing better for our interests can be desired. The times have gone by when what had been the fanatical spirit or the military resources of the Turks; and yet the country is a strong enough, or has hitherto been strong enough, to preserve its independence, and to ensure respectful treatment from other countries.

"Well, in that despised Power there are several millions of Christians whose interests I am called upon to watch over (*surveiller*), while the right of doing so is secured to me by treaty. I may truly say that I make a moderate and sparing use of my right, and I will freely confess that it is one which is attended with considerable responsibility and moving, but I cannot recede from the discharge of a distinct duty. Our religion, as established in this country, came to us from the East; and there are feelings, as well as obligations, which never must be lost sight of.

"Now, Turkey, in the condition which I have described, has by degrees fallen into such a state of decrepitude, that, as I told you at other sight, eager as we all are for the prolonged existence of the man (and that I am as desirous as you can be for the continuance of his life, I beg you to believe) he may sudden y die upon our hands (*nous rester sur les bras*). We cannot resuscitate what is dead. If the sick man expire falls, it falls to rise no more; and I put it to you, therefore, who Are it is not better to be provided beforehand for a coming day, than to incur the chaos, confusion, and the certainty of a European war—all of which must attend the catastrophe if it should occur unprepared, and before some interior system has been established? This is the point to which I am desirous that you should call the attention of your Government."

"Sir," I replied, "your Majesty is so frank with me, that I am sure you will receive the goodness to permit me to speak with the same openness.

I would, then, observe that, deplorable as is the condition of Turkey, it is a country which has long been plunged in difficulties supposed by many to be insurmountable. With regard to contingent arrangements her Majesty's Government, as your Majesty is well aware, objects, as a general rule, to taking any arguments upon possible eventualities; and would, perhaps, be particularly disinclined to doing so in this instance. If I may be allowed to say so, a great disinclination (*répugnance*) might be expected in England to dispose, by anticipation (*d'escompter*) of the successor of an old friend and ally."

"The rule is a good one," the Emperor replied; "good at all times; especially in times of uncertainty and change, like the present; still, it is of the greatest importance that we should understand one another,

and not allow events to take us by surprise: maintenant je dédre vous parler en ami et en *gentleman*; si nous arrivons à nous entendre sur cette affaire, l'Angleterre et moi, pour le reste peu m'importe; il m'est indifférent ce que font ou pensent les autres. Usant donc de franchi e, je vous dis nettement, que si l'Angleterre songe à s'établir un de ces jours à Constantinople, je le permettrai pas; je ne vous prête point ces intentions, mais il vaut mieux dans ces occasions parler clairement; de mon côté, je suis également disposé de prendre l'engagement de ne pas m'y établir, en propriétaire, il s'entend, car en dépositaire je ne dis pas; il pourrait se faire que les circonstances me missent dans le cas d'occuper Constantinople, et rien ne se trouve prévu, si l'on doit tout laisser aller au hasard."

I thanked his Majesty for the frankness of his declarations, and for the desire which he had expressed of acting cordially and openly with her Majesty's Government, observing at the same time that such an understanding appeared the best security against the sudden danger to which his Majesty had alluded. I added that, although unprepared to give a decided opinion upon questions of such magnitude and delicacy, it appeared to me possible that some such arrangement might be made between her Majesty's Government and his Majesty as might guard, if not for, at least against certain contingencies.

To render my meaning more clear, I said, further, "I can only repeat, Sir, that in my opinion, her Majesty's Government will be indisposed to make certain arrangements connected with the downfall of Turkey; but it is possible that they may be ready to pledge themselves against certain arrangements which might, in that event, be attempted."

His Imperial Majesty then alluded to a conversation which he had held, the last time he was in England, with the Duke of Wellington, and to the motives which had compelled him to open him-elf to his Grace; then, as now, his Majesty was, he said, eager to provide against events which, in the absence of any concert, might compel him to act in a manner opposed to the views of her Majesty's Government

The conversation passed to the events of the day, when the Emperor briefly recapitulated his claims upon the Holy Places—claims recognised by the Sultan on last February, and confirmed by a sanction to which his Majesty said he attached much more importance—the word of a Sovereign.

* * * * * * *

With regard to a French expedition to the Sultan's dominions, his Majesty insinuated that such a step would bring affairs to an immediate crisis; that a sense of honour would compel him to send his forces into Turkey without delay or hesitation; that if the result of an advance should prove to be the overthrow of the Great Turk (*le Grand Turc*), he should regret the event, but should feel that he had acted as he was compelled to do.

To the above report I have only, I think, to add, that the Emperor desired to leave it to my discretion to communicate or not to his Minister the particulars of our conversation; and that before I left the room his Imperial Majesty said, "You will report what has passed between us to the Queen's Government, and you will say that I shall be ready to receive any communication which it may be their wish to make to me upon the subject."

* * * * * * *

I have, &c.,

G. H. SEYMOUR.

No 3.

Dated Jan. 22. 1853, simply notifies to Lord John Russell that Sir G. H. Seymour communicated to Count Nesselrode a correct summary of the above conversation

No. 4.

LORD J. RUSSELL TO SIR G. H. SEYMOUR.
(Secret and confidential.)
Foreign-office, Feb. 9, 1853.

Sir,—I have received and laid before the Queen your secret and confidential despatch of the 22nd of January.

Her Majesty, upon this, as upon former occasions, is happy to acknowledge the moderation, the frankness, and the friendly disposition of his Imperial Majesty

Her Majesty has directed me to reply in the same spirit of temperate, candid, and amicable discussion.

The question raised by his Imperial Majesty is a very serious one. It is, supposing the contingency of the dissolution of the Turkish empire to be probable, or even imminent, "whether it is not better to be provided beforehand for a contingency, than to incur the chaos, confusion, and the certainty of a European war, all of which must attend the catastrophe if it should come unexpectedly, and before some ulterior project has been sketched; this is the point," said his Imperial Majesty, "to which I am desirous that you should call the attention of your Government."

In considering this grave question, the first reflection which occurs to her Majesty's Government is, that no actual crisis has occurred which renders necessary a solution of this vast European problem. Disputes have arisen respecting the Holy Places, but these are without the sphere of the internal government of Turkey, and concern Russia and France rather than the Sublime Porte. Some disturbance of the relations between Austria and the Porte has been caused by the Turkish attack on Montenegro; but this again, relates rather to dangers affecting the frontier of Austria than the authority and safety of the Sultan; so that there is no sufficient cause for intimating to the Sultan that he cannot keep peace at home, or preserve friendly relations with his neighbours.

It seems further to her Majesty's Government to remark that the event which is contemplated is not definitely fixed in point of time. When William III. and Louis XIV. disposed, by treaty, of the succession of Charles II. of Spain, they were providing for an event which could not be far off. The infirmities of the Sovereign of Spain and the certain end of any human life made the contingency in prospect both sure and near. The death of the Spanish King was in no way hastened by the treaty of partition. The same thing may be said of the provision made in the last century, for the dismemberment of Tuscany upon the decease of the last Prince of the house of Medici. But the contingency of the dissolution of the Ottoman empire is of another kind. It may happen, twenty, fifty, or a hundred years hence.

In these circumstances it would hardly be consistent with the friendly feelings towards the Sultan which animate the Emperor of Russia, no less than the Queen of Great Britain, to di pose beforehand of the provinces under his dominion. Besides this consideration, however, it must be observed, that an agreement made in such a case tends very surely to hasten the contingency for which it is intended to provide. An agreement France could not, in fairness, be kept in ignorance of the transaction, nor would such concealment be consistent with the end of preventing an European war. Indeed, such concealment cannot be intended by his Imperial Majesty. It is to be inferred that, as soon as Great Britain and Russia should have agreed on the course to be pursued, and have determined to enforce it, they should communicate their intentions to the great Powers of Europe. An agreement thus made, and thus communicated, would not be very long a secret; and while it would alarm and alienate the Sultan, the knowledge of its exi-tence would stimulate all his enemies to increased violence and more obstinate conflict. They would fight with the conviction that they must ultimately triumph, while the Sultan's generals and troops would feel that no immediate success could save their cause from final overthrow. Thus would be produced and strengthened that very anarchy which is now feared, and the foresight of the friends of the patient would prove the cause of his death.

Her Majesty's Government need scarcely enlarge on the dangers attendant on the execution of any similar convention. The example of the Succession War is enough to show how little such agreements are respected when a pressing temptation urges their violation. The position of the Emperor of Russia as depositary, but not proprietor, of Constantinople, would be exposed to numberless hazards, both from the long-cherished ambition of his own nation, and the jealousies of Europe. The ultimate proprietor, whoever he might be, would hardly be satisfied with the inert, supine attitude of the heirs of Mahomet II. A great influence on the affairs of Europe seems naturally to belong to the Sovereign of Constantinople, holding the gates of the Mediterranean and the Black Sea.

This influence might be used in favour of Rus-ia; it might be used to control and curb her power.

His Imperial Majesty has justly and wisely said: "My country is so vast, so happily circumstanced in every way, that it would be unreasonable in me to desire more territory or more power than I possess. On the contrary," he observed, "our great, perhaps our only, danger, is the evil which would arise from an extension given to an empire already too large." A vigorous and ambitious State, replacing the Sublime Porte, might, however, render war, on the part of Russia a necessity for the Emperor or his successors.

Thus, European conflict would arise from the very means taken to prevent it; for neither England nor France, nor probably Austria, would be content to see Constantinople permanently in the hands of Russia

On the part of Great Britain, her Majesty's Government at once declare that they renounce all intention or wish to hold Constantinople. His Imperial Majesty may be quite secure upon this head. They are likewise ready to give an assurance that they will enter into no agreement to provide for the contingency of the fall of Turkey without previous communication with the Emperor of Russia.

Upon the whole, then, her Majesty's Government are persuaded that no course of policy can be adopted more wise, more disinterested, more beneficial to Europe than that which his Imperial Majesty has so long followed, and which will render his name more illustrious than that of the most famous Sovereign who have sought immortality by unprovoked conquest and ephemeral glory.

With a view to the success of this policy, it is desirable that the utmost forbearance should be manifested towards Turkey; that any demands which the great Powers of Europe may have to make should be made matter of friendly negotiation rather than of peremptory demand; that military and naval demonstrations to coerce the Sultan should as much as possible be avoided; that differences with respect to matters affecting Turkey, within the competence of the Sublime Porte, should be decided after mutual concert between the great Powers, and not be forced upon the weakness of the Turkish Government

To these considerations her Majesty's Government wish to add, that in their view it is essential that the Sultan should be advised to treat his Christian subjects in conformity with the principles of equity and religious freedom which prevail generally among the enlightened nations of Europe. The more the Turkish Government adopts the rules of impartial law and equal administration, the less will the Emperor of Russia find it necessary to apply that exceptional protection which his Imperial Majesty has found so burdensome and inconvenient, though no doubt prescribed by duty and sanctioned by treaty

You may read this despatch to Count Nesselrode, and, if it is desired, you may yourself place a copy of it in the hands of the Emperor. In that case you will seemingly ask its presentation with those assurances of friendship and confidence on the part of her Majesty the Queen, which the conduct of his Imperial Majesty was so sure to inspire.

I, am, &c.,

J. RUSSELL.

No. 5.

SIR G. H. SEYMOUR TO LORD JOHN RUSSELL.—(Received March 6.)
(Secret and confidential.)

[Extract.] St. Petersburg, Feb. 21, 1853.

The Emperor came up to me last night, at a party of the Grand Duchess Hereditary, and in the most gracious manner took me apart, saying that he desired to speak to me. After expressing, in flattering terms, the confidence which he has in me, and his readiness to speak to me without reserve upon matters of the greatest moment, as, his Majesty observed, he had proved in a late conversation, he said: "And it is well it is so; for what I most desire is, that there should be the greatest intimacy between the two Governments. It never was so necessary as at present. Well," the Emperor continued, "are you have got your answer, and you are to bring it to me to-morrow?"

"I am to have that honour, Sir," I answered, "but your Majesty is aware that the nature of the reply is very exactly what I had led you to expect."

"So I was sorry to hear; but I think your Government does not well understand my object. I am not so eager about what shall be done when the sick man dies, as I am to determine with England what shall not be done upon that event taking place."

"But, Sir," I replied, "allow me to ob erve that we have no reason to think that the sick man (to use your Majesty's expression) is dying. We are as much interested as we believe your Majesty to be in his continuing to live; while, for myself, I will venture to re mark that experience shows me that countries do not die in such a hurry. Turkey will remain for many a year, unless some unforeseen crisis should occur. It is precisely, Sir, for the avoidance of all circumstances likely to produce such a crisis that her Majesty's Government reckons upon your generous assistance."

"Then," rejoined the Emperor, "I will tell you that, if your Government has been ad to believe that Turkey retains any elements of existence, your Government must have received incorrect information. I repeat to you, that the sick man is dying; and we can ne r allow such an event to take us by surprise. We must come to some understanding; and this we should do, I am convinced, if I could hold but ten minutes' conversation with your Minister—with Lord Aberdeen, for instance, who knows me so well, who has full confidence in me, as I have in him. And, remember, I do not ask for a treaty or a protocol; a general understanding is all I require that between gentlemen is sufficient: an', in this case, I am certain that the confidence would be as great on the side of the Queen's Ministers as on mine. So no more for the present; you will come to me to-morrow; and you will remember that, as often as you think your conversing with me will promote a good understanding upon any point, you will send word that you wish to see me."

I thanked his Majesty very cordially, adding that I could assure him that her Majesty's Government, I was convinced, considered his word, once given, as good a bond. * * * * *

No 6

SIR G. H. SEYMOUR TO LORD JOHN RUSSELL. —(Received March 8.)
(Secret and confidential.)

[Extract.] St. Petersburg, Feb. 22, 1853.

I had the honour of waiting yesterday upon the Emperor, and of having with his Majesty one of the most interesting conversations in which I ever found myself engaged. My only regret is my inability to report in full detail a dialogue which lasted an hour and twelve minutes.

The Emperor began by desiring me to read to him aloud your Lordship's secret and confidential despatch of the 9th inst., saying that he should stop me occasionally, either to make an observation, or to call upon me for the translation of a passage

Upon arriving at the fourth paragraph, the Emperor desired me to pause, and observed, that he was certainly most desirous that some understanding should be entered into with her Majesty's Government for providing against a contingency so probable as that of the downfall of Turkey; that he was, perhaps, even more interested than England could be in preventing a Turkish catastrophe, but that it was constantly impending; that it might be brought about at any moment, either by an external war, or by a feud between the old Turkish party and that of the "new superficial French reforms;" or again, by a rising of the Christians already known to be very impatient of shaking off the Mussulman yoke (*long*)

As regards the first cause, the Emperor said that he had a good right to advert to it, inasmuch as, if he had not stopped the victorious progress of General Diebitsch in 1829, the Sultan's authority would have been at an end.

The Emperor likewise desired me to remember that he, and he only, had hastened to the assistance of the Sultan, when his dominions were threatened by the Pacha of Egypt.

I proceeded to read, and was again stopped at the sentence beginning "In there circumstances it would hardly be consistent with the friendly feelings," when the Emperor observed that her Majesty's Government did not appear to be aware that his chief object was to obtain from her Majesty's Government some declaration, or even opinion, of what ought not to be permitted in the event of the sudden downfall of Turkey. I said, "Perhaps your Majesty would be good enough to explain your own ideas upon this negative policy." This his Majesty for some time declined doing; he ended however, by saying: "Well, there are several things which I never will tolerate; I will begin by one of-less. I will not tolerate the permanent occupation of Constantinople by the Russians; having said this, I will say that it never shall be held by the English, or French, or any other great nation. Again, I never will permit an attempt at the reconstruction of a Byzantine empire, or such an extension of Greece as would render her a powerful state; still less will I permit the breaking up of Turkey into little republics, asylums for the K suths and Mazzi-is, and other revolutionists of Europe. Rather than submit to any of these arrangements I would go to war, and as long as I have a man and a musket left would carry it on. These, the Emperor said, "are at once some ideas. Now give me some in return."

I remarked upon the assurance which would be found respecting the English resolution of never attempting to possess Constantinople, and, upon the cancellation of her Majesty's Government to enter into eventual arrangements But, upon being still pressed by his Imperial Majesty, I said—"Well, Sir, the idea may not suit your Majesty, may not suit her Majesty's Government; but what is good between man and man often proves bad between one State and another. How would it be if, in the event of any catastrophe occurring in Turkey, Russia and England were to declare that no power should be allowed to take possession of its provinces; that the property should remain, as it were, under seals, until amicable arrangements could be made as to its adjudication?"

"I will not say," the Emperor observed, "that such a course would be impossible, but, at least, it would be very difficult; there are no elements of provincial or communal government in Turkey; you would have Turks attacking Christians, Christians falling upon Turks, Christians of different sects quarrelling with each other—in short, chaos and anarchy"

"Sir," I then observed, "if your Majesty will allow me to speak plainly, I would say that the great difference between us is this—that you continue to dwell upon the fall of Turkey, and the arrangements requisite before and after the fall, and that we, on the contrary, look to Turkey remaining where he is, and to the precautions which are necessary for preventing her condition from becoming worse."

"Alas!" said the Emperor, "that is what the Chancellor is perpetually telling me; but the catastrophe will occur some day, and take us all unaware."

His Imperial Majesty spoke of France. "God forbid," he said, "that I should accuse any one wrongfully; but there are circumstances, both at Constantinople and Montenegro, which are extremely suspicious; it looks very much as if the French Government were endeavouring to embroil us all in the East, hoping in this way the better to arrive at their own object—one of which, no doubt, is the possession of Tunis."

The Emperor then proceeded to say that, for his own part, he cared very little what line the French might think proper to take in Eastern affairs, and that little more than a month ago he had apprised the Sultan that if his assistance was required for resisting the menaces of the French, it was entirely at the service of the Sultan.

In a word, the Emperor went on to observe, "As I before told you, all I want is a good understanding with England, and this not as to what shall, but as to what shall not be done; this point arrived at—the English Government and I, and the English Government, having entire confidence in one another's views—I care nothing about the rest."

I remarked that I felt confident that her Majesty's Government could see as little disposed as his Imperial Majesty to tolerate the presence of the French at Constantinople; and being desirous, if possible, of ascertaining whether there was any understanding between the Cabinets of St. Petersburg and Vienna, I added, "But your Majesty has forgotten Austria: now all these Eastern questions affect her very nearly; she, of course, would expect to be consulted."

"Oh!" replied the Emperor, greatly to my surprise, "but you must understand that when I speak of Rus ia I speak of Austria as well; what suits the one suits the other; our interests as regards Turkey are perfectly identical." I should have been glad to make another inquiry or two upon this subject, but I did not venture to do so.

I ought to have stated that in a preceding part of the conversation his Majesty, although without any appearance of anger, evinced some surprise at an expression in your Lordship's despatch, "the long-cherished ambition of his (the Emperor's) own nation;" he would ask what that phrase meant?

It happened that I was prepared for the surprise expressed, and ready to answer any reflection which it might call forth.

"Sir," I said, "Lord John Russell is not speaking of your ambition; he speaks of that entertained by your people."

The Emperor could not at first admit that the phrase was applicable to the Russian nation any more than to himself; when I said, "Your Majesty will permit me to remark that Lord John Russell only repeats what was said thirty years ago by your brother, of glorious memory, in writing confidentially to Lord Castlereagh, in the year 1822 the Emperor Alexander spoke of being the only Russian who resisted the views of his subjects upon Turkey, and of the loss of popularity which he had sustained by his antagonism."

This quotation, which, by accident, I could make almost in the words of the letter, seemed to change the current of the Emperor's ideas.

"You are quite right," he said; "I remember the events to which my late brother alluded. Now it is perfectly true that the Empress Catherine indulged in all sorts of visions of ambition, but it is not less so that these ideas are not at all shared by her descendants. You see how I am behaving towards the Sultan. This gentleman (*ce monsieur*) breaks his written word to me, and sets in a manner extremely displeasing to me, and I have contented myself with despatching an Ambassador to Constantinople, to demand reparation. Certainly, I could send an army there if I chose—there is nothing to stop them; but I may late brother alluded. Now it is perfectly true that the Empress Catherine indulged in all sorts of visions of ambition, but it is not less so that these ideas are not at all shared by her descendants. You see how I am behaving towards the Sultan. This gentleman (*ce monsieur*) breaks his written word to me, and sets in a manner extremely displeasing to me, and I have contented myself with despatching an Ambassador to Constantinople, to demand reparation. Certainly, I could send an army there if I chose—there is nothing to stop them; but I have no intention of being trifled with."

His Imperial Majesty spoke of Montenegro, observing that he approved the attitude taken by the Austrian Cabinet, and that in these affairs he could not be permitted that the Turks should ill treat and even murder a Christian population.

I ventured to remark that upon this point the wrongs were at least divided between the Turks and the Montenegrins, and that I had full reason for believing that the provocation came from the latter. The Emperor, with more impartiality than I had expected, admitted that there had been wrongs on both sides; that certainly the mountaineers were rather addicted to brigandage; and that the taking of Djablak had excited his great indignation As the same time his Majesty said, "It is impossible not to feel great interest in a population warmly attached to their religion, who have so long kept their ground against the Turks;" and the Emperor continued—"It may be fair to tell you that if any attempt at exterminating these people should be made by Omer Pacha, and should a general rising of the Christians take place in consequence, the Sultan will, in all probability, lose his throne; but in this case he has to rise no more. I wish to support his authority, but, if he loses it, it is gone for ever. The Turkish empire is a thing to be tolerated, not to be reconstructed. In such a cause, I protest to you I will not allow a pistol to be fired."

The Emperor went on to say that, in the event of the dissolution of the Ottoman empire, he thought it might be less difficult to arrive at a satisfactory territorial arrangement than was commonly believed. "The Principalities are," he said, "in fact, an independent State under my protection; this might so continue. Servia might receive the same form of government. So again with Bulgaria. There seems to be no reason why this province should not form an independent state. As to Egypt. I quite understand the importance to England of that territory. I can listen only say, that if, in the event of a distribution of the Ottoman succession upon the fall of the empire, you should take possession Egypt, I shall have no objections to offer. I would say the same thing of Candia: that island might suit you, and I do not know why it should not become an English possession."

As I did not wish that the Emperor should imagine that an English public servant was caught by this sort of overture, I simply answered that I had always understood that the English views upon Egypt did not go beyond the point of securing a safe and ready communication between British India and the mother country.

The conversation now drawing towards an end, the Emperor express ed his warm attachment to the Queen our gracious Sovereign, and his respect for her Majesty's present advisers. The declarations contained in your Lordship's despatch had been, he said, very satisfactory; he could only desire that they should be a little amplified. The terms in which your Lordship had spoken of his conduct were, the Emperor said, very flattering to him.

In dismissing me, his Imperial Majesty said—"Well, induce your Government to write again upon those subjects—to write more fully, and to do so without hesitation. I have confidence in the English Government. On the next point in arrangement, any convention de la jarbande; c'est un libre échange d'idées, et, au besoin, une parole de *gentleman*, entre nous cela suffit." * * * * *

No. 7.

From Sir G. H. Seymour to the Earl of Clarendon, dated March 9th, incloses a confidential memorandum, which his Imperial Majesty had caused to be drawn up, and which was intended as an answer to, or a comment upon, the despatch of which Sir G. H. Seymour had made to his Imperial Majesty on the 21st ult., and which Sir George describes as one that cannot fail of being considered as one of the most remarkable papers that had ever been issued from the Emperor's secret Cabinet.

(Translation.) Feb. 21, 1853.

The Emperor has, with the liveliest interest and real satisfaction, made himself acquainted with the secret and confidential despatch which Sir Hamilton Seymour communicated to him. He duly appreciates the frankness which has dictated it He has found therein a fresh proof of the friendly sentiments which her Majesty the Queen entertains for him. In connexion with the friendly relations with the British Envoy on the cases which, from one day to another, may bring on the fall of the Ottoman Empire, it had by no means entered into the Emperor's thoughts to propose for this contingency a plan by which Russ'a and England should dispose beforehand of the provinces ruled by the Sultan—a system altogether arranged; still less a formal agreement to be concluded between the two Cabinets. It was purely and simply the Emperor's notion that each party should confidentially state to the other less what it wishes than what it does not wish; what would be contrary to English interests, what would be contrary to Russian interests; in order that, the case occurring, they might avoid acting in opposition to each other.

There is in this neither plans of partition, nor convention to be binding on the other Courts. It is merely an interchange of opinions, and the Emperor sees no necessity of talking about it before the time. It is

(*Continued on page 281.*)

THE BALTIC FLEET RUNNING FOR DOVER STRAITS.—SKETCHED BY O. W. BRIERLEY.—(SEE PAGE 273.)

(Continued from page 270.)

precisely for that reason that he took especial care not to make it the object of an official communication from one Cabinet to the other. By confining himself to speaking of it himself, in the shape of familiar conversation, to the Queen's representative, he selected the most friendly and confidential form of opening himself with frankness to her Britannic Majesty, being desirous that the result, whatsoever it might be, of these communications, should remain, as it ought to be, a secret between the two Sovereigns.

"Consequently, the objections which Lord John Russell raises to any concealment as regards the other Powers, in the event of a formal agreement being entered into—of which there is at present no question—fall to the ground; and consequently, also, the inconveniences disappear, which he points out as calculated to contribute to hasten the occurrence of the very event which Russia and England are desirous of averting, if the existence of such an agreement should become prematurely known to the Sultan and to the subjects of the Sultan.

As regards the object of this wholly confidential interchange of opinions, that is to say, the downfall of the Ottoman empire, doubtless, that is but an uncertain and remote contingency. Unquestionably, the period of it cannot be fixed; and the actual crisis has arisen to render the realization of it imminent. But, after all, it may happen; happen even unexpectedly. Without mentioning the ever-increasing causes of dissolution which are spread by the moral, financial, and administrative condition of the Porte it may proceed gradually from one, at least, of the two questions mentioned by the English Ministry in its secret despatch In truth, it perceives in those questions only mere disputes, which would not differ in their bearing from difficulties which form the ordinary business of diplomacy. But that kind of dispute may, nevertheless, bring on war; and, with war, the consequences which the Emperor apprehends from it. If, for instance, in the affair of the Holy Places, the *amour propre* and the menaces of France, continuing to press upon the Porte, should compel it to refuse us all satisfaction; and if, on the other hand the religious sentiments of the orthodox Greeks, offended by the concessions made to the Latins, should raise the lowness majority of his subjects against the Sultan. As regards the affair of Montenegro, that, according to the late accounts, may happily be looked upon as settled. But, at the time that the Emperor had his interview with Sir Hamilton Seymour, it might be apprehended that the question would take a most serious turn. Neither ourselves nor Austria could have allowed a protracted devastation or forced submission of Montenegro—a country which, up to the present time, has continued actually independent of the Porte—a country over which our protection has been extended for more than a century. The horrors which are committed there—those which, by Ottoman fanaticism, have, a short time since, been extended over Bulgaria, Bosnia, and the Herzegovine gave the other Christian provinces of the Porte only too much reason to anticipate that the same fate awaited them. They were calculated to provoke the general rising of the Christians who live under the empire of the Turkish empire, and to hasten its ruin. It is not, then, by any means an idle and imaginary question—a contingency too remote—to which the anxiety of the Emperor has called the attention of the Queen his ally.

In the face of the uncertainty and decay of the existing state of things in Turkey her English Cabinet expresses the desire that the greatest forbearance should be shown towards the Porte. The Emperor is conscious of never having acted otherwise. The English Cabinet itself admits it. It addresses to the Emperor, with reference to the numerous proofs of moderation which he has given up to the present time, praises which its Majesty will not accept, because in that he has only listened to his own overbearing conviction. But, in order that the Emperor may continue to concur in that system of forbearance, to abstain from any demonstration—from any peremptory language—it would be necessary that this system should be equally observed by all the Powers at once France has adopted another. By menaces she obtained, in opposition to the letter of the treaties, the admission of a ship of the line into the Dardanelles. At the cannon's mouth she twice presented her claims, and her demands for indemnity, at Tripoli, and afterwards at Constantinople. Again, in the contest respecting the Holy Places, by menaces she effected the abrogation of the firman that is to say, the very promises which the Sultan had given the Emperor. With regard to all those acts of violence England observed a complete silence. She neither offered support to the Porte nor addressed remonstrances to the French Government. The consequence is very evident. The Porte necessarily concluded from this that from France alone it has everything to hope as well as everything to fear, and that it can evade with impunity the demands of Austria and of Russia. It is thus that Austria and Russia, in order to obtain justice, have even themselves compelled, in their own despite, to have recourse against their will, to act by intimidation, since they have to do with a Government which only yields to a peremptory attitude; and it is thus that by its own fault, or rather by that of those who have weakened it in the Divan, the Porte is urged on in a course which even it detests, and it still more. Let England, then, employ herself in making it listen to reason. Instead of uniting herself with France against the just demands of Russia, let her avoid supporting, or even appearing to support, the resistance of the Ottoman Government. Let her be the first to blame the latter, as she herself considers it essential, to treat its Christian subjects with more equity and humanity. That will be the surest means of relieving the Emperor from the obligation of availing himself in Turkey of those rights of traditional protection to which he never has recourse but against his will, and of postponing indefinitely the crisis which the Emperor and her Majesty the Queen are equally anxious to avert.

In short, the Emperor cannot but congratulate himself at having given occasion for this intimate interchange of confidential communications between her Majesty and himself. He has found therein valuable assurances, of which he takes note with a lively satisfaction. The two Sovereigns have frankly explained to each other what, in the extreme case of which they have been treating, their respective interests cannot endure. England understands that Russia cannot suffer the establishment at Constantinople of a Christian Power sufficiently strong to control and disquiet her. She declares that for herself she renounces any intention or desire to possess Constantinople. The Emperor equally disclaims any wish or design of establishing himself there. England promises that she will enter into no arrangement for the purpose of concerting measures to be taken in the event of the fall of the Turkish empire, without a previous understanding with the Emperor. The Emperor, on his side, willingly contracts the same engagement. As he is aware that in such a case he can amply reckon upon Austria, who is bound by her promises to concert with him, he regards with less apprehension the catastrophe which he still desires to prevent and avert as much as it shall depend on him to do so.

No less precious to him are the proofs of friendship and personal confidence on the part of her Majesty the Queen, which Sir Hamilton Seymour has been directed on this occasion to impart to him. He sees in them the surest guarantee against the contingency which his foresight had deemed it right to point out to that of the English Government.

No. 8.

Dated on the same day as the preceding, informs the Earl of Clarendon that, as the important document enclosed in No. 7 appeared to have been drawn up under a complete misapprehension, real or assumed, of the part taken by the British Government in the affairs of Turkey, Sir G. H. Seymour had thought it his duty to address an explanatory letter to Count Nesselrode. Sir G. H. Seymour encloses the letter, which, like all the rest, is marked "private and confidential."

No. 9,

Dated March 10th, informs Lord Clarendon that, in consequence of the communication referred to, Sir G. H Seymour had a very amicable and satisfactory conversation with the Chancellor; and that the two had read over the memorandum together

No. 10.

THE EARL OF CLARENDON TO SIR G. H. SEYMOUR.

(Secret and confidential.)

[Extract]. Foreign-Office, March 28, 1853.

Sir,—Your despatches of the 21st and 22nd ult. have been laid before the Queen, and I am commanded to express her Majesty's entire approval of the discretion and tact displayed by you in the conversations which you had the honour to hold with the Emperor.

* * * * * * *

Her Majesty's Government persevere in the belief that Turkey still possesses the elements of existence, and they consider that recent events have proved the correctness of the opinion expressed in the despatch of my predecessor, that there was no sufficient cause for intimating to the Sultan that he cannot keep peace at home, or preserve friendly relations with his neighbours.

Her Majesty's Government have accordingly learnt with sincere satisfaction that the Emperor considers himself even more interested than England in preventing a Turkish catastrophe; because they are convinced that upon the policy pursued by his Imperial Majesty towards Turkey will mainly depend the hastening or the indefinite postponement of an event which every Power in Europe is concerned in averting. Her Majesty's Government are convinced that nothing is more calculated to precipitate that event than the constant prediction of its being near at hand; that nothing can be more fatal to the vitality of Turkey than the assumption of its rapid and inevitable decay; and that if the opinion of the Emperor that the days of the Turkish empire were numbered became notorious, its downfall must occur even sooner than his Imperial Majesty now appears to expect.

But on the supposition, that, from unavoidable causes, the catastrophe did take place, her Majesty's Government entirely share the opinion of the Emperor that the occupation of Constantinople by either of the great Powers would be incompatible with the present balance of power and the maintenance of peace; that, therefore, and must at once be regarded as impossible; that there are no elements for the reconstruction of a Byzantine empire; that the systematic misgovernment of Greece offers no encouragement to extend its territorial dominion; and that, as there are no materials for the erection of communal government, anarchy would be the result of leaving the provinces of Turkey to themselves or permitting them to form separate republics.

The Emperor has announced that, sooner than permit a settlement of the question by any one of these methods, he will be prepared for war at every hazard; and, however much her Majesty's Government may be disposed to agree in the soundness of the views taken by his Imperial Majesty, yet they consider that the simple predetermination of what shall not be tolerated does little towards solving the real difficulties, or settling in what manner it would be practicable, or even desirable, to deal with the heterogeneous materials of which the Turkish empire is composed.

England desires no territorial aggrandizement, and could be no party to a previous arrangement from which she was to derive any such benefit. England could be no party to any understanding, however general, that was to be kept secret from other Powers; but her Majesty's Government believe that no arrangements could control events, and that no understanding could be kept secret. They would, in the opinion of her Majesty's Government, be the signal for preparation for intrigues of every description, and for revolts among the Christian subjects of the Porte. Each Power, and each party would endeavour to secure its future interests, and the dissolution of the Turkish empire would be preceded by a state of anarchy which must aggravate every difficulty, if it did not render a peaceful solution of the question impossible.

The only mode by which such a solution could be attempted would be that of a European Congress, but that only affords an additional reason for desiring that the present order of things in Turkey should be maintained, as her Majesty's Government cannot, without alarm, reflect on the jealousies that would then be evoked, the impossibility of reconciling the different ambitions and the divergent interests that would be called into play, and the certainty that the treaties of 1815 must then be open to revision, when France might be prepared to risk the chances of a European war, to get rid of the obligations which she considers injurious to her national honour, and which, having been imposed by victorious enemies, are a constant source of irritation to her.

* * * * *

Her Majesty's Government believe that Turkey only requires forbearance on the part of its allies, and a determination not to press their claims in a manner humiliating to the dignity and independence of the Sultan that friendly support, in short, that, with States as with individuals, the weak are entitled to expect from the strong in order not only to prolong its existence, but to remove all cause of alarm respecting its dissolution.

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Nos. 11 and 12.

From Sir G. H. Seymour to the Earl of Clarendon, refer to a memorandum written in pencil by the Emperor, on the confidential memorandum of February 21st. The Emperor imagined that Sir G. H. Seymour had considered a passage in that paper as reflecting upon the conduct of the British Government, and had authorized Count Nesselrode to modify it if necessary.

No. 13,

From the Earl of Clarendon to Sir G. H. Seymour, dated 5th April, 1853, expresses the opinion of her Majesty's Government that no useful purpose would be served by prolonging the correspondence. His Lordship states that her Majesty's Government observe with pleasure that, in the opinion of the Emperor, the fall of the Turkish empire is looked upon as an uncertain and distant contingency, and that no real crisis has occurred to render its realization imminent." His Lordship concludes by adding that, "as her Majesty and the Emperor have now mutually renewed the assurances of their intention to uphold the independence and integrity of the Turkish empire, it is the earnest desire of her Majesty's Government that the representatives of the two Powers may henceforward co-operate together in carrying out this intention by giving similar advice in the same friendly spirit to the Porte.

No. 14.

SIR G. H. SEYMOUR TO THE EARL OF CLARENDON.

(Received May 2.)

(Secret and confidential.)

[Extract.] St. Petersburg, April 20, 1853.

The Emperor, on rising from the table when I had the honour of dining at the palace on the 18th inst., desired me to follow him into the next room.

His Majesty then said that he had wished to state to me the real and sincere satisfaction which he received from your Lordship's despatch, marked "Secret and confidential," of the 23rd ultimo.

It had been, his Majesty said, most agreeable to him to find that the overtures which he had addressed to her Majesty's Government had been responded to in the same friendly spirit in which they were made; that, to use a former expression, there was nothing in which he placed so much reliance as *la parole d'un gentilhomme*—that he felt that the relations of the two Courts stood upon a better basis now that a clear understanding had been obtained as to points, which, if left in doubt, might have been productive of misintelligence; and, as his Majesty was pleased to add, he felt obliged to me for having contributed towards bringing about this friendly *entente*.

And his Majesty said, "I beg you to understand, that what I have pledged myself to will be equally binding on my successor; there now exist memorandums of my intentions, and whatever I have promised, my son, if the changes alluded to should occur in his time, would be as ready to perform as his father would have been.

* * * * *

No. 15.

From Sir G. H. Seymour to the Earl of Clarendon, dated 21st April, encloses the following document:—

(Translation.)

The Emperor has, with lively satisfaction, made himself acquainted with Lord Clarendon's despatch of the 23rd of March. His Majesty congratulates himself on perceiving that his views and those of the English Cabinet entirely coincide on the subject of the political combinations which it would be chiefly necessary to avoid in the extreme case of the contingency occurring in the East which Russia and England have equally at heart to prevent, or, at all events, to delay as long as possible. Sharing generally the opinions expressed by Lord Clarendon on the necessity of the prolonged maintenance of the existing state of things in Turkey, the Emperor, nevertheless, cannot abstain from adverting to a special point which leads him to suppose that the information received by the British Government is not altogether in accordance with ours. It refers to the humanity and the toleration to be shown by Turkey in her manner of treating her Christian subjects.

Putting aside many other examples to the contrary of an old date, it is, for all that, notorious that recently the cruelties committed by the Turks in Bosnia forced hundreds of Christian families to seek refuge in Austria. In other respects, without wishing on this occasion to enter upon a discussion as to the symptoms of decay, more or less evident, presented by the Ottoman Power, or the greater or less degree of vitality which its internal constitution may retain, the Emperor will readily agree that the best means of modifying the duration of the Turkish Government is not to harass it by overbearing demands, supported in a manner humiliating to its independence and its dignity. His Majesty is disposed, as he has ever been, to act upon this system, with the clear understanding, however, that the same rule of conduct shall be observed, without distinction, and unanimously, by each of the great Powers, and that none of them shall take advantage of the weakness of the Porte to obtain from it concessions which might turn to the prejudice of the others. This principle being laid down, the Emperor declares that he is ready to labour, in concert with England at the common work of prolonging the existence of the Turkish empire, setting aside all cause of alarm on the subject of the late war. In a candid spirit, the full value offered by the British Cabinet of entire confidence in the upright[illegible] of his sentiments, and the hope that, on this basis, his alliance would long land cannot fail to become strong[illegible]. St. Petersburg, April 15, 1853.

NEGOTIATION IN 1844.

The following is the memorandum by Count Nesselrode delivered to her Majesty's Government, and founded on communications received from the Emperor of Russia subsequently to his Imperial Majesty's visit to England in June, 1844.—

(Translation.)

Russia and England are mutually penetrated with the conviction that it is for their common interest that the Ottoman Porte should maintain itself in the state of independence and of territorial possession which at present constitutes that empire, as that political combination is the one which is most compatible with the general interest of the maintenance of peace.

Being agreed on this principle, Russia and England have an equal interest in using their efforts in order to keep up the existence of the Ottoman empire, and to avert all the dangers which can place in jeopardy its safety.

With this object, the essential point is to suffer the Porte to live in repose, without needlessly disturbing it by diplomatic bickerings, and without interfering, unless with absolute necessity, in its internal affairs.

In order to carry out skilfully this system of forbearance, with a view to the well-understood interest of the Porte, two things must not be lost sight of. They are these:

In the first place, the Porte has a constant tendency to extricate itself from the engagements imposed upon it by the treaties which it has concluded with other Powers. It hopes to do so with impunity, because it reckons on the mutual jealousy of the cabinets. It thinks that, if it fails in its engagements towards one of them, the rest will espouse its quarrel, and will screen it from all responsibility.

It is essential not to confirm the Porte in this delusion. Every time that it fails in its obligations towards one of the great Powers, it is the interest of all the rest to make it sensible of its error, and seriously to exhort it to act rightly towards the Cabinet which demands just reparation.

As soon as the Porte shall perceive that it is not supported by the other Cabinets, it will give way; and the differences will have arisen will be arranged in a conciliatory manner, without any conflict resulting from them.

There is a second cause of complication which is inherent in the situation of the Porte: it is the difficulty which exists in reconciling the respect due to the sovereign authority of the Sultan, founded on the Mussulman law, with the forbearance required by the interests of the Christian population of that empire.

This difficulty is real. In the present state of feeling in Europe, the Cabinets cannot see with indifference the Christian populations in Turkey exposed to flagrant acts of oppression and religious intolerance.

It is necessary constantly to make the Ottoman Ministers sensible of this truth, and to persuade them that they can only reckon on the friendship and on the support of the great Powers on the condition that they treat the Christian subjects of the Porte with toleration and with mildness.

While insisting on this truth, it will be the duty of the foreign representatives, on the other hand, to exert all their influence to maintain the Christian subjects of the Porte in submission to the sovereign authority.

It will be the duty of the foreign representatives, guided by these principles, to act among themselves in a perfect spirit of agreement. If they address remonstrances to the Porte, those remonstrances must bear a real character of unanimity, though divested of one of exclusive dictation. By persevering in this system with calmness and moderation, the representatives of the great Cabinets of Europe will have the best chance of succeeding in the steps which they may take, without giving rise to any complication which might affect the tranquillity of the Ottoman empire. If all the great Powers frankly adopt this line of conduct, they will have a well-founded expectation of preserving the existence of Turkey.

However, they must not conceal from themselves how many elements of dissolution that empire contains within itself. Unforeseen circumstances may hasten its fall, without its being in the power of the friendly Cabinets to prevent it.

As it is not given to human foresight to settle beforehand a plan of action for such or such unlooked-for case, it would be premature to discuss eventualities which may never be realised.

In the uncertainty which hovers over the future, a single fundamental idea exists, the admission of a really practical application: it is that the danger which may result from a catastrophe in Turkey will be much diminished if, in the event of its occurring, Russia and England have come to an understanding as to the course to be taken by them in common.

The moment this understanding will be the more beneficial, inasmuch as it will have the full assent of Austria. Between her and Russia there exists already an entire conformity of principles in regard to the affairs of Turkey, in a common interest of conservation and of peace.

In order to render their action more efficacious, there would remain nothing to be desired but that England should be seen to associate herself thereto with the same view.

The question which recommends the establishment of this agreement is very simple.

On land Russia exercises, in regard to Turkey, a preponderant action.

On sea England occupies the same position.

Isolated, the action of these two Powers might do much mischief. United, it can produce a real benefit: thence the advantage of coming to a previous understanding before having recourse to action

This notion was in principle agreed upon during the Emperor's last residence in London. The result was the eventual engagement, that if anything unforeseen occurred in Turkey, Russia and England should previously concert together as to the course which they should pursue in common.

The object for which Russia and England will have to come to an understanding may be expressed in the following manner:—

1. To seek to maintain the existence of the Ottoman empire in its present state, so long as that political combination shall be possible.

2. If we foresee that it must crumble to pieces, to enter into previous concert as to everything relating to the establishment of a new order of things, intended to replace that which now exists, and, in conjunction with each other, to see that the change which may have occurred in the internal situation of that empire shall not injuriously affect either the security of their own States and the rights which the treaties assure to them respectively, or the maintenance of the balance of power in Europe.

For the purpose thus stated, the policy of Russia and of Austria, as we have already said, is closely united by the principle of perfect identity. If England, as the principal maritime Power, acts in concert with them, it is to be supposed that France will find herself obliged to act in conformity with the course agreed upon between St. Petersburg, London, and Vienna.

Conflict between the great Powers being thus obviated, it is to be hoped that the peace of Europe will be maintained even in the midst of such serious circumstances. It is to secure this object of common interest, if the case occurs, that, as the Emperor agreed with her Britannic Majesty's Ministers during his residence in England, the previous understanding which Russia and England shall establish between themselves must be directed.

BARBADOES.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

In the article in your Number of last Saturday, headed "Withdrawal of troops from the West India Islands," your Military Correspondent states that Barbadoes was conquered in 1625. Allow me to correct him in this particular. Barbadoes, although it was known as early as the commencement of the sixteenth century to the Spaniards, and apparently supplied Indians as slaves for their mines in Espanola (of whose wretched condition, as well as that of the South American natives, the generous Las Casas, by his constant exertions in their favour, procured some amelioration from Charles V., who issued his instructions for that purpose to the licentiate Rodrigo de Figueroa, in 1518), was never colonised by any other nation than the English, who landed there in 1605, and in whose possession it has ever since remained. Barbadoes has always been one of the most loyal of our colonies. It was here that many of those attached to the Royal cause during the civil wars of the middle of the seventeenth century, sought and found an asylum until these rivalric opposition of that small spot roused the ire and vengeance of Cromwell. Its large trade with the Dutch (which the Protector sought to cripple and harass), was the cause which led to the Navigation Laws. It may not be uninteresting to antiquaries to mention, that in the small churchyard of St. John, in this island, is the burial-place of Ferdinand Paleologus, the sixth in descent from the brother of Cons antine, the last of the Greek Emperors, who perished the 29th of May, 1453, in the general assault, when Constantinople was taken by the Turks.

Warwick, March, 1854. H. S. M.

DARIEN SHIP CANAL.—CONFERENCE ON BOARD H.M.S. "ESPIEGLE," IN CALEDONIA BAY.

THE DARIEN SHIP CANAL EXPEDITION.

By favour of a Correspondent, we are enabled to Illustrate another stage of this enterprise—a Conference held on board H.M.S. *Espiegle*, in Caledonia Bay, New Granada, on the 22nd of January last, sketched by Mr. W. F. B. Edwards, of the above ship. The persons present were, commencing from the left-hand of the Sketch, Capt. Hancock, R.N., Mr. Lionel Gisborne, C.E., Dr. Cullen, and Lieut. St. John, R.E.; and seated above is a party of the Darien Indian Chiefs. Of these, the first from the left is "Dennis of Sasardi;" and the fourth, "Robinson," Secretary of State to "Calega," the old Chief of San Blas. The object of this conference, or "pow-wow," was to obtain permission to make a thorough survey of the route. The Chiefs were at first very averse to the party landing on the Isthmus; but they at length, however, consented that the English party should land, but only for the purpose of reconnoitring the proposed route of the Ship Canal. On the 24th an English and French party were, accordingly, despatched, in addition to a party of Americans, who left the United States sloop-of-war *Cyane*, on the 19th. The result, however, in each case, seems to have been as unfavourable as that which had been previously experienced by Commander Prevost, engaged on the same service on the Pacific side. "Every party that returned," says the *Aspinwall Courier*, "expressed the same opinion, that the route was utterly impracticable."

Another account states:—

The report of the American party is not at all favourable to the prospect for a ship-canal, for they estimated, on a fair calculation, that the elevation of the lowest points over which they passed is about 1000 feet in height. They followed the Caledonia river; and you can judge the size of the stream when the party walked up the bed of the river all the way. The English and French party, combined, started on the 24th. On that day a party of five, detached from Strain's party, returned to the ship, and reported the obstacles and hardships which they had encountered. They stated they had left Strain and his party in the mountains, eighteen miles distant. They left the ship again with a reinforcement of ten men and ten days' extra provisions, under the charge of Lieutenant Fauntleroy. While I write I see detachments of the French and English party returning to their vessels, and am informed they have come after provisions. A glance at the letter of Lieutenant Fauntleroy, who overtook the English party the day after he left, fully indicates that their own conclusion upon the premises acquired thus far is that the route is impracticable.

"THE ORINOCO" LANDING TROOPS AT MALTA

TROOPS FOR THE WAR.

(From a Correspondent.)

MALTA, March 13th, 1854.

You will be glad to hear of the safe arrival here of the several steamships, &c., with troops, composing part of the expedition against Russia.

Early in the morning of the 4th inst. the *Orinoco* came in sight from Southampton, nine days out, with 23 officers, part comprising the staff, and 924 men of the Coldstream Guards, all of whom were safely landed at Fort Manoel and Fort Tigne, the same afternoon. (*See Sketch*). About two p.m., the *Niagara* came in sight from Liverpool, with 31 officers and 878 men, of the 28th Regiment; they safely landed the same afternoon, on the quay of the Victualling-yard, and took up their quarters at Bighi, San Salvador, Zabbar, and Verdala. The *Ripon* arrived about ten p.m., of the 4th; but, owing to a swell setting into the harbour, did not land the troops till Sunday afternoon, the 5th. She brought 26 officers and 602 men, of the 3rd Battalion Grenadier Guards. They landed, and took up their quarters at Fort Manoel and Lazaretto. 7th, *Cambria*, from Cork, arrived, 21 officers and 663 men, 50th Regiment; quartered at the Dockyard. 8th, *Himalaya* arrived, in seven days two hours, from Plymouth, with 7 officers and 210 men, Rifles; 6 officers and 100 men, Sappers and Miners; and 33 officers and 911 men, 93rd Highlanders: these last are encamped on the Hornwork outside Fort Bombe, and present a very picturesque appearance. 11th, the *Emu*, from Queenstown, arrived, with 29 officers and 803 men, 33rd Regiment: these are encamped on the Crown work above Fort Bombe (both camps about three quarters of a mile from the Valetta Gate). 11th, *Vulcan* arrived, with 25 officers and 793 men of the Rifles; and, lastly, yesterday, the *Manilla* arrived, with 280 Grenadiers, complement of 3rd Battalion; landed, and quartered in Fort Manoel. This steamer having damaged her machinery, was delayed at Gibraltar for repairs, or she would have been here sooner.

I send a calotype of the Highlanders' Camp.

The usually quiet town of Valetta is quite alive with soldiers, and the variety of uniform gives one a slight idea of what the Chobham Camp must have been. Perfect good feeling exists between the Maltese and the soldiers. The Highlanders and Guards excite particular interest, from their uniform, which is new in these parts. J. L. W.

A fine View of Valetta appeared in our Journal of last week.

THE HIGHLANDERS' CAMP, AT MALTA.

THE WILLOUGHBY TESTIMONIAL.

THIS handsome Testimonial has lately been presented to Mr. Willoughby; its purpose being related in the following inscription:—

Presented to J. P. Willoughby, Esq., on the occasion of his leaving Bombay on the 3rd of May, 1851, by his friends, as a testimony of the regard and esteem which they entertained for him in his personal character—the high opinion they had formed of him as a most able and devoted servant of the Government—their gratitude for his philanthropic labours in the abolition of Infanticide in the province of Khattiawar, and the public spirit which he had uniformly evinced in support of the Philanthropic Educational and Literary Institutions of Bombay. The remainder of the Subscriptions has been invested as a Fund, under the title of the "Willoughby Fund," for the encouragement of the Vernacular Literature in Western India.

THE WILLOUGHBY TESTIMONIAL.

The design consists of an Indian column, surmounted by a very elaborate basket. Upon the plinths are two groups, characteristic of Mr. Willoughby's exertions in the suppression of Infanticide

The first Group represents Wisdom appealing to "Natural Affection;" and the second is emblematic of the blessings resulting from the suppression of Infanticide.

The Plate has been beautifully executed by Messrs. Hunt and Roskell, New Bond-street.

RUSSIAN NEWS ABOUT OUR NAVY.—A St. Petersburg paper of the 10th gives details from London of the attempts now making in England to raise forces capable of meeting those of Russia. According to this authority, old men of sixty are ordered on board, to make up the full complement of a ship's crew; the recruiters, too, have had the greatest difficulty in beating up volunteers; then, again, children of nine, ten, and twelve years have been coaxed into the naval service; "huge" bounties have been offered to native and foreign mariners, as an inducement for them to enter the Royal Navy; never has it been so difficult to collect sailors in England, and never was there so few seamen as at present.

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE

WALLACH FAMILY WAITING TO EMBARK FOR WIDDIN.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

WIDDIN, March 3, 1854.

Austria, we are told, has declared her intention to consider the passage of the Danube by the Russians, as a declaration of war. She is said also to have declared that the permanent occupation of the Danubian Principalities would be considered in the same light. It is somewhat difficult, whilst in the latitude of Widdin, to conclude, upon such premises as these, what may be the real wish or the intention of Austria. Two points are to be considered, viz, whether Austria does not know that Russia has no intention of crossing the Danube, and whether she is not aware, in urging the second, how difficult it is to define a permanent occupation of the Principalities. As regards the first point, there seems to be but little doubt. The Russians, no doubt, expect, ere long, to see an imposing force arrayed against them on the very ground which they now occupy. Their long line of troops extending from the villages in front of Kalafat to those in front of Matchin, is in imminent danger of being attacked by Turkish, French and English forces. The Russians, so far from being able to cross the Danube, will find it necessary to concentrate themselves in a position which may enable them firmly to resist the efforts of combined Europeans and Turks; and, even when they have done so, their permanent occupation of such a position must depend partly on their own bravery and success, and partly on the attitude of Austria. It is evident that, with Austria threatening on the side of Transylvania, the Turks advancing in front, and French and English troops coming up to assist, the chances of the Russians are very slight indeed. But leaving aside what seems at present to be most doubtful—the hostility of the Court of Vienna—the movements of the Russians are likely to be defensive rather than offensive ones. It is said, indeed, that, having abandoned the intention of attacking Kalafat, General Gortchakoff, under the advice of General Schilders, has determined for the present to make Slatina his head-quarters on this wing, taking the Aluta as the line to be defended, and holding Karakal as a point of defence in Lesser Wallachia—the communications to be kept open between it and Wallachia Proper by the necessary bridges on the Aluta. I am informed—and a glance at the map confirms the information—that, from the side of the Danube, Karakal cannot be attacked by the enemy, on account of the marshy nature of the ground; whilst, in front, the place may be strengthened with ease by a few earthern works. There is no doubt that the Russian force before Kalafat is much decreased in numbers. The Austrian *Lloyd* of the 14th of February contains a letter in which the forces of the Russians in front of the Turkish lines, on the 7th ult., are described as follows:—"In Poyana, the infantry regiment Katharinenburg, the Jäger regiment Odessa, with two batteries of eight guns, and Cossacks. In Maglavitz, the infantry regiment Tobolsk, and the Jäger regiment Ukrain, and two regiments of cavalry." A deserter from the Paskiewitsch Hussars, who gave himself up on the 25th, furnished answers in exact accordance with the letter. He added, however, that the number of batteries in Poyana was three and not two. However this may be, it is now certain that there are scarcely 12,000 Russians around Kalafat. The Turks might overthrow such a force, if they chose to advance; but they have forborne from annoying the enemy, even by reconnoissances, of late; and it is not the part of a non-military man to guess at their reasons for remaining quiet. There is a general complaint of the *nonchalance* of the Commander. Five squadrons of Russians approached Kalafat on the 27th, with two guns; and four Turkish squadrons marched out to meet them. The Russians fired about twenty rounds—killed two men, and the horse of Major O'Reilly, of the 2nd Regiment of Guards—and then retired in good order, without being charged by the Turks, and having only lost two men by a distant fire of musketry. There may be policy in thus holding back, but boldness in appearance is all on the side of the Russians, and timidity on the side of the Turks; and such appearances speedily and disagreeably affect the spirit of an army. It is said that shortly the forces at Kalafat will be increased, and raised to an imposing number; and that Doxoun Pacha, who commands the reserves at Sofia, will be ordered to join. Doxoun Pacha is a General of note, who is said not to brook the command of any lesser officer than Omer Pacha. Some persons here pretend, therefore, that Omer Pacha, now Generalissimo, as you will doubtless have heard from Constantinople, will come to Kalafat to take the command. All these statements are involved in uncertainty at present. I do not believe that Omer Pacha intends coming here. In the meanwhile, the Russians who, as I ventured to predict, have made no attempt to pass over the Danube into Servia, are endeavouring to foment a revolution in that country. Prince Milosch, who owes his wealth to the hostility of Russia, is now using that wealth in league with the Czar to crush the land of his birth. The fate of Czar George, whom he murdered on the ground of intrigues with the Czar against the peace of Servia, has failed to deter him from this course. The son of Czar George is on the throne—the parts are changed—the latter is now the

JUVENILE AMUSEMENTS AT WIDDIN.

friend of independence; the former, the friend of Russia. With the aid of that enormous fortune which he plundered from the Servians, Prince Milosch has raised some regiments, with which he now intends to try his fortune in a civil war. The Russians, in abetting such a revolution, are acting far more wisely for their interests than in quartering their troops upon the people of the Principality. The inland towns of Servia are still peopled with the partisans of Obrenowitsch. Milosch was accustomed to govern with a body-guard of dare-devils, who feared none but him; men who committed many atrocities, and who had become as hateful, by their excesses, as the Turkish janissaries. These men are still *en surveillance* in various parts of the country. The hope of plunder, and the irksomeness of their confinement, render them fit to commence a civil war. Fortunately, the provincial administration of Prince Alexander is strong and energetic. The partisans of Milosch have long since been excluded from employ and pay. The attention of the Ministry has been now directed to the partisans of Russia. The Governors of Departments known to have such leanings have been dismissed the service, and men of tried political sentiments replace them. At Negotin Mr. Davidovitz, of the Independent and Turkish party, has superseded Mr. Yankovitch, who was suspected of intriguing with General Gortschakoff. It is to be hoped that the ex-Minister Guerachas, lately deposed at the request of Russia, will be replaced at the head of the Servian Ministry, and contributes, by his great influence, to preserve that peace which is essentially necessary to the maintenance of neutrality. It is not difficult, indeed, to divine that Austria would see with pleasure a movement of parties in Servia which should give a pretext for her interference. There is at this moment a corps of 25,000 men encamped at Semlin, opposite Belgrade, under the command of Count Coronini. The Count himself arrived at head-quarters some ten or fifteen days ago, and paid a formal visit to Izzet Pacha at Belgrade. The firman brought by Ethem Pacha, confirming the privileges previously possessed by Servia, had recently been promulgated before an attentive and decorous crowd. It had acted as a counterpoise to the late ukase of the Czar, in which that potentate pretended to confirm what he is pleased to call his protectorate. Count Coronini congratulated the Turkish authorities on the quiet and order which continued to mark the progress of affairs in the Principalities, and laboured to persuade the Pacha that the presence of an Austrian corps at the Gates of Belgrade, was but a matter of precaution, destined to protect Servia, if necessary, from the attacks of Russia. Count Coronini afterwards paid a visit in form to Mr. de Fonblanque, our Consul-General at Belgrade, and then returned to Semlin. Whilst such is the attitude of Austria on the frontier of the Saava, the corps of observation of Temeswar, under the orders of General Schlick, has advanced to the frontiers of Wallachia, and no doubt before long an imposing force will be quartered in Orsova and the neighbourhood, which may become as useful for an attack on Servia as for an advance into the disputed Principalities. In addition to these forces, the Austrians have a corps of observation at, or near Fiume, under the orders of the Ban Jellachich, and another at Mahmula. I have already said what would be the result of a Russian invasion of Servia. I still maintain that it would create a civil war, of which the end is doubtful. Of this, however, there is a certainty—party hostility would cease before the entrance of an Austrian force. Servia once, during a period of twenty years, felt the yoke of Austria. That state has done her best to impede Servian commerce, and stop Servian products in their passage. She has been vexatious and petty. Servia is more averse to her than to any other nation; and the Servians, if let alone, would prove to her most dangerous enemies.

Prince Gortschakoff, in the meanwhile, has not contented himself with efforts to provoke a civil war in Servia. He has lately forced the with efforts to provoke a civil war in Servia. He has lately forced the boyards to raise regiments for the purpose of fighting against the Turks. The Bachi boyard, George Philippesco, received the first-class order of St. Anne from the Emperor, in consequence of his successful efforts in that direction. Perhaps that nobleman will shortly wish he had never received such a mark of favour. He may, however, be saved from the future wrath of the Turks by the intercession of his own son, who is now in Widdin, with other Wallach gentlemen, victims of their desire to give their country a better constitution. It is not now the time perhaps, to give the history of the revolution of Bucharest in 1848. Some of its episodes have been related in previous letters; but when one considers the question of the Danubian Principalities in its political, apart from its religious, point of view, one cannot be persuaded but that the rule of Turkey—now thoroughly roused against Russia—will, if Russia is defeated, be favourable to the development of liberal ideas in Wallachia and Moldavia. The speech which Mr. Cobden made in Manchester, if read by the lights which strike one here, will be found to have been based on ignorance of the political feeling of the mass of the people in Wallachia and Moldavia. The question of these Principalities is no more in reality a question of religious protectorate than the rights and privileges of the Greek and Latin Churches in Turkey are the cause of a declaration of war on the part of the Western Powers. Amongst the grand grievances of the people of Wallachia that of the priesthood is one. Not in England at the time of Henry VIII., not in Naples at the present day, where the benefices of the clergy absorb an enormous mass of the wealth of the country—in no single instance on record can a priesthood be found more swollen, more exclusive, and more anti-national, than the clergy of the Principalities. Strange it is to say, the clergy of those countries are Russian, although they know that, were they incorporated with the poor priests over whom the Czar exercises spiritual rule, they would be instantly deprived of the wealth and independence which, by his help, they hope to maintain. This clergy, acting upon the lowest and most dependent of the class beneath them, spread the notion that the Russians are with the Wallachs and Moldavians, because they are Christian, and desire to protect their brother Christians against the Turks; but, in the name of common sense, when so much is said about "protection," let us hear what it is that threatens, and what is there to protect. If Wallachia and Moldavia had ever been under the dominion of Turkey, as Bulgaria is and Servia was, there might be some reason in a cry for protection. No doubt, in Bulgaria, the ryah requires that their lot should be improved. They are little better than brutes at present—they have at best the cunning which appertains to the fool. They are a degraded population, and it must take some scores of years to educate, and to restore them to consciousness and dignity. But in Wallachia and Moldavia the case is widely different. When the Turks first conquered the Principalities, they respected the political and religious rights of the people. They sought not to impose the religion of Mahomet, nor to debase the religion of Christ—they asked for tribute, and no more. There are no minarets in the towns of Wallachia. There are no Turkish mosques, whose revenues are derived from Christian contributions. The Turks have not even done for themselves there what we do for our establishment in Ireland—make the people of one religion pay for the support of that of the other. The Christian religion is free, and the Wallach and Moldavians not rayahs. For Russia to say, therefore, that she is protector of these people on the plea of religion, is absurd. What Russia came to do in 1848, was to protect the boyards from the effects of a peaceful and liberal revolution, to preserve for the clergy their overgrown privileges and swollen benefices, and to deprive the people of those newly conceded rights which they enjoyed but for a day, namely, freedom from feudal tenures, and from the service of serfs. What Russia came to do at the present juncture, was to keep the Principalities for her own use—she may have the pleasure, and the profit, of spoiling what the Turks certainly never thought of touching—the savings banks of the towns and villages throughout the whole of the country under their occupation. What they might further do, were they successful, it is needless here to describe, though by no means difficult to conceive, or to conjecture. It is sufficient to quote a portion of one of General Gortschakoff's general orders, to prove in what spirit the Russian protection is looked upon by the inhabitants of the Principalities—that which he published lately in Lesser Wallachia, enjoining the troops cantoned there, not to stray more than 1000 yards from their camp, and not to hold any intercourse with, what he calls, perfidious inhabitants.

But, if this were an insufficient proof, others are at hand to show which side the peasants of Wallachia are most likely to espouse. The village of Chupertshin, situate on the Danube, about two miles below Kalafat, has been alternately occupied of late by the Russians and the Turks. It is a place in which the former might find a convenient resting-place from whence to start against the Turks and their intrenchments. The Turks have determined, therefore, to destroy the place. They offered to the inhabitants the alternative of going with their goods and cattle to the Russians, or to Widdin; and the inhabitants determined at once which course to pursue. They were to be seen yesterday moving with a long line of bullock-carts across the bridge that joins the island to the mainland, and bringing with them their furniture, their goods and chattels, to Widdin. The weather was extremely cold; and the dress of the poor Wallachs seemed ill-suited to resist the blast; but they set up their temporary tents, and strengthened them with reeds, whilst they waited for the ships to take them over.

You may have heard of the disgrace of General Anrep, who commanded the division which was routed at Citate. He was taken into custody at Motzatze, and marched to St. Petersburg. It is said he will be sent to the Caucasus.

The news of an army embarking from England for the assistance of the Turks has been received with the utmost rejoicing; the more so as almost all those to whom the probability of such a thing had been hinted, received the intelligence with incredulity. The presence in Turkey of such excellent and highly-disciplined troops as those of England and France, will doubtless have a salutary effect upon the Ottoman forces, and may induce the officers generally, whether commissioned or non-commissioned, to improve their military knowledge, and insist with greater rigour upon the necessity of order and discipline amongst the men whom they command.

Some heavy cannonading has taken place for two or three days past on the Danube. The Russians have erected a small battery of two guns opposite the village of Florentin, where Selim Pacha's troops are quartered. With these they fire at the ships which carry corn and wood for the use of the Turkish soldiers.

General Guyon has received a new appointment. Achmet Pacha, a brave soldier unacquainted with tactics, having been appointed to supersede Abdi Pacha, has himself been replaced by Mustapha Xarif Pacha, in command of the army of Anatolia. General Guyon, who reorganised that army after the departure of Abdi Pachs, is appointed chief of a permanent council of war, which is to direct all offensive and defensive operations.

(Our Correspondent's letter is accompanied by two characteristic Sketches of Wallachian Peasantry.)

RUBINI.

In our Journal of last week we briefly announced the death of Rubini, at Bergamo, the principal town of his native province, where he had lived in retirement ever since he quitted the stage. Rubini was born at Romano, a small town of that province; the date of his nativity is not quite certain, but he is generally said to have been born in the year 1795. Being the son of a professor of music, he acquired at an early age some knowledge of the art. The beauty of his voice induced his father to endeavour to bring him forward on the stage; and, after "roughing" it for some time among the small theatres in the north of Italy, where, if he gained little money, he gained practice and experience, he made his way to the theatre of Pavia. His success there led to engagements at Brescia, Venice, and afterwards at the first-class houses known to fame—several Naples. At this last city he remained three years. Many of his operas were written expressly for him; and, before he was five and-twenty, he was regarded throughout Italy as the first tenor of the day.

Rubini made his first appearance at Paris in 1825. He was then under engagement to Barbaja, the manager of the San Carlo, at Naples. This celebrated *impresario* was in the practice of making engagements for his singers at other theatres, on terms advantageous to himself; and it was on one of these engagements that Rubini appeared at the Paris Italian Opera. His popularity was immense; but Barbaja recalled him at the end of six months. He remained thus bound to Barbaja till the year 1831, during which period he was "farmed out" by the manager, who sent him to Milan, Vienna, and other places, in the same manner as he had been sent to Paris. Of his engagements at that time the lion's share went to Barbaja, who, by these and other means, is said to have amassed an enormous fortune. During that period, however, Rubini reached the summit of his powers and his celebrity. The greatest composers of the day—Bellini and Donizetti—wrote some of their finest operas for him; and the renown of his name spread throughout Europe.

In 1831, when Rubini found himself freed from the fetters of Barbaja, he returned to Paris; and in the same year he appeared for the first time in London. At that time the Théâtre Italien and the King's Theatre (as our Opera-house was then called) were in the same hands—those of Laporte: during whose *regime* the company, after the Paris season, migrated to London, where the season began later. At Paris and London he was received with equal enthusiasm; and, for ten years afterwards, he divided the year between Paris and London, excepting only the year 1838, when he passed the summer at his native place. For several years he was engaged to direct the Imperial Opera of St. Petersburg, where he was in the highest favour with the Court and the aristocracy. In 1842 he visited London for the last time; and, in the same year, he took his leave of the Parisian public; but he retained his situation at St. Petersburg for some years longer. Rubini's professional gains were commensurate with his reputation; and his fortune, at the time of his retirement, has been estimated at £100,000. Since that time he has constantly resided in his native place, enjoying the *otium cum dignitate* in a manner worthy the character of a great artist, maintaining a handsome establishment, and receiving the friends of his former days, who visited him in his retreat, with kind and liberal hospitality.

Rubini was assuredly the most consummate artist of the present century. Those who have heard him only in England cannot estimate from their own observation the full extent of his powers. Though he was under forty when he arrived in this country, his voice had suffered from the wear and tear of his previous brilliant career. Its quality of tone was unequalled, and it retained its marvellous flexibility. But it had no longer the bloom and freshness of youth; and he had lost, in some measure, the power of sustaining a long-drawn note with ease and firmness. To cover this defect he resorted to the device—which the highest degree of art only could render available—of converting his long notes into florid passages, executed with such inimitable clearness, articulation, and finish, that he found means to transform what was really a blemish into a source of the most exquisite beauties. He was little of an actor, in so far as mere acting was concerned; but yet, without acting, he carried dramatic singing to its highest pitch; being able, by his expressive tones and impassioned declamation, to exert a greater power over the feelings of his audience than has been possessed even by the most accomplished of his successors.

EGYPTIANS AT ST. PETERSBURG.—Letters from Alexandria state that the Egyptian officers of the *Sesi-Persons* steamer, who had fallen into the hands of the Russians at Sinope, have been allowed to return home. They have been taken to St. Petersburg by order of the Czar, and were very kindly received by him. He conversed with them for some time through an interpreter; and expressed his regret that he was not at war with Egypt, to see them fighting against Russia. He also replied that the war which his Majesty was waging on Turkey was undertaken not only for Egypt, but for every other country; and that he ought not to be astonished to see their nation in arms against him for so legitimate a cause. The Czar, nevertheless, presented them to the Empress, and then informed them that they were free to return home, on condition of not bearing arms against Russia for the space of one year.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE BALTIC SEA.—Our readers are requested to substitute *Ulesborg* for Archangel, in the sentence which ends with the words, "terminating the Gulf of Bothnia." The writer intended to say that Sir C. Napier "would have done something with notice at all the naval depôts, except Archangel, which, though it has a fleet, is entirely out of the question." Correspondent is thanked for pointing out the inadvertence.

THE SISTERS OF A BRITISH OFFICER should address their letters to Malta.

R. F. S. B., Plymouth.—We have not room for your letter.

A YOUNG ARTIST should apply to an American bookseller.

ZURICH.—We cannot advise you.

W. T. M., Edinburgh.—The Parliamentary Blue-books may be had, by order, of any bookseller; or at the office for the sale of Parliamentary Papers, in Great Turnstile, Holborn.

PHILO-DRAMATICUS.—See the List of Hackney Carriage Fares authorised by the Commissioners of the Metropolitan Police, and published by C. Knight, 90, Fleet-street.

A SUBSCRIBER, Weymouth, should apply to a picture-dealer, who, probably, will expect a fee for such information as our correspondent desires.

X. Y. Z.—The East India Company may grant commissions, but cannot grant honours. Esquire is an honour. The Crown cannot grant its honours indirectly, or through a third party (See Talbot *v.* Eagle, in "Taunton Reports," p. 810). The Lord Lieutenant of Ireland confers honours because he is *loco tipsis Regina*. A Governor of a colony cannot, because he is only agent of, not in place of, the Monarch. Prince Albert holds a Lares as the Queen's agent: but as such he could not make a Peer or a Knight.

AULD LANG SYNE.—The only representative now living of the Grays, Lords of Edmundyn, is Mr. William Gray Cooper, of the city of Dublin, whose grandfather, Captain William Gray, was the last of the name who inherited the estate of Lyndoch, which subsequently gave title to the peerage of the gallant Scottish General Graham.

YOUNG ENGLAND.—The Crest of Palmer of Wingham, Dorney, Parham, and Fernfield, is a demi panther rampt, guardant arg., spotted gu. vert, and ppr. differently, flames issuing from the mouth and ears, holding a palm branch ppr. Other families of Palmer bear different crests.

W. G., Westminster.—The error in the folios of our last Volume (324 being followed by 525) occurred through the Double No. of Dec 24 being printed in Paris.

MIRIM, Peterborough.—We cannot undertake to recommend "the best" makers of musical instruments.

V. C.—Your letters will work principally on the affairs of Siberia may be heard of at an American publisher's. In 1852, the Rev. J. Despard, of Redland, Bristol, was Hon. Sec. to the Patagonian Missionary Society in Terra del Fuego.

A CONSTANT SUBSCRIBER.—A new "Book of Forfeits," and similar games may be had at 80, Fleet-street.

H. J. W.—See Sidney's "Three Colonies of Australia," last edition.

A SUBSCRIBER in Brussels may exchange his name without any legal proceedings: but the Royal authority has to be sought, and can only be obtained upon the showing of sufficient ground for the application.

J. M., Gosport.—Our Abstract of the Census of 1851 will be ready shortly.

J. W., Paddington.—We have not room for the Views.

FRANCES.—Miss Linwood's Needlework Pictures were sold in 1846, the year after her death. The whole number did not realise £1000.

R. Bromley; and S. B., Southport.—We have only noon.

E. K.—Probably the Report of the Meeting of the British Archæologica Association at Rochester, last year, may furnish the information.

S. R. (in a letter, too long for us to print) suggests a plan of employing workhouse girls and boys, dressed in suitable warm clothing; and with capes impervious to rain, to sweep the crossings; each child to have a locked money-box, with a slit in the top, so that the money could be put in, but not by any chance extracted. The magistrates at Brighton have, our Correspondent believes, managed this with regard to boys, and she states that many of the little cripples have thus been enabled to find homes and employment in Australia, or have been apprenticed to trades in England. Our Correspondent appears to be aware of "the vested interests" in street crossers.

VIATOR.—See Black's "Picturesque Tour through England and Wales." We possess no recent Typographical Dictionary of England and Wales that we can recommend. The articles on the English counties, in the "Penny Cyclopædia" are valuable.

MAYO, Castlebar.—The Ordnance Estimates may be had at the Parliamentary paper-office, Great Turnstile, Holborn.

A SUBSCRIBER, Oxford.—To obtain the copy of a will in the Prerogative Will-office, Doctors' Commons, apply to the clerks in the room, and they will state the expense per folio.

T. YOUNG, JUN., Wigtown.—See the shilling "Treatise on the Dog," published by Orr and Co., London.

HARRIET HAMILTON.—We do not remember the quotation.

A CORRESPONDENT.—In Sinope, the accent is upon the second syllable.

S. L., Liverpool.—In Afghanistan, the accent is upon the penultimate syllable. Mr. Cannung, at the time of his death (August 8, 1827), was M.P. for Liverpool.

ST. PAUL'S LORRIMORE, Newington.—We are sorry to hear that this new edition is not to hear completion as we stated a few weeks since, although the building was commenced three years ago. The parish is poor and populous, and the emergency pressing: a Correspondent states that the population of 70,000, with church accommodation for 6000.

J. O., Barnsbury.—Broughton and Broughton Tower are engraved in a series of Views on the Whitehaven and Furness Junction Railway, in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, No. 454.

E. P.—See also Dr. Bassett's Collection of Saxon Antiquities has just been purchased by Mr. Mayer, of Liverpool. We are informed that they will be described in a quarto work by a London antiquary; and then they will probably be added to the Liverpool public Museum.

J. J. E. R.—Application at the Foreign Office will direct you to the proper source of information. The appointments in the corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms are, in most cases, obtained by purchase.

CAPTAIN W.—Arms borne by Bowyer: Gu. a chev. or, between three peacocks arg. Crest: Two hands conjoined in fesse, winged at the wrist.

D. C. L., Newcastle.—Strength'tharn (now Longman), Waterloo place, Pall-mall, London.

J. L. E.—He died Sir Thomas Roughley died and was buried at or near St. Helens, Lancashire, in the year 18—. His sister, Miss Margaret Roughley, survived until the 18—. Her executor, Mr. George Copestake, of Lulland, near Ashbourne, Derbyshire, has in his possession the Roughley arms, crest, and motto, and numerous other family papers.

AN INQUIRER.—Mr. C. Fleming Williams, Cranley, late Lieutenant of the Limburg Dragoons, and relative of the celebrated Madame Malibran, is still living. Madame Malibran's age is unknown in this country previous to her appearance at Drury Lane, last summer, when she made a highly favourable impression by her performance in the Italian and German operas, then given at that theatre. She is a German, but, as a singer, belongs more to the Italian than the German school, her style is uniformly that of an accomplished musician, and her powers, as an actress, are very considerable. A lady's age is a delicate question, and we have to be excused from answering it.—Signor Bettini has appeared at the Royal Italian Opera.

A SUBSCRIBER.—A common law student should be well read in Blackstone, but not a thorough knowledge of the Law of Evidence, and be conversant with Special Pleading.

YERSUN.—Arms of Fairfax: Arg. three bars gemelles gu., over all a lion rampt. sa. Crest: A lion passant guardant sa. (sometimes borne on a pair of maintenance).

J. A.—Write to the East India House, Leadenhall-street.

ANON.—The younger sons of Earls take precedence of Baronets, but Privy Counsellors rank above the younger sons of Viscounts. The younger sons of Dukes, Marquises, and Earls, have higher precedence than the Higher Privy Councillors or Baronets.

STUPPS.—The Queen of Spain had a daughter (the present Princess of the Asturias) living, when the last was born. Her Majesty never had a son.

R. S., Wakefield.—We have not room for the column on "Colliery Accidents."

A CORRESPONDENT (whose name we cannot decipher), Exeter, is thanked for his suggestion, which, however, if carried out, would form a bulky volume.

A CONSTANT SUBSCRIBER.—The line—

> "Men are but children of a larger growth,"

is from Dryden's play of "All for Love," Act IV., Scene 1.

A. R., Haddington.—The oft-quoted lines, commencing,

> "The man that hath no music in himself,"

is from Shakspeare's "Merchant of Venice," Act V., Scene 1.

QUARANTY.—"Quandora" is borne upon the colours of the 90th Light Infantry, in honour of the gallant conduct of the regiment in an action fought in Egypt, near Alexandria, in the vicinity of a village of that name, which occurred during the campaign in which Sir Ralph Abercrombie was killed. For further details we refer "Quandary" to Sir R. Wilson's account of those operations.

R. H. Sussex.—Decimal.

IRIO.—We have received 3s. worth of stamps for Defoe's great-grandson; says our Corre-pondent, "to express your gratitude for the great amusement his ancestor's work gave us in the days of our childhood." The stamps have been forwarded to Mr. C. Knight, 90, Fleet-street.

S. G.—The Earldom of Roscommon is, we believe, extinct.

L. P., Dublin.—The three decker, in p. 2 of the *Windsor Castle*, is now the *Duke of Wellington*, flagship of Admiral Napier in the Baltic.

LANDLEUBER.—No; a frigate is a vessel carrying one row of guns between decks.

GREYBEARD.—We have not room for your long letter.

DECLINED.—J. R.; UNA, Blackheath; S. E. M., Penzance; F. J., Hull.

CAMPBELL.—We cannot advise you.

ARQUIS, Northampton.—Received.

PARDUS, West Country.—Received.

ACETO-NITRATE is thanked.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

No. 676.—VOL. XXIV.] SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 1854. [WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.

DECLARATION OF WAR AGAINST RUSSIA.

THE Emperor of Russia, with a contemptuous insolence, unbecoming his position, though on all hands expected of him, has refused to return any answer to the demand made upon him by Great Britain and France to evacuate the Danubian Principalities. No alternative was therefore left to the Allies but an immediate Declaration of War. On Monday evening a formal Message from her Majesty, announcing the fact, was communicated to both Houses of Parliament. On the same day a similar communication was made by the Emperor Napoleon to the Senate and Legislative Assembly of France. On Tuesday evening a Declaration of War by the British Government against Russia was published in a *Gazette Extraordinary*, which we elsewhere reproduce. With a unanimity which has characterised all the steps taken by Great Britain and France during the momentous negotiations, of which these acts are the close, the French Government simultaneously proclaimed war against the wicked disturber of the peace of the world. The struggle will immediately commence and the most ardent wish, the most sincere prayer of every honest man in the civilised world will be formed for the speedy downfall of the Imperial Barbarian, whose pretensions are an outrage to Europe, and an insult to the right feeling and common sense of mankind.

The document in which her Britannic Majesty announces to her subjects the commencement of the war, and the reasons which have rendered it imperative, is a concise, lucid, and dignified exposition. Every assertion which it makes is an incontestable truth, stated in the plainest terms. There is scarcely a paragraph in it which does not convict the Emperor Nicholas of wilful falsehood and deception. If any sense of shame were left in his conscience, his cheeks would glow, and his ears would tingle, at so merciless and yet so temperate an exposure of his hypocrisy. But reason and morality have no influence over minds that have been hardened by selfishness and cupidity. It is material and not moral force that can restrain such evil doers as the Czar. To material force he was the first to resort; and, until his pride shall be humbled, and his ambition not only restrained, but punished, the material arguments of fleets and armies, and all the artillery of destruction, will be the only arguments which he can understand, or which the Allies will employ.

It would be undignified, and it might be unwise, to enter upon the war in a spirit of boastfulness. Yet, while no such sentiment fills the minds of the British people in this solemn crisis of their history, they display a just reliance in the holiness of their cause. Justice and Duty invariably give strength to the arms of those who do battle at their bidding. The confident cheerfulness with which the British people of all ranks and classes enter upon the conflict, and with which they are prepared to support all the burdens and sacrifices which it may impose, is an augury of victory. On looking back to the history of every previous war in which this country has been engaged, we find none of which the causes have been so clear, and the justification so triumphant. Neither do we find any in which the national energies have been so great and our alliances so splendid. In such a war, it is impossible not to feel more than usually hopeful of success. That France and England—without *arrière pensée* of any kind, with the utmost simplicity and singleness of purpose, without any intentions of self-aggrandisement, and solely with the object of defending the right against the wrong, the weak against the powerful, the public law of Europe against an Imperial robber, and the great cause of independence and civilisation against slavery and barbarism—should join their hands, forgetful of all their past animosities, is a spectacle which does honour to our age. It makes the heart of every true Englishman throb with enthusiasm. The same generous ardour, we may be certain, inspires the gallant French people, from the Emperor down to the humblest soldier of his armies. It is almost worth the cost and misery of a British war against Russia, to know that it will render impossible, for ages to come, a British war against France. The benefits to humanity which may flow from the lasting friendship of two such nations it is scarcely possible for the most sanguine to over-calculate. There was once an alliance of the nations that was designated as the "Holy." Opinions differ as to the correctness of the epithet in that case. None but Russians will deny its correctness when applied to the alliance which France and Great Britain have contracted. They will cement it by generous emulation, and by mutual sacrifices, in days of difficulty and peril. The glory acquired in such a cause will be more splendid than any, however dazzling, which they might have gained in selfish struggles for territory or dominion.

The advisers of her Majesty have done wisely to record that, throughout the whole of the negotiations now brought to a close, the Governments of Austria and Prussia supported the proposals for peace, which were tendered by France and Great Britain. The two great German Powers may be excused for having taken a longer time for reflection than the Western Allies. Their proximity to Russia, and the personal relations of their Sovereigns with the Czar, were natural causes for some degree of anxiety and hesitation. But the day for hesitation has passed. Situated as they are, they cannot remain neutral, however greatly they may desire to do so. Their neutrality is not only a dereliction of duty, but an abdication of their position in Europe. Inevitable necessity will compel them to take their side To ally themselves with Russia would be no gain to either. Such a fatal resolution might protract the war, but it would not prevent that certain catastrophe—the defeat and humiliation of their friend and confederate. It is for them to consider whether his defeat and punishment would not include theirs. But we cannot believe that those Sovereigns will allow any personal feelings to influence them. The great

STREET SCENE IN CONSTANTINOPLE.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

nations which they govern are not ignorant and degraded serfs. They are Germans, not Russians. They have no Russian sympathies; and they abhor the knout, as much in the persons of those who administer, as in those who patiently submit to it. Although not so free as they deserve and aspire to become, public opinion is sufficiently strong and enlightened among them to compel their Sovereigns to follow in the rightful course, unless, by despising it, they choose to risk the chances of Revolution. Every circumstance tends to show that the heart of the German people beats in unison with France and England. In spite of all present indications to the contrary, we therefore cling to the belief that the alliance of the Austrian and Prussian Sovereigns with the civilised Powers of Europe did not terminate with the negotiations. They have done nothing as yet to forfeit the good opinion of right-minded men, and we will not do them the injustice of considering them so pusillanimous as only to give a rightful cause the support of their words, and to withdraw it as soon as action becomes a point of honour. It is possible, though not probable, that, as individuals, they may feel inclined to play this part. But we will not accuse them of it. Its danger would be sufficient to deter them, if higher incentives were wanting. We have faith in the influence which the sentiment of their people must exercise over their councils. The savage Russians may believe that the Czar is right, and that his policy is just—but the Germans know better.

Little importance need be attached to the opposition which the Ulemas and Muftis of Constantinople have raised against the firman which the Sultan, by the advice of his Allies, has consented to issue. The firman does not, as was at one time supposed, concede to the Christian powers of Europe the same right to interfere in the domestic concerns of the Ottoman Empire, as was demanded by Prince Menschikoff. But it extends civil liberty to all the Christian subjects of the Sultan, gives them the right to offer evidence in the Moslem Courts of Law and to hold land; while it abolishes the Capitation-tax—an imposition that was felt to be degrading—and assimilates the personal contributions of Christians towards the necessities of the State to those demanded from their Mahometan fellow-citizens. In Turkey, as everywhere else, there is a party of Stagnation as well of Movement. This party, fanatically opposed to all reform, finds its representatives among the Ulemas and Muftis, and bases its opposition upon the Koran. But it is not all-powerful in the State; and, having entered its protest to relieve its conscience, will leave the control of affairs to that overpowering Necessity to which it is part of the creed of devout Mussulmans to yield. Fate is Law with the orthodox of Islam; and, like our own House of Lords in 1832, when they saw that Reform was inevitable, or in 1846, when they found it impossible to carry on a struggle to uphold the Corn-laws, the Ulemas and Muftis will yield at the fitting moment, and allow the State to be governed by the more competent and practical men who have assumed its guidance, and whose councils alone can save it.

The die is cast. May the war be short, but decisive! May permanent good to Europe flow from the transitory evil! May peace be rendered more secure by its temporary interruption! May retribution speedily fall upon the head of the guilty man who is the sole cause of this great calamity!—such are the fervent aspirations which naturally arise in all hearts at a moment like this. With pious reliance upon the justice of their cause, the British people enter cheerfully into the contest. They do not, like the Czar, invoke the God of Battles to aid them in pillage and in murder. They invoke His Holy Name in support of His holy precepts, and abide the issue with confident reliance upon His over-ruling wisdom. Inspired by such feelings, they may have some anxieties, but they can have no fears for the result.

STREET SCENE IN CONSTANTINOPLE.

THE scene upon the preceding page is street life in Constantinople. Close to where the kerb stone would be, if kerb-stone there were, stands our cobbler's stall. But no margin for the convenience or safety of foot-passengers runs between the houses, shops, stalls, and other fixtures, and the rolling tide of the street. Great cities have their physiognomy as well as individuals; and engravings, pictures, and sketches, into which human action enters as a main element, furnish to the distant reader a peculiar source of information, very different from that derived from statistics, but without which statistical knowledge is, after all, but an unpractical guide. Men of business never think that they understand a man because they may have heard his story up to that moment, and may even have verified by documentary evidence—they want next to see the individual. Yet they would be puzzled to specify what precise additional facts the person's general appearance can reveal. In fact, more than one half of the impressions which govern the proceedings of life defy analysis, and almost elude description. And so with countries, races, and centres of authority or resort. Those who read that a people called the Turks had settled in a very fertile land—one of the spontaneous gardens of nature, amid a thick cluster of commercial nations, with a vast and profitable sea-board, and that this people—these Turks—had made nothing out of so many advantages,—that the land was languishing and the sea idle around them: those who read such facts have a sort of negative knowledge about these Asiatic conquerors. But if they then see the Turks, or even but study lively representations of them as they act, move, and look, in the habits and usual current of their daily existence, that which was but the *eidolon* and skeleton of an idea puts on flesh and blood, and a species of abstract knowledge becomes vivid, realised, and practical information.

There they are, without the tricks and changes of an extraordinary occasion; there they are, as they appear diurnally; no exaggeration in any point, favourable or adverse; it is after nature, a common, a characteristic scene, and a fair study (to recur to our metapor) of national physiognomy. In the distance a couple of lounging men gossipping at the street corner, one wearing the tarboush, the other the turban, both fine-looking, lazy creatures; a crowd of white specires, all sheet except the black staring eyes, and a bit of the sallow nose—women who may see, but must not be seen—counting for very little—having no souls, at least none that are immortal, in the opinion of their lords—moveable property, worth what it may fetch at market, no more; a common man with a basket on his head; a rather Calmuck-faced young Turk, shouldering his way, he also wearing the more convenient tarboush, instead of the once universal turban; and, finally, the cobbler and the group around him, with a specimen of not the least remarkable class in Constantinople, the street-porters, passing at a swing-trot under a heavy load.

Wherever these stalls are pitched—whether they be the workshops of a cobbler, or the little repertories of the scent-seller and druggist, or anything else—they are centres round which all idlers assemble to stare, rather than to talk. Staring and smoking are the most approved style of conversation among these lounging street-groups of Stamboul. To stare and smoke in company—that is life, that is society. Our shoemaker and slipper-mender by no means kills himself with hard work. He does not look like a man who would do so. He is glad to have gazers about him, even though there be not a purchaser among them all. His nargilly is beside him; and, without breaking silence, he will put down his work, and pay his sociable attendants a compliment of good-fellowship, by taking a smoke himself.

Even the unkempt-looking porter, who is hurrying with the luggage of evidently a western traveller to some hotel, carries a cherry-stick pipe stuck dagger-wise in his girdle. These carriers are the Gallegos of Constantinople. They belong to one race, who live in the interior of the country. They leave their wives spinning and working at home, and migrate for some five or six years to the capital, where they accumulate a little money, by doing all the hard work of the streets, of which they virtually secure an associated monopoly. It is a curious and honourable thing in the East, when these poor fellows return to their homes, they invariably find their Penelopes true and industrious, and with a like purse saved. They then often set up a small farm; some of them finally emerging into the condition of petty flock-masters.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

The departure of the Prince Napoleon is now, it seems, definitively fixed for the 8th April, on board the *Roland*. The Prince gave last week a grand *déjeûne* to his staff and a large number of his private friends, in the tent which he is to take for his private use in the expedition, and which was for this occasion pitched in the Champs Elysées. A splendid fête is preparing at Marseilles for his reception and that of the Duke of Cambridge.

Notwithstanding the prospects of war, the Mi-Carême has been prodigal of fêtes. On Thursday last no less than 634 public balls took place, to say nothing of the private receptions given throughout the capital. At the Court fête in honour of the marriage of the young Prince Murat (who is only nineteen, and two years the junior of his bride) and Mdlle. Berthier, Princesse de Wagram. The youthful couple were not present at the ball, having started for their honeymoon trip, *à l'Anglaise*—a fashion gradually becoming adopted here—in the afternoon. The ball, though not a ceremonious one, was very numerously attended. There was no official quadrille. The Empress opened the ball with M Oscar Lédsine, ex-attaché of the Embassy of France at Madrid; she afterwards waltzed with M. de Castelbajac, son of the late Minister of France in Russia. The Emperor retired as early as half-past eleven; but the Empress remained till one o'clock.

The Horticultural Society of Toulouse has composed a bouquet for the Empress, containing 10,000 violets and 300 camellias, and of which the diameter is upwards of three-quarters of a yard, and the height somewhat more than a yard. The centre is a dome of violets, surrounded by a circle of camellias; the whole surmounted by a crown. On the dome appear the initials of her Imperial Majesty in orange blossom and white *pequerettes*.

On Thursday last took place, at the *Salle Herz*, probably the finest and best-attended concert of the season, in favour of the charity of *Les Amis de l'Enfance*. The lady-patronesses ranked among the first families of the French nobility and aristocracy; and the names of Battaille, Roger, Levasseur, Samson, Cruvelli, &c., among the artists, answer for the merit of the performance, which, independent of the concert, included the representation of a charming little *proverbe* by Madame Berton, daughter of Samson, of the Théâtre Français, and wife of the successor of Bressant at the Gymnase, who has obtained so brilliant a success in "Diana de Lys."

It is the intention of the Emperor to pass a portion of the summer months at the Elysée, which he has not inhabited since the days of his Presidency; though that palace, from its position, and the advantage of its large private garden, has always been a favourite residence of his. The works of improvement and enlargement for some time going on at the Elysée are ordered to be executed with all possible despatch, so that it may be ready for his Majesty's reception in the spring.

The Emperor and Empress dined with the Prince Jerome on the occasion of the 20th of March, and other banquets took place in honour of the same anniversary.

The chiefs of the old Napoleon party are endeavouring to organise a grand democratic ball at the Jardin d'Hiver, for the 20th of April, the birthday of the Emperor Napoleon I.

A rumour states that measures are to be adopted to examine into the validity of all heraldic titles borne in society, and also to adopt yet more stringent measures than those at present in force, with regard to the wearing of foreign decorations. We suspect the result of such proceedings, if carried out, will reduce the number of *soi-disant* nobility and *hommes décorés* to a very considerable extent.

The Spanish General, Prim, has attached himself as a volunteer to the staff of the Prince Napoleon. An incident attending the departure of the vanguard of the French army from Marseilles is worthy of remark, as being significative of the real sentiments of some of the powers which remain neuter in the question of the war. Not only did the English trading-vessels, as was natural, hoist all their flags, but those of the Dutch, Swedish, and Danish nations displayed a similar demonstration.

The Marquis de Turgot, so unjustly compromised in the absurd quarrels of MM. Soulé, *père et fils*, at Madrid, has, we regret to say, suffered most severely from the result, being compelled to resign his diplomatic functions, and attend solely to the cure of the painful and severe wound received on the occasion of his duel with the Minister of the United States.

Last week the Emperor, visiting the works of the Louvre, took a hammer from one of the workmen, and amused himself for some time in cutting the stone on which he had been engaged. In returning the instrument, he accompanied it with some gold pieces.

A new work is about to appear from the clever pen of M. Jule Lecomte, entitled "Memoires du Temps." No doubt can exist as to the talent and wit of the writer, and the amusement the work in question will furnish, but it is to be hoped that on this occasion M. Lecomte will pay more attention to veracity, and exercise more delicacy and discretion in the details of events and characters than he has displayed on some former occasions—witness his "Voyage de désagrémens à Londres," and certain other productions, where he chronicles, as from his own proper knowledge and experience, events, circumstances, and conversations which never occurred, coupling them with the names of well-known characters in society, in a most offensive manner. A new journal, entitled *La Table Parlante*, treating solely of occult sciences, is advertised to appear the beginning of next month.

The Porte St. Martin has a considerable success with a piece by MM. Anicet, Bourgeois, and Théodore Barrière, entitled "La Vie d'une Comédienne," in which Madame Guyon plays an admirable *rôle*. The Odéon has a little piece called "La Laquais d'Arthur," which, notwithstanding the improbability, not to say impossibility, of the plot, is so brilliantly written, as to obtain a considerable degree of well-merited applause. "La Promise," with Madame Marie Cabel, continues to be one of the favourite spectacles of the season.

THE FRENCH PREPARATIONS.

The remainder of the 6th regiment of Infantry marched into Toulon on Saturday last, at twelve o'clock, the Colonel and two Majors at their head, and their splendid band playing the well-known air, "Partant pour la Syrie." The men looked as fresh as if they had only marched out of their late barracks in Paris, and were evidently much elated on arriving at their place of embarkation for foreign service. There are now 6000 infantry at Toulon, under orders for the Dardanelles; and as there are ships of war more than sufficient to receive them ready in the harbour, a movement is shortly probable. This number would be increased by the arrival of the 5th battalion of Chasseurs of Vincennes, which was daily expected.

A contract is said to have been entered into with the French Government for the transport of 2400 English horses by the Lyons railroad.

THE FRENCH DECLARATION OF WAR.

On Monday the French Minister of State read to the Corps Legislatif, in the name of the Emperor, a Message announcing that the final resolve of the Cabinet of St. Petersburg had placed Russia in a state of war as regards France. The following is a report of the proceedings, given by the *Moniteur*:—

The Minister of State, introduced with the usual ceremony, and, in the name of the Emperor, read to the Chamber the following Message:—

"Messieurs les Députés,—The Government of the Emperor and that of her British Majesty had declared to the Cabinet of St. Petersburg that, if the difference with the Sublime Porte was not replaced in a purely diplomatic position, in the same way as if the evacuation of the Principalities of Moldavia and Wallachia was not commenced immediately, and terminated by a given day, they would see themselves forced to consider a negative reply or silence as a declaration of war. The Cabinet of St. Petersburg having decided not to reply to the communication thus made, the Emperor charges me to inform you of that determination, which places Russia with respect to us in a state of war, the whole responsibility of which appertains to that Power."

The moment the hon. Minister concluded, the loudest acclamations arose from every part of the Chamber. The President then rose, and, after having formally acknowledged the reception of the Message just delivered, said—

"The Emperor may reckon on the unanimous co-operation of the Legislative Body, as on that of the whole of France."

Fresh acclamations greeted the assurance thus given by the hon. President. The proceedings then terminated, amidst reiterated cries of "Vive l'Empereur!"

At three o'clock the Minister proceeded to the Senate to make the same declaration. It was greeted there, as in the Legislative Chamber, by a unanimous assent, and with the loudest acclamations. The President then said:—

"The Senate gives a formal acknowledgment to the minister of State of the communication which he has just made in the name of the Government, and which it has listened to with a profound sentiment of the most entire and most devoted co-operation. I think I express the unanimous feeling of the Senate in adding, that it confides fully in the Emperor, who will know how to conduct the war with the ability and energy which have so eminently distinguished the negotiations. The unanimous decision of his Excellency the Minister of State shall be inserted in the minutes of our proceedings, and the original shall be deposited in the archives."

The Senate hailed these words of the President with unanimous cries of "Vive l'Empereur!"

The *Moniteur* of Tuesday publishes a declaration granting the space of six weeks, dating from that day, to Russian trading vessels to leave French ports. Russian trading vessels now in those ports, or which, having left Russian ports before the declaration of war, shall enter French ports, may enter and complete their cargoes up to the 9th of May inclusively.

Such of those ships as may be captured by French cruisers, after having left the ports of the Empire, will be allowed to go free, if they can prove by their papers on board that they were making direct for their port of destination, and had not been, at the time, able to reach it.

The Minister of Commerce has informed the various Chambers of Commerce throughout France that letters of marque will not be granted to American vessels, and that the Federal Government has declared to the French Minister that acts so contrary to the rights of nations will not be tolerated in the territory of the Union.

Russian subjects who may choose to reside on French soil, under the protection which the law extends to every foreigner, have been informed that they are at liberty to do so, so long as they, on their part, respect the law.

It is believed that, notwithstanding the order issued by the Emperor Nicholas, recalling to their own country the Russians residing in France, there are still a considerable number in Paris, who, not having property to be confiscated in Russia will not leave France, in which they in some sort consider themselves natives. The last Russian Consul, M. d'Ebeling, left Paris a few days ago.

THE ALLIED FORCES AT MALTA.

On the evening of the 23rd ult. (last Thursday week) a little before dusk, the *Christophe Colomb*, French Government steamer, having on board Lieutenant-General Canrobert, Lieutenant-General Bosquet, Lieutenant-General Martinprey, forty-five officers, 800 soldiers, and forty horses, and with the French transport *Mistral*, with twenty seven soldiers and forty horses, in tow, hove in sight, and ran into the grand harbour of Valetta, about six o'clock. As she passed St. Elmo, the artillerymen and men of the 3rd Rifle Regiment manned the walls, and gave a thundering round of cheers, which were returned by their gallant allies. The French soldiers, indeed, continued cheering all the time the vessels proceeded up the harbour whenever a boat with a red coat in it came in sight, and seemed in excellent spirits. These vessels left Marseilles on the 19th, and conveyed the first portion of the French contingent. It was said that at least one steamer would arrive in Valetta on each alternate day till the whole force had passed. General Canrobert, so well known as one of the most dashing and energetic leaders of the *armée d'Afrique*, landed in the course of the evening, and was received by the authorities with all the respect due to his rank and mission. His Excellency, the Governor, invited the general officers to his box at the Opera, where they appeared in full uniform, and were the object of much observation.

The English troops, who number altogether about 11,000, are in excellent health and spirits, and the conduct of every one, and especially that of the Guards, is most exemplary. Notwithstanding the increased force, and the many temptations which the low prices of wines and ardent spirits offer for falling into excesses, not a single charge against the military has appeared on the police-sheet, and the natives continue to fraternise with the new-comers in the most friendly spirit possible.

The commissariat department have been somewhat puzzled to find provisions and accommodation for so great an influx of troops; but, according to all accounts, the officers charged with that branch of the service have done the best that, under the circumstances, could be done.

Since the return of the courier from St. Petersburg, orders have been sent for the immediate despatch of a portion of the troops now at Malta to a point on the Turkish coast, and all the British force will have reached its destination as soon as the time arrives for commencing operations on a large scale with advantage. At present the swampy condition of the low grounds near the Danube would not only tell greatly against the troops in a sanitary point of view, but would render military operations almost impossible.

TRANSIT OF ENGLISH TROOPS THROUGH FRANCE.

It is now decided that both brigades of cavalry destined for service in Turkey will proceed to the East via France. They will be conveyed by steam-boat and railway to Paris, and thence by railway so far as Chalons, then down the Rhone by steam-boat to Lyons and Avignon, from Avignon to Marseilles by railway. The distances are as follow:—

From London to Dover	.. .. ..	88 miles
Dover to Calais	.. .. ..	25 "
To Paris	.. .. ..	222 "
To Chalons	.. .. ..	238 "
To Avignon	.. .. ..	217 "
To Marseilles	.. .. ..	75 "
Total	.. ..	875 "

The British troops will have a grand reception at Paris, *en route*.

THE IONIAN ISLANDS.

The Ionian Parliament was prorogued on the 16th ult. to that day month. A message from the Lord High Commissioner, addressed to the President of the Legislative Assembly, explains the motive which has led to this step, stating that an address was now lying upon the table of that body for further consideration, containing allusions to foreign politics, with which the Assembly has constitutionally no right to interfere. "This address," says the Lord High Commissioner, "is to be read to me as a representative of the Queen, in a public sitting. If I receive it in silence, I shall be considered as concurring in its spirit. If I oppose it—and I can only do so by reiterating the advice already given in the name of her Majesty, against any participation in the movements of Epirus (with the assurance, however, that her Majesty, together with her allies, will exercise her influence to secure a stable and satisfactory position to the Christian subjects of the Porte, and to place their rights under the guarantee of Europe)—I shall find myself in collision with the Assembly, in a matter relating to questions of much delicacy, which will be constantly arising under different forms."

PASSAGE OF THE DANUBE BY THE RUSSIAN ARMY.

The news of the crossing of the Danube by 30,000 Russians at Gedshid is confirmed, and later despatches speak of the main body of the Russian army under General Lüders having also crossed at Galatz. The reports are very confused, but they all unite in stating that the Russians are in great force in Bulgaria, where they have been actively engaged, lately, in efforts to get up an insurrection. According to one account, 18,000 Russians crossed the Danube from Braila to Gedshid, on the 23rd ult. without meeting with any resistance from the Turks. Another despatch makes the number 35,000. The fact of the Turks not having opposed them is easily explained. Omer Pacha is said to be anxious to tempt the Russians forward, now that he can rely upon the assistance of France and England. In a despatch from him, which appeared in the *Journal de Constantinople* of the 14th ult., he says:—

We have now a force of 30,000 men, with 96 heavy guns and field-pieces, at Kniafat and Widdin. Although the Russians from sure information, have 50,000 men in Little Wallachia, they have, it is that, lost all desire of attacking Kalafat, and purpose crossing the Danube at other points. If they should really do so, they would render me a great service, by enabling me to give a sound chastisement to these barbarians, who have broken into our house like robbers. But if the Russians do not resume the offensive, I shall undertake nothing important until the arrival of our reserves now on their march; and the season being not very favourable, I shall await the reinforcements of cavalry. Besides that, I shall have the advantage of being able to employ the time that will remain to us until operations on a greater scale be possible, to teach my troops, by combats in detail, how to beat the Russians, thus raising and maintaining their confidence; while, on the other hand, the demoralisation is now at work, that in the Russian army will not fail to increase.

The whole Turkish army of Bulgaria, or very nearly, is now *en echelon* along the line of the Danube: 80,000 men are at their extreme left at Kalafat, 50,000 at the extreme right, between Schumla and Pravlitza. The intermediate space is occupied by the fortresses of Rustchuck and Silistria; each of these has a garrison of about 8000 men. The Russians having passed the Danube much lower down, towards Silistria or Matschin, they will most probably reinforce themselves from the corps now round Kalafat; and in that case the Turks will doubtless take the field in Little Wallachia, and not upon their flank and rear. The last computation of the total Russian forces which have entered the Principalities is as follows:—Infantry, 110,000; cavalry, 12,000: Cossacks, 10,000; and the proportionate amount of artillery; or, at the utmost, 150,000 men in all: and deducting 35,000 for killed, wounded, sick, and dead, they have not above 110,000 to 115,000 ready to take the field. 20,000 more may, as it is reported, be in Bessarabia. The *effective* strength of the Turkish army is calculated at 117,000 men. The proportion of cavalry is doubtless in favour of the Russians.

THE RUSSIAN FLEET IN THE BLACK SEA.

The last accounts from Constantinople speak of a Russian naval division, composed of six sail of the line and five steamers, having been seen along the coast of Circassia. The Porte was in great anxiety, apprehending that an attack on Batoum and Chefkeeli is intended. The above news had been communicated to the Admirals, and one English and one French steamer were sent to cruise along the coast, which is hardly enough, in the event of their encountering the Russian fleet. Another despatch states that the *Sampson* had returned from her cruise, with information that the Russians were abandoning their forts on the east coast of the Black Sea. Souchum-Kaleh was in flames, and the Circassians were plundering it. The *Furious* was left to gather further information. The vessels sent to ascertain the state of the Sulina channel of the Danube report that it is impassable.

THE GREEK INSURRECTION.

The *Trieste Gazette* publishes reports from Athens, which if true would imply that the Greek Government, army, and people, had joined the insurrection. Besides the General Inspector Zavellas, who has assumed the command of the insurgents, General Hadji Petros, and Lord Marshal Colocotroni, the ex-Minister Zaco Milio, Coumousi, the Vice-President of the Chamber of Deputies, and several hundred notables, are said to have joined their ranks. The Queen, too, takes the most lively interest in the anti-Turkish movement, and it is considered *bon ton* to eulogise Russia, and rail at Turkey.

A letter from the Piræus, of the 17th ult., mentions the expected arrival of two Envoys Extraordinary from France and England with the last propositions of those Powers to the Greek Government. It is stated that King Otho will leave Athens and proceed to the Morea, in order not to receive these diplomatists. The Greek Government only exists by name in the provinces. No one pays any taxes; and when the collector arrives, the taxpayer is found wanting in arms, and he replies to the demand of this functionary by saying, "What do you come for? We have given everything to the insurrection, and we are preparing to join it."

ASSASSINATION OF THE DUKE OF PARMA.

On Sunday last, at six o'clock in the evening, the Duke of Parma was stabbed by a man whom he had marcelled with in a wine shop, and died on the following day. The Duchess of Parma has assumed the Regency during the minority of the young Duke Robert, born July 9th, 1848. The Duchess is the only sister of the Bourbon pretender to the crown of France. The Ministry of Parma is dissolved, and the Englishman, Baron Thomas Ward, has received orders to quit the country and never to return to it.

UNITED STATES.

By the steam-ship *Nashville*, which left New York on the 14th March, and the *Arctic*, which left on the 18th ult., we have letters and papers to the latter date. The seizure of the steam-ship *Black Warrior* by the Cuban authorities had been the cause of a protracted session of Congress. It was understood that the President would transmit to Congress a strong message relative to the affair, accompanied with numerous documents connected with this and other recent infractions of Spanish perfidy, as soon as the papers could be properly arranged. The Secretary of the Navy had transmitted a message to the House of Representatives, in reply to the resolution of inquiry relative to the adaptability of the various mail steamers to war purposes in case of emergency.

THE OVERLAND MAIL.

The *Bombay* steamer arrived at Trieste on the 25th ult., with the Indian Mail. The usual despatches, in anticipation of it, were received here on Wednesday. The political intelligence is of no moment.

Burmah continues to be invested with doubts, and the district of Bassein is particularly disturbed by them. There seems no doubt that this system of deceity, which is almost identical with guerilla warfare, has been substituted for active operations by the Court at Ava, who have been induced to adopt it by the recommendation of Captain (now General) D'Orgeuil, the French officer who has recently been drilling the Burmese troops. That is now at an end, however, as the General is on his way to Paris, where his presence is demanded by the French Government, to answer certain charges preferred against him by the British Minister.

In Persia, as far as is known, matters continue tranquil; but Government vigilantly guards against any information being promulgated. On the 16th of February the Hon. Company's steamer *Ackbar* sailed for the Gulf with sealed orders. Prior to her departure she took in all her stores and ammunition, and mounted all her heavy guns. A small detachment of European artillery also proceeded on board of her.

The news from China is not of much importance. The rebels are still in possession of Shanghae, and the rebel army is wintering at Foch Lin, 100 miles from Pekin.

AUSTRALIA.

News was received from Melbourne on Tuesday by means of the Overland Mail and the telegraph from Trieste, in fifty-five days. This is the quickest despatch from Australia on record, and since that powerful steamers, placed on the line between Ceylon and Australia, will make the Overland route the best. The news thus received is forty-nine days later from Sydney than that on Monday last, by the *Sydney* steamer, forty-four days later from Melbourne, and forty-three from Adelaide.

The Melbourne papers state that no striking event had taken since the departure of the previous mail. Mercantile affairs were rather dull, but the general condition of the country was said to be quite as favourable and encouraging as it had been at any former period.

The Constitution Act for New South Wales has passed through committee, and had been read a third time on the 21st of December. The plan of a nominee Upper House for life had been modified to one appointed by the Crown for five years. The Council was prorogued on the 22nd of December till the 7th of February.

RUSSIAN CARGOES.

The following important dispatch has just been received from Lord Clarendon, in further reply to the representations of the parties interested in cargoes of Russian produce:—

Foreign Office, March 25, 1854.

Sir,—I am directed by the Earl of Clarendon to state to you that since his Lordship had the pleasure of seeing, on the 20th instant, the deputation of merchants connected with the trade with Russia, his Lordship has further considered the question put to him by the deputation, whether Russian produce brought over the frontier by land to Prussian ports and shipped from thence by British or neutral vessels, will be subject to seizure by her Majesty's cruisers, and to subsequent confiscation in the High Court of Admiralty.

Lord Clarendon conceives that the question will turn upon the true ownership of, or the interest or destination, and the destination of, the property which may be seized or captured, and that neither the place of its origin nor the manner of its coming into the port from whence it was shipped will be decisive, or even in most cases of any real importance.

Such property, if shipped as neutral, or after it has become *bond fide* neutral property, will not be liable to condemnation, whatever may be its destination. If it should still remain enemy's property, notwithstanding it is shipped from a neutral port, and in a neutral ship, it will be condemned, whatever may be its destination. If it be British property, or shipped at British risk, or on British account, it will be condemned if it is proved to be really engaged in a trade with the enemy, but not otherwise. The place of its origin will be immaterial; and if there has been a *bond fide* and complete transfer of ownership to a neutral (as by purchase in the neutral market), the goods will not be liable to condemnation, notwithstanding they may have come to that neutral market from the enemy's country, either overland or by sea.

Lord Clarendon has, however, to observe that circumstances of reasonable suspicion will justify capture, although release and not condemnation may follow; and that the ships with cargoes of Russian produce may not improbably be considered, under certain circumstances, as liable to capture, even though not liable to condemnation.

I am, Sir, your most obedient, humble servant,
(Signed) H. U. ADDINGTON.

THE BRITISH FLEET IN THE BALTIC.

The fleet of Sir Charles Napier is again under way. If the latest reports may be relied on, the first point of attack will be the island of Aland. The *on dit* is the fleet shall first batter an officer high in command ventured, in a conference with Sir Charles Napier, to argue against attacking Aland, saying that great carnage must occur in such an attack by ships without troops, there being about 7000 Russian soldiers in garrison on the island. The answer of Admiral Napier is stated to have been characteristic—"If you think so you had better go home again." The impression in the fleet is that Aland will be the scene of their first operations.

It is stated that the Russian squadron has left Revel, but it is not known where they have gone. The current opinion in Stockholm is that the Russians will not meet Sir C. Napier's fleet. It is added that the Russian force of shipping is much over-rated.

All the crews of the ships go to general quarters daily, and are practised at the great gun exercise in firing at targets and in ricochetting at any small rocks or islands they may be near.

THE FLEET IN BEICOS BAY.

The telegraphic despatch from Vienna, received yesterday, confirms the former report regarding the peaceful attitude of the fleet in Beicos Bay.

Five Russian steamers, with large vessels in tow, containing 4000 troops, have left Sebastopol. The united fleets are still at Beicos, where they are detained by want of coal.

THE AUSTRIAN ARMED NEUTRALITY.

The news from Vienna yesterday was that an Imperial manifesto may be expected, in which it will be stated that Austria, though she disapproves of the steps which Russia is taking, is resolved to remain neutral, with the rest of Germany. "A German army of 400,000 men will make that neutrality respected on all sides." Baron Meyerndorf has been informed that Russia has nothing to expect from Austria except strict neutrality.

THE GREEK INSURRECTION.

The news from Greece is of a very confused story description, so far as it relates to the state and prospects of the insurrection, some accounts speaking of it as most formidable, and others as nearly burnt out. A letter from a correspondent of the *Press*, dated Athens, March 17, uses very strong language, and hints at strong measures. He affirms that Athens and the whole of Greece are at this moment nothing but a Russian prefecture. Nothing, he says, is to be expected from the good will of the Greek Government; and unless the Western Powers immediately take in hand, conjointly with Turkey, the repression of the insurrection, the most serious consequences may be apprehended. They must not be content with the momentary restoration of tranquillity, but must resolutely assume the protection of Greece.

THE COURT.

On Sunday last, her Majesty and the Prince Consort, with the Duchess of Kent and the youthful members of the Royal family, attended divine service in the private chapel at Buckingham Palace. The Hon. and Rev. Gerald Wellesley read the prayers, and the Rev. N. Nowarth preached the sermon.

On Monday Mr. Crowley had the honour of submitting to her Majesty his portrait of his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge. In the evening the Queen and her Royal Highness honoured the Olympic Theatre with their presence.

On Tuesday the Queen and the Prince Consort visited the Duchess of Gloucester at Gloucester House. In the evening her Majesty had a dinner party, the company at which included the Duchess of Kent, the Archbishop of York, and the Hon. Mrs. Musgrave the Duke of Newcastle the Marquis of Cholmondeley, the Earl of Cardigan, Lord and Lady John Russell, the Right Hon. T. B. Macaulay, Brigadier-General Pennefather, Brigadier-General Hon. C. Grey, and Count Henkel.

THE PRIVY COUNCIL, &c.

The Queen held a Court and Privy Council on Wednesday afternoon at Buckingham Palace. At the Court, her Royal Highness the Donna Anna of Portugal, great aunt of her Majesty the King of Portugal, was presented to her Majesty, at an audience, by the Earl of Clarendon, K.G., her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. At the Council, proclamations were ordered to be issued respecting prizes of war, and Orders in Council were passed giving directions and instructions to her Majesty's Courts of Admiralty.

THE QUEEN'S DRAWINGROOM.

The Queen held a Drawingroom (the first this season) on Thursday afternoon, in St. James's Palace. Her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert, attended by the Ladies and Gentlemen in Waiting, arrived soon after two o'clock, escorted by a detachment of Life Guards, and were received by the principal officers of the household of her Majesty and the Prince.

The Duke of Cambridge attended the Drawingroom, and was received by the Vice-Chamberlain.

The Queen and Prince Albert entered the Throne-room, attended by the Duchess of Sutherland, the Countess of Desart, the Countess of Mount Edgcumbe, the Viscountess Jocelyn, the Hon. Matilda Paget, and the Ladies and Gentlemen of the Royal household.

Her Majesty wore a train of white poplin, ornamented in gold, a running pattern of flowers and leaves, trimmed with white tulle and gold bands and bunches of sweet peas. The petticoat was white satin, trimmed with white tulle, gold blonde, and sweet peas. Her Majesty's head-dress was an opal and diamond diadem, and feathers.

The general circle was not numerously attended, but the number of young ladies presented was more than usually great.

Her Majesty and Prince Albert, attended by the Royal suite, returned to Buckingham Palace, escorted by a detachment of Life Guards.

The Countess of Desart has succeeded the Countess of Mount Edgcumbe as the Lady in Waiting to her Majesty. Lord Byron has succeeded Lord de Tabley as Lord in Waiting, and R. Ormsby Gore, Lieut.-General Sir Edward Bowater, as Groom-in-Waiting.

SEIZURE OF COMBUSTIBLES.—On Saturday the officers of Customs seized a vessel in the Thames, laden with saltpetre and sulphur, consigned to a Russian port. It is understood that the Government intend to enforce the penalties against the shippers.

PHOTOGRAPHY.—Captain Scott, of H.M. steamer *Hecla*, took with him to the Baltic a young photographer, of the name of the Elliott, for the purpose of trying experiments on the application of photography to surveying purposes. Captain Scott has returned, bringing home with him perfect views of the coasts, and of the fortresses along the coast, taken when the steamer was propelled at the speed of fifteen knots an hour—all of them most beautifully perfect in all their details. Captain Scott, thus armed, is now urging on the Admiralty the appointment of a photographer to the Baltic fleet.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

COLONEL MOUNTAIN, C.B.

COLONEL ARMINE SIMCON HENRY MOUNTAIN, C.B., Adjutant-General to her Majesty's Forces in India, Aide-de-Camp to the Queen, &c., fourth son of the first Lord Bishop of Quebec, was born at Quebec, Feb. 4, 1787; received a military education in Germany; spoke and wrote all the Continental, and several Oriental, languages with the facility of a native. Went out to India, as Military Secretary to Sir Colin Halkett; became Aide-de-Camp to Lord William Bentinck; served as Adjutant General in the Chinese War, where he received three balls through his body. Returned to England with the wreck of his Regiment, the 26th, which he soon made one of the finest in the army; and continued to command it, as Lieut.-Colonel, till he went out again to India, as Military Secretary to Lord Dalhousie. Was soon afterwards appointed Adjutant-General; commanded a brigade at Chillianwallah, and received the warm thanks of Lord Gough for a brilliant and gallant charge which secured the victory; wounded through the left hand, by the accidental discharge of a pistol in mounting his charger the next day. Died of fever, Feb. 8th, 1854. Was twice married: first, to Jean O'Beirne, daughter of a former Bishop of Meath; secondly, to Anne, elder daughter of Colonel Dundas, of Carron Hall, Falkirk. No issue.

LADY JEPHSON.

CHARLOTTE ROCHFORD, Lady Jephson, died on the 20th ult., at her residence, 76, Wimpole street, Cavendish-square. She was eldest daughter of the late General Sir John Smith, K.A., and widow of Sir Edward Mountney Jephson, Bart, who was for many years Judge-Advocate and Judge of the Admiralty Court at Gibraltar. She is the present Baronet, Sir R. M. Jephson, is his eldest son by his first wife. William Jephson, Esq., of the Isle of Wight; Colonel Jephson, commanding his regiment at the Cape; Captain Jephson, now on military service in India; Charlotte, married to Edward Fitzgerald, Esq; Julia, Marchioness of Ailsa; and Eliza, are the children of the late Sir R. M. Jephson, Bart., by his second wife—the lady whose death we record.

CHARLES III., DUKE OF PARMA.

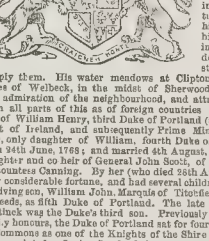
THE Duke of Parma died at Turin on Monday, on the 27th ult., from the effects of a wound inflicted by an unknown assassin.

His Highness (Ferdinand-Charles-Joseph Maria-Vittorio-Balthasar de Bourbon, Duke of Parma, Infant of Spain) succeeded to the Duchy on the abdication of his father, Charles II., in 1849. He was born 14th of January, 1823, and married 10th November, 1845, Louise-Marie-Thérèse, sister of the Comte de Chambord (the Duc de Bordeaux). By that Princess (who has been declared Regent), he leaves, with other issue, a son and successor, Robert, now Duke of Parma, born 9th July, 1848. The Duchy of Lucca was the original inheritance of the deceased Duke's father; but that possession he ceded, 5th October, 1847, to Tuscany, and became shortly after, on the 17th of the following December, at the decease of Maria Louise, ex-Empress of the French, Duke of Parma and Piacenza, which Government he abdicated, in 1849, in favour of his son.

This Prince—Charles II.—was son of Louis, King of Etruria, by his wife Maria-Luisa, Duchess of Lucca, daughter of Charles IV, King of Spain.

WILLIAM HENRY CAVENDISH SCOTT BENTINCK, FOURTH DUKE OF PORTLAND.

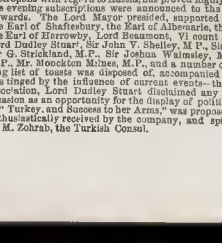
THIS venerable nobleman died at Welbeck Abbey, Notts, on the 27th ult., at the patriarchal age of eighty-six. His very long life had been chiefly devoted to the improvement of his great estates. In accomplishing this object, he made himself the most practically useful landowner in England, spending his time principally among his people, identifying himself with them, knowing their wants, and endeavouring, in most instances successfully, to



supply them. His water meadows at Clipton—a farm within a few miles of Welbeck, in the midst of Sherwood Forest—are the pride and admiration of the neighbourhood, and attract agricultural visitors from all parts of this as of foreign countries. His Grace was eldest son of William Henry, third Duke of Portland (at one time Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and subsequently Prime Minister), by Dorothy his wife, only daughter of William, fourth Duke of Devonshire. He was born 24th June, 1768; and married 4th August, 1795, Henrietta, eldest daughter and co heir of General John Scott, of Balcomie, and sister of Viscountess Canning. By her (who died 26th April, 1844) he acquired a very considerable fortune, and had several children, of whom the eldest surviving son, William John, Marquis of Titchfield, born 18th Sept., 1800, succeeds, as fifth Duke of Portland. The late lamented Lord George Bentinck was the Duke's third son. Previously to his accession to the family honours, the Duke of Portland sat for fourteen years in the House of Commons as one of the Knights of the Shire for Bucks. In 1807 he was appointed a Junior Lord of the Treasury; in 1809, succeeded his father; and in 1827 became Lord Privy Seal, in the Administration of his brother-in-law, George Canning. His Grace's last connection with public affairs was his brief tenure of the Presidency of the Council, under Lord Goderich's Government.

ELIZA, COUNTESS DOWAGER OF CLANRICARDE.

THE Countess Dowager of Clanricarde died on the 26th ult., at her residence in Dublin, aged nearly 90. Her Ladyship was third daughter of Sir Thomas Burke, the first Baronet, of Marblehill, county Galway, and sister of the late Sir John Burke, Bart., M.P. for that county. Her marriage with John Thomas, thirteenth Earl of Clanricarde, took place on March 17, 1799; and its issue consisted of one son, Ulick John, present Marquis of Clanricarde; and two daughters, Hester Catherine, Dowager Marchioness of Sligo, and Emily, who married the present Earl of Howth, and died Dec. 5, 1842.



Lady Clanricarde was universally respected and esteemed.

THE FRIENDS OF POLAND.—On Thursday night the members and supporters of the Literary Association of the Friends of Poland, in departing from their custom of collecting funds by means of a public ball for the relief of the Polish exiles, dined together at the London Tavern. The experiment, backed by the present state of political feeling in the metropolis with regard to Russia, has proved highly successful, and during the evening subscriptions were announced to the amount of £1000 and upwards. The Lord Mayor presided, supported by Prince Czartoryski, the Earl of Shaftesbury, the Earl of Albemarle, the Earl of Yarborough, the Earl of Harrowby, Lord Beaumont, Vi count Sandon, Lord Kinsale, Lord Dudley Stuart, Sir John V. Shelley, M.P., Sir Benjamin Hall, M.P., Sir G. Strickland, M.P., Sir Joshua Walmsley, M.P., Sir James Duke, M.P., Mr. Monckton Milnes, M.P., and a number of other gentlemen. A long list of toasts was disposed of, accompanied by speeches more or less tinged by the influence of current events—though, on behalf of the association, Lord Dudley Stuart disclaimed any intention of using the occasion as an opportunity for the display of political feeling. The toast of "Turkey, and Success to her Arms," was proposed by Lord Beaumont, enthusiastically received by the company, and spiritedly acknowledged by M. Zohrab, the Turkish Consul.

MODE OF SLINGING ARTILLERY HORSES FOR EMBARKATION.

EMBARKATION OF ARTILLERY HORSES AT WOOLWICH.

The embarkation of horses is, with inexperienced persons, both a tedious and difficult operation; but the means employed by Captain Paynter's battery at Woolwich Dockyard on the 22nd ult. proved to be alike safe and expeditious—the average time occupied in placing each horse securely in the hold being only two minutes.

The operation is effected in the following manner. The ship being brought alongside the wharf, a strong piece of canvas is placed under the body of the horse, and fastened over his back by a rope; he is then hoisted into the air by a running tackle from the mainyard arm, and slung into the hold of the ship; when there, he is received by the drivers, who, by coaxing, are enabled in a few seconds to re-assure him, and he is then led to his stall. A strong padded stanchion is placed between each horse; a canvas sling is also passed under his body, and fastened overhead, which prevents his lying down during the voyage, but acts as a great support to him when weary.

On the ship arriving at its destination, if the coast admits of it, the horses are dropped overboard, and allowed to find the best of their way to the shore; on the other hand, should this be found impracticable, the operation of slinging as above described, is again resorted to.

The principal danger in the transportation of horses arises from sea sickness; the horse, unfortunately, from its physical formation, not being able to vomit, is often attacked by madness, in which case he is bled to death, and thrown overboard.

Three fine ships, the *Palmerston*, *Hannibal*, and *John Masterman*, received on board the whole of Captain Paynter's battery; each ship carrying two officers, sixty men, and about as many horses, besides the necessary guns, carriages, and ammunition.

The Royal Artillery band was present at the embarkation on the 22nd ult.; and it being high tide at about six o'clock p.m., the ships were hauled out of dock, and taken in tow by tugs.

The wharf was crowded with officers of artillery and their families also the wives and children of the men. Several cavalry officers were present in plain clothes, and evinced great interest in the operation.

ARTILLERY HORSES IN THE HOLD OF A VESSEL.

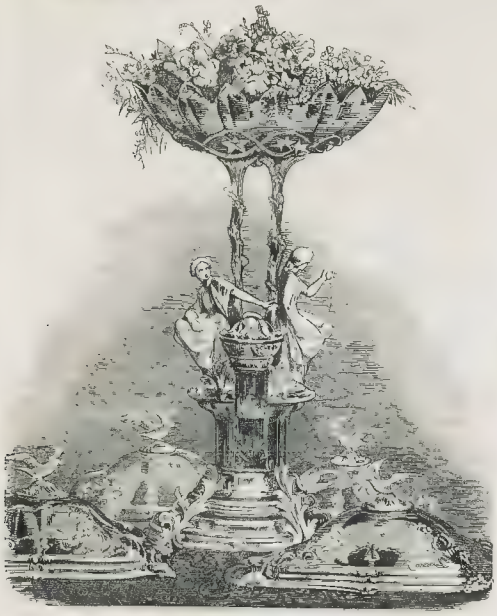


PLATE PRESENTED TO DR. HARRISON.

PLATE PRESENTED BY THE UNDERWRITERS OF LLOYD'S.

TESTIMONIAL TO DR. HARRISON.

At the last fortnightly meeting of the Directors of the North-Eastern division of the London and North-Western Railway, held in the Board-room, at the London-road Station, Manchester, a handsome Service of Plate—consisting of an Epergne, and four covered Side-dishes (value about 300 guineas)—was presented to Dr. John Gregson Harrison, of Piccadilly, for the valuable services rendered by him during his connection with the Company, as their honorary medical officer for the district. The Plate has been beautifully manufactured by Mr. George Attenborough, of Regent-street, London. The Epergne—which is formed of an emblematic group of figures—represents Atropos about to sever the thread of life, with Hygeia interposing to prevent it. The columns—copied from the pillars of the gate in Raphael's Cartoon of "St. Peter and St. John Healing the Lame Man"—bear the following inscription:—

Presented, with other plate, to John Gregson Harrison, M.D., by the Directors of the London and North-Western Railway Company, as a mark of their appreciation of his professional skill, as Honorary Surgeon of the North-Eastern and Northern Divisions of the Company for many years.

Mr. Matthew Lyon, Chairman of the Committee, in presenting the superb gift, addressed Dr. Harrison, and spoke in high terms of his long, extensive, and eminently successful course of practice; the zeal and energy with which he had invariably discharged his duties as honorary medical officer to the Company; and the courtesy and urbanity which he had always displayed in his intercourse with the Directors, and everyone connected with the Company; and especially the uniform and great kindness shown by Dr. Harrison to every individual, of whatever rank or station, whose lot it had been to be placed under his care.

Dr. Harrison thanked the Company for this unexpected mark of their approval of his services, which were far more than repaid by the very splendid testimonial then before him. This elegant and substantial compliment, emanating from the directory of the first Company in the universe, could not be otherwise than highly flattering to his feelings, because it gracefully conveyed their concurrence with his endeavours to promote the interests of this powerful corporation.

The Doctor was afterwards complimented by Mr. Edward Tootal, Mr. Caeppell, and Mr. Brook, Directors; and by Captain Huish, the manager; who, with Messrs. Harrison and Cooper, the superintendents, were present on the interesting occasion.

PLATE PRESENTED BY THE UNDERWRITERS AT LLOYD'S.

This handsome and costly group of Plate, consisting of two salvers, three cups, and five snuff-boxes, have just been presented by the Underwriters at Lloyd's, in testimony of the services rendered by the recipients of the several gifts, to the steamer *Glendower*, whilst on shore near Milford, in September, 1853.

First is a large salver, which has been presented to Sir Thomas Pasley, Bart., Pembroke Dockyard, for the kind and prompt manner in which he authorised assistance to be sent to the *Glendower*.

The smaller salver has been presented to Lieut. G. M. Alldridge, Commander of H.M.S. *Asp*, for the prompt and efficient services rendered by him to the *Glendower*.

The two cups, with covers, have been presented to Mr. G. A. Macfarlane, Second Master of the *Asp*, and to Mr D. Hall, for their able co-operation in the above services. And the five snuff-boxes have been given to Messrs. Morgan, Venning, Hill, Kindersley, and Clark, for their kind and prompt attention upon the above occasion.

The two salvers are characteristically engraved with sea-weeds

THE ORATORY, AT BROMPTON.—EXTERIOR OF THE RESIDENCE.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

sea-fish, &c.; the borders being formed of cables, with anchors introduced. The crest of the gentlemen are embodied in the chasings at the top, whilst at the foot is engraved the screw-steamer *Glendower*. The silver cups bear richly-chased nautical designs; and on the cover of two of them is a figure of a sailor. The muff-boxes are also elaborately chased, and bear on the lid an engraving of the *Glendower*.

The Plate has been designed and manufactured by Messrs. Sarl and Son, Cornhill.

THE ORATORY AT BROMPTON.

On Wednesday (last week) the temporary Church which has just been constructed for the Oratorians, at Brompton, was opened with the accustomed ceremony of consecration.

The Oratorians, it may be as well to explain, are a new branch of the order of St. Philip Neri, in the Roman Catholic Church, erected in 1850, by the Holy See, to preach to the poor, and educate them, gratis. They are under the usual voluntarily-assumed obligations of chastity, personal poverty, and obedience; and have the distinctions of lay brethers, whose offices are somewhat menial; and priests, who perform the higher functions. They were originally located in King William-street, Strand; but have lately removed to a new site at Brompton, which was a gift to the Fathers by two benefactors of their congregation. The ground is somewhat short of four acres, and is bounded on the east by the avenue of lime-trees leading up to the Church of the Holy Trinity: on the north, by its cemetery; on the west, by the ground recently purchased by the Commissioners of the Great Exhibition; and, on the south, by the narrow road, which the Commissioners are about to widen to eighty feet. The original cost of the whole site, which is freehold, was, we believe, £16,000. The Superior in London is the Rev. F. W. Faber; and at Birmingham, the Rev. J. H. Newman, D.D.

Such is the new location of the Oratorians; and it is, perhaps, one of the most rural sites in the suburbs. The new building by no means shows its great size to advantage from the road, as it is erected in the shape of the letter T. The limb from east to west is the dwelling-house of the community, with the Instruction and Reception-rooms; and the portion which runs from north to south comprises the Oratory, with the Library over it, and the Refectory. The house is plain, with no ornament but a few cement dressings; yet, from its size and excellent proportions, it presents a handsome and imposing appearance, without anything unbecoming the domestic residence of a congregation of secular priests. Some idea of the scale on which the building is executed may be gathered from the following dimensions:—The Oratory, 72 feet long, 30 wide, 29 high; the Library, 72 long, 30 wide, 28 high; the Refectory, 50 long, 30 wide, 28 high; the Corridors of the house, 164 long, 9 wide, 14 high.

Our View represents the principal front, facing the Old Brompton-road. This part is the dwelling of the Oratorians, and is the only completed portion of the extensive range. It is made to accommodate forty persons, and consists of private rooms, domestic chapel, refectory, library, recreation room, lavatory, bath-rooms, lecture and congregation rooms, &c. The whole is remarkably well arranged. The corridors are wide, and well adapted for exercise in wet weather. The grand staircase is of good proportion, and is placed in the centre of the house. The chapel or oratory is approached from the house by a sacristy, and a corridor, running parallel with the sacristy. There is an approach to the garden and bowling-green from the hall. A large space has been given up to the Commissioners for the improvement of the old Brompton-road, at the solicitation of Mr. William Jackson, and for the consideration of the sum of £2000, one-half of which he contributed himself.

To the east, and on the site of the future church, stands the temporary church, 181 feet long by 40 wide, and 27 feet to the ridge of the roof. It is built in the simplest manner possible, and of course presents externally no ecclesiastical features. The open wooden roof is left in the church, and is coloured chocolate and blue. This building will contain 1200 persons, and its fine sanctuary of thirty feet by forty will give the ceremonies of the church a very imposing effect. It will be furnished with seats, confessionals, organ-loft, altars, stalls, &c., together with the fittings of the sacristy, for about £3000.

The architect both of house and church is Mr. Scoles, who designed Farm-street, St. John's-wood, and Islington Roman Catholic Churches; and what he has done at Brompton will be no slight addition to his well-deserved reputation. The contract was given to Mr. William Jackson, of Pimlico, by whom the works have been most efficiently executed. The whole has been raised within twelve months.

The house, oratory, and library are stated in the *Tablet* to have been built by the Fathers themselves, who have sunk their money for that purpose. We understand their new church is to be entirely free, with a certain amount of reserved seats, but not let on pew rents. But the Fathers had no funds for the church, for which they have incurred a debt of about £2000; trusting that their friends will assist them in the liquidation of it.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

Bishopric of Salisbury.—Tuesday's *Gazette* contained the order for the *congé d'élire* for the election of a Bishop for the See of Salisbury; and recommending the Rev. Walter Kerr Hamilton, M.A., to be elected to the vacant see.

Preferments and Appointments.—*Deanery:* The Rev. G. H. B. Coleridge, M.A., to Wells. *Canonries:* The Rev. J. S. Master, to an Honorary Canonry of Manchester; the Rev. J. Bailey, to a Canonry Residentiary of York. *Rectories.* The Rev. E. S. Pankes, to Corfe Castle, Dorset; the Rev. G. V. Le Clerk to Kent; the Rev. J. Day, to Bedingfield, Suffolk; the Rev. R. Gell, to Kirk Ireton, Derbyshire; the Rev. H. D. Hilton, to Orlingbury, Northamptonshire; the Rev. W. S. M'Dowall, to Dodford, Worcestershire; the Rev. J. Sikes, Chevening, Kent; the Rev. G. Smith, to Tetsworth, Oxfordshire; the Rev. F. E. Lowe, to Bitham Lodge, Leicester; the Rev. A. D. Wilton, to Orlingbury, Northampton. *Vicarages:* The Rev. W. H. Brevor, to St. Mary; the Rev. G. R. Mackarness, to Ham, Staffordshire, the Rev. B. Simpson, to Bosall, near York; the Rev. C. F. Smith, to Bishopthorpe; the Rev. W. H. White, to Kenton, Suffolk. *Incumbencies:* The Rev. S. Arnott, to St. Luke's, Berwick-street; the Rev. E. F. Boyle, to St. Peter's Church, Hammersmith; the Rev. J. Colborne, to Holy Trinity, Painswick, Stroud; the Rev. C. Eckersall, to Lower Beeding, Sussex; the Rev. R. Hill, to Wormsley; the Rev. H. P. Leakey, to Trinity Church, Swansea; the Rev. W. Poole, to Hentland and Little Dewchurch, Hereford; the Rev. G. S. Robertson, to Fightelthorne, Buckinghamshire; the Rev. J. Wilson, M.A., to St. James's Church, Preston; the Rev. H. Woodward, to St. John's Church, Deddington, Salop; the Rev. R. S. Wright, to the Holy Trinity, Bersted, Lancashire. *Perpetual Curacies:* The Rev. A. T. Armstrong, to Ashton-on-Ribble; the Rev. H. A. Barrett, to Langley, Norfolk; the Rev. J. Colborne, to Slad, Gloucester; the Rev. T. H. Jones, to St. Peter's, Croydon, Surrey; the Rev. J. Pilling, to Grimsargh.

Oxford.—Magdalen Hall.—The Lusby open scholarship was, last week, awarded to Mr. C. H. Hoole, from the Islington Proprietary School.

Testimonials.—By the parishioners and inhabitants of Bexley, Kent, on the recent silver breakfast suite, to the Rev. G. A. Langdale, on his leaving that parish. By the inhabitants of the district of the Episcopal chapel, Kennington, a handsome silver salver, to the Rev. C. Bussey, as a token of their sense of his unwearying kindness to them. Both testimonials were from the manufactory of Messrs. Benson, Cornhill.

Dinner to Her Majesty's Ministers.—Her Majesty's Ministers were entertained by the Lord Mayor of London, at the Mansion-house, on Saturday, when a numerous and distinguished body of guests were partakers of civic hospitality. Most of the members of the Cabinet and of the Government were present. Lord John Russell, Lord Palmerston, and Sir James Graham were, however, prevented from attending by illness or unavoidable engagements. In returning thanks for the toast of "Her Majesty's Ministers," the Earl of Aberdeen said:—"It is a great satisfaction to her Majesty's Government to be acting with an ally from whom we have from the first experienced the most cordiality, truth, and loyalty (cheers). I recollect that my distinguished friend (Count Walewski), whom I see near me, joined with me last year in the hope of peace. I have no doubt we shall pursue that object together, and if the same unjust and unprovoked war may be carried on with vigour and with energy, still I think we must entertain a firm resolution to terminate that war as speedily as it possibly can be terminated, consistently with the national honour." In returning thanks for the toast of "The Foreign Ministers," Count Walewski recalled the words of the Emperor Louis Napoleon, that the time for conquests had passed away for ever.

The Crystal Palace Railway.—The branch railway from the London and Croydon to the Crystal Palace was opened on Monday, when a special train, containing several directors and officers of the Brighton Railway and the Crystal Palace Company, Mr. James M.P., the Chairman of both companies, proceeded from the main line near the Sydenham station, and ascended the hill on the summit on which the Palace stands, terminating in a large and convenient station, which by means of a glass-covered way, communicates directly with the Palace.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

Sunday, April 2.—4th Sunday in Lent.
Monday, 3.—Richard Bishop of Chichester.
Tuesday, 4.—St. Ambrose.
Wednesday, 5.—Sun rises 5h. 29m., sets 6h. 38m.
Thursday, 6.—Old Lady Day.
Friday, 7.—Cambridge Term ends.
Saturday, 8.—Oxford Term ends. Fire Insurance due.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 8.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
M. h. m.	M. h. m.	M. h. m.	M. h. m.	A. M. h. m.	M. h. m.	A. M. h. m.
1 16	1 51	2 26	3 0	3 35	4 10	4 45
A. M. h. m.	A. M. h. m.	A. M. h. m.	A. M. h. m.	A. M. h. m.	A. M. h. m.	A. M. h. m.
5 20	5 55	6 15	6 35	7 0	7 25	7 50
M. h. m.	M. h. m.	M. h. m.	M. h. m.	M. h. m.	M. h. m.	M. h. m.
8 15	8 45	9 20	9 55	10 35	11 0	11 0

THE CENSUS.

Nearly ready,

THE CENSUS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM,

Prepared for the

ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS:

Comprising

A COMPARATIVE VIEW

of the

POPULATION (DISTINGUISHING THE SEXES) OF EVERY PARISH AND TOWN IN THE EMPIRE IN 1841 AND 1851:

With a Detailed View of the Population of the Metropolis; a Comparison of the Population in Counties and Towns, and of the whole Empire, at Different Periods; and a Variety of Interesting Information concerning the Movement of the Population the groundwork of all Political Science;

WITH A LARGE ILLUSTRATIVE MAP.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Ethiop is thanked for his very interesting letter, which shall appear.

Maria (Enniskillen) is mistaken in her facts, and pseudo correctors ought not to expect attention to anonymous communications.

A. Z., Barnsley; and an Undergraduate. Davidson's "System of Shorthand;" or "Short Shorthand."

J. N., Cork.—We have not room.

Erratum.—The Bust engraved at page 219 is that of John Graham, Esq., as described in the text; and not of Professor Graham, as stated in the head-line, and that beneath the Engraving.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 1854.

It has long been considered probable that Prince Gortschakoff would endeavour to strike a decisive blow on the Danube, in anticipation of the Declaration of War by the Allies. A brilliant victory achieved in this manner by the Russians, might afford the Emperor an opportunity for making peace with less damage to his own sensitiveness, and that of his nation, than after negatory attempts to defeat Omer Pacha. A movement of the kind has taken place, and the Russians crossed the Danube on the 23rd ult., at Ibraila and Galatz, in two divisions, the one under Prince Gortschakoff and the other under General Lüders. The two divisions are variously estimated at from 35,000 to 50,000 men. The Turks appear to have offered an obstinate resistance to these movements. Eight days previously, the Russians under Prince Gortschakoff were defeated by the Turks in an attempt to take the island in the Danube opposite Turtukai. The Russians had taken possession of the temporary bridge connecting the island with the bank of the Danube, when the fire of the Turks brought it down, and the Russians perished to the number, it is reported, of nearly 2000 men. It is not easy to divine the objects of the Russians in making this movement, or to decide whether it should be considered as offensive or defensive. If offensive, and intended as preparatory to a march through Bulgaria towards Schumla, the Balkans, and Constantinople, it is a bold, but not likely to be a successful movement. Prince Gortschakoff would, in such a case, not only have to encounter the main body of the Turkish army at Schumla, but would incur the serious risk of being assailed in the rear by the reinforcements which the British and French fleets in the Black Sea would pour into any landing-place on the coast. If they advanced as far as Schumla it would be necessary to reduce Varna, before they could hope for victory. How they could reduce Varna, in opposition to the fleets of the Allies stationed in its bay to defend it, we are at a loss to imagine. But, perhaps the movement is a defensive one, as Matchin is a hundred miles nearer to the Russian frontiers than Prince Gortschakoff's former head-quarters at Bucharest.

While hostilities are thus proceeding, the country will learn with satisfaction that the British and French Governments have made an attempt to humanise the practice of war, and to diminish, to some extent, the inevitable horrors that attend it. The same *Gazette Extraordinary* which contained the declaration of war against Russia, contained a notification from her Majesty, waiving, though not positively renouncing, several of the rights which have been hitherto invariably exercised by belligerents; and a *Supplemental Gazette* was published on Wednesday, containing several Orders in Council, prescribing the conduct of her Majesty's forces and her subjects during the continuance of hostilities. By the declaration of the 28th ult., her Majesty, in order to preserve the commerce of neutrals, waives the right of seizing enemy's property laden on board a neutral vessel, unless it be contraband of war; and also the confiscation of neutral property not contraband of war found on board enemy's ships. The French Government has issued a similar notification; and in this, and all other measures, great or small, rendered necessary by the war, it acts in most perfect union and agreement, both of principle and detail with the Government of this country. The first of the Orders in Council, bearing date the 29th ult., is technically called an "Order of General Reprisals;" and is a formality usual when maritime Powers declare war. It authorises her Majesty's fleets and ships to seize all ships, vessels, and goods belonging to the Emperor of Russia or his subjects, or of aliens inhabiting his territories and yielding him allegiance, and to bring the same for judgment before the duly-authorised Admiralty Courts in Great Britain or her Colonies. The second enjoins that no ships or vessels belonging to any of her Majesty's subjects be permitted to enter and clear out for any of the ports of Russia until further orders. It also lays an embargo on all Russian ships or vessels whatsoever now within, or which shall hereafter come into, any of the ports, harbours, or roads within her Majesty's dominions; together with their crews, and all property and effects whatsoever, that may be on board. The third Order in Council qualifies the second, to the extent of allowing all Russian merchant-vessels now in British ports or harbours a period of six weeks to load their cargoes and to take their departure. The fourth and last Order gives the usual directions for the distribution of prize money. The French Government has already announced that Russians now resident in France will not necessarily be expelled, but will be allowed to remain upon the sole condition of conforming to the laws. It is understood that a similar indulgence will be accorded by the British Government to such Russians as business or choice may induce to remain in this country. When it is remembered that in former wars the civilised States of Europe often expelled, at twenty-four hours' notice, the subjects of the Government with whom they happened to be at war, it will be seen how much more consistent with humanity is the practice of which the British and French Governments have just set the example. Neither Government will, for the present, issue letters of *marque*. It is to be hoped that no circumstance in the progress of the war will force them, against their present inclination, to have recourse to so questionable a mode of inflicting damage upon an opponent.

The interest attaching to the actual commencement of war deprives of much of its importance the supplemental Blue-book, which has just been issued under the old and somewhat irrelevant title of "Correspondence respecting the Rights and Privileges of the Latin and Greek Churches in Turkey." The correspondence dates from the 15th January to the 27th March, 1854, and includes nearly 140 letters and despatches. We have not space this week for any summary of their contents, but will probably recur to the subject. The most interesting of the letters refer to the insurrection in Greece, and are so far important that they prove the determination of the British and French Governments to hold the King of Greece responsible for the participation of his subjects in the revolt against the Sultan's authority in Albania and Epirus. The Greek insurrection, we thus learn, will be immediately put down, and it will be fortunate for King Otho if his kingdom be not a severe sufferer by the collision with Great Britain and France, which Russian intrigues have induced him to provoke.

The resignation of Mr. Baines, the respected President of the Poor-law Board, would have been regarded as an unfortunate circumstance; and we are glad that, on reconsideration, the right honourable gentleman has consented to remain in the office which he so ably fills. The question of the Poor-laws has always been a popular and exciting one. It is one in which Englishmen of all classes take a lively interest, and in which opinions very widely differ. The right to relief in destitution is, to the humbler classes of the people, the one great prop and pillar of our Constitution. Mr. Baines, in undertaking to introduce a further and much-needed reform into the existing law, entered on a task that was sufficient to test the statesmanship of any man in Parliament. Between those who would maintain the existing system, and those who desire to establish a national, instead of a local rating, he was placed in a position of difficulty. The defeat of the Government, though not incurred upon the principle of the measure, was significant enough to warn it of the impolicy of forcing on the measure without further consideration of the manner in which it would affect the Irish and Scotch poor. To extend the area of taxation in England, and to abolish the law of settlement, may be, and we think are, highly necessary reforms. But if the law of settlement be abolished for the English, how is it to be retained against the Irish? Irish labour, instead of being a drug in the market of England, is a highly valuable commodity, as Lord Palmerston very opportunely confessed. It is Irish labour that is mainly instrumental in building our houses, in paving our streets, in constructing our docks and railways, and in gathering in our harvests. It is the Irishman, in fine, who performs all our rough and ready work. It would, therefore, be manifestly unjust that the law establishing the Englishman's right to relief in the place where he shall have become destitute should not also apply to the Irishman. The bill of Mr. Baines made no provision either for the Irish or the Scotch in this respect, and hence the temporary defeat that it has experienced at the hands of the opponents of any further Poor-law reform, aided by a large reinforcement of the Irish members. Lord Palmerston proposed to introduce a separate bill for Ireland; but it seems to be the desire of the House of Commons that the subject should be considered as a whole; and the Government will, in all probability, think it expedient to yield the point. Possibly the result will be, either at the present or at some future time, the assimilation of the Irish and Scottish Poor-law system to that of England. The Scottish system does not recognise the right of the able-bodied poor to any relief whatsoever; and the Irish Poor-law—a recent introduction—has, even in its present state, gone far to effect a social revolution, and to regenerate and save a country whose previous miseries were alike the scandal and the perplexity of the British Government. We know of no sufficient reason why there should be three systems of Poor-laws in the United Empire.

Declaration of War.—On Wednesday the area in front of the Royal Exchange was crowded with persons, in expectation of hearing the Declaration of War with Russia read, or "proclaimed" with state ceremony, similar to that observed on the proclamation of peace or the accession of the Sovereign. Thus in Chamberlain's "History of London," we read, "on the 17th of December, 1718, war was declared against Spain in the usual places, with the accustomed solemnities, within the city of London and Westminster." Again, vol. 22, 1760, "the officers of arms, with the serjeants-at-arms and trumpeters, mounted their horses, and, with the serjeants-at-arms' plate-gates. Garter Principal King-of-Arms read his and, at Westminster-hall gate, Norroy King-of-Arms proclaimed Majesty's declaration of war, and Norroy King-of-Arms proclaimed it abroad. The like ceremony was performed at Charing-cross. At Temple-bar the Westminster officers retired, and the heralds were joined by the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Sheriffs, and the declaration was [illegible] proclaimed at the end of Chancery and, at the end of Wood-street, and Cheapside, at the Royal Exchange, amid the [illegible] of the people. There are similar records of 1744, 1756, and 1793, the last of which drew crowds to the assembling of the crowd at the Royal Exchange on Wednesday, when, however, no declaration or proclamation took place.

PREPARATIONS FOR WAR.

THE ORDERS IN COUNCIL.

A Supplemental *Gazette* was published on Wednesday night, containing the following Orders in Council:

At the Court at Buckingham Palace, the 29th of day of March, 1854—

Present, the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

Her Majesty having determined to afford active assistance to her ally, his Highness the Sultan of the Ottoman Empire, for the protection of his dominions against the encroachments and unprovoked aggression of his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, her Majesty, therefore, is pleased, by and with the advice of her Privy Council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, that general reprisals be granted against the ships, vessels, and goods of the Emperor of all the Russias, and of his subjects or others inhabiting within any of his countries, territories, or dominions, so that her Majesty's fleets and ships shall and may lawfully seize all ships, vessels, and goods belonging to the Emperor of all the Russias, or his subjects, or others inhabiting within any of his countries, territories, or dominions, and bring the same to judgment in such Courts of Admiralty within her Majesty's dominions, possessions, or colonies, as shall be duly commissioned to take cognisance thereof. And to that end, her Majesty's Advocate-General, with the Advocate of her Majesty in her office of Admiralty, are forthwith to prepare the draft of a commission, and present the same to her Majesty at this board, authorising the Commissioners for executing the office of Lord High Admiral to seal and require the High Court of Admiralty of England, and the Lieutenant and Judge of the said Court, his Surrogate or Surrogates, as also the several Courts of Admiralty within her Majesty's dominions, which shall be duly commissionated to take cognisance of, and judicially proceed upon, all and all manner of captures, seizures, prizes, and reprisals of all ships, vessels, and goods, that are or may be taken, and to hear and determine the same; and, according to the course of Admiralty and the law of nations, to adjudge and condemn all such ships, vessels, and goods, as shall belong to the Emperor of all the Russias or his subjects, or to any others inhabiting within any of his countries, territories, or dominions; and they are likewise to prepare and lay before her Majesty, at this board, a draft of such instruction as it may be proper to send to the said several Courts of Admiralty for her Majesty's dominions, possessions, and colonies for their guidance herein.

From the Court at Buckingham Palace, this twenty-ninth day of March, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four.

Cranworth, C.	Abercorn.	Ernest Bruce.
Granville P.	Aberdeen.	Sidney Herbert.
Argyll, C. P. S.	Clarendon.	J. R. G. Graham.
Newcastle.	Drumlanrig.	Stephen Lushington.
Bread albane.	Mulgrave.	W. E. Gladstone.
Lansdowne.	J. Russell.	William Molesworth.

At the Court at Buckingham Palace, the 29th day of March, 1854.

Present, the Queen's most Excellent Majesty in Council.

It is this day ordered by her Majesty, by and with the advice of her Privy Council, that no ships or vessels belonging to any of her Majesty's subjects be permitted to enter and clear out for any of the ports of Russia until further order; and her Majesty is further pleased to order that a general embargo or stop be made of all Russian ships and vessels who sooner, now within, or which shall hereafter come into, any of the ports, harbours, or roads, within any of her Majesty's dominions, together with all persons and effects on board the said ships or vessels; provided, always, that nothing herein contained shall extend to any ships or vessels specified or comprised in a certain Order of her Majesty in Council, of the 27th day of March, for exempting from capture or detention Russian vessels under specified conditions; and her Majesty is pleased further to order, and it is hereby ordered, that the utmost care be taken for the preservation of the said entire part of the cargoes on board any of the said ships or vessels, so that no damage or embezzlement whatever be sustained; and the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury, the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, and the Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, are to give the necessary directions herein as to them may respectively appertain.

C. C. Greville.

At the Court at Buckingham Palace, the 29th day of March, 1854.

Present, the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

Her Majesty being compelled to declare war against his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, and being desirous, as much as possible the evils thereof, is pleased, by and with the advice of her Privy Council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, that Russian merchant vessels now in any of the ports within her Majesty's dominions, shall be allowed until the 10th day of May next, six weeks from the date hereof, for loading their cargoes and departing from the ports or places; that such Russian merchant vessels as may be met at sea by any of her Majesty's ships, shall be permitted to continue their voyage, if, on examination of their papers, it shall appear that their cargoes were taken on board before the expiration of the above term. Provided, that nothing herein contained shall extend to any Russian vessels having any goods on board which shall be taken to any port or place belonging to the enemy, or any vessels which shall have been despatched from their ports after the knowledge of the existence of war with Russia shall have arrived at the port from which such vessel shall have been despatched; and that any vessels which shall have been laden with any goods for the enemy, and which shall have been despatched from their ports after the knowledge of the existence of war with Russia shall have arrived at the port from which such vessel shall have been despatched, shall be liable to be detained by her Majesty's dominions, and to be brought into port for adjudication; and if condemned as lawful prize, to be confiscated to her Majesty's use; but that all such vessels shall be allowed to depart with their cargoes, if any, without molestation, and that any such vessel may be met with by any of her Majesty's ships, shall be permitted to continue her voyage to any port not blockaded.

And the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury, the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, and the Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, are to give the necessary directions herein as to them may respectively appertain.

C. C. Greville.

A Proclamation follows, which, after reciting the declaration already given as to the granting of general reprisals against the ships, goods, and subjects of the Emperor of Russia, explains the terms upon which the prizes shall be shared. In the first place, it is ordered that when ever any prize shall have been taken by any of our ships, while acting in conjunction with any fleet in alliance with us, a fair division of the proceeds shall be assured. Ships in sight of the prize, "under circumstances to cause intimidation to the enemy and encouragement to the captor, shall be alone entitled to share as joint captors." After having deducted the portion set apart for our allies, if they have been acting along with us, the flag-officer, or officers, shall have one-twentieth of the net proceeds of all prizes, and then, as the proclamation proceeds to say—

The remainder of the net proceeds shall be distributed in ten classes, so that each officer, man, and boy, composing the rest of the complements of our ships, sloops, and vessels of war, actually on board at the time of any such capture, and every person present and assisting, shall receive shares or, a share, according to his class, as set forth in the following scale:—

First Class.—Master of the fleet, inspector of steam machinery afloat, when embarked with a fleet, medical inspector, or deputy medical inspector, when embarked with a fleet—Forty-five shares each.

Second Class.—Senior lieutenants of a rated ship not bearing a commander, under the captain, secretary to the admiral of the fleet, or admiral commanding in chief Thirty-five shares each.

Third Class.—Sea lieutenant, master, captain of marines, of marine artillery, or land forces doing duty as marines, whether having higher brevet rank or not, secretary to an admiral, or to a commodore of the first class, not commanding in chief, chief engineer—Twenty-eight shares each.

Fourth Class.—Lieutenant or quartermaster of marines, lieutenant of marine artillery, lieutenant, quartermaster, or ensign, of land forces doing duty as marines, secretary to a commodore of the second class, captain's secretary, paymaster, naval instructor, marine assistant surgeon, assistant surgeon, chief engineer, engineer, gunner, boatswain, carpenter, purser's steward—Twenty shares each.

Fifth Class.—Lieutenant's assistant, clerk (not purser's), assistant-surgeon, chief gunner's mate, chief boatswain's mate, chief carpenter's mate, chief captain of the forecastle, admiralty convoy, chief quartermaster, seaman's schoolmaster, ship's steward, ship's cook—Ten shares each.

Sixth Class.—Naval cadets, clerk's assistant, captain's coxswain, ship's corporal, quartermaster, gunner's mate, boatswain's mate, captain of the forecastle, captain of the afterguard, captain of the hold, captain of the maintop, captain of the foretop, coxswain of the launch, sailmaker, ropemaker, caulker, leading stoker, blacksmith, sergeant of marines, of marine artillery, or of land forces doing duty as marines. Nine shares each.

Seventh Class.—Captain of the mast, forecastle, admiralty convoy, chief of the signals, coxswain of the barge, coxswain of the pinnace, coxswain of the cutter, second captain of the forecastle, second captain of the maintop, second captain of the foretop, second captain of the afterguard, sailmakers' mate, caulker's mate, musician, cooper, armourer, corporal of marines or of land forces doing duty as marines, bombardier of marine artillery, head kroosman—Six shares each.

Eighth Class.—Leading seamen, shipwright, second captain of the hold, able seamen, carpenter's crew, sailmaker's crew, cooper's crew, armourer's crew, yeoman of the storerooms, steward's assistant, ordinary seaman, blacksmith's mate, private and fifer of marines or of land forces doing duty as marines, gunner of marine artillery, painter, stoker, coal-trimmer, second head krooman, sick-birth attendant, bandsman, tailor, butcher—Three shares each.

Ninth Class.—Cook's mate, ship's steward's boy, admiral's domestic, superintendent's domestic, admiral's steward and cook, captain's steward and cook, ward-room and gun-room steward and cook, subordinate officers' steward and cook, commander's servant, secretary's servant, second-class ordinary seaman, assistant stoker, barber, boy of the first class, first and second class, krooman, supernumeraries, except as hereinafter provided, persons borne merely as passengers, and not declining to render assistance on occasion of capture—Two shares each.

Tenth Class.—Boy below first class—One share.

THE FLEET IN THE BALTIC.

Sir Charles Napier arrived at Copenhagen in the *Valorous* steamer on the 20th ult. The Danes were excessively pleased with him for taking the first bat on landing at the Custom-house steps. Sir Charles paid a visit to Mr. Buchanan, the English Minister, and with him proceeded to pay his respects to the Danish Minister for Foreign Affairs.

It is said that the King of Denmark refused to see the gallant Admiral, on the plea of ill-health, but, in reality, from an indisposition to offend the Russian party, which is rather strong there. Next morning Sir Charles returned in the *Valorous* to Winga Sound.

A letter received from an officer on board the fleet, while at that station, says:—

I am now writing to you from Winga Sound, where we arrived after a pleasant passage of six days. Many of the vessels separated from the main body in a fog, that lasted for nearly two days; but we found them all collected here, without accident. We are lying at anchor about four miles from the town of Gottenburg, wait ng to complete coal and water, before starting for the Island of Aland, which we are to take possession of, if the Russians are not before us. It is not so cold as we expected to find it; but they say the Russians are still shut up by the ice at Riga and other ports. The good people here obtain all their news from England, and seem to be quite in the dark as to what the Russians are doing, for they gave us an English paper of the 12th, as containing the latest news. Boats have to go for water five miles, the thermometer nearly at freezing point.

The Russians affirm confidently that, even if things go well with the allies, a portion of the fleet will be fit for service by the time it gets up to Cronstadt. The sand-banks are numberless; and, in addition to these, they say the ships will have to contend with the Scheeren flotilla, which is likely to be very destructive to single vessels. This flotilla of gun-boats is stationed behind the Scheeren (the archipelago of islets and reef or ridges of rocks which line the coast on both sides of the Baltic is so called), where there is not sufficient depth of water for larger vessels. The greater part of the Russian fleet is at Cronstadt, "which is being fortified so as to bid defiance to all attacks." The island is connected with the continent by means of an artificial dam, which is covered with batteries. The strand batteries which command the channel leading up to the harbour have been doubled; and, before Cronstadt can be attacked, these batteries, which contain 800 guns of the largest calibre, must be destroyed. There are three artillery parks in reserve. A private letter of the 15th, from Stockholm, also speaks of the fearful preparations of the Russians for defence. The Grand Duke Constantine had been a whole fortnight at Helsingfors superintending the works. It is generally believed the first hostile collision will take place at the island off Oesel, which may be considered as the advanced port to Revel. Sveaborg is so protected by sand-banks, cliffs, and strand batteries, that an attack is almost impossible. All the lamps have been removed from the lighthouses, and the buoys taken up, so that the most experienced Russian pilot would be at a loss to find his way up to Cronstadt.

The Gulfs of Finland and Bothnia are still firmly frozen over. Last year the re-opening of the navigation at Cronstadt took place towards the end of April; in 1852, on the 12th May; in 1851, on April 20th; and in 1850, on April 30th. It is said that there is little probability of the ice breaking up this year any earlier. At Revel it is forbidden to light the lamps in the lighthouses, and the destruction of all buoys and other helps to navigation is commanded. Between Riga, Revel, and Petersburg a regular estafette service has been established, and a courier passes at least once a day. In the Gulf of Finland, which is so difficult of navigation for deep drawing vessels, large masses of rock are being conveyed along the ice to the site of the usual sailing channel, so that, when the ice melts, these masses will sink and choke up the channel, which was difficult enough before. All dwelling-houses at Cronstadt have been evacuated by their inmates, and those that are not susceptible of fortification are pulled down, the inhabitants receiving indemnity. It is to be a second defence of Saragossa.

CAVALRY FOR THE EAST.

At the present time only eight weak regiments of cavalry have received instructions to hold themselves in readiness for embarkation, for the purpose of acting, in conjunction with the infantry and artillery, against the Russians. This mounted force is numerically disproportionate to the other branches. What may hereafter be determined respecting their augmentation remains undeveloped. Two thousand cavalry apportioned as a co-operative force with 25,000 foot and 2000 artillery annihilates the supposition of immediate necessity existing for the presence of a strong body of dragoons. Doubtless, the authorities have good reason for their proceedings, and time will develop their intentions. The country in the vicinity of the supposed seat of action is flat, and peculiarly adapted for the evolutions of cavalry; and, without the support of dragoons, the rapidity of movement so admirably perfected by our horse artillery, must necessarily be cramped. The regular cavalry of Russia—especially the Guard, are excellently mounted. Their horses are inured to the climate. They could bring many thousands into the field, and would prove no despicable adversaries. Difficulties have been started respecting transport; and letters frequently appear in the public prints having reference to this point. It is affirmed that steamers do not offer the readiest facilities for conveying horses. It is true, they cannot carry so many as a sailing vessel of equal tonnage could stow; but, as the Cold-stream Guards reached Malta lately in nine days, ships of equal power might land a quota of cavalry wherever required with similar expedition, and immediately return for more if needed. Should sailing vessels be considered preferable for carrying out this object, there must be abundance of craft available at very short notice, which could promptly be fitted up for the purpose. These, if accompanied by a due proportion of steamers, might, without difficulty, hold their course, avoiding delay consequent on calms and adverse winds. In the Straits of Gibraltar ships may frequently be observed for days unable to proceed on their voyage. Such inconvenience would be obviated by the aid of steamers taking the transports in tow. Probably some such arrangement is contemplated, in which case, little difficulty need occur in carrying as many horses as may be required. Hitherto, Lisbon has been the extreme point at which we have landed cavalry; but, at the period of their exportation from England, the powers of steam had not been made applicable to maritime purposes. The 7th Dragoon Guards and 12th Lancers, when ordered to the Cape of Good Hope left their horses at home, and were mounted on arrival at the colony. Regiments proceeding to India are similarly placed. At the present crisis such a plan could not be followed, since it would be hopeless to expect a sufficiency of horses available for our service on reaching Turkey. No alternative, therefore, remains for regiments to carry their horses with them. Subjoined is a brief account of the cavalry now under orders to form part of the expeditionary force.

The Eighth, or The King's Royal Irish Hussars.

Was raised in 1693, and served with marked distinction in Spain, Portugal, Flanders, Holland, and Germany. In 1743 it was conspicuous in energetic enterprise, and greatly contributed to the annihilation of the Pretender's forces. The regiment embarked for the Cape of Good Hope in 1795, and from thence proceeded to India. It did not return home until 1823, having been on continuous foreign service the unprecedented period of twenty-seven years. The dashing gallantry displayed by the 8th Light Dragoons will long be remembered in India. To recapitulate the deeds of daring, so universally acknowledged by the troops with which it served would be superfluous, as it has imperishably stamped its fame. At Leswaree, Callinger, Aurung, Bhurtpore, Ufzulghar, Nepaul, Kalunga, and Hattrap, its unsurpassed intrepidity was universally acknowledged. The highly complimentary orders issued by the Governor-General in Council, on the occasion of the regiment embarking for England, bears ample testimony to the estimation in which it was held by those who had opportunity of witnessing the valour of this chivalric corps. The 8th Hussars bear on the banners of the kettle-drums and its appointments the Harp and Crown; with the motto, "Pristinæ virtutis memores;" together with the words "Leswaree" and "Hindostan," in commemoration of its services in the East.

The Seventeenth Lancers.

This admirable regiment carries, as a badge, the figure of a Death's head, having the motto "Or Glory" inscribed underneath. It was raised during the reign of George II., and has seen a variety of service in different parts of the globe. The duties performed by the 17th, through a long course of years, were more varied than perhaps before fell to the lot of a cavalry regiment. It was in Germany, and in North America, at Bunker's Hill, and in Nova Scotia. At the action of Brooklyn it was complimentarily noticed, as invariably was the case when engaged during the protracted and harassing encounters with the enemy, from 1776 to 1781. In 1793 it was in the West Indies, and occasionally detached parties to serve as marines on board the King's ships. It was present at the capture of Monte Video, and took part in the attack on Buenos Ayres. In 1808 it sailed for India. During the period this corps remained in the East it had a full share of danger and glory, wherever engaged. Anecdotes innumerable are extant, recording acts of individual heroism—almost bordering on romance—achieved both by officers and men of this highly popular regiment.

Fourth, or the Royal Irish Regiment of Dragoon Guards.

During the first year of the reign of James II. several regiments of cavalry were raised, and among others the present 4th, or Royal Irish Dragoon Guards. It was originally a body of cuirassiers, and proceeded abroad in 1691, and took part in the battles of Steenkirk and Landen. Throughout the Irish rebellion this regiment was constantly employed. In 1811 it embarked for Portugal, and aided in covering the operations in the siege of Ciudad Rodrigo and Badajoz. It reaped its share of honours gathered by the British cavalry at Llerena, and accompanied the army of the south to Madrid. On the standards of the regiment are emblazoned the Harp and Crown, together with the Star of St. Patrick; also the motto, "Quis separabit," and the word "Peninsular."

The Fifth, or Princess Charlotte of Wales' Regiment of Dragoon Guards.

This regiment, long known by the appellation of "The Green Horse," on account of its facings, was raised in 1685, and was likewise equipped as cuirassiers. At that period the uniform was red and buff, which was not altered until 1717. In 1689 it was employed in forcing the siege of Carrickfergus, and afterwards displayed great gallantry at the battle of the Boyne. The regiment proceeded to the Netherlands in 1694. It was present at the siege of Namur, and likewise at the skirmish near Enghien, and the brilliant charges made by this body of cavalry on the heights of Schellenberg, in 1704, elicited high commendation; and its subsequent gallantry at the battle of Blenheim was most conspicuous. At Ramilies, Oudenard, and Malplaquet, the 5th took a prominent part, and exhibited many traits of its characteristic daring. In 1793 the regiment proceeded to Flanders, and shared in the glories of the battle of Cateau and an action near Tourney. It performed good and arduous service during the Irish rebellion, in 1798. In 1811 it sailed for Portugal, and at Llerena it charged and overthrew several squadrons of French, numbering three times its own strength; many of the enemy were taken prisoners, and 100 horses captured. At Salamanca the magnificent charges made by the 5th Dragoon Guards are eulogised in Napier's imperishable "History of the Peninsular War." At the battles of Vittoria and Toulouse further opportunities were afforded this distinguished corps for signalising its valour. In 1814 it returned to the United Kingdom, and in a few months after was ordered to the East. The 5th Dragoon Guards bear on its standards the motto, "Vestigia nulla retrorsum;" with the words "Salamanca," "Vittoria," "Toulouse," "Peninsular."

The First, or Royal Regiment of Dragoons

Bears on its guidons, as a regimental badge, an Eagle, with the words "Peninsular" and "Waterloo." The Royal Regiment of Dragoons was raised by the Earl of Peterborough, in 1701. It was armed with cuirasses, iron head-pieces, long swords, and large pistols; and was first employed at Tangiers, which it reached in the succeeding year. Frequent encounters took place between it and the Moors, in which the British were uniformly triumphant. It gained renown for its bravery at the battles of Sedgemoor and the Boyne. In 1694 it was actively engaged in the Netherlands. The Royal Dragoons embarked for Holland in 1702, and became equally conspicuous for its gallantry in that campaign. From thence it proceeded to Portugal, and—exclusive of numerous skirmishes, and attending the operations of various sieges—it was present in the battles of Almanara and Saragossa. In 1742 it embarked for Flanders, and served nobly at Dettingen and Fontenoy. It joined the expedition to St. Malos and Cherbourg; and, when in Germany, fought at Warbourg, Campen, Kirch-Denkern and Groebenstein. The services of this gallant corps were again put in requisition in 1793; and it gained high credit at Vremen, Villers en Couché, Cateau, and Tourney. It was afterwards at Busaco, Sabugal, Vittoria, Toulouse, and Waterloo, besides innumerable affairs of cavalry with the enemy during the Peninsular War. At Waterloo, Captain Kennedy Clark, of the 1st regiment, had the good fortune to capture the eagle belonging to the 105th French regiment of the line.

The Thirteenth Light Dragoons.

On their chacos and appointments are inscribed the motto, "Virtute Recurram," with the words "Peninsular," "Waterloo." The regiment was raised in the midland counties of England, by General Munden, in 1715. The dress originally worn by officers and men was scarlet, lined with light green, with an aiguilette on the right shoulder. It was employed during the Scotch rebellion in 1745. In 1784 the uniform was changed to blue with buff facings; and during the spring of that year the horses, for the first time, were turned out to grass. Two troops were afterwards ordered to Jamaica, while the remainder of the regiment embarked for Barbadoes. The corps was, however, soon reduced to a skeleton, from the effects of the climate. It lost twenty officers and two hundred and forty non-commissioned officers and privates in six months. The regiment displayed great gallantry and endurance during the harassing warfare against the Maroons in 1796. The 13th Light Dragoons embarked for Portugal in 1810, and highly distinguished itself at Lndoera, Busaco, Torres Vedras, Campo Major, Albuera, Usagre, Vittoria, Nive, Orthes, Toulouse, and, in fact, throughout the Peninsular War. It proceeded to Flanders in 1815, and was engaged in the battle of Waterloo. The regiment embarked for India in 1819, where, as usual, it performed good service, and returned to Europe in 1840.

The Sixth, or Inniskilling Regiment of Dragoons.

The Castle of Inniskilling, with the word "Waterloo."—The Inniskilling Regiment was placed on the establishment of the British army in 1689, and was present at the battle of the Boyne; and, in the year following, at Aghrim. It served in Scotland, at Dumblain; and afterwards shared in the glories gained at Dettingen, Fontenoy, Roucoux, and Val. It accompanied the expedition to St. Maloes and Cherbourg, and was present in the actions of Minden, Wetter, Warburg, Campen, Kirch-Denkern, and Grebenstein. In 1794 the Inniskillings fought at Veux, Cateau, Tourney, and Beauvines; and eventually became conspicuously noted for its heroic bearing at Waterloo.

The Eleventh, Prince Albert's Own Hussars.

Shortly after the accession of George I. to the throne of England this regiment, now styled Prince Albert's Own Hussars, was raised. As it may be supposed, the dress worn by the cavalry at that period was widely dissimilar to the uniform of the present day. Few cavalry corps have been more employed since their enrolment than the 11th. It was at the Battle of Culloden, in 1746, and accompanied the expedition to Saint Maloes and Cherbourg, in 1758. In 1760 it was ordered to Germany, and fought at the Battle of Warbourg. It was likewise in the actions of Kirch-Denkern, Copenhagen, Foorwohle, and Groebenstein, and was present at the battle of the Boyne; and, in the year following, at Aghrim. It served in Scotland, at Dumblain; and afterwards shared in the glories gained at Dettingen, Fontenoy, Roucoux, and Val. It accompanied the expedition to St. Maloes and Cherbourg, and was present in the actions of Minden, Wetter, Warburg, Campen, Kirch-Denkern, and Grebenstein. In 1794 the Inniskillings fought at Veux, Cateau, Tourney, and Beauvines; and eventually became conspicuously noted for its heroic bearing at Waterloo.

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SERGEANT, 7TH HUSSARS. 17TH LANCERS. SERGEANT, 4TH DRAGOON GUARDS. 5TH DRAGOON GUARDS.

TROOPS FOR THE WAR—CAVALRY.

1st Royal Dragoons. 13th Light Dragoons. 6th Inniskilling Dragoons. 11th Hussars.

TROOPS FOR THE WAR.—CAVALRY OFFICERS.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

THE ROYAL MESSAGE—WAR WITH RUSSIA.

The Message from the Crown, announcing the rupture with the Emperor of Russia (which we have given in another part of the paper), was brought up by the Earl of ABERDEEN, and read from the woolsack by the Lord CHANCELLOR.

The Earl of CLARENDON gave notice that, on Friday, he should move an answer to her Majesty's most gracious message.

The Earl of DERBY expressed a hope that the noble Earl would take that opportunity of stating the precise objects of the war.

Earl GREY further hoped that the answer to the Royal message would be drawn so as to secure the most perfect unanimity.

METROPOLITAN INTERMENTS.

The Bishop of LONDON called the attention of the House to certain great evils resulting from the recent measure respecting metropolitan interments. He regretted very much, in the course of his speech, mentioned a considerable number of facts to show that it was absolutely necessary for the Government to give immediate attention to the subject. By the course that had been adopted, burial-grounds had been closed without other places being provided for interments; and thus, whilst injustice had been done to the clergy, much hardship had been inflicted on the poor, and the parishes themselves had been embarrassed; the public health, too, had been greatly endangered.

The Earl of ABERDEEN cordially concurred in feeling that there was a necessity for some intervention on the part of the Legislature, with the view of providing a speedy remedy for a state of things which was disgraceful to the metropolis.

The Bishop of LONDON said he had not thought it necessary to move for a committee, because he was sure the subject must receive from the Government that care and attention which its importance demanded. At the same time, he was perfectly satisfied with the reply of the noble Earl.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

The Royal message, which was the same as had been made to the Lords, having been read by the Speaker, Lord J. RUSSELL moved that it be taken into consideration on Friday.

THE SETTLEMENT AND REMOVAL BILL.

Lord J RUSSELL, in answer to Mr. Walpole, stated that the Government was not prepared to state the details connected with the irremoveability of the Irish and Scotch poor; but that was no reason why the adjourned debate should be postponed.

Mr FACKE moved the adjournment of the debate till April 28, so as to give time for the production of the necessary information on the subject of the Irish and Scotch poor.

Mr WALPOLE deprecated the introduction of imperfect measures. He would support the amendment, believing that the whole subject ought to be submitted in a distinct shape before the opinion of the House is called for.

Mr. BAINES contended that the principle of the present bill was simple, and ought to be pronounced upon, without reference to any extension of the principle to the Irish or Scotch poor. Materials existed for solving the question as regards England, but they did not yet exist as regards Ireland.

Mr R Palmer supported the amendment, as did Mr. H. Herbert, Sir J. Packington, and the Marquis of Granby.

Lord PALMERSTON saw no reason why the House should not proceed to decide upon the principle involved in the bill, because there were not materials for fully arranging the details connected with the Irish poor. He admitted that some additional inquiry was needed, not as regards the reasonableness of the change, but with the view of removing unfounded prejudices. It might, perhaps, in the case of Irish paupers, be advisable to have the test of a short industrial residence, say a year or so, in England before becoming chargeable

Sir J. TROLLOPE would vote for postponement, believing that the measures for the three kingdoms should be considered simultaneously.

Sir G. GREY saw no reason for further postponement of the debate.

Colonel DUNNE accused the Government of a breach of promise to Irish members. He would vote for the amendment, believing that if the bill for England be carried, there is little chance for Ireland.

Mr. E. DENISON apprehended that the course taken by the Government was calculated to convert the question into a party one, a shape which it did not assume at the outset.

After remarks from Mr. Maguire and other members,

Lord J. RUSSELL replied to the objections urged by the Irish members, assuring them that if the principle of the bill were affirmed by the House, the application of the same principle to Ireland would become irresistible.

The House divided—For the adjournment, 209; against it, 183: majority against Ministers, 26.

The result was hailed with a loud cheer by the majority.

The Bribery, &c. Bill, the Bribery Prevention Bill, and the Controverted Elections Bill, were read a second time. The Ministers' Money (Ireland) Bill, the Church Building Acts Continuance Bill, and the High Treason (Ireland) Bill, passed through committee.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

No business of importance came under discussion.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

CONVENTUAL AND MONASTIC INSTITUTIONS.

On the motion for nominating the Committee on Conventual and Monastic Institutions,

Mr. BOWYER moved, as an amendment, that the order for the appointment of a committee be discharged; and contended at considerable length that such an inquiry ought never to have been agreed to, and should not now be persevered in, there not being even the shadow of a necessity for subjecting the inmates of these institutions to such a revolting and offensive ordeal.

Lord LOVAINE said, the question was not a Roman Catholic question only—it was a constitutional one and a Protestant one, because it was stated that it was possible that persons might be confined in these institutions against their will; and because, also, the wife of a Protestant, if she turned Catholic, might go into a convent, and he would then see her no more.

Lord J RUSSELL said, no Parliamentary ground had been laid for such an inquiry, for no cases had been adduced in which any persons had been kept in force contrary to their will. Looking at the names of the committee, he did not think they were impartially chosen, but were selected rather on account of their extreme prejudices, and would be very likely to ask for power to send for papers, persons, and records, in which case the privacy of those ladies would be very materially interfered with.

Colonel NORTH stated a case which had occurred at Banbury, in Oxfordshire, in which a Miss Fitzallen sought to be released from a nunnery in vain, as a writ of habeas corpus was quite not apply.

Mr. H. DRUMMOND contended that there was as much reason for inquiry now as there was when the noble Lord called upon him and others to support the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill. The Popish aggression, which that act was intended to put down, had never been retracted; and, until it was retracted, this question could never be set at rest. The object was to investigate girls who had got money into these establishments; and, when they got them there, to make them leave their money away from their relatives.

Mr FORTESCUE said, it did not present a seemly spectacle to the Catholics of England and Ireland, that the Protestants of England should be legislating for them, not merely without their consent, but absolutely against it.

Mr SPOONER said the fact was, that practices were carried on in these monastic institutions which dared not face the light, and hence the opposition to inquiry.

Colonel BLAIR and Mr. FACKE agreed with Mr. Spooner, that there must be something to conceal, or the inquiry would not be so strenuously opposed.

Mr. C. CHAMBERS said, the amendment was unprecedented, for the vote for inquiry was not carried by a snatched division, but after a long debate, in a full house, and by a large majority. The question would have to be dealt with, and he asked the noble Lord when he proposed to do so if they had not monastic institutions by hundreds. Would the noble Lord wait until they had them by thousands? Their property now amounted to tens of thousands. Would he wait until it amounted to millions? He never contemplated dragging ladies bound by conventual ties before a committee of that House; but he did think it was high time to inquire whether their rules and the inmates and property to a foreign power, and whether, also, there existed any power of imprisoning or banishing the inmates.

Mr. B. CAVENDISH would support the amendment for the purpose of preserving the principles of religious liberty. He would prove that the promoters of this inquiry, of whom Mr. T. Chambers was the unconscious instrument, viewed this motion for inquiry as only the means to an end—their real object being to procure the repeal of the Act of 1829.

Mr. WHITESIDE contended that they had ample proof in decisions in the courts of law that there were abuses in those institutions; and then came the question, would they not resort to an inquiry, with a view to their remedy. The Roman Catholics should not resist this inquiry; as, if the surmises against these institutions were false, its result would be to remove the prejudices now existing with respect to them.

Mr. COGAN moved the adjournment of the debate, which was put, after some discussion, and negatived by a majority of 333 to 91.

Mr. G. A. HAMILTON moved the adjournment of the House.

A desultory conversation ensued, terminating in a division, on which the motion for the adjournment of the House was negatived by a majority of 223 to 55.

Mr. F SCULLY then gave notice that, on the nomination of the committee, he would move that it be nominated that day six months.

The House then divided on Mr. Bowyer's amendment, which was negatived by a majority of 177 to 120.

Mr. CHAMBERS afterwards consented to move the appointment of the committee on Thursday.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

THE EPISCOPAL AND CAPITULAR ESTATES BILL.

The Marquis of BLANDFORD moved the second reading of this bill in a speech of some length.

Sir W. CLAY moved that the bill be read a second time that day six months.

After some discussion the debate was adjourned to next Thursday.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

The Earl of MALMESBURY inquired if it was true that Russian vessels had quitted Sebastopol for the purpose of conveying troops to the garrisons on the coast of Circassia, and whether, while they were so engaged, the French and English fleets had remained at anchor at Beicos Bay?

The Earl of CLARENDON was not in a position to say if the rumour were true or false, but he would say that the information which he had officially received rather contradicted than supported the truth of such a rumour, so far as it related to Circassia. He had received a telegraphic message that Russian ships of war had left Sebastopol, but had not gone to Circassia. The steam-vessels of the English and French fleets had made a cruise in the Black Sea, but had returned without having seen a single Russian vessel.

The Earl of MALMESBURY asked whether any convention had been signed by France, Turkey, and England; and if so, whether it would be laid on the table of the House?

The Earl of ABERDEEN said that such a convention had been signed by England, but, owing to an oversight, had been only provisionally signed by France. When completed, there would be no objection to its production.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

Sir W. SMYTH presented a petition from Messrs. Sturgeon and Sons, of Grays, Essex, denying the charges made against them, and praying for a full inquiry.

Mr OLIVEIRA asked the President of the Board of Trade whether any negotiations were in progress for a postal treaty with Spain, by which the present high rates may be reduced?

Mr. CARDWELL said, such negotiations were in a state of progress.

Mr HEADLAM asked whether, upon a Russian vessel being sold to avoid a capture, and purchased *bond fide* by a neutral having notice of the cause of the sale, the sale would be recognised by the British fleet, in the event of the vessel continuing to be navigated by a Russian crew, or in the event of the vessel, after the sale, being navigated by a fresh crew of neutrals?

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said that, in the case named, the sale would be recognised, if there was no reason to believe it was not *bond fide*

Lord J. RUSSELL laid upon the table the address which he intends moving to-morrow in reply to her Majesty's most gracious message respecting Russian aggression. The address was in effect an echo of the message itself.

Mr. BAINES drew attention to circumstances in which he was personally concerned as far as related to his position as the Poor-law Board. In framing the settlement and removal Bill, he had acted without any reference to Irish paupers, the bill being confined to England and Wales. Within a few days, however, of the second reading of the bill, a memorial was presented to Lord Palmerston from a number of Irish members, requiring that Irish paupers should be put upon the same footing as to removal as those of England. A communication was subsequently made that it was the intention of the Cabinet that this proposal should be adopted, and this communication had been made to the Irish memorialists without his knowledge. He felt much hurt on learning this, and, although quite convinced that there was no intentional disrespect towards him on the part of those with whom he was officially connected; yet he also felt that there were other considerations not to be overlooked. On looking at the facts, it was evident that there would be much difficulty in the future discharge of his duties, and in the proper conduct of the bill, the success of which he had so much at heart. The Irish gentlemen who had sent the memorial construed the reply to it into a pledge that the removal or non-removal of Irish paupers would form part of the existing bill, while, on the other hand, he was of opinion that the Irish question was not yet ripe for legislation, and that it ought to form the subject of a separate bill. Influenced by these considerations, he, on Tuesday last tendered his resignation to the noble Earl at the head of the Government; and subsequently he received a reply, in which the noble Earl expressed a hope, in order to avoid public inconvenience that he would reconsider his determination, and at all events remain until it could be seen whether anything could be done to smoothe away the difficulties which he contemplated as likely to arise. Under these circumstances he had referred the question to the judgment of two friends. On receiving the result of their consideration of the subject, he communicated to Lord Aberdeen that, as he could, in the opinion of his friends, remain without injustice to his own character; and as his retirement would lead to inconvenience, he would remain in office for the present, reserving to himself the right of renewing his resignation if he should ultimately find that he could not agree with the views of the Government on the subject.

After a few words from Mr. FRENCH, Lord PALMERSTON disclaimed for himself and his colleagues, all idea of offering a slight to his right hon. friend.

Mr. T. DUNCOMBE thought it was evident that the right hon. gentleman had not been treated with the consideration which he deserved. The Crown was in danger of losing an efficient servant in consequence of the flirtation that was going on between Tiverton and Tyrone.

Mr. DISRAELI said that the manner in which the right hon. gentleman discharged his duties entitled him to the respect of every member of that House.

The subject then dropped.

THE INCOME-TAX BILL.

On the order of the day for the third reading of the Income-tax Bill,

Sir J. PAKINGTON called the attention of the House to the circumstances which have led to the proposed increase of the Income-tax, and to the declared intentions of the Government with respect to defraying the costs of the war. The right hon. gentleman referred to the Eastern correspondence, in order to show that when the Chancellor of the Exchequer brought forward his Budget last year, he must have been perfectly aware of the intention of Russia to partition Turkey; and yet, in the face of that knowledge, he had asked the House to repeal the soap and other duties—a course which the House assented to, in ignorance of the position of our foreign relations. Had the House been aware of the information in the possession of Ministers, it never would have consented to the repeal of those duties.

Mr CARDWELL defended the financial policy of the Government. The measures referred to by the right hon. Baronet had been followed by unexampled prosperity, and he had not been deemed necessary to increase the burdens of the mass of the people or to add to the National Debt in order to defray the expenses of the war.

After some further discussion, the bill was read a third time and passed.

It was agreed on the suggestion of the Committee to inquire into Conventual and Monastic Institutions was then proceeded with, and continued up to the rising of the House. Very little progress was made in the appointment of the committee.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

THE QUEEN'S MESSAGE.

Their Lordships met at Six o'clock.

The approaches to the House were thronged with persons eager to obtain admission to hear the expected discussion upon the Address in answer to the Queen's Message. The Galleries at each side of the House were also occupied by a number of fashionably-attired ladies.

Lord RODEN asked the noble Lord at the head of the Government whether it was his intention to advise her Majesty to issue her commands that a day should be set apart for the purpose of humiliation, and also asking the blessing of the Almighty upon our arms, in the great contest in which we were about to embark?

Lord ABERDEEN said that it was the intention of the Government to advise her Majesty to command that a day should be set apart for the object to which the question of the noble Earl referred.

After a few observations from the Bishop of CANTERBURY, in approval of the announcement which the noble Earl had just made,

The Earl of CLARENDON, amid the deepest silence, rose to move the Address in answer to the Message of her Majesty. He said that upon an occasion of such great importance, when the peace they had so long endeavoured to maintain was at an end, he could not approach the subject, familiar though it was, without feeling of pain and regret. Some of their Lordships were of opinion that her Majesty's Government had not acted with that promptitude which became them as the Ministers of a great nation. But he was of opinion that the energy and unanimity which were at present displayed throughout the empire did not respond to what some were inclined to regard as a just charge. With respect to the Secret Correspondence which had lately been laid upon the table, it had been the opinion of the Government that that correspondence could not have been produced at an earlier period than it had been, without a betrayal of the confidence which must be supposed to exist in the case of communications of a private character. As regarded the terms sought to be imposed upon the acceptance of the Porte by Russia he could only say that those terms had been from the first rejected by the Turkish Government; and that nothing could be more unworthy of the Czar than to attempt, as he had done, to ascribe the rejection of those terms entirely to the influence of Lord Stratford de Redcliffe. The noble Earl then proceeded to enter into a history of the course which the aggression of Russia had taken, and the time which negotiations had occupied during the period at which the Russian forces had crossed the Pruth. Since that period the demands of the Emperor of Russia, instead of having lost any of their original injustice, had become still more arrogant, and still more inconsistent with what was due to the dignity and the independence of the Porte. This country had resolved that those demands should, at any sacrifice, be resisted, and it was in accordance with that resolution that he now called upon them to assent to the Address, in answer to her Majesty's Message, which had been communicated to their Lordships on Monday last. We had determined to check her unjust aggression, but to what consequences the contest may lead could by no means be at the present moment ascertained. He could not, therefore, give an answer to the question which had been put to him some time since as to the terms on which her Majesty's Government would be prepared to conclude a peace with Russia.

The Earl of DERBY would not oppose the motion, but he must say he did not approve of the course pursued by Her Majesty's Government. On the contrary, he would say that had the noble Lord, at the head of the Government, not been in that position, there would have been no necessity for the war at all.

After some discussion, in which the Earl of Aberdeen, the Earl of Malmesbury, and other noble Lords joined, the answer was agreed to, and their Lordships adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS. FRIDAY.

The Speaker took the chair at four o'clock

Mr BARROW brought up the report of the Committee on the Dungarvan Election Petition, which stated that J. F. Maguire, Esq., was duly elected at the last election for that borough; that treating had taken place; but it had not been proved that Mr. Maguire was, by himself or his agents, connected therewith.

In reply to a question from Mr. Spooner, Lord J. RUSSELL said he would not proceed with the Oaths' Bill before Easter.

HER MAJESTY'S MESSAGE.

Lord J. RUSSELL, in moving an answer to her Majesty's most gracious Message, said it was now nearly a month since a similar Message had been brought to the House, and for forty years the country had enjoyed all the blessings of peace. Considering the prosperity which was interrupted by war, and the misery which it created, he thought nothing but absolute necessity could justify a nation in incurring all its evils. He would show, however, that unless we were prepared to submit to the further aggrandisement of Russia, and the probable destruction of Turkey, it was impossible to refrain from supporting the answer which he was about to move to the Message from the Throne. He referred to the changes which had taken place in the internal affairs of Turkey within the last thirty years, and to the increased liberality displayed by the Government towards the Christian subjects of the Porte. In treating of that subject he would not take any view of all reference to the Holy Places, because they were only the pretence for, and not the cause of, the aggression which had taken place. This was evident from the fact that no sooner was the question of the Holy Places settled than the Czar set up fresh demands until at length he proclaimed rights which, if conceded, would make him the ruler over the Greek subjects of the Sultan. The course pursued was menacing towards Turkey, and deceptive towards the other Powers of Europe. In speaking of the conduct of Russia on a former occasion he had used very strong language, but on reflection he could not say it was at all too strong for the conduct he intended to condemn. That language, however, had excited great indignation in Russia; and an article was inserted in the organ of the Russian Government which compelled the British Government, in its own defence, to produce the Secret Correspondence—the publication of which he felt they had no reason to regret. Lord Clarendon and himself had declined to be any parties to the designs of Russia on Turkey. The noble Lord then entered into a lengthened detail of all that had taken place subsequent to the mission of Prince Menschikoff, and commented forcibly and severely on the insincerity of the course pursued by Russia throughout the negotiations. In consequence of the wrongs inflicted upon Turkey by the occupation of the Principalities by the Russians, the Sultan had at length been driven to the necessity of declaring war, in which course it was impossible to say he was not justified. Under these circumstances France and England had jointly called upon Russia to withdraw her troops, intimating that the refusal to do so would be considered tantamount to a declaration of war. The Emperor of Russia had declined to answer the demand; and it became necessary for England and France to declare war, which had accordingly been done.

Mr. LAYARD quoted at great length the Secret Correspondence, with the view of fastening upon the Government, or some of its members, a charge of so far falsifying the Secret Correspondence, as to seek to warp public opinion to these views, by communicating to the *Times* newspaper, despatches which had been withheld from Parliament, in order that it might write leaders calculated to prepare the public mind for the fall of Turkey. Some of these despatches were communicated to the *Times*, even before they would have been communicated to more than a very few members of the Cabinet.

Mr BRIGHT condemned the course pursued by the Government, not thinking there was anything very unnatural in the demands made upon Turkey by Russia.

Mr. J. BALL defended the course pursued by the Government.

The Marquis of GRANBY did not think that the demands of Russia were unreasonable.

After some remarks from Lord D. Stuart,

Lord PALMERSTON replied to the attack made by Mr. Layard, and replied with much humour to the speech of Mr. Bright, whose only ideas upon European policy resolved themselves into a question of pounds, shillings, and pence.

Mr. DISRAELI supported the Address, and commented at great length on the correspondence in order to show that there was an agreement between England and Russia, which was called a Memorandum, by which Turkey was to be partitioned by Russia, Austria, and England, to the exclusion of France.

Lord J. RUSSELL shortly replied, and expressed the determination of the Cabinet not to allow any portion of Turkish territory to be appropriated to the aggrandisement of Russia.

After some observations from Colonel Sibthorpe, the Address was agreed to, and it was arranged that it should be carried up by the whole House.—Adjourned.

DESTRUCTION OF HUNGERFORD-HALL BY FIRE.—Last night (Friday) the large building in the centre of Hungerford-market, known as Hungerford-hall, was totally destroyed by fire. About half-past seven o'clock flames were seen to issue from that portion of the building occupied by the tavern and Wellington Funeral, recently removed from the Strand, between Gwydyr, Hyde-park-corner; and before any engine could be got to work in operation the fire, having [illegible] the building, [illegible] the upper [illegible] portion of the [illegible] In [illegible] Strand [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

TOWN AND TABLE TALK, ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

Londoners are becoming less clubbable than formerly. Last New Year's-day witnessed the dissolution of the Erechtheum Club, in St. James's-square; and last Lady-day brought the Coventry Club, in Piccadilly, to a close. The Erechtheum depended for existence mainly on the reputation of its cook; and the Coventry was supported chiefly by young Guardsmen. many of whom are now on the eve of starting for Constantinople. But the dissolution of two clubs within three months is to be attributed not altogether to indifference and to the Autocrat of Russia, but rather to railways, which carry men away from London, and in some degree, to a fashion in such matters; for it is not to be denied that clubs are much in vogue as when the Pall-mall rage for building commenced under the late Mr. Nash and Mr. Decimus Burton. Our great clubs were never more prosperous, we believe, than now; but it is found that Londoners can do with fewer club-houses than were at one time thought necessary for the clubbable character and likings of Belgravia and Tyburnia.

The Strawberry Hill Eagle, the feathered king with ruffled plumes and flagging wing, one of the best-known features in Horace Walpole's gallery, was sold on Saturday last by Messrs. Christie and Mason, for 530 guineas. At the memorable dispersion by George Robins of the contents of the Gothic Castle—known to every reader of English literature—this eagle sold for 200 guineas. War, therefore, is not affecting art. The ancients, it is said, have left us but five animals of equal merit with their human figures: the Tuscan boar, the Barberini goat, the Jennings or Duncombe dog, the Mattei eagle, and the Strawberry Hill eagle. The Jennings dog was sold in 1778 for 1000 guineas; and it is now at Duncombe Park, in Yorkshire, the seat of Lord Feversham. The high price at which it sold gave rise to a curious conversation between Johnson and a friend, sold gave rise to a curious conversation between Johnson and a friend, reported by Boswell in his best manner. The talk last week about the eagle at Christie's was scarcely less curious: some would enshrine it in the British Museum; others condemned it to the Eagle Insurance Office, or the Eagle Tavern in the City-road.

There is an impressive passage in old Stow (our chroniclers are now too little read), in which the fearful evils of war, as conducted in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, are placed before one in very few, but very effective words. At this moment, when we are sending out an army and a fleet at the same time (than which a nobler never left our shores), the contrast between the mode now adopted of manning the navy with that in force in the reign of Queen Elizabeth will be read with interest. Living in warlike times, we have yet to be thankful that this impressment system is no longer in force; that the chroniclers of the reign of Queen Victoria have not to record such violent removals as those recorded by the annalists of Queen Elizabeth. Here is the passage:—

> The 9th of April being Good Friday, in the afternoon the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of London, being in Paul's Churchyard, hearing the sermon at Paul's-cross, were suddenly called from thence; and forthwith, by a precept from her Majesty and Council, pressed 1000 men, which was done by eight of the clock the same night; and before the next morning they were furnished of all manner of furniture for the wars, ready to have gone towards Dover, and so to the aid of the French in Calais against the Spaniards: but in the afternoon of the same Saturday they were all discharged. Notwithstanding, on the 11th of April, being Easter-day, about ten of the clock before noon, came a new charge, so that all men being in their parish churches, ready to have received the Communion, the aldermen, their deputies, constables, and other officers, were fain to close up the church doors till they had pressed so many men to be soldiers, that by twelve of the clock they had in the whole city 1000 men: and those, forthwith furnished of armour, weapons, and all things necessary, were—for the most part that night, and the rest on the next morning—sent away towards Dover, as the like out of other parts of the realm: but about a week after they returned back again, for the French had lost Calais. The Earl of Essex had the command of these men.

Neither Sir Charles Napier, nor Admiral Dundas, we take it, would care for the command of such raw recruits.

The well-known rooms of Sotheby and Wilkinson have been wearing a very different aspect this week from their usual appearances. Instead of being lined with well-bound books or choice water-colour drawings, they are decorated profusely, in every place, with a most important assemblage of examples of ancient, mediæval, and modern art. As the collection will still be on view till Monday, this brief notice of what is to be seen there may prove of use to some of our readers.

There is a revival this week, or an attempt at a revival, of an Authors' Publishing Association. It is time we are told that a class of men who do nothing for literature should cease to be the tyrants of literature, and that the degrading vassalage of intellect to the counter should no longer continue. The scheme is very visionary. For instance, we find in one part of the prospectus the assertion that "no book ever is published (unless at the author's risk) that does not pay the necessary expenses;" a statement of which we could give, in common, we believe, with every bookseller and author (who knows anything of bookselling), many striking examples to the contrary. We have heard it laid down as a safe rule, that any book of which one would be afraid to print more than five hundred copies, is a book not worth printing as a remunerative speculation. It is a mistake to suppose that publishing is a lucrative business. Let us look around us, and see in this great London of ours, how many publishers there are who have made fortunes by publishing only? The great houses in the Row are rich rather from bookselling than from publishing—from their wholesale trade with what others publish and put for th, than from what they originally issue themselves. Mr Murray owes much of his competency to the skill and liberality of his father; his own income, though no doubt handsome, is less than that of the leading partners in the great houses in the Row. Mr. Moxon is not a wealthy man, though a man well to do in the world. Then, to revert to earlier times, your Tonsons and Lintots grew rich by the Government monopolies they enjoyed, more than by the poetry and prose they put forth. That the class of publishers requires some enlightenment, and, perhaps, in some cases, a little more liberality, we will not deny; but we think that the description of the calling given by a distinguished author, who certainly has had opportunities of seeing publishers at their own houses, is far from true. He calls publishing "a trade more remarkable for the misvaluation of its raw materials than any other." We shall have more to say on this subject, and on the hazard (too much lost sight of in this question) that a good book runs on its first appearance.

Mr. Panizzi's scheme of a new reading-room will be carried out, and that formidable complaint, the Museum headache, and that objectionable insect, the Museum flea, will never more be felt. His scheme is freely this. He is to erect a circular court, of glass, in the open quadrangle of the building—set apart, at present, for cats and sparrows. He is to accommodate three times the number of readers he has now room, chiefly, to annoy; and he is to bring his book attendants, as well as his readers, a great deal closer to the main supply of books. As the Chancellor of the Exchequer has undertaken to find money, and Mr. Panizzi is to have his own way, we may soon expect to have an excellent public reading-room in our national library.

Crosby Hall Elocution Class.—At a meeting of this class recently, a silver inkstand was presented to Mr. Leopold Smart, the teacher, with a few suitable remarks by the committee.

Arrivals from Australia.—Plymouth, Thursday.—The *Tolaera*, which left Melbourne on the 18th of December, has arrived off [illegible], she landed some passengers, twelve mail-bags, and two boxes, [illegible] a pilot boat, and proceeded to the Thames. She has on board 40 000 ounces of gold, and a full cargo of wool and tallow.—Falmouth, [illegible] the *Bridgnorth* [illegible] Philadelphia, left Philadelphia, and proceeded to London.

[illegible] Election.—[illegible] was decided on Thursday, [illegible] Brewery, 113; Read, [illegible] majority of thirty-two. A large [illegible] were liberal.

MUSIC.

Mendelssohn's "Elijah" was performed at Exeter hall on Monday evening, by the members of the Harmonic Union, in aid of the funds of the Middlesex Hospital, one of the oldest and best charitable establishments in the metropolis. There was a numerous list, headed by the Queen and Prince Albert at its head of royal, noble, and distinguished patrons and patronesses; and this patronage was not of that sort which consists in giving merely one's name, without either contribution or support, but real and substantial. The professional musicians were not called upon (as they too often are) to perform gratuitously; that is to say, to give their time and talents (which are their money) to an object in which they have no personal interest, while a body of aristocratic and wealthy patrons complacently themselves with an ostentatious display of their names. They were adequately remunerated; and yet the concert, as we were informed, produced a clear surplus of £1200. The performance was magnificent. The list of principal singers included the names of Signor Belletti (who as the representative of the Prophet has now no rival), Mr. Sims Reeves, Miss Louisa Pyne, Miss Dolby, and Miss Stabbach. The chorus and instrumental orchestra were complete and powerful; and the whole was under the direction of the society's able conductor, Mr. Benedict. Notwithstanding the high price of admission, the hall was completely full. Of guinea tickets alone, a thousand were sold, and the lower rates were in proportion.

Miss Birch's Concert, on Tuesday evening, at St. Martin's Hall, deserves honourable mention on account of the classical character of the selection, as well as the remarkable excellence of the performance. Its principal features were a scene from Handel's fine but comparatively little-known "Semele;" large extracts from Mehul's beautiful sacred drama, "Joseph and his Brethren;" and the grand finale to Mozart's "Don Giovanni," including those persons which, though beautiful in themselves, yet, not being well fitted for dramatic representation, are always omitted on the stage: and therefore, cannot be heard in public, unless in the concert-room. Besides these, there were several choice pieces of smaller dimensions, particularly Beethoven's overture to "Coriolanus," and Mendelssohn's "Isles of Fingal," played by a small, but exceedingly select orchestra; Hummel's Pianoforte Sonata in F sharp minor, executed by Herr Ernst, with his wonted excellence; and Osborne's Sestet for the Piano and Wind instruments—a most masterly work, exquisitely played by the composer, with Messrs. Nicholson, Rockstro, Mann, Lucas, and Howell. Miss Birch sang the scena, "Ah parlate," from Cimarosa's "Sacrifizio d'Abramo," and Mendelssohn's song, "Now the dreary Winter flies:" Miss Dolby gave Hutton's "Day and Night;" and Mr. Augustus Braham, in the air, "The Child and the Old Man," from Hullah's "Village Coquettes," reminded us of his fabled swan-singing, which contributed so much to the popularity of this pretty opera when it was first produced at the St. James's Theatre, and ran fifty nights without interruption. This excellent concert proved very attractive. St. Martin's Hall being filled to the doors by a highly gratified audience.

A concert of quite another kind, but not without merit in its way was that given by Mr Case, at Exeter hall, on Wednesday evening. It was a remarkable specimen of the *concert monstre*. Mr. Case had gathered together some thirty solo singers, and nearly as many solo instrumentalists, among whom there were a few eminent individuals of both sexes; and he had, moreover, an orchestra of fifty performers. His bill of fare was sufficient to satisfy the most ravenous appetite for music. It was, indeed, more ample than *recherché*; being a heterogeneous mixture of all sorts of things—of no common and familiar kind, however, that they stood in need of no previous rehearsal or preparation on the part of the performers. The prices of admission were low, ranging from a shilling to five; and the hall, consequently, was crowded to excess by the audience, which, somewhat noisy and boisterous in their plaudits and encores, seemed to enjoy the entertainment mightily. Such concerts as this are not intended for the more musical portion of the public, but for such as, not being in the habit of frequenting the more expensive concerts, are glad to profit by the means thus afforded them of hearing eminent performers and excellent music, which has, to them, the further charm of novelty. They thus receive a great deal of enjoyment, while their taste is refined and improved.

The celebrated violinist Ernst has arrived in London, after an absence of three years. He appeared for the first time at Ella's concert, on Thursday evening, when he performed the first violin part of a quartet of Mendelssohn, and his own beautiful "Elégie," with which he used to delight the public during his last visit, and which was now found as charming as ever.

Jenny Lind (Madame Goldschmidt) is giving concerts at Vienna with great éclat. This celebrated lady has always been famous among other things for not knowing her own mind, and she seems still to be as unstable of purpose as ever. She has been coming and not coming to London this season half-a-dozen times within the last six months. Mr. Benedict, when he returned from his late trip to Germany, communicated directly from her—of her intention to visit London; then it was intimated that she had altered her mind, and would remain in Germany; and now, it appears, she has changed her mind again, and is positively to be here for the purpose of giving concerts in the course of the season.

Miss Bushy, a rising pianiste, gave her annual Concert, at Willis's Rooms, on Wednesday evening last. She had a numerous and well-pleased audience; and gave undeniable proofs of her progress in art, as in the good graces of the public. She was, as became her, the principal actor in the evening's performance, playing Hummel's Trio in C major, with Messrs. Molique and Gelder; Beethoven's Sonata in C sharp; Mozart's Sonata in A Major, with Herr Molique; and two Solos by Mendelssohn and Weber. Mozart's music was exquisitely performed, warming both the artist and the audience, and giving extreme satisfaction. Herr Molique's performances are well known; but Herr Gelder, violoncellist, from the Netherlands, is, we think, new to London. He played a Fantasia of his own composition, not particularly well, appearing deficient both in strength of arm and general vigour.

On Wednesday a Grand Musical Festival will be given at Exeter-hall for the Benefit of the Widows and Orphans of the Workmen killed at the Crystal Palace, Syde ham.

THE THEATRES.

PRINCESS'.

One of the cleverest pieces within our recollection was produced on Saturday—a drama, in two acts, entitled "The Married Unmarried," and founded on a tale of Balzac's, "La Grande Bretèche." The playwright, Mr. Morris Barnett, is certainly one of the most adroit of his class; but in the present instance he has been more than commonly felicitous, not only in the choice and treatment of his subject, but in the selection of his histrionic coadjutors. The scene is laid at Vendôme during the Empire; and the action commences with one *Colonel de Malâ* (Mr. Ryder), who in a soliloquy reveals his disposition. Boldness, dexterity, and military perseverence are evidently his divinities; and the actor looked the man to the life. Never was a character assumed with so much facility, and yet with so much apparent truth. Nor is this result due to any peculiar histrionic skill; it is simply the fitness of the person to the part, as to figure, voice, and natural manner. Sternly imperative, the image of indomitable wilfulness, *De Malâ* has no toleration for the submissive virtues of his wife, *Adèle*—a character, again, which was almost as happily impersonated by Miss Heath. Her entry on the scene was prepossessing. Her head and peculiar countenance seemed indeed classical—yet so modified as to be quite appropriate to the period. It was evident that she entered into the part with timidity, but, also, with that degree of perception which would secure the intended outline, notwithstanding any troublesome interference of nervous unsteadiness. In a young performer, we are, indeed, inclined to look upon this sensitiveness as a favourable condition: this tendency is generally found to be conducive to care and indoor extra care. The condition, comported well with the opening scenes, in which the trembling, patient wife has to support the rude assaults of a husband, who is nothing, if not warlike. He might have loved the wife, but he had a still more unmanageable passion—ambition, and afforded him justification for his conduct: but perpetual surrender without the concession of a victory, proved intolerably inconsistent with his habits and notions. Eagerly he seizes on some ground of complaint, and finding that she had formerly a lover, *Juan de Vilarela* (Mr. J. F. Cathcart), who still persecutes her, would evidently rather throw her into the way of temptation than send her out of it. This is a natural trait of character, which, with others, re-dites this drama to a higher rank than that of a mere vaudeville; and it should at once be considered as an interesting play, brief in its development as simple in its theme, but thoroughly legitimate in its class and treatment. The impression is much assisted by the very genial acting of Miss Murray, in a soubrette part, *Thérette*, who is made "the screen" by *Juan*, the better to carry on his designs on her mistress, and who possesses herself of the letter that renders the *Colonel's* presence in Paris needful. A former wife, in fact, has laid her appeal before the Emperor; and thus *Adèle* becomes informed of her approaching deliverance. The *Colonel*, however, returns unexpectedly; and *Juan*, who is now of *Adèle's* council, is hurriedly concealed in a closet. The *Colonel* surprises the fact, and orders the closet to be walled up with cement, while he, with *Adèle*, proceeds to supper. The situation is most exciting; but is concluded by the entrance of gendarmes. *Juan*, also, is found to have escaped at the back; while *De Malâ* is restrained by his captors from doing further mischief, on which he is still intent. This incident produced a strong impression, and secured not only the success, but unequivocal triumph, of the piece.

DRURY-LANE.

The engagement of Mr. Brooks having been brought to a conclusion—somewhat prematurely, if we may judge from the non-production of two new four-act plays in which it was announced that the "great tragedian" would appear—the manager has prudently turned his attention to the more miscellaneous business of the theatre. A Chinese troupe of histrionic gymnasts appeared on Monday evening: they are respectively named Wan shing, Yau Gyn, Zun Ban, Ar Cow, Ar-hee, Chong-Moon, Chin-gan, Arling, and Arsam, the interpreter. The title of the quasi drama which serves as the vehicle for their marvels, is "The Feast of the Dragon," celebrated in the presence of the Emperor, who is, on this occasion, humorously personated by a dwarf. The athletic and other tricks performed by these conjurors and posture masters, though not all new, were striking and well done. For ease and agility these Chinese are indeed the rivals of the French artists, and practise the most difficult feats with the greatest apparent nonchalance. Balls and knives are thrown about in all imaginable directions, with the utmost precision and grace of movement. The former are absorbed into different parts of the body, and reproduced at pleasure. Fire is eaten, and the consumed paper reproduced in interminable lengths of red tape, these being next converted into a walking-stick—a trick, however, not very novel. Another feat was more striking, requiring real agility, that of throwing several summersaults with an entire service of china in the hands, under the arms, and between the teeth, without breaking a single article. Some vaulting over lofty tables was extraordinary; and the energy with which, in their gyrations, the clowns spurned each other backwards by a kick on the breast was astonishing. The concluding scene of the exhibition "the Impalement," as it is termed, we shall engrave next week.

ADELPHI.

An occasional piece, entitled "The Moustache Movement," was produced on Tuesday. There is no attempt at plot, but the movement alluded to is caricatured by presenting a butcher, a baker, a waiter, and a lawyer's clerk, with the specified ornament on the upper lip. The last-named worthy is personated by Mr. Keeley, and wins the heart of a milliner by wearing a false moustache. This, by a series of mistakes and escapades, he is at last compelled to confess, and cuts his lip of the appendage which he surrenders into the hands of Mrs. Keeley, who, thereupon, addresses the audience in a parody of Rosalind's epilogue to Shakspeare's "As You Like It," in favour of whisker and beard. The whole thing is the veriest trifle; but, by the aid of good acting, sufficed to please the pit—which, indeed, seemed to be exceedingly amused.

MARYLEBONE.

A new *débutante* has appeared at this theatre in the character of *Juliet*—a Miss Cleveland, who has lately won laurels, as an amateur, at the Soho. This young lady possesses rare personal qualifications for a tragedienne; and, we doubt not, with a little practice, will prove an efficient actress. Mrs. Wallack performed *Romeo* with a beauty of style that was highly pleasing, and with a fervour of feeling that proved sympathy with the passions of the text of Shakspeare, usually omitted, were restored, particularly the punning banter between *Mercutio* (Mr. J. W. Wallack) and *Romeo*, which, acted with infinite spirit, was remarkably effective. The appointments of the revival are rich and accurate, and nothing has been spared to render it worthy of the attention it is evidently receiving.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,

TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, MARCH 30.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading	Lowest Reading	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
	Inches.	°	°	°	°			Inches.
Mar. 24	30.295	48°6	29°9	39°9	— 2·5	83	CALM.	0.00
" 25	30.660	46°2	29°0	39°4	— 3·1	84	S.W. & N.W.	0.00
" 26	30.557	56°0	46°0	48°0	+ 5·6	90	N. & W.	0.00
" 27	30.139	55°0	38·5	45·5	+ 2·7	73	S.W. & N.W.	0.00
" 28	30.315	58°5	32°6	48·5	+ 5·5	76	WSW. & NW	0.00
" 29	30.271	61°9	39·5	48·0	+ 4·5	78	S.S.W.	0.00
" 30	30.284	60·8	39·5	50·6	+ 7·3	74	S.W.	0.04

Note.—The sign — denotes below the average, and the sign + above the average.

The reading of the barometer decreased from 30.40 inches at the beginning of the week, to 29.86 inches by the morning of the 28th; increased to 30.49 inches by the morning of the 27th; and decreased to 30.16 inches by the afternoon of the same day; increased to 30.37 inches by the 30th, and decreased to 30.15 inches by the end of the week. The mean for the week, at the height of 82 feet above the level of the sea, was 30.1170 inches.

The mean temperature of the week was 45·49, being 2·69 above the average of the corresponding week during 38 years.

The range of temperature during the week was 32·99.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 22·86.

The weather throughout the week was fine; but, with the exception of the 27th and 30th, and the latter parts of the 27th and 28th days, the sky has been for the most part overcast. The wind has been in gentle motion only during the week.

Lewisham, March 31st, 1854. JAMES GLAISHER.

Health of London.—The births of 1805 children were registered in the week ending March 25: of these 912 were boys, and 893 girls. The average number of boys in the same week for the preceding six years returns were 776, and 729 girls. The deaths registered within the week were 1200, showing a small increase on those of the previous week. These deaths were distributed in three periods of life:—those of children, under fifteen years of age; 361 men and women, from fifteen to sixty years; and 295 at sixty and upwards.

Municipal Donations.—The Corporation of London have made a further donation of £100 to the Society of London Artists for Decorating the Crest, towards the fund for completing the new building at the Victoria-park. It is proposed to open the Crystal for the reception of public pictures, if the requisite amount, although it falls short, will be required to meet the heavy claims of the tradesmen, and which the committee are anxious to discharge before the funds are appropriated to the objects of the exhibition, it is considered to be equally as eminently deserving of the encouragement and support of all classes.

The Wages Movement.—The Preston [illegible]. A public meeting of the operatives of the [illegible] Monday last, for the purpose of [illegible] the arrest of Mr. Cowell and the other leaders of the [illegible] Preston, and to take measures for their defence and vindication. The room was literally crowded to excess. The chair was taken by Mr. W. Coningham, barrister-at-law, the late candidate for Westminster. Mr. Cowell, Mr. Newton, and others addressed the meeting, and a series of resolutions were passed in favour of the operatives and their leaders, and pledging the meeting to support them. Mr Cowell and the other delegates were liberally supported by the Preston operatives, on Tuesday; but the committee have stopped that they had not had time to prepare their defence, the trial was postponed till the next assizes.

Society of Arts.—During the past quarter the Society of Arts has received into their union thirty-one literary and scientific institutions and mechanics' institutes. The total number now in union is 348. The following have also been incorporated with them—The Hull Chamber of Commerce and shipping; and the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, in the belief that many of the objects taken up by these bodies might be greatly promoted by united action.

Fire at the West India Docks.—On Monday morning [illegible] at the Pier Head, West India Docks, [illegible] the premises [illegible]. The fire broke out in the Master's Office and storehouse. The engines were quickly on the spot, and, owing to the combustible nature of the stock in the storehouse, the flames made great havoc. The cause of the outbreak was the [illegible] The Master's [illegible]

SCENE FROM THE NEW DRAMA OF "TWO LOVES AND A LIFE," AT THE ADELPHI THEATRE.

ADELPHI THEATRE.—"TWO LOVES AND A LIFE."

MESSRS Reade and Taylor's meritorious drama, thus entitled, continues to be attractive, and fully justifies the commendations which have been bestowed upon it. It is desirable to encourage literary merit in productions for the stage; and particularly where, as at the Adelphi, much account is made of certain theatrical effects. Far are we from undervaluing these; for well we know, taught both by precept and experience, that unless the proprieties of the stage are observed, the best writing may prove inoperative. Melodrama is the skeleton of a play, to which poetical or literary ornamentation is as the flesh and the blood, charming both by its texture and its tinct. Too frequently the ordinary audience of a theatre has been satisfied with the bony spectre, and been terrified and agitated with its ghastly doings, by which such audience has heretofore, at any rate, been strongly moved and excited, though the cultivated taste has been outraged. The general enlightenment of the people is now no longer content with such meagre stage exhibitions; and hence the most popular of theatres is becoming every day more classical in its entertainments. The scenery and appointments, at the same time, judiciously receive the same attention as ever, as may be witnessed by the illustration herewith presented. The scene is that of Bardwell Hole by moonlight—the rendezvous for the Jacobite con pirators, whither the poor schoolmaster *John Daw* (Mr. Keeley) is compelled to journey by *Father Radcliffe* (Mr. Webster), much against the grain, in dread of the pistol which he believes to be levelled at his head behind. Here the gentlemen of the northern counties consult as to the best means of promoting the Pretender's claims, and renew their oaths of fidelity to his cause. But all is in vain. The troops of the Duke of Cumberland are upon their track, and they are taken in the snare. Like the other incidents of this drama, there is not much novelty in the situation just described. The merit in this, and the other instances, lies in the skill with which the interest is prepared for and elaborated. The whole serves to show how successfully genius or talent may deal with old materials, giving new life even to the obsolete, and stamping its peculiar impress on the outworn details of traditional stage-craft, thereby making its own what must otherwise have passed into oblivion as either dull or dead. Thus re-animated, these ancient sources of interest again rightfully challenge public attention, and command a legitimate success.

ROMAN TESSELATED PAVEMENT, DISCOVERED ON THE SITE OF THE EXCISE OFFICE, OLD BROAD STREET, BISHOPSGATE.

PROCEEDINGS were commenced on Monday last for the removal of this pavement, under the direction of Mr. Minton—its destination being, we understand, the new Crystal Palace at Sydenham.

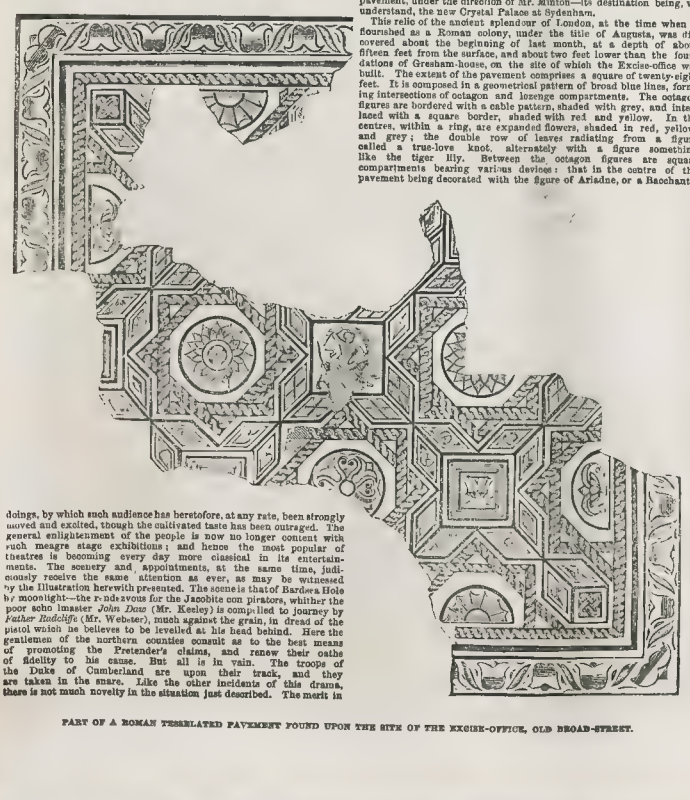
This relic of the ancient splendour of London, at the time when it flourished as a Roman colony, under the title of Augusta, was discovered about the beginning of last month, at a depth of about fifteen feet from the surface, and about two feet lower than the foundations of Gresham-house, on the site of which the Excise-office was built. The extent of the pavement comprises a square of twenty-eight feet. It is composed in a geometrical pattern of broad blue lines, forming intersections of octagon and lozenge compartments. The octagon figures are bordered with a cable pattern, shaded with grey, and interlaced with a square border, shaded with red and yellow. In the centres, within a ring, are expanded flowers, shaded in red, yellow, and grey; the double row of leaves radiating from a figure called a true-love knot, alternately with a figure something like the tiger lily. Between the octagon figures are square compartments bearing various devices: that in the centre of the pavement being decorated with the figure of Ariadne, or a Bacchante, reclining on the back of a panther, the remains of which indicate spirited action; but only the fore paws, one of the hind paws, and the tail remain. Over the head of the figure floats a light drapery, forming an arch, which she retains with the right hand, while the left appears to have rested on the panther's neck. Another square contains a two-handled vase. In the demi-octagons, at the sides of the pattern, are lunettes, one of which contains a fan ornament; another, a bowl, crowned with flowers. The lozenge intersections are variously embellished with the figures of leaves, shells, true-love knots, chequers, and an ornament shaped like a dice-box. At the corners of the pattern are true-love knots. Surrounding this pattern there is a broad border, composed of a cable pattern, broad bands of blue and white alternately; then a bold enclosure of a floral scroll; and beyond this an edge of demi-lozenges in alternate blue and white. An outer border, composed of plain red tesseræ, surrounds the whole.

The ground of the pavement is white, and the other colours are a scale of full red, yellow, and a bluish grey; agreeing with the description by Lucretius of the decorations of a Roman theatre—

> The theatre, whose awnings broad,
> Bedued with crimson, yellow, or the tint of steel cerulean.

This pavement is evidently of late workmanship, but it is probable that, on its removal, another, or vestiges of another of earlier date will be found. This is indicated by an edge which appears at about a foot lower, and is to be perceived a little off at the side. Various Roman and mediæval articles have been turned up in the same excavation, among these are a silver denarius of Hadrian, several copper coins of Constantine, a small copper coin, bearing on the reverse the figures of Romulus and Remus suckled by the traditionary wolf under the fig-tree, at the foot of the Palatine hill; and several Roman and mediæval tiles, a small glass of a fine blue colour, and fragments of Roman and mediæval pottery, and mediæval coins. Several tradesmen's tokens were likewise picked up.

About the same time with the discovery in Broad-street, a large deposit of Roman *débris* was found, in an excavation upon the site of the Church of St. Benets Fink, in Threadneedle street; consisting of Roman tiles, flue-tiles, fragments of pottery of the black, pale, and red Samian fabrics; glass, &c. Among which were stags' horns, a horse's skull, and a quantity of red tesseræ, were also found; together with some other mediæval remains. Fragments of two ancient stone coffin-lids were turned up—the most ancient of which bears on the side of a circular-headed cross an ornament of interlaced work, similar to that used in Saxon ornamentation. It is figured in the accompanying Engraving



PART OF A ROMAN TESSELATED PAVEMENT FOUND UPON THE SITE OF THE EXCISE-OFFICE, OLD BROAD-STREET.

FRAGMENT OF AN ANCIENT STONE COFFIN-LID, FOUND IN THREADNEEDLE STREET.

This slab was found at a depth of ten feet. The other was discovered five feet lower. It bears a treisil headed cross; and on the edge of the stone is an inscription, in characters of the thirteenth century, which appears to have read as follows:—

LAM:BRVN:PRIE:PATARE

(Of your charitie for the soul of William Brun pray a paternoster.)

EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.

The Thirty-first Annual Exhibition of the Incorporated Society of British Artists opened on Monday last. The works exhibited, inclusive of water-colour paintings, and a few pieces of sculpture, are 760 in number; about the usual quantity. In merit we are sorry to say that we cannot acknowledge any improvement upon the stock of many previous seasons. Why this is we will not undertake to say; albeit we have our own suspicions upon the subject. The fact is notorious, that the time is gone by when the artist shared the poet's penury and neglect; and, when both laboured at their calling for their arts' sake, and in pursuit of the bubble reputation—whether posthumous, or not, they little cared. The Art-Unions have provided a large market for works of pictorial decoration, and the artists of our day demand and obtain prices for their works which the Wilsons, Hogarths, Morlands, and Barrys, of an age gone by, would have most incredulously stared at; and yet, in return for all the money encouragement bestowed upon them, it must be asserted that artists have done little, very little, for the advancement of art. They have ceased to share the poet's penury; have they also ceased to share the poet's heart-engrossing and all-enduring enthusiasm? We fear so.

'Tis true, 'tis pity;
Pity 'tis 'tis true!

Looking round upon the walls of the present Exhibition, we see, for the most part, as on too many previous occasions, a class of works apparently designedly adapted to the meanest capacities; works which, when they pass beyond the range of the ordinary platitudes of every-day performance and experience, seem to have been composed with the hope of commanding attention simply by their extravagance. Why is this? again we ask. Are the annual subsidies from the Art-Unions, to say nothing of those from individual collectors, not sufficient to maintain art with dignity in its decent province; or are those emoluments disposed of so capriciously, by ignorant patrons, that art must forsake its high purpose to pander to their humble tastes? From whatever cause it springs, the fact is undeniable that, since the existence of Art-Unions, and since the growing taste for pictorial decorations, the prices of pictures have gone up, and the character of art has gone down.

The first work that attracts attention in the present collection—attracting by its extraordinary size, and its extravagant aspect—is "The Golden Age" (237), by J. P. Pettitt. Mr. Pettitt has for some years been in search of the marvellous in effect, no matter at what cost obtained; and he has here succeeded in obtaining it in unprecedented amount, by the simple process of outraging every principle of art; composition, grouping, light and shade, tone—all, all sacrificed to the puerile idea of realising an archæological representation of the supposed economy of the Court of the renowned Nebuchadnezzar (after Daniel, chapter iii); the idea of which, however, has been palpably taken from Mr. Kean's recently produced archæological representation of the Court of Sardanapalus, as described by Mr. Layard. The minutiæ of costume, armour, and furniture, are the same in both; the wooden stiff out of the figures the same also; so also the stagy atmosphere in both. One principal point of ambition with Mr. Pettitt was to represent the setting sun in the back of his picture, its splendid rays being killed—or, rather the shadow attributable to its rays, neutralised—by the blaze of numberless lamps in the foreground; so that we have a large canvas without a single cool spot for the eye to repose upon, a single indication of atmosphere to help us breathe again after the first shock of astonishment is over. The whole affair looks like the lid of an enormous Chinese tea-chest; and the numberless figures and details, which are repeated throughout with unexampled monotony, must have taken many months' labour of many hands to execute. For the sake of art and of critics, to whom such things are no sinecure, we sincerely trust that no Art-Union patron may come forward to purchase this absurd production; but that the artist, in after-contemplation of it, may learn that there is a limit to human folly and human endurance.

Hurlestone, the President, exhibits nine pictures, amongst which portraits and Spanish girls, as usual, predominate; but one of which at least aims at the higher attributes of art. His "Columbus" picture of last year elicited from ourselves and others well merited commendation; and if we cannot speak so highly of the "Last Sigh of the Moor" (178), in the present Exhibition, it is not because we do not recognise in its production an equally creditable ambition for high achievement as in its predecessor, but because in artistic accomplishment it is not so happy. The story represented is that of Boabdil, the last Moorish King of Granada, who, after his overthrow, traversing the route of the Alpuxarras, pauses upon a rocky eminence to contemplate the scenes of his departed greatness. His heart is subdued by misfortune, and he gives way to grief; when his intrepid Sultana, Ayxa la Horra, amiably upbraids him with the remark, "You do well to grieve as a woman for what you failed to defend like a man." The subject is disagreeable—like most subjects, indeed, in which strong-minded women are introduced; but it has not been exaggerated in the hands of Mr. Hurlestone. The figure and expression of Boabdil are well studied and picturesque in themselves; those of Ayxa expressive, without being repulsive;

"CORN-FLOWERS."—PAINTED BY J. J. HILL.

"THE THREE RAVENS."—PAINTED BY D. W. DEANE AND T. EARL.

while the two attendant females weeping sympathise well with the story. The drawing throughout is good, and the colouring massive, but hardly laid on, and, as a whole, wanting in harmony. Amongst the artist's other works, "A Jewess of Barbary" (300), a capital study, pleases us the most.

Sad or less only four pictures this year, amongst which is a Judith (110), conceived in the higher school of art. There is much grandeur and severity about the head; and the attitude is that of determined purpose. The figure, however, of herculean physique, which was hardly necessary to realise the poetical conception of the character. Raphael treated it differently, uniting exquisite beauty with the nervous fortitude and resignation of a heroine fated to the performance of daring deeds of mighty import. Still, however, Mr. Salter was not to blame because he chose to follow out an idea of his own, rather than work upon the model of others. We must add that the drapery is disposed with much freedom, and the colouring well studied, and generally effective. The little group, "Freedom to the Slave" (40), is a pretty little subject, treated with great taste and brilliancy of colouring. Of this artist's other two works, one is a Portrait; the other, a study of an Italian Girl at a Well.

Immediately over Mr. Hurlestone's picture of "Bosbill" is a work of considerable merit, the joint production of D. W. Deans and T. Earl, entitled the "Three Ravens" (177), founded upon the celebrated, but quaint old ballad of that name. The principal object in the centre of the picture is the prostrate form of "the knight, slain, under his shield." The steed, at his feet, his faithful dogs keeping watch over him; and above, the three ravens threatening to pounce on their prey. The story has been understood by the artists, who have infused its wild romantic spirit into their performance. The animals are admirably painted; the figure of the dead knight is surrounded by an awful solitude, which the sharp rays of the rising sun, falling on his armour, serve the more powerfully to illustrate. Of this performance we have much pleasure in giving an Engraving.

Amongst the figure subjects—which, by the way, are unusually few in the present Exhibition—are two by Hill, both remarkable for their exquisite feeling for nature, and their soft harmonious colouring. We have selected for Engraving the smaller and carefully painted "Corn Flowers" (83), which consists of a pretty group, of a woman and children, in a corn-field, and surrounded by various rustic emblems, under a smiling sky; in short a perfect picture of calm content. The colour is in harmony with the sentiment: delicate yellows, greens, pinks, russets, &c., combine to greet the vision pleasurably. In the other picture, entitled "Morning," introducing a girl sallying forth to her daily work in the fields, and carrying a rude basket, the gorgeous tints effect of the rising sun are, perhaps, a little exaggerated.

Baxter's female heads have few rivals in this or any other exhibition of the day. They exhibit a refinement of sentiment, combined with a delicacy of texture and a tenderness of colouring which must satisfy the most fastidious. One work in the present collection, entitled "La Pensée," and represen ing a young lady, holding a miniature pressed towards her bosom, her dark expressive eyes evidently reverting dreamily to the past, may be signalised as especially beautiful.

We can but name the industrious as usual, producing eight of his fanciful subjects, in his own pale, glittering, but somewhat meretricious style of colouring. "The Well in the Wood" (72), founded upon a passage in the "Pensées" of Rousseau, represents a young girl at a well, in the midst of a grove, a youthful shepherd playing upon a pipe, and a few sheep. The incident is trifling, but there is a want of sylvan simplicity, and of truly sylvan atmosphere, which leads to failure. In "Aladdin and the Wonderful Lamp" (78) a long vista through a grove is cleverly represented, and the romance of the situation is ably suggested.

C. Rolt has a rather impressive study—"And he went out and wept bitterly" (378): St. Peter, after denying our Lord. It is a single figure, represented only down to the waist. The colouring is unostentatious, but there is an intensity of expression in the tear-filled eye and clasped hands—in the penitent Apostle's cause forward to support himself against a wall or balustrade, which denotes the gift of considerable power in the pencil of the artist.

In the landscape department, Beddington, Tennant, Clint, Cole, and Fyne are, as usual, large contributors; each acquitting himself ably in his own peculiar style. We have also to speak with very high praise of a comparatively new artist, Mr. Gosling, who, in several works, evidences a true feeling for nature, and a power of execution which, when combined, go far to the formation of a commanding and enduring style. A very happy specimen of his talent is found in No. 39, representing a thickly wooded spot, the sky breaking through the trees there; which, though perhaps a little spotty in parts at present, is almost certain, which will wear off in time), is full of one and harmonious effect. A small study of sheep, entitled "The Ramblers" (54), shows great mastery in animal painting also.

We have not space to enumerate the other principal landscape works in our present notice; we must, however, speak of a few of them.

Beddington's "On the Ouse at Sketch Green Manor" (90), is very delicately painted; so, also, and most tasteful in treatment in every respect, is Tennant's "Llangattor Rocks." "Amongst the Welsh Mountains" (136), by the former, presents the fine vista of a sloping glen, traversed by a winding river; the depth and warmth of which, however, is destroyed by the forcible introduction of a bright blue piece of water at the base in the foreground.

Tyne's large "View of Berne" (118), is a marvel of silvery execution, under an almost impossible atmosphere, the town of Berne, of which it pretends to give a representation, is almost lost in excess of light, and the foreground is, unhappily, washy in appearance.

Clint's "Scarborough" (92), with a bold sea running, under a fresh rising gale, is, in many respects, a masterly production and may be pointed out as one of the distinguishing gems of the collection. The tone is dark and cold, however; and therefore it does not attract so many admirers as it would otherwise do. We have in this a signal evidence that, whatever its merits of weight and strength, it is impossible to make a picture

JOURNEY TO THE EARL OF ELGIN.—A complimentary dinner is to be given to this Nobleman on Thursday next, by gentlemen connected with our Canadian dependencies. Lord John Russell has consented to take the chair, and among the noblemen and gentlemen who have already signified their intention of being present are his Excellency James Buchanan, United States Minister at this Court; the Duke of Newcastle, Lord Lansdowne, the Earl of Ellesmere, the Earl of Durham, Lord Glenelg, Lord Ashburton, Lord Monteagle, Lord Stanley, M.P., the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Right Hon. E. Cardwell, M.P., Sir George Grey, Bart., the Right Hon. Sidney Herbert, M.P., Right Hon. Sir John Pakington, M.P., Mr. Hernal Osborne, M.P., and nearly fifty other members of the House of Commons.

THE NEW RECEIPT STAMPS.—The time for exchanging receipt stamps rendered useless by the Act of the last session for the new penny receipt stamps, now in force, is limited by the Act to the 11th day of April inst., and no claims can be received, under any circumstances, after that day. Receipt stamps rendered useless by the new Act will only be allowed on the usual days for the exchange of spoiled stamps, viz., Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, from twelve at noon until two o'clock in the afternoon.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE SPRING MEETING.—MONDAY.
Welter Stakes.—Dalkeith, 1. Smuggler Bill, 2.
Tyne Spring Handicap.—Jack the Giant-Killer, 1. The Vet (late Lucie), 2.
Hunters' Stake.—Smuggler Bill, 1. Sir Harry Smith, 2.
Lark Stakes.—Miss Lucy Barton, 1. The Uncleared, 2.

BIRMINGHAM STEEPLECHASES.—MONDAY.
Knowle Steeplechase.—Ace of Trumps, 1. Countess, 2.
Grand Military Handicap.—Torrent, 1. Beckbury Lass, 2
Birmingham and Warwickshire Hunt Steeplechase. California, 1. Front de Bœuf, 2.
The Free Handicap Steeplechase did not fill.
Handicap Steeplechase Plate.—Nom de Guerre, 1. Blue Stockings, 2.
Birmingham Grand Annual Steeplechase Handicap. Needwood, 1. Escape, 2.
Scorry Handicap Steeplechase.—Beckbury Lass, 1. The Miner, 2.
Solihull Steeplechase Stakes.—Blue Stockings, 1. Ace of Trumps, 2.

NORTHAMPTON AND PYTCHLEY HUNT RACES.—WEDNESDAY.
Trial Stakes.—Orestes, 1. Filbert, 2.
Stand Plate.—Roebuck, 1. Blondel, 2
Great Northampton Pytchley Stakes.—Jacqueline, 1. Bracken, 2. Defiance, 3. Betting: 3 to 1 against Defiance, 6 to 1 each against Red Lion and Swallow, 10 to 1 against Bracken, 12 to 1 against Chief Justice, 16 to 1 against Hungerford. These were the only horses backed for money at the post. 20 to 1 against any other.

Whittlebury Stakes.—Redemption, 1. Lord Alfred, 2
Pytchley Stakes.—Census, 1. Antaverta, 2. The winner was put at £50; and after the race, was bought in for 240 guineas!
Her Majesty's Plate.—Rata Sam, 1. Lord John, 2.

THURSDAY.
Innkeepers' Plate.—Cranbourne, 1. John Bull, 2
Earl Spencer's Plate.—Welham, 1. Koh-i-noor, 2.
Cup Stakes.—Bat, 1. Cossack, 2.
Althorpe Park Stakes.—Flatterer, 1. Louvat, 2.
Delebre Stakes.—Orestes, 1. Eulogist, 2
Selling Plate.—Pharaonication, 1. Lioness, 2.

LATEST BETTING AT NORTHAMPTON
METROPOLITAN HANDICAP.—4 to 1 agst Royalist; 6 to 1 agst Jonathan Martin; 10 to 1 agst Abdel Kader and 20 to 1 agst Newbridge; 25 to 1 agst Actonia.
TWO THOUSAND GUINEAS.—3 to 2 agst Rataplan; 5 to 1 agst Rebe (t).
CHESTERFIELD.—10 to 1 agst Saddle; 20 to 1 agst Mark Antony; 33 to 1 agst Lovelace colt, Perfect and Dervish (t); 100 to 15 agst Bracken (t).

RACES FOR NEXT WEEK.—On Tuesday and Wednesday the Croxton Park meeting takes place; and on the same day the Spring Cheltenham course. On Thursday the Epsom Spring will be held, the bill of fare for which holds out a good promise, there being four races and a match for the day.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

The immense preparations now making, both here and in France, to repel the Russian invasion of the Principalities, together with the decline in the stock of Bullion held by the Bank of England, have had a most decreasing influence upon the value of Public Securities. The fall in the quotations has been as at 2½ per cent; and numerous parties in the Stock Exchange are finding it a further depository in them. We may observe that Stock, arising from the extensive sales on account of the *Bears*, has become very plentiful; and that money for all commercial purposes has been in good demand. The consequence is that, though the supply of money is still abundant, the rates of discount have been on the advance, and present with [illegible] known even by the leading bankers, in respect to the rate at which paper is offered to them.

At the usual meeting of the Directors of the Bank of England, this morning, it was resolved that the Rate of Discount should be 5 per cent, instead of 4 per cent. The Three per Cent Reduced [illegible] 85 to 85½; India Stock [illegible]

On Tuesday [illegible]

[illegible] activity prevailed in the Consol Market on [illegible] decline of ¾ per cent. The Three per Cent Reduced [illegible] Consols [illegible] 85 to 85½; India Stock [illegible]

On Tuesday [illegible]

[illegible] Money Securities has been in a [illegible] a general by rules followed lower. In many instances the [illegible] ness nominal. Joint Stock [illegible] [illegible] Crystal Palace [illegible] [illegible] Peel River Land [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.—OPERA BOXES and STALLS in the best situations and on the most moderate terms, can always be secured at HAMMOND'S MUSICAL LIBRARY, 9, New Bond street, opposite the Clarendon Hotel. Open Th Tickets and Private Boxes at all the Theatres

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.—Monday, King Henry VIII.; Queen Katherine, Miss Cushman. Tuesday, Macbeth; Lady Macbeth, Miss Cushman. Thursday, Rosalind, Mrs. Fitzwilliam. Friday, Miss Cushman's Benefit, as I Last Appeared. Saturday, Hamlet. Willkind and his Dinah every Evening

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE, Oxford-street.—Monday and Friday, Richard III. Tuesday, the Corsican Brothers, and (on this occasion) Married Un-Married Wednesday, Married Un-Married, and the Lancers Thursday, Married Un-Married, and the Creatures. Saturday, Married Un-Married, with other Entertainments

THEATRE ROYAL ADELPHI.—C. H. ADAMS'S ORPHEY DURING PASSION WEEK (2 k a year in London.—On MONDAY, April 10th, and during the week (Good Friday excepted), Mr. Adams will de liver his ANNUAL LECTURE on ASTRONOMY. Each at 8 and about 10 Stalls 3s.; Boxes 2s.; Pit, 1s.; Gallery, 6d. Children half price to boxes and pit. Private Boxes, 10s. 6d. and 21s.; at the Box-office daily; or at the principal Libraries

ROYAL MARYLEBONE THEATRE.—Mr. and Mrs. J. WILLIAM WALLACK beg respectfully to announce to their friends and the public generally that their BENEFIT will take place on SATURDAY NEXT, on which occasion their well-known play of the MUNCHBACK will be performed. Julia—Mrs. J. W. Wallack. Master Wallack. After the Play Mrs. Wallack will deliver an original address, written by Joseph Mosier, Esq., expressly for this occasion

GREAT NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE, SHOREDITCH. Proprietor, Mr JOHN DOUGLASS. The eminent Tragedian, Mr. T. M'ed, and Mr. Wild, Miss Fanny Williams, the celebrated Harmoni Children, and Mr. Fenton Reeves, will perform every Evening. Commence at Seven. Doors will be opened by the powerful Company of this popular Theatre. Prices as to all

EGYPTIAN HALL.—CONSTANTINOPLE is now OPEN every day at Half-past Two o'Clock, and every Evening at Eight. The Lecture is delivered by Mr. CHARLES KENNEY, and has been written by Mr. Albert Smith, and Mr. Sidney Brooks. Admission, 1s.; Reserved Seats, 2s

DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM IS NOW OPEN to the Nobility and Gentry, at 8, Leicester-square, from Seven till Ten. On Wednesday and Friday a portion of the Museum is open occasionally, from Two till Five.—Admission 1s.

MR. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC, including the BRENNER OBERLAND and the SIMPLON, Every Evening at Eight o'clock (except Saturday); and Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday mornings at Two. Stalls, 3s., which can be taken at the Box-office every day from Ten o'clock till Four.—Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s.—EGYPTIAN HALL, Piccadilly.

THE JAPANESE and CHINESE COLLECTIONS are now OPEN at BAKER-STREET BAZAAR Admission 6d. Thousands of rare, curious and beautiful articles for SALE at reduced prices; also the calebrated Japanese Boy reduced in size, per air, to the original basket, containing six Japanese ELEWITT and CO., Proprietors.

LAST NIGHT at CROSBY HALL.—On WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5th, Mr. LOVE will appear for the last time at Crosby Hall, in his Entertainment entitled "The London Season." Begin at Eight o'clock Monday, April 3, at Greenwich, at Peckham; 6, Kensington, 10 and following evenings, Royal Surrey Theatre

HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS. THE ORCHESTRAL UNION will give FOUR MORNING CONCERTS on SATURDAYS, APRIL 8th, 22nd and JUNE 3rd, and JULY 15th. Tickets for half-guinea Season Tickets, which have names received at Messrs Lonsdale and Cock's, 63, New Bond street.

BACH SOCIETY.—The FIRST PERFORMANCE in this Country of the GROSSE PASSIONS MUSIC by JOHN SEBASTIAN BACH, will take place at the HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, on FRIDAY, APRIL 28, commencing at Eight o'clock precisely. Principal Vocalists, Mrs. Wilton, Miss Dolby, Mr. Weiss, and Herr Pischek. Conductor, Herr Hauptmann. Tickets, 10s. 6d. each, to be had of Messrs. Cramer, Beale, and Co., 201, Regent-street; Messrs. Addison and Hollier, 210, Regent-street; Messrs. Keith, Prowse, and Co., 48, Cheapside; and of the Secretary, 6, Harley-street, Cavendish-square.

MR. HALLE, PIATTI, and MDME. ANNA THILLON are engaged for the LAST MUSICAL MATINÉE EVENING, WILLIS'S ROOMS, THURSDAY, APRIL 6th. Tickets, Half a Guinea each, to be had of Cramer and Beale, 201, Regent-street, and Gilliver, Bond-street. Particulars to be had of the Director.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, EXETER HALL.—Conductor, Mr Costa.—On FRIDAY next, 7th APRIL will be repeated Mendelssohn's LOBGESANG and Mozart's REQUIEM, Principal Vocalists, Madame Clara Novello, Miss Dolby, Mr. Reeves, and Herr Formes; with Orchestra of nearly 700 performers. Tickets, 10s. 6d., and 15s. 6d. each, at the Society's Offices, 6, Exeter Hall. The extraordinary performance of Handel's "Messiah" will be given on Wednesday next, the 12th of April.

MR. HENRY SMART'S PIANOFORTE CONCERT will take place at the NEW DECTION ROOMS, 27, Queen Anne-street, Cavendish square, on FRIDAY next, APRIL 7, when the following artists will assist:—Miss Catherine Hayes, Miss Thirlwall, and Mrs. Paget; Mr. Weiss, Mr. Walter Bolton, Signor Belletti, Mr. Patey, and Mr. Henry Smart. Grand Pianoforte, Mr. Chas. Salaman. Violin, Mr. Willy. Violoncello, Mr. Lucas. Conductor, Mr. Benedict. Reserved Seats, 10s. 6d. Tickets to be had of Mr. Henry Smart, 27, Queen Anne-street; or near the doors. Stalls may be had at Messrs. Cramer and Beale's, Great Marylebone-street, and at Mr. Henry Smart's Great Portman-square

NELSON, or the LIFE of a SAILOR Illustrated by DIDDIN'S SONGS. Mr. TRAVERS (of the Theatres Royal, Drury-lane and Covent Garden) begs to announce that he will give his National Entertainment, NELSON the LIFE of a SAILOR illustrated by Diddin's Songs, at the MUSIC HALL, Store-street, on MONDAY evening, April 3rd, and every following Monday; to commence at Eight o'clock. Tickets, 1s.; Reserved Seats, 2s. To be had of the principal Musical lers. Private Boxes to be had only of Messrs. Lonsdale and Cock, 63, New Bond-street, Corner of Brook's street

CLARA NOVELLO, Sims Reeves, Belletti, Castle, and Miss Dolby, the WORKMEN'S CHORUS, and Mr. BENJAMIN MANN, Musical Director, have the honour to announce that their SECOND and LAST CONCERT will take place on Tuesday, April 11, at Exeter Hall. Tickets, 10s. 6d., and 5s.; may be had at the Concert Office, 6, Exeter Hall.

EXETER HALL, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5.—A GRAND MUSICAL FESTIVAL, under the direction of Herr SCHMIDT, will take place as above, for the BENEFIT of the WIDOWS and ORPHANS of the WORKMEN KILLED at the CRYSTAL PALACE, SYDENHAM. The following eminent artistes have kindly given their valuable services:—Miss Clara Novello and Madlle Rita Favanti, Mdme Nowton Pedrotti, Miss Dolby, Miss Dolman, Mdme Sainton Dolby, Mdme Isaacs Miss Julia Harland, Miss Rainsford, Miss Messent, Miss Alleyne Miss Cubitt Nott, Miss Fanny Tyrrell, Misses Broughton, and Miss Stabbach, Miss Poole, and Miss Williams. Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. George Tedder, Mr. Elliot Galer, Mr. G Ferrero, Signor Belletti, and Mr. A. Braham, Signor Belletti, Mr. Lawler, Mr. Leffler, Mr. Bassford, Herr Jonghmans Mr. C Cotton, and Mr. Frank Boldoi; Herr Claudius, the celebrated Drummer; Mr. Blanchard, Mr. Richardson, Sella Goddard, violin, Herr Ernst, violin and violoncello, Messrs. Nield and George Collins; concertina, Mr. Regondi; harp, Herr Oberthur; flute, Herr Fischel, sax-horns, the eliapcott Family. Saxomophone, Herr Sommer. Cornopean, Herr Sandoni. Mr. Hoskins and Herr Sommer. Commence at Seven. Tickets, 1s.; 2s. 3s.; stalls (numbered) 5s., to be had at the Concert office, 3, Exeter Hall, and at all the principal libraries and musicsellers.

ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, REGENT'S PARK. Fellows and Visitors are informed that a Pair of GIANT ANT EATERS, and an extra Pair of INDIAN LIONS, have been added to the Collection Admission, 1s.; Monday, 6d

THE NATIONAL INSTITUTION of FINE ARTS, Portland Gallery, 316, Regent-street, opposite the Royal Polytechnic Institution.

THE SEVENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of this SOCIETY is NOW OPEN, from 9 till dusk. Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d

BELL SMITH, Secretary.

SHIP RACER for SYDNEY direct, 1669 tons register.—Passengers are respectfully informed that this magnificent ship, from her unusual magnitude, offers an unrivall d opportunity for their comfort and accommodation, sails from GRAVESEND on SUNDAY, 1st 9th of APRIL. There are still two saloons and second, and nine third-cabin berths disengaged.—N.B. An experienced surgeon will accompany the vessel.—Apply to J. G. MAZZETTI and SON'S, Vine-street, Americas-quare, London.

ADELAIDE, PORT PHILLIP, and SYDNEY.—PASSENGERS and LUGGAGE LANDED at Melbourne and Geelong from Saloon, £45; cabin on deck, £ in between decks, £16 to £20. No steerage passengers taken. In enclosed berths, per first-class ships Apply to WM. BARNETT and CO'S, 25, Poultry, London, Merchants, Colonial, Shipping, and General Agents

COUNTY FIRE OFFICE, 50, Regent-street, and 9 Royal Exchange-buildings, London. Established in 1807. The rates of Fren are charged by the County Fire Office are upon the owners' side consistent with Security to the insured

When a Policy has existed for a period of Seven Years, a return of 25 per cent, or one-fourth of the amount of Premiums paid during that period, is declared upon such policy

The Returns of Premium since the commencement of the Office A.D. 1807, to the 31st December, 1853, amount to nearly £2,000,000.

All Losses are settled with promptitude and

It is a regulation of this Office to pay the amount of the Losses immediately upon the receipt of the proofs and the completion of the settlement of the claim, without requiring the usual delay of sixty days after the proofs and claim have been delivered at the Office.

The next Annual Meeting of the Proprietors will be held at the Office in Regent-street, on Wednesday, the 5th of April. The receipts are to be produced, and the Report of the Directors will be read.

The Profits are divided every Seven Years, and the next Division will be made in 1854, and persons effected prior to the 25th of March next, will participate in the Profits for Seven years. Any information required may be obtained at the Office, or of any of the Agents.

By order of the Board of Directors, EDWARD ARGLES, Actuary.

Agents required in the principal country towns.

MITRE GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE.—The business of this Association embraces the granting of Life Assurances of every kind; and of annuities deferred, and immediate, on the most favourable terms. The Directors have no premium to the risk incurred, and a careful investment of the funds, have enabled the Directors to declare additions to policies, which have equalled one-half of the premiums received. The profits are divided every five years—the next division of which will be in 1857, and assurances effected prior to 1st of January next, will participate in the profits for three years. Any information required may be obtained at the Office, 3, Mitre-court, Fleet-street, London.

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By order of the Board, EDWARD ARGLES, Actuary.

Agents required in the principal country towns.

TORQUAY, DEVON

MESSRS. STARK and BURT are instructed to SELL by PUBLIC AUCTION, at WEBB'S ROYAL HOTEL, TORQUAY, on THURSDAY, the 27th day of APRIL next, at Three o'clock in the afternoon precisely, the same should be previously disposed of by private contract, of which due notice will be given, the undivided one-fourth part of the beautifully-situated residence called Rock End, with the extensive Gardens, Lawns, and Closes of Land in connection therewith, containing 7a. 2r. 8p., all contiguous, and now in the possession of the Hon. Miss Hare, the owner. This very elegant property (with a build f e residence of an excellent term of 40 years, commencing at Lady-Day, 1838, at a small ground-rent), compris s a range of land on the town of Torquay, and bounded on the s by the sea. The house is situated in a most sheltered and picturesque position, the windows having views of Torbay, Torquay, and Paignton, and is replete with every convenience. It contains a drawing-room, about 27 feet by 17 feet, a dining-room, about 21 feet by 16 feet, exclusive of a bay window, a library 20 feet by 15 feet, with capacious kitchen, housekeeper's room, and other appropriate offices on the ground floor. There are six bed-rooms, and six servants' bed rooms over. The out offices comprise stables, for 4, coachman's house, and other requisite conveniences; and the whole is in complete repair, and fit d in every respect for the occupation of a family of distinction. The house is approached through a lodge entrance, by a good carriage road winding through a lawn of 10 acres, from which the most extensive views of land and sea are obtained. The pasturage is excellent, and the ground well supplied with water. The property is very valuable for a dairy, and there are also about four or five acres of land kept in tillage of a very superior quality. Possession will be given, the above mentioned property, and the whole estate in the p Babbingham, with the exception of the Lodge and a few acres, a freehold, and the woods of £13 5s., but subject to a land-tax of 4s. 8d. The Estate is situated in a ring fence, and divided into several farms, with suitable homesteads and convenient cottages in an excellent state of cultivation, and the right of fishery in a fine river abounding with excellent trout, and extending several miles. The Living is a rectory, and is certified at £239 and the present income is upwards of £300 per annum. The cradle in the church font is said to be that in which Queen Elizabeth was baptized. The Estate is the property of Sir Thomas Hesketh, Bart., and is now let to a tenant at will, at a rental including a moderate rent-charge for the Rector, amounting to £1,170 per annum. There are a few small pieces of land on the estate, and a consequent materially increased income may be obtained from the same by the purchaser. The estate is peculiarly adapted for the erection of villas, and in consequence of its proximity to Dunstock and Barbey, Solsetters, 2, and Lodgers and Sons, Shoffield, and Salmon and Co., Liverpool.

BALTIC FLEET, DENMARK, TURKEY, &c. The SUBMARINE and EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH COMPANIES (London Offices, 30, Cornhill; and 49, Moorgate, Piccadilly) have established DIRECT SHIP Communication with Denmark, the North of Germany, and Turkey. Office, 30, Cornhill. March 28th, 1854. G. L. PARROTT, Sec.

MEDICAL.—An ARTICLED PUPIL will be received, for ONE, TWO, or THREE YEARS, into the house of a medical man practising in an English Midland County. He will have every opportunity for gaining a practical knowledge of the profession, and of preparing for College.—Apply to Dr. Spencer Thomson, Hamden, Burton-on-Trent

GODDARD'S NON-MERCURIAL PLATE POWDER.—Hundreds of the principal silversmiths in London have pronounced this Powder the best and surest article for cleaning and restoring plate. See the testimonials. Sold by all chemists, with cork box. Sold by ironmongers, silversmiths, and chemists, in packets, 1s. and 6d. each; wholesale, by the Inventor, J. Goddard, Chemist, Leicester; Barclay and Sons, Farringdon-street, London; Lodgers and Son, Sheffield; and Salmon and Co., Liverpool.

ROUSSILLON, 26s. per Dozen, with fine violet tinge, and rich, pure and mellow flavour. It resembles Port, but is fresher on the palate, and has the merit of not exciting acidity or any unpleasant sensation during the night, as is usual with Port. "A better wine I never wish to drink."—(See Evidence of Mr. Gladstone, M.P., before the Committee of the House of Commons on the Wine Duties, 1852.) Dinner Sherry, 26s., 32s.; standard Sherry, 36s., 42s.; Pale or Golden Sherry, 42s., 48s.; Marsala (unfortified flavour), 36s., 42s.; Milk Punch, 30s.; Sparkling Champagne (of the celebrated 1846 vintage), 42s.—FOSTER and INGLE, Wine-merchants, Milk-street, Cheapside. Cash. Carriage free.

BOOSE'S Unrivalled CORNET-à-PISTONS. The great success that has attended the introduction of Mr. Boose's new Patent Cornet, and the many flattering testimonials to the beauty of the model and the exceeding richness of its tone have induced him, at the earnest request of many performers to extend the improvements still further, and they have now the pleasure of announcing that they have succeeded in adjusting to the same model the Rotary Valve instead of the Piston, which is free from all the objections to which the latter is liable, and by which the most rapid passages can be executed with marvellous quickness and with perfect ease. Price, with Rotary Valves, 5 guineas; with the new Patent Compensating Piston, 4 guineas. Either instrument securely packed and forwarded to any part of the country on receipt of Post-Office Order. Agents wanted in Rhyl, Ramsgate, &c.—BOOSEY and SONS, 28, Holles-street.

HARMONIUMS at CHAPPELL'S, 50, New-Bond-street.—The HARMONIUM by ALEXANDRE, of Paris, is the only instrument of the kind that remains perfectly in tune, and, from the simplicity of its construction, is best adapted for the Church, Schoolroom, or Drawing-room.

The following descriptions are those most liked:

No. 1. In oak case, with expression stop, price 12 guineas

No. 2. In handsome Gothic case, with percussion stop, 25 gs

No. 7. In mahogany or rosewood case, with the patent percussion action, and one stop, 18 g

No. 8. In oak c rosewood, 25 gs.

No. 9. In oak c and twelve stops, 40 gs.

The most perfect H m. The most powerful and rosewood case, 55 gs.

Descriptive Lists sent on applica street.

MUSICAL BOX DEPOT, 32, Ladgate-street (opposite Bevington's), London. MUSICAL BOXES of the most unique description, from the smallest to the largest size, playing from One to Twelve Airs, and containing the most recent and popular compositions. Tunes Arranged, Altered, and Composed to order. Tunes, Words, and Music, Printed and Published. Tunes Transposed to suit the most fine voice. Address, 32, Ladgate-street, Corner of Bevington's.

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Secretary's Office, King's-cross Station, London, March 29, 1854.

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The Train leaving KING'S CROSS at 8 a.m., for HATFIELD, will be discontinued.
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THE SEVENTEENTH PUBLIC DRAWING. The CONSERVATIVE LAND SOCIETY'S Office, 33, Fleet-street, will be closed, at twelve o'clock on Saturday, the 8th of April, the Seventeenth Public Drawing to regulate the order of rotation for drawing the Society's Estates in various counties as will take place. Shares taken up to the time of drawing will be included in the advantages thereof. Members holding unconditional shares, and shareholders with shares numbered under 1000, which are not fully paid up, are invited on the order of rights by number: are requested to refer to their pass-books to ascertain that their subscriptions be not in arrear on the 8th of April
CHARLES LEWIS GRUNEISEN, Secretary.

FIVE PER CENT INTEREST.—The CONSERVATIVE LAND SOCIETY, Office, 33, Norfolk-street, Strand, London.—The increased rate of interest on the subscriptions of completed shares (now £2 10s. each, with the fees) is payable half-yearly, one month after Lady-day and Michaelmas. Five per cent interest is allowed on subscriptions of a year in advance (price £5 5s. 6d. per share with the fees). The year's payment in advance on two shares is £10 5s.; three shares, £15; five shares, £25 0s. 6d.; four shares, £20 10s.; five shares, £25 15s. 6d.; ten shares, £51 5s.; one hundred shares, £512 15s. Monthly payments on uncompleted shares, 5s. per month, with 1s. every three months for quarterage. The first payment of a new member is 12s 6d., which includes entrance fee, quarterage, and pass-book. No restriction on the number of shares held by one member, and on the amount of his investment. A completed share is at once entered on the Order of Rights. Each member may pay up his instalments in such a manner as he thinks fit, so that it be at the rate of not less than 5s. per month. No pecuniary liability for members. The prompt withdrawal of shares is ensured. The taking of allotments of shares is quite optional. Prospectuses, and the Rules of the Society may be had of
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ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS SUPPLEMENT.

VOL. XXIV. SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 1854. [GRATIS.

TURKISH COFFEE-SELLER.

We might imagine that, among the people who indoctrinated us first in the merits of coffee, the temples of the fragrant beverage would be peculiarly magnificent. Quite the contrary. Neither man nor berry is esteemed a prophet at home. What one drinks is excellent; where one drinks it is another affair. The scene of the Illustration is a street in Constantinople.

There is in Turkey, between coffee and tobacco, the same sort of marriage which has been solemnised in England between roast beef and plum pudding. And one consequence is, that the most stimulating of "conversational drinks" cannot loose the tongues of the most silent of nations. The pipe neutralizes the cup; and words evaporate in smoke. The conversation in our Engraving—if the reader will permit that expression—is, of course, upon the subject of the Eastern question, and the war actually raging. But the whole discussion is carried on by puffs of smoke, and ruminating glances, with a change of posture every thirty minutes on the part of each debater.

The refreshments are all confined to coffee, water, and tobacco—the latter, in some instances, being heightened by the potent flavour, and more potent influence, of opium. Generally the coffee is drunk black and sugarless; if sweetened, sugar-candy is the edulcorating element.

Imagine a rough wooden chair, raised clean of all back, and that is the stand on which you see the accompanying street scene.

TURKISH COFFEE-SELLER, AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

THE THOUSAND COLUMNS, CONSTANTINOPLE.

The point most remarkable about the scene of this Sketch is perhaps its name. So far as we ought to limit ourselves by what is ascertained, and incontestable, there is nothing in the thing (to borrow from Pope) either "rich or rare," though there may be a wonder "how the deuce it got there." The atmosphere in this subterraneous establishment is always cool, even in the most oppressive months of the Constantinople summer. The place called "the Thousand Columns" (it is strange that they do not ensure *thousand and one* for the due gradation, that cipher being of the highest mystical popularity in the East), has excited very little interest among travellers. Lamartine derives no inspiration from

THE "THOUSAND COLUMNS," AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

it; Stephens, the American—an infinitely superior writer of travels—passes it by; even our discursive countryman, Albert Smith, says not a word upon the subject, in his "Month at Constantinople."

You descend suddenly out of the street some ten or fifteen steps, and there you are in the vast, humid, dirty, dim, low-browed hall of "The Thousand Columns." The workmen that fit by you, wheeling their ropes and barrows, are the only objects of human interest.

Still, even in this huge den (however equalled it may now be) much appeals to the imagination. The Byzantine annals are ignoble, cruel, and, above all, obscure. In some such place treasures might have been secured; in some such place a worse inquisition may have wreaked its barbarism on many unknown victims; in some such place (for such a placeit was necessary to find), the most interesting and important State secret ever possessed by the "Lower Empire," may have found protection and seclusion for its operations. For seven hundred years the Greek sway was prolonged by the invention of Callinicus; for seven hundred years the receipt by which the magical war-fire was manufactured remained the safe monopoly of the Emperors of the East. The traveller, without incurring the blame of extravagant romanticism, might picture to himself the well-selected stronghold in which the furtive production was carried on; he knows that it was concealed from the common view, and would not be surprised if the operation was often, or, indeed, chiefly, prosecuted under ground. Why has not Lamartine given us a poem, chaining, with his usual contempt for authorities, the *Thousand Columns* as the scene of seven centuries of labour so destructive and so mysterious?

THE REFORM OF THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD.

IT will have been the singular fortune of Lord John Russell to leave the broad mark of his reforming hand on a larger number of our ancient institutions than any other single statesman whom this country has produced. He has invaded more immunities, attacked more prescriptions, hunted over more preserves, made larger clearings through the rank growth of old English prejudices, than any legislator who can be named. and this, to some extent, in spite of himself. The currents which himself created have at times swept him onward when he would willingly have paused. With the word finality for one of his weapons, his career has been one long assault upon finalities. The powerful leverage supplied by his earliest reforms has not only rendered possible, but in a manner compelled, reforms which even the sanguine spirit of his youth would not have dared to contemplate. He who invokes public opinion becomes in a more direct sense than others its subject; and the attack upon Gatton and Sarum, which Lord John led, conducted him by a chain of consequences which he could not then have foreseen to the position which he has now taken up against the two great remaining strongholds of antiquated abuse—Oxford and Cambridge.

A reform of these two great institutions had become a thing so inevitable amid the pressure on every side of the spirit of the age, that the blindness within which continued to suggest resistance was itself the strongest amongst all the evidences for the necessity of the reform so resisted. Accordingly, the opportunity for free and spontaneous action liberally accorded to both Universities having been allowed to pass unfruitfully away—the measure of compromise offered by the governing authorities of Oxford being wholly inadequate to the urgency of the demand,—Lord John Russell has at length come forward with his scheme of amendment for that University. A measure it is conceived in a large reforming spirit,—with a careful regard for all of prescription that does not work a wrong, and all that is venerable for some better reason than that it is old. Lord John's is, in fact, the true reading of prescription itself. He translates the literal fact, wherever he can, into the original intention. Throughout his measure, that which his opponents stigmatise as innovation is in fact renovation,—and that which they call change, is a mere return, where practicable, upon the spirit (not the letter) of the past. To use Lord John's own words: "The reforming party might say with truth that antiquity was for them—that it was only modern times which could be quoted against them." With a view, then, to give scope and efficiency to the reforming spirit which Lord John lets loose in the old high quarters of exclusiveism, he abolishes the subsisting oaths by which the members of the University are bound not to reveal the statutes of the colleges, and pledged to resist all changes therein.

The projected reform embraces the following leading points.—A re-constitution of the University itself, so as to give to the governing body a real representative character, to which all the elements of the University may duly contribute. An extension of the University, as distinguished from the colleges, and by means of help from the overgrown college endowments, so as to effect a reconciliation between the professional and the tutorial systems, thereby at once raising the standard and widening the area of education.—The opening up of fellowships and scholarships, by the removal, with certain exceptions, of limitations restricting their enjoyment to narrow specified classes.—An extension of the University system in the direction also of numbers, so as to let in a larger public to the enjoyment of its vast educational means, and lower the cost at which they are dispensed.—These great leading features resolve themselves, of course, into varieties of clause and detail for securing their full effect; and there are supplementary arrangements,—such, for instance, as those by which the tenure of a fellowship is controlled and limited, and its enjoyment made contingent on the performance of some corresponding duty.

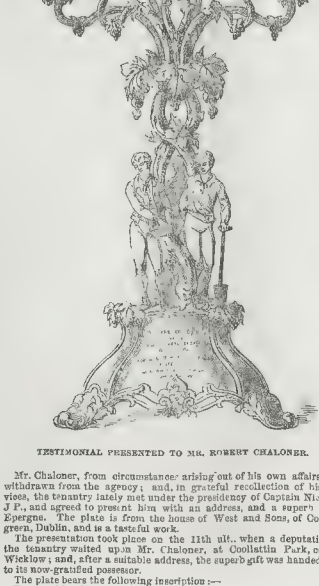
Of these measures, the most sweeping is that which re-constitutes the University as a representative body. Hitherto, as most of our readers know, the government has been in an oligarchy composed of the Vice-Chancellor, the two Proctors, and the Heads of Houses, and called the Hebdomadal Board. The powers and functions of this body are to be transferred to a new authority, to be called the Hebdomadal Council, and constituted as follows.—The Vice-Chancellor and Proctors will be of the government, as before,—and the outgoing Chancellor, if not otherwise elected. Six Heads of Houses, six Professors, and six members of Convocation of a certain standing, will be elected by the deliberative body called Congregation. To these the Chancellor for the time being will add one Head and one Professor; and an additional Professor will be elected—also by Congregation—from the theological ranks of the University. This will give a governing body of either 24 or 25 members; and the elective body, or Congregation, will contain all the elements of a true University representation. It will consist of all Heads of Houses, and Masters of Halls Tutors, and Deans of Colleges, Professors, Canons of Christchurch,—all members of the Hebomadal Council, University officers, and public Examiners,—all residents who have held any of the foregoing qualifications for three years, and non-residents who have held them for twelve,—all residents, likewise, who have certificates of engagement in any branch of learning or science;—and power is reserved by the University to appoint, by statute, additional members, subject to the acceptance of the Crown. To the body thus largely based will be submitted for previous deliberation all measures to be proposed in Convocation:—the body which (retaining its present powers) makes up, with the other two, the new Constitution of the University.

University extension as here proposed strikes at the monopoly of colleges in various ways. By the new measure, power is given to any Master of Arts to open a private hall, with a license from the Vice-Chancellor, and, of course, under strict regulations. It is this provision which will open the University fountains to a more general thirst; as, under the competition thus established, the minimum cost of an Oxford education will soon be reached. For the purpose, too, of enlarging the means of University, as distinguished from College, education—all colleges having as many as twenty fellowships may be called on to contribute a portion of their funds towards the endowment of new public professorships, and lectureships:—and a multitude of minor provisions are made to assist in the good work of giving vitality to what lay buried beneath the incumbrances of ages, and diverting old motives of beneficence from the choked up channels in which they had ceased to flow, into parallel courses, and converting them into fructifying streams.

Such is a broad outline of the new and important measure which will, we hope, add another triumph to the history of Lord John Russell's long political life. If we miss certain features which we had hoped to see embraced in any scheme for the reform of the Universities, we are willing to believe that such have been omitted for the express purpose of avoiding the danger which they would have brought on all the rest,—and that Lord John has gone as far into the spirit of the age as he could hope to carry the House of Lords with him. It remains only to say, that to the University is still left the show of being its own reformer. The principles laid down it may itself practically carry out if it will. The measure provides for the establishment of a Parliamentary Commission, empowered to examine and authorise all statutes and rules which the University, or the Colleges, may propose for effecting the objects which it has in view. Such statutes and rules, if not proposed by the academical authorities before Michaelmas, 1855, are to be enacted by the Commission itself.

THE FITZWILLIAM ESTATES, IRELAND.

THE extensive and beautiful estates of the noble Earl Fitzwilliam, in the county Wicklow, have been for years presided over, in the capacity of agent, by Mr. Robert Chaloner, a gentleman who possesses an independent property in Yorkshire, but preferred a residence in Ireland, where a larger amount of usefulness was open to him. The same post was occupied for many previous years by Mr. Chaloner's highly-respected father, to whose plans the son admits he was materially indebted for the success which attended him in his office. During the period of the famine, Mr. Chaloner's devotion to the relief of the distressed, whilst it fulfilled the benevolent objects of the owner of the soil, set an example to others of the most salutary nature.



TESTIMONIAL PRESENTED TO MR. ROBERT CHALONER.

Mr. Chaloner, from circumstances arising out of his own affairs, has withdrawn from the agency; and, in grateful recollection of his services, the tenantry lately met under the presidency of Captain Nickson, J.P., and agreed to present him with an address, and a superb silver Epergne. The plate is from the house of West and Sons, of Collegegreen, Dublin, and is a tasteful work.

The presentation took place on the 11th ult., when a deputation of the tenantry waited upon Mr. Chaloner, at Coollattin Park, county Wicklow; and, after a suitable address, the superb gift was handed over to its now-gratified possessor.

The plate bears the following inscription:—

Presented by the tenants of Earl Fitzwilliam's Irish estates to ROBERT CHALONER, Esq., on his resigning the agency, as a token of their esteem and respect. February, 1854.

THE PEACE DEPUTATION TO THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.

(See the Engraving in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, No. 672.)

ON Friday evening week, Mr. H. Pease, one of the late deputation to the Czar, gave a very interesting account of his journey, and the reception of the deputation by the Czar, before the members of the Mechanics' Institute, at the Central Hall, Darlington.

The deputation proceeded from London to Berlin, where they remained over one Sabbath, in order to obtain some introductions for St. Petersburg. At the first Russian custom house their passport were demanded, and their chests and papers all turned over, in order that nothing obnoxious to the Emperor might be allowed to enter Russia. An old *Darlington Times* wrapped round a parcel, was no sooner caught sight of by one of the officials, than it was immediately torn up and trampled under foot. They now had to travel by means of sledges, to which six Russian horses were attached. Some of these sledges were well appointed, and the style in which the drivers were dressed was far superior to the style of clothing in this country. They usually travelled two nights out of three during this time. In about fourteen days they reached St. Petersburg, after being out about five nights. They were fortunate enough to meet with a comfortable English hotel, kept by Mrs. Benson, who was also at a neighbour, having previously lived at Sunderland. Before seeing Count Nesselrode, they had to explain their motives for visiting Russia; and how their motives for coming to Russia were duly inquired into. These were but three motives that were allowed to influence people in visiting Russia, and these, as far as he could recollect, were business, health or pleasure, and science. At this office they were very civilly treated, and they had no reason to complain. For this they were indebted to Prince Menschikoff, who had written to Count Nesselrode, saying what their mission was, and telling him to expect them.

The Emperor was very kind to them. He is a man of about fifty-six, and, on the whole, a very fine-looking specimen of humanity. There was a very splendid view from the Emperor's room window. He saw a long way down the river, and the docks and fortifications were under his immediate surveillance. There was no want of everything grand and imposing—gilded flowers in splendid vases, and galleries of the finest pictures met their view at every step. Here, in fact, was everything that was attractive and interesting. He (Mr. Pease) could not help remarking a very great improvement in these large houses in Russia over those in England: in every part a uniform and moderate heat was diffused. The reception-room was 300 feet in length, and took 20,000 wax-lights to illuminate it. Here the collections in every department of art from all parts of the world were on the most magnificent scale. Here were a large number of articles in malachite, and those who visited the Great Exhibition of 1851 would alone be able to form any adequate conception of the splendid effect which large quantities of this fine mineral and gold had when brought together. He was not a very good judge of fine painting; but here was gallery after gallery filled with paintings by the best masters. The effect of the whole was admiration and amazement. There was in one of the halls a very large vase, which had lately been brought from Finland, and which was supported on a huge pedestal, all cut out of a solid piece of granite. The kindness they met with at the Court was far above that usually extended to visitors, and they were taken to see the room of Peter the Great. Here was everything that would suggest itself as being of use to a great king. As Peter was many ingenious tools and other things of his own invention, and many beautifully carved ornaments in ivory and wood. On one of the tables in a plain case was an old steel pen, which the late Duke of Wellington used, and which had been sent as a present to the Emperor by the present Duke. Among other curiosities were some huge lumps of native sulphur, and a large piece of gold as it had been found. These specimens from those interminable sources of wealth, the Siberian mines, were of the most interesting and wonderful nature.

After describing the churches of St. Petersburg, and the winter amusements of the population, Mr. Pease remarked, that the reason why Russia had made no more progress in civilisation was the way in which she trampled down the press. He brought with him a number of an illustrated paper which had passed the ordeal of examination by the Post-office authorities. Several articles had been cut out wholesale, as containing something not quite respectable. One of the articles so cut away had been originally an illustration of the Emperor, and had no doubt contained some thing considered derogatory to his dignity. In some cases the obnoxious articles were expunged, and not cut out; but one of these plans was always adopted as the papers passed through the Post-offices.

They were well aware that serfdom very extensively prevailed in Russia. Many of these serfs were of the better class, such as waiters in hotels, and these all had to pay so much yearly to their lords. A waiter in the hotel where he stayed paid his nobleman £4 a year, and the income which those of these nobles received in this way amounted to £300,000. To these noblemen the war was a very great loss. There had already been two conscriptions within the last six months, each of which would reduce the revenue of some of these noblemen to the extent of about £10,000. Very much to the discredit of the Russians, the barbarous slaughter of Sinope was performed every night in the theatres of St. Petersburg.

He had purposely refrained from alluding to the subject of the war now happening, because his only object in giving this lecture was to detail a few of the incidents which had befallen him in making a journey which he had undertaken in fulfilment of what he conceived to be a matter of duty. They would perhaps expect that he should tell them a little more, particularly the nature of the interview with the Emperor. After getting the necessary introduction, they were ushered into the palace, where a very *beau ideal* of a king's servant conducted them through several suites of rooms, and up a great many stairs, at the landing on every one of which was a body of guards stationed, standing as mute as the walls beside them. After waiting about half an hour, a messenger was sent to tell them that the Emperor was ready to receive them. On going into the room where the Czar was, he rose from his seat and came across the room about half way to meet them. Baron Nicholay was present during the interview. The conversation has already appeared in the papers. The Emperor spoke chiefly in English, which he spoke very well; but some parts of the conversation, and the reply to the address, he addressed to Baron Nicholay in French: the reason why he did so was that the Emperor knew better the full import of the words he used in that language than in English. The interview lasted about half an hour. He expressed a wish that they should, before they left, call upon the Empress, which they did. When they arrived in the room where she was, they found that the Emperor had arrived first by a private passage. The Empress seemed to be suffering from ill-health, caused partly from the unjustifiable attacks which had been recently made on the character of her husband by the British press. He (Mr. Pease) at once saw how painful a subject it was to the Empress and the Grand Duchess Olga, and he could not but regret the course which the press of this country had pursued in this respect—in resorting to abuse and calumny instead of reasoning. Many of the most respectable British residents in St. Petersburg were of the same opinion, and expressed the very great pain this subject had caused them. All that he saw of the Emperor led him to a very different opinion of his character. The people of St. Petersburg almost idolized him, and he frequently went out amongst them unattended. Setting aside the question whether the Emperor was right or wrong in the course he had lately adopted, he could not see anything unreasonable or deserving of ridicule in the fact of a body of Christians who have been in existence two hundred years, and who have averaged 20,000 in number, who have always cherished the belief that liberty can neither be advanced, nor national disputes settled, by the use of the sword, and who had always endeavoured to be good citizens, sending three of their number to endeavour to bring about a pacific settlement of the present difficulties. He firmly believed that either vast sums of money had been spent, and thousands of lives had been sacrificed, the question would remain just where it at present was, and arbitration would be resorted to. After men had tried the irrational, the inhuman, unreasonable—he had almost said—God-blaspheming practice of war—causing thousands of families the deepest misery—when all saw the great curse a war was, then they would be led to acknowledge that there was nothing irrational or unreasonable in their endeavouring to avert it. All would then be ready to acknowledge that the money had been submitted to thoroughly Christian principle. After apologising for having omitted to notice many points of interest, as being too much to include in one lecture, Mr. Pease resumed his seat.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.—Through the exertions of Mr. Joseph Hume, M.P., and others, the Treasury have resolved that the sum of £500 shall be placed annually in the civil estimates to the service of the society, the Government requiring, in return, that a public hall be fitted up, with models, &c., for the inspection of the public, and that a report of the society's proceedings be presented annually to the Houses of Parliament.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

The bands of several regiments of the garrison of Paris have been for some time practising the air "God save the Queen," in order to play it on the arrival of the English auxiliaries; whose bands will, no doubt, return the compliment by playing the now appropriate air of "Partant pour la Syrie."

At one of the oldest clock manufactories in Connecticut; 250 men are employed. The clocks are made at the rate of 600 per day, and at a price varying from one dollar to ten dollars, the average price being three dollars.

The *Ocean*, a newspaper published at Brest, has taken the trouble to calculate the average of the ages of the Admirals in the French navy. This calculation gives 61, as nearly as may be, for the age of the Vice-Admirals, and 55 as that of the Rear-Admirals. It is added that in England the average is higher in both cases by six years.

The sentence of death passed upon Abel Burrows, at the last Bedford Assizes, for the murder of Charity Glenister, has been commuted to penal servitude for life.

On Saturday last the remains of the once celebrated western mail coaches were taken off the road, the Dorchester and Exeter mail coach being on that day withdrawn.

The two companies which light Dublin have announced a rise of from 2s. to 3s. 10d. the 1000 cubic feet of gas.

The *Liberté*, of Lille, states that the Turkish Ambassador in Paris has demanded from the French Bishops aid and protection for a Capuchine Father, who is now in France, collecting the means for building a Catholic church at Constantinople.

The French Government has decided that a periodical, containing reports and papers of scientific and literary societies, accounts of missions &c., shall henceforth be published, under the title of *Bulletin des Sociétés Savants*.

The Belgian annual exhibition of the works of living artists is to commence at Brussels on the 1st August, and to continue to the 30th September. Foreigners will be allowed to exhibit.

The *Scientific American* speaks of a new marine locomotive, with which the inventor says he can cross the Atlantic in four days.

A smart shock of an earthquake (the second within six months) was experienced at St. Sebastian, north coast of Spain, on the 15th ult., at half past ten p.m. The walls of the houses trembled, and the horizontal oscillations which accompany such phenomena were apparent.

Mr. Dargan has granted the use of the Industrial Exhibition Building to the Royal Dublin Society for their spring cattle-show, which takes place this month.

The report of the Tynemouth states that more than one-seventh of the electors of that borough are publicans.

Prince Albert has given a donation of £200 for the extension of the electric telegraph to Aberdeen.

Considerable transactions in foreign commodities are said to be meditated this spring by the smugglers on the north and east coasts of England.

The Admiralty have adopted private signals in their telegraphic communications, in order to ensure secrecy for their orders to the dockyards.

The action for damages by the family of Mr. Bateman, of Cork, who was killed at Straffan, against the Great Southern and Western Railway, has been compromised for £3000, paid to the plaintiffs.

The accounts for the Duchy of Lancaster for the year ending at Michaelmas last show that £15,800 was paid over to her Majesty's privy purse.

A vessel was sent to sea the other day from Yarmouth, entirely manned by master mariners; the rise of wages and the attractions of the navy having so closely reduced the number of common seamen.

James Hagan, who was convicted at Belfast assizes of being a member of a Ribbon Lodge, has been sentenced to four years' penal servitude.

Mr. Calvert intends shortly to commence erecting his reduction and smelting works in Merionethshire, for the purpose of extracting gold from various ores and rock. The establishment will cover several acres of ground, and will be capable of treating about 5000 tons per week.

A Brazilian company, with a capital of 600,000 dollars, has successfully introduced steam navigation on the entire length of the river Amazon.

The Russian Pera and country palaces are to be fitted up as residences for the English and French Commanders-in-Chief when they arrive at Constantinople.

The Rev. Mr. Perowne, M.A., censor of King's College, has been appointed by the council to the new professorship in English History, and to the lectureship of Modern History, vacant by the resignation of the Rev. J. J. Brewer.

M. De Maupas, the late French Minister at Naples, has arrived in Paris. It is said that he is to be appointed Minister at Madrid, in the place of the Marquis de Turgot.

Tenders were delivered for the navy contracts for hemp on Tuesday, but at such high prices that the Government did not entertain them.

The Supreme Court at Boston has decided that the section of the Massachusetts Liquor Law, which authorises the seizure and destruction of liquor, is unconstitutional.

Accounts have been received in Sydney of a considerable reinforcement to the French naval squadron in the South Seas.

The great Ganges Canal, the most important public work yet executed in India, is to be opened on the 8th of April.

An English company, directed by Messrs. Gandell Brothers, has just commenced the draining by means of steam-engines the lake of Capestang, in the arrondissement of Beziers. The superficies of the ground so be reclaimed is about 4700 acres.

A letter from Rome of the 20th ult. states that the assassin of Count Rossi has been found out, and arrested.

The value of the gold exported from Victoria during the year 1853 was about £14,000,000 sterling; from New South Wales, £6,500,000.

An exhibition of *tableaux vivants* is at present taking place in Madrid. Amongst the incidents represented are the Crucifixion and the Ascension of Christ.

Dr. Weitzstein, Prussian Consul at Damascus, has purchased at that place nearly 500 Arab manuscripts for the Royal Library at Berlin. Amongst them are two fragments of the Koran, several autographs and treatises on history, geography, natural history, medicine, mathematics, and astronomy.

The Imperial Library of France has purchased for 250f., the original manuscript of the chronicle of "The Cid," a poem of the fifteenth century, illustrated by curious pen-and-ink sketches.

Baron de Brunnow left Darmstadt on the 22nd ult. for Brussels, but was to return in about a fortnight. His family and his two secretaries remain at Darmstadt.

Nine Turkish and Egyptian steam ships, intended for the conveyance of troops (some 17,000) to Greece and Constantinople, are lying at Alexandria, waiting for a supply of coal.

The railway from the canal to the Nile will be called into requisition for the next transit of the Overland Mail and passengers.

A letter from Warsaw of the 15th ult. states that the Vistula had on that day overflowed its banks, and inundated several of the streets of that city.

The Chinese emigration to California has again commenced. Eight hundred Celestials, in three vessels, reached San Francisco last February.

A launch containing a large number of pass agers was recently capsized in Virgin Bay, Lake Nicaragua. Twenty-four persons were drowned.

An order has been sent to England by the French Admiralty for the purchase of all the largest and best maps of the Baltic to be found in London. The French maps are good as far as they go, but they are not the result of recent surveys.

There have been 1280 deaths from cholera within the Glasgow bills of mortality since the last return of the first outbreak.

The net revenue paid into the Exchequer in 1840 was £47,567,569; the net revenue last year was £54,150,544 increase, £6,582,975. In 1840 the expenditure was £47,1.1.6., last year it was £51,1.1.9. Increase, £2,013,305.

The Lord Chancellor Shrewsbury, Lord Edward Howard, and a number of other Roman Catholic noblemen and gentlemen, have published a declaration of their "Protestant fellow-countrymen," in which they say "that they regard the access of the motion of Mr. Chambers in the House of Commons as a direct attack upon the Catholic religion, and as an insult to those who profess it."

It is expected that, in deference to the wishes of the sailors of the British navy, who prefer serving in ships launched on a Saturday, that the launch of the *Royal Albert* will take place between three and four o'clock on Saturday, April 29.

It is currently believed among military circles that, in addition to the late augmentation, there is to be a further increase to the army of 50,000 men.

The Ceylon advices report the coffee crop of 1853 at 450,000 cwt., and, but for a deficient supply of labour, it would have been some thousand cwt. more.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

ROTUS.—Your best plan will be to procure a set of what are called the "Staunton Chessmen;" and with them you will receive the Chess "Text-book"—a little work of the kind you want just adapted for beginners.

M. F.—Yes, we are not quite right, even now. See our Solution.

C. A. J., Dublin.—Many thanks. They shall be applied.

T. L., of Hereford.—1. Your solution is correct. 2. The copies of the *Chess-player's Chronicle* is 4d. per month. Monthly periodicals may be ordered of any bookseller in the country, and obtained without any extra charge. As they are published, too, in London, a day or two *before* the 1st of every month, it is the country bookseller's fault, or the fault of his London agent, if subscribers do not get them in most parts of England by the 1st, or at farthest the 2nd, of the month.

J. G. C.—It shall have favorable notice.

G. W. S., Hollybourne.—We will submit the inquiry to the composer, and give his solution if space admits, next week.

R., of Stuttgardt.—1. With the emendation last sent, it appears to be quite correct, and worthy of the ingenious author? 2. Your solution of No. 525 is the true one.

LANCASTER.—The first prizes in the Irish Society, just finished at the Manchester Chess-club, was won by the Honorary Secretary, Mr. Kipping. 2. The Club holds its meetings on Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings, at the Star Hotel, Deansgate.

DELTA, WITNEY, M. F. of Kew, A. K., Lambeth.—Our opinion of your Problems shall be given next week.

HUTTI, Chertsey.—We cannot see a second mode of effecting mate. You must have entirely overlooked the check with Black's Kt.

R. N., Manchester.—You are mistaken. The mate cannot be given in the way you suggest.

*** The majority of our answers to Chess communications are unavoidably postponed.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 524.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. Kt to K 2nd	R to K B 6th (best)	4. Kt to Q B 3rd (ch)	K to Q B 5th
2. P to Q B 4th (ch)	P takes P	5. P to Q 5th (dis. ch)	Mate.
3. R to K 4th	P takes P		

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 525.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. Kt to K B 3rd	P to Q Kt 3rd	4. Kt to Q 2nd	K takes P
2. R to K R sq	P moves	5. Kt (dis. ch)—Mate.	
3. R to Q sq	P moves		

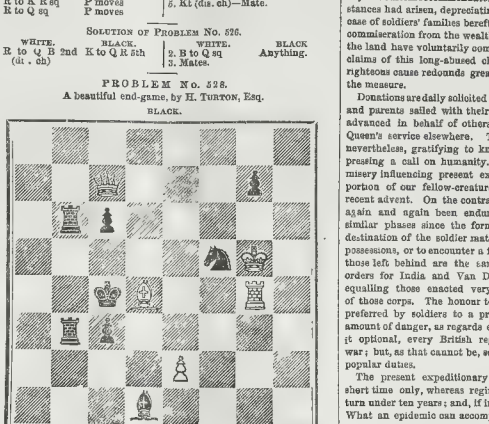
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 526.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK
1. R to Q B 2nd (dis. ch)	K to Q K 5th	2. B to Q sq 3. Mates.	Anything.

PROBLEM No. 528.

A beautiful end-game, by H. TURTON, Esq.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and give mate in four moves.

CHESS IN THE METROPOLIS.

Stirring little skirmish played at the St. George's Chess-club, between Mr. WYVILL, M.P., and Mr. LÖWENTHAL.

(Sicilian Opening.)

BLACK (Mr. L.)	WHITE (Mr W.)	BLACK (Mr. L.)	WHITE (Mr. W.)
1. P to K 4th	P to Q B 4th	14. Q to K sq	Kt to K 5th
2. B to Q B 4th	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	15. K to K B 2nd	B takes K Kt
3. P to Q 3rd	P to K Kt 3rd	16. R takes B (b)	Kt takes Q B P
4. Q Kt to Q B 3rd	B to K Kt 2nd	17. Q to K 4th (c)	Kt takes Q R
5. B to K 3rd	Kt to Q 5th	18. P to K 5th	Q to K Kt 4th
6. P to K B 4th	P to K 3rd	19. P to K R 4th (d)	Q to Q B 6th (ch)
7. Kt to K B 3rd	P to Q 4th	20. K to R 2nd	Q to K Kt 4th (ch)
8. P takes P	P takes P		
9. B takes P	Kt to K 2nd	21. K to Kt 3rd	Kt to Q B 7th
10. B to Q B 4th	Q B to K Kt 5th	22. Kt to K 2nd	Q to K 8th (ch)
11. Castles (a)	Castles	23. K to R 2nd	R to K B 3rd
12. B takes Q Kt	B takes B (ch)	24. R to K Kt 3rd (e)	Kt to Q 5th
13. K to R sq	Kt to K B 4th	25. P takes P	Q takes Kt
		And Black resigned.	

(a) In a more thoughtful game Black would probably have preferred taking the K Kt, to double the adversary's Pawns on the K B file; a fi

(b) If he had taken with the Pawn, White must equally have won the exchange by taking the Bishop with his Kt, and then Rook with Bishop.

(c) This total surrender of his Q Rook to the new bold, but he gained a promising attack, though not one sufficiently lasting to compensate for such a sacrifice.

(d) If he had played the Rook to B 3rd, White might, we believe have played his *King's* Rook to Kt 2 square and have won it also. It is obvious he must never play the Q Rook to that square without loss, as soon as the Black Kt is taking his K B Pawn with his Bishop checking.

(e) Better, perhaps, to have taken Pawn with Pawn, permitting an exchange of Queens, and have fought for a drawn battle.

This eccentric little affair was played at the St. George's Chess club the other day, be ween two of our best players—Mr. WYVILL, M.P., and Mr. EVELYS, M.P.

(Sicilian Opening.)

BLACK (Mr. E.)	WHITE (Mr. W.)	BLACK (Mr. E.)	WHITE (Mr. W.)
1. P to K 4th	P to Q 3 4th	11. Q to her sq	P to Q Kt 4th
2. P to Q 4th	P takes P	12. P to Q B 3rd (b)	P takes B
3. K Kt to K B 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	13. P takes Kt	B to Q Kt 2nd
4. Kt takes P	P to K B 4th	14. P to K B 3rd	Q to K Kt 5th (ch)
5. P takes P	Kt takes Kt (c)	15. K to her 2nd (c)	B takes Q P
6. Q to K R 5th (ch)	P to K Kt 3rd	16. Q to K sq	Q R to K B sq
7. P takes P	B to K Kt 2nd	17. Kt to Q B 3rd	Q R to K B sq (d)
8. P to Q B 4th (dis ch)	K to Q sq	18. Q to K R 3rd (ch)	K to B 2nd
9. P takes Kt (be-	K takes Q	19. B to K Kt 5th	Q to K B 4th
coming a Q) (ch)		20. K Kt to Q sq	Q to K Kt sq
10. K B to Q B 4th	P to K 3rd	21. P to K R 4th	P to K 4th
(ch,		22. Kt to Q Kt 5th	

And, in a few moves, White surrendered.

(a) White plays this opening at random. It is surprising, after the deplorable position he was driven to take up, that he should have recovered hi ses so far as he did.

(b) This is a somewhat feeble, timorous move; and is subject to a good deal of criticism.

(c) Had he interposed the Kt's Pawn, White would of course have taken it with his Queen.

(d) This was a fault. The move to be regretted, too, because it occurred at the moment when White had retreated his forces in the opening, and stood fair to win the game. If, but out of the move made he should have played his K Kt to K 6th, we believe he must have gained the game.

17		K R to his 6th	
(It is hardly necessary to say that if Black takes the Rook he will be mated in two moves.)			
18	K to Q sq (best)	Q to K 4th (ch)	
		B takes K R P	

We unreservedly the better game.

(e) 18. Q to K B sq, or (c)	Q R to K B sq	20. K to Q 2nd (best)	B takes Kt (ch)
19. P takes K R (ch)	B takes K P (c)	Q to K B 5th (ch)	
	And White must win.		
(c) 18. Kt to K 4th	B takes Kt	20. Q, or R to K B sq	Q to K Kt 3rd
19. P takes B	K to Q 6th	And ought to win.	

CHESS ENIGMAS.

No. 885.—By J. B., of Bridport.

White: K at Q Kt 4th, Q at K Kt 4th, Kt s at Q 4th and 5th, P at K B 2nd, *Black:* K at K 4th, R at Q 2nd, B at Q 6th, P at K 4th.

White to play, and mate in three moves.

No. 886.—By Signor ASPA.

White: K at K Kt 7th, Q at K B 4th R at Q R 8th, Bs at Q Kt 4th and 7th, K s at K Kt 1st and 4 h, P at K B 6th.

Black: K at Q 6th, Q at Q B 7th, Rs at Q Kt 3rd and Q R 6th, Bs at K B 6th and Q B 2nd, Kts at K 4th and Q B 5th.

White to play, and give mate in four moves.

THE WIVES OF SOLDIERS ON FOREIGN SERVICE.

(From our Military Correspondent.)

In the annals of English history the British nation has never demonstrated such enthusiastic approval of approaching warfare as at this present crisis. Applauding multitudes cheer the troops when marching to their points of embarkation, and accompany the battalions with excitement hitherto unparalleled. Of the truth of such unequivocal feeling no two opinions can be entertained. Apathy, which for years has stagnated efforts endeavouring to draw attention to the soldier's grievances, now holds promise of being supplanted by noble and generous sympathy. To dwell upon the past is futile. What has gone before us is irremediable. Happily, old standing indifference to the welfare of the army is in course of abrogation by open avowal of acknowledged neglect. In time of peace the soldier has hitherto been regarded as an incumbrance, and many cavilled at the "Estimates." Advocating reduction, without possessing a thorough knowledge on the subject, they would gladly have disembodied the whole force. But, to realise our supremacy, we must evidence power; for indifference as to means of protection when lulled into fancied security, will avail nought when the period for action arrives. That epoch is now present; and the consequence of procrastination in reforming errors becomes apparent. Wrongs entailed on the land service of the country's defenders have already been touched upon in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS; and other journals partially exposed the inefficacy of regulations possessing nothing beyond custom recommendatory of continuance. As though new circumstances had arisen, depreciating the justice of our military system, the case of soldiers' families bereft of their protectors has at length gained commiseration from the wealthy. Many of the highest and fairest in the land have voluntarily come forward in support of the indisputable claims of this long-abused class; and the movement thus given in a righteous cause redounds greatly to the honour of those who originated the measure.

Donations are daily solicited by advertisement for those whose husbands and parents sailed with their regiments for the East; but nothing is advanced in behalf of others belonging to soldiers employed in the Queen's service elsewhere. Tardy as the demonstration has been, it is nevertheless, gratifying to know the country is at length aroused to so pressing a call on humanity. But it should be borne in mind that the misery influencing present exertions in compassion for so numerous a portion of our fellow-creatures, does not originate from occasions of recent advent. On the contrary, misery, bereavement, and want have again and again been endured by women and children in precisely similar phases since the formation of our army. In this respect, the destination of the soldier matters little—whether to protect our colonial possessions, or to encounter a foreign foe, the inevitable consequences to those left behind are the same. At this moment regiments are under orders for India and Van Diemen's Land, and heart-rending scenes equalling those enacted very recently will occur on the departure of those corps. The honour to be gained on active service is naturally preferred by soldiers to a protracted sojourn in the tropics; but the amount of danger, as regards existence, may be nearly balanced. Were it optional, every British regiment would volunteer for the seat of war; but, as that cannot be, some must be necessitated to perform less popular duties.

The present expeditionary force may possibly be engaged for a short time only, whereas regiments destined for the Colonies never return under ten years; and, if in India, their absence exceeds that period. What an epidemic can accomplish in destroying human life was fearfully exemplified a few months since at Bermuda; and in 1841 the 92nd Highlanders lost fifty-two men, during four months, out of a detachment consisting of one hundred and seventy-eight; while, of nine officers then quartered in the garrison, five died in the island, or on passage home. This occurred at Dominica. The chances, therefore, of those at home again beholding their relatives, whether actually engaged in the field, or located in a pestilential climate, do not greatly preponderate on either side. But the hope of glory, that powerful incentive to action glowing in every soldier's breast, cannot find existence in a combat with tropical fevers, and utter annihilator of health.

Previous to the embarkation of troops on board the *Himalaya*, numbers of persons visited the steamer, anxious to witness the mode in which she was fitted up for the soldiers' reception. From these a small sum was demanded on admittance, which amounted to several pounds, and was bestowed on some local charity. Surely the donation would have been more appropriately applied if divided among the sorrowing women, who, standing on the quay, watched the departing vessel till she vanished in the distance, bearing away—perhaps for ever—those whom they held most dear.

In time of general excitement, when a nation becomes unanimous in a popular cause, appeal in behalf of women suffering by the occasion, finds ready sympathy in England. That a large sum will eventually be collected for soldiers' wives, is more than probable. But the intended benefit ought not to arise from private donations, but rather be accorded by Government at the nation's cost. A more deserving charity could not be patronised. Announcement of such a purpose being in progress of realisation would be cordially greeted by all parties. It has been urged that provision being made for wives debarred from accompanying their husbands on service, would hold out objectionable inducements for marrying. That soldiers, equally with others, contract imprudent alliances needs no argument, but that the prospect of their wives being probably left destitute acts as a preventative to such engagements is erroneous. In regiments where commanding officers refuse men leave to marry, the motive is generally frustrated by the soldier having the ceremony performed without the cognisance of his superior. A woman thus situated is denied the trifling advantages granted to others who entered wedlock with the colonel's approval. Nevertheless, she is wedded, and though the custom of the service may render her position somewhat more wretched than is the case with those living in barracks, her grief is in no degree assuaged by close companionship with penury and privation, when torn from her husband, who is compulsorily obliged to leave her homeless, and to starve. A fund might be granted, or other means devised, by which the well-conducted woman would find opportunity offered for obtaining an honest livelihood, and her children protected in the hour of need.

Many a soldier on foreign service would march with a lighter heart, and many a bitter pang of anguish would be spared, if something substantially permanent was effected by those in power, for accomplishing such an act of mercy.

GOLD ROBBERY.—The *Sydney*, while on her homeward passage from Melbourne, lost a box containing 1000 oz. of gold. It is supposed to have been abstracted from the hold at the Cape, where some boxes of gold had to be landed. The missing box was consigned to the London and Westminster Bank, and was valued at nearly £5000.

DR. BARTH'S ARRIVAL AT TIMBUKTU.—A letter from Mr. Augustus Petermann, of the Geographical Society, announces the arrival, at the celebrated city of Timbuktu, of Dr. Barth, whose expedition to Central Africa we have more than once had occasion to notice. The letters received from Dr. Barth are dated Timbuktu, Sept. 7, and Oct. 5. No letters had previously been received since March, 1852. He had the friendship of the Sheikh of Bakay, ruling chief of the city—a fortunate circumstance, considering the fanatical character of the people—and by his advice assumed to be a messenger from the Great Sultan of Sambool. He was, consequently, welcomed and saluted by the festive multitudes. The geographical position he has attained, we need scarcely add, is very important.

"Cry *Havock*, and let slip the Dogs of War."—Shakspeare.

DECLARATION OF WAR.

"LETTING SLIP THE DOGS OF WAR."

ODE TO THE EMPEROR NICHOLAS.

Shame on thee, Nicholas! History never
Showed lust of dominion more brutal than thine:
Thy deeds shall be black in her pages for ever,
And infamy follow thy name on her line.

Woe to thee, Nicholas! Murder and plunder
May guide thee to battle, but vengeance is near;
'Tis written in lightning, 'tis spoken in thunder,
And peals through the earth on the popular ear.

Shame on thee, Nicholas! Justice invoked thee;
Vain was her voice: thou wert deaf to her call.
Robbery armed, and Hypocrisy cloaked thee,
But Arrogance dug thee a pit for thy fall.

Woe to thee, Nicholas! Golden and splendid,
The head of the idol may gleam to the day;
We gaze, and it crumbles; its glories are ended;
The ground is unstable, its feet are of clay.

Shame on thee, Nicholas! Shame and perdition!
The curse of mankind on thy name shall be hurled,
To loose, for the sake of thy selfish ambition,
The bloodhounds of war on the innocent world.

Woe to thee, Nicholas! False and perfidious,
If sane—the detested! if mad—the abhorred!
Invoking to aid thee, with blasphemies hideous,
The name of Religion, the word of the Lord!—C. M.

WAR WITH RUSSIA.

Consequent upon the termination of amicable relations with the Czar, the most important message which Parliament has received from the Queen, or from her immediate predecessor, was brought down by her Majesty's Ministers on Monday evening, and an unusual number of persons were attracted in and around Westminster-hall and the approaches to the Houses of Parliament, by the interest and novelty

War with Russia.—The Lord Chancellor reading the Queen's message to the House of Lords.

THE BALTIC FLEET ENTERING WINGA SOUND.—DRAWN BY O. W. BRIERLY.—(See next page.)

of the event. The Lord Chancellor took his seat upon the woolsack at a few minutes before five o'clock, at which hour the Peeresses' Gallery was filled with ladies, and the space at the foot of the Throne, which it is the privilege of the sons of Peers to occupy, was also crowded. The space below the bar was crowded with members of the House of Commons and others having the privilege of the *entrée*. Among the Peers earliest in attendance were Lord Brougham, the Earl of Harrowby, Lord Beaumont, the Earl of Cardigan, the Earl of Ellenborough, and the Earl of Shaftesbury. The Earl of Aberdeen and the Earl of Clarendon entered the House together at five o'clock. The Premier was engaged in conversation with Lord Grey for a few minutes, and Lord Clarendon was similarly engaged with Lord Brougham. When the Ministers took their seats, there were present upon the Treasury bench —the Earl of Aberdeen, the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Earl of Clarendon, Earl Granville, the Duke of Newcastle, the Duke of Argyll, and Lord Stanley of Alderley. Upon the Opposition bench were the Earl of Derby, the Earl of Malmesbury, the Earl of Eglinton, the Earl of Lonsdale, the Marquis of Salisbury, and Lord Colchester. Several prelates—among whom were the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of London, the Bishop of Exeter, and the Bishop of St. Asaph—took their seats upon the Bishops' bench.

Several petitions having been previously presented, precisely at five minutes past five o'clock the Earl of ABERDEEN rose, and, amidst cries of "Order" advanced to the table, and laying a paper upon it, simply said, 'My Lords, a message from the Queen."

The Clerk immediately carried it to the Lord Chancellor; and

The LORD CHANCELLOR, rising, but not stepping to the side of the woolsack as when addressing their Lordships, proceeded to read in clear and emphatic tones, amidst the most perfect silence, the following message of her Gracious Majesty:—

"Victoria Regina. Her Majesty thinks it proper to acquaint the House of Lords, that the negotiations in which her Majesty, in concert with her allies, has for some time past been engaged with his Majesty the Emperor of All the Russias, have terminated; and her Majesty feels bound to afford active assistance to her ally, the Sultan, against unprovoked aggression. Her Majesty has given directions for laying before the House of Lords copies of such papers, in addition to those already communicated to Parliament, as will afford the fullest information with regard to the subjects of these negotiations. It is a consolation to her Majesty, to reflect that no endeavours have been wanting upon her part to preserve to her subjects the blessings of peace. Her Majesty's just expectations have been disappointed; and her Majesty relies with confidence upon the zeal and devotion of the House of Lords, and on the exertions of her brave and loyal subjects, to support her in her determination to employ the power and resources of the nation to protect the dominions of the Sultan against the encroachments of Russia."

The Address having been again read by the Clerk at the table, the Earl of Clarendon moved that the Address be taken into consideration on Friday.

ROYAL DECLARATION.

(From a Supplement to Tuesday night's *Gazette*.)

DECLARATION.

It is with deep regret that her Majesty announces the failure of her anxious and protracted endeavours to preserve for her people, and for Europe, the blessings of peace.

The unprovoked aggression of the Emperor of Russia against the Sublime Porte has been persisted in with such disregard of consequences, that, after the rejection by the Emperor of Russia of terms which the Emperor of Austria, the Emperor of the French, and the King of Prussia, as well as her Majesty, considered just and equitable, her Majesty is compelled by a sense of what is due to the honour of her crown, to the interests of her people, and to the independence of the states of Europe, to come forward in defence of an ally whose territory is invaded, and whose dignity and independence are assailed.

Her Majesty, in justification of the course she is about to pursue, refers to the transactions in which her Majesty has been engaged.

The Emperor of Russia had some cause of complaint against the Sultan with reference to the settlement, which his Highness had sanctioned, of the conflicting claims of the Greek and Latin Churches to a portion of the Holy Places of Jerusalem and its neighbourhood. To the complaint of the Emperor of Russia on this head justice was done; and her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople had the satisfaction of promoting an arrangement to which no exception was taken by the Russian Government.

But while the Russian Government repeatedly assured the Government of her Majesty that the mission of Prince Menschikoff to Constantinople was exclusively directed to the settlement of the question of the Holy Places at Jerusalem, Prince Menschikoff himself pressed upon the Porte other demands of a far more serious and important character, the nature of which he in the first instance endeavoured, as far as possible, to conceal from her Majesty's Ambassador. And these demands, thus studiously concealed, affected not only the privileges of the Greek Church at Jerusalem, but the position of many millions of Turkish subjects in their relations to their Sovereign the Sultan.

These demands were rejected by the spontaneous decision of the Sublime Porte.

Two assurances had been given to her Majesty—one that the mission of Prince Menchikoff only regarded the Holy Places; the other that the mission would be of a conciliatory character.

In both respects her Majesty's just expectations were disappointed.

Demands were made which, in the opinion of the Sultan, extended to the substitution of the Emperor of Russia's authority for his own over a large portion of his subjects, and those demands were enforced by a threat; and when her Majesty learned that, on announcing the termination of his mission, Prince Menschikoff declared that the refusal of his demands would impose upon the Imperial Government the necessity of seeking a guarantee by its own power, her

Majesty thought proper that her fleet should leave Malta, and, in co-operation with that of his Majesty the Emperor of the French, take up its station in the neighbourhood of the Dardanelles.

So long as the negotiation bore an amicable character, her Majesty refrained from any demonstration of force. But when, in addition to the assemblage of large military forces on the frontier of Turkey, the Ambassador of Russia intimated that serious consequences would ensue from the refusal of the Sultan to comply with unwarrantable demands, her Majesty deemed it right, in conjunction with the Emperor of the French, to give an unquestionable proof of her determination to support the sovereign rights of the Sultan.

The Russian Government has maintained that the determination of the Emperor to occupy the Principalities was taken in consequence of the advance of the fleets of England and France. But the menace of invasion of the Turkish territory was conveyed in Count Nesselrode's Note to Redschid Pacha, of the 9th (21st) May, and re-stated in his despatch to Baron Brunnow, of the 20th May (June 1), which announced the determination of the Emperor of Russia to order his troops to occupy the Principalities, if the Porte did not, within a week comply with the demands of Russia.

The despatch to her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, authorising him, in certain specified contingencies, to send for the British fleet, was dated the 31st May; and the order sent direct from England to her Majesty's Admiral to proceed to the neighbourhood of the Dardanelles was dated the 2nd of June.

The determination to occupy the Principalities was, therefore, taken before the orders for the advance of the combined squadrons were given.

The Sultan's Minister was informed that, unless he signed within a week, and without the change of a word, the note proposed to the Porte by Prince Menschikoff, on the eve of his departure from Constantinople, the Principalities of Moldavia and Wallachia would be occupied by Russian troops. The Sultan could not accede to so insulting a demand; but, when the actual occupation of the Principalities took place, the Sultan did not, as he might have done in the exercise of his undoubted right, declare war, but addressed a protest to his allies.

Her Majesty, in conjunction with the Sovereigns of Austria, France and Prussia, has made various attempts to meet any just demands of the Emperor of Russia without affecting the dignity and independence of the Sultan; and, had it been the sole object of Russia to obtain security for the enjoyment by the Christian subjects of the Porte of their privileges and immunities, she would have found it in the offers that have been made by the Sultan; but, as that security was not offered in the shape of a special and separate stipulation with Russia, it was rejected. Twice has this offer been made by the Sultan, and recommended by the Four Powers—once by a Note, originally prepared at Vienna, and subsequently modified by the Porte; once by the proposal of bases of negotiation agreed upon at Constantinople on the 31st of December, and approved at Vienna on the 13th of January, as offering to the two parties the means of arriving at an understanding in a becoming and honourable manner.

It is thus manifest that a right for Russia to interfere in the ordinary relations of Turkish subjects to their Sovereign, and not the happiness of Christian communities in Turkey, was the object sought for by the Russian Government. To such a demand the Sultan would not submit; and his Highness, in self-defence, declared war upon Russia. But her Majesty, nevertheless, in conjunction with her allies, has not ceased her endeavours to restore peace between the contending parties.

The time has, however, now arrived when the advice and remonstrances of the Four Powers having proved wholly ineffectual, and the military preparations of Russia becoming daily more extended, it is but too obvious that the Emperor of Russia has entered upon a course of policy which, if unchecked, must lead to the destruction of the Ottoman Empire.

In this conjuncture her Majesty feels called upon by regard for an ally, the integrity and independence of whose empire have been recognised as essential to the peace of Europe, by the sympathies of her people with right against wrong—by a desire to avert from her dominions most injurious consequences—and to save Europe from the preponderance of a power which has violated the faith of treaties, and defies the opinion of the civilised world, to take up arms, in conjunction with the Emperor of the French, for the defence of the Sultan.

Her Majesty is persuaded that in so acting she will have the cordial support of her people; and that the pretext of zeal for the Christian religion will be used in vain to cover an aggression undertaken in disregard of its holy precepts, and of its pure and beneficent spirit.

Her Majesty humbly trusts that her efforts may be successful, and that, by the blessing of Providence, peace may be re-established on safe and solid foundations.

Westminster, March 28, 1854.

DECLARATION.

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, having been compelled to take up arms in support of an ally, is desirous of rendering the war as little onerous as possible to the Powers with whom she remains at peace.

To preserve the commerce of neutrals from all unnecessary obstruction, her Majesty is willing, for the present, to waive a part of the belligerent rights appertaining to her by the law of nations.

It is impossible for her Majesty to forego the exercise of her right of seizing articles contraband of war, and of preventing neutrals from bearing the enemy's despatches, and she must maintain the right of a belligerent to prevent neutrals from breaking any effective blockade which may be established with an adequate force against the enemy's forts, harbours, or coasts.

But her Majesty will waive the right of seizing enemy's property laden on board a neutral vessel, unless it be contraband of war.

It is not her Majesty's intention to claim the confiscation of neutral property, not being contraband of war, found on board enemy's ships; and her Majesty further declares, that, being anxious to lessen as much as possible the evils of war, and to restrict its operations to the regularly organised forces of the country, it is not her present intention to issue letters of marque for the commissioning of privateers.

Westminster, March 28, 1854.

BUSINESS IN THE COURT OF CHANCERY.—The Courts of Chancery, which rose for the Easter recess on Wednesday last, will not sit again before the first day of Easter term, which falls this year on the Wednesday in Easter week. Nearly all the causes set down for hearing in the respective courts are disposed of, and there will not remain in any one court, at the termination of this sitting, more than ten causes. Such a scarcity of business has not been known during the period of the year for a considerable time. An application has been made to the Lord Chancellor by the members of the bar, and also by the United Law Society, to induce his Lordship to consult the judges of the Court of Chancery throughout the vernal recess, at their residence, West minster Hall, Lincoln's-inn, or elsewhere, to frame any course most agreeable to the judges, and there can be no doubt as to the wishes of the profession upon this subject, and it is to be hoped that the arrangements of removing the courts to Westminster for six weeks in every year, and thus bringing the causes, and the counsel and solicitors engaged in them, more immediately under the eye of the judges, to the great detriment of their clients' interests, will at length be finally abolished.

THE HAY CONTRACTORS.—Messrs. Sturgeon and Sons, the hay contractors for the troops, forwarded a letter stating that they have presented petitions to both Houses of Parliament, praying for an immediate examination of the hay returned to them by the Victualling-office, and of the stacks from which they had pressed for the Government. They assert with the fullest confidence, that neither water, nor filth, nor any rubbish will be found in a single bale.

THE FLEET IN THE BALTIC.

(From our own Correspondent.)

St. Jean d'Acre, WINGA SOUND, 18th March.

In the accompanying Sketch part of the Fleet are seen steaming into Winga Sound, headed by Sir Charles Napier in the *Duke of Wellington*: part, which arrived here a day before him, are lying at anchor. I mentioned in my last, that before leaving the Downs, a signal from the Admiral had appointed this as a place of rendezvous for the Fleet, in case of accidentally parting company during our passage to the Baltic. The event has proved the wisdom of the precaution. On Monday evening, 13th inst., we weighed and stood out to sea. All the ships, with the exception of the paddle steamers, taking advantage of a favourable breeze, from the S.S.W., were under sail. But the impatience of the Admiral to arrive at the scene of his future operations, was soon evinced by a signal to get up steam. We proceeded in the same order as before, leaving the English coast: the in-shore squadron, under Admiral Plumridge, to windward; Sir Charles leading the starboard, and Admiral Chads the port line. Towards evening, however, a light wind from the northward rolled down upon us a dense mass of fog, which soon made the relative positions of the ships a mere matter of conjecture. Nothing could be seen save an occasional flash from the position guns of the Admiral, or the topgallant mast-heads of some tall ship towering above the vapour. During the night even these uncertain guides failed; and though we, from our position immediately astern of the flag-ship, were enabled to keep station with some degree of certainty, the remainder were not so fortunate. Morning came, and with it a strong wind, which swept away the fog, and revealed our straggling squadron. The recal signal, hoisted by the flag-ship, was promptly repeated and obeyed by those within sight. Mere specks in the far away horizon gradually increased into great ships, as they hastened to take up their positions; and by twelve o'clock all who had not hopelessly strayed were again in order of sailing.

The paddle squadron of Admiral Plumridge, and the *Princess Royal*, *Impérieuse*, *Amphion*, and *Royal George*, were not to be seen. This morning, on arriving, we found them all (excepting the *Royal George*, who has not yet turned up), anchoring at Winga.

The *Euryalus*, which started from Sheerness on the same day as we from the Downs, having been ordered to proceed with all speed, was here on Thursday. She is spoken of as a wonder of naval architecture, and though she has as yet had no opportunity to test her rate of sailing with any of the crack vessels of the fleet, no doubt is entertained that she will be at least one of the foremost. This makes the present strength of our squadron as follows:—

Duke of Wellington (flag)	Tribune
St. Jean d'Acre	Arrogant
Princess Royal	Impérieuse
Royal George (hourly expected)	Amphion
Cressy	Euryalus
Edinboro' (flag)	Leopard (flag)
Esmeheum	Valorous
Hogue	Dragon
Ajax	

I give you the gossip of the fleet for what it is worth, believing that all the sayings and doings of our naval armaments have an interest, at the present moment, for readers at home. On arriving this morning we heard that the Russians had declared war.* Rumour said that the *Dragon*, which was sent out to tow in some colliers laden with fuel for the fleet, had gone to bring back in triumph a little Russian merchant vessel, who, in the morning, had saucily refused to show her colours till the *Duke of Wellington*, who could have stowed her away on her booms amidships, pretended to chase: a proceeding which gave great amusement to the fleet, and produced the required display of bunting.

The Admiral takes his departure to-morrow, in the *Valorous*, for Copenhagen—for the purpose, it is believed, of conferring with the British Minister there. He will probably be absent four or five days, during which time Admiral Plumridge will take the command. Our vicinity to Gottenburg has afforded facilities for crowds of Swedish sight-seers to visit the fleet. Their little steamers, gaily decked out with national colours, have been cantering about all day, cheering each ship with almost as much enthusiasm as their brother excursionists of our English south coast. I need hardly say that the rigging is manned, and the ensign dipped on board all the ships at each fresh demonstration of Swedish kindly feeling. This enthusiasm for the English is, I am told, very general throughout the country; but I cannot speak from personal knowledge.

The bay in which we are lying is surrounded on three sides by low rocky coast. The land represented in the illustration is that which guards the west. The lighthouse is Buska Light. Winga Beacon is seen a little to the left.

The town of Gottenburg, distant some six or seven English miles, would be in the rear, and a little to the left of one looking in this direction. There are no houses but those belonging to the light keepers; and a more bleak, uninteresting spot could hardly be imagined: the weather during the last few days has been bitterly cold.

March 19. The *Royal George* arrived at half-past eight this morning. The Admiral left at eight, in the *Valorous* steamer for Copenhagen; the rest of the squadron remaining here.

* The report was afterwards traced to a German paper, which, also informed its readers that the English fleet had passed the Sound.

LITERATURE.

ALGERIA: the Topography and History, Political, Social, and Natural, of French Africa. By JOHN RAYMOND MORELL. Cooke.

Splendid settlements, kingdoms, and republics have flourished along the southern shores of the Mediterranean. When we think of them, the mind passes insensibly back through many ages, and still finds, even in the remotest part of history, that this land was connected conspicuously with the revolutions and vicissitudes of mighty nations, and with the more memorable destinies of mankind. As early as the days of the Hebrew patriarchs, it is probable that the Arab stock, which is like the twin of the Jewish race itself, began to people the sandy coast-lands of North Africa with warrior shepherds. From the days when the Egyptian yoke was fastened far and near, on the necks of the tribes around, what an immense intervening space the eye traverses until it reaches the age in which we live. After Egyptian domination Phœnician settlements—settlements still germinating others, and sending many a vagabond migration to colonise Spain, and even the distant valleys of Ireland. Then came Tyrian Carthage, to furnish one of the most exciting episodes in ancient history. Rome next rules from Mauritania to Egypt, but not with fixed or uncontested sway; and groups of minor dramas—in which figure Rome's ready ally, Massinissa; and Rome's still readier enemy, Jugurtha—are cast here into the main current of the historic plot. Then, with vast convulsions, and a crash which made the world tremble, down went the Western Empire; and the victorious Vandals passed onwards into Africa. For a time, by the sword of Belisarius, Constantinople revenged the overthrow of Rome. A new picture had also been unrolled. There land had been famous in war and policy. They were the seats of having become renowned during the first four or five centuries of Christianity, for the eloquence, the general genius, and the erudition of some men whose superiors no subsequent age has produced. Here arose the tyrant mind of Tertullian, like (to borrow from himself a comparison which he uses on another occasion, some ebon figure, at once dark and shining. Here flourished the great Bishop of Hippo, St. Augustin, whose tender and patient eloquence is united to so marvellous an amount of knowledge, and to so keen an edge of argument. Yet a short time, and the scene is materially changed into the early and fantastic brilliancy of Saracenic civilisation; armies in war, cities in peace, skilful in architecture, in medicine and in such matters in numerals, in divination. Charles V. and his Spaniard have here left their impress on these shores; which, passing under Turkish sway, and then bursting into the licentious and bloody independence of organised piracy, fell at last, in our own day, beneath the control of the French sword.

The war in which we are now engaged in union with France, sheds a strong additional interest around Algeria. When France goes to war in the east of Europe, Algerias her advanced right wing, by which she overlaps the enemy, and in which she possesses an outflanking post. But more important in the present struggle is the nature of the troops which France is despatching from Algeria. They are peculiarly fitted to take part in a conflict conducted on one side in a semi-Oriental fashion, and on the other according to the principles of regular warfare; for they are eminently experienced and skilful in both. For the last twenty years the French in Algeria have been inured to the climate of Africa, and the Arabs to the discipline and the arms of the French. In the late war between the Turks and the Russians, the Russians were easily victorious, because the Turks were not yet imbued with the European arts, nor furnished with the European appliances, of conflict. Twenty-five years have removed the old generation, and partially introduced the new tactics; and what a difference between the resistance Turkey then offered, and that which she makes now! But far more formidable than any Turkish force, even under improved organisation, is the naked army which France is sending from Algeria. With the entire control and formation of the Arabian recruits, France has made them passionable soldiers, not devoid of one quality expected in regular troops, and adding to that character a peculiar value of their own. With these are joined their conquerors and masters; but not, when the Arabs are officered by the latter, their superiors.

In Mr. Morell's volume a full account is given of Algeria; and when we say full, we mean not only that the present state of this new French Regency is described, and that a brief history is supplied of the events which have brought matters to their actual condition, but a succinct and very agreeable survey is presented of the vicissitudes of the past in those remarkable lands, from the most distant antiquity. More than this; the physical attributes of that region—geographical, atmospheric, pastoral, agricultural—are all noticed with clearness. In fact, a very great quantity of practical information is to be got from these pages. We must add that Mr. Morell appears to us to have both selected judiciously, and examined carefully the authorities on which he founds his statements.

The remaining division is history, physiology, manners and customs, stories, remarks, and social and religious state. In this part there is an immensity of curious matter, collected from modern authorities. Mr. Morell, who is well read, increases the interest, here and there, by noticing some remarkable coincidences and approximations between the ancient and the actual state and circumstances of that region. It is exceedingly droll, but a fact, that the Kabyles, who have dwelt in the same grim and adust solitudes ever since the time of Regulus, *think that the French are the Romans come again*; and that they actually speak of enlisting in the Zouaves, as of taking service with the Legions. How profound and indelible the impression everywhere left by those wonderful conquerors, those old masters of the world! Time cannot efface the prints of their mighty footsteps.

Two very suggestive chapters on colonisation and government bring us to that in which the French army of Africa is analysed. We may really dispense with any observations respecting the importance and interest of such an inquiry. The annals of Barbary follow, from before Dido till after Abd-el-kader.

In an appendix are treated some subjects of collateral bearing—the antiquities, language, commerce, geology, &c., of this great French acquisition; once the granary of Rome, and, perhaps, destined yet again to become a flourishing emporium.

APRIL FOOL.

(*See Illustration* page 308.)

Very aptly, happy painter,
Hast thou chosen thy school's time
For thy subject: nothing quainter
Might befit our April's prime.

For now the early year is green,
And hence appropriate art's applaunce,
That April fooleries should be seen
In youth and folly's green alliance.

And to thy lively picture turning,
April tricks are there portray'd,
With mingled mirth and anger burning,
As the various parts are play'd.

There (some wag the spooney tasking
On a fruitless quest to rove),
The fool for "oil of strap" is asking
From that irate cobbler cove.

He's a cobbler won't stand chaffing—
"What d' you say, you saucy chap?
Your mouth o' th' wrong side will be laughing
When you get *my* oil of strap."

Mark the tricksters three, provoking
That proud youth of taste refin'd,
By their low-bred April joking,
To cast a lofty look behind.

"Don't you see the lady's garter
As she dropt?" one urchin cries—
Behold the indignant fair one dart her
Lovely anger from her eyes.

But why should April laugh and jeer
For *backward* looks be kept in store
When every day throughout the year
Expectant Folly looks *before?*

Of varied life, through every phase
The fools of Hope run madly on,
Deluded by a happy haze:
Each mother thinks her goose a swan.

And "I must catch some golden heiress,"
Cackles young goose before his glass;
Miss Gosling cries, "I'll be a Peeress—
Less likely things have come to pass."

"And I will be a millionaire!"
Exclaims some headlong speculator.
"The sinking state I will repair!"
Stutters some would-be legislator.

And M.P.s hope for power and pay,
And lawyers for judicial ermine,
And curates, in *their* humble way,
Of mitres dream through sleepy sermon.

How end such dreams the world can tell,
And yet the world is not the wiser:
And here, in mocking mood, how well
Our painter plays the moralizer.

For see (with satire's keen assistance),
As emblem of defeated will,
He paints a donkey in the distance,
Up in a bleak and barren hill.

In dreams of thistles fondly straying,
Poor Neddy wanders round in vain;
And, while for sunshine loudly braying,
Only brings down a shower of rain.—SAMUEL LOVER.

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VILKINS and his DINAH, with all the Words to Music, price 2s.; post free 2s. 6d. Also of the MUSICAL BOUQUET, with Portrait of Mr. Robson as "Jem Bags." Also, the VILKINS and DINAH POLKA, portraying "Vilkins' Dream upon the discovery of the Old Corpse, and introducing Giles Scroggins, Dinah, Old Bill, and Sally Tayler. Dinah's encore. Price 2s.; post free, 2s. Catalogues of the MUSICAL BOUQUET Gratis. "The contents of the 'Musical Bouquet' come up from the stage to the 'Parlour Library' of music, and enjoy much the vast circulation they find."—Illustrated London Journal, Jan. 21, 1854.
"Musical Bouquet" office, 104, High Holborn, and 20, Warwick-lane, Paternoster-row.

HENRY RUSSELL'S COPYRIGHT SONGS CAUTION to the TRADE.—The only Cheap Edition of Mr. Henry Russell's Copyright Songs is that now Long Copies have been, and Mighty Niagara, priced 6d. each, to the West, to the West; the Parting Heart, and Land, Land, Land, &c. The three 24th Editions, published in the Musical Bouquet, at 2s. 6d. each, are published in the MUSICAL BOUQUET, at the Office, 198, High Holborn. At present [illegible] the Proprietor of the "Musical Bouquet" is alone entitled to publish cheap editions of the above songs, all others being illegal. (Signed) HENRY RUSSELL."

A PIANOFORTE, a handsome Rosewood Cabinet 6½ octaves, for sale, and in excellent condition. The proprietor is only going abroad. Price £20. To be seen at Cornish's Inn, 19 Bailey

PIANOFORTES for INDIA and the COLONIES.—D'ALMAINE and CO.'S ROYAL PIANOFORTES, prepared expressly to resist the effects of extreme climate, in Mahogany or rosewood, securely packed in tinned cases, and delivered at the Docks, at 20 Guineas each.—D'Almaine and Co., 20, Soho-square. Established 1795.

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"THE FIRST OF APRIL.—ALL FOOLS' DAY."—(SEE PAGE 306.)

PARIS FASHIONS FOR APRIL.

For some time past we have reported specially of ball dresses; but at length their variety is exhausted. They will be succeeded by costumes for morning visits, and anticipations of Longchamps, of which, however, little is known at present. Moreover, the recent cold weather has caused the disappearance of some early spring dresses, which had been brought out by the fine sunny days of the commencement of the month. At the last fête—a concert, given at the Tuileries, in honour of the Prince of Saxe-Coburg—the Empress wore a dress of blue and pink. The petticoat was of watered silk, old style, sky blue, lined with stiff muslin, which gave the dress an extraordinary amplitude. Around it were two wreaths of pale pink flowers—one at the height of the knee, the other quite at the bottom. The body was exceedingly low; and the sleeves, which were very shallow, were ornamented with flowers, similar to those of the petticoat, mixed with turquoises, stones, and topazes; headdress to correspond. The other dresses presented no features of novelty. Another grand concert, about to be given in the Champs Elysées, will certainly bring out some new costumes for the season. The shops begin to display some novelties, but in limited numbers.

PARIS FASHIONS FOR APRIL.

Taffetas silk is preferred: when plain, it is worn with four volants edged, to correspond with the body, sleeves, and basques. Figured taffetas are extremely varied. Many have a black ground, and volants, with wreaths of flowers of lively colours, or in small bunches, which increase in size towards the bottom of the volant; also, small patterns, which remind one of the Greek classic style. Those worn without volants are either plaid patterns, large squares of cherry colour, blue, and green, or violet, on black ground, or with large wide bands alternately. Other taffetas for the approaching warmer season are of extremely small squares, which pattern, when seen from a short distance,

PARIS FASHIONS FOR APRIL.

appear like a plain stuff: these taffetas are intended principally for young ladies.

A charming article of morning dress is a peignoir, or fancy dressing-gown of white jaconet, having a collar of pointed lace (*engrêlure*), trimmed with Valenciennes; the turned-back parts of the sleeves are ornamented in the same manner, and besides, a band of pointed lace starting from the top, and growing larger as it reaches the bottom. This trimming is lined with Florence pink, or sky-blue colour; and the ribbon which confines the waist is of the same colour.

Mantelets will be of taffetas, grenadine, or plain muslin, or *à ramages*. The variety will be infinite, as the pelisse mantelet; the fichu mantelet, round or pointed behind, volants, of the same stuff, or of lace, will be the indispensable trimmings; and every wearer will be able to choose according to her taste and her figure. It is hard to foretell which of these forms of mantelet will be the most popular.

Bonnets are of the same form as hitherto: equally small, and thrown towards the back of the head; nearly all trimmed with blonde at the edge of the poke, or even with a half voilette in white blonde. Flowers begin to supersede feathers and other ornaments; jet and small strung pearls or beads are mixed with flowers and light tulle, as a trimming for the inside of bonnets near the face.

In gentlemen's dress there is little change. A few more coats of blue or bronze colour, with gilt buttons, have been seen, but only at the theatres: the sleeves are large, but without separate wrist pieces. The materials for trousers are grey and bronze; and the few plaid patterns which are seen are not showy.

PARIS FASHIONS FOR APRIL.

Printed and Published at the Office, 198, Strand, in the Parish of St. Clement Danes in the County of Middlesex, by William Little, 198, Strand, aforesaid.—Saturday, April 1, 1854.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

No. 677.—VOL. XXIV.] SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 1854. [WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.

Newspaper Stamps.

THE return of the number of Newspaper Stamps at one penny issued to Newspapers in the United Kingdom in 1851, 1852, and 1853, has been laid before the House of Commons. It appears, from the return, that in the year

1853,

The *Times* (published every day) consumed Stamps to the number of	13,909,670
Average circulation	41,244
The ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS (published every Saturday) consumed Stamps to the number of	4,116,598
AVERAGE CIRCULATION	**79,165**

It results from the foregoing figures that, during the year 1853, the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS had nearly double the circulation of the *Times*. It is not necessary for us to publish the details of the circulation of all our contemporaries, daily and weekly, or we could show, by the statements of this parliamentary document, that our Journal has a circulation ten times that of any daily paper, the *Times* excepted, and far beyond any weekly paper published at sixpence.

1851.

Although our regular circulation, in 1851 (*the year of the Great Exhibition*), was less than it is at present, the number of Samps taken, including Stamps upon Supplements—abolished by Mr. Gladstone's Budget in 1853—amounted to 7,574,214.

1852.

In 1852 (*the year of the Death and Funeral of the Duke of Wellington*) the Stamps, including Stamps on Supplements, consumed by the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS amounted to 5,649,905.

1854.

During the Present Year, the circulation of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS has far exceeded that of all previous years. We may add that it is increasing every week, in consequence of the great public interest excited by the War, and that it now amounts to

UPWARDS OF **100,000** WEEKLY!

Office, 198, Strand, April 6, 1854.

THE CONDUCT OF THE WAR.

THE public mind has lately begun to show symptoms of impatience as to the progress and conduct of the war. Such anxiety was abundantly justified. When it was found that the Black Sea fleet, under the command of Admirals Dundas and Hamelin, was stationed as quietly in Beicos Bay, as if there were no such place as Sebastopol in the world, no such sea as the Euxine, and no such enemies to meet and punish as the Russians, it was natural that some degree of anxiety should be felt. When it was further announced in the public journals, that the Russians, knowing they had the Black Sea to themselves, had succeeded in transporting no less than 4000 men from the Crimea to the outlets of the Danube; and that the Russian army, under the command of Prince Gortschakoff and General Luders, had passed into Bulgaria, and laid siege to and taken three Turkish fortresses, anxiety deepened into alarm, while alarm, in its turn, gave way to a feeling that somewhat resembled indignation. That feeling has happily subsided. Admirals Dundas and Hamelin, after their lengthened and unaccountable delays in Beicos Bay, steered for the roadstead of Varna on the 24th ult. As it is reported that not a ship of war is left in Sebastopol, and that the Russians meditate a naval as well as a military attack upon Varna, it is probable that we shall soon hear of a serious conflict in that quarter. The people of England are satisfied to learn that the period for inactivity has at length passed. They have their hearts in this business. They feel to the full extent all the responsibilities which they have undertaken. They know that the war is a great war; and are determined that it shall be conducted with the energy and courage that befit a struggle on which the peace, civilisation, and happiness of Europe may depend for ages yet to come. They have made up their minds to tolerate no delays that shall not be clearly proved to be inevitable. They hear with disfavor of half-measures. They have but one desire, which is to conquer a lasting peace, and to restrain, if they do not punish, the Imperial madman, who has so wantonly set the world in a blaze of discord. They expect acts of decision, and encourage the hope that British commanders will rival the deeds of the departed heroes whose names shed lustre upon our national history. Although they may have a strong opinion that, in the earlier stages of the transactions which have unfortunately led to this rupture, the British Government did not display an energy commensurate with the occasion, they are content to "let bygones be bygones," provided that the war—now that we have fairly entered into it—be conducted in all its details with a strength, a promptitude, and single-mindedness worthy of the mighty interests that are at stake. They do not sympathise with the carping politicians of the Opposition benches in Parliament, who forget the needs of the present in their ill-natured reminiscences of the past. On the contrary, they look upon that man as a public enemy who endeavours to weaken the hands of the Executive by idle criminations. Parliament has in reality no further control over the progress of the war. Its sole duty is to strengthen the Government by all possible means, unless it have no confidence in the Government, and have it in its power to substitute another. But the most vehement member of the Opposition has no such design or hope. If any other Government were possible it would not be desirable at a crisis like the present. We, therefore, hope that with the debates on the Address in answer to her Majesty's Message, we have heard the last of the retrospective criticisms of the Opposition, and that the efforts of men of all parties will be strenuously directed to the one great object for which the nation is willing to put forth all its strength and to expend all its resources. The Earl of Derby, Lord Grey, and Mr. Layard, having disburthened their consciences, will, perhaps, be silent for the future if they have nothing better or more novel to excite their eloquence than the abortive conferences and negotiations of 1853, and the many diplomacy of Blue-books that have already become antiquated. It will be too much to expect that Mr. Disraeli should remain silent. A statesman, who seems to consider it his function to amuse the House of Commons, and to "make barren spectators laugh," though he "make the judicious grieve," is not to be restrained by the motives which influence other men. The public may, therefore, make up its mind to be amused, if it be not edified, by the sarcasms of this brilliant debater, but unavailable and unstable politician.

It is scarcely worth while for the public journalist to call public

PROCESSION OF THE HOUSES OF LORDS AND COMMONS, WITH THE ADDRESS TO HER MAJESTY.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

attention to such speeches as that which was delivered by Mr. Bright in the debate on the Address to her Majesty. If Mr. Bright have no monopoly of the opinions which he expressed, he shares them with so few people beyond the limits of his own little sect, that he may be fairly said to represent an infinitesimal minority of the English people. In this free country every man is at liberty to be eccentric. Mr. Bright has the additional privilege of belonging to a sect whose members like to differ, not only in doctrine, but in dress and modes of speech, from other people. His sentiments will surprise nobody; and the eloquent and earnest manner in which he promulgates them will gain him admirers, though it may fail to procure him adherents. It is a happy thing, however, for this nation that such opinions are not common. If they had been, England would long ago have ceased to be a free country. It would have been overrun and conquered, and those who agree with Mr. Bright, if they had not been exterminated altogether by invading Russians or other enemies, would have been reduced to the extremity of becoming citizens of Pennsylvania, and of leaving the comfortable pastures of England, where they had thriven and grown comfortable. The Commerce of England might find reason to regret that Pennsylvania should rob us of such estimable and well-to-do people as the members of the Society of Friends; but Patriotism would have no reason to deplore the emigration of a body of men who consider offensive and defensive war to be alike unjustifiable, and who condemn even more fiercely resistance to oppression and wrong than the wrong and the oppression which make resistance a duty and a necessity.

But more interest attaches at present to the conduct of the Austrian and Prussian Cabinets than to any proceedings in the British Parliament, however important. Neither of these Powers has yet declared itself, although considerable pressure is exerted upon each by its own subjects to induce it to take the course which honour and prudence alike dictate. The sympathies of the German people are with France and England; and the dynastic interests of King and Emperor must give way to the superior considerations of national safety. While the King of Prussia hesitates and runs his head against a tree, the Committee of the Chamber, to which the demand of the Government for a loan of thirty millions of dollars had been referred, only grants the money because it believes "that the King's Government intends to persevere, for the future, in the course of policy followed up to this time, in conjunction with the Cabinets of Vienna, Paris, and London; but more especially with Austria and the German States; namely to labour for the restoration of peace on the basis of right, as it has been laid down in the protocols of Vienna, and reserving to itself the power of deciding in favour of an active intervention." This is a sufficiently broad and intelligible hint of the wishes of the Prussian people; a state of things for which the world is, no doubt, to some extent indebted to the publication of the "Secret and Confidential Correspondence." The exposure has fairly opened the eyes of the German people, both in Prussia and in Austria, and has greatly increased the traditional animosity which the Germans bear against the Russians. In Austria the effect has been even more powerful than in Prussia. The Czar only treated the Prussians with contempt; but towards Austria he exhibited perfidy of a kind which the young Emperor is likely to feel as acutely, and resent as strongly as his people. The progress of hostilities in Bulgaria and the advance of the Russians by their ancient route through the pestilential marshes of the Dobrudja towards Varna must expedite the decision of Austria; and when Austria takes her course, Prussia must follow. In the meantime it appears that the Czar has declared his willingness, if the Allies can obtain from the Porte guarantees for the immunities of its Christian subjects, to withdraw his troops from the Turkish territory on condition that the Allied Fleets are simultaneously withdrawn from the Black Sea. If this rumour be correct, the conduct of the Czar can only proceed from fear or from cunning. If it be dictated by fear, the Allies know what course to adopt; and they will subject him to much severer pressure of the same wholesome feeling before they condescend to make terms with him. If his proposal proceed from cunning, they know equally well what course to pursue.

THE WAR.—PRESENTATION OF THE ADDRESSES TO HER MAJESTY.

MONDAY being the day appointed for the presentation to her Majesty of the Addresses agreed to by the Houses of Lords and Commons, a large crowd collected in and about Palace-yard to see the anticipated pageantry. At about two o'clock, the names of the Peers having previously been called over, the Lord Chancellor took his departure from the principal entrance of the House of Lords. His Lordship was attired in his State robes of office, and headed the cortége from the House of Peers in a handsome state carriage. The junior Peers followed in their order immediately after the Chancellor. Nearly all their Lordships were clothed either in Windsor or in Militia uniforms, or in their military uniforms as Lords-Lieutenants of counties; consequently under this disguise but few were recognised by the crowds in waiting. Lord Aberdeen, Lord Derby, Lord Clarendon, and a few of the leading and better-known members of the Upper House, were pointed out and warmly cheered.

While the Lords were still moving slowly away from Palace-yard up Parliament-street, the members of the House of Commons commenced taking their departure, the richly painted and carved and gilded state carriage of the Speaker leading the way. Lord J. Russell, Sir C. Wood, Mr. Cardwell, Mr. Strutt, Mr. Frederick Peel, and other members of the Government wore the Ministerial uniforms; as did also Mr. Disraeli, Mr. Baukes, Sir John Pakington, and the leaders of the Opposition. Lord John Russell was instantly recognised, and warmly cheered; Mr. Disraeli also was very loudly cheered. Some of the members wore Court suits, and a great many wore their uniforms either as officers of militia or as Deputy-Lieutenants of counties. The procession proceeded up Parliament-street, through the Horse Guards, into the Mall. Round the entrance to Buckingham Palace a large crowd had collected; and Lord J. Russell, Mr. Disraeli, and a few other leading members, were loudly cheered as before.

PORTRAIT OF SIR CHARLES NAPIER.—Mr. M'Lean has just published a very spirited full-length portrait of Admiral Sir Charles Napier, by J. M. Joy, the engraving by W. Carlos. The gallant Admiral is represented in a spirited attitude, advancing to the assault of St. Jean d'Acre, his word in one hand, the other pointing to the attack, as leading forward the assaulting party. The portrait is very like, and the expression admirable for its manly and intelligent character. The pictorial effect of light and shade is skilfully managed, and the whole may be pronounced a very interesting and successful performance.

CORPORATION ENACTMENTS.—In the town books of the corporation of Youghal, county of Cork, among other singular enactments of that body, are two which will now be regarded as curiosities. In the years 1688 and 1703, a cook and a barber received their freedom, on condition that they would respectively dress the mayor's feasts, and shave the corporation gratis.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

The fêtes of the Mi-Carême have terminated; the *salons* are closed for dancing, and the season of concerts has set in with its usual vigour. All the diplomacy, all the address, all the boldness of the one portion of the world of society, and the world of art in the musical branch is brought into play to place concert-tickets: all the *ruses*, all the tactics, all the ingenuity of the other, to avoid taking them. Enter a drawing-room, and the mistress of the house, with a mixture of amiability and assurance, tells you she has put down your name for five tickets, at five francs a-piece, for the Matinée Musicale of her infant *protégée*, who, at four years old, plays the harp with her hands and the piano with her feet; she also confides to you twenty more to place before twelve o'clock to-morrow—*et ainsi de suite*.

In the meanwhile commerce languishes deplorably. It is to be hoped that the spring season will give some impulse in this respect, but it is a positive fact that during the whole of the winter, many of the great *magasins* of the capital, have kept but one-half of their usual number of assistants.

The title to be borne by the new institution of the Palace Guards—which were at one time to be called the Guards of the Emperor, at another, of the Empress—is finally decided on as the *Cent-Gardes*. The uniform of this body was first inaugurated at the *bal costumé* by the Emperor himself.

The health of the Empress, though not in a state to excite any actual alarm, continues delicate. By the advice of her medical attendant, she takes sea-baths, the water for which is brought every day by rail from Dieppe, and the effect appears to be salutary. Visiting, a short time since, in company with the Emperor, one of the public charitable institutions, her Majesty, struck by the beauty of a child which a woman of the lower class was holding by the hand as the Imperial visitors were quitting the establishment, stooped and kissed it. In an instant the Empress was beset by some dozen of "anxious mothers," each presenting one of her offspring, many of which were in a state which rendered the process of ablution a highly desirable preliminary. The Empress however, nothing daunted by a demonstration of loyalty more flattering than agreeable, and which she, doubtless, considered would have been more honoured in the breach than in the observance, distributed kisses with due impartiality among the infant candidates, amid reiterated cries of "Vive l'Impératrice!" and earnestly-expressed wishes to the effect that her Majesty might soon have home claims for similar favours.

The theatrical *Censure*, which has lately been somewhat strict on the subject of hostile allusions to Russia, is now, at the point to which affairs have come, relaxing its surveillance, and allowing the expression of the public feeling to find its way through this channel. At the first repetition in costume of the new piece, "Constantinople," which is shortly to appear at the Cirque Napoléon, an incident expressive of this feeling, and amusingly characteristic of French impetuosity, occurred. At the moment when the party representing the Russian troops were about to pass the Danube, those playing the parts of the French soldiers attacked them so vigorously as not merely to drive the enemy back, as the programme of the piece required, but to repulse them with such roughness as to require the interference of the director, who was obliged to place himself between the combatants and insist upon their moderating their warlike ardeur.

The officers of the garrison of Paris have appointed a commission for the organisation of a fête to be offered to the English *état-major*. The progress of events rendering a greater activity of measures necessary, the departure of the Maréchal St. Arnaud, which had again been deferred till the end of the month, is now stated as certain to take place by the 10th. An appeal made by the Minister of War to such soldiers of infantry as have ever served in the cavalry, or who have any knowledge of horsemanship, has collected a considerable body of recruits to the latter service, and a number of youths of the Jura, between sixteen and eighteen, have applied for means of conveyance to Toulon or Brest, in order to enter the navy.

The only party in France which still keeps aloof from the interest of the day, and views with the old feelings of national jealousy and prejudice, the alliance of England, is that of the Legitimists. Certain members of the party in question express aloud their regret that, as there must be war, the arms of France are not turned against England, instead of combating by her side! So much for the patriotism and common sense of the partisans of M. le Comte de Chambord!

The works of embellishment in the Bois de Boulogne are being carried on with undiminished activity, and are already giving a new aspect to that beautiful resort. Two lakes of very considerable extent—the one divided by a large island, wooded, and intersected by charming walks and both decorated with rock-work—are now completely excavated, and, only await the supply of water, which is to be brought by force-pumps from the Seine. Other improvements, in the way of planting and clearing, are also in progress; and such openings have been made as to afford, from an artificial mound at the head of the upper piece of water, a most extensive and beautiful view.

The theatres have nothing new of much interest. The Variétés has a piece entitled "L'Argent du Diable," which has a good deal of originality, and a reasonable share of success. The Vaudeville has produced a play called "La Vie en Rose," the distribution of the *rôles* of which has contributed somewhat to the amusement, if not to the edification, of the public, by causing a paper war in the daily press between Madame Page and Madame Doche, not on any question of art or general interest, but on the relative claims of the rival actresses to youth and inexperience—the latter point especially, each violently rejecting for herself, and indignantly casting on her antagonist the accusation of *experience*.

The Empress, in order to encourage the lace trade, has ordered the different manufactories to prepare designs for the dresses, the one in *point d'Angleterre*, the other in *Chantilly*, to be examined by a jury, and those selected to be executed for the Exposition d'Industrie.

After the solemnities of Easter, the Archbishop of Paris intends to proceed to Rome, where, it is said, he purposes to remain some months.

On Sunday took place the second steeplechase at La Marche, which was, owing to the continued fineness of the weather, as brilliantly attended as the first.

The unfortunate Lieut. Bellot, whose melancholy death in the Arctic Expedition excited no less interest in England than in France, has left a most interesting journal, which has been set in order by his family, and is about to be published, with a portrait, and short biographical notice, by M. Julien Lemur.

THE ENGLISH CAVALRY IN FRANCE.

The *Constitutionnel* of Sunday says the English cavalry will not arrive in Paris for ten days; that they will, on their arrival, be lodged in the banlieue, until complete, and then enter Paris and be reviewed by the Emperor. The officers of the garrison of Paris are, it adds, getting up a banquet to be offered to the English officers. Saturday being the 1st of April, some wags played off a trick which took an immense number of persons to the station of the Northern railroad. They sent round circulars with a printed head, as if coming from the railroad company, inviting the persons to whom they were addressed to come in the evening to witness the arrival of the first squadrons of the English dragoons. This was not all. When the crowd had assembled, the same wags spread a rumour that the line of route had been changed, and that the English would arrive by the Rouen line. A few persons suspected the hoax, and went home; but the majority went off to the station of the Rouen line.

DEPARTURE OF FRENCH TROOPS FOR TURKEY.

An official article in the *Moniteur* states that the Emperor having ordered the departure of a *corps d'armée* to the Levant, a first convoy of ships of the line, steam frigates and steam corvettes, has already put out to sea. The first convoy consisted of the following vessels—The *Alger*, the *Montebello*, the *Ville de Marseille*, and the *Jean-Bart*, 5400 men. The *Asmodée*, the *Ulloa*, the *Labrador*, the *Coligny*, the *Météore*, and the *Gorgon*, 3450 men and 225 horses. The *Mouette*, the *Eclaireur*, the *Lapiace*, and *Infernal*, 1495 men and 40 horses. The *Caffarelli*, the *Véloce*, and the *Brandon*, 1130 men and 20 horses. The *Napoléon* and the *Steffren*, 3040 men. The *Montézuma*, the *Panama*, the *Albatros*, the *Canada*, and the *Titan*, 4563 men and 80 horses. This total, with the contingent of the *Christophe-Colomb*, amounts to 20,078 men and 365 horses. Each day a part of the 200 commercial vessels chartered at Marseilles are setting sail, carrying out the cavalry, artillery, ammunition, stores, articles of encampment, &c.

ANOTHER OFFER FROM THE CZAR.

Prince George of Mecklenburg-Strelitz arrived in Berlin on Saturday, the bearer of a letter from the Emperor of Russia to the King of Prussia, in answer to the mission of General Lindheim. Its tenor is as follows:—"When the Western Powers succeed in securing the emancipation of the Christians in Turkey by treaty, the Czar will be willing to evacuate the Principalities simultaneously with the evacuation of the Euxine by the combined fleets."

THE GERMAN POLICY.

Most of the letters from Vienna speak of the Austrian Government having adopted a policy more favourable to the Western Powers; and some of them state that General Hess has succeeded at Berlin in inducing the Prussian Government to incline less towards Russia. Many facts are mentioned, however, which are of a nature to create doubts. The Austrian Government is making great military demonstrations, and has even, it is said, caused a bridge to be thrown over the Danube near Belgrade; but so long as Austria is not bound by a direct treaty with France and England, there is no guarantee that this preparation for war may not, if Russia should have any successes, be turned to her advantage. Several Austrian Generals, who have been summoned from the provinces, have arrived at Vienna to assist in a military council, and among them are the celebrated Baron Jellachich, from Hungary, and Count Giulai, from Lombardy. This may either be with a view to operations annoying to Russia, or a precaution against revolutionary movements in the event of the Austrian Government persisting in a neutrality which should excite distrust on the part of the Western Powers. We shall know nothing positive until we see the long-talked of Manifesto, and even that may be so drawn up as merely to form ground for conjecture as to the real intentions of Austria. The *Independance* of Brussels stated that the Manifesto had reached Paris, but this was not correct. Up to the 30th ult. it had not been published at Vienna. The *Cologne Gazette* mentions a circumstance which is very far from showing a disposition on the part of the Prussian Cabinet to do anything disagreeable to the Emperor of Russia. It has given orders for the free transit of the large quantity of muskets, on their way to Russia, which were stopped at the Prussian frontier.

RUSSIAN INTRIGUES IN MONTENEGRO.

The Emperor of Russia is said to be using all his efforts to stir up the Montenegrins to rebellion. Letters to Vienna, state that Russian couriers have lately been passing in rapid succession, between the mischievous little Russianised territory and St. Petersburg. The *Agram Gazette* also states that a courier from St. Petersburg had arrived at Cettinje in twelve days, bearing positive orders for the Montenegrins to attack the Turkish province of Herzegovina.

On the other hand, we are glad to see that Austria is resolved not to allow her frontier to be placed in danger by the Czar's revolutionary machinations.

The importation of ammunition and military supplies into Montenegro, from the adjoining Bay of Cattaro, has been forbidden by the Austrian Government, on the ground that such proceedings would be an act of hostility, and a breach of Austrian neutrality.

THE GREEK INSURRECTION.

Telegraphic despatches from Constantinople of the 27th ult. state that the Greek Ambassador there had applied for his passports.

According to reports from Albania and Greece, up to the 24th ult., the insurgents have not yet been able, in spite of all their efforts, to possess themselves of a single fortress. The troops of the fortress of Arta were 3000 strong; the besiegers numbered only 1550, and had not a single piece of cannon.

Sir Henry Ward has paid a visit to Fuad Effendi, at Prevesa.

The English and French Admirals at Constantinople have sent off several war-steamers, to prevent any hostile manifestation of the freebooters against the Turkish islands of the Archipelago. The *Gomer* and the *Highflyer*, under the orders of Admiral Barbier de Tinan, are now in the Greek waters.

When Nechet Bey, Ottoman Chargé d'Affaires at Athens, asked that the Greek officers who had joined the insurgents should be recalled, the Government replied that they had resigned their commissions. When he complained that their resignations had been accepted, he received an evasive answer. The Government refused to admit that there were insurrectionary committees at Athens, although the fact is notorious. Seeing that the Greek Ministers were determined to evade all their obligations, Nechet Bey demanded his passports. The representatives of France and England have notified to the Greek Cabinet that their Governments will hold Greece responsible for the consequences of the rupture.

THE FLEETS IN THE BLACK SEA.

The news from Beicos Bay and Sebastopol is still very unsatisfactory. A letter from Constantinople, of the 20th, states that, immediately after the return of the *Retribution*, English frigate, and the *Caton*, French corvette, from the Danube, with information that the Sulina channel had been rendered impassable, and that 90 grain vessels had been shut up in the river, the two Admirals sent off the *Caradoc* with despatches for the Russian authorities at Bucharest, demanding that the obstructions should be removed, and all merchant vessels in that part of the Danube be allowed to navigate freely. After leaving the Sulina, the *Retribution* and *Caton* proceeded to Sebastopol, and ascertained that the Russian fleet had not moved. Their report on the subject arrived at the very moment when the ambassadors at Beicos were making preparations for departure, in order to look after the Russian fleet, which some masters of merchant vessels said they had seen at sea. The two English and French frigates, the *Samson* and the *Cocyte*, which returned on the 19th from the coasts of Circassia, had seen a division of seven Russian frigates which bore away from them; and, at another time, a brig, which the bad weather prevented them from boarding. From the accounts brought by the *Cocyte* and the *Samson*, it appears that the Russians have evacuated and destroyed all the small fortresses which they had constructed and occupied on the coast of Circassia; they only retain the two most important—Anapa and Sukhem-Kale. The ships of the allied Powers are to at present in an extraordinary state of agitation, and promise to resume hostilities more warmly than ever the moment the fine weather returns, and particularly so if they are supplied with arms and ammunition.

The statement that the Russian fleet had ventured out of Sebastopol has been repeated by the *Independance Belge*, which says:—"It is not positively certain that while the Russians were crossing the Danube, five Russian steamers from Sebastopol, after having touched at Odessa, succeeded in disembarking 4000 soldiers on the island of Dunavetz, on the Dobrudja, at the entrance of the St. George's mouth of the Danube. Having accomplished this service the five Russian steamers regained the port of Odessa." Dunavetz is within two days' march of Babadagh, and if the Russians, by the aid of their ships, which it was understood Admiral Dundas had been commissioned to blockade, have been able to advance upon that important position without so much as the trouble of crossing the Danube. This statement of the Belgian paper confirms what Lord Clarendon said, when asked by Lord Malmesbury if it were true that the Russian fleet had been seen on the coast of Circassia. Lord Clarendon, in reply, said the Russian vessels had not been seen at that direction, but in the neighbourhood of Perecop. The latter place is only about a hundred miles from the mouth of the Danube.

The *Caradoc* steamer, which arrived at Malta on the 30th ult., from Constantinople, brought news of the departure of the allied fleets on the 24th for Varna; to which place the *Inflexible* and other steamers were conveying troops, all armed with the Minié rifle.

THE PASSAGE OF THE DANUBE.

The passage of the Danube by the Russians commenced on the 22nd in three columns, by means of four raft bridges. The principal column, under the orders of General Lüders, started from Galatz; Prince Gortschakoff crossed the river with the troops between Isaktcha and Toltscha, protected and accompanied by the division of General Anrep; and the third column effected its movement below Braïlow, at a place called Geoshit, on the right bank, but which is not mentioned in the maps. These forces amount together to 50,000 men, including 41 battalions of infantry, 3 regiments of cavalry, 1 of Cossacks, and 140 pieces of cannon. This movement in advance of the Russians has produced some uneasiness; but, strategically speaking, there is no cause for it. The Russian army, which is now on the right bank of the Danube, does not occupy one of those threatening positions by which events are ruled. It has arrived, not in Bulgaria, or on the road to Constantinople, but in the Dobrudja—that is to say, on an immense plain, intersected with marshes, without resources and without communications. It has behind it, between Toltscha and Matschin, a Turkish *corps d'armée* of 30,000 men with 60 pieces, under Halim Pacha; and before it a barrier of fortified places—Irsowa, Silistria, Custendje, Varna, and Schumla, which bar the road to the Balkans. It is thus difficult to explain the reason why Prince Gortschakoff has chosen this place for crossing the Danube. It is true that in 1828 the Russians entered the Dobrudja by Irsowa, in order to attack Varna and Silistria; but at that time they had possession of the Black Sea. The battle of Nasarino had destroyed the Turkish navy, and the Russians were, therefore, free in all their communications. Irsowa, besides, is only half-way between Braïlow and Bulgaria, and the Russians were not the less obliged to pass a month in forming an embankment in order to cross the marshes. As they are now deprived of the Black Sea, it is difficult to comprehend the movement which they have adopted.

Omer Pacha, who ought to know the effect of it, regards the passage of the river as the greatest piece of service the Russians could have rendered him. The movement, now that it has commenced, will continue; the Turks do not offer any resistance; Bucharest is about to be completely evacuated, all the troops who were in that place having received orders to march on the 1st of April towards the Danube. On the other hand, something significative is preparing on the Austrian frontier. An order has been given to form a moveable head-quarters at Buda. The administrative personnel has been made, and all measures have been taken as if a forward movement was in contemplation. Steamers full of troops and with cannon every day go down the Danube, as if a military emigration were going on. The army on the frontier, including the inhabitants who are performing permanent military duty, is not less than from 250,000 to 280,000 men, although the contrary has been stated; and supplies are being collected on a very extensive scale.

The country into which the Russians have penetrated is described in one of the newspapers as a complete morass. More recent accounts characterise it as utterly sterile, through want of water. At Tchernavoda, the Danube approaches within thirty-four miles of the Black Sea, but is separated from it by a peninsula or tongue of high land, extending north, nearly opposite to Galatz: this peninsula is called Dobrudja. From Tchernavoda, a road runs to Kostendje, on the Black Sea, partly parallel with a stream, or rather a chain of lakes, called Karasou. At Bouriack the stream ceases, and the valley is shut in by hills covered with downs, from which the sea is visible. Kostendje (Constantina), a small village on a height above the shore, has a little port, with remains of a Roman mole, now destroyed. From a point a little south of this, to Rassova, on the Danube, runs the rampart of Trajan, or Trajan's Wall; behind which the Turks have entrenched themselves. The district of the Dobrudja is, at most seasons, a wilderness—partly owing to its having been deprived of its Tartar inhabitants, after 1829, by the Russians; but chiefly owing to its subsoil, which, according to the north extremity, where rise the hills of Matschin (granite?), consists of porous limestone, which retains no water, and produces no springs on the surface. Population is scanty, and villages widely scattered, and drinking water is obtained only through a few deep wells. Corn is scarcely cultivated at all; hay and fodder are very scarce; the scanty herbage dries up early in the summer, and the flocks of sheep and herds of buffaloes repair to the borders of the Danube for pasture. The desert extends south of the Wall of Trajan, nearly as far as Bazarjik and Varna. It is not tenable by troops, unless they carry food, forage, and water with them. A canal was at one time projected between the Danube at Tchernavoda and the Black Sea at Kostendje; and a survey made by a Prussian engineer proved that the head of the valley of Karasou was 164 feet above the sea, and that not a drop of water was to be obtained on the summit-level (limestone hills) to feed a canal, if it was made.

Letters from Schumla of the 26th, describe the impression which the news of the passage of the Danube by the Russians at Ibraila had made on Omer Pacha. He does not, they say, seem to have altogether anticipated so imprudent a step on the part of the Russians, simply because it was too good to be hoped for. He immediately advanced with the whole of his disposable forces, to make a counter-move at Rustchuk: whilst Achmet Pacha was at once instructed to take the offensive at Kalafat, and thus give them employment on their own side of the water.

UNITED STATES.

The *Asia*, steam-ship, which sailed from New York on the 22nd ult., arrived at Liverpool on Monday. The most important political intelligence received, is that relating to the Nebraska Bill, which has been referred to a committee of the whole House. This is thought to be equivalent to its rejection. It is said that information has been received from Washington, to the effect that the United States Government has made formal demand on Spain for some executive authority in Cuba, with power to settle such difficulties as that of the *Black Warrior*, with the United States, without the delay and inconvenience of sending to and fro. Advices from Havannah, to the 14th ult., state that nothing of importance had transpired at Havannah since the seizure of the *Black Warrior*. She was still in possession of the Government authorities.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

CHELTENHAM STEEPLE-CHASES.—TUESDAY.

United Hunters' Stakes Handicap.—Charley, 1. Gaylad, 2.
Grand Military Steeplechase.—Hawk, 1. The Linnet, 2.
Berkeley Hunt Steeplechase.—Farmer, 1. Buckskin, 2.
Selling Hurdle Race was won by Janus.
Selling Steeplechase did not fill.

WEDNESDAY.

Hunters' Stakes.—Stanley, 1. Macomo, 2.
Grand Annual Steeplechase.—Trout, 1. Columbine, 2.
Selling Steeplechase.—Bullfinch, 1. Janus, 2.
Match, £50.—Valentine, 1. Emigrant, 2.
Welter Stakes.—Robin Hood, 1. Brevet, 2.
Sandiway Hurdle Race.—Forestrider, 1. Gay Lad, 2.
Curry Stakes.—Westwood, 1. Battery, 2.

CROXTON PARK RACES.—TUESDAY.

Farmers' Plate.—Plantagenet 1.
Curry Stakes.—Leybourne, 1. Scarcity, 2.
Belvoir Castle Stakes.—Sine qua Non, 1. Folly o'the Day, 2.
Granby Handicap.—Bourton, 1. Sackbut, 2.
Sweepstakes.—F by Epirus, 1. Donald, 2.

WEDNESDAY.

Farmer's Handicap.—Iago, 1. Pastime, 2.
Hide Cup.—Gerard, 1. Sackbut, 2.
Belvoir Castle Coplow Stakes.—Newman Noggs, 1. Dandy Jim, 2.
Croxton-park Plate.—Georgey, 1. Lamartine, 2.

EPSOM SPRING MEETING.—THURSDAY.

Trial Stakes.—Rataplan, 1. Cranbourne, 2.
Railway Plate.—Crinoco, 1. Inder, 2.
Two-Year-Old Stakes.—Katerfelto, 1. Rose, 2.
City and Suburban Stakes.—Virago, 1. Mark Antony, 2.
Metropolitan Handicap.—Virago, 1. Muscovite, 2.
No betting announced.

FRIDAY

Selling Flat Race.—Lioness, 1.
Selling Steeplechase.—Rob Roy, 1. Eugenie, 2.
Metropolitan Steeplechase.—Needwood, 1. Farmer, 2.
Hurdle Race.—Theodine, 1.

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

WIDDIN, March 10, 1854.

SYMPTOMS are rapidly appearing which furnish some idea of the intended movements of the Turks. The forces at Kalafat have been daily reinforced for some time past. Battalions of redifs, or troops of the reserve, more than 1200 strong, have been followed by squadrons of cavalry and masses of irregulars. Tents of every hue have been pitched, and filled with men. The ground, already well covered with barracks and underground huts, is now everywhere cut up into small ditches, in which horses may be sheltered from the wind. The bashi-bozouks—usually so lazy that they require the hope of plunder or fear of blows to force them to action—may be seen digging out these extempore stables, many of them having valuable Arab chargers, the loss of which would be to them irreparable. The regulars content themselves with picketing their steeds in rows, the poor beasts remaining thus exposed to all varieties of wind and weather. Their appearance and number make the camp look extremely busy. The arrival of so many reinforcements at this point is a proof that an advance into Wallachia is meditated by Omer Pacha. I think it will not be a betrayal of secrets to write to London that, within ten days, the troops in Kalafat will be increased to forty battalions of infantry and thirty squadrons of regular cavalry. The irregulars it is needless to count, although their number is even now considerable. The Russian movement towards Slatina and Karakal, and the withdrawal of so much of their force from the villages in front of the lines, are symptoms that the Generals of the Czar are in expectation of some movement across the Danube at a place lower down the stream. I am not certain, though I believe, that Omer Pacha intends to march two corps across the Danube at once; but, I am informed, that simultaneously with the advance of the troops from Kalafat into Lesser Wallachia, a corps of thirty-five battalions, amounting in all to 20,000 men, with thirty-four guns and cavalry, will cross the Danube at Nicopoli, under the command of Ismail Pacha. The troops are at present cantoned in Rahowa, Plevna, and Nicopoli. It remains to be seen whether so large a force as that just mentioned will be permitted to land in Wallachia unopposed. In this respect the advantage of possessing Kalafat is very great, and favourable to Turkey. It is evident from the document which I transcribe that its importance is not undervalued by the General-in-Chief, but, on the contrary, is rather considered in a more important light by him than by other persons qualified to give opinions on strategy.

Omer Pacha, Commander-in-Chief of the army of the Danube, thus addresses the corps at Kalafat in a general order, dated the 28th Djemasijal evel 1270 :—

Generals of Division and of Brigade, officers—superior and subaltern—non-commissioned officers, corporals, and soldiers of the Imperial army,—The position of Kalafat, which you gained with so much gallantry has at once become of the utmost importance to our cause. In your hands now rests the honour of the country. If you are able firmly to maintain that position by your bravery, and if you are ready to shed the last drop of your blood in its defence, the advantages which must inevitably follow will be innumerable. If, on the contrary, the enemy should succeed in storming your camp (which God in his greatness prevent), the honour of our country would be turned to shame before the world. The Sultan, our most gracious Sovereign, trusts entirely in your well-tried courage. May I count upon you? Possessed as you are of that extraordinary courage of which you have so often exhibited, full of devotion to his Majesty and of love for your country, you will not say, our entrenchments are finished, and we have no more to do. Soldiers! I am certain that no fatigue will deter you from giving to the lines which cover your camp as much strength as possible. If the Russian army attacks us, you will fight with perseverance and courage; and, with God's assistance and the help of the Prophet, conquer it. Even should the enemy succeed in gaining one of your redoubts, you will take no step in retreat, but attack him with the bayonet, and expel him. Soldiers! if you fall, supreme happiness awaits you above. If you are victorious, honour and esteem are your reward on earth.

Whether this document be meant as an encouragement to the soldiers in the immediate expectation of an attack, or whether it is merely an official blind, it is difficult to say. It is hard to suppose, however, that Omer Pacha is really misinformed as to what is going on in Wallachia. He, doubtless, knows extremely well that there are no more than 12,000 Russians in front of Kalafat. The document which he has sent to the army of Kalafat, and which was read there with great ceremony before the troops, must therefore be an endeavour to conceal from the men the real meaning of the large reinforcements which daily pour into Kalafat.

The same system of allowing the enemy to appear before the lines, and depart unmolested, continues to be pursued, in order, probably, to further the end of blinding the Russians as to the real strength within the lines. On the 8th two squadrons of cavalry and a cloud of Cossacks made their appearance on the right of the intrenchment, drew themselves up in order of battle, and, being supported by two guns, waited for the Turks to come out. The position they had taken seemed so imprudent that the Turks determined on marching out, and accordingly twenty-two squadrons were called to horse, and emerged from the intrenchment at a place where their movements were concealed from the Russians. It would have been easy to capture or destroy the whole force of the enemy by cutting off the retreat of his squadrons; but, instead of doing this, the Turks went out and showed their force, which they might have concealed, and the Russians, after firing two shots from their six-pounders, disappeared at a gallop, and escaped without pursuit, from a most perilous position. Yesterday again the alarm guns were heard, and the batteries of the island beginning to play, informed us that the Russians had again appeared in the same direction as on the previous day. On this occasion, however, they had not committed the same imprudence as on the last; for there stood in masses on the plain, far out of gunshot from the forts, seven battalions of infantry, with twelve guns, five squadrons of regular cavalry, and hosts of Cossack skirmishers, who patrolled the front. The presence of the latter, who had at first advanced within the range of the lines, had been the signal of alarm, and one Cossack lost his life by a Turkish shot. Whilst the Russian force on our right was thus drawn up in battle array, another force of four battalions, cavalry and guns, was in position on the left between Golens and Kalafat. With the exception of a few officers who went forward, and in whose company I had a tolerably near view of the Russians, the Turks sent out no single man. A few bashi-bozouks, with long rifles and a spirit of adventure, went out to exchange shots with the Cossacks, but Achmet Pacha, Moustapha Pacha, and Halib Pacha might be seen in an outer fort sitting on four-legged stools, smoking their chibouks, while all around them were the soldiers at the parapets officers of every grade, spying at the enemy through telescopes, foreign officers lounging, and Albanians in their gilded and laced dresses, looking into vacancy. For four hours the Russians stood in array without moving, after which, seeing that no enemy appeared, they retired.

P.S.—It is said that Omer Pacha's main movement will be at Matchin, on the Lower Danube. If the forces of England and France come up to support this movement, there is hardly a doubt that the Russians will find themselves in a disagreeable position. The English, it is affirmed here, will operate in the Crimea. It is certain that quarters are now prepared for them at Varna. Whether from thence they are to move towards Sebastopol or towards Schumla no one here knows with certainty. Doubtless, this is a point better known in England than at Kalafat.

ORRERY.—Next week (Passion-week) Mr. C. H. Adams will deliver his popular lecture on Astronomy, at the Adelphi Theatre, on every evening except Friday. The lecture will be illustrated with magnificent transparent moving scenery.

The *Giornale di Roma* states that, on the day of the Annunciation of the Virgin Mary, the Pope assisted in the Sixtine chapel at a solemn mass, celebrated by Cardinal Wiseman.

THE CAVALRY REGIMENTS.

ADDITIONAL regiments have received orders to hold themselves in readiness for embarkation, while others are at this moment waiting for transport. Several corps have reached Malta, and from thence departed, as it is said, for Gallipoli. But the cavalry destined for Turkey remain stationary at home; and but few artillery horses have been shipped.

The first ebullition of enthusiasm among the people having evaporated, the excitement of the moment gives place to less exuberant feelings. At the primary demonstration on the part of England in favour of the Turks, the generality stopped not to scrutinise details. It was enough to know that regiments were on the route for active service in behalf of an ancient ally. Inquiry at the moment did not exceed this point. Confident of success, the nation hailed the march of battalions with reiterated cheers; but the display of patriotism cannot long obscure rational reflection. It is now asked, and with apparent reason, why so much dilatoriness has been shown in rendering our aid to the Sultan? If it was purposed that the force destined for the seat of war should land together at a given point, the present proceedings negative such arrangement. Many of the vessels which conveyed regiments to Malta, returned after performing their contract, leaving the troops certainly nearer the expected scene of action, but as powerless to reach it as though quartered in England. Ships carrying out the reliefs can only embark an equal number from the Mediterranean, leaving the augmentation stationary. Should steamers be despatched for conveying the latter, Government must encounter an enormous outlay. The intentions of the authorities respecting the embarkation of the cavalry have been variously asserted; but it is now generally understood it will march through a part of France. This branch of the service will not at present exceed 2000 horses; and, were they to go direct, conveyed by steam, it would save not alone expense, but an additional shipment, and consequent disembarkation, together with much time. The excuse of want of tonnage advanced as the reason for delay seems incredible. If the mercantile navy of England cannot embark so trifling a number of horses, we must greatly have overrated our capabilities for years past. But, unless a sufficiency of steamers are appropriated for the purpose of accompanying the cavalry transports, the horses will, in all probability, suffer greatly, and may prove useless on landing.

The experiment practised on some of the artillery horses by sending them without steam has met the expected result. The ships were for days delayed by contrary winds. One put into Plymouth after a gale, when she was found to be "crank." As yet, not a troop horse belonging to the cavalry has embarked, and in all likelihood they will be found in England at the termination of the week next ensuing.

Expedition is of vital importance to the cause we have espoused, and long before this the cavalry might have been shipped at one of our western ports, thus avoiding delay in getting down Channel. The cause of procrastination appears unaccountable. If the infantry reach Gallipoli without cavalry or artillery, they must perforce remain inactive until joined by such indispensable auxiliaries.

DINNER TO THE EARL OF ELGIN.

A COMPLIMENTARY dinner was given by gentlemen connected with Canada to the Earl of Elgin, on Thursday evening, at the London Tavern; Lord John Russe l in the chair.

Amongst the company present were—

The Earl of Elgin, the Duke of Newcastle, his Excellency Mr. Buchanan, the Marquis of Abercorn, Earl Grey, the Earl of Harrowby, the Earl of Ellesmere, Earl Dunham, Lord Dufferin, Earl Desart, Lord Montague, Lord Glenelg, Sir W. Molesworth, Bart., M.P., Sir Alexander Cockburton, Sir J. Pakington, M.P., Mr. W. E Gladstone, M.P., Mr. E. Elliee, M.P., Mr. S. Herbert, M.P., Mr. T. Hincks, Sir G. Grey, M.P., Lord Stanley, M.P., the Chief Justice of Lower Canada, Sir H. L. Rulwer, Sir J. Young, Bart., M.P., Sir F. Bond Head, Bart., Mr. F. Peel, M.P., Sir T. Stephen, Lieutenant-General Sir J. Macdonnell, Sir Gore Ousley, K.C.B., Mr. Osborne, M.P., Mr. H. B. Row, Hon. E. P. Bouverie, M.P., Hon. G. Waldegrave, Mr. B. Hawes, Mr. C. C. Franci, Mr. J. Hume, M.P., Captain Murray, Mr. Poulett, M.P., Mr. J. Thomas, Mr. Ewart, M.P., Mr. J Lawence, Mr. J Bates, Mr. T M. Peto, M.P., Mr R. Campbell, Mr. S. Moss, Mr. Mr. Hogg, Mr. H Labouchere, Mr. S. Stanley, Mr H S Tremenheere, Mr. P Cazenove, Major Master (Lord of Sheffield, Mr. W. G. Thompson, Mr R. Lamont, Lord J. Stewart, the Rev. Mr Hind, Mr E. Tennent, Lord M. Kerr, Mr. W. Keogh, M.P., the Hon. D Daly, Rear Admiral Kelly, Mr R Stephenson, M.P.; Mr W. Strutt, M.P.; Mr F Locker, Mr C B. Adderley, M.P., Colonel Macumber Captain Sir G Bach, R.N., Captain Hamilton; Mr. C. L. G. Bruce, M.P., Sir R J. Routh, Mr. F Grant, Captain Farrell, Mr. J. Pilkington, M.P.; Mr J. Kerr-haw, M.P., Rear-Admiral Boxer, Mr. R. Harvey, M.P., Mr. F. Elice, Mr. G Grach, M.P., Mr. G C. Glyn, M.P.; Mr T. B. Wall, M.P., Mr S Laing, M.P., &c.

At half-past seven Lord John Russell entered the room, accompanied by Lord Elgin, who was received with plaudits by the brilliant and distinguished company whose names we have already enumerated. The banquet was of an unusually *recherché* character. Whatever the most profuse liberality, guided by the most fastidious taste, could produce, abounded on all hands; and every accessory that could minister to the enjoyment of such an occasion was forthcoming in superabundance: the appointments of the tables, and the general decorations of the room, being a theme of general admiration, no less than the rarity and excellence of the viands and wines.

Lord John Russell, in proposing the Earl of Elgin's health, delivered a characteristically "Constitutional" speech, in which, after a graceful allusion to the presence of the American Minister, he traced the rise and progress of Canada, its fiscal and legislative difficulties, and the degrees in which its emancipation from the later of those was due to the wise and temperate policy pursued by the noble Earl.

Lord Elgin, in acknowledging the compliment, which he did at considerable length, gave a very comprehensive *resumé* of the history of the colony during his administration; and expressed, in feeling and eloquent terms, how much he had been indebted to the support he had ever received from the Home Government, no matter what party happened to be in power; and also made special allusion to the aid he derived from such gifted councillors as the Hon. Mr. Hincks, his Prime Minister, who was also present; and made an admirable speech, illustrative, in a brief compass, of the relations between the mother-country and the colony in respect to legislative measures, and the peculiar requirements of the public servants of Canada in their efforts to reconcile the different classes to the obligations they owed the local as well as the Imperial Government.

The remaining toasts of the evening were received with enthusiasm, and the whole proceedings passed off with the utmost éclat. A large number of ladies occupied the galleries; and an excellent musical party, under Mr. Frank Bodda, greatly enhanced the pleasure of one of the most remarkable and memorable réunions that have occurred in the metropolis for many years.

THE EARL OF ELGIN AND KINCARDINE, K.T., GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF CANADA.

Few families claim a more illustrious lineage, direct or collateral, than that of the distinguished recipient of Thursday night's banquet at the London Tavern. It is questionable, however, if there be any more predicable incident, at least in the civil annals of the heroic house of Bruce, than its present head being the guest of a circle of contemporary celebrities, whose miscellaneous political characteristics, apart from their exalted rank and intellectual eminence, rendered the assemblage, probably, the most remarkable of its kind that has done honour to any individual of our time, with the exception of the Duke of Wellington.

James Bruce, Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, Baron Bruce, of Kinloss and of Torry, in the Peerage of Scotland, and Baron Elgin of Elgin, in that of the United Kingdom, claims

common ancestry with the Royal family of the same name, so illustrious in the earlier records of Scotland. One of his comparatively later predecessors, Edward Bruce, of Blairhall, was among the Commissioners nominated to witness the nuptials of Queen Mary with the Dauphin, in 1558, and was supposed to have been poisoned—a circumstance but too significant of the long train of disasters that followed that luckless union. His second son, Edward Bruce, of Kinloss, was accredited by James VI. to the Court of Elizabeth to congratulate her Majesty upon the suppression of the commotions excited by the Earl of Essex; and furthered the interests of his Royal master so well in this mission, that, on his return, he was created Baron Bruce of Kinloss, county Elgin; and, on the accession of James to the throne of England, was nominated of the Privy Council, and appointed Master of the Rolls. Thomas, third Baron, was created Earl of Elgin in 1633: but Charles, fourth of that title, dying without surviving male issue in 1747, the family honours reverted to his relative and namesake, ninth Earl of Kincardine, descended from the third son of Edward Bruce, of Blairhall, already mentioned. Uniting the two dignities, his Lordship assumed the title of Elgin and Kincardine; and was succeeded, on his death in 1771, by his eldest son, William Robert, who died a few months afterwards; the Countess surviving him many years, and discharging with great credit to herself the responsible station of governess to the lamented Princess Charlotte of Wales. His Lordship's honours devolved upon his brother Thomas, who married the only daughter of William Hamilton Nisbet, Esq., of Dirleton, in Haddingtonshire.

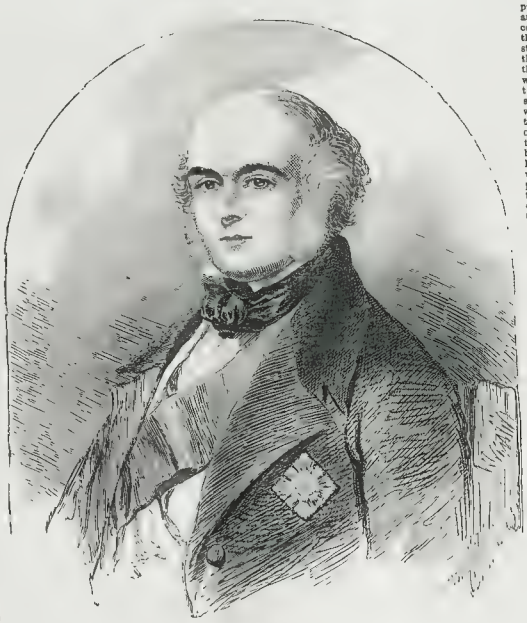
This accomplished nobleman filled several important diplomatic appointments, and, while Ambassador Extraordinary in Turkey, formed the design of collecting and transporting to England the invaluable remains of Grecian art (chiefly consisting of decorations from the Parthenon) now in the British Museum, and known as the Elgin Marbles.

Lord Elgin married, in 1810, Elizabeth, youngest daughter of James Townshend Oswald, Esq., of Dunnikier, in Fifeshire; of which union the present Earl is the eldest child, being born in Park-lane, in 1811; consequently, he is now in his forty-third year—a very early age at which to date services so prolonged as those he has rendered to his country in exalted and responsible office. He received his education at Christchurch, Oxford; where, in addition to a large development of the hereditary predilection for art, he attained first class in Classics in 1832; and subsequently became a Fellow of Merton College. In 1841 he married Elizabeth Mary, only child of Lennox Cumming Bruce, Esq., of Roseisle, Stirlingshire; and the same year was elected to represent Southampton in Parliament—in the proceedings of which Assembly, however, he scarcely took part, owing to the death of his father, the November following, when he succeeded to the family honours. But though till then untried in public life, his administrative aptitude was discovered by the Cabinet in power at the time, and the result has been alike creditable to their prescience and his capacity. In March, 1842, he was nominated by the Earl of Derby (Lord Stanley), then for the second time Colonial Minister in Sir R. Peel's Ministry, as Governor of Jamaica, where, singularly enough, he succeeded Sir Charles (afterwards Lord) Metcalf, whom he subsequently succeeded in Canada (Lord Cathcart intervening); and higher praise can hardly be bestowed upon Lord Elgin than the fact, that in either sphere he proved himself in every way worthy of so impartial, enlightened, and discriminating a predecessor. For four years, during a most eventful period in the history of the island, while, in what may be called the transition stage of society consequent on recent legislative alterations affecting the staple of the colony, he conducted its affairs with exemplary prudence, and with a degree of satisfaction to the inhabitants of which vivid remembrance is borne to the present day.

In August, 1846, his Lordship resigned the Governorship of Jamaica, and in the following month was appointed Governor-General of Canada, with a salary of £7000 per annum. Of his conduct in this important post, perhaps the most emphatic eulogium that can be expressed is conveyed in the fact, first, that he has been continued in it by four successive Colonial Ministers, and, secondly, that these four were all at the festival in his honour, on Thursday night—viz., Mr. Gladstone, Earl Grey, Sir John Pakington, and the Duke of Newcastle; while the president of the evening, Lord John Russell, had likewise filled the same office, as also had another of those present, Lord Glenelg. Thus was the conduct of Lord Elgin as a Colonial Governor practically sanctioned in the most complimentary manner by six Secretaries of state for the Colonies. A seventh may be virtually said to have done so too; for the Earl of Derby, in declining the invitation on the score of an important prior engagement, expressed his "respect and regard" for the guest of the evening; and, moreover, the noble Earl's son, Lord Stanley, was present.

When Lord Elgin assumed the government of Canada, he took the earliest opportunity to avow the principles on which he proposed to administer the trust reposed in him by his Sovereign, and thus avowal obtained for him the general confidence of the Canadian people. The attempts were continued by them during the early part of the Earl of Elgin's Government, his Lordship affording every facility to the members to effect a coalition. After the failure of these negotiations, the Administration, not feeling itself sufficiently strong to meet Parliament, resorted to a dissolution, the result of which was, that on the meeting of the new Parliament, a vote of want of confidence was carried by a considerable majority. On this the Ministry resigned; and the Earl of Elgin sent for a leading member of the Opposition, with whose aid he formed an Administration possessing the confidence of the majority of the Commons House of the Canadian Parliament. Since that period to the present, the same party has furnished the members of the Administration, although many changes have taken place in the position of individuals. It would be wholly out of place here to discuss the political measures brought forward by the advisers of the Earl of Elgin. According to the recognised principles of the Canadian Government, the Ministers of the Crown are responsible for every act of the Government, and from that responsibility they have never shrunk. It must not, however, be supposed that the Governor-General's duties are either light or unimportant. The zeal displayed by the Earl of Elgin in advancing the material interests of the provinces, by countenancing every measure calculated to promote them, has been admitted on all hands. His able despatches to the Secretary of State for the Colonies have been read with admiration by Canadians of all classes; who have likewise appreciated his efforts to promote, by the offer of prizes and otherwise, all really useful projects for the improvement of the agriculture, commerce, or export manufactures of the provinces. Although at particular periods of the Earl of Elgin's Government party politics unfortunately ran higher than the true friends of their country would desire, yet his Lordship, by maintaining inflexibly the position which he had assumed at the outset, and which he himself most happily characterised as one of "dignified neutrality," has succeeded in obtaining the great confidence and respect of the Canadian people, and the admiration not only of the most distinguished English statesmen of all parties, but likewise those of the great Federal Republic, who have been watchful observers of passing events in Canada. Hence the presence at Thursday's banquet of the Minister from Washington to the Court of St. James's, which exhibits, in the most unmistakable manner, that thoroughly friendly feeling between the two freest, wealthiest, and most advancing countries in the world, and which is a guarantee for the ultimate liberties and progression of mankind, let despotism deport itself as overbearingly as it may for the moment in other quarters.

Lord Elgin finds a most effective auxiliary to his deserved popularity in the person of his present estimable and accomplished Countess. This lady, the life and light, as she is the ornament, of the circle which her husband's courteous hospitality, no less than his official position, draws around him, has also hereditary claims on Canadian feeling. She is the eldest surviving daughter of the late Earl of Durham, formerly Governor-General of Canada; his son, her brother, the present Earl, being also among those who assembled to honour Lord Elgin on Thursday.



THE EARL OF ELGIN AND KINCARDINE, K.T., GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF CANADA.

TROOPS AT ALEXANDRIA.

A CORRESPONDENT at Alexandria has favoured us with the accompanying Sketch of part of the Egyptian contingent for the Turkish army. A very large force (says our Correspondent) is collected here, variously estimated at from seventeen to twenty thousand men, two-thirds of whom are destined for the seat of war. Twelve thousand men were reviewed outside the walls this morning (the 18th inst.), one third of whom marched through the Grand Square in the forenoon, and presented a very fine *coup d'œil*—the day being remarkably fine, an unusual thing of late here, the weather having been for some time very severe, cold and heavy rain being the order of the day.

The large building on the extreme right of the View is the Dutch Consulate; next is the French Consulate, the Belgian Consulate, the entrance to the Frank-street, and the Public Clock.

TROOPS AT ALEXANDRIA, PART OF THE EGYPTIAN CONTINGENT FOR THE TURKISH ARMY.

THE FRENCH SCREW WAR-STEAMER "AUSTERLITZ," PASSING DOVER.

THE FRENCH BALTIC SQUADRON.

THE *Austerlitz*, 100 guns, French steam-ship, of which we have given a Sketch as it was seen from Dover on the afternoon of Sunday week, sailed from Brest on the 20th ult., to join Sir Charles Napier's fleet in the Baltic. In passing Dover, accompanied by the *Conflict* steam-ship, the *Austerlitz* saluted the port, a compliment which was returned from the Drop Redoubt. She cast anchor in the Downs that evening, and on Tuesday sailed for Wingo Bay, where, however, she does not appear to have arrived till after the English fleet had left that station. A telegraphic despatch, dated April 4, afternoon, Kroge Bay, (about a couple of hours' sail south of Copenhagen) says:—"The *Austerlitz* and other ships are visible from the mast-head of the *St. Jean d'Acre*." The other ships mentioned in the despatch will probably be the other vessels belonging to the French Baltic squadron, which sailed from Toulon about the same time as the *Austerlitz* sailed from Brest.

The following is the order of the day addressed by Vice-Admiral Parseval Deschênes, to the commanders, officers, and sailors of the Baltic Squadron:—

Called on by the Emperor to the honour of commanding you at a moment when your courage may be useful to the country, I feel the most lively satisfaction at finding myself once more in the midst of you. As I have frequently done in my long career, I am about once more to appreciate that discipline, that devotedness to their duty, and that abnegation of French seamen which lead to success, and which render me proud to be at your head. Let your confidence in me be as in times past: mine is assured to you. Let us unite all our efforts at the outset of a laborious campaign; and let us know, in the accomplishment of our task, how to inspire ourselves with the sentiments of patriotism which must be caused by the cry of "Vive l'Empereur!"

THE RAILWAY ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH IN INDIA.

MADRAS (writes a Correspondent from Fort St. George, Feb. 8), will, before two months have passed, be placed in electric communication with Bangalore. The telegraph, which has been begun (as the accompanying Illustration will show) has already been extended as far as Poonamallee, a place about thirteen miles from Madras. The line commences in the Fort, on one of the south ramparts, where two tents have been pitched for the accommodation of the superintendent; the line then cuts across the Esplanade and the road which leads to the South Beach, the only place in Madras where there is any amusement, if such it can be called; the garrison band, and the band of the European corps which may be stationed at Fort St. George, play alternately nearly every evening on the beach; and a double object is gained by resorting thither of an evening—the enjoyment of the sea-breeze, and a little music; the former most precious, indeed, to one subject to the relaxing heats of an Indian clime.

The building to the left, seen in the distance, and which is almost hidden from view by trees, is known by the name of the "Marine Villa;" it formerly belonged to the Nabob of the Carnatic, who presented it to the Government of Fort Saint George. It is a favourite residence of Sir Henry Pottinger's during the summer months, in consequence of its proximity to the sea. The other building in the distance is the Nabob's Palace.

THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH AT MADRAS

RETURNING THE COMPLIMENT.—In the year 1543 the Sultan Selim II., at the request of the King of France, sent a large army and fleet to his assistance, under the command of the celebrated Turkish Admiral Barbarossa, who, according to the record, was the grandson of a French renegade. This army and fleet occupied the town and port of Toulon at the express wish of Francis I., from the end of September, 1543, to the end of March, 1544. And in March, 1854, a French army and fleet have sailed from the same port of Toulon to succour the descendant of the Sultan Selim in his distress.

RETURN OF "THE AUSTERLITZ" SALUTE, AT DOVER.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, April 9.—6th Sunday in Lent. Lord Bacon died, 1626.
MONDAY, 10.—Catholic Emancipation Bill passed, 1829.
TUESDAY, 11.—Canning born, 1770. Napoleon I. abdicated, 1814.
WEDNESDAY, 12.—America discovered, 1492.
THURSDAY, 13.—Maunday Thursday. Handel died, 1759.
FRIDAY, 14.—Good Friday. Bishop Portius died, 1809.
SATURDAY, 15.—Easter Term begins. Mutiny at Spithead, 1797.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,

FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 15, 1854.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday
M h m 11 40	A h m No Tide	M h m 0 35	A h m 1 0	M h m 1 15	A h m 1 35	M h m 1 55
A h m 2 15	M h m 2 35	A h m 2 55	M h m 3 15	A h m 3 35	M h m 3 55	A h m 4 20

TO CORESPONDENTS.

A SUBSCRIBER.—The *Duke of Wellington* is 278 feet long, 56 feet beam, 24½ feet hold; 700-horse power, and 3760 tons burthen. The *Himalaya* is 372½ feet long, 56 feet beam, 25 feet hold; 700-horse power, and 3550 tons burthen. The *Atrato* is 350 feet long, 42 feet beam, 24 feet hold; 800-horse power, and 3466 tons burthen.

G. F., Upper Clapton.—The only persons to apply to, will be the superintendent of the dockyard, or the master shipwrights, who have the disposal of the tickets.

J. D.—The thanks of Parliament were given to Lord Gough, in 1849, for "the conspicuous intrepidity" displayed by him in the last contest in the Punjaub, which was terminated by the victory of Goojerat.

FER FALE.—Burke's "Encyclopædia of Heraldry" and Burke's "Commoners" are perfectly distinct works. The former is much fuller than Edmonson.

J. DE L.—The Queen might have married a commoner.

A SUBSCRIBER.—An Admiral of the Red ranks first, of the White next, and of the Blue third.

G. C.—William III. is "King of the Netherlands."

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 1854.

THE quarterly returns of the Revenue, made up to the 5th of April, will rejoice the hearts, not only of the British people, but of the friends of the liberty and independence of nations in every part of Europe. For the last eight years it has been the policy of successive Administrations to reduce or abolish imposts of injurious operation upon industry and trade; and year after year the Revenue returns have proved the wisdom of this course. Abolition of taxation has not led to loss, but to increase, of Revenue. The returns for the last quarter are of the same gratifying description. The Emperor of Russia enters upon war with a depreciated and paper currency, with a trade that our hostilities will seriously injure, if they do not ruin; and with no means, except the forced contributions of his subjects, for raising the supplies necessary to support the war. Great Britain, on the contrary, commences the struggle with a surplus of Revenue over Expenditure, with an increasing commerce with every part of the world, and with taxation at so low and inoppressive a point, as to leave ample room for its extension without seriously interfering with the necessities and pursuits, or even with the luxuries, of the people. The Emperor of Russia, and, more especially, the wavering Sovereigns of Austria and Prussia, should take warning from these facts. The increase of Revenue for the year ending on the 5th of April, over the year ending on the 5th of April, 1853, amounts to £1,485,056. The increase on the quarter, over the corresponding quarter of the preceding year, amounts to £213,744. There is a decrease in the Customs for the quarter as compared with the returns for April, 1853, of £106,891; caused, no doubt, by the reduction of the tea-duties to the extent of 4½d. per lb. There is also a decrease of £155,231 upon the Excise, caused by the total abolition of the duty on soap. Upon the financial year there is, however, an increase in all these; and, indeed, in every other branch of Revenue, with the sole exception of the Miscellaneous. These figures need no comment; they will tell their own story; and will be a source of gratification not only to the statesmen and legislators, to whose enlightened commercial and fiscal policy we owe the result, but to the whole population of these islands.

THE inability or unwillingness of the *roi-fainéant* of Greece to prevent his subjects and generals from aiding the insurrection in Albania, threatens to seriously complicate the difficulties of the Eastern Question. The Ottoman Government having reason to believe in the complicity of the Greek Monarch with the Albanian insurgents, has suspended diplomatic relations with the Court of Athens, and if the insurrection be not immediately suppressed, will, no doubt, follow up this step, by a declaration of war. The Greeks need expect no sympathy from Europe, and will find to their cost that their patron, the Czar, will not be able to render them any aid in the measures that will be taken against them, not only by Turkey, but by France and England. The French and English Governments are quite decided as to the course they will adopt. The feelings of the French Government with respect to the Insurrection are identical with those of the English Cabinet. In a letter to the Earl of Clarendon, dated February 10, Lord Cowley stated that:—

M. Drouyn de Lhuys had informed him that the last accounts received by the French Government from Greece represent so much excitement to prevail against the Turks—excitement which had already led to a collision in the neighbourhood of Arta—that he had at once written to the French Envoy at Athens, directing him to call the immediate attention of the Greek Government to this state of things. The French Government offered the Greek Government the choice between the advantages which must follow the observation of a strict neutrality, throwing into her hands the commerce of the Levant, or the disasters which would be the consequence of any acts of aggression in Turkey; for France would not permit Greece to enjoy the advantages of neutrality and to be a belligerent at the same time; and she would employ the means at her disposal to prevent it.

In another letter, dated the 22nd of February, his Lordship stated,—

M. Drouyn de Lhuys told the Greek Minister, M. Mavrocordato, that France, more than any other Power, had a right to complain of the conduct of the Greek Government, because she had been the Power which had unfortunately stood up most for the honest intentions of the Greek Government, but that she could not tolerate the present state of things. It was nonsense, said the French Minister, to say that the Greek nation was *entraînée*, as was pretended, in this war. There was no *entraînement*, but what was fostered by the King and Queen, and encouraged by the Greek Government. Not a soul in the Peloponnesus—not a soul in any of the islands—had stirred; a few brigands from the interior of the northern provinces were the only culprits. But M. Drouyn de Lhuys said that it was useless addressing the Greek Ministers; and that perhaps M. Mavrocordato would do well to lay personally before the King a faithful exposition of the dangers he was incurring. M. Mavrocordato replied, that, without leaving Paris, he could ensure the King's being made acquainted with the sentiments of the French Government, and that he would write to his Majesty immediately.

It will be seen from these significant passages that the Government of France is determined to act in a resolute and summary manner against Greece, if the perfidious Court persist in abetting insurrection in the dominions of the Sultan. The following letter, from the Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Wyse, under date February 16, shows how cordially the British Government will co-operate with that of the Emperor Napoleon:—

I told M. Tricoupi (says the Earl of Clarendon) that, although his Government might not openly promote insurrection, yet they, in fact, did nothing to discourage it, nor even to make known that it would be regarded unfavourably by the King or his Government, that the Russian organ in the press was calling the people to arms, and announcing the speedy downfall of the Ottoman Empire, and the triumph of Russia; and that no sign of disapprobation was ever given by the organs of the Government; nor (I said) were other proofs wanting to justify the belief—now general throughout Greece—that the insurrectionary movement was viewed with favour by the Government, and I distinctly warned M. Tricoupi that his Government had now to choose between the goodwill of England and France and the blockade of Athens; as the two Governments, while engaged in defending the Ottoman territory from Russian aggression, would certainly not tolerate that the Greek subjects of the Sultan should be excited to rebel against his authority, in consequence of measures sanctioned by the Greek Government. M. Tricoupi expressed much alarm at the thought of a blockade, which, he said, would be fatal to the commerce and mercantile navy of Greece and would not be deserved, as the Greek Government had *made steels unpopular by carrying out the wishes of her Majesty's Government* in opposition to the popular sentiment which was most bitter to the Turks. I replied *that I was well aware of the unpopularity of the Government, but that it was not attributable to the cause assigned by M. Tricoupi*; and that, if the Government desired to avoid the evils that a blockade would entail, they must lose no time in adopting an entirely different line of conduct upon the great question now at issue.

It would further appear from the correspondence submitted to Parliament, that the Austrian Government disapproved, as highly as those of Great Britain and France, the treacherous conduct of King Otho, who, if he have learnt nothing else in Greece, has learned to imitate the proverbial perfidiousness of his people. The Earl of Westmoreland informed the Earl of Clarendon, in a letter dated March 1st, that "Count Buol had expressed his satisfaction at the policy declared by her Majesty's Government, and had made similar representations at Athens, through the Austrian Minister;" so that in this, as in all other circumstances in connection with the Eastern Question, Austria has had the sagacity to know the right course, if she have not, in all instances, had the courage to pursue it.

WE too often hear of railway accidents and unintentional neglect of duty arising from the carelessness and incapacity of railway officials, both of the higher and the lower grades; but we seldom hear of any acts of gross brutality, or even of incivility, on their part. When accidents occur, affecting both rich and poor, the world is duly informed of them; but railway officers respect the rich, or those supposed to be so, and are only brutal or uncivil to the poor, who make no complaints sufficiently loud to reach the ear of newspaper readers. We cannot but take the opportunity of the melancholy death of Colonel Gordon of calling the attention of railway directors and the public to the systematic contempt with which railway officials, from directors down to porters, regard the feelings, the comfort, and the health of those whom necessity forces to travel in third-class carriages. On many of the great Continental lines, the second-class carriages are quite equal in their appointments and fittings to first-class carriages in England; while their third-class carriages are more comfortable than our second. In France, Belgium, and Germany, the third-class passengers have cushions to sit upon and to lean against, and are thoroughly protected from the weather. In England a second-class passenger may get civil treatment; but a third-class passenger seldom obtains a taste of a commodity so cheap and yet so agreeable. But, on the Continent, railway servants not only treat third-class passengers as human beings, but bestow upon them quite as much courtesy as upon those who pay higher fares. The death of Colonel Gordon is no more remarkable in itself than many other cases that are never brought under notice, in which the sufferers are obscure individuals who have none to take their part, or say a word for them. It is the rank of the victim, as well as the melancholy catastrophe of his death, that so powerfully draws public attention to this particular case. We may be tolerably certain that, if Colonel Gordon had travelled in a first-class carriage, a drunken and offensive fellow-passenger would not have been obtruded upon him, and that the Inspector on duty would not have treated any complaint which he might have had to make, either with coarse incivility or brutal outrage. But, being only a third-class passenger, it was thought that the companionship of a man maddened by excess of drink was good enough for him, and that he might be rudely assaulted for daring to complain and to insist upon his right of being treated like a gentleman. We would impress upon railway managers and officials of all degrees the duty incumbent upon them of behaving with as much courtesy to one class of travellers as to another. The servants of railway companies acting upon the premises, and in the business of their employers, used to be considered as police constables; and if the Stafford Inspector had acted, as he should have done, in that capacity, a valuable life might have been saved to society. Wealth-worship is bad enough in itself, even if it lead to nothing worse than sycophancy towards those who can pay both for respectful behaviour and accommodation. But when neither the one nor the other can be procured without a fee, which the poor cannot pay, it becomes still more repulsive, because it becomes inhuman.

THE HAY CONTRACT FOR THE ADMIRALTY.—It appears from the proceedings in Parliament on Tuesday evening last, that Messrs. Sturgeon and Sons, of Grays, in Essex, accused by the Duke of Newcastle of having furnished to the Admiralty trusses of hay fraudulently filled with straw, shavings, and offal, were guiltless of that offence. The firm of Sturgeon and Sons were not the only contractors in this business. The quantity of hay required by Government was seven hundred and fifty loads, of which not more than fifty were provided by Messrs. Sturgeon. In a report sent to the House of Commons by Mr. Bernal Osborne, furnished to him by Colonel Whinyates, that officer stated that "the whole of the supplies delivered by Messrs. Sturgeon were rejected on the 27th February, and none has since been received. Their supplies have been the worst offered—those samples opened were found to be of mixed hay, some portions good, but the bulk of each truss of very inferior sedgy marsh hay, much of it of the worst description—mouldy, and full of dust." The report of the Victualling Department stated "that, although the contractors on this important occasion are more than ordinarily culpable in tendering for delivery an article which they must have been fully aware was not in accordance with their agreements, and nothing in explanation can be offered, yet we deem it only just to state that we are of opinion no systematic fraud has been intended; for, had it been so, care would have been taken to remove every indication of its not being upland or meadow hay, and to cause a good external appearance to be presented." Who the parties were that sent in straw, shavings, and offal, has not yet been stated. We think that Messrs. Sturgeon and Son have almost as much interest as the public in insisting that the name, or names should be published.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,
TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, APRIL 6.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading.	Thermometer. Lowest Reading.	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
	Inches.	°	°	°	°			Inches.
Mar. 31	30.389	63·1	33·8	48·7	+ 5·2	62	W. & S.W.	0.00
April 1	30.263	71·5	34·9	53·4	+ 9·8	58	S.W.	0.00
,, 2	30.375	67·1	36·0	51·9	+ 8·2	69	VAR.	0.00
,, 3	30.483	58·0	39·1	48·3	+ 4·5	70	VAR.	0.00
,, 4	30.510	62·5	31·6	47·1	+ 3·1	67	VAR.	0.00
,, 5	30.354	66·5	37·8	51·5	+ 7·3	63	W.	0.00
,, 6	30.358	67·6	33·2	51·3	+ 6·9	64	S.W.	0.00

Note.—The sign + denotes above the average. The numbers in the seventh column are calculated on the supposition that the saturation of the air is represented by 100.

The reading of the barometer has varied but little during the week, the highest reading being 30·51 inches on the morning of April 4th, and the lowest 30·17 inches on the afternoon of the 1st. The mean for the week, at the height of 62 feet above the level of the sea, was 30.393 inches.

The mean temperature of the week was 50·3°, being 0·4° above the average of the corresponding week during 38 years

The range of temperature during the week was 33·9°, being the difference between the highest reading on April 1, and the lowest on the 4th.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 13·1°. The greatest was 16·6° on April 1; and the lowest 18·9°, on the 3rd.

The weather, throughout the week, was very fine, and the sky almost free from cloud. The wind has been light and variable in direction, but mostly S.W. Rain has not fallen since March 20.

For the month of March, the mean reading of the barometer at the level of the sea was 30.339 inches. The highest temperature during the month was 65·2° on the 12th, and the lowest was 24·0° on the 4th. The range of temperature during the month, therefore, was 41·2°. The mean of all the highest temperatures by day was 53·8°; and, of all, the lowest by night was 34·8°. The mean daily range of temperature during the month, therefore, was 19·0°. The mean temperature of the month was 44·3°, being 3·1° above the average of thirty-eight Marches, and the hottest March since the year 1842, when the mean temperature was 44·6°. The mean temperature of evaporation was 41·3°. The mean temperature of the dew point was 37·2°. The mean degree of humidity was 78, complete saturation being represented by 100. The fall of rain during the month was 0·4 inch (four-tenths of an inch).

Lewisham, April 7, 1854. JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—The births of 1948 children were registered in the week ending April 1; of these 1015 were boys and 933 were girls. In the nine corresponding weeks of the years 1845-53 the average number was 1548. The number of deaths registered within the same week was 1489, being 167 above the corrected average of the ten corresponding weeks of the ten preceding years.

ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY.—This society celebrated its eightieth anniversary by a dinner on Wednesday evening, at the Freemasons' Tavern; Lord Dudley Stuart in the chair. The annual report shows that 97 persons who had met with accidents or attempted suicide during the past year, 153 were treated with success, and twelve only found beyond recovery. The total number of persons who had bathed in the Serpentine during the year had amounted to 23,380; twenty-one were rescued from drowning by the activity of the society's boatmen, and not one fatal accident had occurred. During the late frost fifty persons broke through the ice and were saved by the society. The number of lives saved by the society since its formation had been about 30,000. The medal of the society having been presented to Captain Henry Grierson, of the 15th Regiment; Mr. W. B. Cooke, Mr. Kinnear, the Rev. H. G. Kinnear, Mr. W. Elleray, Mr. Wainewright, Captain W. N. Finley, and other gentlemen, who had saved the lives of persons from drowning during the past year, donations in support of the society were announced to the amount of about £300.

CHARING-CROSS HOSPITAL.—At a quarterly meeting of the committee on Tuesday last—Major W. Lyon in the chair—the report of the operations of the charity for the past quarter was read, from which it appears that the total number of 2990 sick poor were admitted for relief. Out of this number 857 were cases of accident, or emergency of so dangerous a character, as to require immediate admission to the wards. The donations were recorded of valuable friends of the hospital, including the late Marquis of Londonderry, Sir John Conroy, Admiral Falcon, and several others, whose loss to this charity, it is hoped, will be supplied by the accession of new members, of which the hospital stands greatly in need, to maintain its highly useful objects.

THE NEW REFORM BILL.—A public meeting was held at the Court-house, Marylebone-lane, on Monday evening, for the purpose of considering the new Reform Bill proposed by Lord John Russell, and to urge upon the Legislature the necessity of passing it without delay: Mr. Joseph Hume, M.P., in the chair. The chairman, in opening the business, said he considered the measure one of great importance, from the number of cases that had recently occurred disgraceful to a representative Government; and, from interviews he had had with many parties, the general opinion appeared to be in its favour. He did not think they would ever have a fair and proper representation until the electors were protected by the ballot, but the question was whether they ought not to take what they could get. There was one valuable clause—the alteration in not making the suffrage dependent on the payment of taxes. Every step they progressed must be favourable, and he was surprised this bill had been so lightly passed over by the public. Mr. Graham then moved the following resolution:—"That the bill introduced into the House of Commons by Lord John Russell, further to amend the representation of the people, is entitled to the cordial support of all parliamentary reformers, inasmuch as it greatly increases the number of voters, disfranchises nineteen nomination boroughs, and transfers their representation to more populous districts." The resolution was carried by a large majority. Sir Benjamin Hall, M.P., and Dudley Stuart, M.P., addressed the meeting at some length in favour of the measure; and, a petition to Parliament having been agreed to, the proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA, AND CHINA.—A meeting of shareholders in the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China (adjourned from the 16th March), was held at the London Tavern, on Tuesday, to receive a report from the committee, detailing the result of their interview with the directors, to induce them to abandon the undertaking. It appeared that the board refused to entertain the views of the committee. It was urged by the committee that circumstances had changed most materially during the last two years, and that, in consequence, a large majority of the scripholders and allottees were now opposed to the scheme. In 1852, when the bank was first contemplated, there was general peace; in 1854, a European war and an insurrection in China; in 1852, Consols were at 100; in 1854, at 88; in 1852, taxes were repealed: in 1854, the income-tax was doubled. In 1852, wheat was at 40s.; in 1854, at 80s.; in 1852, discounts at 2½ per cent; in 1854, at 6 per cent; in 1852, Australia required banking accommodation; in 1854, Australia was provided with upwards of £10,000,000 for banking purposes. These arguments, however, had not been strong enough to convince the directors, who declared their intention to proceed, in order to preserve the privileges of the charter. After some discussion, resolutions were passed condemning the policy of the board, and authorising a subscription not exceeding 2l. per share, to raise funds to defray the expenses attending a settlement of the question.

ST. PANCRAS, MARYLEBONE, AND PADDINGTON FREEHOLD LAND SOCIETY.—On Friday (last week) the promoters and members of this association presented to Mr. Samuel Spong, the able secretary, a massive silver tea service, in recognition of the success which had followed his efforts in behalf of this society, which was the first association of the kind registered in the metropolis.

MR. THOMAS BARING, M.P., has consented to be nominated to the chairmanship of the Institution for the Preservation of Life from Shipwreck, which has become vacant by the demise of Mr. Alderman Thompson, M.P.

STATUE OF LOUIS XVI.—A curious discovery has been made in Paris, within the last few days. A colossal statue of Louis XVI. had been ordered from a celebrated sculptor early in 1830, for the city of Bordeaux. It was in the mould when the revolution of 1830 broke out, and it appears to have been forgotten, for it was only discovered a few days ago by some workmen who were clearing the site for some new building, to be erected on the Quartier Beaujon, in Paris.

CURIOUS COPYRIGHT.—The Imperial Court of Austria gave a judgment last week of considerable interest to printsellers and sculptors. It was to the effect that statues and statuettes cannot be copied by photographical means, without the consent of the authors and proprietors. Several tradesmen, who had taken on themselves to reproduce statues in this way, were condemned to pay damages to the different plaintiffs, varying from 160f. to 500f.

THE WAR.

DEPARTURE OF OFFICERS AND TROOPS FOR TURKEY.

The *Tonning*, which sailed on the 4th, took out Brigadier-General Sir Colin Campbell, Brigadier-General Pennefather, Brigadier-General Eyre, Major Sterling, Captain Shadwell, Captain Thackwell, Captain Harding, Major Hope, Lieut. Graham; Captain Walch, Aide-de-Camp Harding, Major Hope, Lieut. Graham; Captain Walch, Aide-de-Camp to Lord de Ros; Captain Woodford, Deputy-Assistant-Quartermaster-General; Captain Blane, Deputy-Assistant-Quartermaster-General; an officer and detachment of the 19th Regiment; and Lieut. Pearce.

The *City of London*, which sailed on the 6th, has on board Major-General Sir De L. Evans, Captain Gubbins, Captain Boyle, Captain Allix, Captain Clifton, with his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge's establishment. Lieutenant-Colonel Gordon, Assistant Adjutant-General, and Lieutenant-Colonel Herbert, Assistant Quartermaster-General. A company of Sappers from Woolwich were also to embark with this ship, and another from Gibraltar, where she touches.

The *Emperor* starts to-day, and takes out Sir Richard England, Brigadier-General Cator, Royal Artillery; Lord De Ros, Deputy Quartermaster-General; Captain Neville, Captain Bradford, Captain Gage, Captain Paok, Captain Kingscote, and Lord Raglan's horses and establishment, Lieutenant Calthorpe, Lieutenant Carson, Surgeon Mapleston, and a detachment of the 19th Regiment.

Commissary-General Filder and Deputy Commissary-General Adams, accompanied by a numerous staff, left London on Tuesday, to join the army in the East. Deputy Commissary-General Cowan, and six Assistant Commissaries-General, have received orders to proceed to France, and make the necessary arrangements with the French authorities for the passage of our cavalry regiments through that country for embarkation at Marseilles, on the arrival of the transports at that port from England.

The 23rd Royal Welsh Fusiliers left Portsmouth garrison on Tuesday morning at half-past eight o'clock for Southampton, for embarkation for the East. They were accompanied by the bands of the regiments in the garrison as far as the railway station, and were loudly cheered on the road, a large number of persons having assembled, although the hour at which they left barracks was so early as seven o'clock. The regiment left Southampton Docks in the *Trent* steamer. They were to remain at Southampton Water in order to take on board fourteen days' more provisions, when the *Trent* would proceed direct to Gallipoli. After landing the Fusiliers at Gallipoli, the *Trent* will go to Malta, and assist in conveying the troops stationed there to the Turkish territory.

The 7th Fusiliers left Manchester 900 strong, on Tuesday morning, by the London and North-Western Railway, in 44 carriages. The men appeared to be in capital spirits, and both divisions of the troops were accompanied in their march through the streets by some thousands of people, who cheered them loudly. They arrived at Southampton on Tuesday evening, and embarked on board the *Orinoco*.

The means of transport have still to be provided for twenty-two officers and seventy-two horses of the general staff.

The Light Brigade and the 4th Regiment embarked from Malta on the 31st ult. on board the *Golden Fleece*, for Gallipoli; the 5th, on board the *Georgiana*; and detachments of the 24th, 41st, 49th, and the 1st company of Sappers and Miners, on board the *Cape of Good Hope*, for the same destination.

Major-General Sir G. Brown arrived at Malta on the 28th, and sailed on the 31st for Gallipoli.

ADMIRAL BERKELEY'S ADDRESS.

On Wednesday last, Rear-Admiral Berkeley was sent on board the *Cumberland*, 70, which was commissioned in January, 1851, and which has been ordered to the Baltic, in order to explain to the men the circumstances under which their services have been required. All hands having been piped on the quarter-deck, Admiral Berkeley addressed the men as follows:—

My Men,—I am sent down here by the Board of Admiralty to acquaint you that we are at war with Russia. Had there been no war, you would not have come home till June, as your time of service would not have expired till that period. The country now requires your services in another direction, and I feel assured that I am addressing a ship's company so well disciplined, that it gives me the utmost satisfaction in knowing you will be a valuable augmentation to the fleet now in the Baltic under the command of Sir Charles Napier, who has fifteen sail of the line with him, besides frigates and corvettes, the most of which are steamers. These, in conjunction with the gallant French, will, I trust, bring the war to a speedy issue. It is not likely that your services will be required longer than October next, because at that period the ice will prevent further operations; and, unless events should happen which no one can foresee, I trust that in October next we shall be enabled to pay you off, and that will only be a few months more than your time of service. If, however, the Russians should have the temerity to venture down amongst you, I well know the material we may rely on, and that you will give a pretty good account of the meeting. At present, should any of the ship's company want money, they may have it. If also there are medals or rewards to be distributed, that also will be immediately attended to. In this respect I will consult with your captain; and, in conclusion, although you may probably feel a little disappointment at what I have made known to you, yet, as British sailors and a gallant ship's company, you will act with loyalty, and I know you will do your duty as becomes you.

The address was well received by the men.

SIR CHARLES NAPIER IN THE BALTIC.

On Monday week the British fleet, consisting of twenty-two vessels, carrying 1252 guns, and 12,000 men, arrived at Kiel, where it remained till Thursday. Crowds of people from Hamburg, Altona, and other towns in that neighbourhood, flocked to see the marvellous spectacle. Throughout the whole of Thursday the trains from Altona continued to bring fresh visitors from Berlin, Leipsic, and many other large places in the interior of Germany to Kiel, after the fleet had sailed; but the want of certain knowledge where it was to proceed kept many from engaging some kind of conveyance to follow it.

On Tuesday last the fleet was at anchor in Kioge Bay, a short distance from Copenhagen, where it was joined by the *Auxiliaries*, 100 guns, from Brest.

An electric despatch from Copenhagen of April 5, says:

The fleet left Kioge Bay this morning. The news that the Russians have evacuated Aaland is officially confirmed.

The *Miranda* steamer, which returned last Sunday from a cruise of observation in the Baltic, brings intelligence that the Russian fleet is anchored at Revel, from which it cannot be freed by the breaking-up of the ice until the end of April.

PREPARATIONS FOR THE WAR.

The Government purpose sending out all kinds of clothing and food, which can in any way conduce to the health of the troops. A large quantity of tea will be shipped, as the use of water alone in any way will be prohibited, owing to its deleterious character, without the operation of boiling. The French propose shipping a large quantity of wines, and it is supposed that some arrangement will be made by means of which our Government will be able to follow the example.

Those of the Greenwich Pensioners who are fit for service are now recalled to active duty. On Saturday, in pursuance of orders, the Greenwich pensioners of Liverpool, 42 in number, assembled at the Naval Rendezvous, Redcross-street, for inspection by Commander Bevis, R.N., who informed them that such of them as were found fit for service should be drafted on board ship. Upon inspection it was found that 22 were fit for active service.

Notice has been given that engineers at present working for private establishments, if they have had about two years' experience in the mercantile steam-vessels at sea, may be entered as acting assistant-engineers in the Royal Navy.

In addition to the *Tyrocles*, already despatched with horses of the Royal Artillery for the Mediterranean, Mr. Dunbar has five other transport-ships now ready at Deptford; two, the *Merseyshire* and another new ship fitted for the conveyance of horses; and three, the *Dunbar*, the *Bowsprit*, and the *Canterbury*, fitted for the conveyance of infantry. It is supposed the sailing-vessels for infantry will be employed for conveying a portion of the six regiments of the line, which it is contemplated to send with a siege battery of artillery to the Baltic, to operate with the fleet under the command of Sir C. Napier.

On Sunday the prayer prescribed for time of war was offered in the various churches of the metropolis; and in most of the nonconformist places of worship supplications were made for the triumph of truth and justice, and a speedy return of peace.

The following arrangements have been taken with the Porte regarding the first expedition of 10,000 British troops. The Turkish Government is bound to furnish daily—10,000 lb. of bread (first quality); 10,000 lb. of meat, half beef, half mutton; 30,000 lb. of wood; 18,000 lb. of barley; and 15,000 lb. of straw. These articles will be paid for monthly by bills on the London Treasury. The troops are to be lodged in the spacious barracks situated in the Turkish quarter called Daout Pacha, and the military Governor of Constantinople has received orders to repair that establishment.

TOWN AND TABLE-TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

Whatever the Royal Academy Exhibition may be like this year, all the pictures have been sent in—Tuesday being the last day on which pictures were received. From what we have seen, we can confidently state that our painters have not been idle; and that there is every promise of a very choice Exhibition.

A little bit of landscape gardening in London has just been temporarily laid open to public view. Who in West-end London has not walked from Piccadilly down Berkeley-street into Berkeley-square? Who does not remember the dead wall on the left enclosing the gardens of the Duke of Devonshire and the Marquis of Lansdowne? Well, a large portion of that wall has been pulled down to be rebuilt; and the view laid open has been a source of astonishment to the whole of May-fair. How few had a notion of what was behind that wall! Let us suggest something. Give a half-wall, with railing, and what a charming view might the public gain, at no loss whatever to the noble Duke or the noble Marquis. His Grace, we may add, commands a capital north view from Devonshire-house. He has not only his own garden, but the view is of such extent, for London, that both Lansdowne-house-garden and Berkeley-square seem to belong to his Grace.

Mr. John Bruce has resigned the office of treasurer to the Society of Antiquaries. Well, the society suffers a loss, but the public will gain by the resignation. The duties of the office seriously interfered with Mr. Bruce's literary labours. We have now a chance of obtaining the long-promised life of Prynne, the Puritan and antiquary, on which Mr. Bruce has been so long engaged, and which no one is so well competent to give us. Prynne's was a busy and important life, and the study of his career will throw light on the manners, and political and religious prejudices of a great period in our history.

John Wilson—better known as "The Professor," or "Christopher North"—died on Sunday last, near Edinburgh, in the sixty-eighth year of his age. He had long suffered from paralysis; but his mind, though his body was disabled and weak, was bright and vigorous to the last.

This highly original and influential poet and critic was born at Paisley, North Britain, in, it is said, May, 1789. His father was a rich cloth manufacturer in that town, who had risen to wealth by his own industry and honesty. His mother was a Miss Sym, sister to that Sym known to every reader of *Blackwood* under the assumed name of "Timothy Tickler."

After the usual domestic education, which, from the character of his father, may be reasonably supposed to have given him strong impressions of morality and perseverance, he was committed to the care of the Rev. George M'Latchie, and was soon distinguished among his school-fellows. "Not to name the school or the masters of men illustrious for literature," says Johnson, "is a kind of historical fraud, by which honest fame is injuriously diminished."

From Mr. M'Latchie's care he was removed, while yet a boy, to the University of Glasgow, and placed there under the roof of Mr. George Jardine, Professor of Logic and Rhetoric in that University. Here he went through a full course of education in languages, philosophy, and *belles lettres*; and was remarked among his fellow-students as uncommonly original in his views, animated in his prosecution of them, and unrivalled in the powers he possessed of *pressing* them on the minds of those to whom he had occasion to address them. "He lived in my family," says Professor Jardine, "during the whole course of his studies at Glasgow; and the general superintendence of his education was committed to me; and it is but justice to him to declare, that during my long experience I never had a pupil who discovered more genius, more ardour, or more active and perseverant diligence." If other proof were wanting of the truth of this, it may be found in the earliest of his writings, and in those testimonials which he collected when he became a candidate for the chair of Moral Philosophy in the University of Edinburgh.

From Glasgow he removed to Oxford, and was entered amongst the non-foundationers of Magdalen College; where his tutors were—first, the Rev. Thomas Collins, and afterwards the Rev. Benjamin Chester, the Rev. Thomas Collins, and afterwards the Rev. Benjamin Chester, the late Archdeaconship of Bishop Heber and Bishop Philpotts; and was distinguished, both within and without the walls of his college, for the originality and vigour of his views, his skill in clothing them with proper words, his genius for poetry, and his love of all manly and honourable pursuits. The President of Magdalen still lives to remember the appearance made by the young non-foundationer in every classical examination, and the early promise which he gave of his after reputation.

The chief honour he obtained at Oxford was the Newdigate Prize for the best Poem on Painting, Sculpture, and Architecture, of which Heber and others thought most favourably; but which the author himself viewed only as a college exercise, for he has not admitted it among his collected poems.

On leaving Oxford, his time was passed chiefly at Elleray, on the banks of Windermere, where he bought a house, most beautifully situated; and in Edinburgh, where he was now and then to be seen sweeping the boards of the Parliament-house as a briefless barrister. He was not, however, idle, and became first known as a poet without the pale of the University by a poem to the memory of James Grahame, author of "The Sabbath." This he has admitted among his works, and it merits the partiality which he evinced for it. Sir Walter Scott, to whom he became known about this time, describes him in 1812, to Joanna Baillie as "an excellent, warm-hearted, and enthusiastic young man," and adds, "something too much, perhaps, of the latter quality, places him among the list of originals."

His reputation was importantly increased, in the spring of 1812, by his poem, called "The Isle of Palma," a poem in four cantos, something in the style of Southey; and again, in the spring of 1816, by a drama, in three acts, called "The City of the Plague," descriptive of the great Plague of London, in 1665. "The Isle of Palma" passed unnoticed by the two great leaders of taste—the critics of the "Quarterly" and "Edinburgh." "The City of the Plague" was equally neglected by Gifford, but Jeffrey welcomed it as the work of a true poet.

While at Elleray, he married Miss Ferrier, sister to the authoress of "Marriage" and "Inheritance," by whom he has left two sons and three daughters. He survived his wife, and lamented her loss with that fervent sorrow which all who knew the man, or knew her, might be sure 'he would feel. One of his daughters is married to Professor Aytoun—himself a true poet.

In the year 1820 he became a candidate for the chair of Moral Philosophy in the University of Edinburgh, vacant by the death of Dr. Thomas Brown. The chair was in the gift of the Town Council, and there was a strong opposition to him, placed on the score of politics—the then humorous political pieces having much exacerbated the Whigs of the North against him. There was, however, no resisting his claims. His printed testimonials are such as any man might be proud to see, even for the general range of literature," says Sir Walter Scott, "there are few topics which you have not considered; and I conceive that it would only require the direction of your powerful and original mind to any one particular study, in order to render yourself perfectly master of it." Wordsworth is still more to the point: "If the choice is to depend upon pre-eminence of natural powers of mind, cultivated by excellent education, and habitually directed to the study of ethics, in the most comprehensive sense of the word; upon such powers, and great energy of character, with correspondent industry, I have no hesitation in saying that the electors, the University, and Scotland in general, must be fortunate in no common degree, if, among the competitors, there be found one more eligible than yourself."

A few years before he obtained the University chair, which he retained to his death, he became acquainted with Mr. Lockhart, a younger man than himself, just fresh from Oxford, and anxious for distinction, both at the bar and in literature. They were soon allies, for they had congenial tastes, and the same High Tory range of politics. Edinburgh was then governed in politics and literature by Jeffrey and the *Edinburgh Review*. *Blackwood's Magazine* had been newly started, to spread other opinions, and find employment for the pens of a few younger satirists. To this magazine Wilson devoted much of his leisure time; Lockhart did the same; and now that Wilson is no more, Mr. Lockhart is the last of that little band that gave life and early reputation to *Blackwood*. They are all gone: Blackwood himself, Galt, Allan Cunningham, Hogg, Delta, Sym, and now Wilson.

Though it is not for a moment to be doubted that John Wilson is a poet, yet his claims to a hereafter will mainly rest on his prose contributions to *Blackwood*. His "Noctes Ambrosianæ" abound in humour, in passages of fine poetry in prose, pieces of subtle criticism, and bursts of eccentric, but heart-moving merriment. We fear, however, that they are, at times, too local, too personal, and too temporary, in their allusions, to be enjoyed by those who are not well up in the private history of Edinburgh, and in matters now little remembered. Not so his other contributions—since collected by himself, and called "The Recreations of Christopher North." Here he is indeed a warbler of poetic prose, original both in thought and style, hurrying his reader on in a breathless haste of delight, and then allowing him to recover himself, by the matter he affords him for his amusement and instruction. What word-painting is to be seen in this small portrait of Scott:—

> The mighty Minstrel recited old ballads with a warlike march of sound that made one's heart leap; while his usually sweet smile was drawn in, and disappeared among the glooms that sternly gathered about his lowering brows, and gave his whole aspect a most heroic character. Rude verses that, from ordinary lips, would have been almost meaningless, from his came inspired with passion. Sir Philip Sidney, who said that "Chevy Chase" roused him like the sound of a trumpet, had he heard Sir Walter Scott recite it, would have gone distracted. Yet the "best judges" said he murdered his own poetry: we say, about as much as Homer.

Mr. Lockhart should transfer this master miniature to his master biography of his illustrious father-in-law.

As a poet he will descend to posterity, chiefly, we suspect, through his small lyrical pieces—such as his "Edith and Nora," and his "Address to a Wild Deer:" in the former there is much pastoral beauty and Doric delicacy; in the latter, an elasticity of language, and swing and vigour of versification that mark it out for a long popularity. In his larger pieces, it will be found, we fear, that almost the only passions with which his poetry is conversant are the gentler sympathies of our nature, tender compassion, confiding affection, and guiltless sorrow. He has little invention—he would not appear, indeed, to have cared much about a story. He can stir emotions by scenes and situations. The same observations will apply to his prose writings—such as his "Trials of Margaret Lindsay;" in which there is a slender thread of incident, but situations that command and merit attention, with pathos and landscape nature, each of a very high kind.

In person he was tall and well made, barely six feet; strong, active; with very handsome features, and a profusion of half-yellow, half-sandy hair. Hogg described him in his famous "Chaldee MS." as a man "with hair like eagle's feathers, and nails like bird's claws;" and Wilson himself enjoyed and admitted the truth of the portraiture. His eyes were fine, and his copiousness of imagery and of language, with his expression, were extremely fascinating. He enchained the listener. There is a good portrait of him by Sir John Watson Gordon, and a poetic bust of him, in marble, by the late Mr. Fillans.

There is current, among authors, a capital story of the Professor and Charles Lamb; and one, moreover, that is entirely spoilt by the late Mr. Justice Talfourd, in a note to the letters of that delightful Essayist. Wilson entertained a hearty admiration for Elia, and when last in London (for his London visits were few and far between) he called on Lamb, and took a quiet stroll with the Essayist about Edmonton and Enfield. Lamb's liking for London porter in the middle of the day deserves to be proverbial. He seldom went out for a stroll but what he indulged in a pint of his mid-day beverage. His long endeavored to quiet this desire in his walk with Wilson, remembering that his companion was a public Professor of Moral Philosophy, and therefore, it was to be supposed, not particularly anxious to be seen walking with one who entered a public-house with the familiar air of an old frequenter. Thirst and custom, however, got the better of prudence, and Lamb at length asked Wilson to walk on, and he would soon overtake him. Now Wilson knew the failing of his friend, consented, and let Lamb get round the corner. As soon as Lamb was in seeming safety, Wilson ran down the lane, saw him enter a public-house, hurry to the tap, and call for "a pint of porter," as fast as his stuttering manner would allow him. "Make it a pot," said Wilson, throwing down a shilling, and eyeing Lamb with a look of unutterable good feeling. Lamb closed the Professor's hand with an intensity of warmth, and the pot was enjoyed as never pot of porter was perhaps enjoyed before. Lamb thought well of the Scotch from that moment.

(A Portrait of Professor Wilson is engraved in the Illustrated London News, No. 119.)

THE NEW COMET.

Mr. Hind has published an ephemeris indicating the approximate position of the Comet in the heavens. The elements are adapted to eight o'clock, Greenwich time, which is about the most favourable hour for observation:—

	Right Ascension. h. m.	North Declination. deg. min.	h. m.
Saturday, April 8	.. 3 14	12 28	
Sunday 9	.. 3 23	11 31	Sets at 9 14 p.m.

THE COMET AS IT APPEARED ON SATURDAY EVENING LAST.

This evening, at eight o'clock, it will appear in the vertical of the Pleiades, 18 degrees below them; and on the 13th its position will be 10 degrees below the bright star Aldebaran, in the Hyades, in nearly the same vertical. The Comet was at its least distance from the sun on the 24th of March. Mr. Hind states that the nucleus on Sunday evening was rather more than 6000 miles in diameter, and the extent of the tail 6,000,000 miles. At his best views Mr. Hind was certain of the existence of a bituminous jet, thrown out from the star-like point some 30,000 miles along the preceding border of the tail—an appearance which has been remarked in several previous comets.

Election for Westmoreland.—The election of a member to represent Westmoreland, in the room of the late Mr. Alderman Thompson, took place at Appleby, yesterday week; when the Earl of Bective, son-in-law of the late member, being the only candidate, was duly elected.

North Durham Election.—The election of a member for the northern division of this county—in the room of Lord Seaham, raised to the peerage by the title of Earl Vane, consequent on the death of his father, the Marquis of Londonderry—took place on Saturday, at the County Court House, Durham, when Lord Adolphus Vane, son of the late Marquis, and brother to Earl Vane, was returned unopposed.

C R O N S T A D T.

FORT ALEXANDER.—150 GUNS.

THE TOWN AND FORTRESS OF CRONSTADT.

Cronstadt, the "Malta of the Baltic," as the Russians style it, is a town, fortress, and port in the Government of St. Petersburg, from which city it is thirty-one miles distant. It is built at the south-east extremity of Kothnoi-Ostrof, an island in that part of the Gulf of Finland called the Bay of Cronstadt about sixteen miles from the mouth of the Neva. This island, a bed of chalk, formerly called Rétouzari, or Rat Island, by the Finlanders, is seven miles in length, and about one mile in breadth. At the entrance of the harbour, on an island opposite the citadel, lies the castle or fortress of Cronschlott, built by Peter the Great. This fortress and the mole bristle with guns, and the harbour itself is approachable only by one channel, which is well defended. A late visitor says that 600 heavy guns can be brought to bear on a vessel lying at the mole. The passage between Cronschlott and Cronstadt is 3000 paces in width, and has ample depth for the largest vessels. Besides its importance as the great naval station of the Russian fleet, Cronstadt is the harbour of St. Petersburg. All vessels proceeding to that port are searched here, and their cargoes sealed; and such as are too large for the shallow waters of the Upper Neva unload their cargoes at Cronstadt, and transport them in smaller craft. The channel is marked by stakes the whole way, and vessels built at Petersburg are placed on a "camel," or kind of raft, by which their draught of water is lessened one-half, and then floated down the Neva, and over its bar, on which there is often only seven feet water. There are two navigable approaches to the Neva: the northern is by nature difficult, on account of the sand-banks, and is said to have been made inaccessible lately by sinking vessels filled with stones in the channel; the southern arm, though nearly seven versts (about 4½ miles) broad, has an exceedingly narrow channel, close to the island of Cronstadt, and this is enfiladed by the guns on the works.

Cronstadt, which is built in the form of an irregular triangle, is strongly fortified on all sides. It has three harbours, lying to the south of the town. The outer, or military harbour, which is entirely surrounded by a massive and strongly-fortified mole, is a rectangle stretching out into the sea, and is capable of containing, besides smaller vessels, about thirty-five ships of the line. It is now, however, so shallow at low water, that many of the ships are obliged to anchor in the middle harbour, which is properly intended for the fitting-out and repairing of vessels. It contains the slips, a powder magazine, a manufactory of pitch, tar, &c. The third, west, or innermost harbour which has space for 600 merchant vessels, and runs parallel with the middle harbour, admits only merchantmen, for which there is besides an

FORT PETER THE GREAT.—85 GUNS.

PANORAMIC VIEW OF CRONSTADT FROM RISBANK.

FORT CRONSTADT.

FORT PRINCE MENCHIKOFF - 75 GUNS.

excellent roadstead, immediately outside of the port, which is defended also by the citadel, constructed on a rock in the middle of the sea of Cronstadt. All these harbours are well secured: but, in consequence of the freshness of the sea water, no vessel can be preserved in them above twenty years. They are besides detained a great part of the year by the ice in the bay of Cronstadt, which usually prevents vessels from entering after the end of November, or leaving before the end of April, or sometimes even later. For nearly six months the bay of Cronstadt is as lifeless as a desert; the whole surface is then frozen to one solid level, broken only by three roads—one to St. Petersburg, one to Oranienbaum, and a third to Sestezbek. In 1849 the summer season commenced on the 15th May, and ended on the 26th November.

Vessels are repaired and built in the large canal of Peter the Great, which runs directly into the town between the middle and merchants' harbour. It is 2160 feet long, 56 wide, and 26 deep; the side abutments, &c., are of solid masonry, and it is filled with water by means of sluices, which is again pumped out by steam-engines. It was commenced in 1721, and finished by Elisabeth, daughter of Peter the Great. Near it are the various docks, in which ten ships can be repaired at once; the foundry, which supplies annually 1200 tons of bombs, balls, &c; the Admiralty rope-walk, tar-works, and excellent wet docks. By the new Catherine canal, commenced in 1782, which communicates with the merchants' port, and is 1850 fathoms long. Government vessels are enabled to take their stores, munition, &c., directly from the storehouses. The town, which, with its garrison, contains about 10,000 inhabitants, is very regularly built, and contains many fine, straight, and well-paved streets, and several public squares. The houses, however, with the exception of those belonging to the Government, are chiefly of one story, and built of wood. The city has three gates, and is divided into two parts—the Commandant and Admiralty quarters, which are subdivided into four districts. Between the Peter's and Catherine canals is the old Italian palace, built by Prince Menschikoff, who took this island from the Swedes in 1709. It is at present occupied by the school for pilots, a very excellent institution, which contains 400 boys, from ten to seventeen years of age, all sons of naval officers. Here they are carefully instructed during the winter months in the scientific branches of their profession; and, during the summer, all the older ones are at sea, either in men of war or merchant vessels, learning to become pilots for the Baltic and Gulf of Finland.

Among the chief buildings are the Admiralty, Exchange, Custom-house, barracks, a Protestant gymnasium, various schools, an invalid asylum for sixty females, the nobility's club, and the house of Peter the Great, where he resided for some time; but, with the exception of a few old oaks, which he is said to have planted with his own hand, there are no remains of the former garden. The permanent population of Cronstadt, exclusive of the garrison, the pupils of the naval school, workmen, and sailors, is not considerable; during the summer it amounts to upwards of 40,000 individuals, of various nations; of these, next to the Russians, the English are most numerous. The inhabitants derive their chief support from the fleet, trade, and shipping. The town presents an appearance of great activity and bustle during the summer, but in winter all is dead and stagnant. The town and port were laid out, and the buildings far advanced, by Peter the Great, who founded Cronstadt in 1710; but it did not receive its present name (the City of the Crown) till 1721. At the northern extremity of the island is Fort Alexander, built of massive blocks of Finland granite, intended to mount 150 guns, but having only 120. In the centre is a court-yard, and in it is a barrack, not bomb-proof, capable of containing 750 men. The guns are chiefly of the largest size, but the fort is said to labour under the same disadvantage as those of Sebastopol—the back part of the casemates being solid, and the loopholes very small, there is no proper passage for the smoke, so that the men serving the guns would be half smothered after a few rounds had been fired.

The next fort on the left from Alexander is Fort Peter, which mounts 88 guns, and one side of which commands the anchorage and passage to St. Petersburg. Fort Menschikoff, built in 1851, mounts 48 guns—all 8in. Paixhans. Fort Alexander, on the right bank of the channel, stands Fort Riesband, which, when completed, was to mount 250 guns.

Late accounts from St. Petersburg affirm that the strand batteries, which command the channel leading up to the harbour, have been doubled, and that, before Cronstadt can be attacked, these batteries, which contain 800 guns of the largest calibre, must be destroyed. They also say that there are three artillery parks in reserve.

By a ukase of the 11th of March, addressed to the Russian Senate, General Dehn, of the Engineers, has been named Military Governor of Cronstadt, *ad interim*, and to supply the place of Vice-Admiral Lütke, the actual Commandant. General Dehn enjoys all the prerogatives of a General commanding an independent corps, and has the garrison of Cronstadt, and all the troops there placed, under his orders.

Letters from Bromberg announce a somewhat novel mode of establishing submarine mines for the special and complete destruction of all British ships approaching Cronstadt. Russian engineers they say have sunk vast blocks of granite into the channel, in which blocky chambers filled with powder have been excavated, and are to be fired by voltaic batteries at the critical moment. A pleasant story!

DATES OF THE CHIEF EVENTS IN THE LAST WAR BETWEEN RUSSIA AND TURKEY.

1828.
May 7, 8. Russians cross the Pruth.
" Besiege Ibrail.
June 8. Cross the Danube at Isaktschi: Operations between it and Trajan's Wall.
" 16. Capitulation of Ibrail.
" 30. Capture of all other places up to Trajan's Wall.
July 16. Operations against Varna and Schumla.
" 27. Arrive before Schumla.
" 16. Invest Varna.
Aug. 3. Russians met with reinforcements.—Siege began.
Oct. 10. Capitulation.
July 21. Invest Silistria.
Oct. 25. Abandon the siege.
Sept. 27. Battle at Kalafat to the disadvantage of the Russians; but the place carried by a night surprise.

1829.
April 15. Diebitsch leaves Jassy for the army.
" Sisoboli taken by sea without resistance.
May 8, 9. The Danube crossed at Hirsova and Silistria.
" Silistria re-invested.
[Varna being in the possession of the Russians, made this more easy to effect.]
June 12 Battle of Kulewtscha between Schumla and Paravadi.
" 26. Capitulation of Silistria.
July 18. Schumla passed, and head-quarters on road to Adrianople.
Aug. 19. Adrianople reached.
Sept. 7. Mediah on the Black Sea occupied by advance along the coast from Bourgos and Sisoboli.
" 8. Enos on the Mediterranean (south of Adrianople) occupied.
Aug. 26. Treaty of Adrianople signed.

THE COURT.

On Monday the Queen received the Addresses from both Houses of Parliament, and afterwards gave audiences to the Earl of Clarendon, the Earl of Aberdeen, Lord John Russell, Sir James Graham, and the Duke of Newcastle. In the evening the Queen had a dinner party; the company including her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, the French Ambassador and the Countess Walewski, the Duchess of Inverness, the Earl and Countess Cowper, Viscount Drumlanrig, Viscountess and Viscountess Malden, Lord Adolphus Fitzclarence, Lady and Miss Peel, Col. Wylde, and Mr. Gibbs.

On Tuesday the Queen and Prince Albert, accompanied by the Princess Royal and the Princess Alice, took a drive in an open landau and four. In the evening her Majesty and the Prince Consort honoured the Princess' Theatre with their presence.

On Thursday the Queen and the Prince took a drive in an open landau and four. In the evening her Majesty and his Royal Highness honoured the Olympic Theatre with their presence.

Yesterday (Friday) her Majesty held a Privy Council at Buckingham Palace.

The Viscountess Canning has succeeded the Countess of Desart as Lady-in-Waiting to the Queen. Lord Charles Fitzroy and Lieut.-Col. Francis Hugh Seymour have relieved Col. the Hon. C. Grey and Capt. the Hon. H. de Ros in their duties as Equerries-in-Waiting to the Queen and the Prince.

The Duke of Argyll (Lord Privy Seal) gave a grand dinner to the Cabinet Ministers on Wednesday evening.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

PRESENTATION OF THE ADDRESS.

The presentation by the House of its Address in reply to her Majesty's Message occasioned their Lordships meeting at two o'clock, three hours before their usual hour.

A few Peers were sitting, hearing appeals, during the earlier part of the morning—Lords Harrowby and Montesgle, Brougham, and St. Leonards. Of these the Earl of Harrowby and Lord Montesgle found time to divest themselves of the costume in which they had been discharging their judicial functions, and they returned in time to assist at the ceremonial. Lord Brougham, despairing of such celerity in the doffing of those well-known garments to which comic art has given a historical value, and Lord St. Leonards, who in the order of Jumority adopted on these occasions, would have enjoyed a painful pre-eminence, prudently kept their seats, and let the more active and more ancient peerage come and go in singularly tasteful uniforms, and with very innocuous swords, on the warlike mission which formed the solemn business of the day.

Shortly after two o'clock, Lords Derby and Malmesbury appeared; and the House began to fill with regimentals, mostly attributable to the recent Act for the Enrolment of the Militia. A few old noblemen, objecting to such subterfuges, stood forth in court dress, and three Bishops lent the variety of lawn. All who proposed to go having arrived, the Usher of the Black Rod called over their names. There were present—the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Duke of Montrose, the Marquises of Chandosdeley and Bath, the Earls Derby, Eglinton, Denbigh, Delawarr, Carnarvon, Malmesbury, Desart, Erne, Lumesborough, Lucan, Powis, Sheffield, Howe, Harrowby, Cawdor, Strathmore, Donoughmore, and Clare; the Bishops of London, Oxford, and Llandaff, the Barons Colville of Culross, Lyveden, Charlemont, Redesdale, Colchester, Montesgle, Campbell, and Dufferin. These gentlemen, with the Lord Chancellor, then set off in their carriages, in procession, to the Palace.

THE QUEEN'S REPLY.

At five o'clock their Lordships re-assembled at the House.

The Lord Chancellor then rose and said: My Lords, I have to acquaint your Lordships that the House has waited this day on her Majesty, with the Address which you voted on Friday last. Her Majesty has been pleased to return to it the following most gracious answer:—

I thank your Lordships for your loyal and dutiful address. It is highly gratifying to me to receive the assurances of your co-operation in giving effect to measures which I consider necessary for the honour of my Crown and the welfare of my people.

CHURCH BUILDING ACTS AMENDMENT BILL.

The Earl of Harrowby, in moving the second reading of the Church Buildings Act Amendment Bill, described the objects of the bill, and showed its application to the city of London. There were in the City churches with no population attending them; whilst, in other parts of the metropolis, there was population without churches—evils which were exceedingly injurious to the cause of religion. The bill would remove churches from places where they were not wanted, and place them where they were wanted. It had been objected that it was proposed to interfere with consecrated buildings. He admitted that this objection was entitled to the highest respect; but he contended that, where the purpose in view was the real interest of religion, all minor considerations must give way.

The Earl of Powis objected to the bill, on the ground that it proceeded to pull down churches without making provision for free seats for the population turned out of them.

The Bishop of London gave his support to the bill. Its object was, under certain safeguards and with certain securities, to provide for the taking down of churches where they were not wanted and rebuilding them where they were wanted. It would effectually meet the case of the city of London, and provide for the wants of districts outside its walls; and he showed that owing to existing circumstances such a measure was necessary.

Lord St. Leonards suggested that the bill should designate the churches which it was intended to pull down.

The bill was read the second time, and referred to a select committee.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

PRESENTATION OF THE ADDRESS.

The Speaker took the chair at half-past two o'clock.

There were about 150 members present, who were distributed equally on both sides of the House. Amongst those present on the Treasury bench were Lord J. Russell, Mr. Sidney Herbert, Mr. Strutt, and Mr. F. Peel—all of whom wore the Ministerial uniform. On the front Opposition benches were Mr. Disraeli, Mr. Walpole, and Sir J. Pakington, also clad in Ministerial uniform—a privilege usually accorded to ex-members of the Cabinet. The House presented an unusually gay appearance in consequence of the number of uniforms—deputy-lieutenants, militia, and yeomanry enlivening the usually sombre aspect of the benches.

The Speaker having called upon Lord J. Russell, the noble Lord proceeded to the bar of the House and announced that he had the commands of her Majesty to state that she would be graciously pleased to receive the Address of the House of Commons at three o'clock.

A great deal of amusement was created by the circumstance of the Speaker proceeding at the head of the House without the mace. The right hon. gentleman's attention was called to the fact by Lord Charles Russell, the Serjeant-at-Arms, who shouldered the unwieldy ornament amid much laughter.

Westminster-hall, and all the approaches to the House, were crowded with persons anxious to get a glimpse of the different members as they passed; among whom the hon. and gallant Member for Lincoln received as large a share of public notice as fell to the lot of any other hon. gentleman or noble lord.

On the motion of Lord J. Russell, the House adjourned until half-past five.

THE BLACK SEA FLEET.

The House having re-assembled at the above hour,

Sir J. Graham, in answer to Captain Scobell, stated that large quantities of coal had been sent out for the Black Sea fleet, and that a despatch had been that day received, stating that the fleets had departed for Varna.

THE BRIBERY BILL.

On the motion for going into committee on the Bribery Bill,

Mr. V. Smith moved that it be referred to a select committee, by which only would justice be done to the various proposed measures on the subject. He observed that, though unusual animosity against bribery had been lately manifested in that House, there was a feeling out of doors that such vehemence savoured a little of hypocrisy. He condemned the severity of the contemplated disqualifying enactment, and said that it rendered candidates to prevent bribery. There was no public opinion to support this penal measure.

Mr. Deedes supported the amendment.

Lord J. Russell was disappointed at the course taken by his hon. friend Mr. V. Smith. The reference to a select committee was equivalent to postponing the bill to another session. All objections to the measure might be taken in the committee of the House, and he proposed to take Sir F. Kelly's bill second in order to his own, and to postpone the controverted clauses in the latter until an agreement had been come to as to a definition of the offences to be legislated against. He also observed that it would be impossible for him to attend a select committee, and he urged that there was no real difficulty in considering the measure he proposed.

Mr. Walpole felt the advantage of going to a select committee, but did not consider it advisable to press the amendment after what had fallen from Lord J. Russell, who had proposed to proceed in the fairest possible manner.

Col. Sibthorp was opposed to the whole measure.

Mr. Napier thought that the sooner the subject was got rid of the better; and, though he was aware of the desirability of a select committee, would not oppose the motion of Government.

Lord Hotham supported the amendment, and observed that the Prime Minister, in disposing of his patronage, would violate the proposed law every day.

The House then divided, and the numbers were—For the original motion, 146; for the amendment, 76: Majority for Government, 70.

The House then went into committee, and the discussion occupied the greater part of the sitting.

The Ministers' Money (Ireland) Bill was read a third time and passed.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

BILLS OF EXCHANGE.

The Bills of Exchange Bill was read a second time, on the motion of Lord Brougham, and ordered to be referred to the Select Committee on the Common Law Procedure Bill.

CHIMNEY-SWEEPERS BILL.

The Chimney-sweepers Bill was ordered to be referred to a select committee, on the motion of Lord Shaftesbury.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

THE DAMAGED HAY.

Mr. Osborne, in reply to Mr. Sadlier, stated that it appeared that no ground existed for charging Messrs. Sturgeon and Sons with deliberate fraud; and that the truss of hay in which the carcass of a lamb was found was not one of the trusses sent in by Messrs. Sturgeon.

DUBLIN UNIVERSITY.

Mr Fagan moved for leave to bring in a bill to make provision for the better government of the University of Dublin; for the establishment of a second college therein, with co-ordinate authority and equivalent income with Trinity College, to be called the Queen's College; and for the extension to students of all religious denominations of the honours, degrees, emoluments, and offices in the said Queen's College. He complained of the narrow sphere within which the rich endowments of Trinity College were distributed; and proposed that there should be two colleges, with separate provosts, under a council of twenty-four members elected by both colleges, the second college having its fair share of the large property now belonging to Trinity College.

The motion, which was supported by Mr. Heywood, Mr. Hume, Mr. Fitzgerald, and Mr. O'Brien; and opposed by Sir J. Young, Mr. C. A. Hamilton, Mr. Whiteside, Mr. Butt, Mr. Napier, and Mr. George, was withdrawn withdrawn without a division.

PROTECTION OF WOMEN.

Mr. Boyer moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend the law regarding actions for criminal conversation and the protection to women in such actions. He proposed by this bill, that no damages should be hereafter awarded, but that in the event of a verdict for the plaintiff, the court should have the power of imposing a fine upon the defendant. In all actions for crim. con. the wife was unheard, and a verdict for her husband was nothing less than destruction to her. In order to remedy this state of things he proposed that no action should be brought against a defendant without notice being given to the woman, and that at the trial she should be allowed to appear by counsel and witnesses.

Mr. Fitzroy said that, in the absence of Lord Palmerston, he would not oppose the introduction of the bill, but guarded himself against being considered favourable to its principle.

Leave was given to bring in the bill.

THE SLAVE TRADE IN CUBA.

An address for returns of vessels seized, on suspicion of being engaged in the slave trade, and of her Majesty's ships employed on the coast of Cuba for the prevention of the slave trade, was moved for by Sir G. Pechell, and agreed to, after a discussion.

LARCENY.—IMPROVEMENT OF CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS.

Mr. Aglionby obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend the law of criminal proceedings, and to enable justices in petty sessions to take pleas of "guilty" in cases of larceny.

THE ARCTIC EXPEDITION.

Sir T. Acland moved for copies of any instructions issued, or hereafter to be issued, to the Commanders of her Majesty's ships now engaged in Arctic regions in the search for Sir John Franklin's Expedition. The motion was granted.

EDUCATION (SCOTLAND) BILL.

The Lord-Advocate stated the reasons which had induced him to postpone the second reading of the Education (Scotland) Bill, until the 5th of May, and mentioned certain modifications he was prepared to make in the measure.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

MIDDLESEX INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS BILL.

The second reading of the Middlesex Industrial Schools Bill led to considerable discussion, an amendment having been moved by Lord D. Stuart, to the effect that the bill be read a second time that day six months. The chief objection was, that the Government was pledged to bring in a general measure on the subject, which was one of too much importance to be discussed upon a local private bill. Eventually the amendment was withdrawn, and the bill read a second time.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS BILL.

Mr. Ewart, in moving the second reading of this bill, referred with satisfaction to the results which had been produced throughout the country by the Library and Museums Act. The object of the bill before the House was to further extend the operations of that act to towns which, like Cheltenham, had no municipal government; to other places which, like the metropolitan boroughs, were governed neither by municipal corporations, nor by improvement acts, and also to parishes uniting for a common purpose among themselves. The existing act did not extend to Scotland or Ireland; but the present bill, at the desire of many persons, he proposed should extend to both countries. Under the existing Libraries Act, Town-councils were not allowed to levy for the maintenance of those libraries a rate exceeding one half-penny in the pound. But by this bill, upon the representation of a great number of places, he proposed to extend that power, and enable them to levy a rate to the amount of one penny in the pound. By the existing act, too, there was no power given to purchase books and works of art; the present bill would provide for that omission, and confer the necessary powers.

Mr. Fitzroy opposed the bill on the part of Government. Several other members also opposed it; and it was ultimately thrown out by a majority of 5.

The Uniform Rate of Assessment Bill was withdrawn after a short discussion.

The County Court Extension Act Amendment Bill was read a second time.

A discussion on the second reading of the Property Disposal Bill, which lasted to a quarter to six, was adjourned to next day, in accordance with the rules of the House.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

THE RUSSIAN FLEET IN THE BLACK SEA.

The Earl of Malmesbury called the attention of Lord Clarendon to the various reports which have appeared in the public papers, to the effect that several Russian ships had recently left Sebastopol in considerable force, some with troops on board, some without troops; that these ships of war had landed about 4000 troops near the mouth of the Danube, and that a similar operation was performed on the Circassian coast. He asked the noble Earl whether he had received any confirmation of these reports, and he also asked whether he had any objection to state why the English and French fleets had continued to lie inactive in Beicos Bay; and how it happened that the Russian ships had been enabled to act in the Euxine, while the English ships thought it dangerous to do so?

The Earl of Clarendon could not agree with the noble Earl, that the English or French fleet had remained at all inactive since they approached the neighbourhood of the Black Sea. During the winter the Admirals of the combined fleets considered it better not to expose their ships to the dangers of the Black Sea and the wear and tear of the weather there, while the Russian ships were lying snug in their ports. Beicos Bay was considered by them the best place for the main body of the fleet to stop, while they, from time to time, sent out cruisers into the Black Sea, to observe the movements of the enemy. In respect to the recent report of the arrival of Russian ships at Varna and Circassia, the Government had every reason to suppose that no such event had taken place. The first notice of such a circumstance having occurred was communicated by the master of a Bremen frigate. On Sir E. Lyons becoming acquainted with this report he immediately proceeded to Constantinople, to which place he was informed the frigate had gone. Having succeeded in seeing the master, he was informed by this person that the statement was untrue, for he had seen nothing whatever of the kind in the Black Sea. On the 22nd ult. Sebastopol was reconnoitered by an English ship of war, and the Russian fleet was observed lying inactive in the harbour. On the 24th the whole of the combined fleet sailed from Beicos Bay into the Black Sea, and he (Lord C.) had that day seen letters from Admiral Dundas and Sir E. Lyons, who respectively reported that no such event as that related had taken place (Hear, hear).

SCOTTISH RIGHTS.

The Earl of Eglinton presented a petition from the National Association of Scotland for the Vindication of Scottish Rights, and moved an address to her Majesty, praying for an additional Secretary of State, for an increase in their representation, and for the restoration of Holyrood Palace.

The Earl of ABERDEEN objected to the motion, on the ground that Scotland had no grievances to complain of, to warrant such a proceeding.

The Duke of MONTROSE supported the motion.

Some discussion then took place, which resulted in the motion being withdrawn.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

Mr. HAYTER moved a new writ for the borough of Southampton, in the room of Sir A. Cockburn, who, since his election, has accepted the office of Recorder of Bristol.

TURKEY AND GREECE.

Mr. M. MILNES asked Lord J. Russell whether the Government were informed that diplomatic relations have ceased between the Ottoman Porte and the Government of Greece, in consequence of the refusal of the Government of Greece to accede to demands which they considered derogatory to an independent state?

Lord J. RUSSELL said that diplomatic relations were broken off between Turkey and Greece; and he thought that Turkey had good reason to feel angry with Greece, for the whole insurrection was a concoction of the Court of Greece, and not voluntary on the part of the subjects of the Porte. Her Majesty had given instructions as to the course to be pursued, and the Court of Greece must be held responsible for the consequences which might ensue.

In reply to a question from Mr. Bright, Lord J. RUSSELL said that there was no convention between France, England, and Turkey as to the internal government of the latter country.

Mr. HUTT asked the Solicitor-General whether the *bonâ fide* sale of a Russian vessel to a British subject, since the declaration of war, but within six weeks of that event, would be regarded by the British Government as a legitimate transaction?

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL said that the license granted to Russian ships, at present in British ports, to clear out before a certain time would naturally extend itself to *bonâ fide* sales of Russian vessels under the circumstances stated.

HENRY STONOR.

Mr. MOORE moved that a Select Committee be appointed to take into consideration the case of the appointment of Henry Stonor having been reported by a Committee of this House to have been guilty of bribery at the election for the borough of Sligo in 1853.

Some discussion took place, and the motion was agreed to after a division, in which there were 115 in favour of it, and 37 against it.

RAILWAY AND CANAL TRAFFIC.

Mr. CARDWELL moved for leave to bring in a bill for the better regulation of traffic upon railways and canals. The chief object of the measure was to secure uniformity in the arrangements of all the railways in the kingdom, so as to make them what public roads were—the Queen's highway. For this purpose the bill gave to railway companies powers which they did not now possess—of entering into combinations and agreements, with a view to enable them to work in harmony to this end.

After a discussion, in which Mr. M'Gregor, Mr. Wilkinson, Mr. Marjoribanks, Mr. Lock, Mr. Malins, Mr. Hudson, Mr. B. Denison, and Mr. Waddington, took part, leave was given to bring in the bill.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

INTERCOURSE WITH FOREIGN POWERS.

Lord CAMPBELL laid upon the table a bill, the title of which was an act to prevent any unauthorised negotiations or intercourse touching public affairs between the subjects of her Majesty and any foreign potentate or state. The object of the bill was to enforce the law of nations, by which it was clearly provided that the intercourse between independent nations respecting public affairs shall only be conducted by the Governments of those nations, or their ambassadors, or other representatives duly authorised and responsible for their conduct. It was his intention to move the second reading of the bill, if their Lordships assented to it, soon after the Easter holidays.

The bill was then read a first time.

NATIONAL PRAYER.

The Earl of SHAFTESBURY asked the noble Earl at the head of the Government whether any day had as yet been fixed for a national prayer in reference to our existing state of affairs.

The Earl of ABERDEEN said that the most rev. prelate the Archbishop of Canterbury, had fixed Wednesday, the 26th of this month, as the day of national prayer and humiliation.

THE ARMY.

Earl GREY moved for copies of any correspondence between the different departments of her Majesty's Government with respect to any additions which have been made to the department of the Secretary of State for War and the Colonies; and also with regard to any change which has been made in the transaction of business relating to the administration of the army. The noble Earl observed that it was physically impossible that the Minister charged with the complicated relations of our various colonial possessions could devote his attention to the administration of the affairs of our army.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE said, there would be no objection to the production of the papers. He admitted that there were faults in many departments of the Government, and he did not think the department of the army was exempt from these defects.

A discussion then took place, in the course of which it was urged by Earl Grey, the Earl of Ellenborough, and other noble Lords, the impropriety of establishing one department in the Government that would have the conduct of the war; with undivided responsibility and almost undivided power.

The motion for the production of the papers was agreed to.

The Testamentary Jurisdiction Bill was read a third time and passed.

—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

THE AUSTRIAN ARMY.

Lord D. STUART asked Lord J. Russell whether the Austrian Government is not concentrating a large army on the frontier of Servia; and whether any explanations have been obtained from that Government as to the object of such proceeding, or generally as to the intentions of Austria in regard to Turkey?

Lord J. RUSSELL said, it was true that the Austrian Government was concentrating a large army on the frontier of Turkey. Certain explanations had been given with respect to the object of that movement and, generally speaking, Austria had explained her intentions with regard to Turkey. Further explanations had, however, been asked of her, and the correspondence on the subject was still going forward.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY BILL.

On the order of the day for the second reading of this bill,

Sir W. HEATHCOTE said that, although willing to admit that the bill was conceived in no unfriendly spirit towards the University, yet he should find himself under the necessity of proposing several amendments in committee. It was for the trustees, and not for the Crown, to deal with the property, for the purpose of carrying out the views of the grantors; and the courts of law had no power of interference, unless in cases where there was supposed to be maimproprietion of the fund.

Mr. BUNG supported the bill, and said, it would be highly creditable to the University that its blessings should be more extensively bestowed, so as to include those whose religious tenets are not in accordance with those of the Established Church.

Sir J. PAKINGTON would not oppose the second reading of the bill, but would reserve his objections for discussion in the committee. He regretted to see in the bill an opposition to every University authority, and also regretted the mode in which it proposed arbitrarily to deal with the disposition of the property of the founders of those colleges.

After a prolonged discussion the Bill was read a second time.

Adjourned.

SUBMARINE NAVIGATION.—The great invention of the day—the submarine navigation of Dr. Payerne—is about to be put in practice at Cherbourg, the company purchasing the invention having volunteered to cleanse that harbour free of expense to the Government. The secret consists in the discovery of a means whereby artificial air may be produced in sufficient quantity to enable a crew of fourteen men to breathe freely beneath the water for the space of four hours. A curious experiment has been already made at Marseilles, where Dr. Payerne, in company with three sailors, went to the bottom in presence of hundreds of spectators, and rose at a considerable distance, and climbed the port-holes of a man-of-war without being perceived by the crew. Many experiments are about to be tried of the efficacy of this novel means of attack. A submarine fleet of small boats, each to contain a crew of twenty men, is already talked of as being about to be organised for the Black Sea.

THE REVENUE.

An Abstract of the Net Produce of the Revenue of Great Britain, in the Year and Quarter ended 5th April, 1854, showing the Increase or Decrease thereof.

	Year ended 5th April, 1854.	Quarter ended 5th April, 1854.	Year ended April 5, 1854. Increase.	Year ended April 5, 1854. Decrease.	Quarter ended April 5, 1854. Increase.	Quarter ended April 5, 1854. Decrease.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Customs	18,671,232	4,323,941	358,143	..	..	106,891
Excise	18,479,872	1,249,350	88,374	..	..	135,231
Stamps	6,464,938	1,551,699	66,912	..	..	6,000
Taxes	3,241,701	139,309	47,490	..	87,839	..
Property-tax ..	5,975,777	2,067,714	382,634	..	416,485	..
Post-office ..	1,104,000	282,000	59,000	..	..	..
Crown Lands ..	396,588	65,000	143,588	..	..	7,000
Miscellaneous..	167,344	10,627	..	103,970	..	8,881
Total Ordinary Revenue	49,724,052	11,045,700	1,145,382	103,970	503,314	264,003
Imprest and other Moneys..	934,339	276,316	219,981	..	15,220	..
Repayments of Advances ..	1,328,631	111,072	224,063	..	..	60,737
Total ..	51,987,822	11,433,088	1,589,426	103,970	558,534	344,790
Deduct Decrease ..	..	..	103,970	Deduct Decrease	344,790	Deduct Decrease
Increase on the Year ..	..	..	1,485,056	Increase on the Year.	213,744	Increase on Quarter.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

ADDRESS OF SIR CHARLES NAPIER TO THE FLEET.

COPENHAGEN, Thursday, Noon.

The fleet has returned to its anchorage in Kioge Bay. The Admiral has issued the following order of the day:—

SIR CHARLES NAPIER'S ADDRESS, MADE BY SIGNAL, TO THE FLEET IN KIOGE BAY.

"Lads,—War is declared. We are to meet a bold and numerous enemy. Should they offer us battle, you know how to dispose of them. Should they remain in port, we must try to get at them. Success depends upon the quickness and precision of your fire. Lads—sharpen your cutlasses, and the work is your own."

The navigation from Revel to St. Petersburg is reported to be quite free, and the ice broken up.

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

Despatches were received on Thursday at the Turkish Embassy in Paris, from Vienna, confirming the news of the defeat of the Russian General Liechkoff, and the retreat of his corps in Bessarabia. It is also stated that the forts said to have been captured are still in the hands of the Turks; that the Turks have crossed the Danube at a point between Nicopolis and Rustchuk; that 20,000 Turks are on their way to Trajan's Wall or Rassova, and 25,000 for the same direction from Schumla. The General-in-Chief of the Russian army, after the passage of his troops into the Dobrudja, is said to have considered his position so critical that he immediately demanded reinforcements from Bessarabia, Odessa, and even Sebastopol.

THE FLEETS IN THE BLACK SEA.

According to a letter from Constantinople, brought by the *Cavadoc*, the English and French squadrons entered the Black Sea on the morning of the 26th ult., steering in the direction of Varna. The *Charlemagne* was the only ship remaining at Beicos. It was reported that the measure was combined with a movement of Omer Pasha.

LETTER FROM THE EMPEROR OF AUSTQIA.

An autograph letter to Louis Napoleon, from the Emperor of Austria, has excited some speculation. One account of the missive is, that Austria now promises to join France and England, if Russia should pass the Balkans. Another account describes the letter as vague, merely reiterating approbation of the course pursued by France and England throughout the negotiations, but saying nothing about what it will do.

AMERICA.

The *Ottawa* steamer, from Portland, arrived at Liverpool yesterday (Friday) with news from New York to the 24th ult. The Money-market was easy, the flour-market firm, and the general news unimportant.

SPAIN.

BARCELONA, April 1.—An insurrection of the workmen took place here on the 30th ult., but on the following day authority was re-established. The troops behaved well. Punishment has been inflicted on the agitators.

PARMA.

PARMA, April 3.—A man named Bocchi, a turner, has been arrested on suspicion of being the assassin of the late Duke; but it is not yet certain that he was the murderer.

PARIS, April 6th.—There has been a considerable rise to-day. Three per Cents, 65.25; Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 89.70; Bank Shares, 2,590.

FAREWELL DINNER TO THE EASTERN STAFF.—The Commander-in-Chief, Viscount Hardinge gave a grand farewell banquet, on Thursday evening, to his gallant companions in arms, the commanders of the expeditionary force now assembling in Turkey, at his Lordship's mansion, Stanhope-street, May-fair. The guests upon this occasion comprised all the leaders of the expedition who yet remain in England, with the principal officers of their respective staffs.

The Duke of Cambridge and Lord Raglan start, on Tuesday, for Paris, *en route* for Constantinople. The *Caradoc* is waiting at Marseilles for them.

It was currently rumoured in military circles yesterday that the cavalry under orders for active service will not pass through France, but will be conveyed to the East in transports.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—*Prebendal Stall:* The Rev. W. Hey to York Cathedral. *Minor Canonries:* Rev. W. W. Johnstone to Manchester Cathedral; Rev.—Lowe to Durham Cathedral. *Rural Deans:* Rev. J. Deedes to Sutton; Rev T. Sikes to Dunstable. *Rectories:* Rev. C. Bailey to Elsdon, near Newcastle-upon-Tyne; Rev. P. Brett to Mount Bures, near Colchester; Rev. H. Dowson to Little Horsted, near Uckfield; Rev. W. Elliott to All Saints Church, Worcester; Rev. H. J. Hawke to Wilbraham by Stow, Lincolnshire; Rev. P. W. Preedy to Kittesford, Somerset; Rev. G. V. Reed to Hayes, Kent; Rev. J. C. Rowlatt to St. Paul's, Exeter; Rev. F. Stonehouse to Honiton, near Warwick. *Vicarages:* The Rev. J. Graves to Kilmacar, Kilkenny; Rev. W. J. Scott to Attborpe, near Towcester. *Incumbencies:* The Rev. J. Cronshaw to St. Thomas's, Wigan; Rev. G. Freeman to Emmanuel Church, Bolton-le-Moors; Rev. Rowland Hill to Wormsley; Rev. W. Verdon to St. John's Church, Pendlebury.

THE COLOGNE CHORAL SOCIETY (eighty men voices) will commence their concerts at the Hanover-square Rooms, on the 5th of May. The appearance in London of this unrivalled Choral Union will be limited, as last year, to a short period of fifteen days, during which they will give eight concerts.

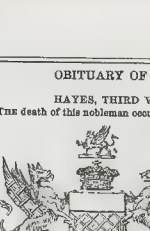
THE ADMIRALTY HOAXED.—Last week a large Dutch steamer, bound for Rotterdam, passed through the Caledonian Canal. The rumour readily ran through the town that she was a Russian steamer acting as a spy; and some enthusiastic patriot wrote up to the Admiralty, stating in positive terms that a Russian steamer was actually in our harbour. The simple liege of Inverness knew nothing of this until Tuesday morning, when a splendid Government steamer (the *Princess*, six guns) anchored in Kessock Roads, and immediately instituted inquiries into the truth of the report. It appears that, so soon as the intelligence was received at the Admiralty, orders were sent to the *Princess* to proceed at once to Inverness.

THE GOSSIP OF CONSTANTINOPLE.—We generally have a battle at Kalafat or a sortie from Sebastopol every Wednesday, which is sufficiently explained by the fact that Wednesday is the principal day at the Bourse. The battle at Kalafat is usually supposed to be brought across the country by a Tatar, who, covered with dust and shaking from fatigue, rides up to the Porte: while the operations in the Black Sea have been communicated by the master of a merchantman, who strangely enough has just again weighed anchor from the Bosphorus. The captain of the vessel here has seen so many Russian fleets as to have incurred the reprimands of his superiors, since which time his range of vision has been limited.—*Letter from Constantinople.*

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

HAYES, THIRD VISCOUNT DONERAILE.

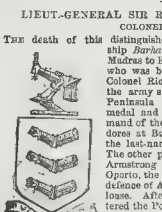
THE death of this nobleman occurred at Doneraile House, county Cork, on Monday, the 27th ult. His Lordship had completed his sixty-seventh year, having been born 9th May, 1786. He was only son of Hayes St. Leger, second Viscount Doneraile, by Charlotte, his wife, sister of Francis, first Earl of Bandon, and grandson of St. Leger Aldworth, Esq., who succeeded to the estates of his maternal ancestors, the Viscounts Doneraile, assumed the surname of St. Leger, and was



raised to the peerage of Ireland in 1776. Few families in the empire are more ancient or distinguished than that of St. Leger. The patriarch in England was Sir Robert Sent Legere, one of the companions in arms of the Conqueror; and, according to tradition, the person who supported that Prince with his arm when he quitted the ship to land in Sussex. The late Lord Doneraile married, 14th June, 1816, Charlotte Elizabeth, second daughter of Francis, first Earl of Bandon; and by her (who died 7th February, 1846), leaves an only son, Hayes, present and fourth Viscount, born 1st October, 1818, who married, 30th August, 1851, Mary Anne Grace Louisa, only daughter of G. Lenox Conyngham, Esq., and has issue. The deceased Peer was Colonel of the South Cork Light Infantry, and one of the Irish representative Peers.

LIEUT.-GENERAL SIR RICHARD ARMSTRONG, K.C.B., COLONEL 32ND FOOT.

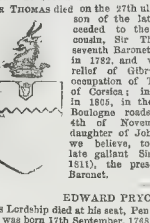
The death of this distinguished officer took place on board the ship *Barham*, on the homeward journey from Madras to England, on the 3rd ult. Sir Richard, who was born in 1783 (he was the only son of Lieut.-Colonel Richard Armstrong, of Lincoln), entered the army as an Ensign in 1796, served in the Peninsula from 1808 to 1814, and received a medal and two clasps for his gallantry in command of the 18th Portuguese and the 10th Cacadores at Busaco, Vittoria, and the Pyrenees. In the last-named conflict he was severely wounded. The other principal actions in which Sir Richard Armstrong participated were the capture of Oporto, the affairs of Pombal and Redinha, the defence of Alba de Tormes, and the battle of Toulouse. After this gallant course, Sir Richard entered the Portuguese army; and from the Portuguese Government he received a medal for having served six campaigns with their troops, as well as the insignia of a Knight Commander



of the Tower and Sword, and of St. Bento d'Avis. In later years the gallant officer acted in India, as Brigadier during the first Burmese war; and as Major-General on the staff in Canada. By his own sovereign he was knighted in 1831, and made a Knight Commander of the Bath in 1832. In 1851 he became Lieutenant-General, and in the same year was appointed Commander-in-Chief at Madras: this command he resigned in consequence of impaired health but not by the effects of climate. Sir Richard married, in 1808, Elizabeth, daughter of John Champion, Esq., of Bristol, and was left a widower in 1833.

SIR THOMAS SWINNERTON DYER, BART., CAPTAIN R.N.

SIR THOMAS died on the 27th ult., at Dartmouth. He was the eldest son of the late Thomas Dyer, Esq., and succeeded to the baronetcy at the decease of his cousin, Sir Thomas Richard Swinnerton Dyer, seventh Baronet, in 1838. He entered the Navy in 1782, and was present, in that year, at the relief of Gibraltar. In 1793, he served at the occupation of Toulon; in 1794, at the reduction of Corsica; in 1795, in Hochara's action; and, in 1805, in the attack on the enemy's flotilla in Boulogne roads. Sir Thomas was born on the 4th of November, 1771, and married Mary, daughter of John Davis, Esq. The sole descendant, we believe, to the son of his brother (the late gallant Sir John Dyer, K.C.B., killed in 1810), the present Sir Thomas Dyer, the ninth Baronet.



EDWARD PRYCE, LORD MOSTYN.

HIS Lordship died at his seat, Pengwern, Flintshire, on the 3rd instant. He was born 17th September, 1768, the eldest son of Bell Lloyd, Esq., of Pontrifflith, by Anne, his wife, daughter and heir of Edward Pryce, Esq., of Bodfach: he succeeded to the estates and baronetcy at the decease of his grand-uncle, Sir Edward Lloyd, Bart., in 1795, and was created a Peer of the United Kingdom, as Baron Mostyn, in 1831. He married, 11th February, 1794, Elizabeth, sister and co-heir of Sir Thomas Mostyn, Bart., of Mostyn, and had by her (who died in 1842), two sons, and two daughters. Of the former, the elder, the Hon. Edward Mostyn Lloyd Mostyn, M.P. for Flintshire, succeeds as second Lord Mostyn.

The Lloyds of Pontrifflith were, in common with the Griffiths of Barton Agnes, the Williamses of Penrhyn, the Morgans of Golden Grove, the Lloyds of Plymog, and other Welsh families, descended from Marchudd ap Cynan, Lord of Abergelen, Carnarvonshire, founder of the eighth noble tribe of North Wales and Powys.

The late Lord Mostyn, previously to his elevation to the peerage, sat in the House of Commons as member for the Flint boroughs.

THE LATE DUKE OF PARMA.

(From a Correspondent.)

Charles, third Duke of Parma, just deceased, was the son of Charles, second Duke of Parma, by Maria Theresa, second daughter of Victor Emanuel, I., late King of Sardinia. The Duke was cousin to Francis, fifth Duke of Modena, and Francis, heir-apparent to the throne of Naples: the Duke of Modena's mother being the eldest daughter of Victor Emanuel, and Francis of Naples' mother being Christina, the fourth daughter of Victor Emanuel: the third daughter is the Empress Dowager of Austria. The deceased Duke was therefore closely related to the Courts of Austria, Modena, and Naples, besides being related to the Bourbons of France by his marriage (in 1845) to Maria Louisa, only sister of Henri V. (Comte de Chambord). He was also lineally descended from William the Conqueror, through his mother, Maria Theresa, second lineal representative of the Royal Family of Stuart; thus Charles I.'s youngest daughter, Henrietta, married to Philip, first Duke of Orleans, had issue Ann Maria, married to Victor Amadeus II., King of Sardinia. She left issue Charles Emanuel III.; who left issue Victor Amadeus III.; who left issue Victor Emanuel I.; who, dying in 1824, left four daughters as above mentioned: the second of whom, Maria Theresa, was mother of the late Duke (she is still living). The Duke was, therefore, second lineal representative of the Royal houses of Plantagenet, York, and Stuart. Perhaps it is not generally known that the Comtesse de Chambord (on the death of her brother Francis, Duke Modena, who has no issue) is the lineal representative of Charles I. Consequently, had not the Starts of England and the Bourbons of France been superseded, we should have had the two countries united under one Sovereign—a curious circumstance, and interesting to the historian. W. T. J.

[It is an additional curious fact, in relation to the late unfortunate Duke of Parma, that his consort, the daughter of the Duke of Berry, lost both her father and her husband by the hand of an assassin.—ED.

The will of Sir Thomas Noon Talfourd, late one of the Judges of her Majesty's Court of Common Pleas, at Westminster, was made in 1849, when he was Serjeant-at-Law, bequeathing the whole of his property, real and personal, to his wife, appointing her sole executrix. Her Ladyship has administered thereto, the personalty being sworn under £16,000.

The late Captain Aaron Tozer, R.N., who recently died at Plymouth, has bequeathed to his only son, the Rev. Henry Fanshawe Tozer, Fellow of Exeter College, Oxford, the flag, flag-staff, and sash which was worn by the officer who bore the flag in the army of King William III. when he landed at Torbay, in 1688; also, the flag which the French frigate, *Didon*, struck, when she surrendered to his Majesty's frigate, *Phœnix*, in 1805.

The will of Sir Ralph Lopes, Bart., of Maristow, Devon, has been proved under £180,000 personalty. He has left several bequests to charitable institutions in the parish and county.

THE WELLINGTON MEMORIAL AT BRIGHTON.

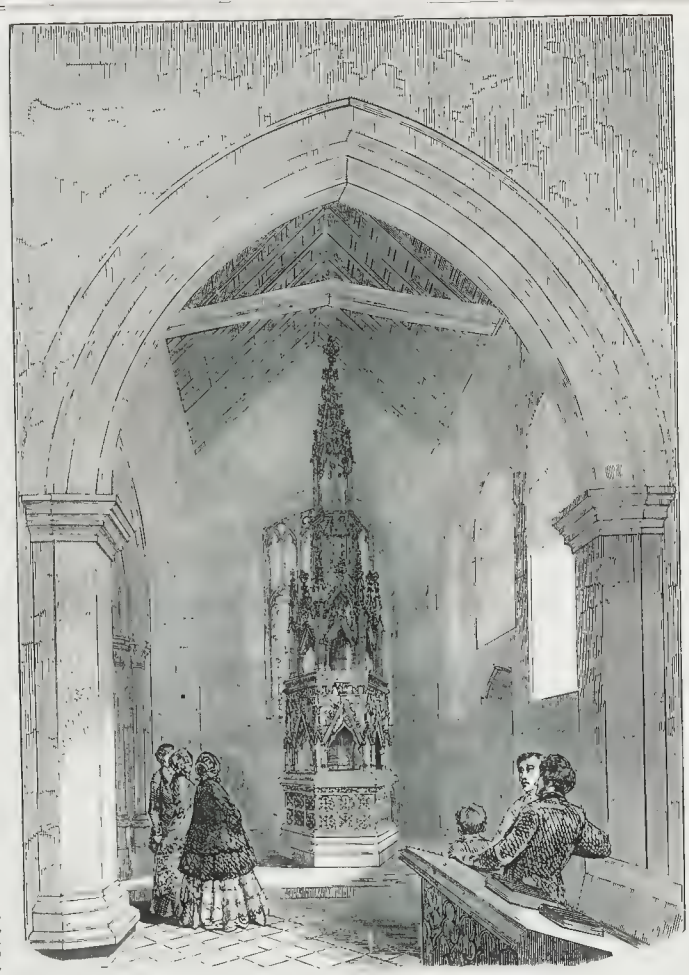
THE restoration and enlargement of the ancient Parish Church of St. Nicholas, at Brighton, commenced a year since, have just been completed by Mr. R. C. Carpenter. As a record of the circumstances, which especially led to this renovation, a cenotaph of tabernacle work to the memory of Field Marshal the Duke of Wellington has been erected in the eastern part of the chantry. The design is elaborate, hexagonal in form, and rising with a spire-like outline, from the pavement to the extreme height of the roof. On an engraved plate of brass surrounding the lower division, is inscribed the following legend: "In memoriam Maximi Ducis Wellington, hoc domus sacrosancta, quâ ipse adolescens Deum colebat, rescidificatur." The windows are all filled with stained glass, chiefly of that simple kind known as "grisaille," a kind of glass much in use at the date of this building, viz., the time of Edward III. The east window, however, is enriched with medallions, in allusion to the occupation of the original inhabitants of Brighton, and their descendants, and contains the following subjects:—In the centre of the three lights a representation of the miracle of our Lord walking on the sea, and on either side, the calling of S. S. Andrew and Peter, and the miraculous draught of fishes.

The contributors to the Wellington Memorial, residing not only in Brighton, but also in the county of Sussex, and in London, it was proposed, as a matter of justice, to open the contract to four eminent builders at Brighton, two eminent builders in the county of Sussex, and two eminent builders in London.

The lowest tender was that of Mr. Bushby, of Littlehampton, who has given general satisfaction to the Committee.

These tenders did not include a provision for the Wellington Memorial, painted windows, extra work to the tower, and improvements, and fencing of the churchyard, &c.

It is a gratification to record the universal feeling, that Mr. R. C. Carpenter, has displayed the utmost architectural accuracy in the restoration of the church, a work always more difficult and responsible than that of an original structure.



"THE WELLINGTON MEMORIAL," JUST ERECTED IN ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH, BRIGHTON.

TYNEMOUTH ELECTION.

THE contest for the representation of the borough of Tynemouth, which ended in the return of Mr. Lindsay, as we were enabled to state in a portion of last week's impression, was carried on with great animation. The nomination, which took place on Wednesday, was not quite so enthusiastic an affair as has been witnessed in the borough on former occasions of a similar nature; but the polling made up for this. The hustings were erected in front of the Town-hall, at North Shields; and Mr. Dickson and his friends occupied that portion of them to the right of the Mayor; while Mr. Lindsay and his friends and supporters took up their position on the opposite side. Mr. Dickson, the Conservative candidate, was proposed by Mr. T. Barker, and seconded by Mr. John Dryden. Mr. Lindsay was proposed by Mr. Joseph Straker, and seconded by Mr. John Rennison. Both candidates having addressed the electors at some length, a show of hands was taken, when a large majority were held up in favour of Mr Lindsay. Mr. Barker demanded a poll on behalf of Mr. Dickson, which the Mayor fixed to take place next morning, at eight o'clock.

The poll opened with great vigour at eight o'clock on Thursday morning, and throughout the day considerable excitement, yet combined with good order and temper, prevailed. Mr. Lindsay went off with the lead, with Mr. Dickson nearing him every hour, and at two o'clock reducing his majority to twelve; but between two and three o'clock Mr. Lindsay gained three upon his opponent, and finally came in a winner of one of the hardest-fought contests ever witnessed in that borough by a majority of seventeen. The annexed figures give a view of the progress of this well-contested battle:—

	Nine	Eleven	One	Two	Three	Four-
Lindsay	143	254	323	358	360	357
Dickson	115	274	311	335	335	340
Majority	28	20	12	23	25	17

The declaration of the result of the poll was made by the Mayor from the hustings shortly after five o'clock to an immense concourse, and Mr. Lindsay, on being declared duly elected, returned thanks for the honour that his return had conferred upon him. Amidst other observations, he adverted to the circumstance of the distinction being enhanced by the fact that on the Tyne, about twenty years before, he was but a sailor-boy; he might almost say he had commenced his career on that river, as he had first obtained the command of a vessel here; and now, after the lapse of twenty years, he had been elevated by them to the responsible and honourable position of being their representative in the Legislature. Renewing his assurances of faithfulness to their interests, he retired amidst loud applause.

Mr. Dickson, who was accompanied by a number of his friends, presented himself amidst much cheering, and also briefly addressed the electors. He said that, though he had certainly been disappointed by the result, he might well be proud of the position which he occupied on the poll, and congratulated himself and his friends on having received an amount of support which all but gave him the election

A vote of thanks to the Mayor—on the motion of Mr. Lindsay, seconded by Mr. Dickson—terminated the proceedings at the hustings; and the election closed with the "chairing" of the new member round the streets of Tynemouth and Shields.

THE BOROUGH OF TYNEMOUTH ELECTION.

DESTRUCTION OF HUNGERFORD-HALL BY FIRE.

This fine building—one of the speculative structures of the Exhibition year—was totally destroyed by a fire, which broke out on Friday (last week), about half-past seven o'clock. It appears the misfortune was occasioned by two boys who were engaged on the premises. The money-taker of the establishment had arrived at the building at his usual time (a quarter past seven o'clock), soon after which it was the custom to light the gas preparatory to admitting the public at eight o'clock. The two boys were noticed by the money-taker lighting the different gas jets by means of ignited pieces of paper; but, seeing that they threw the remaining portion of paper on the floor, he cautioned them that if they did not desist, in all probability they would set the theatre in flames. At that moment he heard some one ascending the stairs, and thinking it was a person who was going to pay to see the evening performance, he hurried to the money-taker's place, and was then, to his astonishment, informed that the panorama was on fire.

The property destroyed or seriously damaged by the calamitous event has been found to be far greater than it was at first anticipated, scarcely a single shop on either side of the grand hall escaped from receiving damage to a more or less extent; and the whole of the roof of the market in the immediate vicinity of the fire is very seriously damaged—the glass windows being demolished, and much of the roof burned away or broken.

The part of the property in which the misfortune commenced was at least 140 feet long, and two floors high, whilst under the same was a floor about 10 or 12 feet shorter, flush with the pavement of the square from whence the omnibuses start. This place was empty, but had been taken by Messrs Thorne and Sons, the brewers, of Westminster, for an ale store; and, had the conflagration taken place two or three days later, Messrs. Thorne would have lost about 4000 or 5000 barrels of ale, which were ready to be removed to the stores. The firm had, in fact, just finished painting and repairing the place for the reception of the ale.

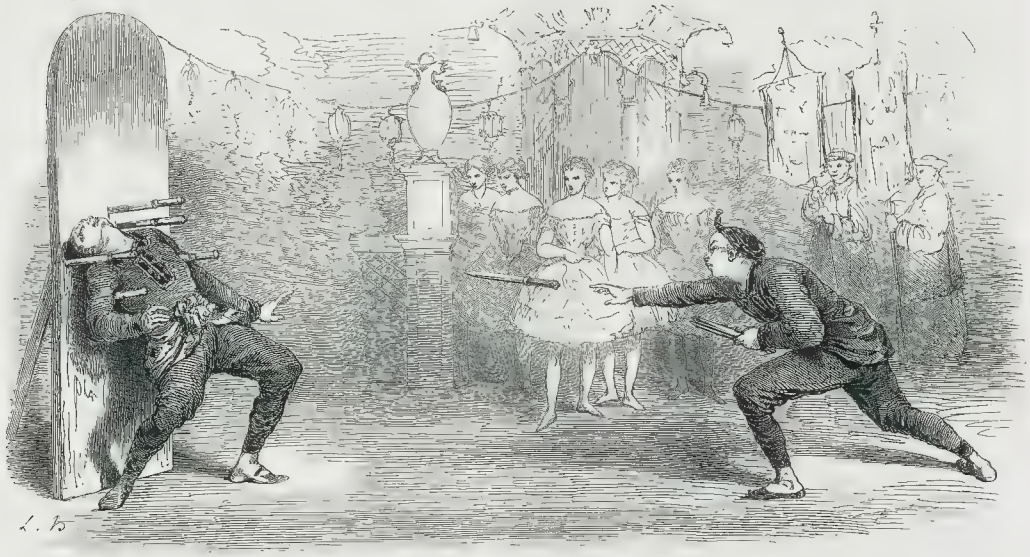
FIRE AT HUNGERFORD HALL, STRAND.

The Panorama was the property of a private gentleman, named Nelson, who had spent between £2000 and £3000 in having the picture of the Great Duke's funeral properly and effectively painted. Not a vestige of the painting or even of the canvas now remains.

The only part of the property belonging to the great or grand hall that has been saved was the shrubbery leading to the galleries. It is exceedingly fortunate that the conflagration did not take place an hour later, when the audience would have been seated; if it had it is impossible to tell how many lives might have been sacrificed when the general rush upon a sudden alarm of fire took place, more especially as the means of egress were uncommonly narrow and dark.

The official report of Mr. Superintendent Braidwood states, *inter alia*—

That he was called to a fire in the great hall of Hungerford-market at half past seven p.m., on Friday last. The hall was used as an exhibition of a Panorama of the Duke of Wellington's Funeral, and was rented by Mr. J. Nelson. The building belonged to the Hungerford-market Company, and was insured in the Sun and the Westminster Fire-offices. Mr. Nelson was uninsured. Cause of fire—lighting the gas. The fire was extinguished by firemen, and one engine of A, five of B, three of C, one of D, and that of the West of England Insurance-office. The steam-float also attended; 140 hired auxiliaries assisted the firemen in working the engines.



THE CHINESE "IMPALEMENT" FEAT, AT DRURY-LANE THEATRE.

The centre grand hall is burned out, and roof of shops round the same damaged. Contents not insured; buildings in the Sun and Westminster Fire-offices.

No. 26, Hungerford-market. Mr. A. B. Watson, grocer.—Stock in trade and furniture damaged by water and removal; insured in the Union Fire-office.

Hungerford-market. The skylight broken, and roof much damaged by fire and breakage; insured in the Sun and Westminster Offices.

No. 21, Hungerford-market, Messrs. Gatti, confectioners.—Great damage to stock in trade, by water, &c.; insured in the Union Fire-office.

No. 20, ditto, Mr. E. Harrison, print-seller.—Similar damage; insured in the Union Fire office.

No. 67, ditto, Mr. Martin, fruiterer.—Stock in trade, &c., damaged by water and removal; insured in the Sun Fire-office.

On Sunday many thousand persons who landed at Hungerford-pier, flocked to the ruins; but Scott, the head engineer, left in charge of the place, knowing the dangerous condition of the iron columns still standing above, very properly refused to allow any one to enter the gates of the building.

METEOR SEEN AT WESTMINSTER.

(*To the Editor of the* Illustrated London News.)

April 1, 1854.

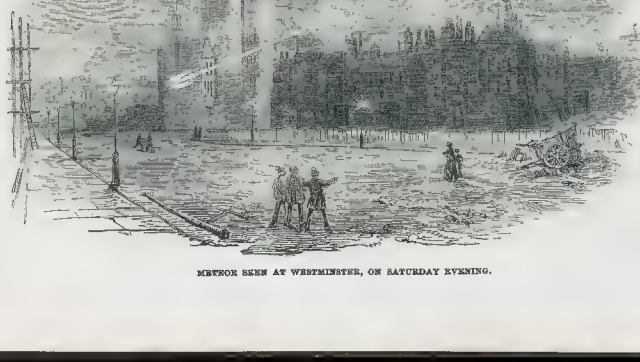
This evening, while returning home, about ten o'clock, along Victoria-street, Westminster, with my back to Westminster Abbey, I was startled by a sudden and vivid light; when, on hastily turning, I saw a meteoric appearance horizontally crossing the street, slightly above the ground—perhaps at a distance of thirty feet. A rapid but faint explosion followed, with a coruscation like a blue mist; and then, after shooting a few yards, the phenomenon disappeared in three jets—pale green, red, and orange.

The sight was seen by several spectators round me. The evening was still and starlight, and the whole transit of the meteor occupied but a few seconds. I send you a Sketch of the phenomenon.

I remain, &c.,

Mackenzie Walcott.

Coleshill-street, Belgravia.



METEOR SEEN AT WESTMINSTER, ON SATURDAY EVENING.

DRURY LANE THEATRE.

In our Journal of last week we noticed the performances of the group of Chinese jugglers at this theatre. Their approach to Europe was heralded by certain paragraphic despatches in Transatlantic journals, which, in their peculiar style, prepared us for the reception of the strange and new. Mr. Smith announced their appearance on the boards of Old Drury as that of "the greatest magicians, necromancers, and acrobats now living." Our Chelsea philosopher, Mr. Thomas Carlyle, would probably object to this, and inform the enterprising lessee that the "greatest and least of things never yet entered into any man's experience; or, at least, that no man was logically able to assert that they had done so." But, disregarding all such transcendental and other dogmas, the present authorities of the theatres, corroborated by abundant examples in the past, erase from the managerial lexicon the word "impossibility" in all its senses with more than Napoleonic determination. The "greatest" in their way are, therefore, recognisable for a British public on the national stage in these natives of the Celestial Empire. Last week we

described some of their feats. We now Engrave the most startling performance, which is termed "the impalement." One of the jugglers stands against a board, while another darts at him sharp knives, which penetrate the wood close to his ears, his throat, his head, his hands, and between his fingers. The throws were made with ease and readiness, and with an appearance of certainty, as to the aim, that excited the utmost astonishment. To this feat our Illustration relates, which will give a better notion than it is possible to convey by any description of the extraordinary achievement.

THE THEATRES.

HAYMARKET.

The theatrical topic of the week is Miss Cushman's performance of "Queen Katherine." The general qualities of Miss Cushman's style make her without a rival in parts of great force; such as "Meg Merrilies" and "Bianca," requiring strong physical demonstration and distinct realising traits perfectly in harmony with their original conception. In all Shakspeare's characters, however, there are ideal refinements which unite with their poetic elements, and require from the histrionic artist rather subtlety than strength. "There's a divinity doth hedge a" poet, of which his productions partake; and none but the privileged dare enter the sacred limits. Miss Cushman's performance of "Queen Katherine" is remarkable for the skill and ability with which the refractory character of the book of our ordinary sympathies; but by so much as she succeeds in this, she, of course, removes it from its poetical elevations; and, granting that she makes it more popular, she renders it less classical. The public is by this means frequently furnished; but the beauty, which is the poetic translates pain into pleasure, is exchanged for the mere physical truth, in some cases repulsive. This might be well-enough exampled by the dying scene of the discarded Queen, which, by Shakspeare, has been invested with spiritual dignity as pregratively interpreted, that, while we sympathise with the sufferings of her majestic soul, we scarcely think of the sickness of her body. Of this Miss Cushman, in her performance, makes much account, and is careful to elaborate such minute traits of weakness and decay as may bring before us the expiring woman. This style alluded to tells with better effect at the opening of the action, where the anxious wife, zealous for her husband's honour, puts him on his guard against *Wolsey*, and interests herself in *Anne Boleyn's* fortunes. The dramatic action should undoubtedly start with the real; but, if it remain there, it is evident that a climax is unattainable. Not so was Shakspeare accustomed to work: boundless was the play of fancy and imagination by which he lavishly enriched every argument that he selected for their exercise. Accordingly, one of the greatest scenes for pictorial effect in our drama is the trial of *Queen Katherine*, and Miss Cushman did perfectly right in adopting Mrs. Siddons' manner of addressing the innocuous *Cardinal* on that occasion. The full meaning of the text was, indeed, in all instances, brought out; and Miss Cushman's distinct elocution may be recommended as an example to all rising performers. Within her own magic circle her power is indisputable; and her *Queen Katherine*, though not ranking among poetic delineations will hold a high place, as her crowning effort, in the gallery of dramatic illustration. We find that she has repeated the character this week; and, her engagement terminating on Friday with her benefit, it must be regretted that the third *rôle* of her season's appearance, "The Actor's" parts which she has acted during its continuance includes *Bianca*, *Mrs. Haller*, *Meg Merrilies*, *Duchess Eleanour*, *Juliana*, and the subject of our present article. In all has Miss Cushman justified her claim to the attributes of a great actress, and played with undiminished energy.

MARYLEBONE.

The tragedy of "Othello" was performed on Monday, and gave us another opportunity of estimating the merits of Miss Cleveland, who performed the part of *Desdemona*. In many respects this young lady was well suited to the character; her voice and figure were admirably in harmony with its gentleness and beauty. What she has principally to learn, is a slower elocution, by which the full development of expression is ensured in the delivery of the text. However, *Desdemona* has for some time ceased to be considered the principal female part; *Emilia* now commands the attention of the most accomplished actress. Mrs. Wallack's performance of *Emilia* is full of intelligence, energy, and beauty. By expressive by-play she supplies those points of action which the poet has left to be imagined; and while *Othello* is contending in the foreground with *Desdemona*, touching the fatal handkerchief, *Emilia* struggles, in dumb show, with and, for that the bank, for permission to reveal the secret of her having found it, but in vain. The power of her last scenes is very great. Mr. Wallack's *Othello*, for tenderness, picturesqueness, and poetic feeling, has obtained general recognition, and he still continues to perform it with great success. His power of elaborating it is indeed extraordinary, and we never find him guilty of the least negligence.

MUSIC.

THE ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA opened on Saturday evening last. Mr. Gye again has the season before him without a competitor. The old house in the Haymarket remains closed; that once famed temple of the muses, for so many generations the centre of all the life and animation of the London fashionable season, stands deserted, desolate, and dreary. Its glory is departed, and all present appearance augurs not its return. One thing, indeed, may be held as certain, we shall never again have two great rival houses like Her Majesty's Theatre and the Royal Italian Opera. No city in the world not even London, the greatest city in the world—is able to support two such enormous establishments. When the struggle between them began, it was evidently for life and death; the total extinction of the one or the other was merely a question of time. The old house had in its favour (and, indeed, retained it in some measure to the last) the prestige of fashion; but this was more than counterbalanced by the greater resources of the new theatre and the superior energy of its management. So it conquered and destroyed its adversary. But at what a price was victory purchased! Whole fortunes were sacrificed and lost in the struggle. Lamb the place of those who fell; and they who now reap the fruits of victory are not those by whom the strife was maintained when it was most deadly. Now that the battle is over, the public is certainly the gainer. The Italian musical stage has been made to assume a new aspect by the introduction of many masterpieces, not originally belonging to it; while not only those, but the most sterling works of the real Italian school, have been presented with an excellence of dramatic and vocal power, a completeness, and splendour, unparalleled in any theatre in the world. Mr. Gye has now no one to contend with him in the race; but we trust he will not not be tempted to "walk over the course;" an error which in his case would be fatal. The Royal Italian Opera, as at present maintained in its present high and palmy state by the means whereby this height has been reached; active and vigorous management, guided by judgment and taste, and liberal expenditure equally free from profusion and parsimony. We are far from having any reason to doubt that this will be the case. Last season there was no falling off, nor is there any indication of it in the season now begun. The opening night presented to us the unrivalled orchestra, in all its strength, under its able chief Costa; a numerous and powerful chorus; and Rossini's *chef-d'œuvre*, "Guglielmo Tell," admirably cast, and performed as magnificently as ever. On an opera so justly celebrated, and so well known to the musical public, it would be quite superfluous to make any remarks. Everybody knows that, though one of the grandest and most beautiful musical works ever written, yet its popularity has been much impaired by the feebleness and insipidity of the drama. Hence, in theatrical phrase, it does not "draw;" it delights the amateurs, but does not attract the public, only from her grace and beauty as an actress, Lucchesi, on Saturday, being the opening night, the house was crowded; but on the following Tuesday it was half empty. The superb performance of the first night did not bring an audience the second. The cast of the parts was nearly the same as on the first year. Last year Lucchesi's debut was the character of *Matilda*, in which Mdlle. Marai was substituted for Madame Castellan, whose absence this season there is much reason to regret. She has long and deservedly been a great favourite of the public, not only from her grace and beauty as an actress, but as a singer, but from her unpretending modesty and conscientious fulfilment of her duties. Mdlle. Marai is very young, and so weak a part as that of *Matilda* has not afforded room to judge of her powers; but she has a sweet and flexible, though rather thin voice, and her style indicates a good school. Tamberlik, in his great part of *Arnold*, was as great as ever, and electrified the audience by his vocal power, the energy of his declamation, and those bursts of passion in which he surpasses every other performer. Roncoui, as formerly, was *Tell*, performing the part with his usual intelligence and force; and Mdlle. Didiée gave interest to the little part of the boy *Jemmy*. As we have already said, the execution of the choruses, and the ensemble of the representation, left nothing to be desired. On Thursday the opera was *Ernani*, in which Mdlle. Angiolina Bosio sustained the character of *Elvira*—a part well fitted for this charming singer and graceful actress. In other respects the performance was similar to that of last season.

THE PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY'S third concert took place on Monday evening. Its chief feature was the descriptive symphony, "Die Weihe der Töne;" or, "the Power of Sound"—an attempt to paint the effects and influence of sound upon the human mind. With this view the composer introduces in succession the sounds of inanimate nature—the murmuring of the breezes, the gushing of the brook, the roaring of the storm; passing on to the nursery song, the lover's serenade, the march to battle, the sounds of conflict, the return in triumph, the dirge for the fallen, and the hymn of thanksgiving. All these are formed into a piece constructed with consummate art, and full of grand and beautiful effects, with no other fault than that of being too long, occupying a whole hour in performance. The other principal pieces were Beethoven's Symphony in F: the same composer's Pianoforte Concerto in G, performed by Halle; and Mendelssohn's descriptive overture, "The Calm Sea and Happy Voyage." The vocal pieces were not remarkable in themselves, but very well sung by Miss Birch and Herr Formes.

THE Concert of the NEW PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY, on Wednesday evening, was very good, but not at all distinguished for novelty. The principal piece was the same as the previous concert of the Old Society—viz., Beethoven's Symphony in F. Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto (*his only one*, by the instrument) was played by Ernst in a manner which beggars description, with the marvellous power of expression, the speaking tones, and intensity of feeling, which gave such an inexpressible charm to the playing of Paganini, and, save by Ernst alone, have not been approached since his day. A young singer just arrived in England, Mdlle. Sedlatzek, made a very favourable debut in Mozart's fine air, "Parto, ma tu, ben mio," from "La Clemenza di Tito;" Madame Caradori sang Beethoven's great aria, "Ah, perfido," with considerable taste and expression; and Mdlle. Graever performed Mendelssohn's Serenade for the piano and orchestra, with much, and well-deserved, applause. A long scene from the "Huguenots," though very well sung by Madame Caradori and Formès, produced no effect, being one of those things written for the stage which cannot be transplanted into the concert-room.

MRS PLUMMER'S CONCERTS.—Last evening Mrs Plummer gave her second *soirée musicale* at the new Beethoven-rooms, in Queen Anne-street. It was a very elegant entertainment, consisting chiefly of vocal music, executed with taste and exceedingly well performed. Mrs. Plummer is an accomplished singer, and possesses no small versatility of talent. Last evening she sang in a variety of styles—a brilliant opera air of Donizetti, a lively Scotch duet with one of her pupils, a tender Irish ballad, a burlesque duet of John Parry's, and a part in Bishop's fine glee, "Blow, gentle gales;" in all of which she acquitted herself admirably, and was warmly applauded. The other vocal performers were Signor Nappi, Mr. Wrighton, Mlle. Caterina Monti, Mr. Reed, Miss Thirlwall, and Mr. Walter Bolton. Beethoven's fine sonata in F, for the piano and violin, was extremely well played by Mr. Charles Horsley and Mr. Thirlwall; and Mr. Colson performed a solo on the harp. The room was crowded with fashionable company.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

The favourable returns of the Revenue of the country have exercised considerable influence upon the Consol Market this week. The demand for gold, for shipment to the Continent, having fallen off, and the imports being on an extensive scale, the Bulls have operated to some extent. The consequence has been, that prices have advanced fully ¼ per cent, with every reasonable prospect of even higher rates, notwithstanding our hostile proceedings towards Russia. The immense drain upon the Exchequer to pay the expenses already incurred in forwarding troops, &c., to Turkey, has greatly reduced the Government balance in the Bank of England; and it is evident that large sum units will certainly exceeding £5,000,000 have been issued from the Directors to pay off the South Sea annuitants, as well as to assist in meeting the dividend payments upon the Three per Cents Reduced, and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents. It is considered that the new issue of Exchequer Bills will be made on very easy terms.

On Monday the Three per Cents were steady, at 86¾ 85/8 to 86⅞ and 86. At these quotations the Government Broker purchased £500,000 for money and time. The New Five per Cents were quoted at 111¾. India Bonds are sold at par to 5s. dis.; South Sea Stock was 115; Exchequer Bill marked 2s. dis. to 2s. prem. The market was firm on Tuesday, in consequence of the preceding day; and the Three per Cents, after being done at 86⅞, advanced to 86¾ ⅞. The Five per Cent Annuities were 113¾. Exchequer Bills were firmer, 2s. to 1s. prem. The Bonds, India Bonds sold at 11s. to 6s. dis.; Exchequer Bills, par, to 3s. premium. The business doing, on Thursday, was on the increase, and prices were on the advance. The Three per Cent Consols marked 86⅞, closing at 86¾ rather buyers. The Unfunded Debt was firm, at par to 3s. premium.

There has been an improving market for nearly all Foreign Securities, and prices, almost generally, have been in advance. Brazilian Five per Cents have marked 92 ex div.; Ditto, Small, 92; Peruvian Three per Cents, 83 ex div.; Russian Five per Cents, 90; Ditto, Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 79; Sardinian Five per Cents, 90; Ditto, Four per Cents New Deferred, 17; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 64⅜; Dutch Four per Cent Certificates, 82⅜ ex div.; Chilian Six per Cents, 98 ex div.; Equador Bonds, 28; Grenada Six per Cents, 17; Ditto, Deferred, 5⅝; Mexican Three per Cents, 23⅜; and Venezuela Three-and-a-Half per Cents, 22¾ ex div.

The last packet brought £110,000 dollars from Mexico, on account of the dividends

On the whole, about an average business has been doing in Miscellaneous Securities, the value of which has been fairly supported. Australasia Bank Shares have marked 72 ex div.; British North American, 60; London Chartered of Australia, 15; London and Westminster, 4⅛; Oriental, 44; Union of Australia, 52; Australian Agricultural have been done at 38; Canada Six per Cent Bonds, 107; Crystal Palace Shares, 6⅛; General Screw Steam, 1⅝; North British Australasian, 3; Peel River Land, 2⅛; Scrip for Ditto, 2⅛; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, 52⅝ Berlin Waterworks have sold at 2½; East London, 131; Grand Junction, 73⅛; Ditto, New, 16⅛; Kent, 80; Lambeth, 97; Southwark and Vauxhall, 91; West Middlesex, 104; Ditto, New, 17¼. Albion Insurance have been done at 92; Atlas, 20; Argus, 23; City of London, 24; County, 125; European, 20; Globe, 138; Guardian, 57; Imperial Fire, 210; Ditto, Life, 10; London, 99; Pelican, 3; Rock, 45; Rock, 73; Sun Fire, 260; Ditto Life, 65. Hungerford Bridge, 12; Waterloo, 6½; Vauxhall, 21. East and West India Dock, 103; St. Katharine, 86. Peninsular Steam, 52⅝.

There has been more doing in railway shares than for some time past. Prices almost generally have been on the advance. The following are the closing quotations:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Bristol and Exeter, 89; Caledonian, 62 ex div.; Eastern Counties, 11⅝; East Lancashire, 86⅜; Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, 87; Ditto A Stock, 76; Ditto B Stock, 76; Ditto C Stock, 121; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 91; Great Western, 74⅛; Lancaster and Carlisle, New Thirds, 14; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 85⅜; Leeds Northern, 12; London and Blackwall, 8; London and Brighton, 90¾; London and North-Western, 98½; London and South-Western, 77½; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 19⅜; Midland, 87½; North British, 30⅜ ex div.; Shrewsbury and Chester, 24; Ditto, A, B, C, and D, 37 per cent, ex div.; Vale of Neath, 13⅜; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, 65; Ditto, Extension, 11; and York and North Midland, 46½.

LINES LEASED AT FIXED RENTALS.—Buckinghamshire, 94; Hull and Selby, 109½; Northern and Eastern, 64⅜; Ditto Six per Cent, 65; Wear Valley, 29.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Caledonian, 84 ex div.; Eastern Counties New Six per Cent Stock, 12; Great Northern Five per Cents, 109½; Ditto, Redeemable at 10 per cent, 109½; Great Western Convertible and Redeemable 4½ per cent., 94; London and Brighton Six per Cent, 135; Consolidated Bristol and Birmingham Six per Cent, 126; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 50½; York and North Midland B. and S. Purchase, 8⅞

FOREIGN.—East Indian, 91⅛; Ditto, Extension, 1; Great Indian Peninsula, 8⅝; Great Western of Canada Shares, 37½; Ditto Bonds, 5½; Luxembourg, 4⅜; Ditto, Constituted Shares, 2⅜; Lyons and Geneva, 4⅜; Northern of France, 25⅝; Paris and Lyons, 21½; Paris and Strasbourg, 22½; Rouen and Havre, 10⅝; Royal Dutch, 11; Western Canadian, 3.

Mining Shares have been somewhat firmer. On Thursday, Anglo-Californian were 4; Australian, 1⅝; Bicaneavon Iron and Coal, 10½; British Australian Gold, 3; Cobbold Gold, 1 ex div.; New Granada, 4; Nouveau Monde, 1; Pontgibaud Silver Lead Mining and Smelting, 18; and Quarts Rock, 1¼.

Friday Evening.

A full average business has been doing in the Consol-market to-day, and prices have steadily improved. The Three per Cents have advanced to 87⅛ for Money, and 87⅜ for the Account. The Three per Cents Reduced have been done at 86⅝ ex div., and the New Three per Cents, 87¼ ex div. Exchequer Bills have been par to 4s. prem.; India Bonds, 4s. dis.; Bank Stock, 212½, ex div. All Foreign Bonds and Railway Shares have ruled very firm.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE (Friday).—Notwithstanding that our market to-day was very moderately supplied with all kinds of English wheat, the demand for that grain, owing to the comparatively thin attendance of buyers, and the large quantity of foreign wheat on offer, was a very inactive sale, and to the extent of the imports, which were much in excess of last week, prices were barely supported. The arrivals of foreign barley, oats, and beans were moderate, but the demand for each of the above articles was very limited. Peas progressed slowly, and on Monday's terms. The trade was moderate as to flour, and prices were fully supported. Indian corn was offered on rather easier terms, but we have to quote it nearly as follows:—

English Wheat.—Essex, Kent, and Suffolk, white, 70s. to 74s.; mail, 67s. to 70s.; red, 67s. to 70s. Foreign: Dantzic, 74s. to 76s.; Konigsberg, 74s. to 76s.; Pomeranian and Prussian, 72s. to 74s.; Danish and Holstein, 70s. to 72s.; Mecklenburgh, 70s. to 72s.; Petersburg, 70s. to 72s.; Archangel, 70s. to 72s.; Marianopoli, 70s. to 72s.; Egyptian, 70s. to 72s.; Salonica, 70s. to 72s.; Smyrna, 70s. to 72s.; Taganrog, 70s. to 72s.; Ghirka, 70s. to 72s.; Polish Odessa, 70s. to 72s.; Azimo, 70s. to 72s.; Berdianska, 70s. to 72s.; Galatz, 70s. to 72s.; Fine, 72s. to 74s.; Chevalier, 72s. to 74s.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire Red cake, 68s. to 70s.; Ditto white, 70s. to 72s.; Scotch and Irish, 68s. to 70s.; Ditto, white, 70s. to 72s.; Rye, 44s. to 46s.; Grinding barley, 28s. to 29s.; Distilling ditto, 30s. to 32s.; malting ditto, 40s. to 42s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 64s. to 67s.; Brown ditto, 58s. to 62s.; Kingston and Ware, 67s. to 72s.; Chevalier, 72s. to 74s.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 22s. to 23s.; potato ditto, 21s. to 24s.; Youghal and Cork, black, 20s. to 21s.; Ditto, white, 20s. to 22s.; Sligo, Limerick, new, 21s. to 23s.; Ditto, old, 23s. to 24s.; Galway, new, 21s. to 22s.; maple, 27s. to 28s.; white, 27s. to 29s.; Ditto, old, 28s. to 30s.; Tick beans, 34s. to 36s.; Harrow ditto, 36s. to 38s.; Pigeon ditto, 38s. to 40s.; Egyptian ditto, 32s. to 34s.; Grey peas, 34s. to 36s.; Maple, 36s. to 38s.; White, 36s. to 38s.; Boilers, 36s. to 38s. per quarter. *Foreign:* French, — to — per 280 lbs.; American flour, 24s. to 24s. per barrel.

Seeds.—Linseed has been in good request, on higher terms. Most other seeds move off steadily, at full prices.

Linseed, English, sowing, 64s. to 66s.; Baltic crushing, 60s. to 64s.; Mediterranean and Odessa, 60s. to 64s.; hempseed, 40s. to 44s. per quarter. Coriander, 17s. to 18s. per cwt. Brown mustard, fine (new), 12s. to 14s.; white ditto, 10s. to 12s.; tares, 7s. to 8s. per bushel. English rapeseed, £21 to £22 per last of ten quarters. Linseed cakes, English, £10 5s. to £10 10s.; Baltic ditto, £9 10s.; foreign, £9 5s. to £9 10s. Rapeseed cakes, £6 10s. to £7 5s. per ton. Canary, 50s. to 54s. per quarter. English clover-seed, white, 54s. to 84s.; ditto, red, 36s. to 54s. per cwt.

Bread.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 10½d. to 11d.; of household ditto, 9½d. to 10d.; and of rye, 9d.

Imperial Weekly Average.—Wheat, 70s. 0d.; barley, 37s. 8d.; oats, 26s. 10d.; rye, 50s. 1d.; beans, 40s.; peas, 41s. 7d.

The Six Weeks' Average.—Wheat, 73s. 1d.; barley, 38s. 5d.; oats, 27s. 2d.; rye, 50s. 6d.; beans, 41s.; peas, 41s. 7d.

Foreign Markets.—Wheat, 36,111; barley, 29,891; oats, 15,238; rye, 36; beans, 4,031; peas, 715 quarters.

Teas.—There is rather more doing in our market. Prices generally are steady, yet common sound congou may be purchased at 11d. per lb

Sugar.—The public supplies of the week have been by no means extensive; the demand, however, has been very inactive; and prices have had a downward tendency. Fine yellow Barbadoes, 44s. to 45s.; fine ditto, 46s. to 46s.; fine Mauritius, 46s. to 46s.; yellow Bengals, 44s. to 45s.; fine ditto, 46s. to 47s. 6d.; grainy, 48s. to 49s. 6d.; good to fine moist grocery Madras, 47s. to 48s.; fine ditto, 49s. 6d. to 50s. per cwt. Refined goods are in limited request. Brown lumps, 45s. to 48s. 6d.; and low to fine grocery, 49s. 6d. to 47s. per cwt.

Coffee.—There is rather more doing in our market, at fully late rates. Good ordinary native Ceylon has changed hands at 43s. per cwt.

Rice.—Prices have undergone little variation, to move off steadily, at very full prices. State parcels are dull. In English and Foreign, but very little business is doing, on former terms. There is more doing in bacon and lard, the value of which has an upward tendency. Other kinds of provisions as last advised.

Spirits.—The market for rum is inactive, but we have no change to notice in prices. In brandy and geneva little is doing, on nominal terms. Proof Leeward Islands rum, 1s. 1d.

Hay and Straw.—Meadow hay, £2 15s. to £5 5s.; clover ditto, £3 1s. to £5 5s., and straw, £1 5s. to £2 2s. per load.

Hops (Friday).—Selected hops are in good request, and last week's prices are well supported, but other kinds are a slow sale. The imports are 70 bags from Ostend, 63 from Hamburg, and 7 from Rotterdam. Mid and East Kent pockets, £6 15s. to £12 5s.; Weald of Kent ditto, £5 5s. to £7 5s.; Sussex, £5 15s. to £6 15s. per cwt.

Coals (Friday).—Holywell, 30s.; West Hartley, 20s. 3d.; Hetton, 22s. 6d.; Hetton Lyons, 21s.; Lambton, 21s.; Hough Hall, 19s. 6d.; Tees, 19s.; Wylam, 19s.; Walbottle, 19s.; Tanfield Moor, 19s.; Russell's Hetton, 19s.; Eden Main

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE, Oxford-street.—On EASTER MONDAY, RICHARD III. and THE LANCERS; Tuesday, "Married Unmarried" and "The Cornical Brothers;" Wednesday, "Married Unmarried" and "first time) "Faust and Marguerit;" Thursday (under approval), Friday, and Saturday, "Married Unmarried" and "Faust and Margaret."

THEATRE ROYAL ADELPHI.—C. H. ADAMS'S ORRERY DURING PASSION WEEK (26th year in London.—On MONDAY next, April 10th, and during the week (Good Friday excepted), Mr. Adams will deliver his ANNUAL LECTURE on ASTRONOMY. Begin at 8, end about 10. Stalls, 3s.; Boxes, 2s.; Pit, 1s.; Gallery, 6d. Children, Half price to boxes and pit. Private Boxes, 10s. 6d. and 21s., at the Box-office daily; or at the principal Libraries

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, Exeter-hall.—Conductor, Mr. COSTA.—On WEDNESDAY next, APRIL 12th, the customary annual performance of Handel's MESSIAH. Vocalists—Madame Clara Novello, Miss Dolby, Mr. Lawler, and Herr Formes; with Orchestra of nearly 700 performers. Tickets 3s., 5s., and 10s. 6d. each, at the Society's Office, No. 6, Exeter-hall

LONDON SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, Exeter-hall.—On the THURSDAY in Passion Week, APRIL 13th, Handel's MESSIAH. Principal Vocalists—Miss Louisa Pyne, Miss Hounsell, Miss Dolby, Miss Clara Henderson, Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Lawler, Mr. Lawler Conductor, Mr. Surman. King Mr. J. Marshall, and Mr. Lawler Conductor, Mr. Surman. Founder of the Exeter hall Oratorios. Tickets: Area, 5s.; Reserved Seats, Area or Western Gallery, 3s.; Central Reserved, numbered Seats, Area or Western Gallery, 2s.; Central Seats, Area, 1s.; Gallery, 10s 6d. Books of the Words, with 18 pages of the Music, 6d. each; or the Oratorio complete, in the Half, price 5s. Only Office, No 6 Exeter-hall

CROSBY HALL, Bishopsgate-street. On THURSDAY EVENING next, April 6, Mr. BUCKLAND will delive a Lecture on Music, illustrated by Mr. HENRY SMART, Mr. WALTON Pianists, Hampton Court, and other eminent performers. To commence at 8. Tickets, Reserved Seats, 5s.; Unreserved Seats, 2s. 6d.

GALLERY of GERMAN PAINTINGS.—THE SECOND ANNUAL EXHIBITION of the WORKS of MODERN GERMAN MASTERS will be OPENED to the Public on MONDAY next, 10th inst. Admission, 1s.—Gallery, 168, New Bond-street

THE NATIONAL INSTITUTION of FINE ARTS, Portland Gallery, 218, Regent-street, opposite the Royal Polytechnic Institution

THE SEVENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of this SOCIETY is NOW OPEN, from 9 till dusk. Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d.

BELL SMITH, Secretary.

GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street, will RE-OPEN on MONDAY, APRIL 10th, with the ROUTE of the BRITISH ARMY to the SEAT of WAR, combined with the Subterranean SWITZERLAND NIGHT. Including the Descent of an Avalanche at Southampton, Passing Gibraltar, Arrival at Malta, &c.; with Constantinople, St. Petersburgh, Schastopol, and the Bombardine, from a Sketch by Lieut. MONTAGU O'REILLY, of H.M.S. "Retribution." Afternoon at Three; Evening at Eight. Admission, 1s., 2s., and 3s

NOTICE—CONSTANTINOPLE.—The LECTURE accompanying the Grand Moving DIORAMA of CONSTANTINOPLE is now delivered Every Morning and Saturdays. With the extensive Gardens, Lawn, and Scene of Land belonging, containing upwards of 20 acres, all contiguous, and now in the possession of the Hon. Mrs. Hare, the owner. This very eligible property (set up by lot) for the reading of an absolute term of 99 years, commencing at Lady-Day, 1815, at a small ground-rent, comprises a tract of land close to the town of Torquay, and bounded on its west by the sea. The house is situated in a most sheltered position, commanding from the windows beautiful views of Torbay and the surrounding country, and is in very convenient, and tolerably complete, repair, containing a drawing-room about 27 feet by 17 feet, a dining-room about 27 feet by 18 feet, a library, three of a bay window, a study 18 feet by 12 feet, with capacious kitchen, housekeeper's room, and other appropriate offices on the ground floor, and seven bed-rooms, and two dressing rooms, with servants' bed-rooms over. The out offices comprise stables, lofts, coach-house, cow-house, and other conveniences, and the whole is in complete repair, and fit-d in every respect for the occupation of a family of distinction. The house is approached through a handsome entrance, by a good carriage road winding through a lawn of 19 or 20 acres, from which the most extensive views of both land and sea are obtained. The pasturage is excellent, and the ground well supplied with water, which renders it very suitable for a dairy farm, and there are also about four or five acres of land kept in it.-age of a very superior quality. The hot-house is stocked with vines now in the prime, and the gardens are in the highest state of cultivation. The ground behind the house extends to and is bounded by the wellknown Daddy Hole Plain; and there is a stone-built tower and summer house on a prominent site which command extensive marine and land views of Torbay and the Bristol Channel. Other conveniences are laid out with sea and other walks of considerable extent, and from the property the most extensive views of both land and sea are obtained. The pasturage is excellent, and the ground well supplied with water, which renders it very suitable for a dairy farm, and there are also about four or five acres of land kept in it.-age of a very superior quality. The hot-house is stocked with vines now in the prime, and the gardens are in the highest state of cultivation. The ground behind the house extends to and is bounded by the well-known

EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.

(SECOND NOTICE.)

AMONGST the landscapes, which we rather hastily noticed in our last article, are several which are entitled to individual mention; and we, accordingly, give them precedence on the present occasion.

10. "Ebenberg, from the Rheingrafenstein, on the Nahe." By G. Cole. A fine old baronial ruin, in a wild mountainous region; very ably painted. The eye almost climbs step by step the abrupt acclivity upon which the castle stands, the higher points of which are partly fringed with mist. Below is a straggling and shallow stream, in the shady recesses of which cattle are seen. The only particular in which we find fault with Mr. Cole, in the composition of this picture, is in the introduction of the waggon with its contents in the foreground, the local colour of which spoils the general artistic effect, whilst it also detracts from the historic interest of the scene.

25. "Chiswick, the last resting-place of Hogarth." By A. F. Rolfe. A nice quiet landscape, so far as the principal point of interest which occupies the middle ground and the distant sky effects concerned; but here, as in the last case, the general beauty of the picture is marred by the vulgar figures in the foreground.

77. "Entrance of Boulogne Harbour." By J. Wilson, junior. A clever sea piece. A brisk gale is blowing across the mouth of the harbour; and on the right, on a lee-shore, and enveloped in a dark cloud, is a vessel in distress. The agitation of the water is admirably represented, as also are the quaint details of the two wooden jetties.

92. "Scarborough." By A. Clint. We spoke of this fine picture in our last, as one of the best works in the Exhibition. When we saw it under the influence of an atmosphere somewhat overcast—as was the case on the day of the private view—we, with others, were struck with the gloom and coldness of the prevailing tone, which we deprecated accordingly. Upon subsequent inspection, under a brighter sky, this effect has appeared considerably modified; the lights of the picture, subdued though they be, have come out with greater effect than previously, more particularly in the rocky hollow in which the town is situated. The massive body of sea which occupies so large a portion of the canvas is grand in aspect, and has been executed with a masterly hand. Of this fine work we have great pleasure in giving an Engraving, to which medium, by the way, it is, in composition, and tone, well adapted.

"LA PENSÉE."—PAINTED BY C. BAXTER.

105. "The Reekie Lynn Waterfall," near Linthratin, Forfar, Scotland. By G. Beetholme. This is a carefully painted scene of rock and water torrent; rather minute and hard in detail, after the model of the modern German school, some specimens of which have recently been exhibited in this country. It is hung too high, however, for us to judge accurately of its merit in many respects.

215. "On the Trent, near Castle Donington, Leicestershire," by J. C. Ward. A curiously constructed landscape, and one not favourable to effective result, the whole expanse of foreground being occupied by water, and the background by trees of monotonous character, and thickly planted; the middle distance being defined by the introduction of a weir, which also stretches across the picture. There are no breaks in the contour of the scenery—no accidental recesses—no extreme distance to seduce the eye to explore various portions of the canvas in succession. And yet, with all these disadvantages in respect of material, Mr. Ward has produced a good and effective picture; a rich yet cool verdant tint pervading the whole, either local or reflected in the water; which is by no means displeasing.

286. "A Calm near the Entrance to Port Maddoc, North Wales." By A. Clint. A striking contrast to the stormy effects off the "Scarborough," already spoken of; but a very speaking and satisfactory picture. Here again, the ocean surface usurps the lion's share of the canvas, the bit of coast scenery occupying but a comparatively small portion; and yet sufficient to give warmth and life.

260. "Sheep on the Downs;" and 443. "Landscape and Figures, near Caldecott Castle." By W. W. Gosling. We have already spoken of this young artist's improving talent, as displayed in the present Exhibition; but we cannot pass over, without noticing by name the two pictures, which display his resources and his fancy in other departments than that of mere landscape. In the first-named the sheep, and the shepherd-boy reclining on a bank, are full of life and truth, and the mild light in the distant horizon is charmingly suggestive of rural calm. In the second picture the artist is more ambitious, both in respect of the number and variety of objects introduced, and in the colouring allotted to them; but truth obliges us to add that, as the result, there is a little spottiness and want of keeping observable—an error, by the way, which, as we observed, slightly detracted from the merit of his fine tree-study in the Great Room.

Amongst the figure subjects we select for engraving (48) "La Pensée," by C. Baxter. This beautiful picture was mentioned in terms of admiration in our last. In now engraving it we need hardly point attention to the charming sentiment infused into the expression; and the natural and ladylike deportment of the figure. The drapery is also very gracefully studied, and in the original is very delicate in colour. The miniature which the fair subject clasps in her hand explains at once the import of the title—"La Pensée."

"SCARBOROUGH."—PAINTED BY A. CLINT.

ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS SUPPLEMENT.

VOL. XXIV.] SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 1854. [GRATIS.

JAPAN AND THE RUSSIAN WAR.

THE world against the Russian Empire is a fearful odds, even physically speaking; but it is still more appalling when the universal sense of mankind proclaims the undeniable truth, that every principle of honour and justice is equally against it. At the same time, it is a wise axiom not to underrate an enemy, however strong the odds are in our favour; for human affairs are full of strange chances, and the power which is hazarding all this risk is quite alive to the necessity for straining every nerve of its vast force in every quarter of the globe. And great wars are not now confined to small fields, like games of chess; their influence spreads and is felt from pole to pole. Thus we observe in the present shaking and loosening of the chords of peace, the interests of all Europe and Asia, the two mighty ancient quarters of the earth, are extensively affected; northern Africa is moved by the pressure of circumstances; and the New World, America, must keep a wary eye upon events as they occur. Amid the complication, as we a few weeks ago laid before our readers certain intelligence regarding China, we are disposed, partly from the same source, to submit a few remarks on the subject of the adjoining Empire of Japan. cruising in whose seas we find Russian ships of war; and observe that the American squadron is on its way for a second visit to the guarded coast. Japan must follow in the wake of China, though Russia has been trying in vain for half a century to get the edge of the wedge in, though the Jesuits and Portuguese were detested and expelled; though the Dutch are only permitted to have a marvellously cramped commercial intercourse with the single port of Nangasaki, and though the Chinese are very little more tolerated, and held in the odour of rogues and thieves. Yet *ubi mel ibi apes*—where there is honey, there will be bees clustering about; and where there are abundance of articles for profitable trade, perseverance will in the end effect an entrance into the sanctum; and such appears to be the condition of the crisis, which, through other changes in the Eastern Seas, is now approaching the long closely-sealed empire of Japan.

The matters which, at this moment, co-operate towards a revolution in the irrevocable system of Japan, are, as we have referred to them, the contemporaneously renewed efforts of Russia from her Kamschatkan border; the new intrusion of America, and the contagion of the Chinese convulsion; and, not the least of all, the enterprising spirit of English commerce, striving at every point not to be left behind hand in the "Open sesame" spell, and possessing many advantages to give it the best in the race.

The power of Japan to resist this influx consists chiefly in the geographical nature of the islands of which the Empire is composed, and the climate of prevalent tenebrian fogs which envelopes them. Not contented with the degree of safety secured by these elements, the Government of the country has, from time immemorial, resorted to the politic precautions which have kept them out of danger ever since the religious insurrection which was drowned in torrents of Christian blood. Acting upon this policy, as is well known, all vessels reaching Japanese ports are arrested and their crews closely imprisoned; no ships of war are permitted to touch the shore; a single port and particular seasons of the year are appointed for the limited intercourse of trade; no person is allowed to penetrate into the interior under pain of not being suffered to return; and no religious rite or worship of any kind is tolerated either in strangers or natives, except the maimed rights belonging to the semi Buddhist belief and ceremonies prescribed by a profligate priesthood under a Lama-like spiritual head, held to be superior to the reigning Emperor, and almost idolized as a God, but quite destitute of temporal authority. This authority is shared with the actual ruler very much after the manner of our feudal Barons of old; and, though slaves to custom, there is said to be among these Princes opinions not altogether in unison with the existing forms and ancient institutions. The people are of a diminutive and feeble race, though they keep and use the stout hairy Kuriles in bondage as beasts of burden; are, like all weak creatures, jealous, cautious, timid, cunning, and cowardly. Their fortifications and strong places are (as their dwellings) mostly of wood, as the frequent earthquakes forbid stone buildings; and an idea of their character may be suggested by their practice of covering the walls with cloth hangings, in order to disguise them and conceal the nature of their defences. Armed with matchlocks, some muskets, bows and arrows, pikes, spears, and sabres; with few cannon and inferior gunpowder, the army raised from such a population, though numerous (and it is reckoned at 150,000, capable of being more than doubled in the event of war), could not be very formidable, even when commanded by chiefs in complete and splendid suits of armour.

But our informant calculates yet more strongly upon an element which we were not aware continued to exist in such force in Japan. There is, however, a considerable proportion of what must, for want of a more correct term, be called Christians among the natives, secretly maintaining, like the Chinese Triad and other societies, a barbarized faith, and ready to rise, if opportunity were offered, against their persecutors. The proof of this fact, and of

PREPARATIONS FOR WAR.—A MIDNIGHT SCENE ON BOARD H.M.S. "DAUNTLESS," IN WINGO SOUND.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

[illegible] of their own religion, the [illegible] – care for the most heinous crimes—is the doom of [illegible] unfortunate wretch even suspected of this enormous guilt—[illegible] is the extreme political jealousy with which it is viewed. [illegible] to this day, the oldest story of the Dutch traders being compelled to trample on the cross, is annually enforced upon numbers of the inhabitants of Nangasaki itself (and probably throughout the Empire), who are marched to the temples, and ordered to tread under foot every sacred emblem of the Christian faith. In the event of invasion, there is no doubt but that a great diversion would arise in favour of the invaders; and at an epoch when we see so many causes tending to the same issue, it is a warning of wisdom to teach the community to keep a good look-out on what is so likely to happen, and so soon, not only in China and Japan, but in all the adjacent territories in the Indian Archipelago. The ice is everywhere breaking up, and the first to avail themselves of the clear water will reap the richest returns.

PREPARATIONS FOR WAR.

The episodal illustration upon the previous page is from a Sketch of a [illegible] scene on board H.M.S. *Dauntless*, in Wingo Sound. The [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

MARMADUKE, New York.—They shall receive attention.
H. B. R.—Is not at all either curious or useful.
B. W. S., Ashborne.—All the subscription for Country Members to the St. George's Chess-Club is only 2 guineas per annum, and that entitles the member to free admission to the club in every part of London and Westminster.
Wellington Chess-player.—Your Problems shall be examined.
F. R., of B.—It shall have attention.
A NEW MARKET SUBSCRIBER.—Our Solution of No. 526 is perfectly correct. The error is in supposing that Black can play with R taken Q R P, the only Pawn he could take the Rook on without losing a piece.
BETTY, R. R., of Manchester.—We believe you are right. The author has overlooked the second Solution.
WALPOLE.—Quite wrong. 2 No difference. 3 Sometimes. Address your letters simply to the Editor, and ask no more questions than are necessary, for we have no space to spare.
G. W., Banbury.—The solution required is as follows:—

WHITE.	BLACK.
1. K to Kt 3rd	Q takes B (ch)
2. B interposes (dis ch)	Q takes R, or K moves
3. Q to K 5th Mate.	

Black has a choice of moves at this point, but none that can prolong the game.)
J. A. P. P.—A player may have two or more Queens on the board at the same time.
ALPHA.—Too much space is given to small Openings in that Work. Apply again six months hence.
CLERICUS.—The best Play on Evans's Gambit is that by Mr. Lewis.
KING PEPIN.—It is a subject to be regretted that throughout all the States is not a single periodical which dedicates a portion of its columns to Chess. What are the proprietors of the French Illustrated Newspaper about?
RICARDO.—The shortest way is to send another diagram. We really do not know, among so many hundred Problems on hand to which you refer. It may have been destroyed, or been turned, or pulled about elsewhere.
W. M., Witney.—Problems found to be wrong are destroyed. So you must be good enough to send a new diagram.
YELLAT.—It can be solved in five moves, and is of very indifferent construction besides.
T. R. P., Jaker, is evidently unacquainted with the principle of composing and solving problems. The position he submits has nothing problematical about it.
H. W., Wakefield.—The last is pretty good.
BIRMINGHAM.—A second Queen may be claimed for the Pawn.
L. G., Honiton.—The author of "The Handbook" is not responsible for the rules of the game given.
Several others.—As to the particular one you cite, the best players of the last and the present age concur in its approval.
W. G. H., Ferryhill.—They shall be duly examined and reported.
JOHN OF H.—Your solutions are correct. Your name is inserted in the list of British HONORARY MEMBERS.—Such compliments are not particularly coveted.
HONORARY MEMBERSHIP.—Such compliment is given every month on the wrapper of the *Chess-Players Chronicle*, which is given every month as a convenience to every player in the habit of reading that serial. The semi-list is as great a convenience to every player in the habit of reading it, as the Court Guide is to every person in the habit of visiting Court. This semi-list is so great a convenience to every player in the habit of reading about the country that it should be a point of duty with the officials of Chess Societies to render it as perfect as possible.
SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 526, by Omicron, J. P., Tau, J. T. S., Hyde, are correct. All others are wrong.
SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 527, by C. Allwen, A. Day, Ilkerton, Marmaduke, C. S., P. J. Fitz-a-Clinse, J. P., M. P. of Kew, C. G. of York, W. W., J. H. Wood, Newark, Percy, H. of St. [illegible] C. A. W., Birkenhead, Tasso, E. M. J., H. T., J. W. of H. Bank, Frederick, C. R., Mowbray Stevens, W. Lloyd, Rufus, Wyvern, H., Hebrews, Chess-Fiend, Alpha, C. R., Mowbray Stevens, W. Lloyd, Rufus, Wyvern, H., Hebrews, Chess-Fiend, Alpha, W. Wakefield, Jerwein, Liverpool, F. F., Devonshire, Lover of Chess, J. H., Hepworth, H. de, A. H. J. H., Tau, Omicron, Solathern, Hyde, Pare-Mesquin, J. H. F., M. P., J. F. C., Hyde, W. P., Jaker, all three are correct. All others are wrong.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 527.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. Kt to K B 3rd	P to K Kt 5th	3. K to his 3rd	P moves
2. B to K R 3rd	P takes B	4 P mates.	

PROBLEM No. 529.

By Mr. HEALEY.

(A masterpiece of strategy.)

BLACK.

WHITE.

White to play, and mate in five moves.

Smart Game played between Mr. G. B. FRASER, of the Dundee Club, and an AMATEUR.

(Evans' Gambit.)

WHITE (Mr. F.)	BLACK (Amat.)	WHITE. (Mr. F.)	BLACK (Amat.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	16. Q takes B (ch)	Q to Q 2nd
2. K Kt to K B 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	17. Q takes Kt P	R to Q sq
3. B to Q B 4th	B to Q B 4th	18. Q takes K Kt	B takes Q R
4. P to Q Kt 4th	B takes Kt P	19. R to K sq	Q to Q 5th
5. P to Q B 3rd	B to Q R 4th	20. Q to K 8th	Q to Q 4th
6. P to Q 4th	P takes P	21. Q to K Kt 8th	R to K Kt sq
7. Castles	K Kt to K B 3rd	22. P to K 6th	B to K B 3rd
8. P to K 5th	P to Q 4th	23. P to K 7th	Kt to Q 2nd
9. B to Q Kt 5th	Kt to K 5th	24. Q to Q Kt 4th	Q to Q B sq
10. B to Q R 3rd	B to Q Kt 3rd	25. P to K R 3rd	B to Q 5th
11. Q P takes P	B to K 3rd	26. Kt to Q 2nd	B to Q Kt 3rd
12. Q to K 4th	B to Q 2nd	27. Kt to K 4th	Q to Q 4th
13. Q to Q Kt 3rd	Kt takes Q P	28. B to Q Kt 2nd	Q to Q R 4th
14. Kt takes Kt	B takes Kt	29. B takes K Kt P	
15. Q takes Q P	B takes B	And wins.	

CHESS IN BELGIUM.

The following stubbornly contested Game was one among several played at Medhelm by Mr. NEWMAN against Mr. LEWIS, a young, but most promising, Member of the Leeds Chess-club—Mr. S giving the odds of his Queen's Rook.

(Remove White's Q Rook from the Board).—(The Double Gambit.)

WHITE (Mr. S.)	BLACK (Mr. N.)	WHITE (Mr. S.)	BLACK (Mr. N.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	29. Q to Q 3rd	P to Q Kt 4th
2. K B to Q B 4th	K B to Q B 4th	30. Q Kt to Q B 3rd	P to Q R 3rd
3. P to Q Kt 4th	B takes Kt P	(a)	
4. P to B 5th (b)	P to Q 3rd	31. Q Kt to his sq	R takes K Kt
5. K Kt to K B 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	32. P takes K	Q takes K P
6. P to Q Kt 4th	B to Q Kt 3rd (ch)	33. K to Kt sq (h)	Q to K 8th
7. B to K sq	Q B to K 3rd	34. R to h sq	Q to Q 8th (i)
8. B takes B	P takes B	35. Q to K B 3rd	Kt to K B 3rd
9. P to Q B 3rd	K Kt to K B 3rd	36. R to K sq	Q takes Q R P
10. P to Q 5th	P takes Q P	37. Q to Q B 6th	Q to K 3rd
11. P takes P	B to Q Kt 3rd	38. Q takes Q B P	Q to K 6th (ch)
12. P to Q 6th (b)	P takes P	39. K to K 4th	P to Q 4th
13. P takes P	Q to K to K 2nd	40. Q to Q R 3rd (k)	Q to K 7th
14. K Kt to K 5th	Castles (c)	41. R to Kt sq	Kt to K 5th
15. Kt to h 6th	Q to Q 2nd	42. Q to her Kt 3rd (ch)	K to Kt sq
16. P to K R 6th (d)	Q Kt takes Q P	43. Q to h B 7th	Q to K 4th (ch)
17. B to h K 5th	R to to K 6th	44. R to K sq	Kt to h B 3rd
18. B takes Kt	Kt takes B	45. Q to Q R 2nd	Q to K 7th
19. Q to her K 3rd	P to Q 4th (e)	46. Kt to Q 2nd	Kt to K 6th
20. Q takes B	K Kt to K sq	47. Q to K 7th	R to h Kt sq
21. Q to K 5th	Q K to Q B sq	48. Kt takes h t	Q takes Kt
22. Q Kt to Q 2nd	Q to her 3rd	49. P to K 4rd	Q to K 7th
23. Q to K 2nd	K R to K 2nd	50. R to Kt sq	P to Q 7th
24. Q h to K R 3rd	Kt to K 5th	51. Q to Q 5th	Q to K 8th
25. Q to K h t 2nd	P to Q B 4th	52. Q to K B 3rd	R to K sq
26. Q Kt to K 8th	P to Q 6th	53. Q to K 3rd	Kt takes R (ch)
27. Q Kt to Q B 4th	Q to Q 4th	54. R takes Q	R to K 8th (ch)
28. Q to Q Kt 3rd (f)	P to Q Kt 3rd		
And White resigns.			

(a) This opening was a great favourite of the lamented M'Donnell, and, in his hands, was invincible against all opponents until he tried it against the unparalleled La Bourdonnais (b) It would have been better, probably, for White to have played P to K 5th, with the object of preventing his adversary from Castling for some time. The move made, however, leads to some ambiguous combinations.
(c) His only move, perhaps, considering he has a look more than the enemy
(d) White replaces his ad, so gained, too highly to sacrifice his for a Rook.
(e) As to Kt to Kt 5th would have made the position intricate and still more interesting.
(f) To win the Q Pawn, if it were advanced, by Kt to K 5 4th, &c.
(g) Black's adversary are almost irresistible now, but his antagonist determines to fight on hopefully to the end.
(h) To enable him to play his Rook to K sq, when [illegible] with skill.
(i) Mr. Newman plays this end game with [illegible] and in the other to pre-
(k) The struggle is now on the one side to advance [illegible]

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

The Board of Ordnance has advertised for contracts to erect twenty-six batteries on the Dublin and Wicklow seaboard.

The Pacha of Egypt paid £180,000 last week to the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company—being the last instalment of the loan contracted eighteen months since, to anticipate the tribute to the Sultan.

The famous car of Juggernaut of Muhes, near Serampore, has been destroyed by ure.

Cardiff benefits by the war. Coal is in great demand, both for the English and French services. Freights to Malta, recently at 25s. per ton, are now 50s., with a return of freight at the same rate.

A patent has just been taken out in France for making sugar from pumpkins. The quantity produced will be at least as great as could be obtained from an equal quantity of beet-root.

Upwards of 150 lives were lost on the American rivers, in one week of last month, from explosions, fires, and sinking of steam-boats.

A gentleman's rifle corps for Middlesex has been formed. It is to consist of 500 men and is commanded by the Duke of Wellington as Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant.

At a recent meeting of the American Geographical and Statistical Society, at New York, Captain Gibson delivered a lecture on the Indian Archipelago, and spoke of a race living in the South Seas, called Ourang-Kubs, covered with hair, wild and barbarous, and inferior to the human race generally.

"The most pious" Emperor of Russia has prohibited the circulation in Poland of the portrait of Sir Moses Montefiore.

Lord Palmerston has addressed an order to the authorities at Norwich, forbidding any further interments in the churches of that city.

It is in contemplation to strike out the Government and other Prisons in Dublin from the list of Garrison Guards, the number of troops doing duty being unusually small.

Government have determined to establish in Edinburgh an Industrial Museum for Scotland, similar to those already existing in London and Dublin. Dr. Lyon Playfair has been in Edinburgh for several days making arrangements as to a site.

A petition is in circulation in New York for signatures, praying the Legislature to make three years' desertion a legal cause for a divorce, *a vinculo matrimonii*, on the ground that it will tend to the promotion of morality.

At the opening of the Roman Catholic Oratory last week, the following priests officiated, all of them having been formerly clergymen of the Church of England:—The Rev. Messrs. Faber, Bittlestone, Caswall, Newman, Bolston, Gordon, Badard, Knox, Hutchison, Wells, and Bowden.

The Executive Government of Australia has advanced £3000 to defray the expense of sending specimens of Australian productions to the Paris Exhibition of 1855.

Lieut. Bodisco, nephew of the late Russian Minister at Washington, has been ordered home by his Government.

Madame Goldschmidt (Jenny Lind) gave her first concert at Vienna last week. It was most numerously attended, and went off with great *éclat*.

The warehouses of the Great West, says the *Boston Journal*, are overflowing with immense quantities of grain and flour.

A Galway journal asserts that a delusion has spread amongst the peasantry that "there will be a conscription to recruit the army of England in the East" and this is assigned as a cause for the great increase of the Irish Exodus.

Among the passengers from Hull by the *Ripon* were Prince Chokan Mahomed and son, the son and grandson of the renowned Tippoo Saib. The Prince, who has never before been out of Calcutta, is come to England to endeavour to get his pension settled on his grandson

Accounts from Portugal state that the disease in the vines is likely to be very destructive, and more general than it was last year. Brandy is quoted at £45 per pipe, quadruple the average price.

On Friday (yesterday week) the *Gazette* notice took effect to remove the names of the officers from the "Navy List" connected with the ships *Breadalbane* and *Terror* on the missing Arctic Expedition

The value of the imports of specie last week exceeded £800,000, of which £550,124 was gold from Australia.

The Queen and King-Consort of Spain intend passing the holy week in Madrid, and will attend in person at the usual ceremonies which take place in the palace on Holy Thursday, viz., the washing of the feet, and the feeding a number of the poor.

The Government, through the Lord-Lieutenant, has given £1000 to the Society for the Encouragement of the Growth of Flax in Ireland.

The Viceroy of Egypt has, by decree dated the 9th ult., suppressed all the recent sanitary restrictions in the port of that country.

The members attending the Museum of Ornamental Art at Marlborough-house during the month of March were as follows: 6,666 persons on the public days, and admitted free; 1478 persons on the students' days, and admitted as students on the payment of 6d. each, besides the registered students of the classes and schools.

The consequences of the prohibition of gold from Russia are very serious indeed to foreigners residing there. The case of a French actress is mentioned, who lately remitted 60,000f. to Paris, and, being compelled to send it in Russian paper, received only 45,000f. Assignats had the good luck to leave the city before the ukase was issued, and he brought away with him a handsome sum in gold.

In the two months ended the 5th March, the declared value of beer and ale exported was £102,452. Last year, during the same period, it was £198,291.

Cardinal Wiseman was to leave Rome on Monday, the 27th ult., on his route to England. He intended to make a short stay, on his way home, with his sister, who has married an Italian nobleman, and resides in the north of Italy.

The accounts of the Tithe Commissioners for England and Wales up to the 1st of January, show that the rent charge awarded or agreed upon in lieu of tithes, amounts to £4,011,246. About three-eighths of the commutation was by awards, about five-eighths by agreement confirmed by the Commissioners.

The Prince and Princess de Joinville applied lately to the Queen of Spain for leave to reside at Grenada. The Queen did not think proper to accede to their demand, but assigned to them the city of Seville as a residence.

The gold-mining in North Wales is now fairly begun. Four machines have been put up, two of which are at work, and are alleged to be crushing quartz at the rate of a quarter of a ton per hour, the yield of gold from each ton averaging more than an ounce.

The Royal sanction has been given to a line of railway on each side of the Rhine provinces, with a permanent bridge at Cologne.

At a recent meeting of the City of London Ragged Schools, Sheriff Wire said, he could tell them, from his experience of the City prisons, that, since the establishment of ragged schools, juvenile crime had diminished fifty per cent.

A colossal marble statue of Mr. George Stephenson has been placed in the waiting-hall of the Euston-square station.

The bridge across the Tennessee river at Florence, Alabama, a magnificent structure, which cost 135,000 dollars, has been destroyed by a tornado.

The screw-steamer *Charity*, on its voyage from Liverpool to the United States, last month, was detained nine days in the ice.

The marriage of the Emperor of Austria will take place on the evening of the 24th inst. The nuptial benediction will be given to the august couple in the Chapel of the Palace, by the Archbishop of Vienna, assisted by other prelates and Archbishops of the empire.

A few days ago a seaman belonging to the Russian ship-of-the-line *Asia*, lately disarmed at Flushing, on their way through Prussia, were received, by order of the King, at the railway station at Potsdam, and each sub-officer had paid to him one ducat, and each junior a thaler.

Mr. Clementson, who has for half a century been Deputy-Serjeant-at-Arms attending the House of Commons, retired from that place on Friday last, and was succeeded by Mr. Gossett, who entered on his duties for the first time on Monday night.

The Court of Turin has gone into mourning for 20 days on account of the death of the Duke of Genoa. The Court of Parma for six months.

A proposition is now under discussion for sending five hundred Scripture-readers into the diocese of Exeter.

A letter from the Queen to the Marchioness of Westminster, condoling with her ladyship and her family on their late melancholy bereavement, was written on Wednesday week, and despatched from Buckingham Palace on that day. It reached Eaton Hall on Saturday, having been "mis-sent" to Flint.

An official report of the Synod of the Greek Church in Russia shows that in the last year 200 Greek priests were found guilty of infamous crimes, and 1850 of crimes of a minor kind. From 1836 to 1839 the number of Greek priests in Russia convicted of crimes was 15,443.

The *Flavio Gioja*, from Antwerp, bound for Montreal (or at least professedly so), with arms and ammunition on board, which are said to be intended for the Greek insurgents, was arrested in the Downs on Tuesday, under Admiralty warrant.

TESTIMONIAL TO MR. WATKIN.

On Tuesday evening an elegant service of plate was presented to Mr. Edward J. Watkin, late of the London and North Western Railway, at a dinner given to that gentleman at the London Tavern, by a large party of his private friends, subscribers also to the Testimonial Fund. The chair was ably filled by Sir Cusack P. Roney; supported by Mr. Peto, M.P.; Mr. Geach, M.P.; the Hon. Captain Fitzmaurice, &c. After the usual loyal toasts had been drunk, the Chairman, in an eloquent address, proposed the health of Mr. Watkin, and presented him with the gift, in testimony of the high esteem in which he is held by the subscribers; and the plate, which was placed upon a table in the centre of the dining-hall, was at the same moment uncovered. Mr. Watkin, in an address, characterised by its modest feeling, thanked the company for the splendid present. A variety of other toasts were drunk—including the House of Commons, and the Members, Mr. Peto and Mr. Geach; Mr. Watkin, sen., the father, and the Rev. Mr. Watkin, the brother, of

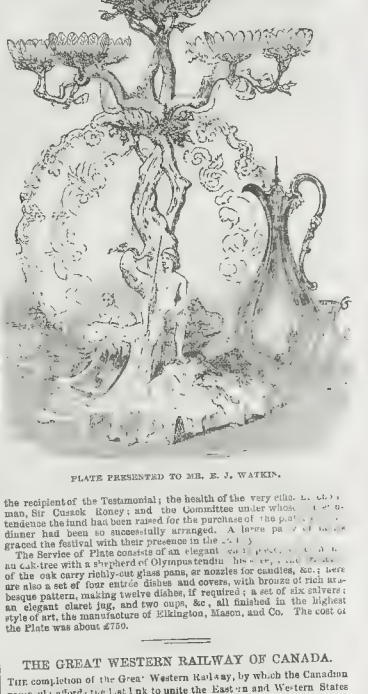


PLATE PRESENTED TO MR. E. J. WATKIN.

the recipient of the Testimonial; the health of the very efficient Chairman, Sir Cusack Roney; and the Committee under whose superintendence the fund had been raised for the purchase of the plate. The dinner had been successfully arranged. A large party of ladies graced the festival with their presence in the gallery.

The Service of Plate consists of an elegant centre piece, with an oak-tree with a shepherd of Olympus tending his flock, and Pandean pipes of the oak carry richly-cut glass pans, or nozzles for candles, &c.; here are also a set of four entrée dishes and covers, with bronze of rich arabesque pattern, making twelve dishes, if required; a set of six salvers; an elegant claret jug, and two cups, &c., all finished in the highest style of art, the manufacture of Elkington, Mason, and Co. The cost of the Plate was about £750.

THE GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY OF CANADA.

THE completion of the Great Western Railway, by which the Canadian peninsula affords the last link to unite the Eastern and Western States of the Union—the Atlantic Ocean and the Mississippi—has been celebrated with a splendid opening fête. The neighbours of the States of New York, Michigan, and Illinois, are fully as much interested in this great work as the Canadians are, on this they have fully testified. The completion of the Eastern division, having been celebrated at Niagara Falls, and of the Central at London, the people of Detroit and Hamilton assisted in the general rejoicing on the completion of the line throughout.

The Detroit jubilee took place on Jan. 17. The guests from the State of New York, to the number of four hundred, had arrived from the Falls, and so numerous had been the invitations in Hamilton and Toronto, that a second train was found necessary. Shortly before seven o'clock the entire party, mustering nearly seven hundred, were on their way. Accessions were made at Dundas, Paris, Woodstock, and London, and on leaving the last-named place twelve cars were densely packed. The day was rather cold, but clear, and the track in excellent order. The first train reached Windsor a little before five, and was greeted with an artillery salute from the Detroit shore. A committee from the Detroit City Council, in waiting at Windsor, and shortly afterwards the entire party had crossed the ferry into the dominions of Brother Jonathan. The reception was most cordial and enthusiastic. Thousands of people greeted their guests on landing with hearty cheers—volunteer militia companies, both cavalry and foot, in splendid uniforms, formed a guard of honour—and the fire companies, with their engines and equipments, had assembled in large numbers. Unfortunately, it was quite dark ere the party had disembarked, and the effect of the brilliant reception was in some measure marred. Several of the hotels were, however, illuminated, as well as the immense freight house of the Michigan Central Railway Company, in which the dinner was to be served. In the immense room, intended to seat upwards of 2000 people, was decorated with drapery and evergreens—the flags of Great Britain and the United States being side by side, and many emblems and mottoes were arranged along the walls.

The dinner was prepared by Colonel Dibble, of the Baldwin House, and the 2000 half-famished guests did justice to the repast.

A number of similar demonstrations took place, in celebration of the opening of the entire line of railway.

A meeting of the English shareholders in the above railway was held on Wednesday last, at the London Tavern, when the Chairman, Mr. Laing, M.P., stated that the traffic on the line within the first month of its opening had produced £5000 a week; and it was expected that in the first year a sufficient sum would be raised to pay a dividend of eight or ten per cent upon the present capital.

We have engraved three views of the most interesting works on the Great Western Line, from Sketches taken by Captain Caudy, late of the Royal Artillery.

First, a view of the City of Hamilton and Burlington Bay, showing the Station and Workshops of the Company.

Next, a view of the Suspension Bridge at Burlington Heights, with

THE GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY OF CANADA.

THE CITY OF HAMILTON, FROM NEAR THE SUSPENSION-BRIDGE, AND DEPOT OF THE GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

the Drawbridge over the Desjardins Canal. The works here are extremely heavy; and the Suspension-bridge spans an opening made through the Heights, to allow of a new channel for the canal, found necessary in order to complete the Railway. The span of the bridge is 350 feet. These Heights are of an exceedingly hard material and in cutting through them the bones of some mammoth animals were discovered.

The third Illustration is a view of the Town of London, from the Railway-bridge over the River Thames: this bridge is a handsome wooden structure, of 160 feet span. London is an exceedingly thriving town, containing about 10,000 inhabitants; the houses are mostly built of white brick; and, the streets being broad and straight, the town has a very substantial and handsome appearance. The district round London is exceedingly thriving and well cultivated.

A very handsome bridge has also been constructed to carry the Railway

SUSPENSION AND SPRING BRIDGES, BURLINGTON HEIGHTS.

across the Grand River, near Paris. The piers are of solid masonry, the bridge itself being of the very finest Canadian oak. The banks of the Grand River are considered to be the finest section of country in Canada. The quantity of wheat raised in this part is very great indeed, and at the present time the Railway is conveying from that neighbourhood many thousand barrels of flour to New York, owing to the existing high prices. The city of Hamilton is rising rapidly; it contains about 20,000 inhabitants; and its beautiful bay, seated at the head of Lake Ontario, transacts an immense amount of freighting business during the season of navigation. The Customs duties paid here in the year 1853 amounted to the large sum of £120,000. The traffic upon this line, which is 228 miles in length, is already very large, amounting now to about £5000 a week in the depth of winter.

The suspension-bridge at Niagara Falls, which is proposed to be used for the passage of trains, is stated to be one of the wonders of the age.

TOWN OF LONDON, WITH THE GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY BRIDGE ACROSS THE THAMES

PROCLAMATION OF WAR AGAINST RUSSIA, AT THE ROYAL EXCHANGE.

PROCLAMATION OF WAR AGAINST RUSSIA, AT THE ROYAL EXCHANGE.

The ceremony of Proclaiming War—of which, as enacted in olden times, we gave some account in our Journal of last week—was performed in the City on Friday last; although it must be acknowledged that the scene was unattended by any of those heraldic or other official accompaniments which invest the form with attraction.

About noon, Mr. Beddome, the mace-bearer, accompanied only by Mr. Hill, the gate-porter at the Mansion-house, proceeded from thence to the Royal Exchange, wearing their black robes of office, but without the mace or any other insignia. These officers were soon recognised, and followed to the steps in front of the Exchange, and were speedily surrounded by between 200 and 300 persons. The news spread in all directions, and a rush was made to the point of interest; but before many reached the spot, the brief ceremony was finished amidst loud cheers.

On the same day, war was also formally declared at Southampton At twelve o'clock, the Royal standard was hoisted from the Audit House window; and immediately afterwards, the Mayor, in his official robes, attended by several members of the Town Council, and the Town Clerk, read the Queen's proclamation declaring war against the Emperor of Russia. As soon as he had finished, the sword of state belonging to the Corporation was unsheathed, symbolical of a state of war. The unsheathing of the sword was cheered by the crowd.

CONVICTS BREAKING UP "THE YORK" HULK, BY TORCHLIGHT, IN PORTSMOUTH HARBOUR.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

CONVICTS BREAKING UP THE "YORK" HULK, IN PORTSMOUTH HARBOUR, BY TORCHLIGHT.

TRANSPORTATION being no longer a sentence of punishment, convict labour now engages the attention of Government, not only as regards the disposal of it, but as a system by which national works may be constructed, with advantage to public finance. The most arduous work is accomplished by these unfortunate men, in all weather, and at all times, by night as well as by day, and, during the preparations for war at Portsmouth Dockyard, these convicts have been employed breaking up the *York* Hulk, by torch-light. We have engraved the strange scene from a Sketch made on the spot by Mr. Crew, of Hasar.

It is worthy of remark that frequently these men are employed upon various works, and often of that nature from which free labour would shrink; and volunteers can always be obtained for any service where hard labour is essential.

Such conduct on the part of men who are looked upon as the most abandoned and reckless characters, seems certainly to offer great hopes that the reformatory system, under which they are now so happily placed, will be attended with most beneficial results; and that, if any care and interest is taken in them after their discharge from prison, many of them will become useful and respectable members of society.

LITERATURE.

CHATIMENT. Political Poems. By VICTOR HUGO. London: Librairie Universelle. St. Hellier, Jersey: Imprimerie Universelle.

The resistance which the Revolution of 1848—when it had attained to the mastery and direction of the affairs of the country—encountered in the spirit, character, and manners of France, would form a curious and instructive history; as placing in bold relief the antagonism which the principles it inculcated provoked at its commencement; and the prudence, energy, hopefulness, and distaste for the theories and promises of reformers, its sequel has revealed in the ideas and conviction of modern France.

We are fully aware of the paradoxical air with which we appear, at first sight, to have invested this sentiment; and we are also convinced that the surest road to the hearts of those whose dreams are of a universal Republic would be by declaiming against the majority of the French people of 1850 and 1852; but the true value and originality of a history of 1848 would consist precisely in the care with which it laboured to place France in a true point of view, and the accuracy it observed in explaining how and for what reasons a great people has offered so determined a resistance to the most seductive offers of its would-be reformers. Much has been said of the "battle of June," the result of which France has never appeared to repent, and has certainly never forgotten.

As regards the Constitution of 1850, which ensued, those at whose inspiration it had arisen received it with mistrust; those who had experienced its working defended it without predilection and without faith. Men are prone to measure the importance of events by their durability. From the moment the French nation felt that a greater amount of vitality existed in itself than in the Constitution, that Constitution naturally declined in the balance; and France, out of the provisional shelter under which it had sought a temporary refuge, created on the 10th of December, the presidency of a Prince, and the consecration of a species of hereditary monarchy, and ultimately achieved a majority the most energetically opposed to Republican principles, and the most openly Monarchical in its sentiments, that ever sat in parliament, conclave

The [illegible] out of the [illegible] legislative and executive [illegible] freedom of the press, [illegible] universal [illegible] the [illegible] of resistance to a Republic which [illegible] himself.

We do not believe that there exists among the records of revolutions another example of a state of affairs at once so complex and so entangled, or one which required a more determined will to unravel, or a greater "ensemble" of decision and method to discard.

There is no reason why we should involve ourselves in political details, and attempt to show why France has rejected the proffered reforms, and cast out the reformers from her bosom, and why this has hitherto, and does still, rebel against the "chastisement" which Victor Hugo asserts it is his mission to administer. We may, at all events, assume it as a fact sufficiently established, that, since the great political reform of 1789, no serious desire for amendment in the political organization of the country had arisen. So true is this, that when the reformers of 1848 applied themselves to the task, they were quietly left alone in the hope that their labours would open out a new horizon, and bring to light some new marvel in the shape of liberty, fraternity, and equality. They, certainly, did their best, and struggled manfully to find some privilege to destroy, some second "Bastile" to raise, and for the opportunity of blazoning their triumphant banner with the inscription of some till then undiscovered right, in order that the new Republic might have its "declaration of the rights of man," and its "night of the 4th of August." Unhappily, the search was vain, nothing of the sort was to be found. And the sole exploit of these staunch lovers of equality appeared to be to break their own heads against that stern immovable object, that "right of property." Society in France, in short, had but to oppose its own *vis inertiæ* to the attack of the minority to ensure its safety —"mole sufficit."

Such being the state of the majority after the revolution of 1789, it became a matter of necessity either to let France quietly pursue its course of progressive amelioration along the paths then opened to it, or to resort, in December, to a second "battle of June."

As far as the result is concerned, it is not our province to pronounce upon the form of government our neighbours may choose to adopt—monarchical, autocratic, republican, or a combination of all; for, as no form of government can make an ignorant people free, so no despotism can enslave a properly educated people; and it was the manful appreciation of this fact that the authors of the Constitution of 1852, foreseeing the control which the progress of civilisation and enlightenment would exercise over the passions of mankind, thought fit to make a marked allusion to it in their *préambule*.

We would now ask whether it is not well deserving of all enlightened members of society to consider in what way they can best direct their energies and influence to promote among the community at large those essential constituents of progress in civilisation and enlightenment?

Very different notions, it is true, prevail among the persons out of whose mouths the word education finds utterance. But if, instead of composing the "Orientales," "Lights and Shades," "Leaves of Autumn," and other poems of the same class—admirable though they undoubtedly are—Victor Hugo had devoted the prime of his life to elucidate, illustrate, and promote among there "*Critère*," "*Sept*s *grises par le crime*," "*Frères du Dien boutique*," "*Bons*[illegible] *people*," as he calls the people of Paris—the laws of that wonderful machine, by which changes are effected and revolutions carried out; if his transcendant genius had inspired him with the ambition of being the best expounder of social duties, instead of the greatest poet of his country; if he had knowingly laboured to point out the essentials of good government, even should his ideas on the subject have proved too profound or advanced for the requirements of the present day; if, in short, exalting himself of the legacies bequeathed to man in the pages of the past, he had made himself an eternal labourer in the great educational harvest-field, and gleaned therefrom such a system of training as would have enabled those who came after him in the cause of reform to avoid error and render "chastisement" unnecessary, the great poet would not have had to wait for the eleventh hour, to candle over and bewail the sufferings of "Pauline Roulland," to denounce the tortures of the "Bagnes d'Afrique," to relieve his unfortunate fellow-sufferers by his bounty, to "chastise" his triumphant adversaries by his pen?

So much for the political portion of the book of "Châtiment." The more pleasant part of our duty is now to be performed.

It is well known that the whole of Victor Hugo's splendid and busy life was dedicated to literature, and that his poetical labours have not ceased in the land of exile. Besides his well-known "Napoleon le Petit," he has published his own parliamentary speeches in two volumes, and he has in the press, "Histoire Contemporaine," two volumes; "Les Contemplations," poems, two volumes; "Les Petites Epopées," poems, one volume; and "Les Miserables," a novel, six volumes.

Of these different works, only one, "Histoire Contemporaine," is of a political nature. The others belong to purely literary pursuits and social philosophy—especially "Les Miserables," which he commenced previous to the outbreak of February 1848. The progress of the work was interrupted by that event, but its completion has been achieved in a foreign land. It is entirely free from political tendency, and has no relation to the stirring events of our time. It may be said to be a novel and drama combined, a kind of social epic, on a new and large scale.

In addition to all these, he originally published, at Brussels in volume of poems, divided into different heads, the completion of which is the book now before us. Passing over the curses and bitter sarcasms abounding in this book, and which prove that Victor Hugo is the very antipodes of Shakspeare—who found "Sermons in stones, books in the running brooks, and good in everything"—we may safely say that "Châtiment" is a volume which will not detract from the poetical fame of its author. Faculty of graphic description, powerful imagination, fervid and masculine diction, analytic skill—all are apparent in these poems. The beauties of nature, its ocean, storms, and rock which round the island of Jersey. Bourdon de Notre Dame, Battlefields, Waterloo, Retraite de Moscou, Pauline Rolland, les Soldats de l'An II., la Caravane, le Lion dans le Désert, Ultima Verba, acquire, in the unparalleled action of the great poet, a degree of life and more irresistible grasp of reality. To great poet, a degree of life and more irresistible grasp of reality. such an extent do they captivate the reader, as to render him quite unconscious of the political frame in which these poems are embodied.

It is quite impossible to give quotations and extracts from this remarkable volume, which contains more than 300 poems. We can only recommend our readers (and we dare say the number will be great) to peruse the volume themselves. They will find, we are sure, that "Châtiment," despite its connection with politics, is a work of great power and vividness of its sketches, is not surpassed by any of the more celebrated poetical productions of the illustrious author of "Les Orientales" and "Notre Dame de Paris."

ATHERTON, AND OTHER TALES. By MARY RUSSELL MITFORD, Author of "Our Village." 3 vols. Hurst and Blackett.

What lover of truth and nature can have forgotten the possessive Our of "Our Village"? Was it not Ours, English, every inch of it, every person in it, every action; yea—every thought, that pertained not to its similitude but to its identity? The author has been compared to admirable Dutch and Flemish painters—to Hobbima, and Ruysdael, and Berghem; and so she deserves to be from her charming landscape pieces; but none of them could people their rural scenes like her, which required the talent of another hand class of their artists, such as Teniers and Ostade; only that what was vulgar in them she transmuted into pleasing and yet real rustic portraiture, without violating the verity and making her clowns (as a pseudo-Cockney though said that Virgil's husbandmen and dame) spread the manners like gentlemen.

It is a long while since the four popular volumes to which we refer saw the light; so long, that we might almost have supposed the mature powers of that date must be, by this time, enfeebled or exhausted. But though we regret to say that the great strength of the amiable writer has felt the effect of increasing years, there is consolation in seeing that her mental endowments are as fresh and vigorous as ever. A severe accident had so crippled her that she informs us, ten months after: "I gained no strength. The autumn found me again confined to my bed; wheeled with difficulty from the bed to the fireside; unable to rise from my seat to stand for a moment, to put one foot before another; and when lifted into bed, incapable of turning or moving in the slightest degree whatever. Even in writing, I was often obliged to have the ink-glass held for me, because I could not raise my hand to dip the pen in the ink."

Amid such pain and suffering it is truly wonderful that "Atherton" could have been produced; but literature, with its griefs, is not without its gratifications. "So far (continues Miss Mitford) am I from murmuring against that Will which alone knows what is best for us all, that I cannot be sufficiently thankful to the merciful Providence which, shattering the frame, left such poor faculties as were originally vouchsafed to me, undimmed and unclouded; enabling me still to live by the mind, and not only to enjoy the never-wearying delight of reading the thoughts of others, but even to light up a dull sick chamber, and brighten a gloomy sky, by recalling the sweet and sunny valley, which formed one of the most cherished haunts of my happier years."

Here we behold in a fine disposition an example of that curious rebound of mind, the effect of an inscrutable reaction, which, without a wish or a will, seeks, or rather experiences, in an opposite direction, a counterpoise to any pervading influence. The deepest affection often explodes in most unseemly mirth; and merriment itself is sometimes drowned in tears. So, in this instance, in a minor degree, the [illegible] bodily suffering was tried and vanquished by the strong resolve which found in the sweet creations of the ideal a refuge from the bitter actualities of the real. To offer a simile from the realm of flowers (the author's favourite haunt)—a delicate plant was forced to yield to the delightful blossoms, the deformed sky-plant to throw out sparkling gems of many tinted hues. The sick couch gave us "Atherton."

The story itself is of a dramatic kind, and rather distinguished by the skilful drawing of the *dramatis personæ* than by the complication of the plot. The condition of a noble family, father and son, about to lose the splendid inheritance of illustrious centuries, is finely described, and may be applied to a crisis which did not end so fortunately, though borne with equal firmness of heart, in a family, not far remote from the author's humbler home, "beneath the shadow of her own beautiful Swallowfield."

But the most original character of the whole is the boy, Jacob Stokes, a village Caleb Quotem of infinite perspicuity, humour, and usefulness. He plays his part admirably, and fairly competes with the best in the circle above him, though they are touched with life-like traits, and exhibit natural and unexaggerated groupings of human beings—men and women, as they are, involved in a variety of social relations and consequent conflicts.

Yet the spell which binds the reader to the volume (for "Atherton" occupies only the first) does not belong to the histrionic or the striking. Only one villain has the slightest connection with the melodramatic order (and even he exactly such folks as we may meet with school, and all the year round, every day. Even the miser, though not common, is a genuine type of wandering life, and the account of his death is exceedingly graphic, and might be instructive, if miserly wretches ever took lessons from earth or heaven. The great and unique charms of Miss Mitford's productions are the most perfect simplicity in every respect, and a freshness of description which cannot be surpassed. Events succeed each other as if invention and arrangement had nothing to do with them; and the actors, if we could so designate them, do exactly what ordinary people would most probably do under similar circumstances. And they are placed amid scenery which the country presents to the observant eye on every side, in which "cot and hall," —quiet nook, picturesque combinations of copse and wood, dells tinkling with slumber-imposing rills, leafy haunts of feathered songsters filling the air with sweet sounds, broad expanses, and mountain-barriers, are blended—in these they perform their allotted parts; and while hemmed views—in these they perform their allotted parts; and while hemmed views—in these they perform their allotted parts; and while hemmed views

NEW MUSIC, &c.

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HARMONIUMS at TOLKIEN'S, 27 and 28, King William-street, London-bridge. H. T. has a large variety in Oak, Mahogany, and Rosewood cases, with 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 stops, by the celebrated Alexandre of Paris, which he is enabled to offer at very moderate prices. An excellent Instrument for £7 10s.

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

No. 678.—VOL. XXIV.] SATURDAY, APRIL 15, 1854. [WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.

THE POSTPONEMENT OF THE REFORM BILL.

It will excite no surprise that Lord John Russell has declined to proceed with the Reform Bill during the present Session. His Lordship—whose character and career are, as Mr. Disraeli truly states, "precious possessions of the House of Commons"—betrayed some natural emotion in sacrificing, at the shrine of public necessity, the great measure, so studiously arranged, so nicely balanced, and so honourably associated with his historical name. The regret which he expressed at the postponement of a project which, in happier times, would have monopolised the attention of the country, and based upon firmer foundations the expansive constitution of Great Britain will be felt among all classes of the people. But even those who regret the sacrifice will concur in the necessity which rendered it imperative, and approve of the determination of the Government. This is no time for prudent statesmen to incur the risk of Parliamentary defeats. The displacement of the present Ministry by any other would be a public calamity; not for the influence which such an occurrence would exercise among ourselves, but for its effect among the nations of the Continent, where our domestic politics and party combinations are so imperfectly understood. Had rival factions in the House of Commons not been quite so evenly balanced, and had there been a preponderating majority in favour of the measure which Lord John Russell introduced at the commencement of the Session, it would have been a duty incumbent upon the Ministry to have proceeded with it. As a nation, we are great and powerful enough to carry on a war and reform our Constitution at the same time. War is in itself no reason why we should cease to devote attention to our domestic affairs. It would have been a grand spectacle to have offered to the world, if we could calmly and dispassionately have disfranchised our rotten boroughs, and extended the suffrage, at a time when our armies were driving the Russians across the Pruth, and when our fleets were battering Cronstadt and Sebastopol, and depriving the great European enemy of his ships of war, of his fortresses, and of his *prestige* in the world's opinion. Unfortunately, so great an opportunity has not been afforded to us. In addition to the party which opposes all Reform as a matter of principle—though not forming in itself a majority in the Legislature—were the members of the House of Commons whose seats would have been lost by the proposed disfranchisement of so many small, and almost obsolete, boroughs. It was scarcely to have been expected of human virtue that even one half of these gentlemen should have consented, on public principle, to a measure involving their political annihilation. If there had been a great public agitation, or a pressure of State necessity, to compel them to do so, they would, no doubt, have yielded, as others in similar circumstances had done before them. But this pressure was wanting, and the Government was wise in yielding to the general sentiment—falsely described as one of apathy, but in reality one of pre-occupation. The Anglo-Saxon mind likes to do one thing at a time, in order that the one thing may be done effectually. The heart of the people is in the War. They are desirous of devoting their whole energies to it. They are willing to pay for, and are ready to fight in it. They are determined, if conviction and courage can accomplish great ends, to make it "short and sharp." Their thoughts are in the Baltic, with Sir Charles Napier and his gallant blue-jackets, and not in Sudbury, St. Albans, or "Eatanswill," with pettifogging lawyers and venal potwallopers. The people know that the Constitution is not perfect. They see defects, anomalies, and inconsistencies in it. Many honest, industrious, and thriving men in scores of important towns,

THE ROAD TO CONSTANTINOPLE.—A TRAVELLING PARTY CROSSING THE BALKANS.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

think it a hardship that a privilege should be denied to them which is possessed by thousands of disreputable persons who openly sell their votes to the highest bidder. But this class of people are aware that, notwithstanding all such apparent blots on the fair page of British liberty, the House of Commons is the guardian of their individual freedom, and that it jealously watches the public interests. They know that, whatever may be the case in other nations, Englishmen can think, and speak, and act, without the interference of arbitrary power; that they are responsible to the law, and to the law only, and that in this respect the highest personage in the realm stands upon the same equality. The subjects of the British Crown, feeling and prizing their present liberty, are contented to wait until more tranquil times for a larger instalment of the privileges which they deserve; and look forward, without impatience, for the day when such men as Lord John Russell shall be enabled to complete nobly a work which has been well begun.

Lord John Russell, deeply moved as he was by the virtual abandonment of a measure which had cost him so much care, and with the introduction of which his personal honour was so closely identified, cannot but have felt proud of the universal testimony borne to his character and consistency. Even the leader of the Opposition caught the contagion of enthusiasm, and paid well-merited homage to his Lordship's character, though inveterate habit, if not inclination, caused him to forget the evanescent praises which he had uttered, and to descend again into the ranks of the captious and the carping. The hon. member for Manchester formed no exception to the general unanimity. Though he deprecated the war, and appeared to think it of no consequence if England, by refusing to take part in it, should confess herself to be a second or third-rate power, he was satisfied at the postponement, and with the arguments on which it was founded. Mr. Bright drew consolation for his temporary disappointment in the hope that the longer the War continued, the better chance there would be for a still larger Reform Bill. In this, however, he may chance to find himself mistaken. Though a member of the Peace Party, the honourable member is like a war-horse, which snorts and pricks up its ears at the sound of the battle. He longs for a fight like that of Free-trade, which he so nobly and so valiantly helped to win, and burns with martial enthusiasm when he thinks of the rotten boroughs that are hereafter to be captured and scheduled, and the venal voters that are to be put to the rout. What the quarter-deck is to Admiral Napier the platform is to Mr. Bright. The orator is as warlike in his words as the sailor is in his deeds. But in this respect Lord John Russell and the House of Commons are not so military as Mr. Bright. They, also, in another way, are members of a Peace-Party. Unlike Reformers *à tout prix*, they deprecate a warfare of public agitation such as that of 1832, and do not consider it essential to the success of a Reform Bill, whensoever and by whomsoever introduced. There is every probability, if we may judge of the present temper of the public mind, that Mr. Bright's anticipations will not be realised. The next Reform Bill will, doubtless, excite some opposition; but there is small reason to fear that it will raise bitter controversies and protracted agitations like those which pre ceded the first Reform Bill and the repeal of the Corn-laws. The question has made too much progress in the popular mind, and impressed itself too deeply on the judgment of statesmen, to be lost altogether. It may be retarded, but it will ultimately triumph. "When the time is ripe," says Mr. Disraeli, "a measure, demanded by necessity, will be brought forward, whatever Minister may be in possession of power." Such is the confidence entertained by the country; to which is added the fervent hope that Lord John Russell, and not Mr. Disraeli, may be the man to introduce it.

THE BALKANS.

We have received from our Special Correspondent, in Bulgaria, a series of Sketches illustrative of that interesting country; and the view engraved upon the preceding page, of a Pass in the Balkan, the celebrated mountain range, through which Darius, Alexander the Great, and General Diebitsch passed with their vast armies; and which may hereafter become of kindred importance in the present war. The Balkan has recently been minutely described by Lieut.-General Jochmus, in a paper communicated to the Royal Geographical Society by Sir Roderick I. Murchison; and the portion of the route represented by our Artist (with a party of travellers in a snow storm), is that between Osman Bazar and Schumla, and is thus described by General Jochmus:—

Osman Bazar, a considerable and thriving borough, with several mosques and baths, and a Turkish fountain of ancient materials, lies in a sheltered position, and is surrounded by fine vineyards and fruit-gardens. It is a post station on the main road from Rasschuk to Kazgan, Selimé, and Adrianople. Parts of an old Roman causeway are still visible. From Osman Bazar the ground ascends for two hours to the first Dervend guard-house at Jenikioi. Between Cestak and Dervend there are again two Dervend guard-houses. Between these Dervend houses is a first-rate military position, on detached, rather steep, barren heights, extending in a crescent of one mile and a quarter facing the north. The main road winds from E.N.E. to W.S.W. along the foot of the position, then right through it, over open ground. A brick descent for half an hour brings you to Kasan. No wood right or left. The immediate neighbourhood of Kasan is also bare, with the exception of Kizipé (already described), and the western mountain range. The valley of Kasan is rich in pasture, but too cold for vines.

The road now lies from Kasan by Papas Koï, through the valley of the Delih Kamelik, as far as Sudowah. From Malanitch downwards, towards Kamehik-Mahalessi, the bed of the river runs through a very narrow, steep defile, mostly between abrupt rocks and crags. It is everywhere fordable. The road to Rubsha leads over the high mountain range, which here hems in the river. Turning off nearly due north, towards Czali Kavak, the village of Rubsha appears on the left, forming, with Muraddére, part of a strong military position of 1000 to 1200 yards extent, facing east towards the Dobrul main road, and eventually of strategical importance, as it forms the junction of various roads. One hour and a half's march from the above-mentioned point of intersection takes us through a great wooded defile, and half an hour more, over an undulating plain, brings us, after dark, to Czali Kavak. This great mountain defile is generally from 40 to 100 yards broad, the military road being nowhere encased more narrowly than ten yards, and made practicable for heavy baggage trains. The mountain slopes, between 300 and 400 feet high, are not very steep, but of difficult ascent, on account of the large trees and the thick under wood Czali Kavak is a post station of eighty Kuses; but before and at which terminated in 1774 it contained 700 families, many of whom emigrated subsequently into Russia. From Czali Kavak, a direct mountain pass to Kasan (a horse) is very rough and precipitous. From Czali Kavak to Schumla by the main road, viz., Smiadova, is eight hours.

Immediately north of Chenga is a fine military position of about 900 yards extent, and facing north. It covers the roads to Czali Kavak and to Sudshiller, but it can be turned by its left, through the gorge, by which passes a direct road from Jenikoi to Mrege. Cara Ahmed also offers a fine military position, in a semicircle of 1200 to 1500 yards, facing N.N.E., and covering the Kamshik and the position of Chenga. Near this important strategical spot the forest is crossed by several roads from Chenga across the Buyuk Kamshik river.

At Kopnikoy, a narrow wooden bridge crosses the river, and near it is a ford two or three feet deep. The village itself is newly built. It was burnt in 1823, by order of Ali Pacha, before the arrival of General Rüdiger with the first Russian column that forced the passage of the Balkan. The various military lines crossing that celebrated mountain ridge—hitherto considered as an efficient protective barrier to Constantinople—having been duly reconnoitred by Russian staff officers in 1829, it is probable that the Russian armies will operate on a plan very different from that of the campaign of 1828-29, when the Balkan was nearly unexplored. The positions of Schumla and Varna alone, as hitherto occupied by the Turks in their defensive operations against a northern enemy, are very far from covering the Balkan passages, as now known and examined. The position taken up by Ali Pacha in 1828, near Koprikoy, or west, at the first serious onset of General Rüdiger obliged the Turks to abandon it. From Farawadi a good cart-road leads across our morning's line of march to Kumarovas, and thence by Jenikoi directly to Mrege, by a ford of the Akylly Kamshik. From Markovsha to Kulevdja we rode over high undulating land, partly covered with brush and underwood. A moderate descent from the heights above Kulevdja leads into the plains of Schumla. At twenty minutes from Kulevdja the road to Schumla leads over the Bashbunar by a Roman arch, and immediately afterwards we reach an ancient fountain. About three dozen Tepés, or tumuli, are scattered over the plains between Kulevdja and Schumla.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

On Sunday morning the Prince Napoleon took his departure for Marseilles and Toulon. The journey is to occupy six days, and the Prince is to receive at each station of his route, the honours due to the heir presumptive of the Imperial Crown. At Marseilles a grand fête—which his Imperial Highness at first declined, as tending to retard his course, but which, in accordance with the desire of the Emperor, he has since decided on accepting—is to take place. Much attention is excited by the circumstance of the Prince being accompanied on his journey by M. Emile de Girardin, the boldest and most constant opposer of the present Government, and whose journal, *La Presse*, has already received two *avertissemens*, leaving now no further preliminary measure to its suspension in case of further offence. It is a remarkable and most creditable fact, that the Prince has always, under all changes of circumstances, remained faithful to his personal friends, not only in private, but in public. The unflinching courage, the straightforwardness in support of his principles, the ardent love of justice and right in the face of oppression, that distinguish the character of M. de Girardin, have, from the first, awakened and maintained a strong hold on the sympathies and esteem of the Prince; and these sentiments he has now taken the most public occasion of proclaiming.

M. Durand Brager, an artist of considerable talent, has been appointed by the Admiral Hamelin to accompany the squadron. M. Durand has already formed one of the party on board the *Cacique*, sent on the excursion to the Black Sea, where his services in sketching the coast, and making plans of all the forts on the shores, have led to the present nomination.

The arrival of the English troops is anxiously expected. They are to be lodged in the Barracks of the Guides and Chasseurs who, to display hospitality to their new comrades, are to bivouac in the Champ de Mars and Champs Elysées.

The formation of the Imperial Guard is being actively pursued. Two regiments of cavalry—one of the Guides, and one of Gendarmerie Mobile—are to form this *corps d'élite*. The organisation of the Cent Gardes—of which we spoke in our last letter—is found to present considerable difficulties, though the number is only that indicated by the title (100 men), independent, however, of officers, of whom there are 26. The conditions are, it is true, somewhat difficult. The men are to be selected exclusively from the non-commissioned officers of the army; they are not to expect any promotion; and the standard height is 5 ft. 8 in. French, which is, as our readers are aware, higher than English measurement. The pay is to be 1200 francs (£48) yearly. They are to take it in turn to accompany the Emperor when he goes out; to attend him at all times and on all occasions, even to keeping watch at the door of his apartment during the night.

Their Majesties are about to pass some time at the Palace of St. Cloud.

On Saturday took place a most imposing ceremony, the inauguration of the embellishment of the Bois de Boulogne, of which we spoke in our last. On the border of one of the lakes, and opposite the cascade established at the upper one, a magnificent tribune, richly decorated with green velvet and Moorish stuffs, and flanked at each side by trophies, in which were mingled the flags of England, France, and Turkey, were placed two state chairs in carved wood, for the Emperor and Empress, who occupied them, surrounded by the Prince Jerome, the Grand Duchess of Baden, the Préfect of the Seine, &c., &c. On the top of the rocks, from which fell the cascade, was formed a niche in carved and gilt wood, in which was placed a colossal statue holding in right arm garlands, and in the left hand the arms of the city of Paris. Above was placed the escutcheon of the Emperor, surmounted by a crown; on each side granite pedestals, with the busts of their Majesties, and among the rocks enflammes, with various fancy colours. The Empress having turned the cock which lets the water flow from the cascade, and from thence into the lakes, which it takes about two days to fill. At the conclusion of the ceremony he decorated M. Baudart, the architect of the waters. The first plan of embellishment being now accomplished, it is proposed to add to the improvements a broad avenue, leading straight from the Arc de Triomphe to the centre of the Bois, bordered on each side by handsome villas with gardens. Winding alleys are also to be formed for pedestrians and equestrians, with groves and openings through different parts of the grounds.

The third and last steeplechase of the season, at La Marche, took place on Sunday. A horse, Andante, was killed in attempting one of the leaps, and a jockey thrown in another and severely bruised. On the two former occasions of these races, the complexions of the gentlemen who attended them suffered so much from the sun and dust, that at the one in question, they adopted the fashion of green and blue veils, to the immense edification of the *flâneurs* and *badauds* who were grouped about the *barrières* and in the Champs Elysées, watching their return.

A little private fête took place, a few days since, at St. Cloud, in honour of the Duke and Duchess of Hamilton. Unfortunately, a slight indisposition prevented the attendance of her Grace. The party drove for some hours in the park, the Empress driving herself in a little carriage drawn by four ponies, in which she used to make her appearance at Madrid.

A most interesting work, by M. Empis, member of the Académie Française, has just made its appearance. It is entitled "Les Six Femmes de Henri VIII." Both in an historical and a literary point of view the book is full of merit, charm, and instruction, and is a most valuable acquisition to the library of modern French authors.

The Opéra Comique is about to bring out a new production, entitled, we believe, "La Maîtresse du Diable." The famous piece at the Vaudeville, "La Vie en Rose," which caused the very first curious correspondence between Mdmes. Doche and Page (cited in our last), has little remarkable beyond the fact of its being intensely disagreeable, though sparkling with wit, scattered through the piece like spangles. The Ambigu has a tremendously complicated, though certainly interesting and exciting, melodrama, with the lugubrious title of "Le Pendu."

UNITED STATES.

By the steam-ship *Arabia*, which arrived at Liverpool last Saturday, we have New York papers to the 29th ult. The Cuban authorities had surrendered the steam-ship *Black Warrior*, whose detention had caused much excitement in the United States, upon the payment, under protest, of a fine of 6000 dollars; and was to leave Havannah on the 24th for New York. The excitement in the Union had almost died away respecting the seizure. The naval expedition to Japan has been recalled, the fleet being wanted for home service. The Filibustering expeditions to Mexico have failed. The Irish residents of New York are blustering about a projected invasion of Canada, with a view to assist Russia.

INDIA AND CHINA.

The news by the Overland Mail, which arrived on Wednesday, is not very important. From Burmah we have rumours of disturbances and conspiracies, showing that affairs are not yet in a very satisfactory condition there.

The rebellion in China makes no progress. Shanghae remains in the hands of the patriots, and the Imperialists still retain Amoy, although it is confidently expected that the latter place will soon be taken, as large reinforcements are said to be on their way from the Straits of Malacca.

THE WAR.

THE BALTIC FLEET IN THE GULF OF FINLAND.

A telegraphic despatch from Copenhagen, of April 12, states that the *Dauntless* had returned from a cruise up the Gulf of Finland; and that she had chased a Russian corvette into Sveaborg, where eighteen ships-of-the-line were then lying. On receiving this intelligence the English fleet, which had received a reinforcement of three more vessels, suddenly left Kioge Bay, and steered eastwards in the direction of Sveaborg. Some news of importance may be looked for daily.

During the ten or twelve days in which the fleet was lying at Kioge Bay, the people of Copenhagen paid frequent visits to it. Among other vessels the Danish steamer *Dimbria*, with 400 passengers on board, went down there on the anniversary of Nelson's bloodiest battle, fifty-three years ago—the battle of Copenhagen. The weather was fine, nearly summer-like, with a breeze from the north-west. The steamer left the harbour of Copenhagen at half-past eleven o'clock, and arrived at the station of the fleet, about one. It was anchored two miles off Stevns, in the very bight of Kioge Bay, moored in a semicircle, upon a square of 1½ English miles: the *Duke of Wellington* in the centre, with Sir Charles Napier's blue flag at the fore; and next to him, on one side, the *St Jean d'Acre* (the only one of the ships which has its name written on the stern), then the *Royal George*, then the *Edinburgh*, and then, next to the land, the *Neptune*. Nineteen vessels were there in all, in two lines, the smaller paddle-wheel steamers ahead, and the larger ships in the second line. The *Cimbria* sailed round the fleet, and the Danes cheered each ship, especially the *Duke*, with repeated hurrahs; which were answered from the fleet with louder cheers, and from two of them—the *St. Jean d'Acre* and the *Neptune*—with music. The visitors would, no doubt, have been hospitably received on board the fleet; but the passengers of the *Cimbria* being so numerous, the Danes gave a proof of good taste in voluntarily withstanding their desire to see the interior of the ships, which would have been a great trouble to the crews, and especially the officers of the fleet. The Danes, therefore, contented themselves with sailing round the fleet, singing the British National Anthem, and giving vent to their delight and sympathy by repeated cheers and hurrahs to every ship. "It was a delightful day," says one of the passengers on board the *Cimbria*, "and one of the grandest sights I have ever seen, as we lay to by the side of the last ship in the fleet—the *Neptune*—and looked down along the majestic line, and saw the tremendous set of white teeth from 1000 cannon mouths, smiling at us as friendly this time as they bit us hard fifty-three years ago. When we stopped at the *Duke*, Sir Charles was most cordially observed, and the gallant Admiral appeared himself on the starboard quarter, his hat in one hand, a book in the other, and bowed very civilly to us. We returned to Copenhagen at six o'clock in the afternoon, and I am convinced that, if the fleet stays here some days longer, these pilgrimages to Kioge Bay will frequently be repeated, in spite of the remembrance of 1801 and 1807, which some people here try to refresh and strengthen. Besides the nineteen vessels at Kioge, five vessels have lain in the roads of Copenhagen since yesterday, (April 1st) viz., *Tribune*, 30 guns; *Dauntless*, 40 guns; *Vulture*, 16 guns; *Valorous*, 16 guns; and *Bulldog*, 4 guns, which this evening took the British Minister, Mr. Buchanan, to the fleet."

A letter from one of the men on board the *Duke of Wellington* states that when the news of the Declaration of War was made known to the fleet, "the news was received with loud cheers. Three times three were given for our noble Queen, and three times three for our noble Commander-in-Chief, Old Charley."

THE FLEETS IN THE BLACK SEA.

On the afternoon of March 24, the whole of the combined British and French squadron left their anchorage at Beicos in the Bosphorus, and entered the Black Sea. The large line-of-battle ships were successively towed out, and by three o'clock there only remained in the Bosphorus her Majesty's steam-frigate *Retribution*, and the French ships *Charlemagne* and *Heron*.

A great number of hand dark-lanterns have been purchased for the use of the fleet, and a great number of grappling-irons had been forging for a few weeks previously at a smithy that had been established at Buyukderd.

Admiral Dundas addressed the officers of his ships before starting, and so did the French Admiral. Sebastopol, the coast of Circassia, and Odessa were spoken of as likely to receive a visit.

It was a fine day when the fleet set sail, and a finer sight could not be witnessed than an immense fleet of British and French three-deckers in movement towards the mouth of the Black Sea. The first ships started at about eleven o'clock in the forenoon, the rest slowly following—the large sailing vessels in tow of the steamers, on account of the utter want of a breeze. The Turkish fleet has remained behind, and is at anchor at Buyukdere. The Turkish Admirals expressed the wish and demanded the permission to accompany the combined fleets. The British and French Admirals, however, refused, knowing well the difficulty of managing large sailing vessels in the Euxine at this season, and foreseeing that the Turkish ships would only embarrass their operations, as the Ottoman crews all get sick in rough weather, and British and French seamen could not be spared to steer their vessels. The Turkish Admirals and officers were greatly hurt at the refusal.

The day before the departure of the combined fleets, the *Mogador* and *Inflexible*, French and English steam-frigates, left for Varna with 1000 Ottoman troops armed with Minié rifles to reinforce the garrison. The object of the combined fleets was, it is stated, to support the operations of the Turks, and to attack, if necessary, the Russian fleet, which had been seen by several ships near Varna, for the purpose of supporting the movements of Prince Gortschakoff

The *Sampson* and *Cacique* steamers, during their last cruise in the Black Sea, saw the Russians burn and blow up a certain number of fortresses on the coast of Asia; they also saw the Circassians enter and pillage Soudchuk after it had been set fire to and abandoned by the Russians. Sotchs met with a similar fate. They visited, in succession, Bombary, Pelzouapi, Galindzik, and Loujak-Bay. The fort of Pshad was on fire and had been also pillaged. The Circassians, with whom the frigates communicated, stated that Schamyl was in the south with 40,000 men, and only waited for instructions to act. The Russians were making great preparations at Anapa, and repairing all the fortifications. The Russians on all the coast were in a state of extraordinary panic. At the sight of the steamers they fired guns to warn the neighbouring forts to put themselves on the defensive. Soukoum Kalé appears to be the place which the Russians intended to make the centre of their operations.

THE NEW PROTOCOL.—THE PRUSSIAN POLICY.

On Saturday last M. Manteuffel informed the Prussian Chambers that the Government had joined England and France in a further protocol adopted and signed at Vienna. The object of this protocol, he said, was to attest that the Four Powers still regarded the Eastern question as they did when the last common protocol was signed, notwithstanding the events (i. e. the declaration of war by France and England) which have subsequently taken place.

The Austrian Government also announces in the *Oest. Correspondenz* that the Four Powers find it necessary to declare that the state of war which has arisen between the Porte and France and England, and Russia, has not changed the unalterable agreement between those Powers, the object of that agreement being the integral preservation of the Turkish empire, the evacuation of its Danubian provinces, and the amelioration of the Christian population.

The foreign policy of the Prussian Government was thoroughly discussed on Saturday, in the Second Chamber, at Berlin. M. Holweg, leader of the old Prussian party, spoke strongly in favour of taking a decided course. Prussia had but one part to take. "She must join the Western Powers, or rather Europe, to sustain the right." M. Vincke followed on the same side, reminding the Chamber of Frederick the Great's memorable words, "If ever the Russians get to Constantinople, they will not be two days from Königsberg." After showing how little trust they could place in the word of Nicholas, he went on to say, "The true policy of Prussia is to throw off the tutelage of Russia. Protocols do not meet the case. A great Power ought to have its hand in the execution of that which it puts on the basis of European right. France and England will not long recognise the neutrality of Prussia. That neutrality may bring you into hostilities with those two countries, and at best it will not bring you the full favour of Russia, which wishes for your sympathetic support." The session concluded by declaring that he would not vote the sum required until Prussia should be bound by a private treaty with France and England

The result of the debate was the defeat of the popular party. By a union of the Right with the extreme Left, qualifying clauses were rejected, and the loan of 30,000 000 thalers was granted without conditions.

A despatch was forwarded from Berlin to St. Petersburg on the 8th inst., announcing that the King has used every exertion to induce the Continental Powers to enter into new negotiations, but that he has failed, and can obtain nothing till the Russians have evacuated the Principalities.

DEFEAT OF THE RUSSIANS.

A very severe battle appears to have been fought at Skripes, near Kalafat, about the 30th ult The Turks advanced from their entrenched position with 10,000 infantry, 2000 cavalry, and 60 cannon, against the Russians, who were posted in very superior force at Skripes. A struggle of four hours' duration ensued between the rival forces, but in the issue the Turks were completely victorious, driving their adversaries from every point, with immense loss, and pursuing them to Goraja. The loss of the Turks is estimated at 200 men; that of the Russians is said to have been treble or quadruple. The struggle commenced at Kalafrasch and Chetatea, and this was still going on on the 2nd of April. At Semnitza, the Russians are said to have been completely beaten; and Giergevo they have already cleared out of—not a Russian there. The loss of the Russians at Semnitza is said to have been 1000 killed alone.

A letter from the Lower Danube, of April 2nd, says that "since the 29th ult. the Russians have made no movement in advance from Babadagh."

Other letters state that, whilst Russian troops continue to advance upon Kalarasch, their reserve from Hirsova was advancing, on the 1st of April, towards Czernavoda; and that, upon March 30, the *tête de pont* of Trchernawoda was cannonaded by Russian gunboats. Later accounts say that it has been abandoned by the Turks.

The Allied fleets reached Kavarna Bay on the 26th ult. Eight line-of-battle ships (French) were at anchor in line to the east of Varna, flanked by six steamers. Further east were ten line-of-battle ships (English), with six steamers on their flank. It was said that the marines were to be landed to protect Varna.

Reports from Bucharest, of the 21st, state that the Russian columns, four in number, were before Trajan's Wall in full force on the 20th. Mustapha Pacha was taking all requisite measures for the defence of that wall. He has his head quarters at Karasesa. It was supposed that about the 4th or 6th of April a regular battle would be fought at Trajan's Wall, and that, simultaneously therewith, the Generals Schilder and Shrulef would commence their operations at or from Kalarasch. Bucharest letters state that Omer Pacha had hastened on the 26th to Rassova, to conduct the military operations in person which were going forward at Silistria and Trajan's Wall.

A letter in the *Wanderer* of the 29th, gives the following statement regarding the Russian forces:—

Up to the 27th, 45,000 men had crossed the river from Moldavia and Wallachia, and 15,000 from Bessarabia. At present there are 150,000 men in the two Principalities, which are thus posted:—45,000 in Lesser Wallachia; 80,000 in Great Wallachia—that is, from the Aluta up to Braila, and 25,000 from the foot of the Carpathians across Fokschan to Braila and Galatz. Of the 80 000 men in the Dobrudscha, 15,000 remain as reserves at Matschin, Isaktscha, and Tultscha; 18,000 men, of whom 3000 will remain in garrison at Hirsova, form the right wing of the army before Trajan's Wall; 19,000 or 20,000 are at Kustendje, and some 3000 or 4000 men are marching to the south from Babadagh.

DEPARTURE OF PRINCE NAPOLEON.

Prince Napoleon Bonaparte left Paris on Sunday morning, at half-past nine, by the Lyons railroad, for Toulon. The Prince was accompanied by his father Jerome, who remained with him in the carriage till the last moment. The Prince, who was in undress uniform, was accompanied by his aides-de-camp and orderly officers. Marshal Magnan, one or two of the Ministers, the Prefect of the Seine, and several other high functionaries, escorted him to the railroad, and also remained till the train left. Among the private friends of his Imperial Highness was remarked M. Emile Girardin. General Prim, in the full uniform of a Lieutenant-General of the Spanish army, accompanied by the officers who compose the commission of which he is the head, also left with the Prince, on his return to the Turkish Embassador. Vely Pacha, accompanies Prince Napoleon to Toulon, and left in the same carriage, accompanied by his private (Turkish) secretary, Fak Effendi, and one of the attachés of the Embassy, who proceeds to Turkey. A considerable number of persons, private friends of the distinguished travellers, remained to the last, and several lingered at the railway station even after the train had departed. The Turkish Ambassador will remain in Toulon till the embarkation of Prince Napoleon, when he returns to Paris.

A CIRCASSIAN VICTORY.

The Vienna telegraph states that Schamyl has gained another victory over the Russians. The prophet-warrior of the Caucasus thus sustains his old reputation, and it seems clear that very little help from without would enable him to do much more. The Circassians are precisely the people likely to be most grateful for any countenance or support they might receive. The temper in which such sympathy would be recognised, may be understood from the statement of facts just made public, in reference to the rumour that the *Arethusa* and *Samson* steamers in the Black Sea had been fired upon by a Circassian garrison, mistaking them for Russians. "The fort of Pshad, abandoned and set fire to by the Russians, was taken by the Circassians. The French and English frigates being off the place, each sent a party on shore to make inquiries, and the boats were at first received with a volley of musketry, the Circassians in the fort not knowing either the French or English flags, and supposing them to be Russian. But a Circassian pilot on board the *Cocyne* succeeded in making himself known, and then the boats made the land without opposition. The *Imparticl*, of Smyrna, says the Circassian chiefs threw themselves at the feet of the French and English officers to supplicate for pardon for the mistake they had made in firing upon their deliverers. The Circassians crowded around the Anglo-French party, kissing their hands and the skirts of their coats, and rent the air with acclamations. They took particular notice of the flags of the two nations, in order to transmit a description of them along the coast, and promised that on the first cannon-shot from the fleets not a Montagnard would hesitate to attack the Russians." People like this would welcome with enthusiasm any aid that could be offered them.

COWARDLY ASSAULT ON ENGLISH MERCHANTMEN.

Recent letters from Constantinople state that the Russians had committed "a most dastardly, cowardly, and base act, that loudly calls for vengeance." It appears that, on the 22nd inst., the British three-masted iron-built barque *Bellington*, with a complete cargo of grain and salt meat, was sunk by the Russian batteries in front of Sulina, while sailing down the Danube. The barque received seventeen shots, and went down in eight minutes. The captain and crew were in time to shove off and reach the Turkish territory. On the same day the British ship *Annie*, being in tow of the *Crescent*, British steam-tug, was fired at by the same batteries. The former received three shots; the latter seven, and was completely disabled, having had her funnel carried away, and one shot in her machinery. In this condition they were boarded, and the captains and crews taken prisoners, and conveyed, handcuffed, to the Russian commanding officer. On the following day they were released, and the *Annie* succeeded in reaching Constantinople; but the tug was abandoned, and drifted and stranded in front of a Cossack guard-house, some three miles from the batteries. The English in Constantinople are greatly excited. They say, "It is high time that our blue jackets should be left at large to take vengeance."

THE ALLIED TROOPS AT MALTA.

Every day, almost, brings intelligence from Malta of the departure of troops for Gallipoli. On the 31st inst., the 44th, and three companies of the 50th, were sent off in the *Vulcan*. On the 6th, the 93rd Highlanders, with several officers of the Commissariat and Medical Staff, left in the *Kangaroo*. On the following day the *Ardent* and *Georgina* sailed for the same destination, with the women of all the regiments, and a number of horses and mules. The *Cyclops* and the *Vesuvius* sailed the same day, with 884 rank and file, and 33 officers of the 23rd, and two companies of the 50th. The *Indus* and the *Cambria* were to leave on the 9th, and the *Himalaya* on the 10th, with as many troops as they could carry.

Various French transports have touched at Malta on their way to the East; and exciting scenes occasionally take place when the men in the French and English vessels find that they are destined for the same service. Veteran soldiers from Algiers, with war stamped on their bronzed visages, harmonise with our troops, singing their own national songs, and pledging each other, in their peculiar manner, that Russia shall pay dearly for having disturbed the peace of the world.

By the old inhabitants of Malta, who can recollect the siege of 1800 the spectacle of the English and French troops walking together, as if belonging to the same corps, will not be soon forgotten, especially when they bear in mind that the latter were treading the ground, and within the very fortifications, which their forefathers struggled to defend against our superior force, when they were compelled to capitulate after a possession of only two years.

When the French Generals Canrobert, Bosquet, and De Martiupré, touched at Malta, a review of the Guards, of the 33rd, the 93rd Highlanders, and the Rifle Brigade, took place, at the express request of our gallant allies. The Guards were formed on the right, the 33rd, 93rd, and Rifles on their left respectively. The two brigades marched past in open order and in column, and were afterwards formed up in contiguous columns, and inspected. The Generals were much pleased with the appearance of the English Guards, for it was them they particularly wished to see. The Maltese almost worship both the Guards and the Highlanders, and the ladies protest, *naively*, that they never saw so many fine men in Malta before. French and English soldiers, too, fairly "fraternise." You might see four or five French soldiers (for many were permitted to land) with as many or more English Guards—neither understanding the other's conversation, but still drinking and singing as Englishmen do when they meet. They understood each other so far as to know that their destination was the same, and their cause common to both.

PRESENTATION OF THE CITY ADDRESS.

The Queen held a Court at three o'clock on Tuesday afternoon, at Buckingham Palace, for the reception on the throne of an Address from the Corporation of the city of London, expressive of loyalty and earnest support in the war declared against the Emperor of Russia. The Lord Mayor arrived from Guildhall at the Palace at five minutes past three o'clock. His Lordship was in his state coach, preceded by the City Marshals on horseback, and was attended by the sword-bearer and mace-bearer. The Aldermen, Sheriffs, Common-councilmen, and officers of the Corporation, numbering about 130, followed in procession. The Lord Mayor wore his state robes and gold collar, and the other members of the Court all appeared in their municipal costume

The deputation was ushered into the Library, and immediately after its arrival was conducted by the Gentlemen Ushers in Waiting to the Green Drawing-room. Her Majesty received the Address on the throne, his Royal Highness Prince Albert being by her side; the Duchess of Sutherland and the Viscountess Canning standing on her Majesty's right, and the Marquis of Breadalbane, K.T., stood on the right of the throne. The Lord Chamberlain stood on the left. The Ministers of State in attendance—viz., the Earl of Aberdeen, K.T.; Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B.—the Duke of Newcastle, and Sir James Graham, occupied the usual stations near the Sovereign.

The Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council having been introduced to the Royal presence, the Recorder read the following Address:—

Most Gracious Sovereign,—

We, your Majesty's faithful subjects, the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the city of London, in Common Council assembled, feel it our duty to approach the Throne at this momentous period with the expression of our sincere devotion to your Majesty's person and family, and the tender of our most loyal and earnest support in the war which your Majesty has declared against the Emperor of All the Russias. For many years we have enjoyed the blessings of peace, which have carried in their train national prosperity, and developed in all countries the arts and science, commerce, and civilisation. Our prayers are offered in confidence, though with deep humility, to the Supreme Disposer of Events, for the success of the allied forces in restoring and maintaining the peace of the world.

To which Address her Majesty was pleased to return the following answer:—

I thank you for the renewed expressions of your attachment to my person and family, and I receive with great satisfaction the assurance of your cordial support in the course which I have felt it right to pursue in order to re-establish the peace of Europe on permanent foundations.

The Lord Mayor had the honour of kissing hands. The mover of the Address, Mr. Under-Sheriff Anderton, and the seconder Mr. Sheriff Wire, were presented, and had also the honour to kiss the Queen's hand. The deputation then retired.

THE FRENCH, ENGLISH, AND TURKISH TREATY.

The *National Gazette* of Berlin gives the following as the text of the convention concluded between France, England, and Turkey:—

Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and the Emperor of the French having been invited by the Sultan to repel the aggressions which the Emperor of Russia has directed against the territory of the Ottoman Porte, and the aggressions which puts in peril the integrity of the Ottoman Empire and the independence of the throne of the Sultan; and their Majesties being firmly convinced that the existence of the Ottoman Empire in the present limits is essential to the balance of power in European and having, in consequence, consented to give to the Sultan the assistance which he demanded for that object, their Majesties and the Sultan have thought proper to conclude a treaty in order to fix their views according to what is above stated, and to determine the mode and the manner in which they shall furnish the Sultan with the assistance in question.

For that purpose their Majesties have named their plenipotentiaries (the Ambassadors of France and England), and the Sultan his Minister of Foreign Affairs, who, after having communicated their respective powers, have agreed as follows:—

Art. 1. Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and the Emperor of the French having given orders, at the desire of the Sultan, for strong divisions of their fleets to be employed conjointly to secure to the territory and to the flag of the Sultan the protection which may be required by circumstances, their Majesties engage themselves by the present treaty to co-operate hereafter to a larger extent with his Majesty the Sultan for the protection of the Ottoman territory in Europe and Asia, against the aggression of Russia, by furnishing, for this object, to his Majesty the Sultan, a sufficient number of troops. The troops to be landed shall be sent by their Majesties to those points of the Ottoman territory that may be judged proper. The Sultan engages that the French and English troops that may be landed shall meet with all kind of protection, and be treated with the same respect, as the French and English naval forces which have already been for some time in the waters of Turkey.

Art. 2. The contracting parties engage themselves reciprocally to communicate to each other, without loss of time, any proposition which either of them may receive, either directly or indirectly, for the cessation of hostilities, for an armistice, or for peace. His Majesty the Sultan, moreover, engages to conclude no armistice, entertain no negotiation for peace, and conclude no preliminaries for peace with Russia without the knowledge and consent of the high contracting parties.

Art. 3. As soon as the object of the present treaty shall have been attained by the conclusion of a treaty of peace, their Majesties the Queen of England and the Emperor of the French will adopt immediate measures to withdraw their land and sea forces which have been employed to obtain the object of the present treaty, and all the fortresses and positions on the Ottoman territory which shall have been occupied temporarily by the forces of England and France shall be given up to the authorities of the Sublime Porte within the space of —— days, calculated from the date of the exchange of the notifications of the treaty which shall have put an end to the war.

Art. 4. The present treaty shall be ratified, and the ratifications exchanged, as soon as possible within the space of —— weeks, reckoning from the day of signature.

(Here follow the signatures.) The above treaty remains open for the signature of the other European powers.

CRUISING FOR RUSSIANS IN THE CHANNEL.

On Sunday morning, about nine o'clock, a report of gun-firing in the offing was heard at Deal, and shortly afterwards her Majesty's steam-vessels *James* and *Cuckoo* in company were observed about a mile outside the Goodwin Sands, close to a large merchant ship and two barges, which the former had caused to shorten sail and heave to. Boats from the *James* were observed to board them, and after having detained them a short time for the purpose of examining their papers, the merchant ships bore up, and proceeded on their voyage.

The *James* and *Cuckoo* subsequently steamed for the Downs, where they arrived about noon.

The *James* has been ordered to cruise in the North Sea and coasts adjacent, for the express object of detaining any ship laden with munitions of war that may be fallen in with; as there have been reports made of a vessel laden therewith being in or about that neighbourhood.

ATTEMPTED INSURRECTION IN SARDINIA.

On the 6th inst. the Duke de Valentinois, Prince of Monaco, presented himself in the town of Menton, the capital of Mouaco, "tempting to re-establish himself as Sovereign. About twenty persons joined him, but the body of the population gathered round him and cried, "Down with the Prince! long live the King" (of Sardinia). The carabineers of the King of Sardinia, who have occupied the town since its incorporation with Piedmont, here made their appearance and took the Duke into their care, when the popular feeling subsided. The principality of Monaco was long under the control of the King of Sardinia before 1848, when it was annexed to Piedmont. The Prince spent nearly all his time in Paris, and was chiefly known to the world by the heavy tax he levied upon travellers passing through his petty state.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

The Turkish Loan announced by Messrs. Rothschild is for the present withdrawn, arrangements having been made by that house to meet the temporary wants of the Ottoman Porte.

On the 25th ult. the American ship *Grape Shot* sailed from New York for Constantinople with 20,000 muskets

The President of the Board of Control has nominated the following gentlemen to be the first Government directors of the East India Company, viz., General Sir George Pollock, Sir Frederick Currie, and John Pollard Willoughby, Esq.

The family mansion of Dr. Wolf, Regent's-park, was entirely destroyed by fire on Sunday morning.

Government have now decided to take the manufacture of small arms into their own hands, and intend having establishments erected for that purpose at Woolwich, Enfield, and Weedon.

Dr. Achilli has joined the Swedenborgians, and is an admired and ardent preacher of the doctrines of that sect in the United States.

There are now fitting out at Liverpool no less than fifteen packet ships, which have been chartered by Government to convey troops to the seat of war.

An electric telegraph is immediately to be established between Helsingfors and St. Petersburg, a distance of nearly sixty Swedish miles.

The departure of the *Great Britain* steamer from Liverpool for Australia has been deferred from the 12th to the 22th inst.

There has not been an execution in Quebec in eighteen years.

There are two women for every man engaged in field labour, in the neighbourhoods of Athenry, Loughrea, and Dunsandle, in the county of Galway.

John Mitchel has issued an harangue to the Irish inhabitants of New York, calling upon them to take advantage of England's being involved in war to annex Canada; and the *New York Herald* says, there is a conspiracy for that purpose, hatched in New York, in which Mr. Seward is involved.

A suitable monument is to be erected to the memory of Andrew Jackson in New Orleans

The amount of duty paid upon tea since the 5th instant, in London, Liverpool, Bristol, &c., exceeds half a million sterling.

The Legislature of Virginia has passed an act appropriating ten thousand dollars for the erection of the statute to Jefferson, to be placed in the University of Virginia.

Lord Campbell has established an industrial school on his property at Barra, in the county of Galway.

The King of Prussia has given an order for the erection of a monument at Erfurth, to the memory of General de Radowitz.

Lord Clarendon has intimated that the privileges to be obtained for the Christians in Turkey, will be extended to the Jewish subjects of the Porte.

Next June the Society of Arts propose to open a special Exhibition of Educational machinery.

An extraordinary number of passengers are travelling to and from Southampton, India, China, and particularly in the homeward-bound ships.

A fog-bell, of very large dimensions, is now being put up on South Stack Island, Holyhead, which will be tolled by means of machinery, to be constructed for that purpose, as a warning to mariners in dark and foggy weather.

An investigator of hieroglyphics announces that he has found a passage in a papyrus which looks very like "a lampoon against Moses," by the Egyptian priests.

William Thompson, who was convicted at the recent Norwich assizes of the murder of Lorenzo Reha, a travelling jeweller, was executed at Norwich, on Saturday last.

A plot, got up by some convicts to set fire to the pitch and other stores, in the arsenal at Genoa, and escape during the confusion, was discovered in time to prevent any damage.

The Stockport millowners have given notice of their intention to reduce the wages of the operatives ten per cent in consequence of the fall in the price of goods. The operatives threaten to strike

The Marquis Lorenzo Latta, Count Antonio and Count Francis Belgiojoso, and Marquis Trotti, have been deprived of the title of Chamberlain by the Emperor of Austria because they did not compliment him when he visited Lombardy two years ago.

Of the total quota of 80,000 militia men for the year 1853, the number who attended training and exercise, including the permanent staff, was 78,280. The total number of volunteers enrolled on January 1, 1854 (exclusive of staff), was 66,280.

Indiarubber sleepers have been laid down on part of the New Jersey Central Railroad, and the result is that the carriages pass along with a springy elastic motion, and without noise or jolting.

The agriculturists in the north of France are uneasy at the manifestation of symptoms of a disease in the beetroot plant.

The Japanese have conceded to the Russians to open Japan to trade with the rest of the world within a year.

It is said that 500 political prisoners of the Roman States have succeeded in escaping from the Castle of Paliano.

The day of prayer and humiliation, fixed for Wednesday week, the 26th inst., will be observed by the closing of the courts and offices connected with the law.

The cost of the American ocean steam-ship lines is about £400,000 a year; and the revenue derived from them, about £180,000 a year.

High winds and dry weather have rendered the Rhone so shallow at Valence, that steam navigation is almost entirely stopped.

Sir Alexander Cockburn was for the sixth time elected one of the representatives of Southampton, on Wednesday. His opposition was three to one.

Within the past few days three Russian ships which had arrived in Cork have been sold to Liverpool firms, the owners being apprehensive of losing their property, in consequence of the war between this country and Russia.

Arrangements for the building of a German Protestant Church, in Manchester, are nearly completed.

Great preparations are being made for the French Industrial Exhibition of 1855. Not only in Paris, but in the departments, the manufacturers are busily engaged in producing works of art that shall reflect credit on the country.

On Tuesday 1209 German emigrants—men, women, and children—left Paris for Havre, to embark for America.

Great purchases of hemp have lately been effected at Trieste, chiefly for British account.

An immense depot of stolen property was seized by the metropolitan police, on Wednesday, in Monmouth-street; the proceeds, it is said, of "nearly every burglary which has taken place in the metropolis during the last two years."

A company recently formed at Geneva has purchased extensive grounds in the Sétif, in the province of Algiers, and founded as many as five villages, according to engagement.

Lord Harris, the recently-appointed Governor of Madras, arrived at Alexandria, from Trieste, on the 31st ult., and went on to Cairo.

The Overland Mail is said to have brought large orders for Manchester goods adapted to the Japan markets.

The warmth of the weather in Paris is such, that the *al fresco* concerts in the Champs Elysées have already commenced their performances, though considerably before the usual time

By the expenditure of a million and a half sterling in forming embankments, building quays, and carrying out other improvements, the Clyde has become one of the most wonderful rivers in Britain.

The trial of the assassins of Count Rossi has terminated. Four of them have been condemned to death, including Colonel Grandoni.

A meeting is to be held in London on Saturday, the 29th inst., for the purpose of considering what will be the best method of carrying into effect a desire universally entertained by the friends of Sir Thomas Noon Talfourd, that a suitable memorial shall be erected in honour of the late learned judge.

At Vienna, the newly-discovered comet, visible in the constellation Aries, is said to exceed in brilliancy a star of the first magnitude, whilst its extension is greater than that of Venus at her mean brilliancy.

The Town-council of Bristol proposes to reduce the salary of the Recorder of that city from £700 to £300 per annum.

A new party, called the "Know Nothings," has sprung into great power in New York and other large towns in America. Their ch ef object is to oppose the dangerous designs of the Irish party, which has excited a great deal of jealousy lately.

Madame Goldschmidt (Jenny Lind) gave her third concert last Saturday morning, at the Grand Redoubten Saloon, Vienna. Upwards of 2000 persons were present.

The funeral of the late Professor Wilson took place at Edinburgh, on Friday, the 7th inst., in the presence of a large number of members. The funeral was of a public character, the leading public officials and gentlemen of the city and neighbourhood taking part in the procession to the Dean Cemetery, as a tribute of respect for the memory of the departed.

MARSHAL DE SAINT ARNAUD, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE FRENCH EXPEDITION TO THE EAST.

THE military success of Marshal de Saint Arnaud, is one of the most striking examples of rapid advancement which has been achieved in the French army of occupation in Algeria. Thanks to the energetic resistance given to French domination by the people of Northern Africa, that vast country, almost unknown before France converted it into a theatre of war, has become a most valuable training school for those who wish to acquire military knowledge. In that school all the most distinguished French officers of the present day have been trained, and, without reference to the other benefits which have resulted from the possession of Algeria, it has been of much advantage to France, by strengthening and sustaining the military spirit of its army. For nearly twenty years continual warfare was carried on against the numerous tribes which refused to submit to France, and it was in the midst of that long-protracted war that Mashal de Saint Arnaud achieved the high position which he now occupies.

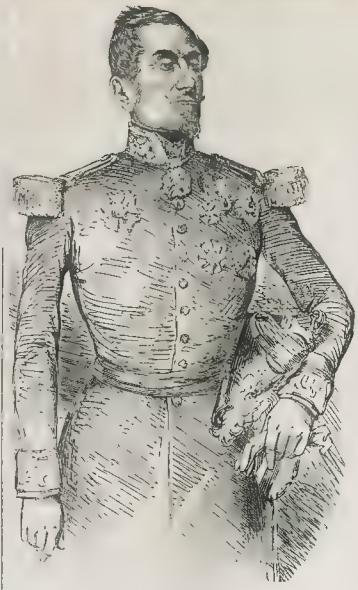
M. de Saint Arnaud was born at Paris, in 1801, of a family not distinguished by fortune. He was young when he entered the army, and, like most of those youths who embraced the military profession during the tranquil reign of Louis XVIII., he gave full play to the love of pleasure and dissipation. During the reign of Charles X. he was for a short time in the body-guard of that Monarch; but he shortly after resigned his situation, and came to England, where he resided some time. Soon after the Revolution of 1830 he returned to France, and once more entered the army. It was at this time, while the regiment to which he belonged was on duty at Fort de Blaze, where the Duchesse de Berri was imprisoned, that he obtained the favourable notice of Marshal Bugeaud, Commandant of the Citadel, by his intelligence and activity.

In 1837, as Captain, he went to Algiers in the Foreign Legion, which was chiefly composed of political refugees who had sought employment in the armies of France. In that corps M. de Saint Arnaud, distinguished alike by his intrepidity and his military skill, contributed powerfully to the success of many important enterprises. In less than ten years he rose through the various grades from that of chief of the battalion to the dignity of Marshal of France. Among the exploits in which he distinguished himself, the most important were the expedition he directed, in 1842, against the unsubdued tribe of Beni-Bondonan, in the west of Miliana; the attack of the Beni-Ferrah tribe in the following year; the defeat of the Flizza-el-Bahr; and the submission of the Cherif Bou Maza, who had provoked an insurrection in the Dahra.

Having been appointed to the command of the province of Constantine in 1849, he rapidly overran that immense territory, which had been disorganised by the revolt of the numerous tribes inhabiting it, re-established peace, and gained the good will and attachment of many chiefs whom no one had previously been able to subdue. The expedition which M. de Saint Arnaud undertook in 1851 against the Kabyles was one of the most glorious campaigns ever gained by the French army in Algeria. At the head of an army of little more than 6000 men he overran the whole of that savage and mountainous region, in spite of the resistance made by its warlike tribes.

In 1851 M. de Saint Arnaud returned to France, with the rank of Lieutenant-General. His energetic and determined character recommended him to the notice of Louis Napoleon, then President of the Republic, as one of the firmest supporters of his views; and, in the month of October, 1851, the future Emperor confided to him the confidential post of Minister of War. In 1852 he was raised to the dignity of Marshal of France, and soon after to that of Senator, which was followed by his appointment to the post of Grand Ecuyer to the Emperor. Unfortunately, in the midst of so many marks of distinction, M. de Saint Arnaud's health is such as to make his friends fear that he will not be able to continue at the head of that important expedition to which he has been recently appointed.

M. de Saint Arnaud has been twice married. By his first marriage he had one daughter (married to M. de Preyalgar) and a son, who became a soldier, and was killed in one of those campaigns in Algeria, where his father won so much renown.



MARSHAL DE ST ARNAUD, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE FRENCH EXPEDITION TO THE EAST.

THE DECLARATION OF WAR IN THE FRENCH SENATE.

THE memorable scene in the French Senate, of which the annexed is a representation, took place on the 27th of March, the same day on which a similar important announcement was made in the English Parliament. The French Minister of State read the following Message in the name of the Emperor, announcing that the final resolve of the Cabinet of St. Petersburg had placed Russia in a state of war as regards France:—

The Government of the Emperor and that of her Britannic Majesty had declared to the Cabinet of St. Petersburg that, if the difference with the Sublime Porte was not replaced in a purely diplomatic position, and if the evacuation of the Principalities of Moldavia and Wallachia was not commenced immediately and terminated by a given day, they would see themselves forced to consider a negative reply, or silence, as a declaration of war. The Cabinet of St. Petersburg having decided not to reply to the communication thus made, the Emperor charges me to inform you of that determination, which places Russia, with respect to us, in a state of war, the whole responsibility of which rests with that Power.

The moment the hon Minister concluded, loud acclamations arose from every member of the Senate. The President then said:

The Senate gives a formal acknowledgment to the Minister of State of the communication which he has just made in the name of the Government, and which it has listened to with a profound sentiment of the most entire and most devoted co-operation. I think I express the unanimous feeling of the Senate in adding, that it confides fully in the Emperor, who will know how to conduct the war with the ability and energy which have so eminently distinguished the negotiations. The communication of his Excellency the Minister of State shall be inserted in the minutes of our proceedings, and the original shall be deposited in the archives.

The Senate hailed the remarks of the President with unanimous cries of "Vive l'Empereur!"

DEPARTURE OF LORD RAGLAN AND THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE.

GENERAL LORD RAGLAN, Commander-in-Chief of the Anglo-French expedition, and Major-General his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, Commander of Division, left the London terminus of the South-Eastern line by the mail train at half-past eight on Monday evening, for Dover, *en route* for the East.

Lord Raglan arrived at the station in his private carriage at twenty minutes past eight o'clock, accompanied by Lady Raglan, his two daughters, the Hon. Misses Somerset and the Hon. Richard Somerset. Colonel Steele and Colonel Somerset, his aides-de-camp, were in attendance. His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge arrived soon afterwards, in company with his aides-de-camp, Major the Hon. J. Macdonald and Colonel Tyrwhitt. The Royal carriage was prepared for the accomodation of the gallant party by Superintendent Weatherhead of the line.

Although the announcement of the departure had not been made public, upwards of 300 persons, including many ladies, had assembled to catch a glimpse of the warriors. At about half-past eight, Lord de Ros and Colonel Clermont joined; and, most affectionate farewells having been exchanged, the Staff entered the Royal carriage amidst the most enthusiastic cheers and waving of handkerchiefs. Lady Raglan and her daughters, on leaving the station, were cheered most warmly. The Hon. R. Somerset and Mr. Hubert de Burgh accompanied the Staff as far as Paris.

Lord Adolphus Fitzclarence was at the station, and appeared most deeply affected upon taking leave of his gallant friends.

Lord Raglan, the Duke of Cambridge, and staff, arrived at Dover at twenty minutes past eleven o'clock, and went on board her Majesty's ship *Vivid*, lying at the Cross-wall, and left for Calais at 11.40. The Royal party were met at the station by Colonel Stratfield, commandant; Colonel Grant, R.A.; Lord A. Russell, Rifle Brigade; Captain Herrick, R.N.; Captain Smithett; and Mr. Way, Superintendent of the Station; and about five hundred of the principal inhabitants of Dover. The party was most enthusiastically cheered on leaving, amidst cries of "Give it to the Russians," &c.

The *Vivid* arrived at Calais about one o'clock on Tuesday morning, and were received by Count de Toulongeon and one of the *attachés* of the English Embassy, who had come express from Paris for that purpose. A special train had been ordered by the Emperor, and Lord Raglan and the Duke of Cambridge, accompanied by a numerous suite, arrived in Paris at half-past nine o'clock. The Minister-at-War and the English Ambassador were in waiting to receive them. A guard of honour of the Gendarmerie d'Elite was stationed at the terminus, and the Court carriages were in attendance. The Duke and the officers who accompanied him proceeded to the British Embassy. About half-past twelve o'clock three Imperial carriages conveyed them to the Palace of the Tuileries, with an escort from the regiment of the Guides. The Duke left the Embassy at one o'clock. In the carriage he occupied were Lord Raglan, the English Ambassador, and an officer of the staff. In the second, Lord de Ros and other staff officers; and in the third, Grand Master of the Ceremonies and officers of the Imperial Household. A detachment of Guides preceded, and another followed, the carriages. The party was cheered on its way by the crowd which had assembled in front of the Embassy, and followed to the Palace, and cries of "Vive les Anglais" were frequent. On leaving the Tuileries, the Duke, Lord Raglan, and suite visited Prince Jerome at the Palais Royal. The Duke, it was said, was the bearer of an autograph letter from Queen Victoria to the Emperor Napoleon.

A grand military review was given in the Champs de Mars, by the French Emperor, on Wednesday, in honour of the Duke of Cambridge and Lord Raglan. The spectacle was one of the most splendid which has been witnessed in Paris for a long time. The infantry consisted of twenty-four battalions; the cavalry, of four brigades and forty-five squadrons. Of artillery there were seven batteries, consisting of forty-two guns. The whole number of troops was about 26,000. The Empress of the French arrived shortly before one o'clock, in an open carriage, followed by a number of Court carriages, containing her Ladies of Honour and the officers of her household. The Ambassadors, Ministers, and other Government dignitaries were all present. The Emperor and the English visitors were loudly cheered by the immense crowd. As the carabineers passed the English officers, the band struck up "God save the Queen," which drew forth enthusiastic cries of "Vive l'Angleterre" from the spectators.

THE EAST INDIA CIVIL SERVICE.—The Commissioners for the affairs of India have appointed the Right Hon. T. B Macaulay, M.P., the Right Hon. Lord Ashburton, John Shaw Lefevre, Esq., C.B., the Rev. Henry Melvill, B.D., principal of Haileybury College, and the Rev. Benjamin Jowett, fellow and tutor of Balliol College, Oxford, to be a committee, for the purpose of considering the best means of carrying out the clauses of the Government of India Act of last session, under which admission to the College of Haileybury will hereafter be open to competition

DECLARATION OF WAR IN THE FRENCH SENATE.

DEPARTURE OF LORD RAGLAN AND H.R.H. THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE FOR THE EAST.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

MRS. CHISHOLM'S DEPARTURE FOR AUSTRALIA.

The last scene of the second act of a drama of real life more strange than any fiction has closed: Caroline Chisholm has concluded seven years of hard, of unthankful, of successful work in England, and sailed to renew her labour of love in Australia—where, fourteen years ago, she began what has ever since been the business of her life: fourteen years ago, on the wharves of Sydney harbour, she saw and pitied the droves of ignorant, outcast, wretched emigrants who, collected without conscience by the crimps of bounty emigration, were cast out at the close of their voyage to shift for themselves, without a friend or a shelter, to starve or to labour, or to steal. No matter: no one cared. How she collected those destitute, helpless wretches; how she encouraged the men to honest work, and gathered together and protected the women, and led whole armies from the misery of Australian towns to the plenty of the far interior, where food was a drug, labour most deeply needed, and wives welcome to servants, if not to masters, is now well known and justly appreciated. Seven years of active practical colonisation in Australia have been succeeded by seven not less active years in England, where the Government has been taught its duty, the shipowners their true interest, and the labouring classes the inestimable lesson of self-dependence and mutual co-operation in the matter of colonisation. These good, useful practical works we have had the satisfaction of illustrating and recording more than once. We can turn to pictures of those group-meetings where, without parade, without extravagant advertising or placarding, hundreds, nay thousands, assembled to listen to Caroline Chisholm, explaining, with earnest, simple, unadorned eloquence, the common sense view of colonization; and also of those exciting scenes when at the docks, and on shipboard, a band of emigrants, whom her system had enabled to seek in Australia a better reward for their labour than this country could afford, listened with affectionate reverence to her parting words of comfort and advice. But a change has come over the prospects of England and her colonies. It is no longer necessary to stimulate emigration here—the working classes can help themselves without gifts or loans. In Australia the great want is not the raw material of labour, but the re-union of wives and families in comparative poverty here with their successful husbands in that colony. To help in this good work—to lay the prime foundation of a civilised state, by giving gold diggers wives and little children—this is the next work of Caroline Chisholm. War, which has disturbed the plans of bankers, merchants, shipowners, and politicians, has not spared her. The ships promised to be fitted out on Mrs. Chisholm's improved plans of space and ventilation, have been tendered to, and accepted by, Government to carry soldiers and cavalry horses; and Mrs. Chisholm and her numerous wards have been handed over to the *Ballarat*, a fine fast ship, but with little room, and that room purchased at a very high rate

On Monday evening a few friends from London, among whom were Mr. Douglas Jerrold and Mr S. Sidney, with a great crowd of the relatives of the emigrants, assembled on board the *Ballarat*, where Mrs Chisholm delivered a farewell address. She told them that on the other side she would put in force the right sort of stimulus to emigration. There she would be speaking to the gold diggers, who had money enough to support their poorer relatives, and who would do everything that was possible so as to secure that their families might be sent out to them in a respectable and decent manner. Emigration was soon to assume an important character. In its present full it was like a child asleep—a healthy and vigorous child; but would soon become a man, and redeem the working classes of this country; so that if any one desired to keep himself and his family in misery, the fault would be his own. They knew that God had ordered the earth to be peopled; but if they were to listen to the manufacturers of this country who forgot that in order to keep a brisk demand for their wares there should be a brisk supply of people—they would see very few ships filled with emigrants. She exhorted them to mutual forbearance, self improvement, and the cultivation of feelings which would make them land like the children of one family. She ended by attempting to comfort the weeping crowd by her own position. She said, "I have an aged mother"——here emotion choked her voice, and she ceased.

The artist has chosen the moment when Mrs. Chisholm, with her two elder sons one on each hand, commenced speaking her parting words.

DEPARTURE OF MRS CHISHOLM, IN "THE BALLARAT," FOR AUSTRALIA.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, April 16.—Easter Sunday. Buffon died, 1788.
MONDAY, 17.—Easter Monday. Abernethy died, 1831.
TUESDAY, 18.—Judge Jeffries died, 1689. American Revolution, 1775.
WEDNESDAY, 19.—St. Alphage. Lord Byron died, 1824.
THURSDAY, 20.—Spanish Fleet destroyed by Admiral Blake, 1657.
FRIDAY, 21.—Bishop Heber born, 1783
SATURDAY, 22.—Duke of Sussex died, 1843. Fielding born, 1707.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 22.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
M A M A	M A M A	M A M A	M A M A	M A M A	M A M A	M A M A
h m h m	h m h m	h m h m	h m h m	h m h m	h m h m	h m h m
3 58 4 16	4 39 5 0	5 18 5 40	6 0 6 30	6 55 7 5	7 40 8 25	9 10 9 50

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

AN OLD SCRIBBLER, Falmouth.—A Pacha in the Ottoman Empire is the title of the Governor of a Province, and holds the rank of Prince; those with three tails having the power of life and death. In the army, and public service generally, it is a title attached to the highest grades. A Bey or Beg is the possessor of a Beg-lig, or great fief of the Empire. In the army the title is equivalent to that of a Colonel with us.

H. S. M. is so far correct in stating, in our Journal for March 26, that Barbadoes was colonised and not conquered; but, by reference to Montgomery Martin's "Statistics of the Colonies of the British Empire," it appears the island was appropriated as a settlement by the English in 1625, as formerly mentioned, instead of 1605, as H. S. M. has been led to believe.

IGNORAMUS is informed that the population of London, which includes Islington on the north, Paddington on the north-west, Kensington on the west, Bow on the east, Woolwich on the south-east, and Lewisham on the south—a space of which the diameter is as large as he mentions—contains 2,362,236 persons, according to the Census of 1851.

J. S. W. S.—A private soldier may rise to be a commissioned officer in the British army.

J. H. B., Coventry; H. B.; X. Y. Z.; J. W. H., Marylebone; J. M., Ayrshire.—Declined.

THE CENSUS OF 1851.

On SATURDAY next, APRIL 22, will be published

THE CENSUS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM,

PREPARED FOR THE

ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS,

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A COMPARATIVE VIEW OF THE POPULATION

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 15, 1854.

VAGUE and contradictory rumours of the progress of the War continue to reach us through Vienna, which are sometimes either partially confirmed, or shown to be unfounded, by despatches from other quarters. There appears to have been some skirmishing favourable to the Turks in the neighborhood of Kalafat, and a battle of more importance at Rassova, in the Dobrudja. The details of the conflict are wanting, but there is little reason to doubt that the result was favourable to the Turkish arms. A despatch from Constantinople, viâ Marseilles, states that that capital was illuminated on the 4th inst., for a victory over the enemy; but whether it was for that which is believed to have been gained at Rassova, or at some other place, is not very apparent. The Allied forces are yet at a long distance from the scene of action, and detachments only have landed at Gallipoli, so that the struggle in the East is confined to the original belligerents. The Fleet in the Black Sea is inactive, and appears to await at Kavarna the passage of the Russians to Omer Pacha's headquarters at Schumla. People have ceased to take any interest in the proceedings of Admiral Dundas. They have been accustomed to so much inaction in that quarter, that Sir Charles Napier is the only hero of the day. They look to him for actions and decisive ones. The ice is beginning to disappear from the Gulf of Finland and the Baltic, the Admiral means mischief, and the Russians are leaving undefended, all the forts and stations to the West of Revel and Sveaborg, as if to invite the final struggle at Cronstadt itself, and to concentrate all their strength upon that citadel.

In the meantime the Sultan, while showing a bold front against the enemy, and proving himself, in many respects, an equal match for his opponent, is courageously revolutionising the whole internal policy of his empire, and rendering it more and more worthy to rank among the Powers of Europe. The confiscation to the State of the territorial possessions of the mosques, is an event of the highest importance, and is the greatest step that has yet been taken towards the regeneration and civilisation of Turkey. The deposition of the Sheik-ul-Islam, or "Head of the Faith," for resistance to this measure, shows that the Sultan and his advisers have made up their minds to persevere; and that they are not to be deterred from the prosecution of the great reforms which they consider essential to the salvation of the country, by the opposition of any personage, however important may be his position or sacred his functions. Such proofs of vitality in the Ottoman State must be more galling to the ambitious mind of the Czar, than any indignities which the Christians ever suffered, or are supposed to have suffered, at the hands of the Moslems. The Christians of Moldavia, Wallachia, and other portions of Turkey, know by this time that the Emperor cares nothing about their interests or their prosperity, and that he would rather have them remain miserable and oppressed if they could thereby be made a source of weakness to the Ottoman Empire, than have them free and happy, if, by that means, they added to its strength. What with internal and external difficulties, the Sultan has a task before him which might tax the mightiest energies; but, with the determination to act justly towards all his subjects, and with the support of Great Britain and France, there is reason to believe that the attack made upon his independence will ultimately conduce to the stability of his throne, as well as to the discomfiture and humiliation of his unscrupulous adversary.

Austria and Prussia have not yet finally declared themselves. It is true that they have signed, in conjunction with Great Britain and France, a new Protocol, declaring their determination to maintain the integrity of the Ottoman territory, and that they insist upon the evacuation of Moldavia, Wallachia, and Bulgaria. But something more than this is expected of them. The Czar himself has declared that he does not desire to retain permanent possession of the provinces he has invaded; and, until the German Courts declare that his refusal of an immediate evacuation will be followed by a declaration of war against him on their parts, they will rest under the suspicion of aiding his interests by seeking to gain time. The Germans are proverbially phlegmatic, and family and personal reasons have contributed to increase the constitutional slow-mindedness of the King of Prussia, and, perhaps, of the Emperor of Austria. But there is little reason to fear that either of them will ultimately go wrong. The alleged occupation of Servia by a large Austrian force looks, at first sight, suspicious; and the recall of the Chevalier Bunsen from London, because his sympathies are notoriously and avowedly in favour of the Anglo-French alliance would seem as if the King of Prussia had made up his weak mind to side with his Imperial brother-in-law. But neither of these circumstances is in itself sufficient to justify the belief that Russia may count upon the alliance or the neutrality of Germany. Lord Clarendon stated in the House of Lords on Tuesday night that the Government had received no intimation of any Austrian troops having entered Servia, but that some time since a communication had been received from the Austrian Government that the *corps d'armée* on the frontier would defend Servia against the Russians, and would interfere to put down any insurrection that might be attempted against the authority of the Sultan. With respect to the rumour "that Prussia had gone over altogether to Russia," Lord Clarendon declared it to be utterly destitute of truth; and stated, moreover, that there was not the slightest ground for anticipating such an event. The recall of Chevalier Bunsen has yet to be explained; but we have little doubt that it has not the importance which people at first seemed inclined to attribute to it. The King of Prussia is as variable as the wind, and the loudly-expressed and almost unanimous feeling of his people against Russia will either keep him right, or force him to abdicate if he be determined to go wrong. The eloquent speech of M. de Vincke in the Second Chamber of Prussia in the discussion of the Loan Bill, is a welcome sound from Germany. It was an able and powerful expression of the opinions entertained by the great majority of the German people. It is intensely anti-Russian, and created such a sensation, that the Chamber suspended its sitting for several minutes, to allow the auditory to give vent to their approbation, and to recover from the emotion which it caused. Not even the British Parliament has produced a better speech, or one which more effectually unveiled the pretensions of Russia, exposed her hypocrisy, or denounced the danger of her policy to every independent State in Europe. The King of Prussia is an impressionable man, and he will learn, from this and other circumstances passing under his half-shut eyes, what the interests of Prussia are in this great struggle. If he do not learn them he will cease to reign, and leave the throne to an abler and honester successor. Germany will not submit to be Russianised, and remembers, as M. de Vincke says, the warning of the Great Frederick, "that if the Russians possessed Constantinople, it would not be long before they possessed Konigsberg." The German people know their duty and their interests, and sooner or later they will force their vacillating or reluctant Sovereigns to follow their leadership.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—*Canonry Residentiary:* The Rev. Robert Bickersteth has been appointed to Salisbury Cathedral. *Rectories:* Rev. W. Alford, to Folke, Dorsetshire; Rev. E. S. Bankes, to Corfe Castle, Dorsetshire; Rev. H. Beckwith, to St. Mary Bishophall, York; Rev. W. Elliott, to All Saints' Church, Worcester; Rev. J. Geldart, to Podington, or Puddington, Bedfordshire; Rev. R. Henderson, to Brompton-Ralph; Rev. Dr. Higgs, to Handborough, Oxon; Rev. W. S. M'Douall, to Sudden, near Newmarket; Rev. H. Morgan, to St. Athan, Glamorganshire; Rev. F. A. Saville, to North Huish, Devonshire; Rev. J. Sperling, to Eccleston, Lancashire; Rev. S. W. Steedman, to Fyfield, Andover; Rev. H. G. Williams, to Pres-on, Suffolk; Rev. A. D. Wilton, to Orlingbury, Northamptonshire; Rev. H. Wright, to Hambleton, near Godalming; Rev Dr. Wynter, to South Warnborough, Hampshire. *Precentorships:* The Rev. W. H. Beever, to St. Hilary; Rev. S. Edwardes, to Wolverculi, Oxfordshire; Rev. J. Fox, to Hinton, together with the Vicarage of Preston; Rev. S. J. Jerram, to Chobham, Surrey; Rev. A. H. Leech, to Emily; Rev. J. D. Palmour, to Jedfreyton, near Narberth; Rev. T. Sikes, to Chevening, near Sevenoaks; Rev. W. H. White, to Kenton Suffolk. *Incumbencies:* The Rev. J. Colborne, to Holy Trinity Church, Painswick, near Stroud; Rev. R. Crowfoot, to Southwold, Suffolk; Rev. C. Eckersall, to Lower Beeding, near Horsham, Sussex; Rev. J. R. Pilling, to Grimsargh, Lancashire; Rev. G. S. Robertson, to Pigleathorne (or Pistone), near Ivinghoe, Buckinghamshire; Rev. W. J. Sharpe, to St. Paul's Church, Whippingham, Isle of Wight; Rev. A. Tatham, to Balam, Nottinghamshire; Rev. G. D. Thomson, to Queenborough, near Sheerness.

A DEPUTATION of five of the principal inhabitants of Etton, near Beverley, Yorkshire, have presented the Rev. Robert Machell with a silver salver, value £53, as "a testimonial of their affectionate regard, after his residence among them for twenty years."

PARIAN STATUE OF ŒNONE.—Messrs. Rose and Co., of Coalport, have just published a very pretty statuette of Mr. Tennyson's heroine, Œnone, after the incident thus described by the poet:—

> Hither came at noon
> Mournful Œnone, wandering forlorn
> Of Paris, once her playmate on the hills.
> Her cheek had lost the rose, and round her neck
> Floated her hair, or seemed to float, in rest.
> She, leaning on a fragment, thus began
> To chant the stillness. * * *

The design has been modelled by Mr. Shenston, and does great credit to his talent. The attitude is graceful and natural, and the expression of the face—youthful and beautiful in itself—well accords with the sentiment.

DR. M. THOMSON'S NIGHT SIGNALS.—The Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, from the favourable reports of the several officers in command of the Channel squadrons, have ordered an increased supply of these lamps from a house in Birmingham, to be issued for the use of the Baltic and Black Sea squadrons. A new signal-book has also been printed by order of their Lordships to accompany these lights by which all ships will be able to communicate as freely by night as by day.

A METEOR WAS SEEN AT TUNBRIDGE WELLS by a Correspondent, on Saturday evening, the 1st inst., at 9 seconds past 10, the moment at which the meteor was witnessed by the Rev. Mr. Mackenzie Walcott, as described and illustrated in our Journal of last week. It was seen from Tunbridge Wells Common, passing in a straight line from S.E. to N.W., at about the height that a good rocket will attain. It was somewhat different in appearance from the above, which may, possibly, be accounted for by the absence of gas-light at Tunbridge Wells Common.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

The Russians do not seem to have made any attempt on Silistria yet, but they are said to be preparing to attack it. The garrison is 10,000 strong. A despatch from Bucharest, of April 9, says that no battle has been fought either at Silistria or Rassova. The rumour of an affair at Rassova originated with Turkish agents, and seems to be devoid of all foundation. Omer Pacha is said to be digging attacking the Russian troops under General Lüders. The Turkish forces at Trajan's Wall were reported at 80,000 strong.

THE AUSTRIANS IN SERVIA.

A despatch from Vienna, of April 13, says: "It is believed that the Austrians have this day entered Servia." None of the letters from Vienna throw any light upon the matter. A despatch from Vienna of the same date, however, seems to indicate that the occupation of Servia is not with a view to aid Russia. That despatch says: "An Austrian Note has been forwarded to Athens with strong remonstrances upon the conduct of the Greek Government, which is held responsible for whatever evil consequences may ensue."

RUSSIAN REJOICINGS

Letters from St. Petersburg, of April 4, state that the city has been illuminated in celebration of the passage of the Danube. A Te Deum has also been sung in the church of the Winter Palace in the presence of the Czar, the Imperial Family, and all the civil and military functionaries.

A Berlin letter says:—"The Emperor of Russia is to reside, during the war, alternately at Revel and at St Petersburg. The Grand Duke, heir presumptive to the Throne, is to proceed to Helsingfors; and the Grand Duke Constantine will assume the command of a division of the Russian fleet, which, protected by 800 pieces of cannon, will cast anchor within the fortifications of the seven islands at Sveaborg. It is thought that the English fleet will first proceed to Libau, on the western coast of Courland, towards the Bay of Riga, to invest the three islands in front of that port, and that it will endeavour to destroy the fortifications of Revel.

Advices from St. Petersburg of the 6th state that a ukase declares that, as danger threatens the Empire, it is ordered that the four reserve battalions become effective, and that two new ones be organised for each corps.

UNITED STATES.

The *Pacific* steamer, Captain Nye, arrived at Liverpool yesterday (Friday), with dates from New York of the 1st instant. War with Spain was predicted. Business was somewhat depressed. Breadstuffs had declined. Cotton was also lower. Stocks had a downward tendency. Money Market tight. Exchange on London, 10$\frac{1}{2}$.

SINGULAR ACCIDENT TO THE "VICTORY."

A well-known Correspondent at Portsmouth has sent us a communication, from which we extract the following:—

Thursday Evening, April 13, 1854.

I write in haste to apprize you of a strange accident which has just occurred in our harbour—the foundering of H.M.S. *Victory*, which went down at her moorings this afternoon about 5 o'clock. She had been lying the last fortnight alongside of a hulk, whilst her moorings were being examined and sundry repairs executed. These being finished, warping her back to her old moorings commenced this afternoon about three o'clock, and by five she was in her old position. Numbers of spectators were looking on, and admiring the old ship, when, to the surprise of all, she heeled over and went down bows foremost. Fortunately no lives were lost, as all on board were upon deck at the time. The immediate cause of the accident is not known, but it is conjectured she must have started a "butt," during the warping down, which escaped observation, as all hands were engaged carrying cables, &c. I will endeavour to forward you a Sketch of the occurrence in time for your next impression.

[Our Correspondent's letter has not been corroborated by any of the London newspapers of Friday.]

THE COURT.

On Sunday the Queen and Prince Albert, with the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, the Princess Alice, and the Duchess of Kent, attended divine service in the private chapel at Buckingham Palace. The Hon. and Rev Gerald Wellesley read the prayers, and the Bishop of Lincoln preached the sermon.

On Monday Lord Raglan had an audience of the Queen. His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge also visited her Majesty, and took leave, on proceeding to join the expedition to Turkey.

On Tuesday the Queen held a Court for the reception of the Address from the Corporation of the City of London.

On Wednesday her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert left Buckingham Palace at twenty minutes before four o'clock, for Windsor Castle. The Queen and Prince were accompanied by their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Princess Alice, Prince Alfred, the Princesses Helena and Louisa, Prince Arthur, and Prince Leopold. The Royal party quitted the Palace in seven of the Queen's carriages, escorted by a detachment of Carabineers, for the terminus of the Great Western Railway, at Paddington, and travelled by a special train to Windsor, where her Majesty arrived at half past four o'clock.

The Royal dinner party at the Castle, on Wednesday night, included her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, Lady Anna Maria Dawson, and Colonel Locker, commanding the 97th Regiment.

It is understood that the Levee to be held on Wednesday, the 3rd of May next, will be the last this season.

APPROACHING VISIT OF THE QUEEN TO THE FRENCH EMBASSY.

Her Majesty has signified her gracious intention to honour with her presence a grand *fête nocturne* which is to be given, on the 12th of May, by the Ambassador of France and the Countess Walewski, at the French Embassy. We believe this will be the first time, since the accession of the Queen, that her Majesty has paid such a compliment to any member of the *corps diplomatique* accredited at her Court, and the departure from the general rule will naturally suggest itself as having its origin in a desire on the part of her Majesty to mark in an especial manner the high sense she entertains of the chivalrous and effectual co-operation of the Emperor Napoleon III. in the war in which France and England are about to engage.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cambridge, the Princess Mary of Cambridge, the Count Kielmansegge, Lord George Paulet, Lord Stanley of Alderley, Baron Knesebeck, and a select party, dined at St. James's Palace, on Sunday last, by invitation of Lord Adolphus Fitzclarence, to meet his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge on his departure for the East.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent arrived, on Wednesday, at her residence, Frogmore, from London.

On Thursday the usual Royal charities, known as Maundy gifts, were distributed at the Royal Chapel, Whitehall, to thirty-five aged men, and thirty-five aged women.

NEW MILITARY TRAINING GROUND.—The authorities of the War-office having obtained a grant from Parliament of £100,000, for the purpose of purchasing land for occupation by the army, have bought upwards of 1000 acres of land at Aldershot, Farnham, and Ash, in the counties of Hampshire and Surrey, about 35 miles from London. From the bold elevations, and undulating character of the land, it is admirably adapted for that purpose. The Basingstoke Canal, with some contributory lakes at Ash, affords opportunities of display in crossing rivers, and in various other military exercises. The nearest railway stations from London will be the South-Eastern and the South-Western, both at Ash, and within a mile of the ground. It is intended to encamp the militia on the ground in the ensuing month. Parties are already building and speculating on the improved value of land in that locality.

ROYAL MAIL STEAM-PACKET COMPANY.—On Thursday, the half-yearly meeting was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, when the report was presented, and showed a balance of £71,318 2s. 6d., from which it was proposed to set aside £39,680 for the dividend at the rate of four per cent per annum, the balance being carried forward towards meeting a debt upon the company for new vessels, repairs, and to meet the customary calls of the forthcoming half-year.

SEASONABLE REWARD.—Lieut. Bonie, of the French navy, who was on board the *Retribution*, Capt. Hon. J. R. Drummond, when she entered Sebastopol, has received promotion for furnishing information to the Minister of Marine about the batteries in that harbour. This is practical wisdom.

SEAMEN'S HOSPITAL SOCIETY.—On Thursday a quarterly meeting of this most important charity was held, and a report presented. The receipts of the quarter amounted to £2183 18s. 11d., whilst the expenditure was £2697 17s 3d, showing a deficiency of £533 18s. 4d. The total number of patients since the opening had been 70,928. The report was adopted.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK, ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

We mentioned incidentally last week that the May Exhibition at the Royal Academy is one of more than ordinary promise. Those who have gone the tour of the artists' studios speak most favourably of the produce of the last year. Maclise will be seen to immense advantage in a large gallery picture, representing the "Marriage of Strongbow, Earl of Pembroke, to the daughter of the King of Ireland." There are at least—what shall we say—one hundred and fifty figures, some the size of life, and others very little less, brought together with admirable skill upon one canvas. The story is told simply and nobly, and the colouring is spoken of by all his admirers as richer and warmer than he has before thought it worth his while to attain. Some said that the Academy would not hang it. "I do not want them," is said to have been Mr. Maclise's reply; "I only hope they'll *stand* it." To be seen to any advantage, it must be seen as far as is possible nearly on a level with the eye.

If Mr Maclise will command attention by the chivalry, noble grouping, and skill of his large historical picture, Mr. Frith will arrest every spectator by a picture entitled "Life at the Sea-side," in which he has succeeded in depicting that immense variety of English life to be found on Ramsgate sands in the height of the sea-bathing season. He was never so great before; nor is it too much to say that this work will place him on a level with Leslie and with Wilkie. He is said to have received a thousand guineas for it—and not too much, considering the long and happy pains bestowed upon such a work. Roberts sends two choice Venetian views, painted in successful rivalry of Canaletti, but without any slavish and unnecessary marks of imitation. Creswick is said to have surpassed even the highest hopes of his many admirers. Leslie contributes a scene from the "Rape of the Lock" in his happiest manner. Sir Edwin Landseer is working at the Palace, and has not, it is said, sent even a single picture to the Exhibition. Ross and Thorburn will be seen in honest emulation for superiority. Webster has sent something worthy of his well-earned reputation; and Mulready has chosen to show, by a small example, that his skill and taste are still unimpaired. In portraiture Grant will be found to excel in female loveliness, and Gordon in manly vigour of mind. Nor will Stanfield be found wanting in rendering the sea and sea-coast scenes, or E. W. Cooke in catching what Vandervelde loved to paint, and Turner loved to transfer to canvas. E. M. Ward has a Parliament picture, "Argyll Asleep in Prison," painted with a rich deep Venetian effect—the figures the size of life. Elmore will be missed—to be found next year, we trust, in renewed vigour. Egg (already reckoned by some long before his time as one of the old masters) has been unable to finish the two pictures on which he is engaged, and of which artists and amateurs speak alike favourably. We shall, therefore, miss a particular favourite. Hook is commended by those competent to judge; but we have not seen his picture; and we forget the subject. Boxall has a fine head of Lady Eastlake, painted in Titian's manner, with a full juicy brush. Frank Stone has a well-painted pair of lovers, looking unutterable things, and entitled "The Old, Old Story."

The Pre-Raphaelites will be represented by Hunt and Collins. Millais reserves his strength for another year. It is not unlikely, however, that he has sent in a small picture—a scene in the Highlands—that will do no injury to his name. One of Hunt's (it has no name, but is distinguished by a motto from the Psalms) will divide the critics. It is painted in the rich detailed manner of Van Eyck, and represents a Magdalen-looking girl, struck with remorse at the words of a song, sung to her by a young man, in a very modern costume, at a very modern piano. The landscape reflected in the mirror is marvellously painted.

Without the pale of the Academy, and away from the school of the Pre-Raphaelites, the visitor will find much to admire. Hannah has painted a picture which will be mistaken by many for a fine E. M. Ward. The subject is "The Countess of Nithsdale presenting the petition to King George I., that her husband's life may be spared." The King, it is well known, ran away in a full drawing room from her earnest supplications for the Earl's life. In his anxiety to escape, he is said to have dragged her on the floor—an incident of which the artist has availed himself with equal tact and skill. The locality and dresses are all scrupulously correct. There are touches, too, of humour in it that will not escape attention—such as the wide-spread never-run-away legs of Henry VIII., to be seen on the canvas of Holbein, suspended over the fire-place, anxious, apparently, to kick his successor, for his fear of women. Lance excels in fruit, and gold, and ivory cups. Solomons has made an important stride in his art. He has two pictures—one representing the interior of a first-class carriage; the other two compartments of a second-class carriage. They might be called (we know not their names) Gretna and Greenwich. In the first-class compartment are an old gentleman (the father or uncle) asleep, and a very pretty girl with flowers and fine eyes, addressed by a very nice-looking young man. All is sunshine. In the second class carriage is seen a boy, on his way to join his ship for the first time—his mother (a widow) sits by his side and his sister (some years older than himself) looks into her brother's eyes as if her heart was like to break. Never was half-subdued sorrow more beautifully expressed. Ansdel has two large pictures: one a snow scene, representing a horse and horseman attacked by wolves; the other (intended for a panel) is a scene in the Isle of Skye, young rams startled at the sudden appearance of a strange dog. In the large picture the wolves are painted with admirable finish—life is all but seen receding from the last that is shot. On the whole, we can promise a fine Exhibition.

Mr. Duncombe has been asking in the House about the equestrian statue of King George II., once a central ornament of Leicester-square, in London. The question has led to inquiry, and the result is that the statue is not forthcoming. Mr. Wyld buried it at first beneath his Great Globe—no one missed it—it belonged to any one. The workmen employed on the Great Globe discovered that it was a clay body covered with lead, that the lead was valuable; and so the statue, both man and horse, was stolen piecemeal away. Not a vestige remains of him—our modern Augustus has been converted into waterspouts and pig-lead. He is as nothing, as the Palace of Canons from whence he came. We are not sorry for his departure; but, surely the odd manner in which he was spirited away, his leaden covering melted into nothing, and his clay interior returned to its native earth, suggests that we should be careful of our statues. Her Majesty has a "Keeper of the Pictures," why should not the public have a keeper of the statues. Within the memory of thousands, the sword was stolen from the statue of Charles I. at Charing-cross. A contractor for the repairs of the arch at Hyde-park-corner might cover in the statue of the Duke, and reconvert Wyatt's Wellington into heavy pieces of ordnance, before even Mr. Duncombe could be aware of its removal and metamorphosis.

Our contemporaries have been acquiring Burlington House, Piccadilly, for the public, at an unnecessary expenditure of ten thousand pounds. Government, they say, has purchased this—one of the best-known houses in West-end London—for one hundred and *fifty* thousand pounds. No such thing. The price was one hundred and *forty* thousand pounds; and the mansion, and its appurtenances (the furniture excepted), with the ground belonging to it, will be transferred to the public at Michaelmas next. Government—so well-founded rumour runs—intend converting it into rooms of assembly for scientific bodies, and for certain small public offices now very indifferently lodged. The Societies that will enjoy the privilege of holding their assemblies in Burlington-house, will not be permitted to form museums within its walls. Museums require more room than Government will be able to give away. The requirements of the Civil Service are such that Government contemplates the removal from Somerset-house of the Royal Society and the Society of Antiquaries. Both Societies would be glad to go on the terms tendered to the Royal Academy, and accepted by that body.

The Beauchamp Tower, in the Tower of London—so exquisitely restored by Mr. Salvin, in the true mediæval spirit—will, we are told, be open to the public for the first time in the first week in May. After the White Tower, this is decidedly the most interesting portion of the towers of Julius.

The large family picture, by Sir Joshua Reynolds, of the "Penn Children," was sold at Christie's, on the 7th inst., for 840 guineas. It is by no means a favourable specimen of Sir Joshua: if it had been a choice example, it would have sold for six times that sum. There is an engraving of it—a private plate—by Charles Turner.

MUSIC.

Though the regular dramatic entertainments are suspended during Passion Week, yet the theatres are not closed on that account. Most of them are engaged for various kinds of popular amusements, chiefly of a musical character. During the past week Mr. Smith has been giving Promenade Concerts at Drury-lane, after the fashion of Monsieur Jullien, but on a much smaller scale, and much less brilliant. They have been, however, pretty well attended. Mr. Allcroft, of Concert-monstre celebrity, had a performance at the Lyceum on Monday evening, superior in quality to the ordinary run of such entertainments. A large portion of the programme was selected from the works of Mendelssohn, the orchestra was complete and powerful, and the celebrated violinist, Ernst, was among the solo performers. On the same evening a Concert of monstrous dimensions was given by Mr. Howard Glover, at St. Martin's Hall. It consisted of about fifty pieces of music, many of them long ones; and the vocal and instrumental host included almost every performer of note now in London. The selection—as must always be the case on such occasions—was of the most common and familiar kind, the performers singing or playing the things which cost them the smallest amount of trouble or preparation. There have been several minor concerts during the week—none of them at all remarkable.

Drury-Lane is to open for Italian Opera on Easter Monday; for German Opera, the beginning of May. There are also, we understand, to be English Operas. Though, however, there will be different companies—different, at least, in their principal members—yet they will all form parts of one general establishment. The details are not yet made public; but we have heard the names of some of the most eminent singers now in London, as having been engaged. The chorus and orchestra are to be large and powerful, and all the requisite means are provided for performing the greatest masterpieces of the musical stage, not only with completeness, but with splendour.

Henry Russell.—This celebrated composer has been singing, during the week, to crowded houses at the Standard Theatre.

THE THEATRES.

MARYLEBONE.

On Saturday "The Hunchback" was performed for the first time at this theatre during the present management; the parts of *Master Wrilter* and *Julia* being supported by Mr. and Mrs. Wallack. The former was remarkably elaborated by his representative, who threw into it so much of picturesque effect, and such distinctive detail, with such minuteness and variety in the distribution of the histrionic lights and shades, that the picture grew into unwonted life under the artist's hand, and the admiring audience were so strongly excited as to summon the performer before the curtain at the end of the second act. This is indeed an extraordinary honour in such a part, which is rather of a subdued and mechanical character, and generally played according to routine with respectable perseverance. Here, for once, however, we had originality, where it was least expected. Mrs. Wallack's *Julia* is a delicately-conceived and artistically-executed portrait, most carefully adhering to the poet's ideal, and ambitiously making its most delicate point. The famous scene with *Sir Thomas Clifford* received quite a novel interpretation under the direction of this gifted artist: more thought, more passion, were never pressed into its service—all being controlled and subdued by the spirit of beauty, and submitting gracefully to its influence. At once one of the most vigorous and judicious of our actresses, Mrs. Wallack never suffers herself to be misled by a sense of power, but chastens the vehemence of her natural style by the ever-ruling authority of a taste which has evidently been cultivated in the best schools of poetry. An address, by Mr. Monier, was delivered by her with remarkable propriety. It recorded what had already been done under the new management—promised still more—and announced their intention to procure in future "some new, original, unacted plays." Mr. Wallack, too, on being recalled, stated that they had hitherto had difficulty in removing old and systematic abuses, but, nevertheless, had succeeded to a great extent in introducing a better method, and should continue fearlessly in their endeavours to "provide for the neighbourhood an intellectual entertainment." The announcement was received with great applause; and we are led to expect much good from the intelligent efforts of the directors of this theatre.

NON-THEATRICAL EXHIBITIONS AT THEATRES.

Among the amusements of Passion Week, we have to record the twenty fourth annual exhibition of Mr. C. H. Adams's Orrery, at the Adelphi; the very able lecture on Astronomy being delivered by that gentleman, as usual. At the Surrey theatre on Monday, Mr. Love, the polyphonist, was remarkably successful with his new entertainment, "The London Season." Without supernumeraries or confederates, the dramatic ventriloquist went through a variety of scenes and characters, descriptive and representative, changing his garb and gesture with marvellous rapidity. The extravagant *Narcissus Verigreen*, the fashionable *Moses Mordecai*, the nautical *Mr. Benjamin Billows*, the experienced *Mrs. Oldstyle*, the wonderful *London Calman* with the everlasting and universal memory, the too-susceptible *Mr. Calm*, and the voluble *Miss Tattletack*, all appeared on the stage, in their proper persons, to the amusement of a numerous audience. The entertainment is in two parts; at the end of which Mr. Love exhibited his ventriloquial sketches, which, when in good voice, are the most astonishing of his performances. Since M. Alexandre, Mr. Love has had no rival in these; and, indeed, the gift is one so peculiar, that long intervals of time have elapsed between the existences of its different professors. In the present instance, the remarkable and most attractive point, is the precision and refinement with which the vocal utterances are managed, both in regard to relative distance and number. To the natural faculty is, in this, added an art which, in the language of an old dramatist, may be said, "to better nature."

GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION.

A Diorama, illustrating the Route of the British Army to the Seat of War, has been added by Messrs. Grieve and Telbin to that of the Overland Mail, which they have renovated for the occasion—the former being in accordance with the national sentiment to which they desire to appeal, and from which, doubtless, the appropriate response will be given on the part of the holiday visitors to this place of blended amusement and instruction. Accordingly, the new pictures consist of St. Petersburg, Constantinople, and Sebastopol—and particularly one of the Dardanelles, from a sketch by Lieut. O'Reilly, of the *Retribution*. All are capitally painted. Nearer home, the Embarkation of Troops at Southampton, the Isle of Wight, Osborne, the Needles, and the Bay of Biscay, are peculiarly interesting. Justice is done to the various subjects. The Berlings, Cintra, and Lisbon, with the British Fleet at anchor, together with the Tagus, and Admiral Corry's Squadron passing Cape Trafalgar, are all very cleverly painted. The view of Algiers is accompanied with Embarking Troops by the French Ships of War. One of the grandest paintings, however, is that of Malta, with the arrival of the Guards. We need not recapitulate the series illustrative of the Overland Mail, all having become familiar to the public. It ends, as usual, with the celebrated mausoleum called Taj Mehal. As the war proceeds, it was announced by the lecturer, that the proprietors intended to add to the Diorama such scenes as would serve to illustrate its progress and results. Such a design is as laudable as it must be popular, and will bring before the eye the localities of celebrated events, yet concealed in the future. In harmony with the enthusiasm of the present, the series will embody a history of the times, and perpetuate that heroism which, in opposition to unprincipled ambition, has been excited in the national bosom, and identified itself with the "grandeur" of its "throbbings."

Easter Pieces.—The season's extravaganza at the Haymarket is written by Mr. Planché, and entitled "Mr. Buckstone's Voyage Round the Globe in Leicester-square." At the Adelphi, the spectacle will be of an Oriental character, and called "The Overland Journey to Constantinople, as undertaken by Lord Bateman, with interesting particulars of the Fair Sophia." A new piece, also, is announced at the Princess's, under the title of "Faust and Marguerite." Astley's will re-open with a new grand Nautical Equestrian Spectacle, by Mr. Nelson Lee. The Lyceum is also advertised to re open on Easter Monday, as usual; and at the Marylebone the new season, it is stated, will commence with a burlesque.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

HARROW SECOND SPRING MEETING.—Tuesday.

Trial Stakes.—Criterion, 1. Edward of York, 2.
Metropolitan Handicap Steeplechase.—Nonne de Guerre, 1. Gayla'd, 2
Stewards' Plate.—Cotton Lady, 1. Prevarication, 2.
Selling Steeplechase.—Janus, 1. Widow Machree, 2.
Selling Hurdle Race.—Unico Jack, 1. Sweetheart, 2.

WEDNESDAY.

Harrow Selling Stakes Flat-race.—Lioness, 1. Gulle, 2.
Innkeepers' Plate.—Janus, 1. Quiffe, 2.
Grand Open Steeplechase for a Gold Cup.—Ploughboy, 1. Despised, 2; Scurry Stakes.—Prevarication, 1. Sophistry, 2.

LATEST BETTING AT MANCHESTER.

Chester Cup.—11 to 1 agst Beadsboy (5); 11 to 1 agst Mark Antony (off); 23 to 1 agst D. of Lorraine colt (5); 40 to 1 agst Indian Warrior (5); 40 to 1 agst Joe Miller (5).
Derby.—6 to 1 agst Dervish (5); 30 to 1 agst New Warrior (5), and 40 to 1 taken to a large amount.

The Emperor's Vase at Ascot.—For some time past it has been a matter of speculation and inquiry in the sporting world whether, under existing circumstances, the piece of plate, value 200 sovereigns, which the Emperor of all the Russias has, for the last nine years, presented to the British public, to be run for over Ascot-heath, and which has formed the great race of the meeting, will this year be included in the Thursday's programme. The plate has been ordered, and might, had the Stewards of the Jockey Club felt so inclined, have been contended for as usual; but on Saturday last it was announced that the Stewards, in conjunction with the noble Master of the Buckhounds (the Earl of Beaborough), who is one of the stewards of the Ascot meeting *virtute officii*, have, on due consideration, determined to decline the proffered gift. The race will this year re-assume the shape of the old Ascot Cup, being for a piece of plate of 100 sovereigns value, made up by the grant of 200 sovereigns from the race fund, added to a sweepstakes of 20 sovereigns each.

The Oxford and Cambridge Boat-race.—This annual trial of skill took place on Saturday last, at the usual spot—Putney to Mortlake—and was won by the Oxford by eighteen lengths. The distance was done in twenty five minutes twenty-nine seconds. This is the sixth successive victory of the Oxonians.

Thames National Rowing Regatta.—It is said that the Lord Mayor has become President of the Thames National Rowing Regatta, which is being got up by a committee of leading gentlemen.

Next Week's Racing.—Newmarket First Spring Meeting commences on Monday, and ends on Friday; on Wednesday and Thursday the Caterlick Bridge Meeting takes place; and on the latter day the Abergavenny Races also are held. Owing to the Fast-day taking place on the 26th, the appointments for that day at the York Spring Meeting will come off on the Thursday; and the Malton Races will begin on the 28th, instead of the 27th.

EASTER IN RUSSIA.

Religion, whose avowed object is to improve and elevate mankind, is employed in Russia as a means of depression and an instrument of servitude. The Russian religion is nothing more than a sort of idolatry or fetichism, which glorifies the person of the Czar, and makes him a demigod on earth, whose attributes form part of the popular creed. The sublime moral end of Christianity has never, in any clime or any age, been so monstrously perverted and interlarded with error and superstition as in Russia at the present day. It is most lamentable to behold how, by a strange confusion of ideas, the interests of politics have been promiscuously mingled with matters of purely spiritual import. Indeed, so indissoluble have these two elements of the Russian religion become, that the Greek Church is but a tool in the hands of the Czar and its votaries—the minister to his worldly desires. This religious organisation, efficiently supported by the fanaticism which the priests inspire, and the ignorance which they take no pains to uproot, is the touchstone to the excessive power wielded by the Czars. A glance at the past history of the country will show us how Russian policy has profited by this unnatural alliance. Ever since the days of Peter the Great, the Church has been a tenure of the Crown; and the Emperors have obtained so absolute an authority over it, that they have had no difficulty in modifying the ritual whenever it pleased them to do so, and in instituting new fêtes to glorify themselves or their families: Catherine II. instituted twenty-five annual festivals for the exclusive worship of the Czarine and her family; and Paul I. instituted two for each of his nine children.

There is not a country in the world which has a greater number of religious fêtes than Russia; but the most solemn, and perhaps the most popular of these, take place at Easter. These fêtes, however, which are avowedly instituted for the purpose of elevating and strengthening the souls of the people, do, in reality, weaken and abase both body and soul. They are preceded by four Lents, or periods of rigorous abstinence, during which time the nourishment of the population is confined to unsubstantial food, such as onions, garlic, and mushrooms, seasoned with fish-oil or oil of hempseed. This debilitating diet, besides producing emaciation and languor, often weakens the digestive organs, and disorders the organisation of the body to such an extent as to engender grave diseases which decimate the country as effectually as plague or war. It is, of course, natural that the people should welcome the cessation of these disastrous fast-days with demonstrations of joy. But, unhappily, this abstinence is followed by an excess almost equally pernicious, as that after Starvation has done its deadly work, Voracity invariably comes in for its share of victims

The festival of Easter is, as in other countries, the termination of Lent, and inaugurates an epoch of general feasting. The trade in provisions assumes a prodigious activity; the markets are literally "glutted" with articles of consumption. These stores display to the hungry eye of the Muscovite oxen from the Ukraine, calves from Archangel, sheep from Astrakan, sterlet from the Volga, pheasants from Lungary and Bohemia, and the national Ikra, or Caviare. It is a curious sight to see these animals placed in rows along the markets, stiffened by the cold, and standing like petrifactions in the museum of a geologist. What vegetables there are at these stores are grown and provided by the German colonists. During the winter the markets are supplied with cherries, peaches, apricots, and grapes, which, however, are for the most part absolutely tasteless. These luxuries are destined only for the sumptuous tables of the rich, being excessively dear. It is not considered exorbitant to demand two roubles for a single cherry. During Easter the Russian merchant displays all his native astuteness. Hat in hand, and with great deference and respect, he stops the simple peasant on his way, and flatters him into his shop, or entices him in by means of such familiar appellations as "Little Father!" "Little Uncle!" "Little Brother!" according as circumstances may require. One of the most *récherché* of all the Easter messes is a sort of cheese, known by the name of Khazan, from the place where it is made, with an outside of delicious paste, formed in the shape of certain fruits. This is as indispensable to the Fêtes of Easter, as "Maids of Honour" are supposed to be to a complete dinner at Richmond.

Easter in Russia is peculiarly a season of feasting, and all classes, from the richest down to the poorest, participate in this licensed intemperance. At the commencement of the festivities the people may be seen rushing out of their houses into the streets, and embracing each other promiscuously without distinction of rank or sex. This *accolade* or embrace is accompanied by the presentation of a red egg, a ceremony which at first sight would appear to be an expensive one; but it is not in reality a *presentation* of eggs, but merely a *circulation* of them, the same

EASTER IN RUSSIA.

PALM SUNDAY IN ST. PETERSBURG.

eggs having to pass through a variety of hands during the season. In the course of the ceremony, each one pronounces aloud the sacramental words—"Christ has risen from the dead!" and to this formula each one replies, in answer to his neighbour's exclamation—"Yes, indeed, the Christ has arisen from the dead!" It is usual, at this season of the year, to purchase cage-birds for the sake of giving them their liberty, a custom which is considered as emblematic of that liberty which is consecrated by the solemnities of Easter. At St. Petersburg and Moscow the priests, escorted by choristers, enter the houses of the wealthy, and sing psalms in front of the image of the patron saint, which is certain to be found in one of the rooms: they will not leave the house, however, before they have received the customary fee and the sip of brandy which is the price of their prayers.

Palm-Sunday is set apart for children. On that day the streets and squares are filled with toys and playthings of all kinds. The fine lady in her brilliant equipage, and the simple bourgeoise in her elegant *droŝki*, repair together to this exhibition of wonders. The salesmen at the commencement of the fête mix with the crowd, and slipping about from group to group, and from carriage to carriage, distribute palm leaves, as emblems of the fête.

Easter is peculiarly the National Festival of Russia. For the aristocracy it is the signal to display an amount of luxury and magnificent profusion which has not been equalled by the most lavish civilisation of ancient or modern times. For the serf it is a short truce from slavery—a bright day passed in the sun of liberty. It is, in fact, a remnant of those heathen fêtes which accorded to the bondsman a moment of respite.

EASTER FESTIVAL IN ST. PETERSBURG.—PRESENTATION OF THE EGG.

THE LIGHTHOUSE OF HANGÖ-UDD.

This point of Finland may become of interest in the present war.

On a lonely rock, lashed by the roaring breakers, its revolving lantern gleaming athwart the night, rises the Lighthouse of Hängö-udd.

The road from Fojo to this, the most southern and exposed point of the Finnish coast, is wild and sandy: dark pine forests, with scarcely a hut, stretch out to the stormy sea; but, as the traveller journeys onwards towards the land's end, the ground grows harder, until at length the granite sounds beneath his tread. There is the little military post of Drottinsberg: two small forts are built on the neighbouring rocks, Gustafswärd and Gustaf. Adolf's Fort; while, three and a half versts from the shore, stands the Lighthouse, on a lonely rock, inhabited by four watchmen, four pilots, and two apprentices. The lantern revolves once every minute, being for forty seconds dark, and for twenty light. It is lighted as soon as the ice breaks up in the spring, until the 27th of May, and again from the 19th of July until the sea is frozen over. The waves have worn the rocks into huge chasms and caves, which, in their naked barrenness, contrast strangely with the smiling islands scattered around. Dates cut in the granite show the sea-line for centuries past. Hängö-udd is frequently mentioned in the modern annals of the Swedish navy. Its rocks are the dread of the sailor, who, during the stormy nights of autumn, looks anxiously out for its bright revolving beacon. It was here that the brave Nils Ehrenskiold, in August, 1714, fought like a lion for three hours against Apraxin's 210 ships, with 20,000 men, until the Admiral's ship, the *Elephant*, was boarded by the Czar Peter in person; in consequence of which victory, the Czar was made Vice-Admiral by his Senate.

THE LIGHTHOUSE OF HANGÖ-UDD, ON THE SOUTHERNMOST POINT OF FINLAND.

THE RUSSO-GREEK INSURRECTION

The accounts from Greece continue to be of a very confused and unsatisfactory nature; but, so far as may be gleaned from the mass of correspondence in German and English papers, and electric despatches from Vienna, the insurrection has hitherto been a very paltry affair. One of the most recent correspondents, writing from Athens on the 30th ult., denies that there has been any popular outbreak either in Epirus or Thessaly; in spite of all the alarming accounts we have heard from that quarter. The whole movement, it is affirmed, originates with, and is carried on by, the Greeks in Greece Proper. In Epirus, out of forty-four different places which were summoned to take up arms against the Turks, only one little village responded to the appeal. This does not say much for the enthusiasm of the people. All the Suliotes under Turkish rule are described as perfectly tranquil: those which appear under that name among the Greek insurrectionary force are Suliotes who have come from Greece. In Thessaly the insurrection is only in those places where the Greek adventurers appear; and with their disappearance the disturbance ceases also, for nowhere has the population shown itself in the least degree favourable to the movement. On the contrary, the Greek patriots who come to deliver them, do all in their power to disgust them from joining them. They rob and plunder, indiscriminately, Turks and Greeks; drive away all the stock they can get hold of, and sell it in Greece. It is, in fact, brigandage on a large scale, under the pretext of liberty and patriotism. This explains why the movement has not spread at all. In Epirus they are still in the mountains near Arta, and in Thessaly, near Domoko (Thaumakos), Platana, and Armyro. As for the stories about the siege and storming of Arta, which have been repeated so frequently, they have not the slightest foundation. It is true, indeed, that the insurrectionary forces were once before Arta, but that was only for a short time. And yet Arta is not a very large place. Military authorities say that the Castle (of which our Artist has given a Sketch in to day's publication), could be taken in a very short time by a strong force. The town is not fortified, but as it now contains a garrison of 4000 men, and is said to be well supplied with provisions and military stores, it is not likely to surrender to any force that the Greek bands can muster. As for Prevesa, which rumour had also given to the Greeks, the taking of that place is still more improbable. Prevesa is a strongly-fortified town, with a castle and a citadel, which, even with the command of the sea, it would require some time to reduce. General Church, during the War of Independence, attempted in vain to get hold of it. So, unless the insurgents can get regular troops and a considerable park of artillery, Prevesa is quite safe.

The exaggerated accounts which have appeared of the wide extent of the insurrection, are explained by the mountainous nature of the country, which is uncommonly favourable to guerilla warfare. They come, and disappear again; but all these movements lead to nothing, so long as they cannot possess themselves of a stronghold as the basis of their operations; and there is not much chance of that, because the whole Greek force in Epirus is in a state of disorder occasioned by the disunion of chiefs. If it had not been for that, they could have made much more progress, since the Turkish forces in the beginning were very weak. The whole force in Epirus, as well as Thessaly, does not amount to more than 7000 or 8000 men, of which about one half is in each of these two provinces. Of these, about 1200 went from Athens, 1500 from the Peloponnesus, 1000 or 1500 from Missolonghi and its environs, 3000 from Salona, Lamia (Zeituni), Chalcis, Negroponte, and other Greek districts adjoining Thessaly. To these you must add, perhaps, 1000 Greeks from the Turkish territory, under various petty chiefs.

Arta was a large and populous town at one period; but, having been stormed by the Greeks in 1828, under Marco Botzaris, it was reduced to a ruinous state. It is situated on the left bank of the river, about seven miles from the Gulf of Arta, which forms the boundary between Albania and Greece. Hellenic remains of considerable extent, part of the ancient Ambracia, may still be seen, forming the walls of the Castle, which is situated near the river. Arta is about thirty-six miles from Janina, and sixteen from Prevesa.

TOWN AND FORTRESS OF ARTA, IN ALBANIA.

THE GREEK INSURRECTION.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

THE PIRÆUS, April 1st.

At last I could not resist the temptation of going to Greece. There is little or nothing to do at Constantinople; and the Greek revolution becoming every day of more interest, I decided to go to Athens. I expect to be back again in Constantinople, before the arrival of the Franco-Anglo expedition, which, by-the-by, runs great risk of coming only in pudding-time, or rather, as the French say, "comme la moutarde après dîner."

Is this delay intentionally made? Really, judging from the past, it looks very much like a premeditated repetition of the Sinope business—a very disgraceful one for the combined fleets and Governments. Everybody at Constantinople was indignant when I left. I was just embarking when there came the confirmation of the rumour spread the previous day of the crossing of the Danube by the Russian army. In that blessed place, Pera, people never learn anything of Turkish affairs but from London and Paris papers; so that you will learn all the particulars of these events a week before me.

I left the Pointe du Serail at six on Wednesday, March 30, on board the first direct-going boat. I availed myself of this because it is the only one that goes to Athens direct; and we reached it this morning. I am obliged to submit to a quarantine of twenty-four hours in the lazaret; and the boat leaving this afternoon for Marseilles, you will not wonder at my sending nothing to-day.

We stopped at Gallipoli for a few hours; met there a French steam-frigate, with six hundred Chasseurs de Vincennes and a staff of Officers du Guide, going to fix and set out the *emplacement*, &c., of the camp to be formed near that town.

Out of the Dardanelles we saw, at a considerable distance, a three-decker, which is said to be the *Napoléon*, that had been sent to repair to Toulon. Here, in the Piræus, lies at anchor a French frigate, that has been sent with despatches by the French Ambassador at Constantinople. No intelligence from France.

I will hear, perhaps, something of the expedition when I go to Athens after performing quarantine. If there is any probability of anything of interest occurring near Constantinople to require an immediate return, I will go back by the next Lloyd.

There is no truth in the report of an intended expulsion of all the Hellenes (not the Greeks) from Constantinople. (By Hellenes they mean only the subjects of his Majesty King Otho.) The Turks are not so foolish as to give such an excuse to some 30,000 Greeks to take arms and join their enemies at this moment.

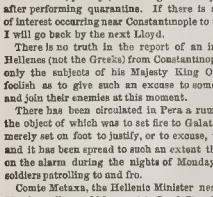
There has been circulated in Pera a rumour of a Greek conspiracy, the object of which was to set fire to Galata, &c.; but this calumny was merely set on foot to justify, or to excuse, the above intended measure, and it has been spread to such an extent that the Embassies were kept on the alarm during the nights of Monday and Tuesday, with Turkish soldiers patrolling to and fro.

Comte Metaxa, the Hellenic Minister near the Porte, is to leave next Monday. I am told he went to Lord Stratford last night, and asked for the protection of the English Ambassador for his countrymen. This demand was refused. His Lordship went so far (I am told) as to threaten the Hellenic Government with a military occupation.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

LIEUT.-GENERAL SIR CHARLES WADE THORNTON, G.C.H. THIS gallant officer died on the 6th inst., at St James's Palace, aged ninety. So far back as 1782, he received his commission as First Lieutenant Royal Artillery. In 1793 he served in Flanders, where he lost an arm; in 1816 was appointed Lieutenant-Governor of the garrison at Hull; and in 1846 attained the rank of Lieutenant-General. For some time General Thornton was Assistant Barrack-Master General at the office in Spring-gardens, London. He was knighted in 1831, and made G.C.H. in 1837.

VISCOUNTESS GORT.

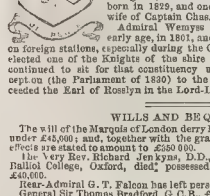


MARIA, VISCOUNTESS GORT, who died, aged 57, on the 4th inst., was wife of John Prendergast, present and third Viscount, to whom she was married Dec. 15, 1814, and by whom she leaves a large family to deplore her loss. On her father's side she was of ancient Celtic descent, being the eldest daughter of Standish, first Viscount Guillamore, Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer in Ireland: whose ancestor, Hugh O'Grada, Chief of Pongaile, in Thomond, 3rd Captain of his nation, acquired, in 1309, by his marriage with the heiress of O'Kerwick, the lands of Kilballyowen, and other estates in the county Limerick, to which a considerable addition was made in 1633, by the union of Barby O'Grady, of Kilballyowen, with Faith, daughter and co-heir of Sir T. Standish, Knt., of Sandon, Chevne, in Lancashire, and Bruff, county Limerick, M.P.

Of Lady Gort's mother, a member of the historical family of Waller, a notice appeared in our Journal of Oct. 15 last.

Extensively connected by her birth or marriage with the landed aristocracy of the west of Ireland, the disastrous results which have accrued to most of that body, from the effects of the famine of 1847, were frequent subjects of painful anxiety to the estimable lady whose death is recorded; and her health had suffered materially of late years. But she bore all her trials with Christian resignation, and her last short illness was free from pain. She has only survived her mother for six months; and her body has been laid next to hers, in the crypt of Monkstown Church, near Dublin.

JAMES WEMYSS, ESQ., OF WEMYSS CASTLE AND TORRIE-HOUSE, REAR-ADMIRAL, R.N.



THE death of this well-known and esteemed gentleman occurred at his seat, Wemyss Castle, on the 3rd instant. Rear-Admiral Wemyss was son and heir of the late Lieut.-General William Wemyss, of Wemyss, and grandson of the Hon. James Wemyss, M.P. for county Sutherland, third son of James, fourth Earl of Wemyss. He was born in 1789, and married, in 1826, Lady Emma Hay, daughter of William, sixteenth Earl of Erroll, by whom (who died 17th July, 1841) he leaves a surviving son, James Hay Wemyss, Esq., of Wemyss, born in 1829, and one daughter, Frances Harriet, wife of Captain Chas. Balfour, R.N.

Admiral Wemyss entered the navy at a very early age, in 1801, and saw a good deal of service on foreign stations, especially during the Chinese war. In 1830 he was elected one of the Knights of the Shire for the county of Fife, and continued to sit for that constituency uninterruptedly, with one exception (the Parliament of 1830) to the year 1847. In 1837 he succeeded the Earl of Rosslyn in the Lord-Lieutenancy of Fifeshire.

WILLS AND BEQUESTS.

The will of the Marquis of London derry has just been proved in London under £45,000; and, together with the grants in the other will courts, the effects are stated to amount to £550 000.

The Very Rev. Richard Jenkyns, D.D., Dean of Wells and Master of Balliol College, Oxford, died, possessed of personalty amounting to £40,000.

Rear-Admiral G. T. Falcon has left personalty valued at £16,000.

General Sir Thomas Bradford, G.C.B., £7000.

Mrs. A. C. C. Blagrove, late of Welbeck-street, has bequeathed to public charities £3000, namely:—To the Home Missionary Society, £1000; Colonial Missionary Society, £1000; London Missionary Society, £500; and £400 to the Theological Seminary for Missions to China; £2000 to the Societies and Schools in connection with John-street Chapel, Bedford-row; and £200 to those at Tottenham-court-road Chapel, Schools, and Society-tee.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

BRITISH EMBASSY AT ST. PETERSBURG.

Lord LYNDHURST: I wish to call the attention of her Majesty's Government to a report which has been in circulation for the last few days, to the effect that the Russian Government or authorities have seized the property of our late able and most excellent Minister at St. Petersburg. I hope there is no foundation whatever for that report. If it should turn out to be true, that act is such a gross violation of the admitted law of nations, that Russia must be excluded from the class of civilised States (Hear, hear). I hope her Majesty's Government will be able to afford some explanation on the subject.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE: In the absence of my noble friend the Secretary for Foreign Affairs, I can only say that, while I entirely concur in the expressions of the noble Lord with respect to the character of the proceedings he has alluded to, if any such have taken place, my noble friend at the head of Foreign Affairs has no information on the subject, and therefore her Majesty's Government at present can give no explanation. It is possible, however, that Sir Hamilton Seymour may have received intimation that his property has been seized by the Emperor Nicholas.

PARLIAMENTARY PAPERS.

A discussion took place as to the enormous expense attending the printing and publication of the papers of the House, in the course of which Earl GRANVILLE intimated his intention of submitting a proposition on the subject to the House after the Easter recess.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

BRIBERY, &c., BILL.

The House having resolved itself into a committee upon the remaining clauses of the Bribery, &c. Bill,

Lord J. RUSSELL said, he was ready to accede to the proposition to refer this bill, the Controverted Elections, &c., Bill, and the Bribery Prevention Bill to a select committee; which was accordingly done.

THE REFORM BILL.

Sir E. DERING rose, pursuant to the notice he had given, to ask the noble Lord the member for the city of London whether it was his intention to move the second reading of the Reform Bill on the 27th April (Hear, hear)

Lord J. RUSSELL: I greatly regret—particularly as I desired the hon. Baronet to postpone his notice until this day—that I am still this day unable to answer the question which is put to me. I propose, however, to make a statement to-morrow, on moving the adjournment of the House, when I will satisfy the hon. member with respect to his question (Hear).

COLONIAL CLERGY DISABILITIES BILL.

The House went into committee upon this bill, which grants an indemnity to the Metropolitan of any province, or the Bishop of any diocese in the colonies, with his clergy and the lay members of the Church of England, attending meetings for regulating ecclesiastical affairs.

Mr. DUNLOP moved to substitute for "Metropolitan of any province, or Bishop of any diocese," the words "Bishops and clergy," being one of a series of amendments the object of which was to guard against giving indirectly a legislative sanction to a preference to the Church of England in the colonies over any other religious denomination there.

The debate upon this amendment extended, not only to the whole scope and principle of the bill, but to the essential character and *status* of the Church of England in the colonies.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL, who had charge of the bill, offered to modify the terms of the clause so as to obviate the objection of Mr. Dunlop; but the opponents of the amendment called for a division, and the amendment was carried by 51 to 34.

The next amendment proposed by Mr. DUNLOP was negatived; and certain amendments moved by the SOLICITOR-GENERAL were agreed to.

The Chairman was then ordered to report progress, the remainder of the clauses (after five hours' debate) being reserved for further discussion.

VENTILATION OF THE HOUSE.

On the motion of Mr. SPOONER, the report of the Committee on the Ventilation of the House, recommending various alterations was agreed to.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.—THE GERMAN POWERS.

The Earl of CLARENDON stated, in reply to Lord Beaumont, that a protocol had been signed at Vienna on Sunday last, the tenor of which was as satisfactory as he could have anticipated. The assent of Prussia had not yet been announced; but it was certain that that country had not gone over to Russia. Rumours had reached England of the recall of the Prussian Ambassador, of which the Chevalier Bunsen had also heard; but he believed the only foundation for that report to be, that the despatch of a special mission to the Court of St. James was contemplated by the King of Prussia—something of the same nature as the one sent over three weeks ago, and which would probably be attended with the same result. He could give no official information touching the terms of the treaty between Austria and Prussia, but had reason to believe they were dictated by the former Power. According to the last accounts the fleets were at Varna. On receiving news that the Russians had crossed the Danube, the Admirals had despatched a squadron of observation to the vicinity of the scene of operations. The Austrian troops, he added, had not yet entered Servia; but the step, if accomplished, would be taken mainly for the purpose of protecting the territory.

The Bankruptcy and Insolvency (Scotland) Bill was read a second time.

POSTPONEMENT OF THE REFORM BILL.

The Earl of HARDWICKE having alluded to the postponement of the Reform Bill, as announced in another place,

The Earl of ABERDEEN entered into a detail of the motives which had actuated the Government when introducing the measure early in the session, and in withdrawing it then. He hoped to reproduce that, or some similar bill, at the earliest period that the state of public affairs would permit.

Lord CAMPBELL, as a Reformer, rejoiced to hear that the bill was postponed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE.—THE REFORM BILL.

Lord J. RUSSELL availed himself of the opportunity of moving the adjournment of the House for the Easter holidays, to state the course he proposed to take in reference to the Reform Bill. He reminded the House of the principles upon which Lord Aberdeen's Ministry was founded. That noble Lord, as well as himself, were pledged to bring forward a measure of Reform, and, therefore, it was not his personal honour alone that was involved, but the honour of the Government also. In conformity with that pledge, he had brought forward a motion such as he thought suitable. At the time of introducing the measure there was a prospect of war, and while that question was pending he proposed to adjourn the second reading to the 27th inst. Abstractedly speaking, he did not consider a state of war a sufficient reason for not proceeding [with a measure of Parliamentary Reform; but under the existing circumstances, when war was declared, the Government had to consider whether or not the House should proceed to the second reading on the day fixed. The Government had to consider whether they would be able to carry the measure in the present state of parties in both Houses. He thought it would be generally admitted that there was an indisposition on the part of the House to undertake the consideration of the question; and, as to the country, there had not certainly been disapprobation, but there had been no anxiety as to the bill being immediately proceeded with. This had been shown in several ways. First, from the absorbing interest with which the war is regarded; and, secondly, in the absence of demonstration in favour of the measure in the shape of petitions. The conclusion come to by the Government was, that it would be unwise, whether the general interests of the country or the interest of Reform itself were concerned, to press the second reading of the bill. He felt, and everyone must feel, that there was great force in a remark which fell from Mr. Disraeli in a former discussion, that it was inconvenient that there should be a bill on the table, containing provisions for disfranchising seats, the occupants of which were still members of the House, and that there should be no decision upon that proposal. He thought it also a great disadvantage that her Majesty should be advised to propose to Parliament that a measure of Parliamentary Reform should be submitted, and yet that the measure should not be seriously taken into consideration. He did not consider that the pledge given by the Government would be redeemed by merely placing the measure on the table. The pledge involved that they should do their utmost to carry it to a successful issue. But great as was the inconvenience of not pursuing that course, he thought greater inconveniences would arise from adopting it. The Government would hardly propose the second reading without declaring that, if defeated, they must resign their offices, or make an appeal to the country by dissolving Parliament. He thought either course would be attended with great danger. A message had been sent down from the Crown announcing the commencement of war, and Ministers could not shrink from the responsibility of their position. Such being the case as regards the Reform Bill, and the position of the Government, if he was asked how the question of Reform itself stood, he was quite ready to give an answer. The Ministry of Lord Aberdeen is as much pledged to Reform as it was on the first day that it entered upon office; and with regard to specific details, the Government saw no reason to change their opinion with respect to the general scope and object of the measure. He should only say that when a suitable opportunity offered, he would again bring forward a Bill of Reform. When Parliament can properly attend to the subject, Ministers will be ready to bring forward a measure, and grapple with it with all the weight of a Government. The Government was as much as ever a Government based upon Reform. As to his own position, as the organ of the Government in that House, Lord John Russell had to say a few words. The course he had taken would expose him to the taunts and sarcasms of the member for Buckinghamshire, who knew well how to apply his shafts. They were weapons of opposition to which Lord John had long been accustomed, and he would not shrink from the encounter, although employed with greater force than they are likely to be now. It was a different thing as regarded those who supported the Government. The statements he had made might be open to suspicion; and that suspicion could not be entertained without weakening—

[At this point the noble speaker's feelings overcame him; and, as he used the word "suspicion" in reference to his motives, his utterance was checked, and the sentences which he struggled to pronounce were evidently given through tears. As soon as this was perceived, loud and cordial cheers, renewed and repeated, broke out from nearly all points.]

His Lordship proceeded to say, that if he had done any good to the cause of Reform, he deserved some confidence; and, if he had not that confidence, he could be of no use to the country, and could not retain office. He had, however, taken the course which he had thought the right one, and he expressed a hope that he should be supported. Lord J. Russell, speaking to the last under strong emotion, resumed his seat amid renewed cheering.

Sir E. DERING said that the House was under the deepest obligation to the noble Lord for having extricated them from a position of difficulty. The House and the country would do full justice to his Lordship's motives in introducing the bill, and not less to the sacrifice he had made and the moral courage he had shown in withdrawing it.

Mr. HUME expressed sympathy with the feelings of Lord J. Russell, and perfect conviction of his sincerity. He was perfectly satisfied with the assurance Lord J. Russell had given as to the re-introduction of the measure

Mr. BRIGHT repudiated the war policy which had necessitated this course, but the House was precluded from making any objections to it. He warned the Opposition against supposing that the people did not demand Reform, for war taxation would make their demand still more urgent, and he counselled Lord J. Russell to give them a simple and a generous measure.

Mr. LABOUCHERE warmly complimented Lord J. Russell and the Government on the course they had taken.

Lord JOCELYN and Lord H. VANE expressed their approbation of the course taken by Government.

Mr. DISRAELI thought the Government had arrived at a sound and satisfactory conclusion, and that the country was to be congratulated upon it. He was not disposed to take up in a indulge in those sarcasms which the noble Lord anticipated; and if other measures to which he (Mr. Disraeli) had objections were disposed of in the same way, he promised an opposition equally mitigated. With regard to the noble Lord personally, although it had been his fortune to sit opposite to him, no man entertained a more hearty respect for his character than he did. The speech he had delivered, painful as it was in many respects, was in every part worthy of him. Still, all he had said failed to justify the introduction of the bill. In this opinion he was much fortified by the declaration of Lord J. Russell himself, and Mr. Disraeli strongly objected to the noble Lord's supporters pressing him for further pledges on the subject.

Sir G. GREY and Mr. S. HERBERT declined the consistency of Lord John Russell in taking the course he had done.

Sir J. PARINGTON said there was no man on any side of the House who was disposed to question the honour of Lord John Russell: and if any person could possibly have entertained such a feeling, it must have been removed by his speech of that night. But nothing that Lord John Russell had said had impaired his (Sir J. Pakington's) opinion, that, if the Reform Bill were not to be proceeded with, it ought not to have been introduced.

Mr. J. MACGREGOR concurred in the propriety of deferring the bill.

Lord J. RUSSELL begged to express his grateful sense of the manner in which his statement had been received.

The motion for adjournment was then agreed to.

THE PUBLIC BALANCE SHEET.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER laid upon the table a statement of the income and expenditure of the country for the year ending the 5th of April; and made a lengthened statement respecting the finances of the country, the balances in the Exchequer, Exchequer bills, &c. The actual surplus, he said, was £2,000,000; and he did not believe that he could have occasion to use even the amount of Exchequer Bills which had been already voted. He explained the reduction of the balances in the Exchequer, and said that the alarm excited upon the subject in the public mind arose altogether from misapprehension, mis-statement, and the improper manner of keeping the public accounts. The amount of accommodation required from the Bank during the last quarter was only £2,129,000, but still even that small sum should be reduced, and reduced it would be.

Mr. DISRAELI endeavoured to vindicate his former statement as regarded the balances in the Exchequer, but declined to discuss the financial position of the country until he should have an opportunity of reading the papers which the right hon. gentleman had just laid upon the table, and of which he could only have a general notion from the remarks which had fallen from him

Mr. T. BARING protested against the principle which appeared to be the keystone of the Chancellor of the Exchequer's policy, that of depositing upon the Bank of England to raise money on deficiency bills instead of relying upon balances in the Exchequer.

Mr. LAING agreed in most of the observations of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, but he thought there was a dangerous principle to rely upon deficiency bills instead of on balances in the Exchequer, and that any saving made by the reduction of those balances was by no means an equivalent for the risk to which it exposed the public credit.

After some observations from Sir H. WILLOUGHBY,

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER replied, and the balance-sheet was ordered to be printed.

THE RUSSIANS IN PARIS.—Before M. de Kisseleff left Paris, he sent a circular to such of the subjects of the Czar resident in Paris as were known to him, signifying that it was the desire of his Imperial Master that they should leave with the greatest possible rapidity. Many of these persons pleaded illness or other causes, and they were informed that they might remain until further notice. This notice has just been given, and it is said that the niece of M. de Kisseleff is included in it. Some of the Russians thus ordered away will obey the injunction, for their incomes are derived from property in Russia, which will be confiscated if they do not comply with the order. Not one, probably, of the Russians who derive their incomes from other sources will comply with the Imperial mandate.

DISCOVERY OF GOLD IN CEYLON.—By the Colombo papers, just received, we learn that gold has been discovered at Rusnwelle, *anglice* Gold sand, by two sailors lately arrived from Australia. Starting from near Kandy, they followed the course of a river for several miles, and, having commenced washing the sand, they were at once rewarded by a quantity of gold dust. The sailors returned to their ship, obtained their discharge, and, having persuaded four of their mates to accompany them to the lucky spot, they soon came to a block sand abounding in small nuggets; which, on being tested by the Colonial Secretary, the metal proved to be the veritable ore.

IMPERIAL RAPACITY.—The statement in the House of Lords, on Monday evening, that the Czar had seized the furniture and other effects of our late Ambassador at St. Petersburg, has called forth a letter from Sir G. H. Seymour, in which he says:—"The question affecting my interests appears to be not whether certain cases which I left at St Petersburg—and which contain pictures, ornamental furniture, books, linen, and other articles of value—are to be seized and confiscated, but whether their shipment on board the *Anne M'Alister*, the only English vessel remaining at Cronstadt, is to be permitted. According to the last advices, the question was determined against me."

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. E. B., of Shuttgardt.—We are sorry to say your Problem still requires amendment, as there is an easy mate by—1 Q to Q 3rd (ch), 2 B to R 4th (ch), 3. Q takes P (ch), & so takes B, &c

ALUMNUS.—Try Kling's Chess Rooms, in New Oxford-street.

MARS. No. It would not be repudiant, the public mind is too much absorbed by the prospect of a long war

W. M Widrey, M. F. of Kew. Q. B. G.—Your Solution will do

W. S. Yes

A. E. W., York.—Stalemate is a drawn game

NOTHERHITE.—Your opponent is in error; he cannot take the piece under such circumstances

J. P.—Your last is somewhat better than the former, but still below our mark.

Mr. J. B is thanked for the games

CICONIENSIS.—The problem was inserted without the sanction, or even the knowledge of Mr Braham. Mr. R. has written to us, disclaiming all connect on with the matter in question.

SIGMUND G., of Genoa.—Received safely, and acknowledged by letter. The other communications are looked forward to with much interest.

E. W. F., Ashborne.—No. 1, will do. The second admits of two solutions.

F. S., of H Moderately good.

MARSALOV.—They are not nearly up to the required standard

W. G. H., Ferry-hill.—Neat, but much too easy.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 527, by J. F., J. M., of Sherborne, are correct.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 528, by J. F., G. T. W., Ernest, J. J., Mandrith, F. R. of B. Newmarket-Subscriber, are correct.

SOLUTIONS BY ENIGMAS by Alexander, Submarine, Cliapod, CRAY, Miss Peter, M. R., J. P. Derevon, are correct. All others are wrong.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 528.

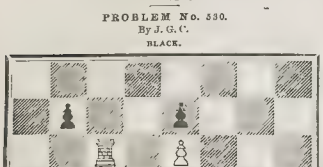
WHITE.	BLACK.
1. B to Q 8th (dis. ch)	K to Q 4th (best)
2. R to K 4th	K takes R (best)
3. Q to Q 7th	

And mates next move, play as Black can.

PROBLEM No. 530.

By J. G. C.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White, moving first, to checkmate in four moves.

MR. STAUNTON'S CHALLENGE.

As most people anticipated, Mr. Harrwitz has stricked even this challenge After accepting the former, and it has become apparent to him that, even when called on to play, it was quite evident that nothing short of an Act of Parliament would ever bring him to face Mr. S. again. He has too lively a remembrance of the drubbing he got before, when, in a long match, he could not win a single game.

Now the affair is at an end, we must be permitted to say we think Mr. Staunton very much to blame in having taken any steps whatever of this person's vapouring; and we sincerely trust that he will treat any further proposals from Mr. Harrwitz with the contempt they merit. He has already placed him where giving large odds. What possible honour could accrue, then, from winning another match upon even terms? There is no kind of proportion in the relative risk of the two parties. Mr. Staunton backs himself against a man who does not risk a penny (for all the cash is found for him), and who, if beaten, is no worse off in Chess standing than he was before. Merely for Mr. S. to engage in such a contest at all, is injudicious; to do so, and wager £300 to £200, is the height of Quixotism. If he must needs subject himself to the fatigue and loss of time of a long Chess match, let it be with an opponent worthy of his powers, and not with a mere second-rate performer, against whom he has every thing to lose and nothing to gain.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

All public security has been subject to numerous and, we may add, extensive fluctuations during the past week; but the whole of the week, nevertheless, the payment of the dividends having rendered money more abundant, and the purchases of Stock on public account having been large, prices have kept up remarkably well, notwithstanding a strike in favour of our position. Exchequer Bills have been firmer than for some time past —owing to the declaration of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, that any funding process will not be necessary, and that the bills at present in circulation are nearly £2,000,000 less than he is allowed to issue

In the Stock Exchange, as well as in Lombard-street, money has been abundant. The Three per Cents have been steady, at former rates of discount. First-class Bills, short dated, have been done at 4½ to 4¾ per cent.

The imports of bullion have been compara.ively small, arising from the unfavourable nature of the exchanges; but we learn that nearly £1,000,000 sterling is on passage from Australia; and that the next packet from Mexico will bring home a large supply of silver. There has been a steady drain of gold from the coast, for shipment to the Continent. It is calculated that about £100,000 has been forwarded to France, Holland, and Belgium.

There is considerable firmness in the Consol Market on Monday, and prices advanced to some extent, compared with Saturday. The Three per Cents were done at 85¾; the Three per Cents Reduced, 85¾ ex div.; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 94¾. Bank Stock, at 208. Long Annuities were 4¼ ex div.; India Bonds, 2s. premium to 3s. dis.; Exchequer Bills, 3s. to 6s. premium South-Sea Stock was 115. On Thursday the Three per Cents varied from 85 to 87¾; the Three per Cents Reduced, 85¾ to 87; and the New Three and-a-Quarter per Cents, 87¾ to 87¾. A transaction took place in the New Two-and-a-half per Cents at 71¾. Long Annuities sold at 4 11-16. The Unfunded Debt was steady. The transactions on Wednesday were less extensive. The Three per Cents Reduced sold at 87¾; the Three per Cents Consols, 85¾; the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 88¾; and the New Five per Cents, 115. Exchequer Bills were 3s. to 6s. prem. On Thursday the business doing was by no means extensive; yet the Three per Cents were fairly firm, at 85¾ to 86, with the same figures for the Account. Exchequer Bills sold at 1s. to 4s. premium. There was no business transacted in the Stock-Exchange on Friday.

All Foreign Bonds have been in good request, and some extensive speculative purchases have been made in them at higher prices. Brazilian Five per Cents have touched 93 ex div.; Ditto, Small, 94; Buenos Ayres Six per Cents, 84; Ditto, Six per Cents, 1868, 82 ex div.; Ditto, Three per Cents, 74 ex div.; Mexican Three per Cents, 24¾; Peruvian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 61; Portuguese Four per Cents, 36; Russian Five per Cents, 93; Ditto Four-and-a-Half per Cents at 77¾. Long Annuities sold at 4 11-16. The Unfunded Debt was steady. The transactions on Wednesday were less extensive. The Three per Cents Reduced sold at 87¾; the Three per Cents Consols, 85¾; the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 88¾; and the New Five per Cents, 115. Exchequer Bills were 3s. to 6s. prem. On Thursday the business doing was by no means extensive; yet the Three per Cents were fairly firm, at 85¾ to 86, with the same figures for the Account. Exchequer Bills sold at 1s. to 4s. premium. There was no business transacted in the Stock-Exchange on Friday.

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MALLEE (AUSTRALIAN) BIRDS, IN THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY'S GARDENS, REGENT'S-PARK.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

worst of all, is the taste shown in embellishing earthenware—our plates, dishes, cups and saucers, which are figured and coloured with most unmeaning and vulgar devices, and requires to be completely reformed One specimen of this, remarkable for its absurdity, is the well-known plate—the "willow pattern"—and the strange jumble of unnatural objects imprinted upon it seems to be in much favour, being reproduced in varieties of shape and size, of the same material. A picture representing trees without leaves, their roots above ground, one species growing cannon-balls; gigantic birds, or rather fish, flying in the air with their wings put on the wrong way, and an idea of perspective quite as clever as the examples in Hogarth's famous plate, are not worthy of the age, and should be amended.

The holiday visitor to the British Museum may combine amusement with instruction upon this subject, by stepping into the British Mediæval-room, and there inspecting the art of this class, of some 300 years or more since: here is a porcelain plate made in 1525, the age in which Italian art had arrived at such perfection, through Raphael and Michael Angelo. This, it is almost needless to state, is not the work of either of those great men, but some inferior hand; and, though incorrect in drawing, and hard in outline, and done in only two colours (purple and yellow), yet there is grace and beauty in its simple pattern.

The second is also of the same period, and more faulty in outline than the foregoing; but, aided by a greater variety of colours, there is much beauty in its appearance. Both these specimens form part of the small mediæval collection, where great variety of shape, and originality of design may be observed in all the articles there exhibited.

May it not be expected, then, in this, the nineteenth century, when

MEDIÆVAL PLATES, IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM

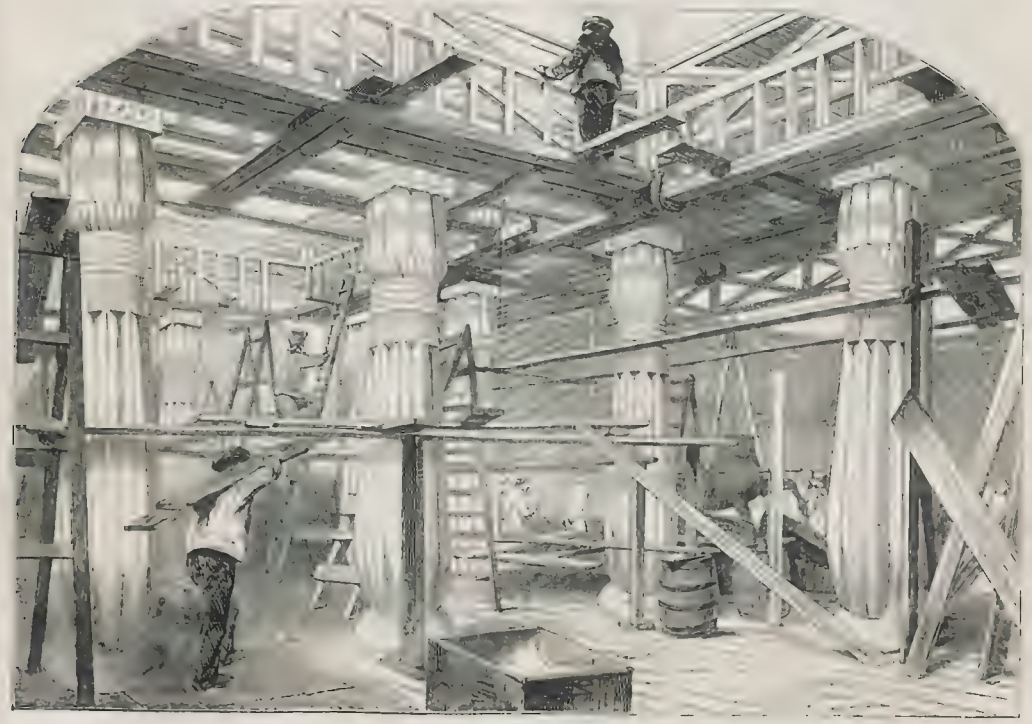
the most eminent artistic skill can easily be obtained, that our manufactories will supply us with a more elegant and tastefully-decorated set of dishes for our tables, and at prices similar to what are now paid? The "blue willow" has had its full time: it has now been in use for more than thirty years; and, as changes are continually going on, we beg of some one to "change this plate."

THE GREAT EGYPTIAN GALLERY, IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

PROGRESS OF THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

COMMENCEMENT OF THE CRYSTAL PALACE, AT SYDENHAM.

On August 1st, 1853, the first column of the Crystal Palace was set up at Sydenham; in May, 1854, the building, if not completed in full detail, will, at any rate, be fit to receive, instruct, amuse, and interest a thronging multitude. The opening at the end of May is now a settled fact. The preliminaries are arranged; the price of admission and subscription tickets decided; and the railway from London-bridge is complete



THE EGYPTIAN COURT IN PROGRESS.

The time, therefore, is, in every respect, appropriate for presenting a few Illustrations, and describing in general terms the objects of its founders, and the plan of the works and gardens.

In a few days the last vestiges of scaffolding will disappear from the garden-front of the Central Transept of the Crystal Palace. The work of the contractors for the glass and iron will be finished, and they will be able to remove their staff and their plant to Paris, or wherever else one of their numerous contracts requires additional strength.

In the Garden—planting shrubs and flowers, laying turf work at the stone basins of future fountains, excavating the great bed of the lake building (first with sticks and stones, then with fine gravel), the devious walks, levelling terraces, and watering the grass and freshly-planted clumps of rhododendrons, raising the iron walls of the rosery, toiling at the water-temple, and tunnelling for the great water-pipes—a vast army of workmen, skilled and unskilled, are humming industriously. Trucks roll along the temporary rails, stolid labourers drive heavily-laden barrows along the lines of single planks. Others, perspiring, dig and slice the London clay, as tough and smooth as a bad imitation of Stilton. Half hidden in the trees, on the north-east boundary, is the building where one set of steam-engines is to pump the water from an artesian well—which has been sunk 500 feet, through clay and gravel to chalk—into the lake, where antediluvian monsters, half covered, disport themselves, or from islands grimly threaten us with their open jaws and scaly bulk, and more than satisfy the curiosity, and cause the fears, of the rising generation

Under the hands of the swarm of workmen—they look like pismires from the top gallery of the Central Transept—the Garden almost grows before one's eyes

The South Wing, planned to connect the railway with the Palace, by a covered way, is completed. The North Wing, destined for machinery and agricultural implements, is in rapid progress.

Behind, the Great Reservoir, which finally receives the waters of the lake, before it is pumped into the water towers, is alive with men, railway trucks, and a steam engine.

A few figures may be considered a useful addition to the outlines, in drawing a comparison between the Palace of Sydenham and the Palace of Hyde-park. The length is 1608 feet; or, less by 240 feet than the building of 1851, broken by three transepts instead of one, of which two are 136 feet in height, from the garden, with a span of seventy-two feet, and the third 200 feet, with a span of 120 feet. The extreme breadth of the building is 334 feet at the transepts, or seventy two feet less than the Hyde park wonder, and this breadth is apparently further diminished by the arched roof which now runs the full length of the whole building.

The diminution of the length and breadth is in part compensated by the capacity of the two wings which stretch on either extremity 376 feet, into and so far enclose the Italian terrace Garden; and also, by a basement-story, commonly called Sir Joseph Paxton's Tunnel. Entering from the railway station just finished for the exclusive use of Crystal Palace visitors, and passing the entrance to the South Wing, we see the view from which our picture of 1854 is taken. Climbing to the first gallery, if we walk on to the southern extremity of the Palace, we shall be in a position to take a bird's-eye view of the interior arrangements.

The basement story, or tunnel, by which the Gardens are reached—which will also be devoted to warming the building, by the aid of a row of furnaces and boilers, and fifty miles of steam-pipes—is at present still in the rough. The Nave, or Central Avenue, on the ground floor, is to be kept clear of anything more opaque than the jets of a fountain: statues, monuments, architectural gems—all are to be cleared away.

The Great Transept—in which four gigantic equestrian statues are to be placed (two antique, two modern), as it were on guard—divides the Nave into two equal parts: the northern division dedicated to art, the southern to commerce; both adorned with fountains, flowering shrubs, and rare trees. The northern half—which will afford a school or harmonious museum of models in architecture and art, from the time of Nimroud, the Mighty Hunter, to Michael Angelo and his patrons, with presents all with exact copies of the man-headed bulls and lions of Nineveh, and (to take a long leap) the bronze gates of Ghiberti, the gates of Paradise—is on both sides sufficiently complete to afford an idea of the final result; although it has been delayed by the strike of a considerable body of painters, plasterers, and masons. In Egypt the artists are at work colouring the columns. In Greece and Rome, the gods, the demigods, the heroes, poets, and philosophers, require a little arrangement. The Courts are at present crowded with casts from divine antiques. A few weeks will see the Courts of Lions, from the Alhambra, as fanciful in pierced work and embossed work, and as glowing in colours—crimson, gold, blue—as the original; while the Royal Chamber of the Assyrian Kings—which, by an unavoidable chronological anachronism, stands at the northern extremity of the building, after the Moorish, and before the Byzantine periods—will be almost complete by the time these lines are printed. The portals guarded by the man-headed bulls and lions; the ceilings and external pillars of perpetual sun—blue, yellow, pink, and white; the walls covered with plaster copies of the "Illustrated News" of Nineveh, and chronicles in the arrowheaded character, unravelled by the industrious ingenuity of Champollion, Rawlinson, and Hincksee, and their pupils.

We this week engrave the commencement of the construction of the Crystal Palace; and the Egyptian Court in progress. Next week we shall engrave the building in its present approach to completion, and detail the several Courts, &c

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,

TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, APRIL 13.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading	Thermometer. Lowest Reading	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
	Inches	°	°	°	°			Inches
April 7	30.353	60·5	39·2	50·4	+ 5·9	75	S.W.&N.E.	0.00
„ 8	30.188	71·0	37·5	55·2	+ 10·5	65	CALM.	0.00
„ 9	30.116	67·3	38·0	52·5	+ 7·7	63	..	0.00
„ 10	30.189	53·3	31·0	40·6	+ 1·6	78	..	0.00
„ 11	30.106	65·5	35·4	50·1	+ 5·0	71	..	0·10
„ 12	30.331	64·0	39·2	49·9	+ 4·8	70	..	0·00
„ 13	30.327	61·9	44·4	51·6	+ 6·1	72	..	.06

Note.—The sign + denotes above the average.

The reading of the barometer decreased from 30.42 inches at the beginning of the week, to 30.1 inches by the afternoon of the 8th; increased to 30.24 inches by the morning of the 10th; and decreased to 30.15 inches by the afternoon of the 11th; increased to 30.39 inches by the morning of the 12th, and decreased to 30.36 inches by the afternoon of the same day; increased to 30.41 inches by the morning of the 13th; and decreased to 30.35 inches by the end of the week. The mean for the week, at the height of 82 feet above the level of the sea, was 30 198 inches. This reading has now been above 30 inches from the 27th of March, and (with four exceptions) from the 21st of February.

The mean daily temperatures have now been above their average values on every day from the 20th of March, ranging from 1·2° above, on the 10th, to 10·5° on the 8th; the mean daily excess for the period being 5·8°. The mean daily temperature of the 8th is the highest mean daily temperature recorded on that day since the year 1821, when it was 56·2°.

The mean temperature of the week was 50·9°, being 5·9° above the average of the corresponding week during 38 years.

The range of temperature during the week was 37°.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 23·2°.

Rain fell during the night common to the 12th and 13th to the depth of six hundredths of an inch.

The weather throughout the week has been fine, and the sky cloudless, with the exceptions of the mornings of the 10th and 11th, and the morning and evening of the 12th; the sky, during the middle part of that day, being almost free from clouds.

Lewisham, April 14th, 1854. JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—During the week ending April 8th, the births of 1742 children were registered in the metropolitan districts: of these 863 were boys, being 117 above the average of the corresponding week during the nine preceding years, and 277 were girls, being 139 above the average of the same weeks. The number of deaths registered in the same week was 1149, and shows an improvement in the path of health, the average number of deaths weekly in March having been 1305. In the ten corresponding weeks of the ten preceding years, the average number of deaths, corrected for increase of population, was 1238. The deaths registered are, therefore, 79 less than the estimated amount.

NATIONAL INSTITUTION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF LIFE FROM SHIPWRECK.—The annual general meeting of the subscribers and friends of this institution was held on Tuesday, at the Admiralty, John-street, Adelphi; Captain Shepherd, H.C.S., Deputy-Master of the Trinity House, in the chair. From the annual report, it appeared that the lifeboats of the society, during the year, had saved the crews and passengers of twelve ships, consisting of 100 persons. The destruction of human life from shipwrecks, on the coasts of the United Kingdom, had been very large in the past year—800 shipwrecks, with the loss of 870 lives, having occurred; which, however, was considerably less than those of 1852. In addition to one gold medal, fourteen silver medals, and ten other honorary rewards, nearly £300 had been voted by the institution during the past year for saving 678 lives. The receipts of the year had been £1885, including a donation of £100 from her Majesty the Queen, and £210 from the Corporation of London; whilst its expenditure on legitimate objects was £1485, besides liabilities for life boats amounting to £570. The report was adopted unanimously, and various resolutions pledging the meeting to support the institution were carried.

ROYAL WESTMINSTER OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL.—A quarterly meeting of the Governors of this Charity was held on Thursday last; Lewis Powell, Esq., in the chair. From the surgeons' reports, it appeared that eighteen operations for cataract had been performed with perfect success, four of whom were children born blind. The total number of indigent persons who received the benefits dispensed by this excellent charity, for the quarter ending 31st March, was 1492. This hospital is especially devoted to diseases of the eye, and from its door no deserving person is ever turned away; it fully merits the liberal support of those who consider the wants of the afflicted poor.

NEWLY-INVENTED SPURIOUS COIN.—Within the last few days Mr. Webster, the numismatist, and inspector-general of coins to her Majesty's Mint, has had transmitted to him some counterfeit shillings, bearing date of those issued in 1852, and which more perfectly represent the genuine coin than anything ever yet put in circulation. The difference from the ordinary bad money is that they are struck with a beautifully-executed die, from a hard white metal, which is subsequently strongly electro-plated. Being struck from dies they are to all appearance perfect in this respect, that the rim and milling are quite sharp and complete, whereas in the Britannia metal base coin hitherto circulated, from being cast in moulds and the metal poured in from the edge of the mould, the outer rim of the coin is always faulty, and a very cursory inspection of that part would suffice to detect it; and again, being struck from a die, the impression in every other respect has that sharp, full, and perfect appearance appertaining to good coin, and wholly impossible to be obtained when cast in moulds. The component parts of the metal from which they are struck are copper, nickel, and zinc, in the following proportions:—Copper, 64.26 per cent.; nickel, 15.71; and the rest zinc, which is in reality German silver. The shillings weigh five grains light of a genuine one of the same year, and three grains heavy of a George IV. of 1822. The metal being so hard the coin does not wear out nor expose the fraud; but they may be known by the ring, which is most signally bad.

THE CONSERVATIVE LAND SOCIETY.—The seventeenth public drawing, for seventy rights of choice on the society's estates, took place on Saturday, in the presence of a large number of shareholders. The numbers drawn be-nged to members in various counties. The rev. chairman announced that the allotment of the St. Margaret's estate, being fixed for the 7th of June, the Executive Committee had resolved to open the mansion and park to public view for a few weeks, and that cards might be obtained from the secretary. In answer to a question as to the mode of allotment, it was stated that the surveyor's plan would not interfere with the beauty of the grounds, as ornamental garden would be laid out with the villas. This announcement gave great satisfaction to the meeting

A NARROW ESCAPE.—Last Saturday a soldier, while on a visit to a menagerie at Carlow, thrust his arm through the bars of the cage, when the lion made a sudden spring, fixed his teeth in the fleshy part of the intruded arm, and held it fast without motion. The soldier, with great firmness and presence of mind, made no alarm—no attempt to withdraw his arm, although the blood flowed copiously. The spectators called loudly for the keeper, who cast a bullock's head into the den. The lion immediately relaxed his hold, sprung upon the bullock's head, and the soldier withdrew his arm. The wounds, which were not severe, were subsequently dressed, and he was enabled to resume his march on Monday.

MACHINERY FOR RUSSIA.—A seizure was effected at Glasgow, on Tuesday evening, on the premises of Messrs. Napier, of two pairs of marine steam-engines, of 400 and 454-horse power, adapted for screw line-of-battle ships or heavy frigates, manufactured under contract for the Russian Government. It appears that, as in the case of other recent seizures, some attempt has been made to set up a sub-contract for transferring these engines to a Hamburg house (Merck and Co.), in order to evade their confiscation as Russian property.

LAUNCH OF THE "PHŒBE," 50-GUN FRIGATE.—This fine vessel was launched, at Plymouth, on Wednesday at half-past four o'clock. She went off in fine style. Thousands of persons were congregated; and just before the launch took place the *Nile* 90-gun, passed at the stern, and the men on board gave the *Phœbe* three good English cheers. (We shall illustrate this interesting scene next week.)

"THE MIRANDA" IN THE ICE OFF NARGEN ISLAND, GULF OF FINLAND

H.M.S. "MIRANDA," OFF REVEL

H.M.S. *Miranda*, having left England on the 9th ult., on a mission to reconnoitre the ports of Revel and Port Baltic, and ascertain whether any portions of the Russian fleet remained at either place, as well as to report on the state of the ice, entered the Gulf of Finland on the 19th, where she encountered heavy fields of ice. With the greatest difficulty she was forced through a distance of about fifty miles to Revel, passing and looking into Port Baltic on the way, in which was nothing but a few merchant vessels.

On rounding the north end of Nargen Island, the ice in the bay was so thick that it was impossible to proceed farther; but, from her position, she commanded a view of the town, batteries, mole, and roadstead, and ascertained that there was no vessel of any description there.

The accompanying Sketch represents the *Miranda* off the northern end of Nargen Island; and shows the lighthouse, Domberg, and the Church of St Olaie.

In performing this service the *Miranda* was much impeded by the thickness of the ice, as well as the intricate and difficult navigation of the Baltic. She was blocked up in it for two nights, the thermometer varying from ten to twelve degrees below freezing-point; and on one occasion she was so firmly fixed that it was necessary to fire shot from the guns at extreme depression to break the ice all round, before she could start. She is now in dock at Sheerness, repairing the defects occasioned by her cruise.

On Tuesday morning, the *Miranda* came out of the graving dock, at Sheerness, having completed her repairs. She next proceeded to get everything in order for immediate service in the Baltic

THE BALTIC FLEET.

THE accompanying Sketch, by Mr. Frierly, represents the Baltic Fleet off Reef Ness Light, on the 24th March.

The *Dauntless*, which is already at anchor, marks the position of a shoal, where there is less water than would suffice for ships of heavier draught than herself.

The Fleet, consisting of seventeen sail, have formed, on account of the intricacy and narrowness of the channel, in single line. A signal to prepare to anchor is seen at the mast-head of the flag-ship, which the *Leopard*, in her capacity of "repeating ship," is telegraphing to the fleet. Reef Ness Lighthouse, seen on the right of the picture, is situated on the north-east point of the Island of Zealand, on the opposite side of which lies the city of Copenhagen.

We left Winga (says our Correspondent) on the 23rd, and anchored near the entrance of the Great Belt, about eight o'clock the same evening. During the night numerous small vessels had crowded us, bearing up for the entrance of the Sound the nearest way to Copenhagen, but impassable for ships drawing, as some of our line-of-battle ships do, six or seven-and-twenty feet of water.

We have on board the *St. Jean d'Acre* a Norwegian pilot. He has light hair and blue eyes, as becomes the descendant of the Norseman: he wears huge fur boots and cap, a seal-skin waistcoat, with a huge pipe sticking out of the pocket; spits through his teeth, like a Yankee; and is very tenacious of his title, "Captain" (he is skipper of some Norwegian merchant vessel). One of his fraternity is on board each of the ships in the fleet; for the most part they are so like each other that they might be taken for twin brothers.

We have hardly been out of sight of land since leaving Winga. The coast has been uniformly sterile and rocky; but, with the exception of the 24th, when it blew hard from the S.W., the weather, though cold, has been beautiful.

Great-gun exercise, musketry exercise, and drill, in all its moods and tenses, goes on unceasingly; and it is the universal opinion that, if no fleet ever left the shores of England on a juster quarrel, none was ever more thoroughly versed in the art that ensure success.

H.M.S. *St. Jean d'Acre*, Kioge Bay, April 4, 1854.

This morning, intelligence of war being declared was formally communicated to the fleet by Admiral Napier. The scene was a very grand and exciting one. The flag-ship, covered in every part with signals, forming the sentences—"Lads, war is declared, with a bold and numerous enemy to meet. Should they offer us battle, you know how to dispose of them; should they remain in port, we must try and get at them. Success depends on the precision and quickness of your firing. Lads, sharpen your cutlasses, and the day is our own!" Then the rigging manned in the different vessels, the heart-felt cheering that burst from every ship! I sat down to make a sketch of it for you the moment I came down from deck, in hopes to send it by this post, but I find this will be impossible, as to-day is the day for letters from the fleet. I will not, however, lose a moment in getting it done, and will send it off by the next post, which leaves here on Thursday—it will be, "The Announcement of the Declaration of War with Russia to the Baltic Fleet, by Admiral Sir Charles Napier, April 4th."

O. W. BRIERLY.

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

THE ROYAL OPERA, DRURY-LANE.—The Season will commence on MONDAY NEXT, APRIL 17th (Easter Monday) when will be performed Bellini's Opera, NORMA: Norma, Madame Carsdori. After which, God Save the Queen, by the entire Company. To conclude with a Ballet Divertissement.—Prices: Gallery, 1s., pit, 2s.; boxes, 3s.; dress circle, 3s.; stalls, 5s. Private boxes, 21s., 42s., and 63s.; may be had of the principal Musicsellers, and at the Box-office. The Subscription will include 100 nights, and will commence on Monday, 24th April.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.—EASTER MONDAY, and during the week, SWEET THE FLOUSH, Mr. Buckstone's Voyage Round the Globe (in Leicester-square), and Wildfire and Bye Dumb.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE, Oxford-street.—On EASTER MONDAY, RICHARD III. and THE LANCERS, Tuesday, "Married Unmarried" and "The Corsican Brothers;" Wednesday, "Married Unmarried" and (first time) "Faust and Margaret" Thursday (under approval), Friday, and Saturday, "Married Unmarried" and "Faust and Margaret."

GREAT NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE, SHOREDITCH. Mr. JOHN DOUGLASS.—Wonderful Attraction for the EASTER HOLIDAYS. Mdlle. Louise, Mdlle. Schmidt, and J. W. Collier. New Spectacle, the SPLIT of LIGHT; or, the Imp of the Water Vulkius and his Band. The Fat of the Public and Ruby Rattler. Two Day Performances on Easter Monday and Tuesday. Prices as usual.

PRINCESS' CONCERT ROOM.—GRAND CARNIVAL BALL, à la Castanee, TUESDAY, APRIL 18th. Gentleman's ticket, half-a-guinea; Lady's, 7s. 6d. N.B. Wuatcamara Quadrille Band.

ST. MARTIN'S HALL.—Handel's "Acis and Galatea." Beethoven's Choral Fantasia, with the Overture, and a Selection from Weber's "Oberon," next WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19th, under the direction of Mr. John Hullah. Tickets, 1s., 2s. 6d. and 5s.

CROSBY HALL, Bishopsgate-street.—Mr. GEORGE BUCKLAND will deliver his New Entertainment, entitled MADCAP VANITIES, at the above Hall, on MONDAY Evening, the 17th APRIL, assisted by his sister, Miss Annie Buckland, R.A.M. Tickets to be obtained at the Hall. To commence at Eight.

MR. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC will RE-OPEN on EASTER MONDAY, at Eight o'clock, and will as formerly, since EVERY EVENING (except Saturdays), at Eight, and TUESDAY, THURSDAY, and SATURDAY MORNINGS, at Three o'clock. EGYPTIAN HALL, Piccadilly.

LOVE in a NEW ENTERTAINMENT.—EASTER HOLIDAYS LOVE'S last New and most successful Entertainment THE LONDON SEASON, on MONDAY, APRIL 17, the ALBION HALL, Dalston, on Tuesday, April 18, at Islington; and on Wednesday, April 19, at Stoke Newington.

ROYAL GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, No. 14, Regent-street.—THE ROUTE of the BRITISH ARMY to the SEAT of WAR, and the celebrated Overland Mail, with Constantinople, St. Petersburg, Sebastopol, and Dardanelles (from a Sketch by Lieut. O'Reilly, of the "Retribution"). Daily, at Three and Eight. Admission 1s., 2s., and 3s

THE JAPANESE and CHINESE COLLECTIONS are now OPEN at BAKER-STREET BAZAAR.—Admission free. Thousands of rare, curious, and beautiful specimens for SALE at reduced prices; also the celebrated Japanese Boy, reduced to 2s. per jar, or 18s. the original basket, containing six jars —BEWTY and CO., Proprietors.

NOW OPEN, adjoining the Polytechnic, Regent-street.—Mr. W. J. FERRY'S Great Moving Diorama of CANADA and the UNITED STATES, with Descriptive Views of Niagara and the Lakes, by Mr. Ferry, every Evening at Eight, and Wednesday and Saturday Afternoons at Three. Admission, 1s.; Stalls, 2s.; Reserved Seats, 3s.; Private Boxes for four, 10s. Box-office open from eleven till Four

NOTICE.—CONSTANTINOPLE.—The LECTURE accompanying the Grand Moving DIORAMA of CONSTANTINOPLE is now delivered on Wednesday and Saturdays, by Mr. J. H. Stocqueler, whom the Progress and Localities of the War will be enabled to satisfactorily elucidate; and, on the other days, as usual, by Mr. Charles Kenney. A very clear and excellent Map has been added to the Illustrations. Daily, at Half past Two and Eight. Admission, 1s. Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly.

DURING EASTER WEEK the MUSEUM of ORNAMENTAL ART and SCHOOLS at MARLBOROUGH HOUSE, Pall-Mall, will be open DAILY for the Inspection of the Public. Admittance Free.

BRITISH INSTITUTION, Pall-mall.—The GALLERY for the EXHIBITION and SALE of the WORKS of BRITISH ARTISTS, is OPEN Daily, from 10 till Five. Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 6d. JOHN PYNE, Secretary.

GALLERY of GERMAN PAINTINGS, 27, Haymarket.—THE SECOND ANNUAL EXHIBITION of Lee Works of MODERN GERMAN ARTISTS is now OPEN daily, from 9 a.m. until dusk. Admission 1s.—Gallery, 168, New Bond-street (next door to the Clarendon).

EASTER HOLIDAYS.—The ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS in the REGENT'S PARK will be OPEN to Visitors on each day in the week (except Saturday).

EASTER HOLIDAYS —ATTRACTIVE NOVELTIES

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION. Patron: H.R.H. Prince ALBERT. The SEAT of the WAR, Constantinople, Panoramic Pictures on the Banks of the Danube, Sebastopol, Odessa, Varna, the entrance to the Black Sea, Battle of Sinope, and the Invasion of the Turkish Empire and their scenes (kindly supplied by the Proprietors of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS) exhibited in a New Series of DISSOLVING VIEWS. Lectures by J. H. PEPPER, Esq., on the Chemistry of Paper Making, and its durability and beauty, and on Voltaic Electricity, and the Electric Light by J. BACHHOFFNER. Explanations of Mr. SMEE'S Battery. New Musical Entertainments by Mr. Corbyn Hall. Admission, 1s.; Schools, and Children under ten years of age, Half-price.

DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM is NOW OPEN, the Specimens well known as the SALLE ROBIN, Piccadilly. For Gentlemen, from Five until Five, and from Seven until Ten daily. On Wednesday and Friday a portion of the Museum is open for Ladies only, from Two till Five. Admission, 1s.

CALDWELL'S SOIREES DANSANTES, 6, Sir Percy-terrace, Bath.—Admission, 5s.; set per quarter, £1 1s. Six Private Lessons, at any hour, £1 1s. EASTER MONDAY, Long Quadrille Night.—Admission, 5s. Large Rooms may be engaged for Concerts, &c.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.—OPERA BOXES and STALLS in the best situations, and on the most moderate terms can always be secured at HAMMOND'S MUSICAL LIBRARY, 5, New Bond-street, opposite the Clarendon Hotel. Opera Private Boxes and Stalls at the Theatres.

MR. ALFRED SOLA begs to acquaint his Friends and Pupils that he has REMOVED from Wigmore-street to 69a, EDWARD-STREET, PORTMAN-SQUARE, where he will continue to receive PUPILS for the CULTIVATION of the VOICE Putney-vale, Rockampton. April 8, 1854.

ART UNION of LONDON.—The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, to receive the Council's Report, and to Distribute the Amount Subscribed for the Purchase of Works of Art, will be held at the THEATRE ROYAL LYCEUM (by the kind permission of Charles Mathews, Esq.), on TUESDAY the 25th inst. at Eleven for Twelve o'clock. The receipt for the current year will procure admission for member and friends

GEORGE GODWIN, } Hon. Secs.
444, West Strand, April. LEWIS POCOCK. }

JOHN B. GOUGH.—The Committee of the LONDON TEMPERANCE LEAGUE have pleasure to announce that this distinguished Advocate will again visit the Metropolis and deliver ORATIONS as follows:
Monday, April 24th, Exeter Hall, free to the Working Classes.
Tuesday, April 25th, Exeter Hall
Wednesday, April 26, ditto
Friday, April 28, morning meeting, Willis's Rooms King-street, St. James's. An Address to Ladies only. Chair taken at Two o'clock precisely.
Monday, May 1st, Abney Chapel, Stoke Newington.
Tuesday, May 2nd, Mare's Chapel, Hackney
Wednesday, May 3rd, Saddler's Wells Theatre.
Thursday, May 4, Hall, Grove-place, Camberwell
Monday, May 8th Tottenham
Tuesday, May 9th Exeter Hall.
Wednesday, May 10th, ditto.
Thursday, May 11th, ditto.
Doors open each Evening at Seven, to commence at Eight o'clock Tickets to Lectures on Monday, 3s. 6d. and 1s.; to the other Meetings, 2s., 1s., 6d. each, except the Meeting for the Working Classes which is Free to the body of the Hall; platform 1s.; may be obtained at the Office, 337 Strand, and early application is requested.
N.B. Gough arrived in England in August last, during his stay has addressed upwards of 250,000 persons.

W. TWEEDIE, } Hon. Secs.
JOHN PHILLIPS, }

LIVERPOOL BLACK BALL CLIPPERS.—These celebrated Ships SAIL EVERY FORTNIGHT, for MELBOURNE, Geelong, Sydney, Adelaide, and Launceston. They are all first-class, and have made the fastest passages on record. Cash orders issued in Australia from £1 and upwards, and parcels forwarded. Apply to John Jaffrays and Co., Great St. Helens, London; or to the owners, James Baines and Co., Cork-street, Liverpool.

ADELAIDE, PORT PHILLIP, and SYDNEY PASSENGERS and LUGGAGE.—LANDED at Melbourne and Geelong free Saloon, £45; cabin or deck, £25 to £30; intermediate, £16 to £20. No steerage. Children half-price. Unrivalled fast-sailing first-class ships: Joseph Fry, BARNETT and CO., 28, Philpot-lane, London, Merchants, Colonial, Sh., pping, and General Agents.

STEAM to SWEDEN from HULL ONCE a WEEK.—The North of Europe Steam Navigation Company's First-class Steam-ships SCANDINAVIAN and OSCAR, are intended to leave Hull for Gothenburg regularly every FRIDAY EVENING, after the arrival of the last train in Hull. The "Oscar" goes direct, but the "Scandinavian" calls at Christiansand and Christiania (on the outward passage only). The "Scandinavian" leaves for Christiansand, Christiania, and Gothenburg, on the 21st April, and every alternate Friday during the season. The "Oscar" leaves for Gothenburg direct on the 28th April, and every alternate Friday

STEAM to GOTHENBURG direct from LONDON.—The new and safe old first-class Steam-ship GOTHENBURG will be despatched from London to Gothenburg direct, on Friday, the 21st instant, and every alternate Friday during the Season.

Fares: Chief Cabin, £5 5s.; Fore Cabin, £3 13s., including Steward's fees. For further particulars apply to the Company's Offices, 84, King William-street; or to C. MOLLER, 2, Mincovy-court, Tower-hill.

N.B.—From unavoidable delay, the "Gothenburg" will not be despatched from London to Gothenburg on Friday, the 14th inst., but on Friday, the 21st inst.

STEAM COMMUNICATION with the BRAZILS and RIVER PLATE.—ROYAL MAIL STEAM PACKET COMPANY.—One of this Company's Steamers will leave Southampton on the 8th of every Month with Mails, Passengers, &c., for MADEIRA, Teneriffe, St. Vincent, (Cape de Verds), Pernambuco, Bahia, Rio de Janeiro, and from thence by branch steamer to Monte Video and Buenos Ayres, returning by the same route to Southampton.

Particulars as to rates of Fares, Freights &c., may be had on application to the Company's Agents in London, or at Southampton; from Robert Hesketh, Esq., the Company's Superintendent of the Cargo Department, to whom packages and parcels for or from the Ship are received for Madeira (Teneriffe St. Vincent (Cape de Verds), Pernambuco, Bahia, and Rio de Janeiro freight being prepaid

Goods taken on moderate freights outward to Bahia and Rio de Janeiro, on transhipment from Monte Video, Bahia, Pernambuco, St. Vincent, (Cape de Verds), Teneriffe and Madeira.

Passengers are recommended to make early application for securing proper berths.

Return tickets issued, available for twelve months, with an abatement of fifty per cent on the passage-money

55, Moorgate-street. E. CHAPPELL, Secretary.

EASTERN COUNTIES RAILWAY.—First, Second, and Third class RETURN TICKETS will be issued from London every Saturday night by the Mail Trains, to the Stations at which they call at the price of a single fare for the double journey, available for return by any train on Sunday, or by the first train on the Monday morning By order, GEORGE RICHARDSON.
Bishopsgate April 11, 1854.

GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY.—EASTER HOLIDAYS.—Express and Ordinary Day Tickets to and on all parts of the Great Northern Railway on the 13th, 14th, 17th, 18th, & 20th instant will be available for Return on any day (Sunday excepted) to the 21st inst. By order of the Board
SEYMOUR CLARKE,
King's Cross Station, 8th April, 1854. General Manager.

THE GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY.—The Directors have, from this date, changed the rates of conveyance on marriages, and which are at present four shillings per mile for first-class carriages, and four-and-a-quarter pence per mile for second-class. The interest will be paid half yearly in January and July, by the Bankers at Messrs Smith, Payne, and Smiths, bank of London Applications for loans to be addressed to J. E. MOWATT, Secretary
Secretary's Office, King's Cross Station, London, April 7, 1854.

THE GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY.—The prices of Coals brought to London by this Railway have been reduced, and are at present as under—

	Loaded into Cars or Barges at the Station, at per ton.	Delivered within five miles of the Station at per ton.
From the County of Durham.		
House Coals, best quality—	s. d.	s. d.
Lambton Wallsend, screened	22 0	25 0
Primdon Hartlepool Wallsend, screened	21 6	24 6
Adelaide Tees Wallsend, screened	21 0	24 6
From the South Yorkshire Coal Field.		
Hemsworth Silkstone, screened	19 6	22 6
Hemsworth Silkstone, second quality	18 0	21 0
Hemsworth Silkstone, screened	19 6	22 6
Hemsworth Silkstone, second quality	18 0	21 0
Kitchen Coals—		
Lambton, best, screened	23 0	26 0
Primdon Hartlepool, screened	22 0	25 0
Adelaide Tees, screened	22 0	25 0
Hemsworth Silkstone, screened	21 0	24 0
Steam or Furnace Coals—		
Lambton, best	19 0	22 0
Primdon Hartlepool	18 0	21 0

Beyond five miles from the King's cross Station, 1s. per ton per extra mile for carriage Dues to be paid on giving the order, or on delivery. The only Coke for Coals brought to London by the Great Northern at Jersey is within this station, and are should be taken to Messrs. Robert Charles, Sole Agent for the Sale of Coals consigned to the King's-cross Station by the Company.
By order, J. E. MOWATT, Secretary.
King's-cross Station, London, 8th April, 1854.

THE NATIONAL PROVIDENT FREEHOLD LAND SOCIETY. New Offices—London Shares, £50 Entrance, 1s. 6d. Country Shares, £50 Entrance, 2s. 6d. Monthly Subscription, 10s. per Share. Members may pay up the whole or part of their Subscriptions at once, or by monthly instalments. Interest at the rate of 5 per Cent per annum upon all sums of money paid up thereon, and after the rate of 5 per cent upon all deposits of money, paid up thereon, and after the rate of 5 per cent upon all deposits of money, paid up thereon, and after the rate of 5 per cent upon all deposits of money,

THE BALTIC FLEET PREPARING TO ANCHOR AT THE ENTRANCE OF THE GREAT BELT—FROM A SKETCH BY O. W. BRIERLY.—(SEE PAGE 346.)

ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS SUPPLEMENT.

VOL. XXIV.] SATURDAY, APRIL 15, 1854. [GRATIS.

SLAVERY IN AMERICA.

THE public attention of Europe is, naturally, so engrossed by the Black Sea and the Baltic, and the momentous issues imminently connected with these localities, that most important affairs may, and do, occupy other quarters of the globe, without attracting more than slight passing notices. Yet there are mighty concerns agitated at this moment, and interests at stake, probably involving as great moral and political consequences as even the war in the East and the thunder-fraught clouds which threaten equal bloodshed and destruction in the North. Under the appalling circumstances of the times, in Europe, America seems to be forgotten; though, since the date of the Declaration of Independence, the United States have not been thrown upon so momentous a crisis as they are at this moment. The great question of pro and anti-slavery is agitated between the entire powers of the North and the South, and the Senate has for weeks been balanced in the sharpest debates and closest array of force on the one side and the other. On the decision depends the fate of millions of our fellow-creatures, and whether, by the extension of slavery to the newly-annexed States, an immense territory (larger than the original thirteen States*) and increase of weight shall be added to the southern moiety of the Union, so as to swamp the northern Abolitionists, or, on the contrary, the latter shall prevail and save mankind from the perpetration of this projected scandal and outrage. The struggle is vehemently contested, and by the result must be determined much of the future destinies of the New World.

In order that our readers may understand the nature of the case, we must, however, relate the antecedent particulars which have led to this national conflict. Upon the inconsistency of slavery at all in the free States of America we need not enlarge. The Republic was founded on the original policy and solemn compact of those who achieved its independence, that, in effect Congress would abstain from intervention with slavery in the States, over which half a million of slaves were then scattered; but it was prohibited in all the national domains, the importation of negroes forbidden, and the expectation held out that even the permitted domestic and sectional institution would gradually die out, and leave the country unstained by this foul blot.

The illustrious Washington avowed that "It was among the first of his wishes to see some plan adopted by which slavery might be abolished by law, and that to this end his suffrage would not be wanting;" but the selfish interests and thirst for gain in slave-masters defeated these views, and the abomination grew with the growth, and spread far and wide with the increase and development of the country till it arrived at the horrid pitch at which we see it in the present day.

In 1787 freedom was the proclaimed will of America, and the interdict of slavery covered the entire soil belonging to the national Government. In 1820 the vast region of Louisiana, beyond the bounds of the original States, was acquired, and the violent contest for settling its political position was concluded by a victory so far on the side of slavery that a partition of the territory was agreed to, and that portion which was purchased from France was delivered over to the infamous traffic in human beings. The words of the Act of Congress were:—

SEC. 8. *It is further enacted*. That in all that Territory *ceded by France to the United States, under the name of Louisiana*, which lies north of thirty-six degrees and thirty minutes of north latitude, not included within the limits of the State contemplated by this act, SLAVERY AND INVOLUNTARY SERVITUDE, otherwise than as the punishment of crimes SHALL BE, AND IS HEREBY, FOR EVER PROHIBITED.

For thirty years, that is to 1850, the slave question was rather disputative than actually progressive on either hand; but at that period it again came to a head, and, after much vehement debating, was again patched up by a hollow agreement, by which, however, the slavery advocates obtained an advantage, affecting Utah and New Mexico (Arkansas had already been accommodated with the slavery system), Texas, and other territories in prospect of annexation; all which were enacted by Congress to be received "with or without slavery."

But now the dispute has assumed a more aggressive form on the part

* Nearly as extensive as France, Spain, and Italy combined.

RUSSIAN PRISONERS ON THEIR WAY TO SIBERIA.—PAINTED BY J. WYNS. (SEE NEXT PAGE.)

of the slave states and slave owners, of whom there are from 250,000 to 300,000 in the Union. The effort making is to violate the prohibition of slavery in the Missouri Compromise, and advance a step beyond the measures of 1850, and, on the plea of non-intervention and the right of self-government, to spread the curse of slavery over the States north of the line of 36 deg. 30 min., and give a preponderance to the slave interests, at which all the Beecher Stowes and various Abolitionists on the face of the earth may rail and lament in vain. One Senator, the Hon. Charles Sumner, in speaking against the proposed repeal, denounces its abettors as Abolitionists of Freedom; who now aim at overthrowing the prohibition, we have quoted from the Act of Congress, against the introducion of slavery into the vast and admirably fertile territory, a large portion of which is called Nebraska, and joining powerful new States to the Union, whose internal organisation and ambitious interests must be congenial to their own. The opposition to this grand move of the Southern slave States, by the northern and western non-slavery States, is of the most ardent character; and the debates have been carried on with great vehemence and passion. How they will terminate it is difficult to foretell, though the pro-slavery party appears to have a small majority in numbers, and among the more moderate of them we observe the name of Mr. Everett. Still, the other side is so strong, that it is quite possible that the present, like the past, contention on this fierce battle-field may be temporarily healed by another hollow truce and stave-off compromise. But the mischief must remain and rankle in the constitution of the whole body politic, pregnant as Pandora's box with evils which will, at some nearer or later epoch, rend the American Confederation in twain. As it is, the Runaway Slave Act is a source of perpetual collision and irritation; and, much as the people are attached to the government of the entire conglomerate of independent provinces, the following succession of hostile humours cannot fail to weaken that [illegible] and pave the way for more direct and irreconcilable differences, threatening convulsion and change. In glancing into futurity no human eye can penetrate far; and, as we have remarked, the crisis may arrive sooner than we anticipate, or later than the event would seem to promise. But that it will come in the course of time is certain; and that it is now hastening onward is no less obvious. The wonderfully rapid increase of the population in this quarter of the globe—illimitable as are the lands which it offers for settlement and provision—adding millions to millions of men under very extraordinary, and not always cohesive, circumstances, already predisposes the elder and more densely-occupied States to a rupture on this question of slavery. Why might there not be two Republics here, even in our own time—independent Governments, with amity between them? And, as the never-resting wheel rolls on, nations will fill the space of the one existing nation; and boundless regions witness numerous empires, kingdoms, or republics, where, as yet, pathless forests and measureless prairies serve only to harbour the roaming emigrant, the Red Indian, and the *fera natura* of unreclaimed nature. Meanwhile, presuming that the slave States will increase their area, and augment their power, if successful in the present instance, it is easy to perceive that new dangers, as well as new ills, will arise out of their triumph. The perils of Helot insurrection will not be diminished by the extension of territory and multiplication of slaves; nor will the contrast between the [illegible] and enterprise of the non-slavery States and the immobility and vices of those where slavery prevails be rendered less instructive as a lesson for the benefit and progress of human kind. Well does the Senator we have already mentioned denounce the condition of the latter, and the prospect now before them, when he says:—

> Slavery is the forcible subjection of one human being, in person, labour, or property, to the will of another. In this simple statement is involved at the outset no offence against religion, against morals, against humanity, which may not stalk, in the license of this institution, "unbhit of justice." For the husband and wife there is no marriage; for the mother there is no sentiment that her infant child will not be ravished from her breast; for all who bear the name of slave there is nothing that they can call their own. Without a father, without a mother, almost without a God, the slave has nothing but a master. It would be contrary to that rule of right, which is ordained by God, if such a system, though mitigated often by a patriarchal kindness, and by a plausible physical condition, could be otherwise than pernicious in its influences. It is confessed that the master suffers not less than the slave. And this is not all. The whole social fabric is disorganised; labour loses its dignity; industry stands still in the whole country, and all the kind of slavery is impoverished. And now, sir, when the conscience of mankind is at last aroused to these things—when, throughout the civilised world, a slaveholder is a by-word and reproach—we, as a nation, are about to open a new market to the traffickers in flesh that haunt the shambles of the South. Such an act, at this time, is removed from all reach of that palliation often vouchsafed to slavery. The Congress of the United States, the people of the United States, at this day, in this vaunted period of light, will be responsible for it, so that it shall be said hereafter, so long as the dismal history of slavery is read, that, in the year of Christ 1854, a new and deliberate act was passed, by which a vast territory was opened to its inroads.

We have thus endeavoured to lay before our readers the nature of what has been styled, for its pre-eminence, the "Question of Questions," which has been for so long, and now, such an increase of interest, agitating the Legislature and people of the United States. The results cannot be foreknown, but they must be of the utmost importance. If the slave system is, by a breach of existing law, to be carried into the vast domain of Nebraska, and the boundary line of 36 deg. 30 min. crossed with manacles and cow-hides, and the power of life and death in every owner of a fellow-creature, the enquiry will bring its punishment along with it, and "it cannot, and it will not come to good!"

RUSSIAN PRISONERS ON THEIR WAY TO SIBERIA.

The Illustration upon the preceding page is from a beautifully-executed water-colour picture, by A. Vons, a Russian artist now resident in Paris. The scene represented is a party of Russian prisoners on their way to Siberia. They are receiving refreshments from some peasants on the road. A series of drawings, by the same artist, was exhibited to the Graphic Society in Wellington-street, Strand, and excited considerable interest. [illegible], it will be remembered, is the general receptacle for political prisoners from Russia; and, in connection with this subject, we find the following in a letter from a Correspondent in the *Daily News* of Monday last:—

> If true Liberals could have their way they would fain empty Siberia of all its political exiles that are not purely Russian. With native Russians I have nothing to do. We cannot interfere between them and their own [illegible] but who does not know that there are multitudes there besides [illegible]. We know that there are (or lately were) even in the Kremlin dungeons, and exiled convents, Poles of the highest rank, [illegible] by himself, and conversed on the Danube with one who had been in charge of having isolated the Cz[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [

Beneath this article is another, dated Vienna, August 19. It is as follows:—

"We have accounts from Constantinople that there is great confusion among the Turkish Ministry. The same accounts add, that everything seems to presage *an approaching rupture with Russia, the Divan will not listen to the representations of the Russian Minister.*"

THE COMET.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.*)*

NOTWITHSTANDING the excitement which now prevails in the political arena, consequent on announcements such as those which during the last few days have been made to the world, a few particulars concerning the new Comet, which has made its appearance—to terrify or encourage the superstitious, as the case may be, and to confirm, it may be, to future races of men, the chronological records of this probably eventful year—may not be altogether uninteresting.

I first saw the Comet on Tuesday, March 28, at 7.30 p.m., or possibly five to ten minutes earlier, *for my certainly* extends only to the fact that it was not *after* that time. It was then a very distinct object against a bright sky, and near the horizon; and it would have escaped my notice, but for the fact that I happened to be searching for a star in that particular spot at the time—having just mounted a celestial globe after a new mode, and being desirous of putting my arrangement to the test, as soon as the twilight would allow. I had no instruments which would permit me to make an accurate observation of its place. This I regret, for had I been provided with a good equatorial, I should have been able to announce its precise position on *that* evening, which would have been twenty-four hours earlier than the record in the *Times* of the 30th. However, without further trespassing on your space by way of prelude, I proceed to say, that on the evening of the 28th (Tuesday), the Comet's position was very fairly defined, to the eye, by its forming the lowest angle of an equilateral triangle, of which the stars α Arietis and β Andromedæ (Mirach) formed the other angles.

The Comet, which was inclined upwards from the horizon, at an angle of about sixty degrees, on the northern side of the Comet, was, visibly, from half a degree to a degree in length—its extreme tenuity towards the termination forbidding accurate measurement. As the twilight became fainter, the Comet, of course, became brighter; but before it reached the horizon a haze rendered it invisible.

Although very faint when first discovered, it became pretty bright for a few minutes before it reached the haze. Its degree of visibility when first seen may, I think, be compared to that of Venus, when she is just visible to the unassisted eye in the daytime.

For the information of any who may not be conversant with the heavens, I may remark that the position in the horizon where the Comet set, is nearly W.N.W.; and that if a right line be imagined to be drawn from the Pleiades through α Arietis, this line will, be no produced, nearly cut the Comet's place on the evening of the 28th. On that evening, as occasionally since, the nucleus, when viewed through a telescope of moderate power, appeared like a fitfully blazing fire.

On the morning of the 29th I telegraphed the discovery of the Comet to the Astronomer Royal, Greenwich, who honoured me by a communication informing me that immediately on receiving it he sent a copy of it to Mr. Hind, as being the person the most likely in the neighbourhood of London to observe it at once; the smoke and glare of London rendering an object like a Comet almost a hopeless one to seek for at that observatory, when near the horizon, and about a W.N.W. azimuth.

On the evening of March 29 the Comet was visible only at intervals. It had evidently advanced several degrees in R. A., but no material change had taken place in N. D. The Comet now approached an isosceles triangle, instead of an equilateral, when taken in connection with the stars before alluded to. As to visibility, it had undergone a wonderful alteration. Instead of being somewhat difficult at first to find, it was difficult to avoid seeing it when the eye was turned anywhere towards the proper direction. The tail, too—instead of, say, a degree—extended to the length of three or four degrees; *some* of the additional length being due, no doubt, to the circumstance of its being further removed from the twilight.

On the evening of March 30 the clouds cleared off just in time to allow a fine view of the Comet. Although I have made some observations of its place—which may not be altogether useless, supposing cloudy weather to limit materially the number of opportunities for noting its position, as observations on the night in question—it would be absurd on my part to attempt any calculations founded on such data only as I possess. I confine myself, therefore, to a description of such a nature as may be interesting to amateur astronomers like myself.

On the evening (March 29th) of Arietis, β Andromedæ, and the Comet formed a fair right-angled triangle, the comet being at the right angle. The tail on this night, as since, showed some concavity towards the north.

There did not appear to be so great a difference between the brightness of the Comet on the 29th and 30th, as between the 28th and 29th, but this may have been owing to a different atmospheric condition. The inclination of the tail had materially altered—namely, from an angle of about 60 deg. to one of 30 deg. from the horizon.

On March 31 I first saw the Comet for a few minutes together. There was a small star, of the seventh magnitude, in the field of the telescope at the same time with the Comet. The haze did not allow any comparison to be drawn between the two and any other.

April 1.—The comet was again visible for some minutes, but I did not perceive any material change in its appearance. The state of the sky was unfavourable for observation.

April 2.—A very good view was obtained, and by taking a *mean* of some rough observations of *differences* between R. A. and N. D. of the Comet and α Arietis, an approximate position was obtained at eight p.m., as follows:—Right ascension, 2h 6m.; north declination, 17 deg. 30 min.

April 3.—The sky being clear, another good view was obtained. No further change was observed in the inclination of the tail, which was now 23° to 30° to the *left* of the vertical.

April 4.—This evening the atmosphere was remarkably favourable, and the Comet was well seen. An interesting phenomenon was observed, namely, the appearance of a small star (about the eighth magnitude) through the centre of the tail. The distance of the star from the nucleus was about twelve minutes of arc, as near as I could judge on the opposite side of the Comet, at a distance of about twenty minutes, was another star of similar magnitude; the three objects forming a right line. A few minutes sufficed to show a change in the position of the star in the tail; and by about half-past eight p.m. it had passed from the centre to the northern side of the tail.

In point of brilliancy no great change appears to have occurred during the last few days, the increasing moonlight compensating for the more favourable position of the Comet in the heavens.

It will be seen from the above account that I have been fortunate enough to obtain a view of this interesting object on every evening since I first observed it. I am, &c.,

W. C. BURDER.

Clifton, April 4, 1854.

[NOTE OF THE EDITOR.—We were reluctantly compelled, in consequence of a great pressure upon our space, to omit the preceding letter last week.]

ARTISTS' GENERAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.—This institution, established for the purpose of extending relief to distressed meritorious artists and their widows and orphans, celebrated its thirty-ninth anniversary by a sumptuous dinner, on Saturday evening, at the Freemasons' Tavern. The Right Hon. B. Disraeli M.P., presided; supported by Lord Dufferin, the Hon. Mr. Hardinge, Sir Charles Eastlake, Sir W. Ross, &c. The Chairman, in proposing the toast of the evening, "Prosperity to the Artists' General Benevolent Institution," observed that much might be said of artists that could not be said of many other classes. The time had been when the greatest works were produced by authors who were starving in their streets, and it was not until the close of the French war that this society received its foundation. It might be difficult to account for the remissness of sympathy. There had always been an impression that it was vain to hope that a general feeling in favour of the fine arts could in England be supported? Now, he found that the best supporters of the fine arts at present were the most busy classes (Cheers). And if a taste for the fine arts had become extended from the aristocracy to the middle classes, why should it not be expanded so as to include the people? (Hear, hear). To diffuse a taste for the fine arts was unnecessary—they were well known. And although there had been during the past year had been on y about £1100, it had been the means of doing much good and alleviating much suffering. Many deserving cases of distress had been received, every one of which was a case that, if known must have reached the heart of every individual. The great majority had been those of the widows and daughters of artists. Their society would be valuable, even if it were only the nucleus of bringing them together, but when with this was combined a manifestation of their sympathies, its claims were irresistible. For himself, personally, he could say that the greatest reward he ever looked forward to in life was the sympathy of the artists and authors of his country ("Hear," and cheers). Other toasts followed, and the result of the festival was announced to be £2252 8s., including a legacy of £1200 bequeathed by Mr. John Rowland Durant.

REGIMENTAL STAFF.

(From a Military Correspondent.)

WHILE excitement pervades all classes throughout England, anticipating the approach of hostilities, there are points to which those most ardent in the cause have, peradventure, never had attention directed. Troops marching with flying colours, bayonets glistening, and martial music thrilling the spectators with its harmony, cannot fail in stimulating a patriotic enthusiasm. But while the columns moving through the streets loudly respond to the acclamations of their country men, *few of* the lookers-on care to analyze the real position of the gallant fellows quitting home in support of the national honour. During the Peninsular War, the Duke of Wellington asserted that the British soldier was badly paid; a truism, which, although remaining unquestioned, has nevertheless failed in procuring advocacy in favour of amendment. It does not require much argument to prove that a numerical increase to a regiment must add to the labours and responsibilities of those entrusted with the discipline and interior economy of a corps; more particularly as regards the additional work thus heaped on the Regimental Staff. Instead of increasing the number of battalions, the establishment of each company has been augmented. As a measure of economy it is good; yet, by so doing, the masses become comparatively unwieldy, and consequently a less active force is maintained, to compass an insignificant saving. The addition recently made to regiments, entails onefifth more duty in the orderly room, pay, and quarter-master's offices, than heretofore. Active service will increase the obligations on these departments. The pay of the regimental staff officers, and their subordinates, is not commensurate with the constant exercise of intelligence and assiduity expected from them. It would not be possible, in these columns, to find space for detailing the routine exacted from the different branches quoted; but the following affords a brief summary of what the orderly-room clerk must attend to.

The mental abilities of this non commissioned officer are taxed in no trifling degree. He is answerable for the correctness of all entries in the numerous books pertaining to the office, and likewise for the preparation of the periodical returns. These are all more or less intricate, and demand much care and attention. He fills up the records of the corps, embracing the antecedents of each man's service. The court-martial and defaulters' books are committed to his charge; the correctness of which materially affects the pay and pension of each individual, and, consequently, an equitable distribution of the public money. He keeps the general order book and is supposed to retain in his memory, if not exactly the date, at least the purport of every general and circular issued. He fills up all entries in the permanent order book, and is responsible for the record of officers' services, and the history of the regiment. He writes the official letters, and must retain copies; and is accountable for the safe keeping of every document received by the commanding officer on her Majesty's service. The register of furloughs, records of deserters, and the births, deaths, and marriages, must be chronicled by the orderly-room clerk.

A conscientious discharge of these duties might be supposed to afford the sergeant ample employment; but other responsibilities are attached to his position, involving a degree of labour never contemplated by those unacquainted with the service. Forthightly, monthly, quarterly, half-yearly, and annual returns must be transmitted to the heads of departments, and also to the district and garrison offices. These papers must be stringently correct before being submitted for the commanding officer's signature. In order to complete his work, the orderly room clerk frequently employed for hours after tattoo. It falls to his lot to prepare papers for courts-martial, leave of absence for officers, and discharges for the men. He makes out the furloughs, ranges the books, and papers the regimental boards, completes the muster-roll, and prepares the necessary documents for transfers. He furnishes returns of deserters, checks the companies' morning states, and must prepare a regimental one for the Adjutant. There are various minor details which keep the orderly-room clerk, and one or two assistants, constantly employed. Then a commissioned officer who performs these multifarious details cannot be supposed to call much time his own. From eight a.m. until nine p.m. he must always be alert, never knowing at what moment his services may be required.

The qualifications for a paymaster-sergeant must be of a yet higher grade. Yet, for all this the men only receive the pay of a company sergeant. Were they entitled to rank and emoluments accordants, they might rise to the rank of colour-sergeants, and receive additional emolument

In the district pay offices, the generality of clerks are inferior in intelligence to the regimental ones. Yet the former receive from £150 to £200 a year, and never are expected to make their appearance before ten o'clock in the morning. They invariably depart about three or four in the afternoon. Why should such a difference be sanctioned? Would any junior clerk in an inferior mercantile establishment encounter the fatigue and responsibilities enumerated for *one shilling and ten pence* per diem? Nevertheless these sergeants fulfil the trust reposed in them with praiseworthy accuracy, and an error can seldom be detected in their books. If attention to their avocations when at home demands their best energies, what must be required at their hands when in the field?

Although the responsibilities of the orderly-room clerk have alone been pointed out, it is clear that a large augmentation of privates, without increase of officers, must occasion additional supervision and extra occupation, for the higher grades. When can a more fitting period be found for taking their claims into consideration than at the present time?

The Lieut.-Colonel of an infantry regiment should

receive, exclusive of his command money	..	..	..	£1 0 0	per diem.
The Adjutant	..	..	..	0 12 0	"
Paymaster	..	..	..	0 9 0	"
Quartermaster	..	..	..	0 10 0	"
Surgeon	..	..	..	0 15 0	"
Sergeant-Major	..	..	..	0 4 0	"
Paymaster-Sergeant	..	..	..	0 2 6	"
Quartermaster-Sergeant	..	..	..	0 2 6	"
An Assistant to each, with rank of Corporal			..	0 1 6	"
Orderly-room Clerk	..	..	..	0 2 6	"
Assistant, with rank of Corporal	..	..	..	0 1 5	"

The pay and pension of the private soldier has already been remarked upon in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, and the cause now advocated merits equal attention.

Should any reader be sceptical touching the correctness of the foregoing statements regarding the onerous labours of a Regimental Staff, he has but to request permission of any commanding officer to visit his orderly-room, and he will quit it under the conviction that those who work so well should, indisputably, be better paid.

5th April, 1854.

A RUSSIAN INDIAMAN IN THE THAMES.—On Saturday the Russian ship *Vesta*, Captain Sundman, laden with a valuable cargo of East Indian produce from Birnlpatam, came up the river into the West India Docks, being the first ship of the enemy's country that had arrived in the Thames since her Majesty's declaration of war against the Czar. The appearance of the ship in the Channel, with the Russian flag flying freely, excited some attention at Portsmouth, as the character of the vessel was not known. A cutter was forthwith sent out by the Admiral, with orders to look out for something "moving near Dungeness." By the time the Russian had reached the Downs, where her Majesty's line-of-battle ships, the *Prince Regent* and the *Royal George* were at anchor. The merchantman was hailed to bring to, and an officer and a boat's crew were sent off to board her and examine her papers. The examination satisfactorily showed the *bond fide* character of trade, and her right to the liberty prescribed in the declaration. She accordingly wended her way to the Thames, the Customs received her, and she is now discharging her cargo with all despatch. It is said that attempts are being made to sell her to a neutral power.

BROCOLI AND EARLY POTATOES.

FEW or none of our metropolitan readers can have failed to notice the number of itinerant greengrocers, or costermongers, who just at this season bring round to every suburban house great baskets of what they in general call cauliflower. Still fewer, we believe, but must at this season have partaken of the vegetable, and regarded it as amongst the most agreeable that can now be obtained. How many of those who have noticed the sale of the article, or enjoyed it at table, have inquired into its birthplace, or asked by what means the usual produce of summer or autumn is brought to their doors in the very beginning of spring, would be a very curious inquiry for minute statisticians; but we know of one person who, struck with the abundant supply, pronounced, from an examination of the flower, that it was brought from a great distance, and was certainly of foreign growth. Amongst the peculiar productions of England—such as hops, in Kent and Sussex; peas, at Dartford and Gravesend; cabbages at Battersea; asparagus, at Deptford, &c., which we find noticed in books we find no mention of Brocoli; and we, therefore, were inclined to coincide in the opinion that it certainly all came from abroad. Facts, however, will not vanish at the command of theories; and, on inquiring of those intelligent Coventgarden salesmen, Messrs. Godwin and Foord, who distribute great quantities of this flower through the metropolis, we were assured that the bulk of the Brocoli consumed in London is the product of our own country. The long tongue of land stretching far into the Western Ocean, terminating in the Land's End, which constitutes the county of Cornwall, having the ocean, with its warm air, and warmer currents, not yet entirely deprived of heat imbibed in the Tropics, all around it, except at its eastern part, is renowned for the mildness of its climate. At Penzance, 280 miles from London, and its neighbourhood, in the extreme west, frost rarely occurs, and is never lasting; snow seldom falls, nor ever lies long, and the climate in winter is as mild and not so variable, as in the southern parts of Italy. For consumptive patients it is almost as much recommended as the island of Madeira. This warm, but not very sunny spot, is as favourable to tender vegetable as to tender animal life, and the caterers for this great metropolis, ever on the look-out for the best and cheapest means of providing for all its wants, have not overlooked the advantages of the mild region in the west for producing vegetables at an early period of the year. There, without the help of even hand-glasses or any other artificial stimulus to vegetation, except careful cultivation and a little manure, is grown nearly all the Brocoli consumed in the metropolis. In the beginning of February the first plants are ready to be cut, and the cutting continues till towards the middle of April. The harvest, therefore, lasts from eight to ten weeks, and during that period there is brought to London alone from eighty to one hundred tons of Brocoli in the week. In the height of the season, as in the middle of March, in the last two or three weeks, as much as 150 tons has been brought into London weekly. This is, however, only a part of the produce of Penzance and its neighbourhood. Bristol, Liverpool, Gloucester, Cheltenham, Manchester, and other opulent towns within a day's ride from Bristol, share in the general and wholesome product. From Penzance and the neighbourhood it is carried by railway to Hayle, a port on the Irish Channel, now almost unknown to the general public—to be removed, perhaps, as much hereafter for the skilful seamen it may rear for the transport of Brocoli, as Newcastle is for the seamen it has long reared for the transport of coal. It is there shipped on board steamers which run between Hayle and Bristol; and from Bristol it is brought to London by the rail. It is distributed throughout the metropolis at a price varying between twopence and sixpence per head; and that sum suffices to pay all the cost of carrying it to each man's door, of bringing it 280 miles; of advertising it, paying all the landlords' rent, and keeping the industrious and enterprising gardeners and salesmen a fair profit; and of replacing all the wear and tear of all the ships and engines, and tools employed in the elaborate industry.

Although, at present, Brocoli is the chief early vegetable reared in the mild west for the London market, it is not the only one. The earliest Potatoes come from that quarter, and without frames or heating processes many have been sent to London from Penzance in the very first days of April. Some months ago, too, a Brighton very season, at an early period, from the same place. The islands further west, enjoying a similar or still milder climate, contribute their share to our luxuries; and finally, as well as Cornwall, which the islands are a part, scilly early potatoes and a-paragus to the London markets. As the wind and season are favourable they come from the islands direct up Channel to Southampton, or they are transshipped on board the steamer at Hayle, which ploughs the produce of Penzance and its neighbourhood to Bristol. For fifteen years the salesmen referred to have been in the trade, and through that period at least it has grown and flourished without attracting much attention. It seems something wonderful that those whom we call the ignorant masses should know nothing of the origin of much of the food they consume, and the clothes they wear. A piece of white crystallised sugar, or of calico, never suggests to them the tall cane, or the round bush which is its origin; the elaborate boilings and refinings or the careful cleanings, cardings, and spinnings; with the multiplied labour, whether slave or free, urged into activity to produce the sweet morsel, or the comfortable clothing. Ignorance is, however, relative; and few, perhaps, amongst those who censure the masses are aware of the origin of the vegetables they eat now daily or nearly. From the exertions of industry to supply man's wants, there are ever new creations and new wonders; and the application of the light soil of Cornwall, under a mild climate, to supply early vegetables to the London markets, is only a little branch of the great natural system of territorial division of labour which makes China the tea, and the tropical islands the sugar-producing countries of the world, and binds all the various families and races of men—more diversified even than climates—in one friendly league to produce wealth for the universal wellbeing. May we not add that the south and west of Ireland—about as warm as Cornwall, far more fertile, and not more remote from the metropolis and the great manufacturing and consuming districts of England—might, probably, with great advantage, be turned into a kitchen garden.

"THE DESCENT FROM THE CROSS."

"Lift up your heads, for your redemption draweth nigh."—*Luke* xxi., part of verse 28.

THE hour of agony is over now;
And Faith beholds, within the garden grave,
That sacred body which contained a God
The hour is over—Christ hath died to save:
"Life—immortality"—are brought to light"
The Victor sleepeth; He hath won the fight!

But ere the sun shall rise upon his tomb,
The songs of angels shall proclaim him fled.
No more a tenant of the earth He formed,
No more a mystic teacher of the dead:
A mighty conqueror—a Power supreme—
Of all. Creation the adoring theme.

And now another hour approacheth near—
Swiftly it cometh "as a snare" on all—
When Christ, descending in a veiling cloud,
Shall summon kingdoms at His trumpet's call.
A Judge Omnipotent, a gracious friend,
At whose dread presence every knee shall bend.

Ye preachers of the Word, speak boldly forth,
As if ye stood before that judgment seat;
Ye are the "watchmen" Jesus set on high;
Spirit with His finger on the wind's time,
Arouse your people from their fatal sleep—
Reclaim for Christ His lost and erring sheep!

"Distress of nations," with perplexing thoughts,
"Famine, and pestilence," and fearful "signs;"
Men's spirits "failing them for fear," who look
With searching earnestness on God's designs;
Writ with His finger on the world's time,
Behold the burden of His words sublime!

Let us "take heed," then, lest our hearts be charged
To "surfeiting," with life's engrossing cares;
Let us stand ready, with the lamp of Hope,
Nor let this day o'ertake us "unawares."
Watching and prayer be ours—calm thoughts on high—
"Lift up our head—redemption draweth nigh!"

SOPHRO.

THE DESCENT FROM THE CROSS."—BY REMBRANDT.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL.—THE CHOIR.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL.

THERE are few cathedral towns which can be compared in interest, as in pleasantness of situation, with the ancient city of Winchester. Under the name of *Venta Belgarum*, or Venta of the Belgæ (the tribe which held these parts at the time our island was invaded by the conquerors of the ancient world), it held an important position as one of the great towns of the south of Roman Britain. When the Roman empire was broken up, and Britain became Anglo-Saxon-Venta became the chief city of the kingdom of the West Saxons, who very slightly changing the name to suit the genius of their own language, called it Wintan-ceaster, or the city of Winta, which has softened itself down into the modern name. The West Saxons became eventually the dominant tribe among the Anglo-Saxons, and their capital, Winchester, became the Royal city of England, and continued, until some time after the Norman Conquest, to hold a similar position towards London in this country to that of Rheims in France with regard to Paris.

In 684, according to the statement of the chroniclers, the West Saxons were converted to Christianity; and between 642 and 643, their King, Cenwalch, built a church in Winchester, dedicated to St. Peter, which was known by the name of the Old Church, or the Old Minster, after the erection of the new minster by King Alfred, who made Winchester his favourite residence. For awhile the old church of St. Peter, that which was in a manner consecrated by its connection with the infancy of the gospel among the West Saxons, and in the cemetery of which reposed the bones of St. Swithin, was eclipsed by Alfred's new building, and it appears to have been allowed to fall into ruin; but in the latter half of the tenth century, the old Church of St. Peter was rebuilt with great magnificence by Bishop Athelwold, and the remains of St. Swithun, who was looked upon as the patron saint of the city, were removed from the churchyard and deposited in the most honourable place in the interior. By the Anglo-Saxon writers, the Winchester Cathedral of Bishop Athelwold is spoken of in terms of the greatest admiration; but it is very difficult for us now to say how much of exaggeration there is in their descriptions, as we have no means of ascertaining the model on which they formed their judgment of architecture and art. We can hardly doubt, however, that this Saxon Cathedral was a fine building that when the Normans established themselves in this country, they looked upon the buildings they found here with great contempt; and, within a short period, all our Cathedrals were rebuilt. It was in 1079, or just a hundred years after Athelwold had erected his Cathedral at Winchester, that the Norman Bishop Walkelin commenced the present edifice. To this prelate we owe the crypt and transepts, which are fine examples of early Norman architecture. In the year 1100, the body of William Rufus, slain while hunting in the New Forest, was brought to Winchester, and buried under Walkelin's tower; (or for there is some doubt on the matter) under the old Saxon tower, which, perhaps, Bishop Walkelin had not taken down. The crypt, who hated William, believed that the presence of his body in this place was the cause, a short time afterwards, of the fall of the tower, involving in its ruin part of the transepts. The injury was soon repaired, but the difference between the old and new masonry in the transept may still be traced by an experienced eye. The periods of the other main parts of this noble building, which are all strongly characterised, need only be enumerated rapidly. Between the years 1185 and 1205, the Lady Chapel was built by Bishop Godfrey de Lucy, and as much of the original work as remains presents a very perfect and pure example of the Early English style. Nearly two centuries after this, in the year 1360, Bishop William de Edington commenced the rebuilding of the western part; and the great west window, with the two first windows on the north side, and the first window on the south side, and the corresponding buttresses, &c., were the work of this prelate, which was interrupted by his death, in 1365. They are early and rather rich examples of the Perpendicular style. For a few years the works appear to have been at a stand; but William de Edington's successor, the celebrated William of Wykeham, resumed them with zeal, and the new nave and aisles, good examples of Perpendicular work, were built between 1394 and 1404, when William of Wykeham, dying before his design was completed, left a large sum of money to be applied to that purpose, which was employed in completing the northern side, with the transepts, &c. The vaulting of the nave was carried on by his successor, Cardinal Beaufort. No further alterations of much importance were made till the beginning of the sixteenth century, when the Lady Chapel at the east end was rebuilt and enlarged by prior Hunton and Silkstede. About the same time considerable alterations were made in the choir by Bishop Fox, including the clerestory, gallery, and windows, the flying buttresses at the east end, the panelling of the walls of the side aisles, the timber roof of the choir, and the screen which separates it from the nave.

One of the most remarkable characteristics of this ecclesiastical architecture of the middle ages is the facility with which its widely differing styles blend together and harmonise with one another. Nowhere do we feel more the truth of this than in contemplating the noble and impressive building of which we are now speaking, and which is one of the most impressive of our cathedral churches. At our first general review, it strikes us by its simplicity and unity of design; yet, on a nearer examination, we find that is made up of parts which belong to distant periods, and to totally different styles: the solid and ponderous Norman, the rich and elegant Early English, and the light, though somewhat stiff and formal Perpendicular, all combine together, as though they were made for each other. There is, indeed, a peculiar massive simplicity in the appearance of the Cathedral of Winchester, which few other cathedrals present; and this has been accounted for on the supposition that the whole building, as it now stands, was really formed from time to time on the exact model (as to general design) of the Lady Chapel of Bishop Athelwold; and, in fact, that a great part of the church building is merely cased in the alterations of later days. That every part has been entirely designed by the architect of the present day (Mr. Cresy) with considerable ingenuity, and not without some plausibility. He believes that in some parts of the transepts, and in the crypts, the Saxon architecture of Bishop Athelwold remains unchanged. Other antiquaries have considered the crypts under the east end of the Cathedral to be Saxon.

As we have just intimated, the various styles of this building, although so different from each other, run into one another without our feeling any strong impression of the contrast. When we enter the nave, we find ourselves in presence of the finely-proportioned Perpendicular work of Langdon and Wykeham; and, as we advance to the choir, we feel a great force the solemn grandeur of the Norman work of the transepts, and to ver, as though it were intended as an introduction to the higher part of the temple. We must not pass on without giving a look at the curious early font—of dark, almost black, marble—with its angular sculptures. We proceed through Bishop Fox's screen into the choir, which presents on every side the work of the same prelate, and is rendered more pleasing, at least, by the carving of its own woodwork. Beyond this and the presbytery are a cluster of chapels of great beauty and interest, among which the Lady Chapel is particularly remarkable. In this part of the building we have some fine remains of the Early English work of De Lucy. On one side is the chapel of the Holy Sepulchre, and on the other that of the Guardian Angels, or, as it is often called, Bishop Orlton's Chapel. All these chapels have been richly painted with historical subjects, parts of which have been brought to light, and as much as possible preserved. The painting in the chapel of the Holy Sepulchre represents scenes from the history of our Saviour. Those in the Lady Chapel, which, as we learn from a portion of an inscription still remaining, were executed at the cost of Prior Silkstede, about the year 1489, are taken from the popular series of legends known as the "Miracles of the Virgin."

There are few towns in the south of England more worthy of a visit than Winchester. Its streets are remarkably clean, and, in some parts, very picturesque: and they still present some good specimens of old domestic architecture. There are, likewise, many interesting remains of other ancient buildings; and within a short and pleasant walk stands the beautiful church of the Hospital of St Cross, which has recently obtained so much notoriety by the mismanagement of its revenues.

LITERARY MISCELLANIES.—No. XI.

PLAGIARISM.

EVERY great poet has at one time or another been accused of being a great thief. The old Greek mythology, which concealed an overflowing wisdom in its poetic fables, and in the passions and adventures of its gods and goddesses—things merely fanciful or grotesque to the vulgar, but full of deep meaning for the inner circle of adepts—predisposed the idea of plagiarism by representing Hermes as the Inventor of the Lyre and the God of Thieves. It must be confessed that, in most cases, when a charge of plagiarism has been fixed upon a great author, the proof has been easy. But what does it signify? The mighty masters of song are none the less mighty for an occasional peccadillo of this kind. Perfect originality is impossible, unless it be the originality of the maniac. Every writer is of necessity indebted to his contemporaries and his predecessors. He lives in the great ocean of human thought, and could not think if these had been no thinkers before him. If Shakespeare had been left in his childhood on a desert island, and had remained there all his life, he might have been an Crusoe or a Robinson Crusoe, but he never could have written or even imagined his immortal plays. If there had been no mathematics before the days of Newton he would never have discovered the law of gravitation. It is only when an inferior author takes the thoughts and the *ipsissima verba* of great writers, and pass off the plunder as their own property, that the charge of plagiarism is worth entertaining. Sensible men attach but little importance to it in the case of those who have genius enough of their own to entitle them to stand in the first rank, and who would remain immeasurably rich without the misappropriation of other people's ideas. He who purloins a pennyworth of literary old iron, and converts it, in the furnace of his mind, to finely-tempered steel, worth a hundred thousand times the amount, is not to be condemned in a literary point of view, but to be lauded. The charge of plagiarism falls to the ground in such cases, and is of no account. It must be remembered, too, that there is a kind of plagiarism which is quite involuntary and unconscious. The echo of another man's wisdom or wit may remain in the mind long after all remembrance has been lost of the source whence it was derived. Besides, as Coleridge remarked, "There are such things as fountains in the world;" and it must not be imagined that every stream which is seen flowing "comes from a perforation made in another man's tank." Upon the subject of plagiarism, we borrow from the second volume of the "Autobiographic Sketches" of Thomas de Quincy, recently published, the following interesting anecdotes in connexion with Coleridge. We will not let the occasion pass without a word or two in commendation of this admirable book. It forms the history of a human mind, and that mind one of a high order. For humour, for learning, for pathos, and for command of language, we know of no work in modern times that could rival it. De Quincy had long been anxious to see Coleridge, and the conversation which he narrates arose out of a visit made in 1808 to a Mr. Poole, who he expected would be able to introduce him to the poet:—

"The first morning of my visit, Mr. Poole was so kind as to propose, knowing my admiration of Wordsworth, that we should ride over to Alfoxton, a place of singular interest to myself, as having been occupied in his unmarried days by that poet during the memorable summer of Aubyn, its present youthful proprietor. At this delightful spot, the ancient residence of an ancient English family, and surrounded by the fernery Quantock hills which are so beautifully glanced at in the poem of 'Ruth,' Wordsworth, accompanied by his sister, had passed a good deal of the interval between leaving the university (Cambridge), and the period of his first settlement among his native lakes of Westmoreland; some allowance, however, must be made—but how much, I do not accurately know—for a long residence in France, for a short one in North Germany, for an intermitting one in London, and for a regular domestication with his sister at Racedown, in Dorsetshire.

"Returning late from this interesting survey, we found ourselves without company at dinner; and being thus seated *tête-à-tête* Mr. Poole propounded the following question to me, which I remember, because it furnished me with the first hint of a singular infirmity besetting Coleridge's mind:—'Pray, Mr. De Quincy, what is your opinion or conjecture of ——, upon whom I am desirous to have some information about beans? You know what I mean; I don't mention the subject which he asserts that "a man might as well, for the wickedness of the thing, eat his own grandmother as meddle with beans."'

"'Yes,' I replied, 'the line is, I believe, in the Golden Verses. I remember it well.'

"'O,' true. Now our dear, excellent friend Coleridge, than whom God never made a creature more divinely endowed; yet, strange it is to say, sometimes steals from other people, just as you or I might do—I beg your pardon—just as a poor creature like myself might do. Now sometimes have one's conscientious doubts to make a figure from my own exchequer; and the other day, at a dinner party, this question, arising about Pythagoras and his beans, Coleridge gave us an interpretation which, from his manner, I suspect not to have been original. Think, therefore, if you have anywhere read a plausible solution.'

"'I have; and it was in a German author. This German, understand, is a poor stick of a man, not to be named on the same day with Coleridge; so that, if Coleridge should appear to have robbed him, be assured that he has done the scamp too much honour.'

"P.: 'Well, what says the German?'

"'Why, you know the use made in Greece of beans, in voting and balloting? Well, the German says that Pythagoras speaks symbolically; meaning that electioneering, or more generally all interference with political intrigues, is fatal to a philosopher's pursuits and their appropriate serenity. Therefore, says he, follower of mine, abstain from public affairs as you would from parricide.'

"P.—'Well, then, Coleridge *has* done the scamp too much honour; for, by Jove! that is the very explanation he gave us.'

"Here was a trait of Coleridge's mind, to be first made known to me by his best friend and first published to the world by me, the foremost of his admirers! But both of us had sufficient reasons. Mr. Poole knew that, stumbled on by accident, such a discovery would be likely to impress upon a man, as yet unacquainted with Coleridge, a sense of curious jealousy with regard to all he might write; whereas, frankly avowed by one who knew him best, the fact was disarmed of its sting; since it thus became evident that when the case had been best known and most investigated, it had not operated to his serious disadvantage. On the same argument—to forestall other discoverers who would make a more unfriendly use of the discovery; and also, as matters of literary curiosity—I shall here point out a few others of Coleridge's unacknowledged obligations, noticed by myself, in a very wide course of reading.*

"1. 'The Hymn to Chamouni' is an expansion of a short poem in stanzas upon the same subject, by Frederica Brun, a female poet of Germany, previously known to the world under her maiden name of Munter. The mere framework of the poem is exactly the same an appeal to the most impressive features of the regal mountain (Mont Blanc), adjuring them to proclaim their author: the torrent, for instance, is required to say by whom it had been arrested in its headlong raving and stiffened as by the petrific touch of Death into everlasting pillars of ice; and the answer to these impassioned apostrophes is made by the same choral burst of rapture. In mere logic, therefore, and even as to the choice of circumstance, Coleridge's poem is a translation. On the other hand, by a judicious amplification of some topics, and by its far deeper tone of lyrical enthusiasm, the dry bones of the German outline have been awakened by Coleridge into the fulness of life. It is not, therefore, a paraphrase, but a re-cast of the original. And how was this calculated, if frankly avowed, to do Coleridge any injury with the just class?

"2. A more singular case of Coleridge's infirmity is this:—In a very noble passage of 'France' a fine expression or two occur from 'Samson Agonistes.' Now, to take a phrase or an inspiriting line from the great fathers of poetry, even though no marks of quotation should be added, carries with it no charge of plagiarism. Milton is justly presumed to be as familiar to the ear as nature to the eye; and to steal from him as impossible as to appropriate or sequester to a private use some bright particular star. And there is a good reason for rejecting the typographical marks of quotation—that is, the controversy of the passion, by reminding the reader of a printed book, on which account Milton himself (to give an instance) has not marked the sublime words of "tormented all the air" as borrowed; nor has Wordsworth, in applying to an unprincipled woman of commanding beauty the memorable expression "a weed of glorious feature," thought it necessary to acknowledge it as originally belonging to Spenser. Some dozens of similar cases might be adduced from Milton. But Coleridge, when saying of Republican France that

> Inappropriately advancing,
> Her arm made mockery of the warrior's tramp,

not satisfied with omitting the marks of acknowledgment, thought it positively to deny that he was indebted to Milton. Yet who could forget the semi-chorus in the 'Samson,' when the 'bold Asculonite' is described as having fled from his 'lion-ramp?' Or who, that was not in this point liable to some hallucination of judgment, would have ventured in a public challenge (for virtually it was that) to produce from the 'Samson' words so impossible to be overlooked as those of the supportably advancing the foot'? The result was, that one of the critical journals placed the two passages in juxtaposition, and left it to the reader to his own conclusions with regard to the poet's veracity. But in this instance it was common sense rather than veracity which the poet's impeach.

"3. In the year 1810 I happened to be amusing myself by reading the earth chronological order the great classical circumnavigators of the earth: and, coming to Shelvocke, I met with a passage to this effect: that Hatley, his second captain (i. e., lieutenant) being a melancholy man, was possessed by a fancy that some long season of foul weather in the solitary sea which they were then traversing, was due to an albatross which had steadily pursued the ship; upon which he shot the bird, but without mending their condition. There at once I saw the germ of the 'Ancient Mariner;' and I put the question to Coleridge accordingly. Could it have been imagined that he would have so utterly disdown so slight an obligation to Shelvocke? Would a man of stern veracity, as he was, have denied the fact, as he did, if he had not been? I had cited the original [illegible] of the poem, though it merely [illegible] other occasions, [illegible] and [illegible] in the original work of Shelvocke, [illegible] a poem on [illegible] with [illegible] things, and connected with the [illegible].

"4. All these cases amount to nothing [illegible] for the main expositions [illegible] which seeks to decline the very [illegible] now I come to a case of real and palpable plagiarism; yet that, too, of a nature to be quite unaccountable in a man of Coleridge's attainments. I grieve very heavily that this particular case will soon be detected; but others will [illegible] not hundred or a thousand years hence, some reviewer may arise, who, [illegible] the "Biographia Literaria" of Coleridge, will [illegible] the whole work as of second-hand character, and [illegible] the [illegible] as a [illegible] in particular. [illegible] occurs a dissertation on the reciprocal relations of the *sese* and the *cognitatis*, that is of the *objective* and the *subjective*; and an attempt is made, by inverting the postulates from which the argument starts, to show how each might arise as a product by an intelligible genesis, from the other. It is the subject which, from the time of Fichte, has much occupied the German metaphysicians, and many thousands of essays have been written on it, or rather upon it; which many hundreds have been read [illegible] of which Coleridge's essay, in particular, is professedly a [illegible] of his concordance with Schelling, he carries his alliances to a knowledge himself notified to [illegible] in my own hearing. Such would allow him to do so; but in this part of the case insisting on the impossibility that he could have borrowed arguments which he had first seen some years after he had thought out the whole hypothesis for [illegible]. After this, what was my astonishment to find that the entire essay, from the first word to the last, is a *verbatim* translation from Schelling, with no attempt in a single instance to appropriate the paper by developing the argument, or by diversifying the illustrations! Some other obligations to Schelling, of a slighter kind, I have met with in the "Biographia Literaria;" but this was a barefaced plagiarism, which could in prudence have been risked only by relying too much upon the slight knowledge of German literature, at this country, and especially of that section of the German literature. Had, then, Coleridge any need to borrow from Schelling? Did he borrow *in forma pauperis*? Not at all; there lay the wonder. He spun richly, and at all hour [illegible] consciousness of his own activities, and from the loom of his own brain, theories more gorgeous by far, and supported by a pomp and luxury of images, such as Schelling, nor any German that ever breathed, nor John Paul, could have emulated in [illegible]. With the [illegible] of El Dorado lying about him, he would condescend to [illegible] gold from any man whose purse he fancied, and, in [illegible] a new form, applying itself to intellectual wealth, that [illegible] penalty which is sometimes well known to attach [illegible] and millionaires for acts of petty larceny. The last Duke of [illegible] could not abstain from exercising his furtive mania upon [illegible] as silver spoons; and it was the mightiest care of a pious [illegible] over the reputation of her father, to have his [illegible] by a confidential valet, and the chimney's of the purloined articles [illegible].

"Many cases have crossed me in life of people, otherwise not wanting in principle, who had habits, or at least, hankerings, of the same kind. And the phrenologists, I believe, are well acquainted with the case, its signs, its progress, and its history. Dismissing, however, this subject—which I have at all noticed only that I might anticipate, and so frankly [illegible] that I might prevent, the malicious interpreter of its meaning—I will assert, finally, that, after having read for thirty years in the same track as Coleridge—that track in which few of any age will ever follow us, such as German metaphysicians, Latin schoolmen, rhumnatur's Platonic religious novelists—that I have also discovered a large variety of trivial thefts, I do, nevertheless, most heartily believe him to have been as entirely original in all his capital pretensions as any one man that has ever existed—as Aristotle, or Bacon, in ancient days; or as Shakespeare, in modern. Did the reader ever see Milton's account of the rubbish contained in the Greek and Latin Fathers? or did he ever read a statement of the monstrous chaos with which an African Obeah-man stuffs his enshanted incantations? Or, to take a more common illustration, did he ever amuse himself by searching the pockets of a child—three years old, suppose—when buried in slumber after a long summer's day out of door's activity? I have done this, and, for the amusement of the child's mother, have analysed the contents, and drawn up a formal report of the whole. Philosophy is puzzled—conjecture and hypothesis are confounded in the attempts to explain the law of selection which can have presided in the child's labours. Stones, remarkable only for their weight; bullets, nails, crooked skewers (stolen from the cook had turned her back), rags, broken glass, tea-cups having the bottom knocked out, and loads of similar jewels, were the prevailing articles in this *procès verbal*. Yet, doubtless, much labour had been incurred; some sense of danger, perhaps, had been faced, and the anxieties of a conscious robber endured, in order to amass this splendid treasure. Such, in value, were the robberies of Coleridge: such their usefulness to himself or anybody else; and such the circumstances of uneasiness under which he had committed them."

* In a note at the end of the volume, Mr. De Quincy says:—"The solution of the Pythagorean dark saying about beans is concerning the appropriation of which by Coleridge such varied opinions have been pronounced; does not need to be sought in German editions of Pythagoras, nor in the tradition of academic tuition: it is to be found in Plutarch. An hour or two after I had sent off this final note to the press (distant, unfortunately, seven miles, and accessible only by a *discontinuous*, or zigzag line of communication), I remembered, from a foot-note on Jeremy Taylor's "Holy Living," the following reference to Plutarch, which the Bishop has chosen (against his usual practice) to give in Latin rather than in Greek:—*Fabis abstine*,' dixit Pythagoras, 'olim inimica istratus per suffragia fabis lata creabantur' ('*Abstain from beans*,' said Pythagoras, 'for in former times magisterial offices were created through suffrages conveyed by beans').

LETTERS FOR TURKEY AND THE BLACK SEA.—By a Treasury warrant dated the 3rd inst., the postage upon a letter, not exceeding half an ounce in weight, conveyed between the United Kingdom and Turkey or the Black Sea, by direct packet (which term includes a ship of war, or any vessel employed by or in the service of her Majesty), or via Malta, but without passing through France, has been reduced to 1d., heavier letters being charged in proportion, according to the scale applicable to inland letters. Letters for Turkey or the Black Sea, passing through France in the closed mails despatched from London to Malta on the evenings of the 8th and 24th of every month, will be liable, in addition to this rate of 1d., to a French transit rate of 5d. for each quarter ounce. The postage upon all letters sent from the United Kingdom under the foregoing regulations must be paid in advance.

LITERATURE.

The Poetical Works of John Keats, with a Memoir by Richard Monckton Milnes. Illustrated by 120 Designs, original and from the antique, drawn on wood by George Scharf, Jun., F.S.A., F.R.S.L. Edward Moxon.

It is one of the best-known facts which the experience of students has made familiar, that great prose writers and great orators are almost always indebted for the later and higher degrees of their acquired excellence to an intimacy (we mean a literary intimacy) with great poets. Noble verse is studied where there may be no intention of verse making. It enormously accelerates the mastery of every manner, species, and variety of prose. We could fully establish this interesting fact; a fact of moment in the self-education of any gifted man, who, in practical life, selects neither the abstract nor the instrumental sciences, but the moral, the political, and the belles lettres, for his career. But such an explanation would expand into a dissertation, for which we have no time, in justice to our present subject. What we wished our readers to remark is this, that if the study of poetry be useful to prose, it should of course expect to find among these, whose prose is above the average merit, a good many of the more noted poets. In the case of the very greatest poets this might not always appear very saliently, since they would be likely to have confined their principal exertions to their own more special sphere. Now, not to go out of the English language, we perceive, in fact, what we should, in theory, have anticipated. Byron's letters are some of the most spirited things in epistolary literature. Gray and Cowper are both famous in the same department, though for very different excellences. Southey's prose (we ourselves are giving no opinion) is, by a great many people, esteemed a model of taste, of purity, and of quiet vigour, in a much more serious order of composition. Coleridge must not be left out. Moore, with many blemishes, has, however, much range and energy, and an ingratiating manner. We need not speak of the varied power of Walter Scott. Campbell wrote biography, criticism, letters, with very considerable influence. To go back to Ben Jonson, we should adopt Mr. Macaulay's judicious exoneration and withal forgiveness, lest he spoiled the colour and broke the spring of his Elizabethan sentences by his latinified construction (a more fatal and pervading blight than mere latinised idioms), we may see with both what force and what beauty he wrote in prose. We had nearly omitted the greatest example of all. Dryden's prose style and Dryden is very high indeed among our prose-masters—is only not quite superior to it, or perchance quite equal to it, in the whole English language.

Having hastily pointed to the tops and pinnacles, as it were, of this extensive theme, we observe of Keats that the very little he has left us is quite altogether remote from the excellence of his inspired verse; and (to say it without using irreverently the Scriptural allusion) he is unlike many of his brother bards, who generally appear to posterity with one foot on the land and another on the sea. His empire is in but one of the literary elements.

We must restrain ourselves from quoting an examining any of the three or four good, not to say brilliant, books at the least and best memorial of him, now offered to the public. In a word (until we have examined and digested volume (containing illustrative designs, of which still more hereafter) they are very numerous), we have here the poems of John Keats, with a memoir of him, and with his personal literary character, by Mr Richard Monckton Milnes. The editor has evidently conceived and executed so as to deserve all the praise we can bestow. Mr. Milnes, himself a poet, appreciates the merit of kindred and enlightened sympathy; and while telling in ardent but rapid language, his melancholy story, does noble justice to the productions of his genius. The record is a fine example of critical narrative, which is, in that tone, the absence of which, on this subject, every equitable, not to say generous, mind, would have been first and resented. There is a sad charm about all, even from the time when little Keats, then four years old mounted guard, with a drawn sword in his hand, at the door of his sick mother's room, to the time when, broken hearted, he breathed his last, in youth, and far away.

Let us look at the poems which he has bequeathed to the world. Some men write their own epitaphs, and some raise their own monuments. Keats did both; for while his works will effectually guard his memory, they are to us (under a stone inscribed with the too modest words, "Here lies one whose name was writ in water") more powerful and proved it untrue. His name is more permanently graven, and on a very different tablet, on the minds of his countrymen. Even body knows the story of his early reception on the part of critics; and everybody has heard the statement how this reception abridged the remnant of a sickly life, which it embittered. Mr. Milnes, though not in the most positive manner, denies the truth of this representation. The incident could, of course, do no good to the health of an exceedingly sensitive, susceptible, and soft character like that of Keats, who wanted the combativeness, the masculine elasticity of unyielding and indomitable confidence, which enabled Byron to turn a similar attack into the quick means of fame and triumph. But Mr. Milnes thinks that the general impression of the injury inflicted on poor Keats' constitution, by the unmeasured disparagement and vilification of a work in which he had embarked all his youthful hopes and ambitions, is a great exaggeration. He speaking of Governor Pinkerton's statement, which already had menaced him and under which he sank at Rome, to the combined effect of pecuniary anxieties and of true love crossed. Very likely, and very sad in any way. It was the *Edinburgh Review* which had attacked Byron; and it was the *Edinburgh* which vindicated Keats. He never lived to rejoice at having found a champion for his poetry in the late able Lord Jeffrey. Byron righted himself very speedily; and the merits of Keats have proved too real to be defrauded of fame by the coarse, brutal, and unreason ng depreciations which on that occasion disfigured the pages of the *Quarterly*. If the public run mad, through the caprice of the false taste which sometimes obtains sway, after some meretricious and worthless pretender to literary honors, then politics, in powerful hands, may at once cut short what might have become the protracted career of a charlatan. But it is almost impossible to talk down or write down true genius. People may, even for a time, be made ashamed of the admiration which they feel; but they will feel it, in spite of every sophism; and, by-and-by, arrives infallibly the "restoration," when they can speak out, "for the King has come to his own again." But whatever the "back magic" of criticism, in contradistinction to its more beneficent and righteous functions, may effect—it was not for so puny a sorcerer as he who then attacked Keats, in the *Quarterly Review*, to accomplish any of these iniquitous marvels. The article is all rhad malevolence, not only without any manner of fairness, but without any tincture of wit or of ability.

"Endymion" is the first poem in this collection after which are given a "Lamia," "Isabella," "The Eve of St. Agnes," containing some of the most beautiful lines in modern English poetry, and, lastly, "Hyperion," all the miscellaneous pieces of the author.

Surely we may now be allowed to the real merits of the poetry of Keats—merits, too, which the brief destiny never suffered to expand beyond the bud. If we now call attention to the fact that, though generally master of his verse, he is sometimes the slave of it in a lamentable degree; and not only of his verse, but, to speak unpompously, of all those verbal necessities and infirmities which remind us that the soul of song is imprisoned in a body of phrase, as the human soul during life in the tenement of clay. In the "Endymion," page 10, of the present volume, these words occur:—

Nor had they waited
For many moments, ere their ears were sated
With a faint breath of music, &c.

It would be hard to find a less felicitous word than "sated" to combine with the other expressions in this passage. A "faint breath," a faint degree of anything, does not sate. The rhyme is clearly the tyrant here; and Keats sacrifices sense to sound.

At page 18, we find "many hours gone in old, &c. "Old" is not a substantive, and the phrase is as correct as "gone in old" would be; but not more correct. Keats, however, had ended the line immediately preceding with the words "aged priest," and to have instantly afterwards said "gone in old" would have produced a very inharmonious effect. Sound again; at the expense this time of grammar, as of logic the time before.

Page 32—

Hast thou stun'd in aught
Offensive to the heavenly powers?

Very feeble, since he could not have *sinned* in aught *agreeable* to the heavenly powers.

Same page—

No, I can trace
Something more high perplexing in thy face

Whether you take this as "*high perplexing*," or as "perplexing in" (in the way you would say "*working in*"), it is equally bad.

At page 28, Endymion "travels his eye," &c. We continually find this license repeated in such phrases as "I would not *fear* thy eyes" signifying, *alarm* thy eye. Now, greater poets than Keats have, of old, and will again, use words according to their meaning, and even according to the laws of the language to which those words may belong.

Mr. Milnes says, in his Memoir, p. xxxii., that (something just mentioned) "adds one more testimony to the truth that the highest poetry exhibits itself in *objective* forms, . . . and not in *subjective* representations" &c. Six pages later he remarks that "the *individuality* of the poet (*which means the subjectivity, be it remembered*)" "the individuality of the poet enters more directly into the consideration of his works, than that of a writer in any other mental field." Does this mean that the most objective and the least objective of writers is the poet? Do a description and the contrary description, at the same time, apply to the same class?

Wanderings of an Antiquary; chiefly upon the Traces of the Romans in Britain. By Thomas Wright, Esq., M.A., F.S.A., &c., &c. Nichols and Sons.

It was the President of the Royal College of Physicians who set the example of making philosophy in sport minister to instruction in earnest; and, applying a similar rule to the generally dry and often trifling subject of antiquities, Mr. Wright has followed in the same line, and, in this volume, rendered archæological knowledge to the higher degree interesting. When pursued with the true spirit, the study of ancient remains is exciting and delightful. Curiosity, one of the most lively and stirring of our instincts, is kept ever on the alert for discoveries, and when perseverance is rewarded with a prize, the careful examination required in order to ascertain its value and to register its origin and import, affords an exercise to the judgment replete with intelligence and improvements. Dry as dust as the science be, Mr. Wright has shown that it is susceptible of very lively illustration. We see before the eyes of aspiring neophytes such a set of "Wanderings" as is enough to inflame an irresistible desire to tie the knapsack on the back, and take to track in hand, and go forth exploring monuments and barrows with as much zeal as Don Quixote went in quest of enchanted castles and oppressed damsels, before the age of chivalry was gone.

The author's high classic and Anglo-Saxon attainments, and complete conversancy with mediæval literature, would guarantee his fitness for the most learned discussion of the subjects treated of in any one volume; but, in perusing it, the reader ought to bear in mind that the object of the work is not to put the accurate knowledge of these subjects in a proper form and attractive furniture for the erroneous notions which the majority of people who look into such matters at all still entertain respecting them. In no branch of inquiry is vulgar error more predominant and legendary fable has tended, to a wide extent, in permeating the strangest fictions in the place of truth, long buried in sand, but still capable of being dug up and brought to light. As the wisest men are often the pleasantest playfellows, and the best informed, the easiest of familiar teachers, so we find here that practical research and experience in the exploration of the various causes of antiquity which enrich our island, enable Mr. Wright to dispense the most useful lessons on British, Roman, Saxon, Danish, and Norman archæology in a tone of descriptive beauty and agreeable attraction. For sketches of scenery and adventure in the treasure-hunting very the narrative and enlighten the excursions till the tale of other times seem to read like an amusing modern story. Yet it tells of the great Roman iron district of Dean Forest, and its volcanic *debris*; of the Roman cities Aricomium, at Wes-on-under-Penyard, near Ross, and Magna, at Kenchester, both on the Welsh borders; of Verulamium, St. Albans; of Kits Coty House, and other relics and cromlechs, in Kent; of Rutupiæ and Richborough, near Sandwich, the village on the sands; of Pevensey, with its mixed Roman and Norman castle; of Lanuum, and other Yorkshire remains, and of Stonehenge, Egmor tessellated pavement, Old Sarum, London antiquities, &c., &c., early church architecture, et quibus aliis. Illustrative of bony harpoons, and plentifully embellished with engravings and vignettes.

A concluding chapter on the book describes a visit of a small party to the work of the Medway, near Upchurch, which tanks are literally sown with Roman coins as a field is with seed, and, for miles you may dig up pieces of Samian pottery, &c., and chambers which are erected in the roof bed, merely by thrusting sticks into it and then digging and throwing it up wherever you find any hard resisting substance.

Higher up, the Maidstone Valley of the Medway from Kits Coty House would furnish years of interesting examination to the zealous antiquary, and we are only sorry that we cannot go with the author over those portions the secrets of which he reveals.

Hungary: Past and Present, &c. With a Sketch of Hungarian Literature. By Emeric Szabad, late Secretary under the Hungarian National Government of 1848. Adam and Charles Black, Edinburgh.

The constitution of Hungary, as the reader is by this time probably aware, greatly resembles the constitution of England; only they had a free Parliament before we had, their liberties preede ours (though their religion does not), and Hungary is the elder representative of that wonderful form of Government which results from a limited monarchy, a popular legislature, and the practical equilibrium of the powers of the State. Hungary is no longer in the enjoyment of her ancient establishments, or of her national independence, so dearly loved and so long defended. We must make one observation which will, by resemblance, there is yet a difference, between the English and Hungarian systems a difference which might, had the latter continued in operation, have led to very opposite political terminations. The aristocratic element was more prevalent in the spirit and in the working of Hungarian institutions. Hungary possessed noble rights; but they were more concentrated in the engrossing hands of one class than the rights of Englishmen have been since the end of the seventeenth century.

However, such as the constitution was, it is virtually in abeyance now; and one of those great and signal breaks or epochs has occurred in the career of the nation, when history may review and collect events, up to the present point. This is the object of Emeric Szabad, in the record of his country here published. Beginning from the Magyar conquest under Arpad, about the year 880 (nearly two centuries before the Norman conquest of England), the author brings down his narrative to the year 1850. Of course, in one not very bulky octavo volume, it will be conceived that the history of nine centuries and a half (and such centuries) cannot be very minute or circumstantial. The outlines are traced, the principal epochs distinguished, and the great events mutually re-united. Some seventy years after the settlement of the Magyars in Hungary, the first important incident happened; it produced enduring and influential effects, and in it was involved the preservation more than once of the whole of Europe, from the most merciless of swords and from a brutalising bondage under the yoke of heathen barbarians. This pregnant incident was the conversion of the Magyars to Christianity. As with Clovis, so with Geisa; their wives, already Christians, were the means by which the husbands were convinced of the truth, and induced to embrace the faith. Geisa was succeeded in the supreme power by his son, St. Stephen, the first *King*; at whose death, the Crusades involved Hungary in a stormy whirlpool of events. The spirit, steadily and progressively rose, till in the thirteenth century, and was followed by that of Anjou, which continued till 1444, furnishing little that was great to the throne. Hungary, by its innate energy and spirit, steadily and progressively rose, till it was the first of European powers. John Hunyadi attained the sway of his country in 1444, and has left—as Gibbon's fine collateral account brings to mind—one of the least perishable names among the warlike statesmen of the Middle Ages.

In the early half of the sixteenth century the Hapsburgs began to make their appearance in Hungarian history; and the death of Soliman the Great, in 1566, closed an era. A short interval, and the turbulent blood of the Magyars was somewhat calmed by the acquisition of religious and political liberty in 1618, by treaty, under Mathias the Good.

About the time of our Revolution, Tekeli's great struggle was maintained in Hungary, for Christian franchises, under Turkish patronage and succour. We now come quickly to the reign of Joseph I., and the beginning of the eighteenth century.

The occurrences which succeed, are not, perhaps, familiar to the public; but they are supposed to be; and anybody who feels his memory or information deficient in the modern history of Central Europe, could not do be ter than refresh the one, or supply the other, by an attentive perusal of this lucid record, almost a manual in its broad and comprehensive and available summaries.

For the narration of the late Hungarian insurrection Emeric Szabad is peculiarly fitted, since he actually filled the post of Secretary to the National Government, during Kossuth's Titanic struggle against the Olympus of confederate despotism, aided by domestic perfidy and suborned treason. All is comprised, for the story reaches the year 1850.

Armenia; a Year at Erzeroum, and on the Frontiers of Russia, Turkey, and Persia. By the Hon. Robt. Curzon, Author of "Visits to the Monasteries of the Levant." John Murray, London.

Mr. Curzon was private secretary to our Ambassador at Constantinople, Sir Stratford de Redcliffe (now Lord Stratford de Redcliffe), when events occurred which made him intimate with the peculiarities of Armenia and of the surrounding countries. To put an end to the merciless system of reciprocal plunder and butchery practised from time immemorial by the Turkish and Persian tribes who dwell on the line of frontier, a conference between Russia, England, Turkey, and Persia, by means of Envoys to meet at Erzeroum, was proposed. Mr Curzon and Colonel Williams were appointed joint Commissioners for England. The negotiations were protracted from 1849 till 1847; and as geographical and boundary questions required to be settled, during so long a sojourn, and with the obligation and duty of studying the subject, it is easy to conceive what a vast mass of information, which, in the present posture of affairs, may become of no slight importance and interest, Mr. Curzon must have accumulated, had not his health yielded to the severities of the climate. As it is, this book contains much which would have justified its publication, even in other times; and which, under existing circumstances, renders it eminently unexceptionable in importune. Armenia, which has always been a battle-field and one of the most savage and ruthless sort of conflict—may soon see denuded upon its plains the fate of great Russian armies.

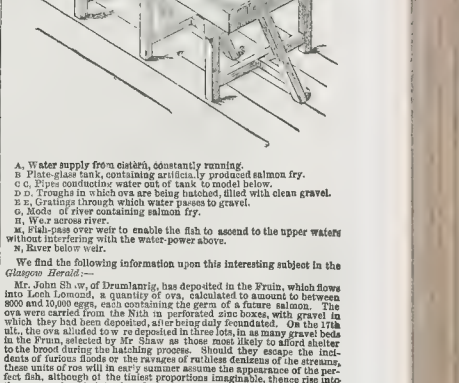
The ever-recurring sight of objects at Trebizond which bring thoughts of the [illegible] now endeavouring to press down through [illegible] toward westward, induces Mr. Curzon to interpolate [illegible] as well as of the Danubian Principalities, [illegible] self-saw in a journey some years ago. [illegible] scribes it politically, socially, [illegible] the addition of all sorts of odd [illegible] If we repeat that, besides, a [illegible] oriental information [illegible] nces, we shall certainly [illegible] book, and yet not have said [illegible] Mr Curzon [illegible] ably unaffected style, [illegible] with a quiet [illegible] than Thackeray's. Whoever reads [illegible] our notice, [illegible] ugh [illegible] ly, be thankful [illegible]

ARTIFICIAL PROPAGATION OF SALMON.

(From a Correspondent.)

Seeing in your Journal a short paper on the artificial propagation of Salmon, so successfully carried out in this country in the waters of Lough Corrib, by the Messrs. Ashworth, it may not be unacceptable to inform you that the young salmon which were artificially produced at Outerard last year, and exhibited all the summer at the Dublin Great Industrial Exhibition, are still alive and progressing most rapidly, some of them having now reached the length of five inches; they are kept in tanks in the Fishery Office Custom-house, where, under the direction and superintendance of the Commissioners of Fisheries, a series of experiments are being made, the result of which must be, if no other good follow, to set at rest all manner of information hitherto unknown in the natural history of the Salmon. The Commissioners have also deposited about 15,000 Salmon ova in boxes in their offices, and they confidently look for a proportionate return. They have carefully watched the progress of the ova with the aid of a microscope, and have succeeded in obtaining an amount of valuable information which, if published hereafter, must prove highly interesting and important to the great fishing commercial interests of not only this country but England and Scotland. The vivarium in the office of the Commissioners is very well worthy of a visit; and, as it is their intention to keep it open all the next year, for the benefit and information of those interested in the Salmon fisheries, it will amply repay the tourists during the summer the trouble to visit this place, and learn how to breed fish. The Commissioners are at all times most easy of access, and give every information in their power to the inquirer; indeed, they feel only a pleasure in seeing an interest created in an object that is of such vital importance to a country like Ireland, which has the most invaluable resources in its fisheries, both inland and sea.

In two of the models erected in the Fishery Office (*see Illustration*) may be seen Salmon in all its stages.



A, Water supply from cistern, constantly running.
B, Plate-glass tank, containing artificially produced salmon fry.
C C, Pipes conducting water out of tank to model below.
D D, Troughs in which ova are being hatched, filled with clean gravel.
E E, Gratings through which water passes to gravel.
G, Mouth of river containing salmon fry.
H, Weir across river.
I, Fish-pass over weir to enable the fish to ascend to the upper waters without interfering with the water-power above.
N, River below weir.

We find the following information upon this interesting subject in the *Glasgow Herald*:—

Mr. John Shaw, of Drumlamrig, has deposited in the Fruin, which flows into Loch Lomond, a quantity of ova, calculated to amount to between 800,000 and 10,000 eggs, each containing the germ of a future salmon. The ova were carried from the Nith in portable box-es, with gravel in which they had been deposited, after being duly fecundated. On the 17th ult., the ova alluded to were deposited in three lots, in as many gravel beds in the Fruin, selected by Mr Shaw as those most likely to afford shelter to the brood during the hatching process. Should they escape the incidents of furious floods or the ravages of ruthless denizens of the streams, these units of roe will in early summer assume the appearance of the perfect fish, although of the tiniest proportions imaginable, thence rise into the parr, and again into the salmon smolt; when, at the end of about two years from the period of their being hatched in fresh water, the instinctive desire to visit the ocean comes upon them. In the case of the salmon fry from the Fruin, this seaward trip will be rather a roundabout one; for, in the first instance, they must traverse part of Loch Lomond, then descend the Leven to the Clyde, and thence reach the sea. It is presumed that, following the laws of instinct, they will return from their salt-water sojourn to the parent loch and streamlet, sufficiently augmented in bulk to gladden the heart of the angler or professional fisherman.

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* Apropos of this word. We have met it spelt "Snapsack," above two hundred years ago in the life of a learned divine. On referring to Webster's Dictionary, we find "knap" to mean "to bite off—to break short," the same as "snap." To snap up, or to knap up, a thing, is to seize it up hastily; and a knapsack is a sack that is constantly ready for use. The word nab, or seize, is evidently of the same origin.

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

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THE ENGLISH AND FRENCH ALLIANCE.

THE great war which is now raging on the banks of the Danube, and in the Baltic and Euxine, is a war whose present object is the independence of Turkey, but whose ulterior objects may become far wider and more important. When Society punishes a murderer, it is not merely to avenge the victim that its arm is raised, but for the vindication and maintenance of the law upon which Society itself is based. In resisting the felonious designs of the Czar against the dominions of his neighbour, the British and French nations do not simply resist the ambition of an unscrupulous despot, who sets all considerations of justice at defiance, but they take arms in defence of a sacred principle, upon the recognition of which the tranquillity and the civilisation of the world depend. These things may be truisms to those who look dispassionately around them, but they need to be repeated occasionally to meet the loud and incessant objections of the covert friends of the Czar, who insist that the evident destiny of the Turks is to be driven into Asia, and that they are not worth the powder and shot which Great Britain and France are expending in their cause. We do not admit the likelihood of such predictions, or the justice of the picture which is drawn by the pro-Russians; but—even were the Turks a thousand times more worthless than they would have us believe; were the Mahometan religion infinitely more inimical to the progress of civilisation than it is; were the stability of the Turkish dominion in Europe utterly hopeless—it would be equally the duty of this country, and of every other in this hemisphere claiming to be Christian and civilised, to resist to the utmost this nefarious aggression. It happens, in this instance, to be directed against the Ottoman Empire, but once before it was directed against Poland, and it might be directed against Germany, if no other victim were ready to the hand of the malefactor. Turkey is neither a beggar nor a reprobate among the nations; but if she were, society, which protects the life of the meanest human creature, would be bound to protect her against the malice or the cupidity of her assailant, or run the heavy risk of effacing, or allowing to be effaced, the boundaries between public right and public wrong—between justice and injustice—between legal tranquillity and lawless riot—between security of property and highway robbery—between protection to life and limb, and hideous, open, and brutal murder. The cause of Turkey is the cause of every man in Europe who does not approve of robbery and assassination. The enemies of law and order are the friends of the Emperor Nicholas. If the Prussian King side with him, it must be for the sake of territorial plunder—or it must spring from a pusillanimity and short-sightedness, that in his case are crimes almost as great as the ambition of the Czar. The same must be said of Austria, if that empire prove false to the principle of duty. Whoever allies himself with Russia in the present struggle, is the enemy, not only of Great Britain and France, but of all Europe. Whoever, having great power for good or for evil, remains neutral in so fearful an emergency, in reality takes the evil side. The verdict of posterity, and that of contemporaries, will be alike; and the backsliders will justly incur all the liabilities of avowed and open enemies.

Thus the alliance of Great Britain and France rests upon a broad basis. In undertaking the struggle, they have declared themselves—whatever the fate of the war may be as regards the Ottoman Empire—the guardians of the liberties of Europe. They represent the principle of Right against Might; and they have accepted the position with all its responsibilities, however onerous they may be, or into whatever difficulties and complications it may lead them. The timid may attempt to disguise the fact for themselves; but the war which has commenced is the long-foreseen war of constitutional freedom and the rights of man against irresponsible despotism. Were the Emperor of Russia to succeed in the projects which are the policy and tradition of his race, the fairest triumphs of the art, the science, the literature, and the religion of our time, would be destroyed under the heels of a new Attila. Great Britain, the nursing mother of infant nations, would descend from her lofty position, and fall so low, that she never could rise again; and Paris, the home of art, the Athens of the modern world, would become, with its outlying territories, the decaying appanage of a barbaric Sovereign. The light of civilisation in the Old World would be quenched in blood, and the only hope of humanity would be in another hemisphere.

The Kings who dread constitutional freedom because they imagine it might lead to dynastic changes highly inconvenient to themselves, will prove unworthy to govern if they do not learn wisdom from the instinct of the people; and if they do not recognise the broad and glaring fact that Swedes, Danes, Germans, Italians, Poles, Hungarians, Spaniards, Portuguese, Swiss, Belgians, Hollanders—in short, all the nations of Europe as well as the French and English, put up prayers for the speedy and utter discomfiture of the Czar: and look upon his triumph as the greatest misfortune that could befall the world. Were the decision of the wavering policy of Austria and Prussia left to the people of those states; were those countries polled man by man, there can be no doubt that their vote would be in favour of the objects pursued by France and England. It is not the present policy of the Allies to appeal to the people of any portion of Europe against their Sovereigns; but if those Sovereigns—false to their trust, blind to the interests, and deaf to the wishes of their subjects—should remain mischievously neutral, or openly hostile, in the deadly struggle, the day will come when the revolution that Despotism seeks to inaugurate in the blood of the Turks will have to

COUNCIL OF WAR, AT PARIS.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

be confronted with revolution of another kind. Revolution would, in that case, have to confront counter revolution, and the mighty warfare would convulse the world. That day has not yet arrived. We trust that it never may; and that the Sovereigns of Europe will recognise, ere it be too late, that Russia is the greatest revolutionist whom they have to fear, and that the Czar is an arch-anarchist, in comparison with whom the wildest of Red Republicans is peaceable and innocent. In the meantime, it behoves all the true friends of constitutional liberty, as well as the over-zealous patriots who suffer in exile for the excess of their enthusiasm, to beware how they complicate a position of extreme delicacy and peril, by urging extravagant claims, or by rushing headlong into premature and unconsidered movements. It is not for them to be impatient when their cause is about to triumph. Whatever advantages they may desire or merit, are petty in comparison with the benefit that would be derived from unity of action against the common foe. The defeat of Russia is not alone the triumph of the Western Powers, but of the liberties of all nations. The humiliation of the Czar might give Europe peace for another period of forty years; and in much less than that time Germans, Italians, Poles, and Hungarians, might quietly acquire all the liberty and independence of which they are capable. Their cause is in good hands, and they ought to know that if it had not been for the unwholesome influence obtained by Russia over the Councils of Germany, and the dread inspired by the barbarian hordes of the Czar, they might long ago have been in a position to make their voices effectually heard in the great senate of Europe, so as to have aided in preserving the peace of the world. Despotism had formerly many adherents and admirers, but the naked wickedness of that species of despotism exercised by the Czar has deprived it of the false halo that surrounded it, and exposed it in all its horror to the loathing of the world. Despotism has now no friends; for every lover of peace—unless, perhaps, it be Mr. Pease, Mr. Sturge, or Mr. Cobden—confesses the truth, that if there had been no despot in Russia, there would at this moment have been no war in Europe. Of the ultimate results of the war the British and French nations will not permit themselves to have any misgivings. They know the magnitude of the task they have undertaken, and they will perform it. Their cause is only nominally that of a Mahomedan power; it is in reality the cause of Justice, of Civilisation, and of Christianity.

COUNCIL OF WAR AT PARIS.

THE scene of a deliberative Council upon a great struggle, such as that which now agitates Europe, is an impressive subject for artistic representation. The Council introduced by the reader upon the previous page was held at Paris, last week, at the office of the Minister of War, Marshal Vaillant; at which were Marshal St. Arnaud and Lord Raglan, Commanders-in-Chief of the French and English forces for the East, and other officers. Notwithstanding their deliberations, and the points discussed, are kept in official confidence, we are enabled to state that the Artist of the prefixed Illustration has obtained from accredited sources the information requisite for the characteristic realities of the scene of important deliberation.

ENGLISH AND FRENCH CONVENTION.

We learn from Paris that the convention between the French and English Governments which was signed a few days ago in London has already been ratified, and that the text of this important document will probably appear this morning in the *Moniteur*. The object of the alliance of the two Courts is stated to be the re-establishment of peace between the Emperor of Russia and the Sultan on a permanent basis, and the preservation of Europe from the dangers which have disturbed the general peace.

For this purpose, and in order to rescue the dominions of the Sultan from foreign invasion, the English and French Governments agree to combine their military and naval forces in a manner sufficient to accomplish the result they have in view. They bind themselves not to accept any proposition for the cessation of hostilities against Russia without having communicated to each other the nature of such overtures. They distinctly disclaim all exclusive advantage to themselves from the events which may arise, and they invite the rest of Europe to co-operate with them in an alliance destined solely to protect the public interests of Europe.

The lateness of the hour at which this information reaches us compels us to defer till to-morrow all farther comment on this important convention, which seems to supply the necessary basis to the operations in which the English and French forces are now engaged, and will, we trust, cement the permanent alliance of the Western Powers.—*Times*, Friday.

OFFER OF A POLISH LEGION TO THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT.

A proposal has been made on the part of the Poles to form a Polish Legion, which, being supplied with the munitions of war, shall fight side by side with the English and French troops against the common enemy. An address to that effect was sent the Right Hon. the Earl of Aberdeen, First Lord of the Treasury, for his approval. The following is the noble Earl's reply:—

Downing-street, April 13.

Sir,—I am desired by my Lord Aberdeen to acknowledge the receipt of the letter you addressed to him on the 3rd instant, in which, adverting to the declaration of war by England and France against Russia, you express a hope, on behalf of yourself and your countrymen residing at Portsmouth, that her Majesty's Government will allow you to form a Polish Legion, which, being supplied with munitions of war, shall fight side by side with the English and French troops against the common enemy; and I am to acquaint you that your letter has been referred for the consideration of the Secretary of State for War and the Colonies.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,
CLINTON G. DAWKINS.

Major Stawiarski, 42, Grigg-street, Southsea, Portsmouth.

REPRESENTATION OF CAMBRIDGE.—There are already four candidates offering themselves to the Liberal party alone: the Hon. F. Campbell, Mr. Adair, Mr. Mowatt, and Mr. Edwin James, Q.C. There is little question but Messrs. Mowatt and James will be the parties selected.

LONDON AND BRIGHTON RAILWAY.—On Thursday a special meeting of this company was held at the Bridge-house Hotel—S. Laing, Esq., M.P., in the chair—when a bill authorising the enlargement of one or two stations, and the improvement of different parts of the line, at a cost of £359,000, was approved; a strong protest, however, being entered by the shareholders against the introduction of the Cardwell clauses into the bill.

RUSSIAN TACTICS.—The Russians seem bent on carrying out their customary prudent system of warfare, by fighting as little as possible, where they are likely to meet an enemy on fair terms. Hence the course pursued by the Emperor with regard to the island of Aland. Finding that the works erected on the coast of that island would not be in a state to resist the attacks of the English fleet, he has ordered all the troops which were in the forts to evacuate them promptly, carrying with them all the guns and military stores, &c. Letters from Stockholm fully confirm this news, and the Emperor had also ordered all the pilots and all men capable of bearing arms to emigrate to the mainland in Finland, and to remove all vessels large and small, boats, &c., to the ports on the mainland; and in case that cannot be done, to sink and destroy them, so that not a vestige shall remain. The least opposition is punished with the knout, or with Siberia. It is said that the same system of national defence and voluntary destruction had been organised, and will be followed throughout the whole extent of the Russian shore commencing from Helsingfors to Cronstadt, and on the other side of the Empire to Sebastopol.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

The whole of the journey of the Prince Napoleon has been attended with the most flattering demonstrations, and continued cries of "Vive l'Empereur!" "Vive la Prince Napoléon!" At Valence the Prince visited the lodging occupied by the late Emperor when a simple officer of artillery. At Marseilles the reception was most enthusiastic, and the town was illuminated the whole night.

The review on Wednesday last passed off most effectively. In the morning a cloudy sky threatened literally to damp the enjoyment of the spectacle; and when, later, the rain began to fall, it was supposed to be set in for the day. However, towards the afternoon, the sun broke forth, and the laying of the dust and refreshing of the air added in no small degree to the enjoyment of both actors and spectators. Never was the vast plain of the Champ de Mars more densely crowded than on this occasion. It is computed that not less than 200,000 persons were present, and those who failed to find standing-room, flocked to Chaillot and the other heights, where they could obtain even a comparatively distant view. The number of English present was prodigious. A few minutes after one arrived the Emperor, having at his right (a subject of general remark and speculation, it being in general considered a point of Court etiquette that no sovereign places even an equal in this position,) the Duke of Cambridge, and on his left Lord Raglan. The English officers of the Duke's staff, and the principal officers of the French army followed *en grande tenue*. Having passed along the lines, the Emperor and his party placed themselves in front of the grand racing stand, where the Empress, attended by all her Court, and surrounded by Lady Cowley, and a large number of French and English ladies, had taken her station. The troops then defiled, and performed some manœuvres, forming a most brilliant *coup-d'œil*. Many of the regiments, and a good number of the spectators, added to the cries of "Vive l'Empéreur!" "Vive le Duc de Cambridge!" that of "Vivent les Anglais!" It is earnestly to be hoped that the good feeling thus manifested, and which it has taken such peculiar circumstances really to establish, may be maintained and strengthened by the close contact of the two nations.

On Sunday the Grandes Eaux at Versailles played in honour of the Duke of Cambridge, who, at the earnest invitation of the Emperor, postponed his departure till Tuesday; and on Monday evening, a brilliant, though not very general fête took place at the Palace of the Elysée, offered to his Royal Highness and the most distinguished of the English guests at present in Paris. In short, the whole week has been a series of reception, public and private, in which our compatriots play the principal part.

It is somewhat singular that under these circumstances, and with weather almost unprecedented for the season—the period of Passion Week being generally one of the worst in the climate of Paris and its environs, the ceremony of Longchamps should have been more than usually a failure. Is it that, like the unmeaning mummeries of the Carnival, this autumn—which we consider one that would be specially honoured in the breach rather than in the observance—it begins to strike the Parisians in the same light; and that they find to spend three hours in crawling in a line of hack and job carriages, broken here and there by an equipage—where something is certain to clash against correct taste—from the Place de la Concorde to the Barrière de l'Etoile, is not edifying? We hope and believe so. And let not our allies be wounded at our reflections on their equipages: we yield them the palm in *almost* all points of taste; let us, therefore, console our national *amour-propre* with this point of superiority, and claim to ourselves the monopoly of elegance and excellence in all that relates to what is comprised in the expressive term a "turn-out."

It is said that the Emperor proposes to give Paris, among the other improvements, a new race-course, on the model of those of Ascot and Epsom: the Champ de Mars being found in certain points defective for the purpose, and more exclusively calculated for military purposes.

An event of the most tragical nature, the assassination of the Abbé Guet, one of the most esteemed and respected members of the clergy, has excited universal consternation. Passing before the church of St. Vincent de Paul, at eight o'clock in the morning, and stopping to read a bill announcing the service and list of preachers of the Passion Week, a man approached him with a pistol in each hand, and, without a word, fired one at his head. Seeing that, though severely wounded, the Abbé did not fall, the miscreant attempted to discharge the second pistol, which missed fire; and the workmen, who, at some distance, had witnessed the attack, arrived but in time to seize the murderer. The Abbé was conveyed to the Hôpital Lariboisière, where, after lingering for some time in agony, he expired. The murderer, when arrested, so far from expressing any regret for the act he had committed, declared that he was only sorry not to have killed his victim on the spot. On being questioned as to his motives, he entered into an explanation the most trivial and unsatisfactory; and no real cause can be assigned for the commission of an act of cold-blooded atrocity, which has occasioned the death of a man universally beloved and respected in his calling and private character.

An unusual number of marriages in the higher circles are taking place at present, the high contracting parties having waited for the conclusion of Lent for their celebration.

Already has the scourge which visits France every summer—hydrophobia—begun to make its appearance in various parts of the provinces. It is really miraculous that an intelligent people, and one making at present in many points so marked a progress, should not adopt in this case a remedy so simple, and one which would go so far to remove this frightful evil and many minor nuisances, as a dog-tax: no such restriction existing, the streets both of the capital and the provincial towns and villages, swarm with worthless, quarrelsome, half-starved curs, which catch and spread the infection to a degree that at times becomes positively fearful. And what is the safeguard adopted? When the evil has made such a head as to call public attention to and excite public terror at its presence, the police scatter a few poisoned balls through the streets, and insist upon people shutting up or muzzling their dogs to prevent their eating them; the natural consequence is, that one dog in a thousand is poisoned; the rest are imprisoned and muzzled till the panic is lulled, and then let loose to recommence the same process.

The want of rain, though a certain evil, is not here felt to any serious extent as yet, and the fields and vineyards give brilliant promise for the harvest. On Sunday morning, a short-lived torrent of warm rain, greatly refreshed the verdure and herbage; and in the South, some genial showers have done much good.

The theatres are preparing to wind up the gay season with some brilliant productions. The Gaîté is about to produce a work, which, independent of its positive title to interest, possesses that of its being the probable farewell to the French stage of one of its most gifted and popular actors, Frédérick Lemaître. "La Bonne Aventure," the piece in question, is from the pen of M. Paul Foucher, who produces, the same week, at the Théâtre Français, his long-promised work "Aissé." The Gymnase has a brilliant success with "Le Gendre de M. Poirier," by MM. Emile Augier and Jules Sandeau.

The work of Lieut. Bellot, which has just appeared, is one of the greatest interest, and shows the character of its author in a light which can but add powerfully to the sympathy and regret caused by his noble career, and its early and tragic close.

THE WAR.

DEPARTURE OF GENERAL ST. ARNAUD.

Marshal de St. Arnaud, the Commander-in-Chief of the army of the East, left Paris on Saturday morning by the Lyons Railway for Marseilles, where he is to embark for Gallipoli. He is accompanied by Madame de St. Arnaud, and by a numerous staff. Marshal Magnan, the Commander-in-Chief of the army of Paris, and a great number of general officers and private friends, accompanied Marshal de St. Arnaud to the station of the railway. The Prefect of the Seine, the aides-de-camp of the Minister of War and of Prince Jerome, and several other high functionaries, were in attendance to bid adieu to the gallant Marshal. The Marshal was expected to arrive at Toulon on the 20th.

THE FRENCH BALTIC SQUADRON.

The only French ship of the line which had arrived in the Baltic, up to the latest account, was the *Austerlitz* steam-ship, which is said to have left Kloge Bay on the 19th inst. On the 12th inst., the following vessels sailed from Brest, to join Sir Charles Napier:—The *Inflexible*, ship of the line, Vice-Admiral Parseval-Deschênes, commander of the squadron; Captain Chevaud, head of the staff; Captain Perenneau, &c. *Jemappes*, ship of the line, Captain Dupaco, commander; Captain de Langle de Carry, second in command. *Le Tage*, Captain Fabre, commander; Captain Mequet, second. *Breslau*, ship of the line, Rear-Admiral Penaud; Captain Bedva, aide-de-camp, &c. *Darien*, frigate, Captain Didelot. *Pourvoyante*, frigate, Captain Prudhomme de Borre. *Semillante*, frigate, Captain Chiron de Brossay. Previous to the sailing of the squadron, nine companies of the First Regiment of Marines, forming an effective force of 900 men, were placed on board the three ships *Tage*, *Jemappes*, and *Inflexible*. Three batteries of artillery, formed on the war-footing, were also taken on board.

MILITARY MOVEMENTS IN AUSTRIA.

By a letter from the south of Hungary of the 10th we learn that the Austrian armamente are nearly completed. The transit of troops has been getting gradually less frequent, and the numbers of men less imposing. Large compact masses are collected for commencing operations, in case these should be necessary. The force which, in case of war, would be the first to act is at present under the chief command of the Archduke Albrecht, and consists of the 9th, 10th, and 11th infantry corps, with a part of the 1st cavalry corps. Furthest advanced stands the 9th corps, under the command of Field-Marshal-Lieutenant Count Schaffgotsches, who has fixed his head-quarters in Semlin, taking up his position from Mitrowitz to the confines of Transylvania. His right flank is secured by the position of a special corps in Croatia, opposite the Bosnian frontier, where the fortresses also of Gradiska, Brod, and Essek; all these, as likewise Peterwardein, Arad, and Temesvar, are fully armed and provisioned. The main army, however, is formed in the rear by the 10th corps, under the Archduke Charles Ferdinand, and the 11th corps, under Field-Marshal-Lieutenant Count Wangerski—each being 18,000 strong, and each with seventy-six guns. The cavalry is under Prince Francis Liechtenstein. Every arrangement has been made for keeping up the communications by land and by water, and camp-hospitals in the various towns of the kingdom will be in readiness to receive the sick or wounded. They will be conveyed to them by a ship, that is also fitted up as a floating hospital. The entire strength of the whole army, including the border regiments, number from 120,000 to 150,000 men. Should Austria take part in the war, her weight will in every case prove decisive.

THE DEFENCES OF CRONSTADT.

An attack on Cronstadt is only possible from the narrow channel which, in its various twistings and turnings, is commanded, for a distance of nearly four English miles, by the fort in front of the island. All signs, such as buoys, posts, &c., have been removed, so that even if the English vessels have the most experienced pilots on board, they will be obliged to move very slowly, and consequently a vessel advancing to the attack would be exposed for a whole hour to the fire of the Russian batteries, some of which have Paixhan guns of 130 pounds. If a single ship of the line is sunk, the channel is so effectually closed, that the others cannot advance. Cursory mention has already been made of Professor Jacobi's invention for destroying vessels at sea; and the German writer now gives some—apparently unintelligible—details on the subject. Strong iron chests, charged with powder and other combustible materials, are sunk into the sea, and connected by means of wires with a galvanic battery outside. "Above the chests is some machinery, which on being touched by the keel of a passing vessel, causes two galvanised rods to come down, which produces an electric spark, and with it an explosion." A hundred submarine mines of this kind are said to have been sunk in the channel leading to Cronstadt. Military men in St. Petersburg are divided in their opinions as to whether the fortifications of Cronstadt will be able to resist the heavy artillery of the ships. Four of the forts are formed of enormous granite cubes, the fifth is of log. The greatest danger for Cronstadt is that those forts may be taken one after the other, as each of them will be exposed to the fire of a great number of vessels. After all, the greatest security of the place is the narrowness of the channel, which just at the entrance to the port, behind Fort Menschikoff, will be commanded by two enormous floating batteries, formed of old ships of the line. Besides, the thickness of the ice whether it will be possible to send the two divisions of the fleet which are still at Cronstadt to Sveaborg (Helsingfors), which is considered impregnable. General Dehn, of the engineers, has been appointed Military Governor of Cronstadt, and Admiral Ricard, an old but energetic man, commands the fleet.

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

The latest accounts from the head-quarters of Omer Pacha prove the urgent necessity of the Allied forces arriving on the theatre of war without loss of time, if there be a desire to avoid, as General Baraguay d'Hilliers is said to have expressed it in one of his despatches, the repetition on land of the catastrophe of Sinope. A competent person, who has very recently examined, and with the greatest attention, the line of the Danube, from Widdin to Rassova, and who has very minutely scrutinised the effective force under the command of Omer Pacha, with its capabilities and organisation, is of opinion that that force is not able to meet the Russian army single-handed, or to oppose its onward march to the south. No doubt is expressed as to the zeal, the enthusiasm, and the valour of the Turkish army, but the same authority declares that, notwithstanding the wonderful efforts made by Omer Pacha to introduce regularity and order in the host he commands, there is still a great deficiency of discipline to contend with—the exception of Omer Pacha himself, who is admitted to be a man of much intelligence, and two or three others at the most, there is a great want of military capacity among the superior officers, and a still greater deficiency among the subalterns. Under these present circumstances it is thought most desirable that Omer Pacha should not, until supported by the Allies, risk a battle with the Russians who have lately crossed the Danube. According to the same accounts, the Turkish army of the Danube does not amount to more than 60,000 men, while the Russians have now 200,000 disposable and effective men in the Principalities and Bessarabia. Fortunately, the presence of the Allied fleets in the Black Sea renders it impossible for the Russians to obtain supplies from the coast, and a considerable portion of that immense force is employed in conveying provisions and stores to the Dobrudja. But the great danger is in the want of organisation of the Turks. Hitherto they have done wonders; but a pitched battle before the arrival of the Allied armies must be their ruin, and disastrous. A report has been forwarded to the French Government by Colonel Dieu, which is said to have hastened the resolution to send at once 100,000 men, or more, instead of the 50,000 spoken of at first.

The movements of the Russian forces in the Dobrudja are still very much enveloped in mystery. At one time we hear of their having appeared in the neighbourhood of Varna; and at another they are said to be advancing on Bassardjik, about twenty miles north of Schumla, where, according to one account, Omer Pacha has concentrated a force of 30,000 men. In addition to the forces already in the Dobrudja, the Russians are said to have formed a camp of 40,000 men and 30 guns, at Karasoubazar, which point they, no doubt, intend to make their attack on Silistria. The Turks have been keeping up a constant warfare along the river, at Oltenitza, Turnu, and Giurgevo. The *Vienna Presse* gives some particulars of a sharp battle, on the 4th, at Giditsch, near Kalafat, which ended in the defeat of the Russians, who were driven from the village with great loss. The Turks have since thrown a strong garrison into it from Widdin.

Varna, which is a strongly-fortified place, but which had a garrison of only 6000 men, having applied for reinforcements, a considerable force has been sent. The *Soldaten Freund* says that no less than 12,000 men have been landed at Varna, and recent letters from Constantinople speak as if a number of the Allied troops at Gallipoli would also be sent as quickly as possible.

THE CZAR'S REPLY TO THE DECLARATION OF WAR.

The *Journal de St. Petersburg*, of the 13th April, contains a long manifesto from the Emperor of Russia, in reply to the declaration of war, in which England and France are charged with having manifested undue partiality from the outset towards the side of Turkey in this contest; and that partiality, coupled with unjust suspicions of Russia, is stated to have drawn them, through a series of "increasing exactions," into "the path of war" with Russia. After alluding to the alleged dangers arising from Russian aggrandisement, he endeavours to show that Europe has more to fear from the Allied Powers opposed to Russia :—

It is for Europe, not for the Two Powers, to decide if the general equilibrium really runs the risks which are attributed to it from the supposed excessive preponderance of Russia. It is for it to examine which weighs heaviest to-day upon the freedom of action of states—Russia left to herself, or a formidable alliance, the pressure of which alarms every neutrality, and uses by turns caresses or threats to compel them to follow in its wake. Europe will also decide if, during the last years, it is from Russia that have come pretensions the most hostile to the rights of sovereignty, and to the independence of feeble states; if in Greece, in Sicily, in Naples, in Tuscany, it is for or against those rights that she has declared; whether in Germany between the great Governments she has sought to sow discord, or to re-establish union; whether, morally in Lombardy, and materially in Hungary, her efforts have not been consecrated to the maintenance of equilibrium; and whether the blows that are preparing against her, the isolation in which it is hoped to place her, by handing over the political world to a far different sort of preponderance, will not rather be the annihilation of that equilibrium.

In conclusion, he trusts—

That God, who has so often protected Russia in the day of trial, will assist him once more in this formidable struggle. He sincerely laments the infinite evils which are about to fall on humanity; but at the same time he thinks it to be his duty to protest solemnly against the arbitrary pretensions laid down by the Two Powers, which throw upon him alone all the responsibility of them. They are free, without doubt, to adopt against Russia such measures as may be most convenient to them, but it does not belong to them to lay the consequences to his charge. The responsibility of the calamities of a war belongs to the Power which declares it, not to that which is bound to accept the provocation.

THE RUSSIAN FLEET IN THE BLACK SEA.

The account which the Russian papers give of the proceedings of their own Black Sea squadron is not likely to raise their estimate of the vigilance and energy of our naval forces in that quarter. The *Invalid Russe*, for example, contains a full and circumstantial narrative of the very able manner in which the Russian vessels executed the somewhat dangerous task of conveying Rear-Admiral Panfiloff, towing row-boats; the *Crimea*, under the flag of Rear-Admiral Panfiloff, towing the *Mamai*, transport ship; the *Odessa*, towing the *Bayb*; the *Chersonese*, towing the *Gostaga*; the *Bosfa*, towing the *Kolco*; the *Mogoutchy*, towing the *Themes*; and the *Argonauta*, towing row-boats.

In coasting along the shores of Circassia, and whenever they arrived opposite a post, they left the vessels necessary for the embarkation of the garrison that, on approaching Navaghinsk, two steamers—one French, the other English—were signalled. The embarkation was suspended, and measures were taken to prepare for action; however, the enemy's ships remained in the offing, passed before ours, and the embarkation was resumed.

In the meantime, opposite the post Vellaminoff, these two steamers stopped the latter transport *Bayb*; two officers hailed her, and addressed to her commander (Lieutenant Tchebyschell) the following questions :—

"What steamers have you seen near the post of Navaghinsk?" Answer: "Seven Russian steamers of war."

"What are they doing at that point?" Answer: "There is an Admiral there, and he has not told me his instructions."

"What is among the ships?" Answer: "Provisions?" Answer: "We."

"Why do you burn them?" Answer: "Because such is the order given."

"Where is your fleet?" Answer: "I don't know, but I believe it to be at sea, and very near."

After having received these answers, the two steamers departed, having addressed the same questions to the *Mogador* and to the Simeon.

On the 5th the whole expedition anchored at Novorossisk, where it disembarked the garrison of the posts of Navaghinsk, Golovine, Lazarieff, Vellaminoff, Tenghinsk, and Gelendjik.

Storms had prevented the squadron of Rear-Admiral Youkotitch embarking the garrison of the post of St. Esprit. The removal of this garrison took place on the 9th and 10th, by means of the steamer *Constantin monosseta*, aboard which was sent Colonel Skolkoff, Aide-de-camp of the Emperor.

From all these posts, besides the garrisons, which make up an effective force of 5000 men, they embarked all the families of the soldiers, the women, and a great part of the stores of the Crown. The rest, as well as the buildings, were then fortified and afterwards blown up.

Our military resources have thus been augmented by an important body of picked troops, accustomed to war by long service in the centre of an unubdued country.

It is but fair to add that the crew of the English steamer *Samson* give a very different account of the affair. They say that, early in March, the Circassians, having been provided with arms and ammunition, attacked the Russians, and, after a severely-contested battle, drove them from their castles on the coast. During four days the forts were surrounded by the Circassians, and at last the Russians, finding that they could hold out no longer, blew up their powder magazines and sought to reach the sea. The captain of the *Samson* distinctly states that a party of Russians who had abandoned two blockhouses situated on a hill were attacked by the Circassians and all cut down. The loss of the Russians was represented as having been very considerable. As the Russians have not been remarkable for veracity on the part of the Christian population of Turkey in the name of religion and of nationality, others are seeking means to cause dissensions in Spain and in Portugal, which may, in the idea of the Russian Cabinet, cause a diversion in favour of the events of the East. For the last six weeks, a certain number of Russian travellers, among whom are several officers, have been arriving at Lisbon, from whence some have proceeded to the interior, others to the south of Portugal. The fact in itself of Russian officers choosing the present period of difficulties for making a journey of pleasure is enough to excite suspicions, if it were not be a journey of pleasure is enough to excite suspicions, if it were not be-known that they are commissioned to make enquiries in all kinds of intrigues in order to raise some kind of demonstration in favour of Don Miguel; but the Prince whom the Czar put a short time since designated as a *monster* and an *idiot*, a fact which is well remembered at Lisbon. We have every the probability of the information that we have received on this subject is, that the same symptoms are manifesting themselves in Spain; it is the whole Iberian peninsula which Muscovite intrigue has in view. Public opinion sees the hand of Russian agents in the Carlist demonstrations which have recently taken place at Barcelona, and many people go so far as to say that the agents of Russia have purposely thrown money in order to excite the workmen to revolt. We are very easy as to the result of the trouble which the secret diplomacy of the Russian Cabinet is taking. It is only necessary that such manœuvres be known for them to be paralysed, and they can only tend to confirm the two States of the Peninsula in the warm feelings of sympathy which they loudly express for the policy followed in the East by France and England.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

The screw-steamer *Hydaspes* arrived at Plymouth on Thursday, with the Cape of Good Hope mails to the 26th February. The election of the Upper House was completed, and that for the Lower House was in progress. The statement that gold had been discovered at Graham's Town was confirmed.

UNITED STATES.

The steamer *Africa*, arrived at Liverpool, at midnight, on Monday, having left New York on the 5th inst. Washington had been the scene of intense excitement, owing to an expected duel between Mr. Breckenridge, of Kentucky, and Mr. Cushing, of New York, two prominent member of Congress, who had quarrelled about the Nebraska Bill, but were persuaded at last to arrange the affair amicably. The attempt to force the Nebraska Bill through the House of Representatives, against the feeling of the country, has not been successful.

Mr. Campbell, of Ohio, introduced a resolution in the House of Representatives, requesting the President to open negotiations with England, with a view of ascertaining upon what terms the latter Government would consent to the annexation of Canada to the United States! The resolution was rejected by a majority of 119 to 38.

An arrangement has been made between the United States and Australia, which embraces the entire ocean postage reform. Letters are to be carried between the two countries for 24d.; while from England to Australia, a letter, under the new system, is to cost 6d.

posted up in the city whereby all Greek subjects who are willing to become Ottoman subjects, and can give two securities for their conduct, must proceed to the police office and make a formal declaration, and they also will be exempted.

The loss to the higher classes is not so great as to those of humbler means. The Greek firms are very extended, and almost all have partners who are under French or Austrian protection, so that business, though obstructed, will not be entirely suspended. But the lower classes, consisting of sailors, domestic servants, porters, and the like, will be brought to utter ruin, and if they are to quit the country at their own expense, it is difficult to see how the orders of the Government can be carried out, as the greater number live only from day to day, and to find the means of paying their passage to the Pireus will be an impossibility to thousands. The Pacha of Smyrna has promulgated a similar order in his province, and the Hellenes inhabiting that prosperous city are to be banished to the number of about 9000. This course of policy is the less advisable, as the Rayah Greeks who remain behind, some tenfold more numerous than those expelled, are to the full as dangerous as the Hellenes; in short, they are one in feelings and desires, and there is no reason to suppose that the Hellenes are more active in their machinations than the native-born subjects of the Porte.

Lord Redcliffe has addressed a circular to her Majesty's Consuls in Greece and Turkey, explaining the attitude assumed by the Western Powers with regard to the Greek insurrection.

THE GREEK INSURRECTION.

A despatch from Prevesa of the 15th inst. brings intelligence that Arta and Zarina still held out against the insurgents, who are making no progress. Skirmishes were taking place daily, but with no important result. At Athens, the greatest enthusiasm was produced by the reply of the Greek Government to the ultimatum of the Powers. Enrolments are now made openly, and Lieutenant-Colonel Corsini is forming a new legion, by order of the Russian Ambassador, and with the assent of the Minister of War. This legion will be armed and clothed on the model of the Russian troops. In the midst of the latter display, however, the Russian party is busily plotting to raise a Russian Grand Duke to the throne of Greece.

A certain Colonel Wolkoff gives the impulse, in the name of the Czar to the enthusiasm of the Athenians, which augments or diminishes according to the nature of the news published by the journals—journals which are all subventioned with Russian money, and whose violence exceeds all bounds. Thus, when the crossing of the Danube by the Russians was announced, the whole of the Government party were mad with delight; and, during the night, a squadron of Lancers started off to join the insurgents, apparently by wealth, but in reality with the approbation of the authorities, who even encouraged the troops in their resolution, as it was evident, among many other reasons, from the fact that the person at the head of this body of men, and, in fact, the person who carried them off was one of the King's aides-de-camp. Another circumstance, which speaks volumes, is that the troopers left the whole of their horses—belonging to the Government—in their stables, but, before starting, they made a razzia of all private stables in the town, and carried off every horse that they could turn to account. The King and Queen are openly supporters of the movement; but in the Senate, in the Legislative Corps, among the most influential inhabitants of the city, the feeling is very different. They deeply deplore the conduct of the Government, which seems anxious to undermine the social edifice with its own hands, even if it should bring the whole structure down about its ears. There can be no doubt that the present policy of King Otho's Government not only puts a stop to the progress and prosperity of the country, but absolutely menaces the existence of Greece as an independent State. In the island of Spezzia the merchants and the inhabitants have employed their influence to prevent the Government from enrolling sailors for the corvette and the two brigs, which the Emperor Nicholas (by a pretended sale to a Greek merchant at Trieste) has proposed to give as a present to the Greek Government.

It is generally feared that if these Greek vessels, which are at present in Turkish ports, are forced to return to their own ports, an attempt will be made to arm some of them, and to send them out as corsairs; but the English and French men-of-war watch them closely; and if the necessity should arise, as the Archipelago is soon to be navigated by so many vessels carrying troops, they will not hesitate to establish a blockade of all the Greek ports, and even to carry off the rudders of ships whose intentions or movements may appear suspicious. Such a measure, however, would be fatal, in consequence, to every existence depends upon its commerce and its mercantile shipping; more especially the Government, with its usual want of forethought, has neglected to provide a sufficient reserve of grain for the support of the people till the next harvest. The kingdom of Greece is threatened with a frightful famine, and it is perhaps to escape the fury of the populace on that account that the Greek Ministry is endeavouring to gain a false popularity by flattering the momentary passions of the leaders and agitators of the people of Athens.

Montenegro still remains quiet, but Russian intrigues are actively at work. On hearing of the expulsion of the Greeks from Constantinople, Prince Danielo, Vladika of Montenegro, published a proclamation calling upon the people to take up arms.

RUSSIAN REVOLUTIONARY INTRIGUES IN SPAIN.

The French papers affirm that the late disturbances in Barcelona and other parts of Spain have been fomented by Russian agents. If what they allege be true, the Czar is the chief promoter of revolutionary designs in Europe, with a view, no doubt, to make himself useful as the great conservator of the peace of Europe. The *Pays* of Monday speaks of the Russian intrigues in the most explicit terms :—

We have received information both from Spain and Portugal which is not without interest, which gives an idea of the morality of Russian policy, as well as the expedients to which it is reduced. It appears that, despairing of finding allies nearer home and of enrolling on its side any regular Government, Russia now places all her hope in the disputes which she may cause elsewhere in order to distract our attention. Whilst the Czar is preaching such measures to the south of Portugal, the fact in itself of Russian officers choosing the present period of difficulties for making a journey of pleasure is enough to excite suspicions, if it were not be-known that they are commissioned to make enquiries in all kinds of intrigues in order to raise some kind of demonstration in favour of Don Miguel; but the Prince whom the Czar but a short time since designated as a *monster* and an *idiot*, a fact which is well remembered at Lisbon. We have every the probability of the information that we have received on this subject is, that the same symptoms are manifesting themselves in Spain; it is the whole Iberian peninsula which Muscovite intrigue has in view. Public opinion sees the hand of Russian agents in the Carlist demonstrations which have recently taken place at Barcelona, and many people go so far as to say that the agents of Russia have purposely thrown money in order to excite the workmen to revolt. We are very easy as to the result of the trouble which the secret diplomacy of the Russian Cabinet is taking. It is only necessary that such manœuvres be known for them to be paralysed, and they can only tend to confirm the two States of the Peninsula in the warm feelings of sympathy which they loudly express for the policy followed in the East by France and England.

PRINCE LOUIS-LUCIEN BONAPARTE.

THIS distinguished scion of the Bonaparte family (whose Portrait we engrave upon the next page, from a beautifully-executed Calotype), has of late been the subject of much comment in Paris, and various parts of Italy; and very recently he paid a visit to England, his native country.

Prince Louis Lucien Bonaparte is second son of Lucien Bonaparte, brother of the Emperor Napoleon I. Lucien Bonnparte was third son of Carlo Bonaparte, by Letitia Ramolini, his wife. He was born at Ajaccio, in 1775. After having held the important offices of President of the Council of Five Hundred, Minister of the Interior, and Ambassador to Madrid, he retired from France to Italy in 1804, the year of Napoleon's assumption of the Imperial diadem, and purchased the estate of Canino, in the Papal territory. Subsequently, in 1810, distrustful of the security of his Italian asylum, he embarked for the United States, but was captured by two English frigates, and conveyed to Malta to await the orders of Government. In conformity with those instructions, Lucien was transferred to England, where he arrived 18th December, 1810, and fixed himself in Shropshire, about fifteen miles from Ludlow, on a beautiful estate he was allowed to purchase. Here he sojourned, devoted to literature and the repose of domestic life, until the peace of 1814 enabled him to return to the Continent. During the Hundred Days he played a prominent part; and after Waterloo effected his escape to Rome, where he died 29th June, 1840. It was during his father's sojourn in England that Prince Louis Lucien was born—at Thorngrove, Worcestershire, in Jan., 1813. He passed his childhood in Rome, and his youth in Florence, where he has devoted much time to the culture of science, particularly of ehemistry and of philology. He has been one of the most active members of the scientific Italian Congress, and is author of several chemical works in the French and Italian languages. On the presentation of the celebrated chemist, M. Dumas, then Minister, he received the Cross of the Legion of Honour. The Prince was also a member of the jury for the French Exposition in 1849; and a French juror for the English Exhibition in 1851. He was elected a representative for Corsica at the Assemblée Constituante in 1848, but did not take his seat. The electors of the Department of the Seine, however, sent him with more than 120,000 votes to the Legislative Assembly, where he has uniformly displayed very moderate principles. He is now a Senator, the only one among the members of the civil family of the Emperor—from whom, on many occasions, he has received proofs of his consideration and sympathy. The Prince was present at the recent opening of the Legislative Chamber, when he occupied the second chair on the right hand of the Emperor.

The absence of Prince Louis Lucien Bonnparte from the festivities of the Court, in February last, gave rise to an unfavourable, but false interpretation; and, though it is well known that the Prince takes no active part in political matters, it was nevertheless said that the absence was owing to some such cause, and that a coolness existed between him and his cousin, the Emperor. This was not the case. There was no coolness between the cousins; and if Prince Lucien had not been seen lately at the Tuileries, it was simply because he had been for the previous month in England—which, as the place of his birth, he is much attached to. A few weeks ago the Prince paid a visit to Thorngrove, took a lively interest in his inquiries about the place, and especially in the rooms chiefly occupied by his late father. The aged poor in the neighborhood of Thorngrove have a grateful recollection of the kindness and liberality of the Bonaparte family, and they are spoken of by many of the inhabitants of Worcester in terms of respectful admiration.

The Prince has since visited Italy, and on March 12th he arrived in Turin. The Sardinian Government, who had previously received intelligence by telegraph of the Prince's visit, had ordered a detachment of Carabiniers to meet him at the frontier and escort his carriage. This attention the Prince, with many thanks, declined accepting. The Duke de Cariche, Minister of France at the Court of Turin, waited on the Prince on the morning of the 13th, and announced the visit of the Ministers; and M. de Cavour, the President of the Council, mentioned that the King would be happy to receive his Highness in the afternoon of the next day. The Prince, attended by his secretary, Major Cavagnari, dined at the French Embassy the same evening.

During the Prince's stay in the Lombardo-Venetian kingdom, though there is no Count, the whole of the authorities manifested the most respectful attentions, and immediately visited him. At Brescia it appears his presence occasioned a good deal of sensation; and though the Prince travelled in strict incognito, the people at once observed the resemblance between him and Bonaparte when First Consul. The crowds were so great in the streets that he had to get into his carriage to make his way from those who thronged to see the cousin of the Emperor of the French. At Venice the same reception awaited him from the Governor-General Gorzkowsky and the Imperial Lieutenant the Chevalier de Tuggenbrug, on his arriving at Verona he was immediately visited by Marshal Radetzky.

The Prince expends a great deal of the time he can spare from political cares in writing a great philological work, begun in Florence. For this purpose he has assembled in this country a large collection of books, relating to the languages and dialects of Europe.

Prince Louis Lucien has an elder brother, Charles Lucien, Prince of Canino and Musignano, born at Paris, 1803. He is known for his extensive acquirements in zoology, and is a corresponding member of the Academy of Sciences. He was President of the National Assembly of Rome in 1849. He is married to the only daughter of his uncle (the exKing Joseph Bonaparte). Prince Louis Lucien has two younger brothers—Pierre Napoleon Bonaparte, born in 1815, a member of the Legislative Assembly, and who served in Africa as Chef de Bataillon in the Foreign Legion; and Antoine Bonaparte, born in 1816, and also a member of the Legislative Assembly. Of his sisters, the eldest, Letitia, is the wife of the Right Hon. Thomas Wyse, British Envoy to Greece. Christiana Alexandrine Egypta, who married, in 1824, Lord Dudley Stuart, M.P. for Marylebone, and died in 1847, leaving issue of Lucien, by his first wife.

THE PRISON OF POERIO.

By a letter received from Naples, dated April 4, we learn that the authorities at the prison of Montefusco have imposed fresh cruelties on Poerio and his companions. A soldier pretends to have overheard the prisoners speaking disrespectfully of the Neapolitan Government. Orders were issued to have all the prisoners again chained to the wall. Poerio, however, for the moment has escaped, as the medical man of the prison declared he was not in a state to bear so severe a punishment. This is but a revival of the cruel treatment complained of about four months since, when a letter from Naples, dated December 4, brought to his friends the intelligence :—

Baron Poerio, who has now born the chains of a galley-slave for more than four years, is subject to fresh severities, which, if continued, will, ere long, remove him from the troubles of this world. Hitherto the police authorities have permitted the ex-minister to spend ten ducats (£2) per month for such necessaries as his state of health required. Orders have now been issued that henceforth he will be permitted to receive from his family only 1 carlino and 50 (6d.) per day. Now the prison in which this victim of the Neapolitan Constitution is confined, at Montefusco, is so exposed, that without fire the prisoners would perish of cold, and the turpence per day will scarcely pay for wood; independent of which M. Poerio is in such a wretched state of health as to require many comforts: such as are accorded to the very worst criminal are refused to the late friend and adviser of his Sicilian Majesty.

An artistic Correspondent has sketched Poerio and Pirouti, as they lately appeared chained to two felons in the Infirmary of the Bagno di Ischia. The figure on the left is Poerio, that with spectacles Pirouti. The Sketch, the reader is assured, is well authenticated.

The case of Poerio was detailed in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for July 26, 1851. About this period, Mr. Gladstone, in a series of letters to the Earl of Aberdeen, laid bare some of the iniquities of Neapolitan misrule. He narrated facts of which he had been the eye-witness, and showed what atrocities were committed in Naples, in the outraged name of justice. "Among the supporters of the King may be inferred from the when he needed support, was one Carlo Poerio, distinguished for his eloquence as a speaker and writer, the blamelessness of his private character, and his attachment, not to extreme but to moderately liberal principles. Of so much value to the Government were his talents and character considered in the perilous days of 1848, that he was nominated one of the Ministers of the Crown. He resigned that position when measures were not prudently informed; but that he did not entirely lose the confidence of the King may be inferred from the fact that his advice was sought after he had ceased to be of service in the State. In July, 1849, he was accused, with forty other persons, of belonging to the extreme Republican party, and of plotting the murder of the King. On this charge he was brought to trial. Mr. Gladstone was one of the spectators on the occasion, and states that the evidence was inconclusive, the perjury of the witnesses palpable, and the conduct of the Judge most indecent and partial. The unfortunate ex-

Minister was, however, found guilty, and sentenced to "twenty-four years' imprisonment in irons;" and the present Illustration represents a phase of his suffering; and, in our Journal for August 2, 1851, will be found engraved another prison-house of Poerio, the *bagno* of Nisida, the indignities of which are minutely described by Mr. Gladstone.

HIS HIGHNESS PRINCE LOUIS-LUCIEN BONAPARTE.
(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

WALTON PIER, CARRARA.

THE same energy and indomitable perseverance, which has brought our commercial position at home to such a height of prosperity, is, from time to time, evident also in distant localities in which our countrymen have established themselves. Of this spirit we find an illustration in a new Pier at Carrara—a work undertaken at the sole cost and responsibility of the gentleman whose name it bears, who has been long resident at Carrara, and is well known as the proprietor of marble quarries. Fully 1000 tons of this beautiful material are shipped from this place monthly, principally to England, France, and America.

Up to the time of the opening of the Pier, the process of shipment had been most uncouth and expensive. The system, as described by an eye witness, was somewhat as follows:—The coasting vessels to be loaded were drawn up on the beach, and shears erected alongside, by means of which, and a clumsy capstan and tackle, the blocks were hoisted on board. With blocks of ordinary dimension this was the plan adopted, but when these happened to be of extra sizes, another most singular method was employed. The vessel in which a large block was to be embarked, after being hauled up on the beach, had her masts taken out, and the hold filled with sand, an inclined plane of the same material being raised from the shore to the craft; these preparations completed, oxen were yoked to a sledge on which the block was placed; it was then dragged up the incline, and ultimately deposited in the centre of the hatchway; the sand was then thrown out, and the marble gradually lowered into its place. The expense and delay attending this system were beyond conception. Weeks were often lost in waiting for fine weather and sufficient depth of water for re-launching the loaded craft, which, if of a large size, as a precaution against her capsizing, was engirdled with empty casks. Oxen and men then lent their assistance, and, by their united efforts, the vessel was dragged into the sea.

Such was the state of things up to the present day, until Mr. Walton took the spirited determination of supplying the want, and carried it through triumphantly, undeterred by the great difficulties which attended its erection.

POERIO AND PIROUTI, IN THE INFIRMARY OF THE BAGNO DI ISCHIA.

The Pier extends nearly 750 feet into the sea, is 22 feet wide, and has a double line of rails, and a depth of from 12 to 16 feet of water. The superstructure is supported on piles of enormous size, varying from 60 to 90 feet in length. The timber was brought from the Appennines, beyond Florence, down the Arno to Leghorn, and carried from thence by sea to the works. There are two cranes, of improved construction, capable of lifting fifteen tons, on the pier. Notwithstanding Mr. Walton has had to execute this work at his own risk and cost, it gives us pleasure to add, that all engaged in the trade are at liberty to take advantage of its convenience at a moderate toll.

The inauguration of this bold and enterprising work has made quite a *furore* in Carrara and the neighbouring cities. It is doubtless a great move; and, we trust, is the commencement only of further developments of commercial improvements in this rich and fertile country.

We learn with pleasure that his Royal Highness the Duke of Modena has taken an active interest in the prosecution of the work, and furthered it by liberally admitting the material imported for its construction at a reduced duty.

We have also been informed that his Royal Highness has given his assent for a railway to connect the Pier with the city of Massa and the marble quarries. These are all evidences of right feeling, and prove that our more remote Continental neighbours, even in the smaller principalities, are rousing themselves to that energy and exertion, so wholesome to society at large; and we congratulate Mr. Walton in having originated a movement tending so greatly to develop the commerce of Carrara.

THE NEW WALTON PIER, CARRARA, FOR THE SHIPMENT OF MARBLE.

LAUNCH OF "THE PHŒBE" AT DEVONPORT DOCKYARD

LAUNCH OF H.M.S. "PHŒBE."

This fine Frigate (50 guns) was launched from the Royal Dockyard at Devonport, on the afternoon of the 12th inst. It is usual at all launches of men-of-war vessels to erect seats and accommodation for a large company; but, on the present occasion, these preparations were dispensed with, the launch being a "pure matter of business," and not the least accommodation was provided for sight-seers. The Dockyard gates were opened at three o'clock to the public, and several thousand persons passed into the yard to witness this most imposing spectacle.

Our Artist had an excellent view of the launch, being stationed in a boat a few hundred yards from the stern of the vessel. The *Phœbe* was appointed to leave the land at four o'clock; but, first, our Artist's attention was directed to the *Nile* (90 guns), who had her "steam on," and was just leaving her moorings, surely and steadily. On she came, until she got in sight of the throngs assembled on board the *Phœbe* and in the yard, when she had three hearty English cheers: these were returned by the men on board; and the noble vessel passed alongside the yard at the stern of her "sister of the deep." Just as she had moved about a hundred yards further on, there arose a general shout, "She is off—she is off!" and off she moved majestically, and glided into the water. The air resounded with shouts—the tars on board the *Nile* rushed to the lower rigging and cheered most heartily.

The frigate was soon taken in tow by the steam tender; and the *Nile* moved out at a good speed to her moorings in the Sound, to await her orders to join the Baltic fleet. An old sailor, a bystander, stated that in the "old war time" it sometimes took four or five days to tow a vessel into the Sound. But now, by the aid of steam, this was done in less than an hour on the present occasion.

This noble Frigate was built in the same lines as the *Indefatigable*, 10 which she is a sister ship, and is of the following dimensions:—Length of keel, 174 feet 8½ inches; between perpendiculars, 180 feet; extreme breadth, 51 feet 6 inches; depth in hold, 16 feet 6 inches. Burthen in tons, 2043-82-94.

The utmost activity prevails in the Dockyard; and we are assured that more than three thousand hands are now lustily at work within the walls.

NEW CHURCH, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

CONSECRATION OF THE CHURCH AT WEST HARTLEPOOL.

A very few years since West Hartlepool was little better than a barren, uncultivated soil, yielding little profit, and unsightly in appearance. The scene is now changed; and where the farmer anxiously toiled to house his scanty crops, the mariner now floats, and the anxiety he evinces is to ship the produce—principally coal—from its native bed, to remote parts of the world. The three docks which occupy the space once tenanted by herds, by whom a bare subsistence was obtained, are crowded with vessels, each gathering its store, and thus aiding in the commercial prosperity of the place. The great importance of this position has rendered another dock necessary, and which has been recently commenced. Not only this dock, but other extensive works are in progress, which the increase of shipping has rendered absolutely necessary. The rapid demands of commerce have added to the wants in another direction, and building has become an extensive speculation. The sod is turned, and the hedges uprooted, to give place to streets

THE 8TH HUSSARS AT THE RAILWAY, PLYMOUTH.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

stretching in all directions from the main centre of activity; yet the supply of houses appears still to be insufficient for the rapidly-increasing population.

Mindful of the spiritual wants of this district, the Dock Company have, most liberally, given the ground, the stone, and lime, for the new Church. It is cruciform on the plan—the intersection of the nave and transepts being four massive piers, from which spring outwardly eight stone arches to the walls of the nave and transepts, forming on the north and south sides of the nave and chancel small aisles. The style of architecture is that which prevailed in the latter part of Henry III. The building is erected of magnesian limestone, from the quarry immediately adjoining, where the excellent lime was also burnt; the lantern in the centre of the roof is principally required for ventilation; it also forms an important feature in breaking the otherwise monotonous line of the roof. The Church is admirably warmed by the combined process of hot water and air.

The greatest external dimensions are—from west to east 183 feet; from north to south 95 feet. The height of the tower is 100 feet to the top of the parapet, and to the top of the angle-turret 27 feet.

In the progress of the works, when the characteristic features from time to time became more fully developed, an increasing interest sprang up, and many individuals, apart from the subscription list, liberally contributed to the internal decoration. The windows of the chancel were filled with elaborately-designed stained glass, presented by Ralph Ward Jackson, Esq., who also presented the stained glass of the south transept windows; those of the north transept were presented by the subscription of a few gentlemen connected with the West Dock-office. The whole of the other windows are glazed in ornamental forms in plain glass, except the borders, which are of stained glass, and were all presented by the architect. The communion service, and all the furniture within the communion, except the chairs, were the liberal donation of Mrs. Ward Jackson. The oak chairs were given by J. Cardan, Esq.; the font by Thomas Casebourne, Esq. Many other persons have contributed to the building, not forgetting the very noble donation of the organ by Mr. Langley.

A large churchyard has been formed and inclosed by a low wall and iron railing; there are four handsome entrances, with stone piers and iron gates; the internal space is laid with turf, and there is a broad gravel walk all round the churchyard near the railing, with other walks to the several entrances of the Church. As this churchyard will not be used as a cemetery—it being the consecrated ground of a cemetery elsewhere—this will, in a short time, be the only large open space in this fast increasing town. The edifice will eventually be surrounded by a large square, and a desire has been evinced to erect the buildings in a similar style of architecture to the Church. In the south-west angle of the square it is intended to erect large schools; the south-east angle is appropriated to the Parsonage. Plans for these buildings have already been prepared by the architect of the Church (Mr. E. B. Lamb, of London), who also designed the whole of the stained glass, the fittings, and decorations of that building.

EMBARKATION OF THE EIGHTH HUSSARS, AT PLYMOUTH.

THIS fine cavalry regiment, which has been stationed for some time at Exeter, has just received orders for embarkation to the seat of war. The first division entered Plymouth on Friday week, about two o'clock, and our Artist has sketched them passing through the principal road that joins the two important towns of Plymouth and Devonport. The roads and streets were crowded, and many a cordial cheer was given as the troops passed along. The regiment is known as the King's Royal Irish Light Dragoons, and numbers 800 sabres. Their insignia is the national one of the Harp and Crown; and they have won honours which are recorded in the glorious names of "Leswarree" and "Hindostan." Their Colonel is Sir John Brown, K.C.H.; and they are under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Frederick George Shewell.

The transport in which they embarked was a sailing vessel, the *Kohunga*, from Liverpool, 1200 tons burden. Her forecastle and chief cabins are elevated above the main deck; on the second deck ten tables are fitted up, five on each side, for the exclusive accommodation of the soldiers. Beneath this deck is the hold in which the horses have been placed. This is separated longitudinally into three divisions. These on each side are appropriated to the horses, which stand side by side, with their heads towards the centre, enclosed by barriers padded to prevent the animals being bruised. To preserve them also from danger to which they would be liable were they to lie down, a sling is prepared for every horse, which being fastened round his waist and attached to the beam above, affords him support. The third and centre space in the hold is left free, to enable the men to feed and otherwise attend on the animals. The base of the floor is formed of planks. The horses stand on a dunnage laid flat, while in the centre there is a quantity of shingle and iron ballast. The aperture in the main deck, through which the horses were lowered, was padded on three sides with bags of straw. The aperture in the lower deck was not so protected.

The embarkation commenced on Saturday morning, and was a novel and extraordinary sight. It had been anticipated by many that horse-boxes would have been used to place the chargers on board, but the hatchway of the transport was not sufficiently large to admit of these admirable contrivances being employed. There was occasion to regret this, as the restiveness of some of the horses put the limbs of the men in jeopardy. In the absence of boxes, the ordinary slings were had recourse to. Each of these slings consist of a piece of canvas about a yard wide and two yards long, with staves at each end, and loops attached, when the sling is placed under the horse's belly, meet over its back, and one loop with an eye is introduced within the other; ropes are also fastened one to each staff, and one is brought round the hind legs of the horse and fastened, the other being secured round its chest; when this is done a man, standing by with a hook, fixes it in the eye of the loop, and the signal being given, the labourers haul on the mainyard of the ship, when the tackle instantly rises, taking the horse into the air with it. The creature at first struggles, but soon ceases, looking helpless and foolish, while dangling amid air. Having been drawn to a certain height, about thirty feet, the crew on the mainyard, by the mainstay, drawing the horse towards the ship, and men with ropes in their hands attached to the horse's collar, guide it into the hold, where, as soon as it touches the firm deck, it gives a few plunges, as if in astonishment at its safety after its aërial flight, and is taken away to its appointed place.

About 60 horses were put on board, including the steeds of the officers of the division. The embarkation was concluded by half-past twelve o'clock.

When the horses were on board, the dragoons commenced inducting themselves into their temporary abode, bringing their arms, baggage, &c., into the ship. Many officers were present during the embarkation. Amongst them were Admiral Sir John Pakenham, K.C.B., Brigade Major Wetherall, and the Lieut.-Colonel and Major of the 8th Hussars (who were in plain clothes).

The transport, under the care of Mr. Brown, Master-attendant, was then immediately taken out in harbour; and as she passed the guardship *Impregnable*, Captain Lowe, the crew manned the yards, and gave cheer after cheer to their gallant countrymen, who, on land, as they upon the ocean, have the honour of England's name in their keeping. The *Kohunga* left for Malta, *en route* for Gallipoli, on Sunday morning.

PROCLAMATION OF THE FAST.—On Wednesday morning, at ten o'clock, Mr. Beddome, the Sergeant-at-Arms, and other civic officers, proceeded to the Royal Exchange, where the Queen's proclamation for a day of humiliation and prayer for the restoration of peace was read. A proclamation from the Lord Mayor, requesting the citizens will close their shops and abstain from all business on that day, in order that the day may be devoutly and reverently observed by all classes, was also read. The ceremony attracted a large assemblage of persons.

WEIGHING GOLD.—M. Ludwig Oertling, of Store-street, has just completed a set of balances for the weighing of gold, for the Royal Mint at Sidney: the largest to weigh about 1000 ounces in each side to half a grain; the smallest being a very delicate assay balance, to weigh to one thousandth of a grain.

NAPOLEONIC AUTOGRAPHS.—At a sale of autographs which has just taken place in Paris, in consequence of the death of M. Brisot Thivars, were the following lots:—A letter of Babeuf, written from St. Pelagie, was knocked down for 50 fr.; one from Dessaix to Kleber, 25 fr.; from Madame Elizabeth, 80 fr.; from Murat, 26 fr.; from Marie Antoinette, 130 fr.; and one from Madame Letitia, mother of Napoleon I., to Lucien Bonaparte, 10 fr. 50 c. Twenty-one lines of the writing of Napoleon I., without signature, were sold for 15 fr.; and ten pages of his writing, with corrections by his own hand, being a fragment of the history of Corsica, which he composed a little after his leaving the school of Brienne, brought 200 fr.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, April 23.—1st Sunday after Easter.
MONDAY, 24.—Oliver Cromwell born, 1599. Daniel Defoe died, 1731.
TUESDAY, 25.—St. Mark. Princess Alice born, 1843.
WEDNESDAY, 26.—Oxford and Cambridge Terms begin.
THURSDAY, 27.—Sir W. Jones died, 1794.
FRIDAY, 28.—Mutiny of the *Bounty*, 1789.
SATURDAY, 29.—London University founded, 1827.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 29

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A
h m	h m	No	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
11 25	12 0	7 55	0 35	0 50	1 10	1 35	1 50	2 5	2 25	2 45	3 0	3 15	3 35

TO CORESPONDENTS.

C. F.—Arms cannot be legally used or adopted unless the party claiming them can show descent from some ancestor entitled to them, or is a grantee himself.

BURLINGTON HOUSE.—Our contemporaries persist in stating the purchase-money of Burlington House to be £150,000; whereas, the amount is £130,000 less than this sum, as stated in our "Table Talk" of last week.

S. A. C.—Clark's Treatise on Water-Colour Painting contains some useful instructions in flowers.

A. B. C.—Address the Officers in Waiting, College of Arms, London.

A SUBSCRIBER.—A christian name cannot be changed. A surname may be altered or adopted by Royal license.

W. F. H.—Sir Robert Peel was twice constituted Prime Minister: first in 1834, and again in 1841. The Duke of Wellington succeeded Lord Goderich as First Lord of the Treasury in 1828.

D. O., ESSEX.—If the two bills be separate, it would be safer to have a stamp on each; but if the whole be combined in one account dated, a receipt stamp for the balance will suffice.

J. C. K., Dublin.—Your coin is a groat of Edward III., of the London Mint.

J. J. W., Macclesfield.—We shall be glad to see a specimen.

ANTI-BEARD, J. N., Cork; J. L., Preston; O. W.; NEW PORTRAITS, &c.—We have not room.

CORINNA, Hampstead.—The practice is unsafe.

CRIB.—We do not interfere in card-playing disputes.

A CONSTANT READER.—Johnston's "Dictionary of Geography and Gazeteer of the World."

A SUBSCRIBER, City.—Booth's "Principles of English Composition" will be found a very useful work.

BETA, Stockton-upon-Tees.—Faraday's instrument to point out the action of the hands in table-moving, may be had of any philosophical instrument maker

E. P. T., Kilmarnock.—The "Saturday Magazine" may be had of J. W. Parker, 445, West Strand.

MIRNA.—For an abstract of the principal "Table-moving" phenomena of last year, with authorities, see the "Year-book of Facts, 1854." They were of American and German origin.

J. G.—The Map of the Census is contained in the Abstract, published this day, price 1s.

F. J. D., Exeter.—The Princess' Theatre holds about 1800 persons; the Surrey and Marylebone, 2000; Drury-lane, 2700; Covent-garden and Her Majesty's Theatre, 3000.

'ΑΛφα, Edinburgh.—No candidate for the East India College, at Haileybury, can be nominated thereto, whose age is less than seventeen, or above twenty-one years; and no person who has been dismissed from the army or navy, or expelled from any place of education, will be nominated to the College.

W. H. R., St. Paul's Churchyard.—The new street shall be illustrated forthwith.

CLARENS.—The coin described in your letter is an Irish penny of King John, worth from 3s. to 6s.

A SUBSCRIBER, who is desirous of obtaining some information concerning female training schools, is referred to Low's "Charities of London," for the present year, published in a cheap form.

G. E. is thanked, but we have not room for the illustration.

THE CENSUS OF 1851.

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 1854.

THE military operations of the Allied Governments are not of a promptitude sufficient to satisfy the British public. The Russians are pushing on; and, if in a position of peril or difficulty, are making the best of it by their energy and their daring. Immense masses of troops daily pour across the Danube into Bulgaria, and Varna and Schumla are no longer secure. At least, such seems to be the opinion of Omer Pacha—one of the ablest Generals of modern times—who has made, and continues to make, ineffectual appeals for reinforcements. If he be left to bear the whole brunt of the Russian attack, there will be an outcry from the British public that will be anything but pleasant to the ears of those who have wasted precious time, either by their incapacity or their unwillingness. While Napier is at work in the Baltic, there ought to be British hands and hearts at work on the shores of the Black Sea. The country asks why Sebastopol was not attacked before the Russians had time to fortify it? and why, at the present momen, the Black Sea fleet has not blockaded or taken Odessa and Nicolaieff? The Russian army in the Dobrudja depends for the greater portion of its supplies upon Odessa; and, if that place were captured, a great step would be taken towards its final defeat. Sebastopol is not impregnable, and we have a force sufficient for the enterprise. The policy of Russia in the Baltic is such as to leave Napier but small chance of striking a blow, except at Cronstadt itself. Everywhere the orders of the Russian Government to its officers in command of stations on the coast, are to abandon untenable positions, to destroy fortifications, and to move upwards, with all available men and ammunition, towards Cronstadt and the neighbouring defences of the capital. Aland and the adjacent isles have been abandoned; and the Czar, unable to rely upon the support of the Finlanders, barbarously threatens to depopulate that province, and to transport the unwilling inhabitants into the interior of Russia. But in the Dobrudja and the Black Sea the policy of the Czar is not of this character. His acts are not of passive resistance to the enemy, but of open defiance and impetuous attack. He seems to count upon the inaction of Admiral Dundas, and upon the delay that must occur before the French and British armies, or such portions of them as have landed on the Turkish side, can march from Gallipoli to the aid of the gallant Generalissimo of the Ottomans. These things are exasperating to the British mind, which can imagine no reason for the slumberous dilettantism of the fleet in that quarter, whatever excuses it may make for the delays which have occurred in the arrival of the troops. Lord Raglan and the Duke of Cambridge, having done their best, amid the galas, reviews, and other festivities of Paris, to popularise among the French the *entente cordiale*, and to render the cry of "Vivent les Anglais" no unmeaning formality, are now on their way to the East; and the plan of operations having been as fully discussed at Paris as in London, and finally agreed upon by all the high parties most competent to give advice or form an opinion, we may expect that the combined armies will immediately set to work. We have no idea that their objects will be confined to the defence of Constantinople. The country expects that they will include a bold and comprehensive system of offensive warfare against the Czar, at any and every available or vulnerable point. We do not pretend to be in the secrets of Governments or of military chiefs, but we believe it to be the fact that perfect unanimity of opinion exists between Lord Raglan and the Marshal de St. Arnaud, as the plan, to be pursued, not only to defend Adrianople, Sophia, and the passes of the Balkan, but to carry on an active warfare against the Russians in the Dobrudja, as well as in Wallachia and Moldavia. We only hope that these valiant soldiers and able commanders will not arrive at so late a period as to be obliged to confront the enemy at points considerably nearer Constantinople than the trans-Danubian marshes. The British fleet in the Black Sea has it in its power to render them effectual service long before their arrival. The capture of Odessa would make amends for months of delay; and that of Sebastopol, while it immortalised the memory of the Admiral who should be bold and fortunate enough to achieve it, would render of comparatively small importance the hitherto dilatory proceedings of the military authorities of Great Britain and France. The country is weary of protocolling, parading, and reviewing. It looks for business—that the war may end with the year which saw its commencement—and not be the parent of other wars, which may continue to afflict the world for a quarter of a century.

INSTEAD of strikes coming to an end, as we hoped they would they are, unhappily, increasing. In consequence of the master manufacturers at Stockport having given notice that the wages of their hands would be reduced to the standard at which they stood in May, 1853, the hands working for Messrs. Kershaw, Lees, and Co., 2000; for Messrs. Marshall and Co., 1400; for Robert M'Clure, 1200, Cephas Howard, 850, and others—in all amounting to 9800—have struck; and the hands at three or four other mills who have received an extra week's notice, are also expected to turn out. The Preston strike seems as little likely to come to an end now as in the first week of its existence; except as the evil increases in magnitude, it must, in some way or other, however disastrous, come the more speedily to a conclusion. From their earnings the Stockport hands subscribed £200 a week to the Preston turn-outs; that supply must now be stopped, and the Stockport hands will themselves need to share in the assistance the working-classes have most generously, but perhaps not prudently, given to the Preston turn-outs. By them this seems felt to be the hastening on of the climax, and the Stockport turn-out has accordingly been characterised by some of their supporters as hot-headed and impatient. It has already led to an addition to the taxes imposed on those who are at work. At Darwen and at Blackburn, the payment of 7d. per loom by the hands at work has, by recent resolutions, been agreed to. Neither masters nor men can long continue to carry on this extensive and extending conflict, and after all means of conciliation have failed, the only hope left is that this rapid extension of the conflagration must soon leave it without material to feed on. To extinguish it seems beyond ordinary power, and we can only prepare ourselves to reckon up the large cost of the ruinous conflict.

The well-meant meeting of the middle classes at Preston, which recently took place to mediate between the men and the masters, has been fruitless. In reply to the mediation committee, the masters' association has declared "that rates of wages cannot be settled by mediation, but must be left to supply and demand," and declines to accede to the proposed mediation. The committee rejoin "that other elements besides supply and demand enter into the solution of the question." They say that the property of "other classes not connected with the dispute is materially damaged and depreciated by it;" and they imply that it may be advisable to apply to Parliament to lay down rules for both masters and men, and "make the settlement of the dispute compulsory.' Thus, as very often happens, the mediators, finding themselves unsuccessful, have taken a side, and go further in their zeal than either of the original combatants. No persons have before publicly hinted that it would be right to introduce the Continental practice here, and have a compulsory settlement by authority, of disputes concerning the price of work and goods, and the value of mutual services. From the line of argument adopted by the masters and the committee, and from the arguments usually employed touching capital and labour, it is plain, whatever may have been the real origin of the dispute—such as a consciousness of growing power in the workmen, and something like hereditary and unreflecting arrogance in the masters—that it is now clothed in the language of political economy, and is referred to the very ultimate principles of social science and legislation. The rule is brought into question, by which the services one man renders to another is, or ought to be, estimated; and it has become practically agitated, whether that rule should continue to be, as heretofore, "the higgling of the market," as rather opprobriously called, and better described as the unrestrained influence of dealers on each other, or should be settled by a decree of the Legislature, which is notoriously here a partial body, and everywhere has peculiar interests of its own. The dispute, in fact, belongs to a series of questions which are now agitated all over Europe with intense interest, and have been agitated again and

again, more or less, as circumstances have increased the gains of different classes, for upwards of a century. Those who fancy they can settle such a dispute by any sudden and off-hand method, are greatly in error, and are more likely to become, like the mediation committee at Preston, zealous partizans of one side or the other—embittering the dispute—than successful umpires. We, at least, can pretend to do nothing more than record the facts of the case, and point out to our readers the necessity of studying and mastering the great principles of legislation, and of social science, which are at issue. If they were clearly and fully comprehended by the public—as are the relations between inches, feet, yards, poles, acres, &c.—there could be no dispute about them; consequently, the general ignorance is, in this case, as in most others, to blame for the public calamity.

THE COURT.

The past week has not been distinguished by any remarkable display of Court hospitality. The Queen and the Prince Consort have frequently appeared in public, and her Majesty has more than once enjoyed equestrian exercise.

On Good Friday the Queen and the Prince, with the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Princess Alice, and the Duchess of Kent, attended Divine service in the private chapel. The Hon. and Rev. G. Wellesley officiated.

On Saturday the Queen held a Privy Council, at which a proclamation was ordered, appointing Wednesday next the 26th instant, to be observed as a day of humiliation. Her Majesty gave a dinner party in the evening; the guests at which included her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, the Duke of Newcastle, the Earl of Aberdeen, Lady Anna Maria Dawson, Lady Emily Seymour, Colonel the Hon. Charles Grey, and Lady and Miss Seymour.

On Sunday the Queen and Prince, the Prince of Wales, Princess Alice, and the Duchess of Kent, the Ladies and Gentlemen of the Court, and the domestic household, attended divine service in the private chapel of the Castle. The Hon. and Rev. G. Wellesley officiated, and administered the Holy Sacrament. In the afternoon her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert, with the Royal children, attended by the Ladies and Gentlemen in Waiting, walked on the Eastern-terrace.

On Monday the Queen and the Prince walked in the Home-park. The Princess Royal rode out on horseback. The Prince of Wales and the younger members of the Royal family, took their accustomed exercise. In the afternoon the Queen and the Prince drove out in an open carriage.

On Tuesday the Queen and the Prince, accompanied by the Prince of Wales and the Princess Royal, rode out on horseback. The Equerries in Waiting were in attendance.

The Countess of Desart has succeeded Viscountess Canning as Lady in Waiting to her Majesty.

The Court will return to Buckingham Palace on Monday next.

The Duke and Duchess of Argyll and family have left town for Clifden-house, near Maidenhead, for the recess.

The Duke and Duchess of Wellington have arrived in Paris, from a tour in the Italian States.

The Earl of Cottenham has left Park-lane, on a tour to the East.

Viscount and Viscountess Palmerston left town on Tuesday, for their seat, Broadlands, Hants.

Viscount and Viscountess Sydney have left town for Paris.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer left town on Wednesday, for Hagley-hall, Worcestershire.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

NEWMARKET CRAVEN MEETING.—MONDAY.

Craven Stakes.—Calamus, 1. Alas, 2.
Handicap Sweepstakes.—Sabra, 1. Coalition, 2.
Sweepstakes of 10 sovs.—Lady Elegant (late Pillion), 1. Apropos, 2.
Sweepstakes of 100 sovs.—Student, 1. Caliban, 2.
Renewal Sweepstakes of 20 sovs.—Royal Children, attended by the Ladies and Gentlemen in Waiting, walked on the Eastern-terrace.
Match, £600, h. ft.—Sittingbourne, 1. Pellon, 2.
Match, £200, h. ft.—Invasion, 1. Carnosra, 2.
Match, £600, h. ft.—Doubletongue, 1. Doodle, 2.
Handicap Plate.—Sesostris f., 1. John o' Gaunt f., 2.

TUESDAY.

Match, £100, h. ft.—Pharoid received forfeit from Marquis of Sevigné.
Plate, of £50.—Desrie, 1. Duke of Hamilton, 2.
Sweepstakes of 10 sovs.—Switch, 1. Jenny Wren, 2.
The Newmarket Handicap.—Coup d'Etat, 1. Sine-qua-non, 2. Veteran, 3. Bettinga, at Starting: 4 to 1 agst Epaminondas, 5 to 1 each against Nicotine, Veteran, and Little Jem; 6 to 1 against Sine-qua-non, 12 to 1 against Assault gelding, 15 to 1 agst El Dorado. A few bets at the rate of 100 to 8 and 10 were taken about Coup d'Etat.
The Riddlesworth Stakes.—Baalbec, 1. Fact, 2.
Subscription Plate.—Lioness, 1. Rackapelt, 2.

WEDNESDAY.

Sweepstakes of 10 sovs each.—Guy Mannering, 1. Mandricardo, 2.
Craven Handicap.—Ephesus, 1. Nathan, 2.
Handicap Plate of £56.—Lady Flora, 1. Legatee, 2.
Column Stakes.—Prince Arthur, 1. Miranda, 2.
Handicap Plate of £70.—Newbold, 1. Jack Keeming, 2.

THURSDAY.

Sweepstakes of 10 sovs.—Pebble, 1. Sir Hardbottle, 2.
Handicap Plate.—Antevenia, 1. Folly of Day, 2.
Sweepstakes of 100 sovs.—Incubus, 1. Oitipa, 2.
Sweepstakes of 50 sovs.—Quince, 1. Student, 2.
Handicap Plate of 100 sovs.—Inder, 1. Diomedia, 2.
Aske Produce Stakes.—Crossiane, 1. Humgufen, 2.
Buckhurst Stakes.—Botardo, 1. Baalbec, 2.
Subscription Plate.—El Dorado, 1. Rackapelt, 2.
Sweepstakes of 100 sovs.—Appollonius, 1. Caliban, 2.
Sweepstakes of 50 sovs.—Student, 1.

FRIDAY.

Port Stakes.—Orestes, 1.
Sweepstakes of 100 sovs.—The Trapper, 1.
Handicap Plate.—Khadijah, 1. Veteran, 2.
Sweepstakes.—Marble Hill, 1.

LATEST BETTING.

TWO THOUSAND GUINEAS.—6 to 4 agst Bolardo.
GREAT NORTHERN HANDICAP.—5 to 4 agst Virago; 25 to 1 agst West Australian; 50 to 1 agst Jobbe
CHESTER CUP.—9 to 1 agst Baalbec; 10 to 1 agst Newminster; 30 to 1 agst Catspaw; 50 to 1 agst Jujube
DERBY.—40 to 1 agst Canute; 40 to 1 agst Bolardo.

RACES NEXT WEEK.—Only two more meetings take place during the present month: on Tuesday, the York Spring Meeting is held; and on Thursday Malton Races take place—each occupying two days.

PHOTOGRAPHY.—M. Claudet has been honoured with the Queen's commands to arrange a portable apparatus, in the conservatory at Buckingham Palace, for the purpose of taking her Majesty's portrait, and those of the Royal Princesses, for the stereoscope—a graceful act of Royal patronage of the beautiful art of Photography, which it gives us much pleasure to record.

PHOTOGRAPHS OF GRECIAN ANTIQUITIES.—On the walls of the Society of Arts there are now exhibited a number of very beautiful photographic views, by Mr. Robertson, of Constantinople, in different parts of Greece. The collection comprises forty views in Athens, including the Parthenon, the Temple of Theseus, the Erechtheum, the Temple of Victory, the Tower of the Winds, &c.; three views at Ægina, two at Corinth, two at Sunium; and, in addition, views of the friezes of the Parthenon, and alto-relievos in the Temple of Victory. These pictures will remain on view for about a week or ten days, and should be seen by all architects, artists, and students of ancient history.

RAILWAYS SANCTIONED IN 1853.—From a Parliamentary return it appears that 752 miles of new railway were, in the session of 1853, authorised to be constructed, and 169 miles, sanctioned in former sessions, to be abandoned, leaving the increase in the authorised mileage, previously to 1853, 903 miles. The amount of capital authorised to be raised on shares, in 1853, was £11,383,740, and by loan, £4,158,962; but from these sums are deducted £346,300 of share capital, and £2,975,406 of loan, being the reduction, in capital and loan, authorised in former sessions by acts passed in 1853. The increase of capital and loan over the amount authorised previously to 1853 was, in the session of 1853, £11,010,440 on shares, and £1,783,556 on loans; together, £12,793,995.

PREPARATIONS FOR WAR.

DEPARTURE OF THE EARL OF LUCAN.

Major-General the Earl of Lucan, Commander-in-Chief of the British Expeditionary Cavalry, which will number about 2000 men, left the South-Eastern terminus on Wednesday evening for Dover, from which he will proceed, as quickly as possible, to Marseilles, where he will embark for Gallipoli. Lord Lucan was accompanied to the station by his daughters, Lady Augusta Gerard Sturt and Lady Lavinia Bingham, also by his youngest son, the Hon. G. Bingham. His Lordship was received by the officers of the company, who had set aside a special compartment for his use. Lord Bingham, son to the noble Earl, and on his staff, is already in Turkey; and Captains Walker and Charteris, also aides-de-camp, started on Sunday last. Brigadier Scarlett and Brigadier the Earl of Cardigan, commanders of divisions under the noble Earl, have not yet left, it being desirable, for the public benefit, that some of the staff should remain until the latest moment. Lord Lucan had prolonged his stay until Tuesday and Wednesday with the Secretary for War, the Duke of Newcastle. He also visited the General in Command of the Home Troops, Lord Hardinge.

EMBARKATION OF THE LANCERS AT PORTSMOUTH.

The first division of the 17th Lancers embarked on Tuesday at the Portsmouth Dockyard for the East. Familiar as are the inhabitants of this town and garrison with warlike displays, the presence of a cavalry regiment was a rarity, and, consequently, was productive of great interest. The weather was beautiful, many Easter holiday-makers were seeking for amusement; and to these the march of the troops from the town adjacent, where they had been billetted pending the arrival of the ships appropriated for their conveyance, was an unexpected treat. Five merchant-ships have been taken up by Government for this regiment, but only two had got alongside the dockyard. These were the *Ganges* (her number as a transport being 30), and the *Pride of the Ocean* (31). The first-named is a fine ship and rapid sailer, of about 950 tons burden; and the latter is an extremely beautiful American-built clipper, of about 1400 tons burden. Both these vessels had been properly fitted with horse-stalls by the shipwrights in this dockyard, who worked all day on Sunday upon them; the *Ganges* having seventy-eight and the *Pride of the Ocean* ninety stalls. Each ship has on board a large quantity of pressed hay, and every other description of provender and requisite for the well-being of the troops and their steeds. Commander Baynton, the Commodore of the division of transports that take out the 17th Lancers, has his quarters on board the *Ganges*.

The two divisions for embarkation marched into Portsmouth garrison—one at ten on Tuesday morning, and the other at three in the afternoon. The first division was met up the London-road, about a mile from the gates, by the band of the 79th Highlanders, who joined them, and accompanied them into the town and dockyard, playing on the road a variety of martial and popular airs. The roads were lined with people, who loudly cheered the troops as they passed along. On arriving in the dockyard, they dismounted near the jetty alongside of which the *Pride of the Ocean* was lying ready to receive them, and in a few minutes the business of slinging the horses on board was commenced; a large number of persons, among whom were many ladies, taking great interest in it. Most of the animals were very restive under the operation, some in particular plunging very much, to the great hazard of the men on whom this duty devolved. Several very hard knocks were received; and one man had his head cut, but not so seriously as to prevent his continuing at his post. In reply to Colonel Lawrence, the commanding-officer of the regiment, he said the cut was not much, nothing like what he should expect to receive before long. The whole of this division, consisting of eighty horses, were safely got on board, and stalled in rather less than three hours. The officers who proceed with this division on board the *Pride of the Ocean*, are Major A. S. Willett, Capt. A. F. C. Webb, Lieut. Sir W. Gordon, Bart., Lieut. J. W. Hartopp, and Adjutant Kendall.

In the afternoon the second division of the regiment arrived in the dockyard at half-past three o'clock, and embarked on board the *Ganges*. This division consisted of 70 horses and the usual number of men, with the following officers—Capt. J. O. Winter, Lieut. A. Learmouth, and Cornet A. Cleveland.

SIR CHARLES NAPIER IN THE BALTIC.

The telegraphic despatch from Copenhagen, of April 12, which we were enabled to give in our last publication, stated that the *Dauntless* had seen eighteen Russian vessels at Sveaborg, or Helsingfors, and that Sir Charles Napier had instantly set sail in that direction, from which it was inferred that we should probably have some important intelligence from the Gulf of Finland in a few days. But the distance of Sveaborg, or Aby Bay to Helsingfors, some three or four hundred miles, must take some time; and as the English fleet, on Wednesday last, was only off the Swedish island of Gothland, which is not half way to Helsingfors, it may be some days before we hear of anything decisive having been accomplished. Sir Charles Napier had previously sent to the island of Gothland to ascertain if there was good anchorage there for the fleet, and if provisions were to be procured. We learn also, from the *Ostsee Zeitung*, of April 16, that he had officially declared his intention to blockade all the Russian ports in the Gulfs of Finland and Bothnia. The Stettin paper, of April 16, says the ice had broken up between Revel and Helsingfors, which is a good way up the Gulf of Finland, but it was still firm in the harbour and bay of Revel.

The departure of Sir Charles Napier from Kioge Bay was very unexpected, as is evident from the following remarks of the *Stettin Zeitung*, of April 16:—

> The *Geyser*, Copenhagen and Stettin steamer, has brought the intelligence that Admiral Napier suddenly left Kioge Bay, with twenty large sail, on the 12th inst., and proceeded in the direction of the island of Gothland. The ground for so sudden a resolution on the part of the Admiral was the report, brought by a steamer which had gone out reconnoitring, that it had seen a Russian fleet of eighteen ships of the line near Revel. It was only so joyful a piece of intelligence that any war-ship could induce Sir Charles to renounce the pleasure of seeing on board the *Duke of Wellington* the notabilities of Copenhagen, as well as of making them partake of English hospitality, and at the same time of showing them the proud fleet of England. As the parties invited were preparing in Copenhagen to make the expected visit, they received from one of the steamers in the roads the intelligence that the fleet had, early that morning, gone out to sea from Kioge Bay. Even the shipping of the meat and other provisions for the fleet was countermanded. As the *Geyser* passed that bay, on the evening of the 13th inst., it perceived only four war-ships lying there, but met on its way with two others, which were returning to the bay.

On the 18th, twenty-five English ships belonging to the Baltic fleet were seen passing the island of Bornholm; and, on the evening of that day, a heavy cannonading was heard, which led to the belief that they had fallen in with the Russian fleet—a very improbable surmise, as the eighteen large vessels were nearly 300 miles from Bornholm. The "heavy cannonading" was, no doubt, the ordinary evening exercise of the English fleet.

Admiral Plumridge's division of the fleet, consisting of the screw-steamer *Impregnable*, 91 guns; the *Prince*, 31; the *Dauntless*, 24; and the paddle-wheel steamer *Leopard*, made the first capture last week. The very day the declaration of war was read to the fleet—April 4—Admiral Plumridge left Kioge Bay to look after some Russian ships, laden with sulphur and lead, which were said to be fixed in the ice. They were bound from Lubeck for some port in the Gulf of Finland; but, in consequence of the obstinacy of the Czar, they have become English prizes, and are now, we believe, on their way to Sheerness. A despatch from Copenhagen, of April 18th, says:—"Four Russian ships, laden with cargo, were captured in the Baltic yesterday, and carried past here as prizes to London."

Among the Russian vessels at Helsingfors are the following nine ships of the line—*Peter I.*, of 110 guns; the *Empress Alexandra*, 84 guns; the *Heszechel*, *St. Andrew*, *Alexander Newski*, *Wladimir*, the *Grand Syssoi*, *Hangoerda*, and *Kronstadt*, of 74 guns.

THE COMBINED FLEETS IN THE BLACK SEA.

The latest accounts from the English and French fleets in the Black Sea report that they were still anchored at Kavarna. The *Sidon*, *Firebrand*, and *Mogador* had been stationed at the mouth of the Danube to prevent the Russians throwing in supplies. The *Retribution*, *Tyre*, and *Niger* were in the Bosphorus. Accounts from Odessa of the 1st inst., state that the Allied fleets had appeared in front of that port, and had caused great alarm. Thousands were preparing to leave the city for the interior; but there do not seem to have been any grounds for their apprehensions, as the fleets deemed it most proper to return to Kavarna. On the 5th inst. a Tartar arrived at Constantinople with intelligence of six Russian ships of the line having left Sebastopol. Three were said to be stationed at Anakli, and three off Batoum. Much surprise was expressed as to what our cruisers were about, and a steamer was instantly despatched to apprise Admiral Dundas of the fact.

A Vienna despatch, of the 10th inst., states that the fleets were before Odessa, and that the French and English Admirals had declared the whole of the Russian ports in the Black Sea in a state of blockade.

THE ALLIED ARMY AT GALLIPOLI.

The whole of the British troops had left Malta by the 12th inst., except the Guards, and 200 men belonging to the 49th Regiment, who expected to leave on the 18th. The *Golden Fleece*, which had left Malta on the 31st ult., with General Sir G. Brown, a large number of officers, and nearly a thousand rank and file of Rifles, Sappers and Miners, arrived at Gallipoli on the 5th inst., and on the 8th landed the first body of troops in Turkey. The delay in the disembarkation is ascribed to the want of preparations for their reception.

The *Moniteur* says the reports from General Canrobert respecting the arrival of the French troops at Gallipoli, are highly satisfactory. A Turkish commission had been appointed to make all the necessary preparations, and the result was that everything had been arranged in the best possible manner.

A proportional part of the town (says the *Moniteur*) has been reserved for the English troops, and this division was made between them and us with the most perfect good feeling. General Canrobert has examined nearly the whole of the peninsula, and has designated the various sites on which the different corps will encamp by brigades as they land. The troops will be placed there in very satisfactory conditions, as the smallest possible distance from Gallipoli, and in places amply provided with wood and water. The country is exceedingly healthy, and provision has been made for the chance of illness by the establishment of a temporary hospital at Gallipoli. Premises have also been set apart in the town to serve as stores, and receive the supplies of all kinds which are being sent out from France for the use of the army. Our installation, consequently, has been commenced in the best possible conditions; and in a short time the three first divisions will be assembled at the Camp of Gallipoli, with all their artillery and engineering apparatus, and with the stores, hospital accommodation, and camp arrangements required for the expeditionary corps. All this immense amount of supplies has been embarked at the ports of France and Algeria, and without doubt at the present moment the greater part of it has arrived at its destination.

On the day they landed, General Brown and Colonels Sullivan and Lawrence, with the Rifle Brigade, and Colonel Victor, of the Artillery, with 100 Sappers, preceded to the Camp of Courrail, three leagues from Gallipoli, where 4000 French soldiers were also encamped, under General Canrobert. The best understanding was said to exist among the allied troops. The Pachs of Adrianople was doing everything in his power to facilitate their operations. The Sappers had begun at once to fortify the Isthmus.

CAVALRY FOR THE WAR.

So numerous and conflicting have been the reports relative to the route determined on for the cavalry destined for the East, that doubts still exist regarding their disposal. The following return offers the most recent arrangement approved by the authorities:—

Regiments.	Men.	Horses.	Place of Embarkation.
4th Dragoon Guards ..	250 ..	250 ..	Dublin.
5th Ditto	250 ..	250 ..	Cork.
1st Royal Dragoons ..	250 ..	250 ..	Liverpool.
6th Inniskillings ..	250 ..	250 ..	Plymouth.
8th Hussars	250 ..	250 ..	Plymouth.
11th Hussars	250 ..	250 ..	Dublin.
13th Light Dragoons ..	250 ..	250 ..	Portsmouth.
17th Lancers	250 ..	250 ..	Portsmouth.
Total	2000 ..	2000	

Of these regiments, destined for Gallipoli, only the 8th Hussars and 17th Lancers have embarked.

KARA FATIMA AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

WITHIN the last month the forces of the Sultan have received an accession which has excited very great interest at the great focus of enthusiasm at Constantinople. The new ally is Kara Fatima Hanoum, whom our Artist has sketched as he witnessed her procession through the streets of Stamboul, accompanied by her 300 Kurdish horsemen. To understand fully their importance, it may be as well to glance at the country whence they have been recruited. The eastern and southern parts of Asia Minor are the patrimony of wandering tribes, who to a fierce Mussulman spirit unite a strong feeling of independence, and who are always ready to contest the authority of the Sultan, except when it is in real danger. A line drawn from Sinope to Smyrna will mark the boundary of the regions which, totally subjected to the authority of the Pachas, furnish their contingent of Bashi-bozouks according to a regular military system of great antiquity. To the south-east of this line the peninsula contributes no certain supply of men; and it is by occasions like the present that the name of the Prophet or the love of plunder induces them to quit their plains and mountains, and

KARA FATIMA HANOUN, WITH HER KURD CAVALCADE, AT CONSTANTINOPLE.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

SKETCHES AT KALAFAT.

AFTER THE ALARM-GUN, AT KALAFAT.

We have received from our Correspondent at the seat of the war on the Danube the accompanying Sketches of the incidents described in his letter from Widdin, dated March 10. In the first scene we have the feint of the 8th, when two squadrons of cavalry and a cloud of Cossacks made their appearance on the right of the intrenchment at Kalafat, drew themselves up in order of battle, and, being supported by two guns, waited for the Turks to come out. Twenty-two Turkish squadrons were accordingly called to horse, and emerged from the intrenchment at a place where their movements were concealed from the Russians. The whole enemy could have been easily captured or destroyed by cutting off the retreat of the squadrons; but the Turks preferred to go out and show their force, and the Russians, after firing two shots from their six-pounders, disappeared at a gallop, and escaped.

Next day, the 9th, the alarm guns were again heard, and the batteries of the island told that the Russians had appeared in the same direction as on the previous day; but this time they stood in masses on the plain, far out of gunshot from the forts: seven battalions of infantry, with twelve guns, five squadrons of regular cavalry, and hosts of Cossack skirmishers, who patrolled the front. The latter advanced within the range of the lines, the alarm was given, and one Cossack lost his life by a Turkish shot. With the exception of a few officers who went forward, the Turks did not send out a single man; and the Russians, after four hours' array, without moving, withdrew. Meanwhile, an outer fort presented the scene of leisure which our Artist has depicted in the second Sketch: the Pachas Achmet, Moustapha, and Halib, sitting in the centre on stools, smoking their chibouks: on the left, several officers, English, French, and Turkish, are looking with telescopes at the enemy, over the parapet. The corner guns are à *barbette*—that is, above the parapet; the others are in embrasures. Around the Pachas are field officers, Albanians, &c.

A correspondent of the *Daily News* writes from Widdin, March 21:—

Everything is quiet here—that calm and stillness in the atmosphere before the earthquake which we know is coming. At ten last evening a battalion of regular troops crossed from Kalafat, and the heavy artillery again rolled over the ill-paved streets of Widdin, on its way down the river to Lom Palanka, which is more than one-third of the distance to Rahova. As hitherto, we have constantly received an accession of forces until the number of fighting men here and at Kalafat (for Widdin is also full again), amounts to 40,000 at least. We were somewhat surprised at this counter movement. It implies that the Russians are diminishing their forces here, have given up the proposed attack on Kalafat, and are either concentrating their men lower down the river, or are retreating out of Lesser Wallachia. * * * * * I have the best authority for believing that the Turks will advance from

THE FORTIFICATIONS AT KALAFAT.

Kalafat in ten or twelve days, if the weather continues fine. They are only waiting for the grass to spring, that they may have forage for their horses, as the Russians have burned up all the hay; and, indeed, destroyed almost everything in Lesser Wallachia. Kalafat and the neighbourhood yields nothing to the Turkish army, who derive all their supplies from Widdin. While we procure here meat in abundance—beef at 1d. and fresh pork at 1½d. per lb., eggs, potatoes, carrots, parsnips, and the finest cabbages—the scarcely find a vegetable on the Russian side between Kalafat and Krajova, except a few onions. This I have from an eye-witness. Meantime the country (Bulgaria) seems inexhaustible, and the Turkish supplies of hay, fifty or sixty loads in a row, often pass under my window. Rice, maize, meal, and wheat are still abundant.

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

We have received a communication from our Special Correspondent, dated Schumla, April 3, wherein, after describing the passage of the Danube, by General Lüders, with a large Russian force, he adds:—

The result of the successful Russian manœuvre is the complete frustration of the plans of the Turkish Generalissimo. Kalafat, which has been too long occupied by the Turks, and which can serve no purpose since it is effectually blocked by a small Russian force, must now be evacuated, and the soldiers despatched to Sophia Widdin, Nicopolis, Rustchuk, and Silistria, must be occupied in force, and the remainder of the places along the Danube must be evacuated. That Omer Pacha will do this is, I am told, probable. No one disputes the necessity of such steps, but the Turkish Generalissimo will not abandon without a pang the position of Kalafat, where he has spent so much time, so much money, and so many men.

In a short time 50,000 men will be concentrated in Schumla, and the Turks will remain on the defensive until the arrival of the European forces. The first French division, under General Canrobert, has arrived at Gallipoli. The regiments which form the army are all drafted from Africa, or have, at one time or another, fought in that country. France has four regiments of Chasseurs d'Afrique cavalry—two of those regiments are coming. She has three regiments of Zouaves—men dressed as Turks, and the bravest of her African army: those three regiments are coming. She has one regiment of native Arabs—that has also come. All the officers are the best and youngest in the army. All this, as well as the English force, will now be necessary to repel the Russians, who are not so easily to be beaten as one may suppose.

Several European officers are here—Colonel Diem, Aide de-Camp of General Baraguay d'Hilliers; Colonel Cannon, and Captain Symmons, More expected. Lieut. the Hon. W. Wellesley, of the Coldstreams; Lieut. Burke, of the Engineers; on the staff of General Burgoyne; and Colonel Dickson, Royal Artillery, left Rustchuk, on the 28th ult., for Tirnova, to inspect the passes of the Balkan.

It is supposed here, and I believe with reason, that Russia would not have advanced her troops into the Dobrudja, had she not been sure of the support of Austria. The presence of so large a force as that which now lines the banks of the Save, the arrival of their pontoon trains at Semlin, Mytrowitz, and Sabatcz, and the imposing army assembled upon the frontier of Transylvania and Wallachia, are also considered as proofs that the intentions of Austria are hostile. I have no reason, therefore, to withdraw any of the remarks which I made in my last letter with respect to the position which has been assumed by that Power. So alarmed has the Porte been by the preparations of her neighbours, that she has sent Assir Pacha—a young, but capable man, son of Izzet Pacha, commander of the fortress of Belgrade—to sound the Cabinet of Vienna. We shall soon see whether this assertion of Prince Coronini to the Pacha of Belgrade is confirmed, and whether the mighty preparations of Austria are merely for precaution sake or not. Our statesmen and the press of England, from what I can see and hear of them at this distance have been fondly hoping that an armed neutrality was the sole purpose of the Imperial German Power. I have no such hopes, and I cannot believe that 200,000 men are placed on a frontier for the sake of observation. If Austria cross the Save, one thing is certain—Italy will be in the hands of a French army within three months.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,

TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, APRIL 20.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading.	Thermometer. Lowest Reading.	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
	Inches.	°	°	°				Inches.
Apr. 14	30.125	69·3	31·0	50·1	+ 6·1	63	E.	0.00
„ 15	29.967	67·0	34·8	51·2	+ 5·3	64	N.E.	0.00
„ 16	30.023	66·9	35·3	51·3	+ 5·3	63	N.E.	0.00
„ 17	30.229	49·0	41·3	47·0	+ 0·7	81	E. & N.E.	0.00
„ 18	30.104	57·5	35·6	52·3	+ 6·3	72	E.S.E.	0.00
„ 19	29.930	73·6	40·7	60·7	+ 14·0	64	S.E.	0.00
„ 20	29.766	77·2	42·3	60·0	+ 13·6	58	E.S.E.	0.00

Note.—The sign + denotes above the average. The numbers in the seventh column are calculated on the supposition that the saturation of the air is represented by 100.

The reading of the barometer decreased from 30.22 inches at the beginning of the week to 30.03 inches by the morning of the 15th; remained at about this reading throughout the day, increased to 30.38 inches by the afternoon of the 17th, and decreased to 29.68 inches by the end of the week. The mean for the week, at the height of 82 feet above the level of the sea, was 29.992 inches.

The mean daily temperatures have varied from 2° to 14° above their average values during the week. During the time they have been above their average, the total excess each day, from the 14th to the 20th, the average daily excess has been 6·2°. The mean daily temperatures of the 19th and 20th are the highest mean daily temperatures at present recorded on those days, the register extending back to 1815. The mean temperature of the 19th, 20th, and 26th was 58°, and is the highest mean temperature of the corresponding three days at present recorded—the nearest approach being 58.8°, in the year 1844.

The mean temperature of the week was 53·6°, being 7·3° above the average of the corresponding week during 38 years: and the warmest week—consisting of the same seven consecutive days—since the year 1814, when the mean temperature was 54·7°.

The range of temperature during the week was 47.8°, being the difference between the lowest reading of the thermometer on the 14th, and the highest on the 19th.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 29°. The greatest was 34·3° on the 14th; and the least 17·3°, on the 17th.

The weather, throughout the week, has been fine, and the sky almost entirely free from cloud, with the exception of the 19th, when it was almost covered with cloud throughout the day.

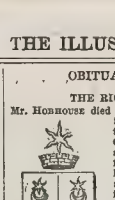
Lewisham, April 21, 1854. JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—During the week ending last Saturday, the deaths of 1178 children were registered in the metropolitan districts: of these, 725 were boys and 778 were girls. In the nine corresponding weeks of the nine preceding years, the average numbers were 714 and 679 respectively, showing a increase of 180 above the average number. The number of deaths registered was 1067, showing a decrease on the returns of the preceding weeks. The average number in the ten corresponding weeks of the preceding years, corrected for increase of population, was 1114. The actual number of deaths, therefore, is 97 less than the estimated number. Diseases affecting the organs of respiration still continue to decline, the number of fatal cases this week being 179, and 13 below the estimated number.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR'S LEVEE.—Wednesday being the first day of Easter Term, the Right Hon. the Lord Chancellor, Lord Cranworth, held his ceremonary levee, and entertained the Judges of the several Courts of Chancery and Common Law, as also several Queen's Counsel and Serjeants-at-Law, to breakfast, at the mansion of his Lordship, in Upper Brook-street, Grosvenor-square, previous to proceeding in state to open their respective Courts at Westminster. Mr. Justice Crowder, on his arrival, was warmly congratulated by the Judges and counsel present on his elevation as one of the Judges of the Queen's Bench, in the room of the late Mr. Justice Talfourd. At the conclusion of the levee the Lord Chancellor, attended by the purse, mace, and train bearers, in his gold robe of state, the other Judges and counsel also wearing their full state robes, proceeded in procession to Westminster-hall, the High Constable of Westminster and the beadles of St. George's, Hanover-square, St. Peter's and St. Margaret's, Westminster, leading the procession alternately during the route. The legal *cortège* arrived at Westminster-hall a few minutes before two o'clock, where, as usual on these occasions, a large number of persons, principally ladies, were present to witness the ceremony. The Lord Chancellor and the Judges passed off to their several courts.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

THE RIGHT HON. HENRY HOBHOUSE.



MR. HOBHOUSE died at Harpeden-house, Somersetshire, on the 13th instant, in his 78th year. The right hon. gentleman, born in 1776, graduated at Brasenose College, Oxford, was called to the bar in 1801, and filled the office of Under-Secretary of State for the Home Department from 1817 to 1827. On his retirement he was sworn of the Privy Council; and subsequently resided, principally, at his seat in Somersetshire, of which county he was a Deputy-Lieutenant, and for many years Chairman of the Quarter Sessions.

Mr. Henry Hobhouse was son of Henry Hobhouse, Esq., of Hadspen-house, and grandson of Henry Hobhouse, Esq., younger brother of John Hobhouse, Esq., of Westbury College, county Gloucester, whose grandson is the present Lord Broughton. He married, 7th April, 1806, Harriet, sixth daughter of John Turton, Esq., of Sugnall Hall, county Stafford; and leaves several children.

JAMES HOLFORD, ESQ., OF HOLFORD HOUSE, REGENT'S-PARK.

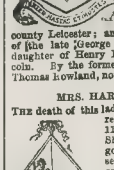
THE death of this opulent merchant occurred on the 9th inst. He was elder surviving son of the late James Holford, Esq., of Manchester, by Sarah, his wife, daughter of the Rev. Humphrey Owen, Chaplain of the Collegiate Church, of that town. His grandfather, Thomas Holford, also of Manchester, was eldest brother of Josiah Holford, Esq., of Hampstead, whose grandson, the late Lieut.-Colonel James Price Holford assumed by Royal license the surname and arms of Gwynne, on his marriage with the granddaughter of Thynne Howe Gwynne, Esq., of Buckland.

COLONEL WILLIAM EDWARD POWELL, OF NANTEOS, M.P.

THIS respected gentleman, Lord-Lieutenant and late M.P. for the county of Cardigan, died, at his town residence, Hyde Park-terrace, on the 10th inst. He was born 16th February, 1783, the eldest son of Thomas Powell, Esq., of Nanteos, by Elinor, his wife, daughter of Edward Maurice Corbet, Esq., of Ynysymaengwyn, and grandson of the Rev. W. Powell, LL.D., by Elizabeth, his wife, daughter and co-heir of Athelston Owen, Esq., of Rhiwaeson, county Montgomery. The Powells, of Nanteos, are a branch of the line of Edwin ap Gronwy, Lord of Tegengl, founder of the 13th noble tribe of North Wales and Powys.

Colonel Powell married first, 4th Oct., 1810, Laura Edwyna, eldest daughter of James Sackville Tufton Thelp, Esq., of Coston House, county Leicester; and secondly, in April, 1841, Harriott Dell, widow of the late George Ackers, Esq., of Moreton Hall, Cheshire, and daughter of Henry Hutton, Esq., of Cherry Willingham, county Lincoln. By the former, who died in 1837, he had two sons, William Thomas Rowland, now of Nanteos, and Cornelius.

MRS. HARRIET BYNG, OF WROTHAM PARK.



THE death of this lady, the widow of George Byng, Esq., so long the respected M.P. for Middlesex, occurred on the 11th inst., at her residence, in St. James's-square. She was daughter and co-heir of Sir William Montgomerie, Bart., of Magbie Hill, co. Peebles, the representative of a distinguished branch of the great and ancient House of Montgomerie. Sir William's other daughters and co-heirs were—Elizabeth, Viscountess Mountjoy; Barbara, wife of the Right Hon. John Beresford; Anne, Marchioness Townshend; Jean, wife of William Reynell, Esq., of Castle Reynell; and Amelia, wife of Charles Cobbe Beresford, Esq.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL BRANDER, OF PITGAVENY AND KINNEDDAR.

THIS gallant officer (late 42nd Highlanders) died at his seat, Pitgaveny-house, Moraysbire, N.B., on the 23rd ult., in the 63rd year of his age. He entered the army at an early age, having joined his regiment (the 42nd) at Corunna. Present with them in all their engagements till the conclusion of the war, he was severely wounded at Orthes, and slightly at Quatre-Bras. He fought with his light company at Waterloo. Two war medals and several clasps marked his distinguished services. On the death of his father, in 1826, he succeeded to the entailed estates of Pitgaveny and Kinneddar, and sold out. Colonel Brander having left no family, his landed property devolves upon his sister Lady Dunbar, second wife of the late Sir Archibald Dunbar, eighth Baronet of Northfield. Her only son and heir-apparent is an officer in the Madras Cavalry.

THE will of the late Mr. Holford, of Regent's-park, which was proved in Doctor's Commons on the 18th inst., was sworn under £100,000 personalty, the whole of which he has bequeathed to his brother and nephew, and not to the Prince of Wales, as was reported in the papers of the 19th inst.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—*Rectories*: The Rev. R. Cage to Rathconnel, Westmeath. The Rev. Dawson to Little Horsted, near Uckfield; Rev. J. Hemsted to Gratwich, Staffordshire; Rev. C. F. Norman to Pirtishead, near Bristol. *Vicarages*: The Rev. H. Abud to Uttoxeter, Staffordshire; Rev. W. Marsh to Witherslead, near Braintree, Essex; Rev. M. Mitchell to Kirtling, near Newmarket; Rev. W. L. Newnham to Barrow-on-Soar, Leicestershire. *Incumbencies*: The Rev. E. G. Fausett, to South Littleton, and Middle Littleton, in the Vale of Evesham; Rev. E. Gillson to Warley, near Brentwood; Rev. E. T. Jenkins to Llangianing, near St. Clears; Rev. J. Keeling to St. Paul's Church, Lisson-grove Rev. F. Reade to the new Church of St. John the Baptist, Hove, near Brighton, Rev. L. Tuttiett to Les Marston, Warwickshire. *Perpetual Curacies*: The Rev. J. Colborne to Slad; Rev. J. Ross to St. James's, Norwich; Rev. C. Seaver to St. John the Evangelist, Belfast.

TESTIMONIALS.—The following clergymen have recently received tokens of affection and esteem:—The Rev. E. Gillson, from the congregation of St. Edwards, Widcombe; the Rev. T. Hollway, from the inhabitants of Bolsby, Lincolnshire; the Rev. Charles Bryan, M.A., Rector of Woolastone, Gloucestershire, from his parishioners, an address, with nearly 550 names attached; together with a handsome and costly silver inkstand, as a memento of their esteem and regard. The members of St. John's Church, Little Bolton, presented their respected pastor, the Rev. Walter Chamberlain, with his portrait (painted by Mercier, of Eccles), in testimony of their appreciation of that reverend gentleman's efficient discharge of his duties during the past eight years.

CONSECRATION OF THE NEW BISHOP OF SALISBURY.—The consecration of the Rev. W. K. Hamilton, late Precentor and Canon of Salisbury, to the Bishopric, will take place in Lambeth on the 1st of May, being the festival of St. Philip and St. James.

ENTHRONIZATION OF THE BISHOP OF LIMERICK.—On Thursday week the ceremony of the enthronization of the Right Rev. Dr. Griffin was witnessed by a most numerous congregation in the Cathedral of St. Mary's.

SHORT PASSAGE TO AUSTRALIA.—The American paddle-steamer *Golden Age* left Liverpool in November last, with a small number of passengers, and an uncommonly small cargo, although a considerable bag. Post-office authorities having refused to pay her an extra sum for taking a mail. She reached the Cape in 36 days and a half, thus making to that point the shortest passage upon record. She was detained ten days, coaling; but she nevertheless reached King George's Sound so as to effect the entire passage from Liverpool to Australia in sixty-one days, including detentions; and in an actual running time of forty-seven days. Considering that, in future trips, the advantages of experience would enable distances to be saved, and greater speed to be attained, the possibility of the communication to Australia being regularly brought within fifty days, even by the Cape route, seems, consequently, to have been demonstrated.

THUNDERSTORM IN LIVERPOOL.—On Tuesday night and early on Wednesday morning Liverpool was visited by a very violent thunderstorm, which lasted several hours, accompanied by heavy showers of rain.

TOWN AND TABLE-TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

ALL lovers of literature will be glad to hear that Mr. Lockhart has returned to England in improved health. He will not, however, just yet resume his duties on the *Quarterly Review*. Who does not wish that his health would enable him to give us a second series of Spanish Ballads, or a memoir of his deceased friend, Professor Wilson? No one knew Wilson better than Mr. Lockhart. Wilson was to have given us a life of the Ettrick Shepherd; but the promises of authors are too frequently like the vows of lovers. Andrew Marvell promised a memoir of Milton; and Warton was to have given us a biography of Collins.

We have stumbled on a curious newspaper paragraph of the year 1723, that affords a striking contrast to our gossip of last week, touching the recent purchase by Government of Burlington House, Piccadilly. The paragraph is as follows:—

All the waste-ground at the upper end of Albemarle and Dover-streets, is purchased by the Duke of Grafton and the Earl of Grantham, for gardening; and the road there leading to May Fair is ordered to be turned.—The *British Journal*, March 30, 1723.

The Duke of Grafton was the second Duke—the son of Charles II.'s son by the Duchess of Cleveland. His gardening purchase is commemorated in the present Grafton-street. How odd it seems to read of "waste-ground" at the upper end of Albemarle-street, and of a purchase made there for gardening purposes. Here, in 1854, we have newly bought an adjoining palace—not for cabbages and Scotch-kail, but for public offices and scientific assemblies.

The most magnificent private collection of antique rings and cameos to be found in private hands in this country will pass this season under the hammer of Messrs. Sotheby and Wilkinson. We allude to the collection of Mr. Hertz, of Great Marlborough-street—long a distinguished and liberal purchaser in every city in Europe. Mr. Hertz, some of our readers will remember, was considerate enough, during the year of the Great Exhibition, to allow his collection to be seen by all in any way entitled to ask such a favour. The exhibition of thousands of rings of rarity and value is no easy matter. The sale will, no doubt, attract such careful purchasers as Lords Hastings and Cadogan. The latter noble Lord inherits the taste of his great ancestor, to whom we owe the British Museum:

Give coins to Mead, and butterflies to Sloane;
But Sloane collected more than butterflies; he was fond of antiquities—and so is Lord Cadogan.

The death of Mr. Henry Hobhouse removes what, we believe, was the only existing difficulty in the way of transferring the contents of the State Paper Office, in St. James's Park, to the new Record Office, near Chancery-lane. Mr. Hobhouse was nominally the keeper, though his duties were entirely performed by his deputy, Mr. Lechmere, and by the chief clerk, Mr. Lemon. The removal of the Papers to the new office will materially help to centralise our records—now a matter of increasing importance.

The talked-of Talfourd memorial will, it is said, be confined entirely to the members of the Oxford circuit; but it is not yet determined what shape the memorial shall take. The meeting announced for the 29th will be confined to the bar. As Talfourd joined so agreeably the two pursuits of law and literature, it is to be regretted, we think, that the contemplated memorial itself does not assume a twin shape.

The article on Tom Moore in the new number of the *Edinburgh Review* is written by Mrs. Grote, the accomplished wife of the historian of Greece. We turned to it with interest, curious to see what a woman—and such a woman—would say of Tom's flirtations. She is, we think, over kind to the little poet; but the article exhibits many serious marks of editorial cuttings-down, so that, perhaps, more praise has been left than was intended by its writer.

The new number of the *Quarterly* contains an article on Lord Holland's Memoirs, by Mr. Croker, whose knowledge of the period over which the Memoirs extend is minute and to be relied on. It is odd, however, to see Mr. Croker voluntarily admitting that his favourite King George IV. told him a falsehood about his marriage to Mrs. Fitzherbert. He had, however, told the same lie to Mr. Fox.

The new British Museum Return, just laid before Parliament, by Mr. Goulburn, contains matter of moment connected with lit-rature and art. For instance, Mr. Panizzi, for the years 1853-4, asked for £2500, for purchases and acquisitions, and only asks for £2000 for 1854 5. The truth is, he has at present no place to put fresh purchases in. Sir Frederick Madden holds out his hand, as before, for £3500 for MSS. Mr. Hawkins wants £600 more for antiquities, he was coy in making his former estimate, and only required £3000. Mr. Carpenter, representing engravings and drawings, boldly and properly demands £2000, or £800 more than he sought and obtained on the previous occasion. If we turn to the binding wants of the Museum (books continue to require rebinding), we find Mr. Panizzi wanting less by £1500 than in 1853-4. Sir Frederick still requires, and will get, £800. If we turn to what the principal departments have been about, we shall find that Mr. Panizzi has not been asleep over his New General Catalogue, or his Supplementary Catalogue (containing the books acquired since Midsummer, 1847), or even his Hand Catalogue; that in the last year about 1442 volumes a day had been taken down by readers, and returned by attendants: that the number of readers was about 231—each reader consulting, on an average, about six works; and that the book acquisitions in the last year were 14,927 volumes, viz., 7730 purchased, 5707 acquired by copyright, and 960 presented. Sir Frederick Madden has been cataloguing, identifying, r epairing, collating, and re-arranging the Cottonian MSS., some of which have been supposed to have been lost since the memorable fire of 1731. Nor has he been inattentive to the wants of his department, and has added to the national collection during the past year the Dawson Turner Collection of Royal and other letters, bound in five volumes; twenty-eight volumes of papers relating to the building of Blenheim, by Sir John Vanbrugh; Dr. Hawtrey's "Dante," a valuable MS. of the fourteenth century; a portion of the original MS. of Sterne's "Sentimental Journey," in Sterne's own handwriting; and sixty-three letters from Lord Nelson to Lady Hamilton, including the last letter which Nelson wrote. Mr. Hawkins has been busy re-arranging the Egyptian antiquities in three large saloons. He has also been purchasing coins and other rarities, that call for collection. He has added two specimens of an entirely new silver tetradrachm of a King and Queen, who reigned, it is thought, in the neighbourhood of Parthia or Persia. The name of the King was Kapnascirus—of the Queen, Ansano. In the Saxon series alone he has added about 200 English pennies, part of a larger number found near Wednsore. They were claimed as treasure-trove by the Lords of the Treasury, and such as the Museum required, were given to the Museum by their Lordships. The value of the coins thus acquired was, however, properly paid to the discoverer, and the rest were returned to him. This deserves to be known, for the law of treasure-trove has hitherto led to the destruction of much that was curious. Mr. Carpenter has been putting the works of Hollar in order, and has, therefore, been well employed.

AMERSHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—TESTIMONIAL TO MR. WEST.—On Thursday last a number of gentlemen educated at this school met at Amersham for the purpose of presenting their former master with a testimonial of their affection and esteem. More than sixty gentlemen, now actively engaged in commercial, literary, and professional life, had subscribed for this purpose, and, with the fund collected, a handsome tea and coffee service in silver had been purchased. This was presented to Mr. E. West, the principal of the school, on Thursday morning, by a deputation of his old pupils, and in the presence of those now under his care. Mr. West acknowledged the gift in appropriate terms; and the day will long be remembered pleasantly by both master and scholars.

EASTER AT THE THEATRES.

HAYMARKET.

Easter Monday was duly honoured at this theatre with a new extravaganza and a sterling English comedy. The latter brought out the comic power of the company in a more favourable manner than any previous revival. "Speed the Plough" is a drama well suited to its leading members. *Farmer Philip Blandford*, by Mr Rogers; *Sir Abel Handsel*, by Mr Chippendale; and *Farmer Ashfield*, by Mr. Compton, form an excellent cast. *Bob Handy*, too, found a lively representative in Mr. George Vandenhoff, who appeared to especial advantage in the character. Some portion of the comedy, indeed, is rather coarse in its manners. The relief of a henpecked husband by the discovery that his wife is a bigamist, and the mode by which he first hints the discovery to her, are points to which exception is illustrated, are incidents which would not pass without censure in a modern drama, and also somewhat opposed to the spirit of modern legislation in defence of the sex. But, as a picture of the past, it is not without its value. The vixenish lady was supported with spirit by Mrs. Poynter; and Miss Howard's *Susan Ashfield* was an exceedingly pleasing performance.

The Easter-piece that succeeded is, like that of last year, properly a *Revue*; and, by means of a diorama, with dramatic accessories, it contrives to make a allusion to the public events of the year, and also to connect them arbitrarily with the theatrical business of the season. "Mr. Buckstone's Voyage round the Globe (in Leicester-square)" is the title of this essentially satirical production. The curtain draws up on the exterior of the Haymarket Theatre, where the *Manager* is accosted by an *Author* (Mr. W. Farren), to whom he is indebted for the idea of the piece. Both proceed to the foot of the statue of Shakspeare, in Wyld's Model of the Earth, and while seated, in expectation of the lecture, fall asleep, and have a vision of *Cybele*, alias *Telius*, in the person of Mrs. Fitzwilliam. By this Goddess the *Manager* is led to make acquaintance in succession with the tuteler spirits of Europe, Asia, Africa, and America; each of them displaying to his astonished view the most famous scenes in her own quarter of the globe such as Constantinople and the Golden Horn, Gallipoli, and the theatre of war. But as the managerial dream proceeds, its ambitious pass from the political to the theatrical, and, as the manner of dreams is, connects together odds and ends of stage experience, and thus summons before the mind's eye, the rival *Richards* of Drury and Covent-garden, an Oriental *ballet* in Bayadere costume; the elephant of Astley's; the Feast of the Dragon, and the odorous feat of impalement, in which the Messrs. Marshall as *Chin Gan* and *Wan Sang*, were so successful; the stage-effects of Vauxhall; the gipsies, and Miss Cushman in *Meg Merrilies*, as the first of such weird sisters; the Mexican Sea of Ice at the Adelphi, and "the Struggle for Gold," at all the theatres—with the contrast for which the stage sinks, and Mr. Buckstone finds himself again in Leicester-square, waked up from his day-dream. The elegance of the dialo, ue, as usual with Mr. Planché, is the main charm of the piece; and the honours fall to the pencil of

"ST. GILES AND ST. JAMES."—PAINTED BY T. EARL.—FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.

cliff, and strain their eyes in the direction whence the missing craft should come. The sentiment suggested by the occasion is very powerfully realised, and the execution is highly artistic.

A. Siegart has a spirited picture, in the comic vein, founded upon a German proverb—"Where there is no money there is no law"(1) It represents a swaggering cavalier, of the Dando school, treating with ineffable contempt the demand for a score which "mine hostess" is enforcing upon his attention. There is a great deal of fun displayed in the study of the various lookers-on: the whole breathing with earnest life.

Amongst the other *genre* subjects which deserve attention are some small interiors, with old women, and other domestic material, by Geselschap, very effective, though unexaggerated in treatment; "A Village Scene in the Black Forest," by C. E. Boettcher—interesting as an illustration of manners; "The Middy's Lecture on Sobriety," by the late U. Ritter—his last work; and "Defending a Castle," by G. Sell—representing a scene of daily occurrence in the Thirty Years' War.

ST. GILES AND ST. JAMES. BY T. EARL.

Mr. Earl has doubtless adopted the idea of this little picture (which is exhibited at the Suffolk-street Gallery), from Douglas Jerrold's story of a similar name. The scene is near St. James's Palace, where a sleek pet of the King Charles' breed, secured by a dainty ribbon to the conducting hand of a fair mistress, turns round to look with scorn upon the rough terrier dog standing at the corner of the street, who has probably followed his master, the crossing-sweeper, all the way from St. Giles. The character infused into both animals is capital; but we may be permitted to observe that the representative of St. Giles is too well bred for his position. The handling throughout is clever, and highly successful; the surface texture of the coats of the two dogs being admirably real, and well contrasted.

MOUNT'S BAY, CORNWALL. BY S. P. JACKSON.

This clever landscape is exhibited at the British Institution. It is a genuine bit of English coast scenery, represented with a truthful hand. The Mount, with the small harbour beneath, forms a picturesque feature in the left; on the other side is a wide expanse of sea, slightly rippled with an inland breeze; the two portions being pictorially connected by the introduction of the dark hull and rigging of a coaster, astrand in the foreground.

"MOUNT'S BAY," CORNWALL.—PAINTED BY S. P. JACKSON.—FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE BRITISH INSTITUTION.

RESTORATION OF CHESSINGTON CHURCH.

Taking the railway to Kingston, and proceeding thence about two miles on the Letherhead road, a path across a few fields brings us to Chessington Church—not seen from the high road, and accessible only by footpaths and by lanes; but it is a spot that will repay a visit. The little Church, till now enveloped in plaster, is of the thirteenth century, and the churchyard commands picturesque views of Sutton, Ewell, and Epsom; while proceeding further westward, round the hall adjoining, so well known to the readers of Madame D'Arblay's Memoirs (now the residence of G. Chancellor, Esq.), a further varied prospect is obtained of the neighbourhood of Letherhead, Esher, and Kingston. To the lover of seclusion the walk will have additional attractions

The Church was re-opened by the Vicar, the Rev. W. C. Stapylton, on Thursday, the 20th inst., having undergone a complete restoration, under the superintendence of Mr. Robert Hesketh. We here present a View of the interior, showing the restorations. Choked with pews of every variety of deformity, which made the one little aisle almost as devious as the lanes outside—the walls bulging with loose plaster and whitewash—the interior was lighted by square wooden-framed windows, the work of some Vandal in former ages, who preferred the lighting of his own uncomfortable pew to general propriety. These square windows have now been filled up and the Early English arches and windows which have been discovered have been restored to their original purpose. Some of these are very

CHESSINGTON CHURCH, SURREY, RESTORED.

curious: there is the pointed arch with the circular splay, the depressed heading, the oak lintel, the hagioscope, and the low side window—all simple in design, but probably coeval with the building of the Church, and well preserved under the plaster. The high pews have been replaced by oak open seats, of the original pattern, of which one is still retained; while an old roof of chestnut has been exposed to view by the removal of the ceiling. A few new windows, of a design to accord with the old, have been added near the west end; a chancel-arch has been built; the font restored from a few portions which have been found imbedded in the walls; and a vestry added on the north side. Much additional accommodation has been obtained by lengthening the Church at the west end.

The exterior of the edifice has been no less improved, by the substitution of undressed flint for the old green-stained peeling plaster; and a neat shingle spire, such as is common among the old Surrey churches, has taken the place of a very mean belfry that lately bestrode the roof.

We hope this instance of successful scraping may encourage others to denude their churches of plaster, wherever there is reason to expect such a result as in the instance now before us.

MARY RUSSELL MITFORD.—FROM THE PICTURE BY LUCAS.

LAUNCH OF THE "LOUISA SHELBOURNE," AT BATTERSEA.

The launch of this vessel took place at Carnes yard, Nine Elms, Vauxhall, on Saturday last; and many circumstances connected with her peculiar build and construction attracted a large assemblage to witness the scene.

The *Louisa Shelbourne* was built expressly for the Baltic trade, and intended to ply between London and St. Petersburg. She is constructed on the barge, or flat-bottomed principle; she is by far the largest vessel ever built in the Thames above bridge; and, though measuring 560 tons, only averaged at launching a draught of 2½ feet. She is by more than two hundred tons the largest vessel of the kind ever built, is adapted for the screw propeller, has accommodation for passengers, and will be barque rigged. Her dimensions are as follows:—Length over all, 145 feet; length on keel, 119 feet; breadth, 26 feet 6 inches; hold, 19 feet 6 inches

The appearance of vessels hitherto built on this plan has been an unsightliness of bow and clumsiness in general appearance; but, in this vessel, a much better form has been adopted, and in room of the square short nose of the old plan, a figure-head and cutwater, with a finer bow, has been substituted. The advantage obtained by the light draught and stiffness of this class of vessel under canvas, may, upon the successful performance of the *Louisa Shelbourne*, cause barges of large tonnage to be more generally used for mercantile purposes.

The ceremony of "christening" the vessel was performed by the lady whose name she bears, and who is the daughter of the owner.

MARY RUSSELL MITFORD.

Only two weeks have elapsed since we devoted more than our usual space to a notice of "Atherton," and other stories, the latest published work of her whose likeness we have this day the pleasure of presenting to our readers. To the high qualities of the work just referred to, or to any critical opinion on her works generally, it is not our intention to devote this article. Our only object is to give a few particulars connected with the life of one whose writings will continue popular so long as unaffected simplicity, pure taste, exquisite art, and a love of the beautiful in nature, keep their place in the affections, and tend to form the habits of the English people.

Mary Russell Mitford was born on the 16th of December, in the year 1788, at the little town of Alresford, in Hampshire. Her father was George Mitford, M.D., the son of a younger branch of the Mitfords, of Mitford Castle, Northumberland, and Jane Graham, of Old Wall, Westmoreland—a branch of the Netherby clan. Her mother was Mary Russell, only surviving child and heiress of Richard Russell, D.D Rector of Ashe and Tadley, and Vicar of Overton, in Hampshire above sixty years. He died at the age of eighty-eight, before his daughter's marriage; and remembered having seen Pope when at Westminster School. He was intimate with Fielding and many of the wits of that period; and Miss Mitford has a portrait of him, with a wig, not unlike a judge's wig, hanging over it.

Three or four years after Dr. Mitford removed from Alresford to Reading; and three or four years after that again, when his daughter was in her ninth year, he went to reside at Lyme Regis, in Dorsetshire, in a fine old house, previously occupied by the great Lord Chatham, where his two sons frequently spent their holidays. By this time Dr. Mitford had spent between £30,000 and £40,000, and went to London to retrench and determine his future course of life. His daughter, then ten

LAUNCH OF "THE LOUISA SHELBOURNE," AT BATTERSEA.

years of age, was his favourite companion: and, lounging about, he one morning strayed into a dingy house, which proved to be a lottery office; and for what follows we are indebted to Miss Mitford's "Recollections of a Literary Life," vol. II. page 194:—

"Choose what number you like best," said dear Papa, "and that shall be your birthday present."

I immediately selected one and put it into his hand—No. 2224.

"Ah!" said my father, examining it, "you must choose again. I want to buy a whole ticket, and this is only a quarter. Choose again, my pet!"

"No, dear Papa! I like this one best."

"There is the next number," interposed the Lottery-office-keeper, "No. 2223."

Ay," said my father, "that will do just as well. Will it not, Mary? We'll take that."

"No," returned I, obstinately, "that won't do, this is my birthday you know, papa, and I am ten years old. Cast up the figures forming my number, and you'll find they make nine, the other is only nine!"

The father, like all speculators, was superstitious. The argument was irresistible. The ticket was purchased; and a few months afterwards intelligence arrived that No. 2224 had been drawn a prize of £20,000.

Ah me! (reflects Miss Mitford.) In less than twenty years what was left of the produce of the ticket, so strangely chosen? What! except a Wedgwood dinner-service that my father had made to commemorate the event, with the Irish harp within the border on one side, and his family crest on the other! That fragile and perishable ware long outlasted the more perishable money.

The next five years were spent by Miss Mitford at school, in London, while her father was building a very large house, about four miles from Reading, to which his daughter came at the age of fifteen, and where she wrote a volume of poems, which was published in 1810: she also published "Christian, the Maid of the South Seas," octavo, 1811; Enlarged Edition of Poems, 1811; "Narrative Poems on the Female Character;" "Blanche;" "The Rival Swans," octavo, 1813.

In about twenty years after the prize in the lottery, and other acquisitions from the deaths of relatives, had partly repaired his fortunes, Dr. Mitford had again run through his property, little or nothing being left beyond £6000, out of his wife's large property settled upon her for pin-money, which, in course of years, well nigh vanished also, together with different legacies to his daughter, given up by her on various emergencies. They retired to a small cottage at Three Mile Cross, near Reading, taken for three months, but inhabited by them for thirty years! and there, finding it needful to earn money if she could, Miss Mitford wrote the papers which formed the first series of "Our Village." Like many other of the best-standard works, they were lightly esteemed when they were first writ-n. They were rejected by Mr. Campbell, then editor of the *New Monthly Magazine*, and by several other periodicals but at last found a place in the *Lady's Magazine*. There they were observed and read in a volume, and published by Whittaker, in 1823; and so successful were they, that never after had Miss Mitford cause to fear the acceptance by any periodical of any paper she wrote. The first series of "Our Village" was followed by a second in 1826, a third in 1828, a fourth in 1830, and a fifth in 1832. After this Miss Mitford published, through Mr. Bentley, "Belford Regis," three vols., 1835, and "Country Stories," through Saunders and Otley, in 1837. She also edited, for Mr. Colburn, two tits of American Stories, of three volumes each, and for Whittakers, two sets of Children's Stories, three vols. each. During this period she wrote "Julian," a tragedy, which was produced at Covent-garden; "Foscari," a tragedy, also at Covent-garden; "Rienzi," tragedy, at Drury-lane; "Sadak and Kalasrook," an opera, at the English Opera House; and "Charles the First," a tragedy, at the Victoria—then the Coburg—Theatre. She published, in 1827, a volume of "Dramatic Stories and other Poems;" and she edited "Finden's Tableaux" for 1835, and the three following years.

In 1842 she lost her father; and in the autumn of 1851 left her old cottage at Three Mile Cross, for another at Swallowfield, about three miles further south. During the preceding winter she published three volumes, chiefly critical, called "Recollections of a Literary Life." This year we have from her pen "Atherton" and other stories, three vols.; and there are now in the press two volumes of her collected dramas. The introduction to the plays is now before us, and is full of interest. However charming her rural sketches may be, her future fame and reputation will, in our judgment, rest on the foundation of these dramas.

In her youth, Miss Mitford was much in London, with opportunities of seeing and mingling in the best society. Admired and appreciated by a large number of the leading literary characters of her own standing, she has now become the adviser and friend of many of the rising spirits of the age, forming, as it were, a graceful link between the past and present, while she is herself, as shown by her latest works, as fresh and vigorous in her mind as she was while enjoying robust health in the prime of life. She also visited different parts of England, chiefly the north. Latterly her life has been passed in a retired village, cheered by the kindness of literary friends, amongst whom she has dwelt so long, and enlivened by the frequent visits, and still more frequent correspondence, of many attached and accomplished friends—on both sides of the Atlantic. In America she is one of the most popular of our English authors. For many years her income also has suffered much from the injuries received by the accidental overthrow of her pony chaise. The shock was too great for her delicate system, and has caused her to abandon her out-of-door excursions, which she enjoyed so much, and she is now, for the most part, confined to her chamber. Those who desire to see sunlight, in suffering, should read her "Atherton," and not overlook the preface.

The influence her writings have had on the rising literary taste may best be shown by two extracts. One is of our most powerful and popular authors thus writes:—"Her name, I need not tell you, has long been 'a household word' all over England. For me, and I doubt not for thousands besides, it is mixed with the pleasantest associations. It recalls certain happy days of childhood, contemporary with the infancy of those pretty publications, the Annuals, when I used eagerly to search the smooth gilt-edged pages of Ackermann's 'Forget-me-not,' or the 'Literary Souvenir,' or 'Friendship's Offering,' for the tales and sketches to which, in the days of my earliest love-stricken fancy, the name of Mary Russell Mitford. And now to think that I have a letter written by her honoured hand; it brings with it a strange, agreeable sensation." Another charming author writes:—"My 'Sketches of Irish Character'—my first dear book—was inspired by a desire to describe my native place, as Miss Mitford had done 'Our Village;' and this made me an author." So write many others; but only those who have been admitted into the sanctuary of her heart, and partaken of her friendship, can thoroughly appreciate the value of her writings. Her life, its joyous laugh, the wise speech, the generous nature, and the ever-open hand of Mary Russell Mitford.

In the preface to her collected dramatic works, which we have had the privilege of reading, she writes—"To edit these tragedies myself seems a kind of anachronism, not unlike engraving the inscription on my own tombstone. I can only pray that my poor plays may be as mercifully dealt with as if they were indeed published by my executor and the friends who wrote them were all numbered with the dead. I cast glances through the great elm-trees in the beautiful churchyard of Swallowfield."

When we consider her advanced age, verging upon three score years and ten—remember her physical weakness, and the terrible agony frequently endured—the event to which she refers with so much calmness and cheerfulness may be nearer than any of us suspect. Come when it may, it will come too soon for those who love and honour her; but it is pleasant to observe that the evening of her life is green with laurels, and consolatory to feel, that, when posterity has impartially weighed her intrinsic qualities, few names will stand higher than that of Mary Russell Mitford.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

The settlement of the Account has been one of the leading features in the Consol Market. It has passed over remarkably well, considering that the supply of stock has been unusually small, and that the leading *bear* jobbers, from having considerably oversold themselves, have been compelled to borrow largely. The effect of borrowing has been a "backwardation" in Consols, which, at one time, was as much as ¼ per cent.

The continuous drain of the precious metals for shipment to the Continent is creating considerable uneasiness; and many parties are looking forward to a higher value for money. The exports, it is true, are large; but the last return from the Bank of France shows an increase in the stock of gold, compared with the previous month, of upwards of £4,000,000 francs. It is possible, therefore, that the wants of France are now fairly supplied, and that future demands upon us will not be so extensive as of late. During the present week about £250,000 has been sent to the Continent; and we have had a shipment of £198,743—£89,085 being in gold, and £129,658 in silver—to the East From Mexico 500,000, and from New York 200,000, dollars have come to hand; whi st the import from Australia has exceeded £640,000. Our advices, both from Australia and California state that the yield of gold is falling off.

The demand for money for commercial purposes has been rather active. In the rates of discount, however, we have no change to notice.

The Consol market, on Monday, was inactive, and prices had a downward tendency. The Three per Cents were done at 87⅞ to ⅞ and 87½; the latter being the closing figures. The Three per Cents Reduced were 86⅝ ⅞, and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 87¼ down to 87⅛. India Bonds was 225; Bank Stock, 214 to 213; Ditto for the Account, 215. India Bonds were 2s, and Exchequer Bills, 4s. premium. There was more firmness in the market on Tuesday, and the business opened firmly, at 87⅞ for Cents were 87⅞ to 88; the New Three-and a Quarter per Cents, 87⅝ ⅞ to 88; Consols for Account 87⅞ to ⅞; and the New Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 73¾. Long Annuities, sold at 11-11-16 ths. India Bonds were 3s. 6d. to 2s. prem; and Exchequer Bills, par to 4s. prem.

The whole of the foreign exchanges still continue against this country; and our advices from the Continent are to the effect that a very limited business is still doing in British manufactured goods. It is pretty well understood, however, that the stocks in dealers' hands have become limited.

There have been very few dealings in the Foreign House. Still, however, prices have been much better supported than for several weeks past. Transactions have taken place in Brazilian Bonds at 100 per Cents, at 98; Ditto, Small, 94½; French Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 91f. 50c. (exchange, 24f. 90c.); Greek Bonds (red), 6; Mexican Three per Cents, 24; and Spanish Three per Cents, 23¾.

There has been only a moderate business doing in Joint-Stock Bank shares. Australasia have marked 7; Chartered of India, Australia, and China, 4½; London Chartered of Australia, 2½; Ditto, London Joint Stock, 2¼; Oriental, 45. Miscellaneous securities have ruled dull. Australian Agricultural, 2; Australian Royal Mail, 1½; Canada Six per Cent Bonds, 109; Crystal Palace, 1½; General Steam Navigation, 2½; Peel River Land and Mineral, 4½; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, 55; Portland Iron Company, 2½; Van Diemen's Land, 10. Waterworks Shares have been Perlin, 2½; East London, 129½; Ditto, New, 3 pm; Grand Junction, 72; Kent, 80; Lambeth, 97; Southwark and Vauxhall, 89½; West Middlesex, 108½; Ditto, New, 104½. Insurance Company Shares have been almost nominal. Alliance were sold at 72; Atlas, 20; Argus, 2½; City of London, 2½; County, 12½; European, 19; General, 5½; Globe, 128; Guardian, 8½; Imperial Fire, 370; Ditto Life, 20; Law Life, 57½; London, 20; Marine, 2½; Provincial, 65½; Reversionary and Bonus; Provident, 42; Rock, 7½; Royal Exchange, 235; Ditto, Life, 65.

Railway Shares have mostly sympathised with Consols. The changes in prices have not been important. The following are the official closing prices on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Aberdeen, 23; Caledonian, 83½; Chester and Holyhead, 14; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 75; Great Northern, 86½; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 90½; Great Western, 73½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 61½; London and Blackwall, 8½; London and Brighton, 99½; London and North-Western, 96½; London and South-Western, 77; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 20; Midland, 59½; North British, 31; North Devon Guaranteed, 7; North Staffordshire, 11; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 9½; South-Eastern, 59½; South Wales, 35; Vale of Neath, 17½; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, 65½; Ditto, G.N.E. Purchase, 7½; York and North-Midland, 46½.

LINES LEASED AT A RENTAL.—Hull and Selby, 102½; Ditto, Quarter Shares, 26. Manchester, Buxton, and Matlock, 2½; Midland Bradford, 80½; Wilts and Somerset, 92.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Chester and Holyhead, 15½; East Anglian, 3; Eastern Counties No. 2, ¼ prem.; Great Northern Five per Cents, 112½; Great Western, Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 94½; Midland, Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 1⅛; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, 38.

FOREIGN.—East Indian, Extension, 1½; Grand Trunk of Canada, 21; Great Western of Canada, 9½; Luxembourg, Guaranteed, 3⅜; Ditto, Constituted Shares, 2¾; Madras, 12½; Northern of France, 20½; Paris and Lyons, 22½; Paris and Strasbourg, 28½.

In Mining Shares, so little has been doing that the quotations have ruled almost nominal.

Friday Evening.

We have had a very dull market for Consols, to-day. The Three per Cents have been done at 87⅝ ⅞ ⅝; the Three per Cents Reduced, 87 to 86⅝; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 88 to 87⅞. Foreign Bonds and Railway Shares have continued dull.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE (Friday).—The arrivals of English wheat fresh up to this morning's market coastwise and by land carriage, have been small, the show of samples was limited; nevertheless, the demand for all descriptions ruled very inactive, at barely Monday's quotations. Foreign samples of wheat sold to the trade at full rates, and kinds were in very limited request, the currencies were a shade easier. Barley was in fair supply and sluggish request at late rates. No change to notice in oats or rye. Beans and peas were in fair request, at full prices. In flour nothing of importance was done. Arrivals from Ireland and Scotland, since Monday, 1,240 quarters, the sale for that grain was dull, at late rates. Foreign arrivals, 2,000 quarters. In beans and peas nothing doing. In flour, the few transactions reported were at previous rates.

ARRIVALS.—English wheat, 1810; barley, 2330; malt, 3740; oats, 1031; flour, 460. Irish oats, 3110. Foreign, wheat, 25,430; barley, 4760; oats 14,780; flour, 2310 barrels.

AVERAGES.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 71s to 81s; ditto, white, 74s to 86s; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 72s to 79s; ditto, white, 76s to 84s; rye, 46s; grinding barley, 30s to 32s; distilling ditto, 33s to 35s; malting ditto, 40s to 44s; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 64s to 68s; brown ditto, 58s to 62s; Chevalier ditto, 70s to 75s; Hotch ditto, 70s to 74s; Kidderminster and Lincolnshire feed oats, 22s to 30s; potato ditto, 21s to 24s; Youghal and Cork, black, 20s to 20s; ditto, white, 22s to 24s; Galway and Sligo, 20s to 22s; beans, 40s to 44s; grey peas, 44s to 46s; maples, 47s to 49s; white, 57s to 59s; boilers, 60s to 62s per quarter. Town-made flour, 45s to 47s per sack. Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex, 32s to 34s; Irish, to 42s per 280 lb. *Foreign*—French, 40s to 42s per 280 lbs; American flour, 38s to 40s per barrel.

BREAD.—Since last week's rise in the sale for limecod, owing to the stoady arrivals. Cakes round, extreme rates. Households, 6½d to 7d; seconds, 6d to 6½d per 4lb loaf.

Bread.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 10½d. to 11d.; of household ditto, 8½d. to 10d. per 4 lbs. loaf.

Teas.—Our market is well supplied with all kinds, in which a good business is doing, at full prices. Common sound congou, 1s. per lb.

Sugar.—The clearances for the last week were 1,778,430 cwt., against 1,607,740 ditto in 1853. The public sales have been fairly attended, and the demand has ruled steady, at last week's currency. Foreign sugars ofsale are mostly held for former delivery, at late rates. Refined goods are in fair request, at from 64s. to 68s. per cwt. Crushed moves off slowly on former terms.

Tallow.—This article is still dull and drooping. P.Y.C., on the spot, has changed hands at 65s and 65s. 6d. to 66s per cwt. There are sellers for forward delivery, at 65s. 6d. Town tallow is 61s. net cash, with a dull market.

Oils.—Linseed oil is 32s. 6d. per cwt. on the spot. All other oils are heavy. Turpentine is still drooping. Spirits, 42s 9d.; in puncheons, 43 7s.; rough, 14s. per cwt.

Spirits.—All kinds of rum are slow in sale. Proof brands, 2s. 5d. to 2s 6d.; and proof East India, 2s. 6d. to 2s. 8d. per gallon. In brandy, very little is doing. Sales of proof brands of 1851, have been made at 2s. 5d. to 2s. 5½d. per gallon. Hollands is quiet at 2s. 6d. to 2s. 8d. per gallon.

Hops (Friday). We have no improvement to notice in the demand for, or value of, any kind of hops. The show of samples is very moderate. Prices are by no means firm. Sussex and Continent this week.—Mid and East Kent pockets, £6 10s. to £12 2s.; Weald of Kent, £5 0s to £7 7s; Sussex, £5 15s. to £10 10s per cwt.

Coals (Friday).—Walker Primrose, 18s. 3d.; Bell, 17s.; Gosforth, 16s.; Belmont, 17s.; Lambton, 17s. 6d.; Hetworth, 16s.; Stewart, 16s.; Tanfield Moor, 15s.

Smithfield (Friday).—To-day's market was fairly supplied with beasts, in which only a moderate business was transacted, at Monday's prices. There was a steady demand for sheep—the supply of which was but moderate at full quotations. We had a steady sale for calves, at extreme rates. In pigs very little was passing. Prices, in the leading lots, were dull, at late rates. Mitch cows sold slowly, at from £14 to £18 10s. each, including their small calf.

Per 8lbs. to sink the offals:—Coarse and inferior beasts, 3s. 2d. to 3s. 4d.; second quality ditto, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.; prime large oxen, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 0d.; prime Scots, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 6d.; coarse and inferior sheep, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.; second quality ditto, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 0d.; prime coarse-woolled ditto, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; prime South Down ditto, 4s. 10d. to 5s. 0d.; coarse calves, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 0d.; prime ditto, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; large coarse pigs, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 0d.; neat small porkers, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; lambs, 5s. 6d. to 6s. 6d.; suckling calves, 22s. to 28s.; and quarter old store pigs, 21s. to 27s. each. Total supplies: Beasts, 6061 oxen, 1361 sheep and lambs, 4940; calves, 320; pigs, 240. Foreign: Beasts, — sheep, 260; calves, 190.

Newgate and Leadenhall (Friday).—The general demand ruled steady, as for over

Per 8lbs. by the carcase.—Inferior beef, 2s. 10d. to 3s. 2d.; middling ditto, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.; prime large ditto, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; prime small ditto, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 0d.; large pork, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 2d.; inferior mutton, 3s. 2d. to 3s. 4d.; middling ditto, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 0d.; prime ditto, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; veal, 4s. 0d. to 5s. 4d.; small pork, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 8d.; lamb, 5s. 4d. to 6s. 10d.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, APRIL 18.

DOWNING-STREET, APRIL 15.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to give orders for the appointment of the Right Hon Sir James Robert George Graham, Bart., to be an Ordinary Member of the Civil Division of the First Class, or Knights Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath

WAR-OFFICE, APRIL 15.

22nd Foot: Lieutenant-General Sir W. Gomm, G.C.B., to be Colonel, vice Lieutenant-General Sir R. Arrestrong, K.C.B. 68th, Major-General Sir W. L. Herries, C.B., to be Colonel, vice Lieutenant-General Sir W. Gomm, G.C.B. 90th, Major-General W. L. Darling to be Colonel, vice Lieutenant-General Sir W. Cotton, G.C.B.

OFFICE OF ORDNANCE, APRIL 17.

Royal Artillery: Cadets to be Second Lieutenants—P. W. De Winton, A. H. C. Hamilton, E. C. Cuthbert, E. A. M. Lloyd, P. Jackson, J. Tucker, R. F. Schreiber, M. Tweedie, E. L. Tymbrook, R. O'Hara, H. C. Lyle, L. Griffiths, W. R. Llanllyn, and H. J. F. B Hickes. Royal Engineers: Cadets to be Second Lieutants, with temporary rank—H. Scratchley, and G. N. Kelsall.

BANKRUPTS.

J. H. T. Y. HUGHES, Westbourne-grove, Bayswater, chemist and druggist. J. SUMMERELL, Little York-place, St. Marylebone, commission agent. ALBERT NEWEY, and W. WALTON (not Watson, as in last Friday's *Gazette*), Birmingham, drapers. C. BRAMER, Shefford, wood dealer.

FRIDAY, APRIL 21.

WAR-OFFICE, APRIL 21.

2nd Life Guards: Assistant-Surgeon Lord E. M. Vane to be Cornet and Sub-Lieutenant, vice Hon C. B. B Hanbury.

Royal Horse Guards—Cornet R. H. R. H. Vyse to be Major, vice Berry.

Hon H. Pitt, Lieutenant F. H. Vyse to be Captain, vice Trollope; Lieutenant [illegible] to be Captain, vice Vyse. Cornet the Hon. J. R. J. Dormer to be Lieutenant, vice Vyse. J. J. Jones to be Lieutenant, vice Baillie.

7th Light Dragoons: Lieutenant C. C. Fraser to be Captain, vice the Duke of Beaufort [illegible]. Cornet M. O. Briscoe to be Lieutenant, vice Fraser. 13th: Assistant-Surgeon L. Arnstrong to be Assistant-Surgeon, vice Dambreck. 14th: Cornet W. B. Leonard has been permitted to retire from the service by the sale of his commission.

1st Foot Guards: Ensign and Lieut. F. C. Keppel to be Adjutant, vice R. Bradford.

2nd Foot: R. F. Hulleman to be Ensign, vice Lauris. 4th: Ensign J. W. Laurie to be Ensign, vice Witter. 12th: Sergeant-Major R. Lawer to be Quartermaster, vice Cowell. 15th: Brevet-Lieut.-Colonel W. Cockell to be Lieut.-Colonel, vice [illegible]. Ensign J. Mayne to be Lieutenant, vice [illegible]. 17th: Lieutenant [illegible] to be Lieutenant, vice Mansel-Pleydell. F. Lewis to be Lieutenant, vice [illegible]. W. Carter to be Ensign, vice Kendall. 19th: Lieutenant-Colonel Lord [illegible] to be Major, vice [illegible]. 24th: T. Wood to be Assistant-Surgeon, vice [illegible]. 27th: Lieut. W. L. Wemyss to be Captain, vice [illegible]. Ensign J. C. Bell to be Lieutenant, vice [illegible]. 28th: Lieut. [illegible] to be Captain, vice [illegible]. Ensign [illegible] to be Lieutenant, vice [illegible]. 47th: Lieut. [illegible] to be Captain, vice [illegible]. Ensign [illegible] to be Lieutenant, vice [illegible]. 50th: Ensign C. F. W. Cuffe to be Lieutenant, vice [illegible]. 54th: Ensign [illegible] to be Ensign, vice Cuffe. 56th: Lieut. H. H. Page to be Lieutenant, vice C. B. Browne. 94th: Lieut.-Colonel R. N. Phillips to be Lieutenant-Colonel, vice Brownrigg.

Unattached: Capt. Henry Duke of Beaufort to be Major.

Hospital Staff: Assist.-Surg. W. Hennessy, Assistant-Surgeon to the Forces, vice Armstrong.

Brevet: Lieut.-Col. H. D. Townshend to be Colonel in the Army: Lieut.-Col W. F. Beatson to have the local rank of Colonel, while employed in the Turkish dominions.

Memorandum: Brevet-Lieut.-Col. G. L. L. Kaye has been permitted to retire from the Army, by the sale of his commission.

OFFICE OF ORDNANCE, APRIL 19.

Royal Engineers and Miners: Capt. E. A. Tooke to be Brigade-Major, vice Walpole; Second Capts. F. M. H. Somerset to be Adjutant, vice Ord.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.

T. LANGRIDGE, Tunbridge Wells, auctioneer and dealer in furniture. W. H. COOPER, Great James-street, Bedf.rd row, upholsterer.

BANKRUPTS.

J. AMEY, late of Brighton grocer, now of West Tarn g, Sussex, market-gardener. R. WILLIAMS Mold Flintshire, draper. C. CLEMENTS, Saint Helens Lancashire, grocer. C. C. PETERS, Sandwich-terrace, Burton-crescent. G. THOMAS, Gloucester, stationer and musical instrument dealer. G. HAWTHORNE and G. HAWTHORNE the younger, Great Dover-street, Southwark, ironmongers. W. G. and T. TURNER, Kemp Town, Brighton and Shoreham, grocers. H. CARTER, Liverpool, brower. G. LAWRANCE, Abingdon, and Sunningwell, Berkshire, and Cuddesdon, Oxfordshire, dealer, chapman, and farmer. J. P. S., and G. BRISELY, Oldham, Lancashire, cotton-spinners. H. CRANE Dudley, Worcestershire, grocer and ironmonger. T. WALTERS, Gosswell-road, grocer and cheesemonger. F. WRIGHT Brighton, chemist and druggist. B. R. WAITE, Wormwood-street, City, auctioneer. E. MOLYNEUX, Liverpool, dentist. C. BURCHELL, Maidstone, silk-dealer. W. WALKER Ingress, H. K. MARRIES, Tredegar, Monmouthshire, draper. C. E. MALLAM, Tunbridge Wells, tanner. T. SPENCER, Liverpool, victualler. J. DENNISON, Bradford, Yorkshire, woolstapler. F. P. THOMS, Warwick-square, Newgate-street, printer and stereotyper.

BIRTHS.

On the 17th inst., at Bakeham House, Egham, Surrey, the wife of W. F. Farrell, Esq., of a son.

On the 18th inst., at Stalsea, the wife of the Rev. W. Anderson, M.A., of a son.

On the 13th inst., at Edwinsford, Carmarthenshire, Lady Drummond, of a daughter.

On the 15th inst., at Vincennes Hurington, of a son and heir.

On the 15th inst., the wife of the Hon. J. G. Erskine, of a daughter.

On the 19th inst., at the Crescent, Hayling Island, Hants, the wife of George C. Hawker, Esq., of a son.

On the 14th ult., at Gibraltar, the wife of Henry Walpole Dashwood, Esq., Lieut. of Royal Horse Artillery, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

At Streatham, on the 20th, by the Rev. Robert Fowler, B.A., Vice-Principal of the Training College, Chester, Richard Barnes, of Yealmpton, Devon, to Emma, third daughter of John Alfred Gotch, of Streatham-lodge, and at of William-house, Mill-hill, Middlesex.

On the 6th inst., at Chollerton, the Rev. J. Allgood, of Nunwick, Northumberland, to Isabella, third daughter of the late Charles A. Wilkinson, Esq., of Balgray, Dumfries-shire.

On the 12th inst., at Glencart House, Renfrewshire, Richard Cockerton, Esq., of Trinidad, to Jessie, youngest daughter of the late Rev. Alexander Stewart, of Glencart House.

On the 18th inst., at Blenham Church, C. L. Grimaswse, Esq., of Foulsham-barns, Bedfordshire, to Emily Mary, eldest daughter of Sir C. G. Payne, Bart., of Blenham-house.

On the 18th inst., at Pimlico, W. M. Walmsley, Esq., Bombay Civil Service, Registrar-general, to Emma, eldest daughter of the late J. Harcourt, Esq., of Lower Belgrave-place.

On the 20th inst., at St. Pancras Church, William Grieve, Esq., of Brankshalme-park, Roxburgshire, to Mary Richardson Godson, eldest daughter of Richard Godson, Esq., of Islington, Middlesex.

DEATHS

On the 17th inst., at St. Leonards-on-Sea, John Kinnaird Hooper, Esq., of 33, Cambridge-square, Hyde-park, and 20, Queenhithe, Alderman of London, and Provincial of St Bartholomew's Hospital, aged 64.

On the 18th inst., after a long illness of consumption, Laura, the beloved and only remaining child of Mr. John Nicholson, Professor of Music, &c., Dorking, Surrey.

On the 19th inst., at Hampstead, aged two years and a half, Herbert, eldest son of Mr. Thos. Whitehead, of Gotha-place, Peckham.

On the 19th inst., Agnes Mary, the beloved wife of Frederick Charles Peake, Canonbury-villas, Islington.

On the 20th inst., at Dedham, Essex, the Hon. Georgina Penrose, wife of W. Penrose, Esq., of Labasa, Cork, and sister of Lord Exeter.

On the 15th inst., at Richmond, Lady Elizabeth P Ashburnham, aged 90.

On the 14th inst., at Cheltenham, Admiral J. MacNeill, aged 86.

BALL AT SINGAPORE.

THE thirty-fifth anniversary of the formation of Singapore as a British Settlement was celebrated by a splendid fête given by the Governor, the Hon. Colonel W. J. Butterworth, on the 6th of February, in return for an entertainment which his Excellency and his family had been welcomed after a sojourn of two years in the Australian colonies. Another object of the fête of February 6th was to identify the Governor with the Free-trade principles of the settlement.

The entertainment was given in the Assembly Rooms. The ballroom was brilliantly illuminated; at the north end of the apartment was a marble bust of Sir T. S. Raffles, by Chantrey, resting on a pillar, supported by the British ensign and the East India Company's flag, in the background was a picture of Commerce supported by Natides, beneath which was the motto, "In Commerce lies Britain's Prosperity." Underneath the motto were two large sketches of Singapore, in 1819 and 1854.

The ball opened with a quadrille, and was kept up with untiring energy to the music of the band of the 43rd M. N. I. and a private corps. During the dances the scene was most enchanting. Here was seen a group of guests clad in the contrasted costumes of Europe and India; there, in the empire; there, in the flowing robes of Arabia and Persia, the magnificent and costly apparel of a Turkish Jew, the rose-tying garments of Siamese chieftains, the sparkling vesture of a Malay Prince, the uniforms of Consuls and of native officers of the Anglo Indian army, and a gallant Arab Shiekrev. In the reception-room were garlands of flowers and bouquets placed in china vases. The walls of the supper-room were covered with the flags of all nations visiting the port of Singapore.

After supper, the Governor rose, and proposed the health of Queen Victoria, which was drunk with enthusiasm. His Excellency then addressed the company, and took a retrospective view of the settlement; and referred to his intention of designating the light-house about to be erected on the Sunyer, as the entrance of the harbour, the "Raffles Lighthouse," in memory of the founder of Singapore. His Excellency then adverted to the "Trade Statements," to show the prosperity of Singapore as a free port. At the expiration of the first five years, the imports and exports were each about four-and-a-half millions sterling; at the close of the next ten years they amounted to three-and-a-quarter millions sterling; on the termination of the subsequent ten years, to five millions; and, by the last returns, to six-and a half millions, exclusive of specie—thus showing an advance regular and unprecedented; whilst in place of the few prahus which might be seen in 1819, no less than 1055 square-rigged vessels and 3380 native boats visited Singapore during the past year. As the close liberal and enlightened view and the opening of free ports, the culminating point of the Singapore trade was stated to have been reached. Since them, however, it has increased by a million sterling. Again, on the establishment of the colony of Labuan, the like evil prognostications were put forward, as to more ports than one; but the imports and exports being greater at the end of the last official year than at any time since the formation of the settlement. His Excellency then proposed "The Continued Prosperity of Singapore, with Free-trade in its fullest integrity."

Mr. John Purvis, the oldest resident merchant, acknowledged the toast; and, in conclusion, alluded to the "true interests" to preserve Singapore in all integrity a free port. Mr. Purvis added, the principles adopted by Sir Stamford Raffles, he left as a legacy to Singapore for its rule and guidance; and, as the Government are trustees to the bequest, I feel assured it will be faithfully carried out. Mr. Purvis then proposed "The health of Colonial Butterworth, and success to their enlightened Government."

The Governor then proposed "The Hon. Mr. Church, and the Ladies of Singapore."

The toast having been drunk, Mr. Church returned thanks.

The company returned to the ball-room, and dancing was kept up until about two o'clock.

On the following day the children of the Singapore Institution Free Schools assembled on the premises in front of the Government House, and were entertained by Mrs. Butterworth, the patroness; on which occasion the Ladies' Committee of the school was present. The fragments of the supper were sent to the Lunatic Asylum and Hospitals.

THE SHIP "ASIA" DISMASTED BY A WATERSPOUT.

A WATERSPOUT at sea is a most destructive phenomenon; for no ship could escape if it were carried entirely within the vortex. In the instance here illustrated, the vessel was only partially caught by the spout, and providentially escaped. The ship *Asia* is one of Hall and Brothers' Australian line of packets. She left London last year, on the 23rd of March, and Plymouth upon the 6th of April, with nearly 200 passengers on board, for Port Phillip. She arrived there in safety, but was detained by the desertion of the crew—which has become so general

(*Continued on page 373.*)

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

THE ROYAL OPERA, DRURY-LANE.—On Monday and Friday, LUCREZIA BORGIA: Thursday and Saturday, DER FREISCHUTZ. Regisseur, Herr Formes. Gallery, 1s.; pit, 2s.; boxes, 3s.; dress circle, 5s.; stalls, 7s. Private boxes, one, two, and three guineas.—The prospectus is now ready.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.—EVERY EVENING (except Wednesday) MR. BUCKSTONE'S VOYAGE ROUND THE GLOBE (IN LEICESTER-SQUARE). Concluded, on Monday and Friday, by Speed the Plough; and Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, by London Assurance

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE, Oxford-street.—On MONDAY, and during the Week (Wednesday excepted) will be performed MARRIED AND UNMARRIED, and the new Musical Drama of FAUST AND MARGUERITE; with other Entertainments.

GREAT NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE, Shoreditch.—On MONDAY, APRIL 24th and during the Week, Mr. Iaacbar has produced, in connection with MR. HOLT To be followed by Vilikin and his Dinah. After which a Musical Farce. To conclude with the Grand Spectacle of The Spirit of Light. On Thursday a variety of Entertainments, being for the BENEFIT of Mr. JOHN DALE. Prices as usual.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.—OPERA BOXES and STALLS in the best situations, and on the most moderate terms, can always be secured at HAMMOND'S MUSICAL LIBRARY, 9, New Bond-street, opposite the Clarendon Hotel. Opera Pit Tickets and Private Boxes at all the Theatres.

GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street. ROUTE of the BRITISH ARMY to the SEAT of WAR, and the celebrated OVERLAND MAIL, DAILY, at Three and Eight. Admission, 1s.; 8s., and 4s.

MR. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC, including the Becnese Oberland and the Simplon, EVERY EVENING, at Eight o'clock, except Saturday; and Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday morning, at Three. Stalls, 3s.; can be taken at the Box-office every day from Eleven till Four; area, 2s.; gallery, 1s.—EGYPTIAN HALL, Piccadilly.

NOW OPEN, adjoining the Polytechnic, Regent-street.—Mr. W. F. STRUTT'S Original Moving DIORAMA of CANADA and the UNITED STATES; with Descent of Niagara and other Views. Mr. Lewcunen with Original Choruses of Canadian Boatmen, EVERY EVENING at Eight (except Saturday); and Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at Three.—Amphitheatre, 1s.; Stalls, 2s. Reserved Seats, 3s.; Private Boxes for four, 1l. Box-office open from Ten till Five.

NOTICE.—CONSTANTINOPLE.—The LECTURE accompanying the Grand Moving DIORAMA of CONSTANTINOPLE is now delivered on Wednesdays and Saturdays, by Mr. J. H. Sloquelet, when the Progress and Localities of the War will be more particularly explained and, on the other days, as usual, by Mr Charles Kenney. A very clear and excellent Map has been added to the Illustrations. Daily, at Half past Two and Eight. Admission, 1s.—Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly.

COSMORAMA DIORAMIC and PANORAMIC EXHIBITION, RE-OPENED the 7th instant, at the PRINCE of WALES BAZAAR, 209, REGENT-STREET, with a Series of New and Splendid VIEWS. Among them are the Ruins of Pompeii and the Valley of Chamouny, with Dioramic effect; Portions of New York; the Hippodrome at Constantinople, &c., &c.—Open from Ten till Six. Admission, 1s.; Children, half price.

ROYAL ACADEMY of MUSIC.—The Second Concert for the Exhibition of the Students will take place at the HANOVER SQUARE ROOMS, on SATURDAY MORNING, April 29th, to commence at Half-past One o'clock precisely. Tickets, to admit Four, 10s. 6d.; to be had at the Institution, Tenterden-street, and at the Royal Academy of Music, Frederick-street, Hanover-square.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, Exeter-Hall.—Conductor, Mr. COSTA.—On FRIDAY, APRIL 28th, will be rendered, for the first time by the Society, Beethoven's Grand Oratorio, MOUNT OF OLIVES. Principal Vocalists—Madame Clara Novello, Miss Dolby, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Herr Formes; with Orchestra of nearly 700 performers. Tickets 5s., and 10s. 6d. each; or Subscriptions, One, Two, or Three Guineas per annum; at the Society's Office, No. 6, in Exeter-hall.

MUSICAL UNION.—TENTH SEASON.—THURSDAY, APRIL 20th, WILLIS'S ROOMS, Resat, Goffrie, Ilf, Platti, and Sterndale Bennett, Violin; Hill, Doyle, D. Hayden Pyne, Violoncello; Mr. Lucas, Double Bass; Beethoven; and Trio, D Minor, No. 1, Mendelssohn. Solos on the Pianoforte by Mr. Benedict, Madame Arabella Goddard, Half-a-Guinea each; to be had of Cramer and Co., Regent-street, Chappell, Bond-street, Ollivier, and Second-class Day Tickets for Visitors, and also their Subscription at the Rooms to Mr Ollivier For other Particulars, address by letter, J. ELLA, Director.

SIGNOR NAPPI begs to announce that his last SOIREE MUSICALE will take place at WILLIS'S-ROOMS, on MONDAY, MAY 1st, when he will be assisted by Mesdames Rainforth, Messrs Benson Farrenti, Lucas, and Guille Bonnard, Conductor, Signor Negri. Tickets, 7s., to be had of Lonsdale's, 26, Old Bond-street, and Signor Nappi, 31, Dorset-street.

LONDON HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL, 32, Golden-square. A CONVERSAZIONE, in behalf of the funds of this Hospital, will be held at the HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, on THURSDAY EVENING, MAY 4th, at Eight o'clock. Tickets may be had at the Hospital, 32, Golden-square, and at all the Homœopathic Chemists and Booksellers. Single Tickets 7s. 6d., Family Tickets to admit four, 21 4s.

SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER-COLOURS. THE FIFTIETH ANNUAL EXHIBITION will OPEN at their Gallery, 5, Pall-mall East, on MONDAY next, the 24th of APRIL. Admittance, 1s. Catalogue, 6d.
JOSEPH J. JENKINS, Secretary.

ATTRACTIVE NOVELTIES.
ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION. Patron: H.R.H. Prince ALBERT.—The SEAT of the WAR, showing the Principal Places on the Danube, Kalafat, Widdin, Giurgevo, Rustchuk, the entrance to the Black Sea, Battle of Sinope, and Destruction of the Turkish Fleet, and other scenes kindly supplied by the Proprietors of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS) exhibited in a New Series of DISSOLVING VIEWS. Lectures by J. H. PEPPER, Esq., on Chemistry of Paper Making, and its Light, by the MAGNIFOSCOPE. Explanations of Models, Machinery &c. &c.—Open Morning and Evening, except Saturday Evenings. Admission, 1s.; Schools, and Children under ten years of age, Half-Price.

ROYAL PANOPTICON of SCIENCE and ART, LEICESTER-SQUARE.—Gorgeously Decorated Saloons, Hall, 100 feet in diameter, and 97 feet high.—Sacred Organ, Fountain, throwing a column of water 70 feet high.—Scientific Collections illustrating Chemistry, Electricity, Magnetism, Mechanics, Models, Machinery in Motion, Diving Bells, Working Models of Steam Engines, Marbles, Bronzes, Statuary, Specimens of Paper Making, Printing, Bookbinding, Glass Blowing, Cutting, Staining, Working Miniature Steam Engines, and Working Models of Steam Engines and Machinery. Lectures by Professor Hoblyn, Professor Ryan, Professor Bachhoffner, Professor Bachhoffner, Professor Bachhoffner

"THE ASIA" DISMASTED BY A WATERSPOUT, ON HER PASSAGE FROM PORT PHILLIP TO BOMBAY.

(Continued from page 370.)

n that land of gold. Accordingly she did not leave Port Phillip until the 27th of November, for Bombay. While on her passage, and in lat. 0 deg. 57 min. 47 sec. south, and long. 82 deg. 15 min. 15 sec. east, she was, unhappily, caught by a waterspout, upon the 22nd of January last, and almost totally dismasted. The weather but a few hours before was as follows: Jan. 21, midnight, light breeze from northward, with mizzling rain, and heavy lightning at south-west. About 1.15 a.m. light breeze, with rain, from the westward; steering north by west, going two or three knots per hour. At about 1.30 a.m. the second officer in charge of the midnight watch remarked that it looked very black ahead. Almost at the same moment a tremendous roar was heard ahead; and a gust of wind taking the ship flat aback, laid the masts prostrate on the decks. So instantaneous was the wind after the roar, that, although all halyards and sheets were let fly, it was of no avail. The wind was succeeded by a torrent of rain, which lasted about five minutes, and then left all calm and quiet, but water ankle deep on deck. The ship was a wreck, her decks stove, launch and bulwarks smashed by the fall of the foremast, and the first cutter crushed by the maintopsail-yard. At four a.m. the weather was calm and sultry, with rain.

BALL AT SINGAPORE, IN CELEBRATION OF THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE SETTLEMENT.—(SEE PAGE 370.)

ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS SUPPLEMENT.

VOL. XXIV.] SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 1854. [GRATIS.

PROGRESS OF THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

LET us imagine a journey by the separate line of rails which now extends complete, and will in a month be open to the public, from London-bridge to the Crystal Palace—a line exclusively devoted to what, to coin a word, we must call Crystal Traffic. Arrived at the foot of the South Wing—which forms a sort of supplementary station to a brick and slate station, almost concealed by banks of earth and trees—we pause upon the steps, and, looking up, see before and above the far-extended towering mass, which rises before us in form and proportion quite unlike anything we have seen before. Our readers—making allowance for the conquests of working days, and warm spring time, between the hour when Mr. Philip Delamotte set his sun picture-manufacturing machine to work—and from that sun painting our Illustration was drawn and engraved—must imagine the scaffolding removed; the broad terrace smooth and clear—green turf in the place of the tramway; the trees budding; and the distant balustrade crowned here and there with marble statues. We must leave to be told by our pictures the vast difference which exists between the hasty, hurried sketch by which Paxton saved the first Exhibition from suffocation beneath brick and mortar, and this, the matured result of time experience, and the just confidence his genius has earned.

As to the series of Courts, as long as the art department of the interior is incomplete, it is premature to criticise details; for details cannot be fairly judged until seen with the accessories of colour and adornment for which they were planned. We will, therefore, after entering the building by the basement, ascend to the Central Transept, and turn our steps to the southern arm of the Palace. It will be difficult for upholsterer's ornamentative taste—as seen in the last George's reign, in Long Wellesley's solid gold cornices, and Lord Harborough's Green-park paling, with its gilt nails—to survive the lesson of the series of Courts.

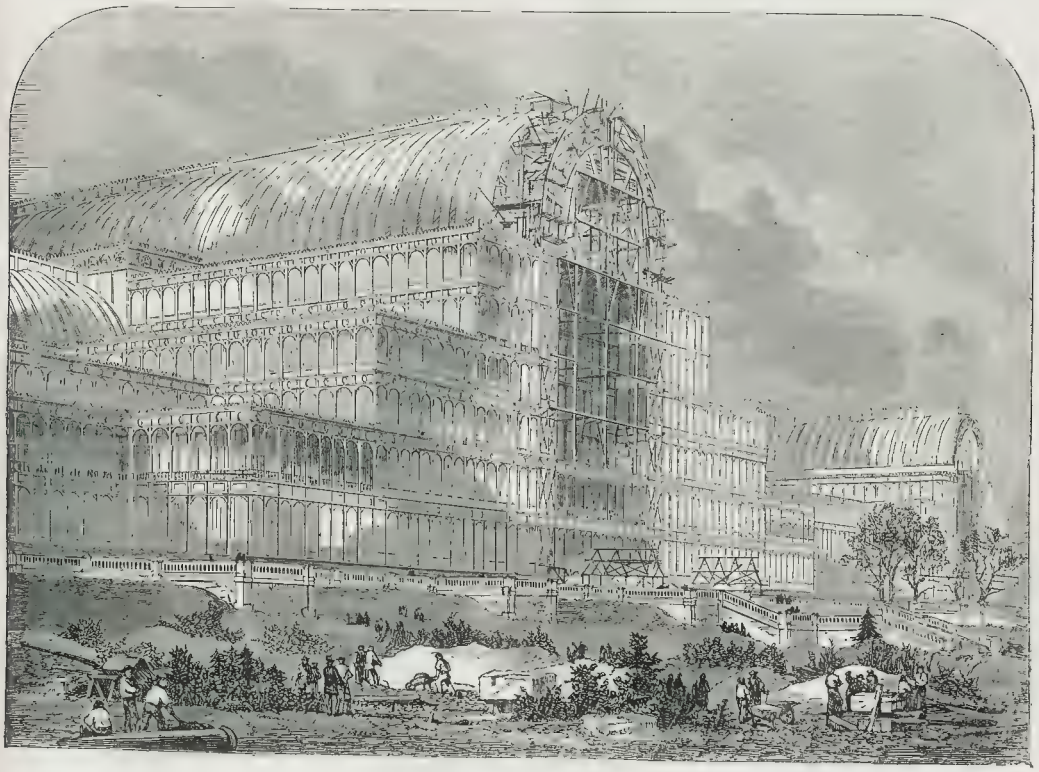
Pleased with the general plan; seeing in the details an admirable lesson in taste, in form and colour, in what to imitate and what to avoid, for the rising generation of workers and of patrons; with all our admiration, we cannot help fearing that the directors of these departments, in their anxiety to provide copies of the best works of sculpture in all ages, have run the chance of crowding up the space with plaster casts, which, however valuable to art students, will soon become wearying to the multitude. The fine vistas, the rich colouring, the beautiful details, the historical, theological, and poetical associations of the two series of Courts will unite the suffrages of all classes of visitors; but the plaster images from the works of known and unknown artists, and the long lines of busts of worthies, illustrious and obscure—from Alexander the Great to the Texian patriot, Colonel Ringtail Roarer, from Homer to the celebrated Senator Squabba, of Little Pedlington—will be found not very attractive out of a small circle of enthusiasts, which does not increase. People of all orders, educated and uneducated, never tire of trees and flowers, green turf, flowing water, of the gambols of parti-coloured carp. The changes of light and shade always afford some new picturesque effects in a vast harmonious building like the Crystal Palace; but a few statues in marble are enough for one day—a long regiment of plaster becomes wearyingly monotonous and harsh.

The Court of the Byzantine age is almost clear of the modelers; and the decorators have done enough of their work of flower and grotesque tracery, on golden ground, with coloured marbles, or undiscoverable imitations of coloured marble, to give a fair idea of what were the best works of the age extant when the Turks took Constantinople, and turned St. Sophia into a mosque. The next Court, the Mediæval, is still suffering severely from the strike of the plasterers: rich fragments of church architecture, unfinished, and bare laths, that are to grow into groined and fretted roofs, bid us pass on to the Rénaissance Court, where the decoration of the walls is proceeding with satisfactory zeal. We pause before the gates of Ghiberti, and rejoice that the copyist's art has given us all the pleasure of the originals, without robbing Florence as Florence robbed Pisa.

Turning from schools of art and architecture, botany, geography, and ethnology, to be hereafter described in detail, we enter the Southern Division, and Commercial Department, which, whether considered as a source of amusement and revenue, or as living epitome of the trade of the world, will certainly, if judiciously managed, become one of the most important, because the most original, and universally interesting parts of the undertaking.

The Southern Wing or nave is flanked on either hand by a series of square courts, destined for the special display of particular manufactures

The first on the right hand, looking south, is meant for Stationery goods of all kinds—books, prints, and ornamental work in paper and card. Built from plans and designs by Mr. Crace, it will show what can be done with wood and plaster not disguised to imitate stone or brick, but in their genuine forms: the plaster coloured, with various shades of ochre, and other earth colours; and the beams and panels of wood, representing the ornamental use of wood imitated in grain and texture with perfect fidelity. Of the result, it is impossible to say anything at present; but at any rate it will be quite new. In this, as in several other of the



THE GARDEN FRONT OF THE CRYSTAL PALACE OF 1854.

courts, medallions and friezes will represent the progress of the arts connected with the goods to be there exhibited. As, for instance, paper manufacture from the [illegible] and [illegible] the mud of Oil Nile, to the sumptuous [illegible] washing, drying process, which converts old rags into [illegible] Caxton, whose English [illegible] to commemorate by a sculptured [illegible] Lithgow [illegible] the [illegible] textures, and [illegible]

[illegible] Courts, who are names to speak their claims [illegible] while in the centre [illegible] Court for the [illegible] used by those chiefly [illegible] of Turkish [illegible] the Hardware [illegible] more conspicuous in their contents than might be [illegible] by the uninitiated from their names. [illegible] will bring to its adornment the works of the best manufacturers in a [illegible] of design has made decided progress. We ought to [illegible] celebrated enduring Sheffield plate and electrotype, but some specimens of real silver and silver-gilt plate, which, after [illegible] made in Sheffield, appears very often under the character of London West-end manufacture.

The Birmingham Court, entered by ornamental Iron Gates, opening to the Nave, will have materials for display not inferior to Sheffield, in the paper made, in iron, in steel, in brass, in gilt, in all that makes an English house comfortable, or cultivates an Indian plantation, or cooks a Spanish dinner. Birmingham, besides those articles in which a fair rivalry is carried on with Sheffield, makes a greater variety of useful and ornamental articles in steel, brass, and iron, than any other town—from lamps to spades, from swords to machines, or Indian hookah rings to tassels and the noses of negro Princes's equipage of all values, from the costly rifle or smooth bore, with which a Pallisser or a Gordon Cumming extirpates the lion of Africa or the grizzly bear of the Western Prairies, to the seven shilling musket, which the keen lemon-coloured Captain bargains for with palm-oil and ivory - slave prisoners being no longer a merchantable commodity. Fire arms, we understand, will not occupy any of the space in the Birmingham Court, but a special section will be set apart for them; and there, side by side with his American and Belgian rivals, the Birmingham gunmaker will be able to set up specimens of the quality, and statements of the price at which he is prepared to supply the fire-arms for a European war; probably, too section of the Exhibition will do more to settle the question of Government manufacture or private enterprise for the arming of our regiments than any number of Parliamentary Committees. We can only say that if a Government manufactory can turn out rifles and muskets constructed and better than private individuals can do on an exception to Government transactions in Public Works of any kind, from the Docks of Pembroke to the Kennington-park; which last has taken more time to plan than the Park of the Crystal Palace, and is still as dreary, unplanted, and unfinished. Another interesting feature of these Birmingham and Sheffield Courts is the opportunity afforded to ingenious workmen of exhibiting small inventions patented under the new law, or original designs, or specimens of superior workmanship, or hiring a single square foot or so, from a kind of margin reserved round the cases that ornament the counters, at a small annual rent. This will be a great boon to the inventors and designers among the hard handed, who form so numerous a class in the hardware towns.

Turquian Court, which we described in our notice of the Queen's visit, completes the series on the West Side of the Nave.

The East Side is flanked by the Court of Musical Instruments, in which manufacturers of pianos and substitutes for organs and other large musical instruments have applied. It is to be hoped that an arrangement as harmonious as the architect's design may be made with the exhibitors; if not, how distracting the concerts of even a drawing-room musicians, when the grand, the cottage, the pianoforte, without combining with the trombone, cornet-à-pistons, ophicleides, and other fearful instruments of wind and string, which are to fill up windows specially planned for their display. Music-books will be found in the Stationery Court. Two Courts are intended for Textile Fabrics, and the class for Textiles of Wool and Silk—follow next; the series is completed by a Foreign Court, intended to receive the choicest productions of France and Germany.

The Printed Fabric Court, designed by Mr. Cubitt, a son of Sir Charles, and the Mixed Fabric Court, by Professor Semper, the architect of the splendid theatre and the museum at Dresden, may be said to consist of a novel arrangement of pile-glass windows, and cases adorned with carved [illegible] pillars. The statue of Manchester will crown the centre Fabric Court, and reign over fifteen such medallions representing the rise, the progress, the triumph of cotton wool from the Indian distaff spinning on the floor to the self-acting mule, and other inventions, by which Cartwright, Hargreaves, Roberts, and a crowd of obscure but ingenious men have enabled the humblest labourer to indulge in a weekly clean shirt and clean pair of sheets, luxuries unknown to Norman Barons; which has made cotton stockings a necessary, and rendered it possible to discard the long-worn woollen garments, which [illegible] men was unknown and expensive, were the perpetual source of pestilential disease among the poorer classes. Something very pretty might be designed on the subject of chintz and calico printing. We wonder whether, in less warlike times, the architects would have given a medallion of Richard Cobden, whose Free-trade labours were sustained by his successful dyes and colour-printing processes.

We have not learned what symbols and ornaments Professor Semper means to use in his Court; but the lama ought not to be forgotten, or the Peruvian weavers of ponchos of wool, adorned with coloured designs, which even now form the best patterns for the South American market, and bears a considerable resemblance to Persian looms. After the wool of the lama, and its kindred tribe, the alpaca and vicuna, had been neglected for centuries, it was reserved for an Englishman, Mr. Titus Salt, to discover its value, and devise processes of manufacture, in which no country at present can vie with us. France, Italy, India, and China rival us in silks, Switzerland in cottons, and Belgium and France in merinos and fine cloths; but the beautiful results of a mixture of hair, wool, silk, and cotton, are only to be found in perfection in Yorkshire.

Other animals, besides the lama tribe, have a fitting place in the symbolism of mixed fabrics. For instance, the camel, the Cachemere, the Angora, the Syrian goat; the sheep, feeding on the fat pastures of Leicestershire, or nibbling the short, sweet herbage of the South Downs, or faring winter on the heather of Highland or Welsh mountains, or the moors where the Exe rises—the diminutive breed found in Shetland and Iceland, or the noble stock which, proceeding from Spanish pairings, from the vicinity of the Nave to the covered vineyards of Saxony and Russia, and were thence transplanted to give golden value to the Bush of Australia. Truly, when we summon up all these and many other tribes and varieties of the woolly and hairy race, which are represented in Leeds, in Bradford, in Halifax, in Huddersfield, and have created the model town of Saltaire, we feel that the Crystal Palace Directors would have done well to engage some of our animal painters to [illegible] assistance to the distinguished architects they have employed.

Ascending from the Orange into the Nave to the Gallery by one of the many staircases, we find almost the whole space given up to the display of manufactured goods; below, architecture, sculpture, trees, flowers, and fountains, and a few choice books for special manufactures, rented at a [illegible] price; above, the more serious business, to which some of the best men of all trades have contributed: at one extremity, tailors, hatters, shirt-makers, bootmakers, and all that goes to clothe the European man; at the other, china and glass. English, foreign, European, and Indian.

The Galleries of the Great Transept are fitted up to receive precious metals, fine jewellery, and precious stones; while, in appropriate [illegible] photography and perfumery, philosophical instruments and India-[illegible] Gallery, will be displayed, priced, and sold to those who choose to combine the pleasure of chopping with the pleasures of art or of idleness.

It is the man [illegible] itself to the many-sided taste of the multitude that [illegible] pect of the success of so gigantic an undertaking. The power which exhibitors at Sydenham will have of opening a large or a small shop of being wholesale or retail, of setting up their names and addresses, of fixing the prices of their goods, of attending to make sales and take orders will secure a living interest, a constant change of the articles displayed, and a degree of publicity greater than that of the Boulevards and arcades of the Continent, or the fashionable streets of London. The advantages in what may be plainly called the advertising point of view are obvious, as also as a bazaar or display of a collection of samples of the best or the cheapest manufactures of the world. This is the theory of the undertaking; the practical success will depend on whether the Crystal Palace Company's premises [illegible] Looking out into the iron gates of the Birmingham Court for the [illegible] the cool smith's anvil and the saucepans to Sheffield for the knives, spoons, and forks; to the Printed Goods Department for curtains and to the Woollen Department for carpets of Kidderminster, or Halifax or Axbridge. The mounting of the Gallery for china and glass, or Polish an chimney ornaments, or descending to the Nave for mirrors, or to the Basement, to see a heavy [illegible] machine. The husband going to the North Wing to order [illegible] the wife to the South Wing, to choose a [illegible] American, or Australian, or [illegible] preparatory looking to preliminary survey of the samples of [illegible] hard goods, damasks, velvets, satins, files, scythes, cutlery, [illegible] guitasses, and gilt beads, before travelling to Sheffield, to Birmingham, or to Leeds. All this is possible from the space at the disposal of the Company, from the interest of visitors, and from the character of the manufacturers who have contracted to send their goods there. Whether it will be realised depends not on theory, but on practice. Amongst other aids to the Commercial Department, a Directory will be issued containing the name and full particulars of the [illegible] and goods of each Exhibitor, so that Purchasers will have no difficulty in finding out the where and what they need.

The foundation of success rests on the managers of an undertaking so entirely novel in its character, adapting itself to the age of steam locomotion, electric telegraphs, and cheap postage. If they can manage to combine instruction and amusement with the transaction of a large amount of concentrated business, then the gardens and fountains, the statues and galleries, will be easily supported in at least their original freshness and splendour by the profits of a World Fair, an ever-changing school of manufacturing art and skill.

BANQUET TO HER MAJESTY'S MINISTERS AT THE MANSION-HOUSE.

On Monday evening a banquet was given, at the Mansion-house, by the Lord Mayor, which was attended by a numerous and distinguished company, among whom were the Duchess of Somerset, Lord John Russell, Lady John Russell, Viscount and Lady Palmerston, the Lord Bishop of Chester, the Earl of Kingston, Lord Robert Grosvenor, M.P., Viscount Ingestre, Sir George and Lady Hamilton Seymour, Sir W. Temple, Sir Richard Carr Glyn, Bart., Rear-Admiral Sir John Hill, the Misses Hill, Sir John and Lady Easthope, Mr. John Masterman, M.P., Mr. B. Oliveira, M.P., and Mrs. Oliveira; Sir Fitzroy Kelly, M.P., Sir W. Gore Ouseley, Bart., and Lady Ouseley, &c.

After the usual loyal toasts had been given, the Lord Mayor proposed "The Health of her Majesty's Ministers," coupling the toast with the name of Lord John Russell, of whose public services he spoke in very eulogistic term-

Lord J. Russell (who was received with much applause) said, this country was now at a remarkable crisis; and he hoped that the citizens of London, acting, as they ought to value, and having by long experience been taught to value, the blessings of peace, would not blame her Majesty's Ministers for having endeavoured by every means—by protracted negotiation, by every proposal, and by every offer, to avert war, and to continue that peace the blessings of which this country had so long enjoyed. But when he said that he did believe that they would not blame her Majesty's Ministers for endeavouring to obtain peace, he was equally confident that they would think that her Majesty's Ministers were worthy of confidence if, when the time came, when peace was placed on one hand and the honour and interest of England on the other, they determined to sacrifice the honour and interest of England for any other advantage, however great it might be (Cheers). As it had been their good fortune to have had the unanimous sense of the House of Commons in their favour when they were in power in carrying on war, so it would be their endeavour to attempt to obtain the restoration of peace, when peace could be restored on just, solid, and honourable conditions (Hear, hear). On behalf of those gallant men and navy who had gone forth from our shores to maintain the reputation of the flag of their country, he would beg them to believe that they were, one and all, intent on doing service to their country and to their cause. He knew well that their criticism was apt to be cast on men who might seem at one time not to carry exactly into effect the wishes and plans of those who knew not the difficulties, and had not weighed the dangers they had to encounter. But he wanted every one to believe that all those men were animated by a sincere desire to do their duty, and that at no time, even when their glory had reached to its highest pitch, was there an army and navy on whose courage and ability we could better rely; and he hoped that without listening to unfounded reports, the people would wait and see the whole actions of those men, and depend upon it they would prove worthy of England and their country (Hear, hear).

The next toast given by the Lord Mayor, "The Diplomatic Service, and Sir Hamilton Seymour," was responded to at some length.

Sir Hamilton Seymour, on rising to acknowledge the toast, was cheered most enthusiastically. He remarked that the compliment must have been paid to the diplomatic service rather than to himself. That system was a very simple one, and consisted only in keeping one's eyes open and calling things by their right names, and not by such as would be agreeable to their Governments to hear. In Russia there was no such system, simple as it was; and it was to the non-observance of some such system that he attributed many of the evils which had taken place; for if there was any country in Europe which required as it had been by England none of the present misfortunes which now threatened Europe would have occurred. Nothing could be more inexact than the accounts sent to the rest of Europe by Russia. As regarded the provinces of Turkey it was stated that the Greek Church suffered great persecution; that churches were burnt and priests killed. He attempted to discover something of all this, but he could never find any traces of it. What was said of Constantinople? The Emperor was told that Turkey was an interesting invalid, that she got worse from day to day, and that at last her obstinacy would be subdued to take the remedies offered by the imperial physician at St. Petersburg. What was said with regard to England? He did not allude to despatches of Prince Titoff or Count Thal, but he was talking of reports generally. It was said that John Bull was a very material fellow, who was always always buying and selling in the morning, and eating and drinking in the evening, so intent on his three per Cents that he felt no desire to interrupt the flow of his prosperity by interfering in matters that did not concern him closely. As regarded France, she was represented as a country hastily out of one great revolution, and only beginning to avoid a second. The principal men of that country were described as intent on realising large fortunes, while its Court was said to be very [illegible] in its tendencies; and, above all, it was affirmed that a close connexion between England and France was a myth, and would never be realised. The result had been, that England had been plunged into a war, by which a friendly power had been placed in the most [illegible] try; for there were, in Russia, many sympathies friendly towards England [illegible] to be counteracted by [illegible] and [illegible] latter knew, of course, that [illegible] people [illegible] would have effected [illegible] necessity for preserving the rights of [illegible] For centuries we have been on terms of hostility with our French neighbours, but now a state of [illegible] ed, which, it was to be hoped, [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

The Hon. T. E. M. Ll. Mostyn, son of the present Lord Mostyn, has issued an address to the electors of the county of Flint, soliciting them to confer on him the honour so repeatedly renewed to his father.

Lord Howden has addressed a note to the Spanish Government requiring that it shall close its ports against Russian privateers, if Russia issues letters of marque.

On the occasion of the marriage of the Emperor of Austria with the Princess Elizabeth, all the political prosecutions which have not yet been terminated will be suppressed, and sixty political prisoners will be set at liberty.

The Duke de Valentinois has been set at liberty by the Piedmontese Government, and the option allowed him either to return to Monaco by sea, or to France by land. He has selected this latter course.

Ole Bull's Norwegian colony speculation in Pennsylvania has placed him in considerable pecuniary difficulties, and he has been forced to go through the Insolvency Court.

Two beds of ironstone have just been let in Cleveland, on lease; one near Guisborough, at £7000 per year; the other near Normanby, at £3000.

The drought was causing great injury to the growing crops in different parts of Spain, and the Bishops have ordered prayers to be offered up for rain.

Mr. Thomas Duncombe is to move the House of Commons, on the 9th May, for a Select Committee to inquire in to the complaints of the Working and Industrious Classes.

The railway from Turin to Susa, on the southern side of Mount-Cenis, is to be opened to the public in the course of the present month.

The owners of Russian merchant vessels in the ports of Cadiz, Setubal, and Lisbon, have ordered them to be sold.

At a crowded meeting held in Halifax, on Tuesday evening, the Mayor in the chair, a large majority decided in favour of steps being taken to close public houses entirely on Sunday.

The ratification of the contract of marriage between the Emperor of Austria and Elizabeth, Princess of Bavaria, took place on the 7th. The ceremony will take place to-morrow (the 22rd inst).

The property of the Emperor of Russia, at the upper end of William-street, Limerick, consisting of stores and houses, which net a yearly rental of £400 a year, has been sold.

In consequence of the discontinuance of the Royal mail steamers on the Panama, New York, and Chagres route, an attempt is being made to get up steamers between New York and the Bahamas.

James Bailey, who was convicted at the last Somerset assizes of the murder of a young girl, named Eliza Coles, has been reprieved, with a view to a commutation of the capital sentence to penal servitude for life.

The *Stockholm Gazette* publishes a decree, permitting the free importation of corn and flour until the end of July, after which the former duties will be imposed.

The Weekly Dress Society, during the year just closed, have put into gratuitous circulation about 320,000 tracts, and sold at cost price 160,000; making a clear total issued of 480,000 tracts.

Count Zamoiski, nephew of Prince Adam Czartoriski, has received the permission of the Turkish Government to form a Polish legion. The legion, when organised, will be sent to Asia Minor to serve against the Russian General Georg.

The Postmaster-General has directed that the surcharge on letters or papers from London, sent through France, owing to there being no transit-route open on to Southampton, shall be allowed to appear.

Immense quantities of gutta percha said to have been discovered on the coast of Australia, near Geelong.

Commodore Vanderbilt and E. Mills, Esq., of New York, have entered into an arrangement for the establishment of an independent line of steamers from that city to San Francisco.

The *Plantagenet* left Southampton on Monday for Sydney, with upwards of 300 Government emigrants; all English agricultural labourers and their families, chiefly from the western counties.

The average daily yield of the diggings at Mariposa, by the last accounts, was from 16 to 20 dollars per head. In some instances it reached 100 dollars per day.

A piece of "may," in full blossom, was plucked at Impington, Cambridgeshire, on Tuesday, the 11th inst.

The *Alta California*, a San Francisco daily paper, has sent one of its editors to the Danube to report progress.

A very extensive bed of iron ore has been discovered in the commune of Hendaia, Department du Nord.

Several vessels were freighted at Shields, last week, to load coals for the Black Sea fleet, at £8s to £7p per keel.

The increase of the population of Toronto, compared with cities in the United States, is found to exceed that of Boston, New York, St. Louis, and Cincinnati.

A Norwegian vessel, bound to Hull, and laden with 400 barrels of gunpowder, was seized at Newcastle, last week, by Mr. Sanderson, landing-waiter of the Customs, and from him the decision of Government.

On Palm Sunday, three hundred palm branches, blessed by the Pope, were sent to the French General commanding the army of occupation, to be distributed to the officers who had asked for them.

The high price of food has caused an increase (last week compared with the corresponding week of 1853) of 664 paupers in Birmingham.

The French provincial journals contain accounts of a great many incendiary fires. According to one of them, there is reason to believe in the existence of secret incendiary societies.

A poor woman was apprehended in Glasgow, last week, for having embezzled a quantity of calico, out of which she had been employed to make shirts at 9d. per dozen.

Mr. Price, one of the East India Company's cotton agents, has been commissioned by Government to proceed to Rangoon, to inquire into the cotton-growing capabilities of the province of Pegu.

A Company has been formed to run a regular line between Liverpool and our gold-bearing colonies, under a Royal charter, with limited liability.

The Austrian Ambassador at Paris has left for Vienna, to be present at the marriage of the Emperor. He will be absent ten days.

A banquet was given by the Mayor of Cardiff on Saturday, to the officers in command of the French ships of war lying in that port, taking in cargoes of coal for the supply of the French squadrons in the Baltic and Black Sea.

Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton delivered an address to the members of the Literary Institution of St. Albans, on Tuesday evening. The Town-hall was crowded, and the speaker was loudly cheered.

The Spanish Government has issued an order prohibiting any privateers under the Russian flag from being armed, provisioned, or harboured, with their prizes, in Sardinian ports.

In Canada there are 35,000 fugitive slaves, most of whom are engaged on the lines of railway now constructing in that colony. In the abolition town of Buxton, in Canada, the free blacks own 9000 acres of land.

The suggestion of Lord Dungannon, that a public monument to the late Marquis of Londonderry ought to be erected in Belfast, is said to have been taken up by his friends in the north of Ireland.

The crew of a Russian vessel, which was sold at Waterford the other day, refused to obey the captain, who had sold her, and, according to his account before the magistrates, threatened his life. The men said, "they were free, and would fight for England." After two days' imprisonment for the assault, they were allowed to go to London.

Major-General Sir Joseph Thackwell, G.C.B., is appointed Inspecting-General of Cavalry during the absence of his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge in Turkey.

Arrangements are in progress for placing the Commissariat Department of the service in Ireland under a staff independent of the Ordnance, and solely responsible for the proper and regular supply of food and forage for the cavalry and infantry.

Several hundreds of German emigrants passed through from Hull to Liverpool, on Monday, on their way to America.

The Sabbath observance question is making great progress in France. A conclave at Boulogne, composed of both Protestants and Catholics, has agents actively employed in that town in the effort to put down Sunday trading.

The house of a scythe-maker at Millhouses, near Sheffield, was blown up by an infernal machine, on Sunday morning. Fortunately none of the inmates were injured.

The total number of hands relieved at Preston, last week, by the operatives' union, was 13,313, at a cost of £5,193 5s. 6d. Should the strike take place at Stockport, some 10,000 or 12,000 hands will be idle there also.

The Right Rev. Dr. M'Gettigan, Roman Catholic Bishop of Raphoe, has resigned his office as one of the Commissioners of the Board of Charitable Bequests, to which he succeeded on the death of Archbishop Murray.

Sir Joseph Paxton, Mr. Laing, M.P., and Sir Cusack Roney, had an audience of the Emperor of the French, on Saturday morning, on the subject of the opening of the Crystal Palace, at Sydenham.

EXPLORATION OF THE INTERIOR OF AUSTRALIA.

We learn from a Parliamentary Blue-book just published, some interesting particulars with reference to the recent navigation of the Murray River, styled, on account of its immense extent, "the Mississippi of Australia." The Murray River was partially explored by S. H. E. F. Young, Lieutenant-Governor of South Australia, in the year 1830, and subsequently by Captain Cadell in 1852, but neither expedition was productive of much information. The first voyage of importance was made in 1853 by the joint exertions of both these explorers. About the middle of the September of that year they succeeded in navigating the river as far as a place called Swan Hill, at a distance of 1300 miles from the sea. They proceeded in the *Lady Augusta* steamer, with a barge in tow, called the *Eureka*, and were accompanied by forty-five seamen and others. The first despatch forwarded by Sir E. F. Young to the Home Government, with reference to the navigation of this river was written on board the *Lady Augusta*, at Swan Hill, and dated September 17th, 1853. "Under Captain Cadell's able command," said his Excellency, "we have found a most ample depth and width of water throughout the long extent of course which we have just accomplished, without encountering any rapid or obstruction of any kind. The breadth of the river has averaged 300 yards; the soundings not less than three fathoms. After reaching the junction of the Wakool, 1100 miles distant from the sea mouth, the bends of the Murray become more frequent and sharp; the width, but not the depth, decreases, and the snags require more than usual attention. The average depth of channel through Lake Alexandrin is seven feet. Whether the river can at all times be continuously navigated throughout the year as easily as at the present season, is a point to be resolved only after a longer acquaintance with the periodical changes to which it is subject; but I have no reason to question its navigability by vessels propelled by steam during at least eight months of every ordinary year. From present and previous opportunities of observation and inquiry, I can bear testimony to the great natural advantages possessed by the extensive tracts of land which are drained by the Murray River."

In another letter, dated Adelaide, October 15th, Sir H. E. F. Young announced the further navigation of the Murray to the distance of 150 miles beyond Swan hill, to a spot known by the name of Gana Warra, where he found the average breadth and depth of the river the same as at most other points of its course. This was the furthest point at which the expedition arrived; but it was his opinion that the Murray Proper was navigable from the Goolwa (at the mouth of Albury, that is, for a space of 1900 miles. On their way back from Gana Warra, they navigated the Wakool to a distance of sixty miles from its junction. The other tributaries—the Loddon, the Campaspe, the Goulburn, the Puppal, the Billabong, and the Darling—were not explored, but the navigation of the last-mentioned river was in contemplation.

"I propose," said the Lieutenant-Governor, in his first despatch to the Home Government, in reference to the future colonization and management of the "Hundred of the Murray," "to be made of allotments of land, in blocks of one hundred and two hundred acres, to suit the various means of intending purchasers; and to give to the purchasers of these allotments a preference to the extent of their purchased acreage, a proportionate amount of surrounding waste land in the Hundred of the Murray, in South Australia.' Surveys of lines will be made in select spots as traffic and population require; roads leading to and from the river-side will be reserved for public use, and as a means of access to the back lands; whilst the alluvial flats, subject at periods to periodical inundation, may, by embankment, be rendered perpetually available. These flats extend, on an average, from about half a mile to three miles in depth; and generally both banks offer building sites of sufficient elevation to be beyond the reach of floods. Under the arrangement above described, the lessees of the waste lands (which are in South Australia open by law at all times to purchasers at public auction) will sustain an abstraction from the very large extent of their 'runs' for pastoral purposes, too insignificant to be detrimental to their special pursuits, yet sufficient to give to the owners of small allotments the space of pasture necessary to the sustenance of the live stock indispensable to their agriculture, their dairies, and other objects of domestic utility. The location of a population on the banks of the river will give to the squatters such facilities for obtaining labourers, that the pastoral objects to which, for very many generations yet to come, the immense tracts of back lands in the Murray district are destined, may be extended rather than restricted or interrupted by the appropriation of the alluvial margin of this great river to the settlement of freeholders. I took the liberty of suggesting to the Government of the day the necessity of reserving sites, at short intervals of one hundred miles apart to afford facilities for the formation of villages at spots likely to be convenient places of call for the river steamers; but my subsequent observation leads me to prefer the plan of continuous frontage reserves along both banks of the river necessary to the population which may be expected in future years to occupy this district. I am led to suppose that on the reserves in New South Wales and Victoria there is no right of commonage to the purchasers of allotments; the contrary of a commonage in the Hundred of the Murray, in South Australia is, however, as I am advised, essential to the early colonisation of the banks of the river; and in the case of so immense a water system as is the basin of the Murray, the omission to make very continuous reserves of frontage, could not but be a lasting injury to her Majesty's future subjects in Australia."

The banks of the Murray and its tributaries are described as abounding in trees and sheep. The principal trees are the gum-tree, the box, and the peppermint, chiefly found on flooded or alluvial soil; and the pine on the high lands, in red loamy earth. The gum timber of these parts is said to be peculiarly adapted to ship and house-building, which of itself will tend to the future prosperity of this new district. The number of sheep at present existing among the pastures of the Murray alone is estimated at upwards of 400,000; and there is grazing to spare for at least as many more, notwithstanding the quantity of horses and cattle which are at present reared. Flocks on the "runs" of the tributaries of the Murray are estimated at nearly one million and a half, although most of them are but poorly stocked, the banks of the Darling being almost unoccupied. The sheep are tended by the aborigines, who are known in numerous tribes. The quantity of wool from the pastures of these rivers, borne by steam down the Murray in the year 1853, amounted to 4000 bales of from 200 to 250 lb weight each. The transport of wool overland to Melbourne from the "Hundred of the Murray," is long and expensive, and the delivery is by no means regular; all which delay and inconvenience would, of course, be greatly obviated by the formation of a steam-packet company in the Murray River for the conveyance of wool, to the different markets. Sir H. E. F. Young expressed his confident opinion that the produce of wool in Australia is about to be very considerably and rapidly augmented by reason of the steam navigation, of which his voyage was the commencement.

The soil of the Hundred of the Murray is likewise admirably adapted for the cultivation of the vine, corn, maize, and rice, besides melons, enormous pumpkins, and other vegetables; of which several are already grown in the gardens of the squatters. The back-grounds swarm with wild fowl, and the waters abound in fish of several kinds; of which the principal are the "Murray cod," weighing sometimes as much as 70 lbs and the Mallawoy, valuable both for its nutrition and for the isinglass and oil which are extracted from it. "As regards soil, climate, and other natural advantages," says Sir H. E. F. Young, "there can be no doubt that the vast basin of the Murray is well adapted to sustain a large population, whilst in no part of the world can the extent and facility of internal communication by water be surpassed." The climate is of the same salubrious character as that for which the other more settled parts of this great continent are so justly celebrated. From the end of August to the 14th October of the year 1853, rain fell on twenty-nine days, and the mornings and evenings were rather chilly with heavy dew."

The other inducements set forth for emigration to the "Hundred of the Murray"—an extent of country "equal in area to seven times that of Great Britain"—are numerous and well worthy the attention of intending emigrants. "The route from Europe," says his Excellency, "viâ Port Elliot and the Murray, avoiding the dangerous navigation of Bass's Straits and Port Phillip Head, would be the most convenient route for emigrants, not only to the diggings, but also to the interior of the three colonies of South Australia, Victoria, and New South Wales. * * * A great passenger traffic may be expected hence to the gold-diggings, since they may be reached by way of the Loddon, within thirty miles of Bendigo and Goulburn, from the Murray, more easily than from Melbourne. Port Elliot, on the Murray, is described as being easy of approach, and sheltered against all winds, except that from the south-east—at what quarter it is expected, however, by a beach eight miles in extent. The anchorage is one of the best in Australia; and the jetty at the Goo wa, now in course of completion, which is joined to another jetty at Port Elliot by an iron tram-way seven miles in extent, forms a large basin, entirely sheltered from the winds and heavy seas. Another circumstance, too, which renders Port Ell ot likely to be one of importance is its easiness of access, and the facts as stated in official reports made in 1850 and subsequent years by Captain Lipson of the Royal Navy,—"that two mails may easily be delivered at Port Elliot for one at Port Adelaide during the winter months."

On the 7th October, 1853, an address was presented to the enterprising Governor of South Australia by the Murray settlers of New South Wales and Victoria on his return to Adelaide from Gana Warra. This address was signed by thirty nine subscribers, and congratulate his Excellency on the important discoveries he had made with reference to the Murray River. Fourteen days later he received an address from the Legislative Council announcing their gratification at his successful navigation, and awarding him a gold medal in consideration of the important commercial benefits of which his voyage was the harbinger. A gold medal was likewise awarded to his gallant companion, Captain Cadell, in consideration of his services as commander of the *Lady Augusta* and *Eureka*. A third medal was ordered to be deposited among the archives of South Australia in commemoration of the events, and as a tribute to the Legislature for the pecuniary encouragement which it voted in furtherance of the undertaking.

The little yet known of the Murray River and the surrounding district of the "Hundred of Murray," is highly encouraging; and there is no doubt, from its suitability with respect to climate, soil and production, that this immense region will one day become as populous and thriving as the most flourishing states of the Old or the New World.

THE ROYAL MARINES.*

Representations of the uniforms, together with historical notice of service performed by various regiments ordered to the East, have frequently appeared in the Illustrated London News; but no record has as yet been given of the Royal Marines. This highly distinguished corps has experienced great fluctuations in the manifold duties assigned to it during its existence. It has evidenced unbending courage and patient endurance under reverses, which have been repeatedly acknowledged by the Sovereign for the time being; and it has proved that when the demand is made upon it, it can be depended upon to support the honour of the British flag. The Marines gained every laurel they could win in 1797, the Marines stood by the Government when it was assailed by the mutineers. It remained staunch to its officers, and, in one instance, swerved from allegiance to the Crown. By a curious fact that has won some emulation for gallant exploits. When the Marines were engaged in the service of the Crown, they were always found on the right flank of the regiments they were brigaded among. Detached companies were usually brigaded with the malcontents on the enemy's side, and the Marines were always kept aloof from contamination, and, in cases of incertitude, the naval officers invariably reckon on the support of the Marines.

The origin of the Royal Marines is traced to 1664. It was raised for the express purpose of forming what was termed a "nursery for the navy, and the men were drafted into ships of war as necessity called for their services. They were [illegible] and the colours bore a red cross, with [illegible] from each angle. In seniority the corps stood third in the service, as the first in the line. In 1687 and 1689 several other marine regiments were raised; but in the latter year they were disbanded, leaving the original battalion only extant. During the reign of Queen Anne six regiments, and an equal number specified for sea service, were formed. The only difference existing between those forces arose from the Ensigns of the former being classed as Second Lieutenants, which advantage was not accorded to the latter. From this time, however, the corps ceased to be regarded as a nursery for the fleets. During the Queen's reign, several independent companies were embodied for the express purpose of defending our West India possessions; to which quarter they were sent, and formed into distinct battalions. From 1703 up to the present date, the Marines have been held in high estimation; and whenever a naval action has been fought, they have added laurels to those already reaped. At the period quoted the force numbered 8000 men, at an annual expense to the country of £1,200,000 sterling. The peace of 1714 occasioned the whole to be disbanded; and it was not until 1739 that the organisation of marine regiments was renewed, when six battalions were levied; and, for their better discipline and drill, five men from each company of Foot Guards were appointed sergeants and corporals to these corps. Three more regiments were raised in 1740. They wore camlet coats, brown linen waistcoats, and canvas trowsers. At the expiration of the three following years, the force amounted to 11,550 men. The Marines were placed under the control of the Admiralty in 1747. In 1755, the strength had increased to 14,845; and, in consideration of the very valuable services rendered by the corps, his Majesty instituted a new establishment of Marine Officers, entitled "General" and "Lieutenant-General of Marines." In these were added three Colonels, selected from the post-captains in the Navy. The corps was then divided into three parts, and designated the Portsmouth, Plymouth, and Chatham division.

The merits and utility of this body of men became so [illegible] from their gallant and spirited deeds on either element, that in 1760 additional companies were recruited, forming a total of 18,355 rank and file, being then one-fourth more than our naval force. The peace of 1763 was, as usual, marked by a general reduction of troops; and a considerable and most impolitic diminution was effected in this serviceable branch.

Any endeavour to furnish a record of the innumerable actions participated in by the Marines would be tantamount to recapitulating every dashing exploit performed by Englishmen at sea, since in no instance where hazardous enterprise opened promise of victory were the Marines absent.

The divisions could not carry on their colours a more appropriate emblazonment than "The Globe," with the pertinent motto, "Per mare per terram;" for truly it may be asked, in what quarter of the universe has not some portion of the corps been? It is now divided into four divisions, and takes precedence in rank immediately after the Fifty-seventh Regiment of Infantry, or, as it is commonly designated in the army, "the fighting half-hundred."

On the 29th of April, 1802, King George III. was pleased to issue an order directing that, in future, the Marines should be styled "The *Royal* Marines." The title of "Royal" was not acquired through influence: it was the reward of more than one hundred years of undeviating loyalty and zeal, a Monarch's acknowledgment of fidelity and honourable distinction.

At this instant detachments are on board every one of her Majesty's shipsin commission; wherever wood and iron can be made to swim, the Royal Marines will be found in the exercise of their duties.

It is said the detachments belonging to the fleet in the Black Sea have been landed for the purpose of occupying Varna. If so, and opportunity offers, they will add renown to the already acknowledged valour of British troops. The greater portion of the men and officers comprising the four divisions are now afloat, and the necessity of an augmentation is unquestionable.

* See Portraits of Royal Marines in the Illustrated London News for March 18, 1854.

LORD RAGLAN AND THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE AT PARIS.

The hearty reception of Lord Raglan and the Duke of Cambridge, on their arrival at Paris last week, of which we have given a Cut, must have been exceedingly mortifying to those partisans of Russia who still linger in London. Lord Cowley, our Ambassador at the Court of Louis Napoleon, and Marshal Vaillant, the Minister of War, were in waiting to receive them. A guard of honour was stationed at the railway terminus, and four carriages were in attendance for the Prince and his suite. These marks of attention on the part of the authorities, however, pleasing as they must have been, were not so valuable as the enthusiastic manner with which the distinguished visitors were welcomed by the inhabitants, who cheered and shouted "Vivent les Anglais" on their way to the Tuileries.

On Wednesday a review was given in the Champ de Mars in honour of the English officers. On Thursday morning, at nine o'clock, three of the Emperor's carriages were in attendance at the Prince and officers who accompanied them, to inspect the barracks of the regiments of Guides, at the Ecole Militaire. The distinguished party went over the building, and appeared highly pleased with all the arrangements. In the afternoon his Majesty the Emperor did the honours by conducting his Royal Highness to the promenade of Longchamps in his private carriage, the Emperor himself driving. In the evening Lord Cowley

RECEPTION OF LORD RAGLAN, THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE, AND THEIR SUITES, AT PARIS.

gave a splendid banquet in honour of the illustrious guests, to which a number of the principal English residents and visitors were invited.

On Saturday the Emperor, accompanied by the Duke of Cambridge, went in an open carriage to Joinville-le-Pont, to witness an interesting experiment in pontooning. In a second carriage were Lord Raglan, Commander-in-Chief of our expeditionary army; Maréchal Vaillant, Minister at War; and Maréchal Magnan, Commander-in-Chief of the army of Paris.

The Emperor was received, at the entrance of the park of Vincennes, by the General commanding and by the superior officers of the place, and escorted to the termination of it. There his Majesty quitted his carriage, and proceeded on foot towards the Marne, about seven hundred or eight hundred yards down the river, to the point where a bridge of boats, the invention of M. Janvier, civil engineer, had been thrown across. A considerable crowd surrounded his Majesty, and his distinguished visitors, and cheered loudly, as did the troops, who were drawn up at the approach to the bridge, which was 25 yards long, composed of 45 boats made fast to one another, and formed of very slight wood-work, covered with waterproof cloth. Its appearance was so extremely light, that people fancied it unequal to the weight it was destined to sustain; but any doubt on this point was completely set at rest when, without any visible oscillation, or the most trifling accident, it bore a battalion of infantry chasseurs, a squadron of cavalry, and a battery of artillery, consisting of twelve guns completely equipped. As the troops passed over in succession, they shouted "Vive l'Empereur!" with an enthusiasm which spread to the crowds who lined the banks of the river, and repeated the cheers with equal warmth. After the passage, the Emperor and his party minutely examined all the details of the construction of the bridge, and made many inquiries on the subject of the inventor.

On Sunday the Duke of Cambridge went to Versailles, to see the fountains play. During the visit the bands of the different regiments in garrison struck up "God save the Queen," which was received with cries of "Vive l'Empereur!" "Vivent les Anglais!" by the multitudes assembled. In the evening, the illustrious party dined with their Majesties at the palace of the Tuileries.

On Monday a ball was given at the Elysée, in honour of the Duke of Cambridge, which was very fully attended. The rapidity with which the gardens had been decorated for the occasion was quite astonishing. Only on Saturday last they were in a state of great confusion, as were also the approaches to the Palace—masons, carpenters, &c., being still at work on the new portions of the building; but before eight o'clock on Monday night the Palace and gardens were in as good order as if they had been completely finished—all the unfinished work being concealed by painted canvas. The Emperor and Empress left the ball at about one o'clock in the morning.

Lord Raglan left Paris on Tuesday morning, for Marseilles. The Duke of Cambridge followed him the same evening.

EMBARKATION OF PRINCE NAPOLEON, AT CHALONS, FOR THE EASTERN EXPEDITION.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

EMBARKATION OF TROOPS FOR THE EAST, FROM THE NEW PORT, MARSEILLES.

DEPARTURE OF PRINCE NAPOLEON.

Prince Napoleon, who left Paris on his way to Gallipoli last Sunday week, was received with much enthusiasm by the inhabitants of Chalons, Lyons, Avignon, and other large towns through which he passed. Our Artist, as will be seen, has given a Sketch of the departure from Chalons, on his way to the port of embarkation.

On the evening of the 12th inst. his Imperial Highness made a triumphal entry into Marseilles. He was cheered, not by hired bawlers, but by the wealthy and the laborious, from the terminus to the Prefecture. Every house was illuminated, and each window filled with well-dressed females, waving handkerchiefs and showering nosegays into the carriage of the Prince. Little was known of the Prince previous to his coming amongst them, but he was welcomed as the cousin of him who had twice saved France from anarchy, and for his chivalrous conduct in demanding to share the dangers of the brave army.

On the following day he assisted at the banquet offered to him by the Town-council. One hundred and eight persons were present. The first toast given by General Rostolan, "The Emperor," was received with the greatest enthusiasm. The second, given by the Mayor, was "Our illustrious guest." The reply of the Prince was short, but full of noble sentiments. It was as follows:—

I thank the Mayor of Marseilles for the toast he has just given. In demanding from his Majesty the Emperor the honour to partake of the dangers and labours of the army of the East, I only did that which every French soldier would have done had he been in my place—*my duty, and nothing more!* (Here there was immense applause.) In those who, by the will of the people, are placed the nearest to the throne, there is a right which I shall always demand—that is, to be at the head of the children of France when defending our influence, our rights, our honour, and our national independence (Continued cheering). The words so emphatic of the Mayor prove that you fully appreciate the sentiments with which I was inspired in my address to the Emperor my cousin. No one can foresee the political results that may arise from the war now commenced. But our glory and our interests are in good hands. Have confidence in him who has so nobly and so ably conducted the difficult question of the East. This much is certain should our arms and those of our allies triumph, vast commercial advantages will be obtained for this great city. The Black Sea, hitherto nearly closed, will be opened to the commerce of the West. The Ottoman empire, strengthened, and no longer fearing a suspicious and ambitious neighbour, will be enabled to develop all its immense resources, and progress in its liberal intentions. It is this which it is permitted to hope, and I notice it to show the great advantages that may be gathered for Marseilles in the war against Russia. Your interest is therefore blended with your duty. I beg to propose "Prosperity to the City of Marseilles."

At the close of this short but eloquent speech, everybody, and as with one voice, cried out, "Vive l'Empereur! Vive le Prince!"

The banquet broke up at half past eleven o'clock, when the Prince returned to the Prefecture. Even at that late hour of the night, the streets were thronged, so anxious were the people to catch a sight of his Royal Highness.

On Saturday, the 15th inst., he left Marseilles for Toulon, from which port he embarked, on the forenoon of Monday last, on board the *Rolland*.

EMBARKATION OF FRENCH TROOPS AT MARSEILLES.

The Marseilles papers describe the bustle which has lately prevailed in that port, during the Embarkation of Troops for the East—of which we we give an Engraving—as far surpassing anything witnessed in that locality since the grand expedition to Algiers. No less than one hundred vessels were alongside the great inner quay at one time, taking on board warlike stores, provisions, and fittings for the accommodation of the horses. The fleet of transports was distinguished by a red ensign at the main of each ship, inscribed with its number. The total number of transports employed was upwards of 200.

At Toulon, also, the embarkation has been going forward at a brisk rate. The last accounts from that port say that 10,000 infantry would be collected there by the 20th, to form another division for embarkation; by which period, it was hoped, the ships of war which last sailed for Gallipoli would have returned to receive them.

The total number of French troops which arrived at and departed from Malta on their way to Gallipoli, from March 23 to April 7, independent of a large number which passed the island without stopping, was 8192 men and 346 officers. The *Moniteur* stated some time ago that upwards of 50,000 French troops would be collected in Turkey by the beginning of May; and it is generally believed that these will be followed by another force equally large. Some accounts speak of a French contingent of from 100,000 to 150,000 men.

THE ALAND ISLANDS.

Aland (pronounced Oland), whose name will probably figure in the coming struggle in the Baltic, consists of a number of small islands, which, in ancient times, were doubtless inhabited by Vikings. By their love of freedom, and taste for adventure, the Alanders seem to prove their right to this descent; and such is their conviction of their own nationality, that, on being asked if they are Swedes or Fins, they will reply, "No, we are Alanders—we are a separate nation." They are good sharpshooters, and born sailors. The sea is their element, and by which they support themselves rather than by agriculture. They are generally well off, and gold and silver are to be met with in almost every house. The different islands compose seven parishes, with 12,000 inhabitants, of whom 3000 carry arms

After the union of Aland with Russia, in 1809, it was found advisable to fortify those islands, forming as they did the most westerly frontier of the empire. Scarpans, in Bomar Sound, was chosen as the most favourable spot, where, for more than twenty years, extensive works have been carried on, in the buiding of fortresses and fortified barracks, which extended their powerful arms along the channel between the mainland of Aland and Wardo. By the latest accounts, Aland had been disarmed by the Russians.

A glance at the map will exhibit the importance of the islands of Aland and Gothland, held by Sweden. It is thought that Russia may attempt to gain possession of the latter station—one of the most strategical points in the Baltic, and overawing Stockholm; but the Swedish Government have put it into an efficient state of defence, and despatched five regiments of infantry and one of cavalry to man its fortifications The principal Swedish naval station is Carlscrona. But it is in the Gulf of Finland—the probable destination of Sir Charles Napier's powerful fleet—that the public interest chiefly centres. Of the characteristics and defences of this coast, our information is meagre. Few parts of Europe are so little known. Russia studiously discourages the dissemination of such knowledge of her dominions as may be turned against her in time of war.

THE ALAND ISLANDS.—BOMAR SOUND AND THE FORTIFICATIONS OF SCARPANS.

LITERARY MISCELLANIES.—No. XII.

WORDSWORTH'S FAVOURITE FLOWER.

At this time of year we are very desirous to introduce to such of our readers as know it not, a very common but striking wild flower, now everywhere shining on hedge banks, and on the slopes of fields. Were they to seek for it two months hence, or felt inclined to offer any sum for a specimen, no gardener or botanist could procure it. This flower is unknown to many, chiefly, because the ways across fields are generally muddy when it is in bloom, and some fancy that a walk in the country must be anything but pleasant at such time of year. We intend to introduce them to the plant commonly called the "Pilewort," now classically known as the "Small Celandine," under the latter of which names Wordsworth has celebrated it. Since childhood, most of us have known it, especially if we live or visit near fields. It is truly described by our poet, and we can now (1854) literally adopt his words—

> Modest, yet withal an elf
> Bold and lavish of thyself;
> Since we needs must first have met,
> I have seen thee, high and low,
> Thirty years or more, and yet
> 'Twas a face I did not know;
> Thou hast *now*, go where I may,
> Fifty greetings in a day.

We must for a time get personal. In 1833 the writer purchased his *first* botanical book; it was the second edition of "The British Flora," by William Jackson Hooker, LL.D., &c. This was in August: as the Pilewort is

> The first gilt thing
> That wears the trembling pearls of spring,

there was no specimen with which to compare the description. The season was then that of

> The yellow flowers,
> Children of the flaring hours!
> Buttercups, that *will* be seen,
> Whether we will see or no.

The three common species of Buttercup were described on Dr. (now Sir William) Hooker's opposite page, as they are clearly allied to our plant, and belong, indeed, to the same genus. The year 1834 enabled the writer to compare the flower and the description; and in three or four years he was introduced to the pages of Wordsworth. In the spring of 1846 he transplanted, from Copenhagen-fields to a little grass bed in Islington, some specimens of the Celandine; and, on a bright sunny day soon after, he was gratified, beyond measure, to see its golden rays dotting the green background. "I shall write to Wordsworth," exoisimed he to his wife; and to Wordsworth, with whom he had previously corresponded, he next day wrote; and, before the end of the week, he received a specimen now valued "inter spolia vatis optima." Here is a fac-simile of this specimen, drawn by Mr. Selter, and here follows a part of the venerable Poet Laureate's letter—

Rydal Mount, 16th April, 1846.

Dear Sir, I have great pleasure in complying with your request, and herewith send a specimen from a sunny slope within a few yards of my house, which I call Celandine Bank—it is so richly starred with that favourite plant of mine. * * * * Thanking you for your prayers and good wishes, and assuring you of the like on my part for yourself, I remain, dear Sir, faithfully your much obliged, WM. WORDSWORTH.

Had Chaucer or Robert Burns been alive, the writer might have sent for a daisy; he feels sure that each of these poets would have sent him one. Our esteemed friend Johnston, in his admirable, readable, amusing, and instructive "Botany of the Eastern Border" (1853, p. 165), tells his readers that the Celandine was the favourite flower of Dr. Patrick Neill (of Canonmill, near Edinburgh), so well known to all who love a garden; and he adds that "the last excursion Dr. Neill made (he had to take coach to make it) was to see what he called the Ficaria Bank of Cramond." We have sunny memories of Dr. Neill; they linger on our pen.

Another friend of ours—whose admirable works on the natural history of Canada, Jamaica, and Great Britain, are in the hands of every zoologist—thus writes, in that excellent work of his, published in 1838, "A Naturalist's Rambles on the Devonshire Coast," p. 107, "The Pilewort (or Celandine, as some call it), is one of my favourites; for I must certainly beg to be admitted among the 'three or four' whom

THE PILEWORT; OR, SMALL CELANDINE (*Ranunculus Ficaria*).

Wordsworth covets to praise his little flower of the 'glittering countenance'"—

> There's a flower *that shall be mine*
> *'Tis the little Celandine:*
> Prophet of delight and mirth,
> Ill requited upon earth,
> Herald of a merry band,
> Of a joyous train ensuing,
> Serving in my heart's command,
> Tasks that are no tasks renewing,
> I will sing, as doth behove,
> Hymns in praise of what I love.
> * * * * *

We love the quiet enthusiasm of the poet, and we cannot refrain quoting the conclusion of Wordsworth's second poem:—

> Let the bold adventurer thrid
> In his bark the Polar Sea,
> Rear the world a pyramid,
> Praise it is enough for me,
> If there be but three or four,
> Who will love my little flower?

P.S. For the benefit of such of our readers as have no Flora, we extract from the Sixth Edition of Sir Wm. Hooker's "British Flora," by Sir. W. J. Hooker and Dr. Arnott, the description of

R. ranunculus Ficaria L. (Pilewort Crowfoot, *lesser Celandine*); leaves cordate, petiolate angular, or crenate, sepals 3, petals 8, achenes smooth. Root *Engl. bot. t. 1*[illegible] *Fl. germ. exs. Dr. C.*) Pasture-s, woods, [illegible] Flowers glossy [illegible]

[illegible] the [illegible] notice may induce some few to *study* [illegible] of [illegible] hood. He remembers well his pur- [illegible] and "Flora," in 1835, and how at first it puzzled him. He persevered, and, having mastered the terminology, and found out many of the common plants, he can say, with Wordsworth to the Celandine—as the

> Buds and bells
> Open daily at thy side,
> By the season multiplied—

That wild flowers, like birds and fascets, have charms for him, and that on every walk, he has far more than

> Fifty greetings in a day.

When man was in a state of innocence he was placed in a garden; when, like Solomon, fallen, but gifted with knowledge, he studied plants, from the Cedar of Lebanon to the Hyssop that springeth out of the wall; when under the direct hearing of the Great Teacher, he was, and is, commanded to "consider the lilies of the field;" and in the "midst of the streets" of the New Jerusalem, there is to be "the tree of life," which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month, and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations" (Rev. xxii., 2.)

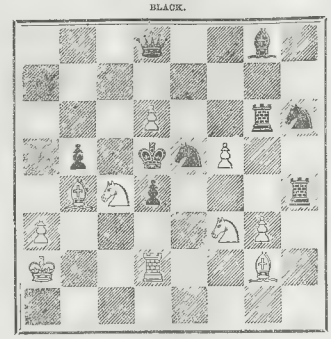
CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

DELTA, Witney.—1. Neat, but very easy 2. The Solution required was sent as you wished.
A PUBLISHER of Kew.—Too ex dear.
V. H. L. L., Brussels.—The Communications crossed each other. A reply shall be forwarded to a new d ess.
GAMMA Hastings.—1. The latter won. 2. No difference whatever. 3. Your Solutions are correct
PHILO-Chess.—We have just learned that the annual soirée of the Southampton Chess-club is to be held on Friday, the 21st inst., at the Victoria Rooms, Southampton. A notification of this should have been sent us at least ten days ago.
RATIONAL.—No. 7 was published in the March Number of the *Chess Player's Chronicle*.
A NEWMARKET Subscriber.—It is rather neat, but not sufficiently difficult for an.

PROBLEM No. 531.
By Mr. J. B., of Bridport.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White playing first, to mate in four moves.

CHESS ON THE CONTINENT.

The two following Games are from the Match played by PRINCE D. O. and Mr. S—r.

(French Opening.)

BLACK (Prince D. O.)	WHITE (Mr. S—r.)	BLACK (Prince D. O.)	WHITE (Mr. S—r.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	19. B to K 2nd	Q Kt to K Kt 3rd
2. P to Q 4th	P to Q 4th	20. K to R sq	Q Kt to K R 5th
3. P takes P	P takes P	21. Q to Q 3rd	R to K sq
4. P to Q B 4th	Q B to K 3rd	22. K R to K Kt sq	P to K B 4th
5. Q Kt to Q B 3rd	P to Q B 3rd	23. Q R to K sq	Q to K R 3rd
6. K Kt to K B 3rd	K Kt to K B 3rd	24. Q to K 3rd	Q to K Kt 3rd
7. Q B to K Kt 5th	K B to Q Kt 5th	25. Q to K sq	K Kt to K B 5th
8. Q to her Kt 3rd	B takes Kt (ch)	26. K Kt to K t 3rd	Q Kt to K Kt 3rd
9. P takes B	Q Kt to Q 2nd	27. B to Q B 3rd	Q to K R 4th
10. Q takes Q Kt P	Castles	28. Q R to K Kt sq	K Kt to K R 6th
11. P to Q B 5th	Q Kt to Q Kt sq	29. Q to K 6th (ch)	K to R sq
12. Q to Q R 5th	Q to Q B 2nd	30. Kt K to K B sq	Kt Kt to K Kt 4th
13. K B to Q 3rd	B to K Kt 5th	31. Q to K 2nd	Q Kt to K R 5th
14. Castles on K side	B takes Kt	32. Q to K 7th	R Kt to K Sq (d)
15. P takes B	K Kt to K R 4th	33. Q takes K Kt	Kt takes P
16. Q B to K 7th (a)	Q to K B 4th	34. R to K t 2nd	P to K R 3rd
17. B takes R	Q Kt takes B	35. Q to K Kt 6th (d)	Q takes Q
18. Q R to Q Kt sq	R to Q sq	36. P takes Q	

And White succumbed.

(a) Black plays this game from the point where he gets the advantage in force, with great spirit and ability.
(b) It will be observed that White is always within a move of turning the tables on his opponent; but it so well not at every attempt that he can never afford his p ose, do what he may. (c) Some loss was now inevitable. (d) The finishe

BETWEEN THE SAME PLAYERS.

(French Opening.)

WHITE (Prince D. O.)	BLACK (Mr. S—r.)	WHITE (Prince D. O.)	BLACK (Mr. S—r.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 3rd	23. Q to her R 3rd	Q R to K Kt sq
2. P to Q 4th	P to Q 4th	24. Q to Q Kt 4th (ch) (c)	K to Q R 3rd
3. P takes P	P takes P	25. Q to Q R 4th (ch)	K to Kt 3rd
4. K Kt to K B 3rd	Q B to K 3rd	26. P to Q Kt 4th	Q to her R 3rd
5. Q B to K 3rd	K Kt to K B 3rd	27. Q to her Kt 3rd	Q R to K Kt 3rd
6. K B to Q 3rd	K B to Q 3rd	28. P to Q R 4th	K R to K Ktsq (f)
7. Q Kt to Q 2nd	P to Q B 3rd	29. K to K 2nd	Q to K R 3rd
8. Castles	Q to Q B 2nd	30. B to Q 6th (g)	Kt to K 5th
9. P to Q B 3rd	P to K R 3rd	31. B to Q B 5th (ch)	K to Q B 2nd
10. P to K R 3rd	Q Kt to Q 2nd (a)	32. K R to Q B 3rd (h)	R takes P (ch)
11. K Kt to K R 4th	P to K Kt 4th	33. R takes K R	R takes R (ch)
12. Kt to K B 5th	Castles on Q side	34. K takes R	Q to K 7th (ch)
13. Kt takes B (ch)	Q takes Kt	35. K to K t sq	Q to K R 7th (ch)
14. P to K B 4th	P takes P	36. K to K sq	Q to K B 6th (ch)
15. B takes P (b)	Q to K 2nd	37. K to K 2nd	Q takes R P (ch)
16. Q to her R 4th	K Kt to K R 4th	38. K to K 3rd	Q to K R 6th (ch)
17. B to K R 2nd	Q to K Kt 4th		
18. Q takes Q R P (c)	Q to K 6th (ch)		
19. K R to K B 2nd	K Kt to Kt 6th	39. K to K sq	Q to K B 6th (ch)
20. Kt to K B sq	Q takes B	40. K to K 2nd	Q to K B 7th (ch)
21. Q to Q R 8th (ch)	K to Q B 2nd	41. K to K sq	B to K Kt 5th
22. B takes Kt (ch) (d)	K to Q Kt 3rd		And wins.

(a) This game is very carefully opened on both sides. There are no premature feints and sk.rmishes, but the forces are well brought into action before either party strikes a blow
(b) White is now undoubtedly master of the position; and, considering how rarely he throws away his advantage by want of attention, we are surprised at his allowing the adversary to escape from the evident constraint he is now under
(c) More than ever do we now prefer the White game. The Prince must have borrowed a leaf out of Mr Löwenthal's book to let such an advantage as he has now acquired slip through his fingers.
(d) Instead of this move, he should have checked with his Queen, at Q R 6th, and Black's career would also have been but brief
(e) We should have preferred playing Q to her 8th.
(f) Mr S—r, having got his King out of immediate danger, is preparing to retort offensive measures.
(g) A poor, tame move, and at a time when some vigorous and decisive step was imperatively needed The obvious course was to shut out the Black Queen. We should, therefore, have played at once the Pawn to Q Kt 5th. In which case the following is the natural continuation.

29. P to Q Kt 6th	P takes P (best)	Q to Q Kt 4th
30. K K takes Kt	Q R takes R	R to Q 2nd, or (*)
		33. R to Q R 3rd—And White must win.
(*) 30.	K R to Q B sq	30 Kt to K 3rd
31. R to Q K 6th (The	R to K B 5th (Any	31 Kt to Kt 4th
winning coup)	other move would	32. P to Q R 5th (ch)
	be directly fatal to him)	And White gives Mate in two moves.

[To our readers we will repay examination, for they are instructive without being wearisome.]

(h) This enables Black to force the game in brilliant style.

CHESS ENIGMA.

No. 887.—By Mr. H. E. KIDSON

White: King at h R 3rd, Q at K R 2nd, R at K Kt 3rd, Bs at K Kt 4th and Q Kt 6th, Kts at K R 6th and Q 4th

Black: K at Q 4th, Qat Q R 7th, K at Q Rsq, Bs at K 2nd and Q B 7th, Kt at h 4th; P's at h R 2nd, K B 3rd, Q B 3rd, and Q Kt 5th.

White to play, and mate in three moves.

LITERATURE.

THE DECIMAL SYSTEM IN NUMBERS, COINS, AND ACCOUNTS: especially with reference to the Decimalization of the Currency and Accountancy of the United Kingdom. By Sir JOHN BOWRING, LL.D., &c. Illustrated with 120 Engravings of Coins. Cooke.

Sir John Bowring commences his work by stating that every human being—man, woman, and child—has been provided with a set of decimal machines in the shape of fingers and toes. He quotes Ovid to show that the Romans counted with their fingers; and refers to Quincy Adams as the authority for the assertion "that decimal arithmetic is distinctly proved to have been established before the General Deluge." After noticing its use amongst many ancient nations, he observes:—"From the remotest times traces of the quinary, decenary, and vicenary scale may be found in the languages that have come down to us. Their universality may be traced to the physiological construction of the human being; and in the same way in which the finger (digit) has been employed as the primary element of notation, so the palm, the span, the foot, the cubit (1½ foot), the arm (braccio), the yard (gyrd), Anglo-Saxon for girth—all measures which every human being carries about with him, have been employed from all times and in all regions of the world." Sir John shows, too, by many examples, that by following out this system, founded on the physiological construction of the human being, we can obtain a far more extensive and complete enumeration than by any other. In fact in all high numbers we depart from the duodecimal system, and reckon not by twelves but by tens—2,0—20; 3,0—30; 10,00 =1000 ; 10,00,000=1,000,000. Thus in the natural, complete, and universal system of decimal notation, our duodecimal system is an interpolation, a petty interruption—having regard to the universality of the decimal system in time and place—to a great national progress—which must, that the stream may flow smoothly, be removed. The *duo*decimal system has not an equally good foundation; and it accordingly is not universal. It had its origin, however, and has so long been preserved, in various parts of Europe, in an important fact. The division of animals when killed—of a great number of grains of corn, say a bushel—is not into *five* parts, like the fingers, but into halves; and, for further convenience, into quarters. Things in nature are, as it were, doubled: there are two eyes, two legs—two similar halves to almost all bodies. The natural division of substances into halves and quarters, though affording a basis of another and a different system, and explaining its continued use, cannot be made a substitute for decimal notation; and the great object to be kept in view, in all arrangements of measures and weights, is to adapt the natural system of notation to the natural system of dividing bodies into halves and quarters, which become fractions on the quinary system at the first division, while the number four halves into two, and quarters into one. There is some difficulty in accomplishing a union of the two natural systems, or they would not have been so long mingled in a confused manner. At present, by almost universal consent, the decimal system obtains the upper hand, and what is especially desired, is to establish, in conjunction with it, a unit of weight and linear measure, easily divisible into tenths.

Weights, measures, money—the measure of value—are, and have been at all times important elements of all human transactions. They are to be found in every period of history. The reader will not be surprised, therefore, to find in Sir John Bowring's book, illustrations of the subject drawn from every part of history. He will feel astonished, indeed, at the immense number and variety. The book embraces the whole subject, and information on it is brought together from all the countries of the world, and from all time—poets, historians, arithmeticians, the most vulgar reckoner on his fingers to the greatest mathematician of the age—all use arithmetic, and all supply Sir John with illustrations. His little work contains an immense mass of learning, and is most complete and elaborate.

With reference to the practical adaptation of the decimal system to our money and accountancy, Sir John Bowring coincides with the report of the Committee, and is strongly in favour of retaining the pound sterling as the unit or integer of account. Probably, in carrying out this recommendation, the pound sterling should be made a definite quantity of gold, easily divisible into halves and quarters without fractions—say the quarter of an ounce—instead of being, as at present, 113,001 grains of pure gold, or 123,274 grains of standard gold, the pound troy of standard gold being coined into 46 and $\frac{20}{123}$ sovereigns.

To coin it exactly into forty-eight would not make much change in the value, but would simplify our coinage On this particular branch of the subject, however, so much has been written, that before we can act we must wait till time has separated all the baser stuff, and cleansed from fallacy and verbiage the pure and unadulterated ore of reason for our use. Sir John's own personal experience in China reflects great light on his lore. He gives a good description of the Chinese swan pan, or abacus, and mode of using it, and tells us that the following is the Chinese multiplication table, the simplicity of which recommends the whole scheme. Ten tens are a hundred; ten hundreds a thousand; ten thousand a wan=10,000; ten wans a yih=100,000; ten yihs a chaou=1,000,000. The Chinese seem a very calculating people, and Sir John says of them:—

> At early morn, one of the first sounds heard in the shops of all the towns and cities of China, is the shaking and cleaning the swan pans preparatory to the business of the day. As, in Christian lands, the sound of the bells calls the worshippers to church as, in Mahomedan countries, the voice of the Muezzin from the minarets bids the devout Mussulmans to prayers—so, in "the middle kingdom," the rattling of the abacus announces that another morning's labours are begun.

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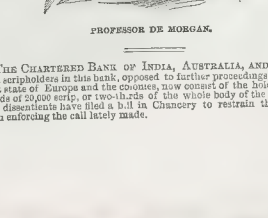

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

No. 680.—VOL. XXIV.] SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 1854. [WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.

FASTS AND TE DEUMS.

GREAT BRITAIN has entered upon war in defence of a great principle. She seeks no advantages for herself, except the inestimable advantage of peace. She desires no increase of territory—no augmentation of power. She has no ambitious objects of any kind to serve. She stretches forth her hand for the maintenance of law and order, and in defence of the morality of nations. In the great federation of the European States, one that is puffed up with pride, vaingloriousness, and lust of dominion, cannot be allowed to destroy the liberty and independence even of the meanest, without peril to them all. The rulers of this nation, impressed with a full sense of their responsibilities, exhausted negotiation before they resorted to war. It cannot be laid to their charge that they were unduly ready to decide the great question at issue by the instrumentality of fleets and armies. As long as there was the remotest chance that the dictates of reason and justice would prevail over the headlong passions of the disturber of the world, they refrained from any appeal to the sword. Even at the last moment it was with reluctance they confessed that the only means of pacification left to us was the exercise of physical force against the aggressor. The nation was more impatient than its rulers, but both were of one mind as to the ultimate duty which would devolve upon them. With a clear conscience, therefore, and with a noble cause, the British people are now involved in war with one of the most formidable States in the world. As a preparative for a struggle—which may task the energies and resources of her subjects, far more than they are aware—her Majesty, as head both of the State and the Church, commanded that a day should be set apart for fasting and humiliation, "in order to obtain pardon of our sins, and in the most devout and solemn manner, to send up our prayers and supplications to the Divine Majesty, and to implore His blessing and assistance on our arms for the restoration of Peace." There were, no doubt, many persons who, instead of making the day one of prayer and humiliation, converted it into one of riot and rejoicing; and there were others who, yielding no allegiance to the Church by law established, made it a point of principle to disobey the injunction. Upon the motives which influenced the conduct of both of these sections of the people we have no intention to expatiate. The national recognition of the fact, "that the Lord is King, be the Earth never so unquiet;" and that "He alone can give strength to the people, and restore to them the blessings of peace," was sufficiently solemn and emphatic; and in our country there is no such thing as unanimity. But even the dissentients from the authority of the Church approved for the most part of the spirit which dictated her Majesty's command for the observance of the day; although, for reasons of their own, they preferred to offer up their prayers at another time, and with another formula. No unseemly boasting profaned on this memorable occasion the lips of the Majesty of England; no undue reliance upon the arm of flesh was commanded by the Church; no braggart vaingloriousness was expressed or felt by the great majority of the people. As the pious knights and combatants of the days of Chivalry made ready for the morrow's conflict by the prayers and ablutions of the preceding night, the pious English nation prepared its spirit for the great encounter which it has undertaken by the most solemn recognition in its power that the issues of battle are in the hands of the Almighty, however great the courage, or splendid the resources, of a people. With a cause among the most righteous for which war was ever undertaken; with an ally once our foe, but now our firmest and most powerful friend; with the secret sympathy, if not the open support, of all the civilised nations of the earth; with mighty fleets—mightier than ever before were launched upon the waters; with armies and people inspired by the same sentiment of generous resistance to wrong and oppression; and with all possible circumstances of prosperity and national well-being in our favour, we humbled ourselves before the Throne or Grace, and prayed "that our councillors might be blessed with wisdom—that our commanders by sea and land might be inspired with valour and patience, and that they might be taught amid all their perils and hardships to show forth in their lives and actions the united graces and duties of Christians as well as of soldiers." We also prayed that in good time might be "vouchsafed to us such a secure and prosperous peace as might tend to the glory of God's name, to the honour and safety of our Sovereign and her dominions, and to the common welfare of mankind." Supplications uttered in this spirit were worthy of the cause which prompted them, and worthy of the Christian character of the nation.

But, while the British people, strong in the sentiment of right and justice, have comported themselves thus humbly, the enemy they have to combat has acted in a very different manner. He also has made appeals to the Almighty for aid; although every man in Europe who is acquainted with the facts of contemporary history knows that the cause for which the Czar has taken up arms is the cause of rapacity and injustice; that it has been supported by proved falsehood, and by a hypocritical pretence of religion, thinly veiling the most nefarious designs of spoliation and oppression. The Czar as constantly invokes the name of God as the Italian bandit, who prayed that rich travellers might pass his way, and that he might be successful in robbing them. The Russian Autocrat not only prays, but blasphemes. While the British nation appeals to the Almighty for support in a cause which is utterly unselfish, he takes the name of God in vain, and renders thanks for bloody massacres. We have our "*fasts;*" and Nicholas of Russia his "*Te Deums.*" In defiance of his solemn promise that his aggression should be confined to the occupation

"THE ARGUS" TOWING THE FIRST RUSSIAN PRIZE INTO PORTSMOUTH HARBOUR.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

of Moldavia and Wallachia; in defiance of the word and faith of a "gentleman"—which there is no word in the Russian language to express—he attacked in the most treacherous manner, and with an overwhelming force, a portion of the Turkish fleet that lay quietly, and suspecting no evil, in the harbour of Sinope. On that occasion, upwards of two thousand men were cruelly slaughtered; and the Russian fleet—proud of the achievement—returned in triumph to Sebastopol. It was the most "glorious" feat in the naval history of Russia, and the Emperor, to show the excess of his joy, ordered a solemn "Te Deum" to be sung in every church throughout his empire—not a prayer of humiliation, but a jubilant hymn of rejoicing that so many Turks had been murdered in the desecrated name of Christianity. In a similar manner the passage of the Danube, by a portion of his armies, was celebrated throughout his dominions. There is nothing but religious exultation to be heard in St. Petersburg and Moscow, to this day—nothing but "Te Deums" and Hosannas to the Lord for treacherous massacres, or successful acts of aggression against a neighbouring State which has committed no other fault than the great fault in the eyes of the Czar, of daring to exist, and to hold territories that he is desirous to possess. The world has already passed its verdict upon the Emperor and his "Te Deums." He has "begun in gladness," but "thereof will come in the end" defeat and shame; while we, on our part, have begun the war with reluctance—engaged in it with sadness and religious humiliation, and without the slightest taint of ambitious and selfish feeling. The day of our rejoicing has not yet come; but that it will come—certainly, if not speedily—it would be foolish, if not wicked, to doubt.

THE FIRST RUSSIAN PRIZES.

No little commotion was caused in Portsmouth on Friday evening (last week) by the appearance in the roadstead of one of her Majesty's steam-vessels, having a ship in tow, and making for the harbour with all speed. The ramparts were quickly thronged with the inhabitants, who, as soon as the vessel approached near enough for the colours of the small craft to be made out as Russian, loudly cheered her fortunate capture.

As the vessels came nearer, the steam-vessel was seen to be the *Argus*, revenue cruiser, Captain Grandy; and the captured vessel the *Freja*, a fine barque of 500 tons burden, built in Finland. The *Argus* had left Southend on Thursday morning, and fell in with the *Freja* next day about noon, between the Owers and Beachy Head, about eighteen miles from the latter point. The Russian vessel had no colours up at the time, but the suspicions of Captain Grandy were excited by seeing the Russian arms carved and painted on the ship's stern. He ordered her to bring to, which she did, hoisting Russian Finland colours. He then boarded her, but the captain refused to give him any information as to his country or destination. Captain Grandy, however, soon made himself acquainted with all he wished to know, by overhauling the ship's papers, and then told Captain Weekman, of the *Freja*, that he must consider his vessel a prize. Captain Weekman offered no obstacle or resistance, merely remarking that the capture of his vessel was a bad job for him. Resistance, indeed, was hardly possible, as, although the *Freja* had four guns on board, they were very small, and hardly serviceable, and not to be pitted against the two 32-pounders carried by the *Argus*; joined to which the latter had a crew more than double that of the Russian, and the additional aid of her screw-propeller, by which she could have placed herself in such a position at the stern of her prize, and retained that position, as would have enabled her to sink her easily.

On taking possession, the *Argus* put an officer and a crew on board, at 6, sending out a rope, took her in tow, and brought her into Portsmouth at sunset the same evening. The *Argus* towed her well up the harbour to moorings off the Dockyard, where she now remains. She is a fine ship, four years old, and apparently in good condition. She left Lisbon on the 28th ult., with about 600 tons of salt as cargo, and was bound for Abo, although her ultimate destination says Lisbon. It is supposed that she would not have attempted to get up the Baltic, but have tried to run into a Dutch port, where he could have sold the vessel with her cargo, and made his way home overland. The crew, who are mostly Finlanders, do not appear much distressed at their capture; in fact, they seem very cheerful. Had they reached Abo, they would probably have been forced to go on board a Russian vessel by order of the Czar.

Another Russian merchant vessel was brought into Portsmouth harbour on Tuesday morning. This was a revenue cruiser's capture. The lucky vessel that made this prize, which is a brig of 240 tons burden, laden with salt. Captain Grandy fell in with her off the Owers, at 9.30 on Monday night. It was very dark at the time, but the sharp eyes of the watch detected the prize, and a few musket shots across the bows brought her to. She is named the *Livonia*, Captain Matzkait, and was from Lisbon for Elsinore. She left Lisbon on the 26th ult., a week or so before the declaration of war had arrived out, having been detained in the Channel by contrary winds. Her capture was much surprised to learn that war had been declared, as well as chagrined to find himself a prisoner. He offered no resistance, and was at once taken in tow by the *Argus*, and brought into port. The *Livonia* is the property of the firm of Schroeder, of Riga.

Early on Tuesday morning a Russian merchant ship was reported to the Customs' authorities at Plymouth by a trawling boat to have been seen off that port on Monday evening. The master of the trawler boarded her about seven o'clock p.m. on Monday, five miles south of the Bolt, and having ascertained her tonnage and cargo—she was laden with 600 tons of salt—he proceeded with all despatch to Plymouth to give information. The master of the trawling boat, it appeared, boarded the Russian for the purpose of endeavouring to sell some fish, and the Captain then boldly told him that his was a Russian ship, and he knew not which way to steer for fear of being made a prize of. On being informed by the mate of the trawler of the proximity of the French fleet, the Russian Captain became alarmed much alarm, and immediately changed his course, preferring, in the event of his capture, to fall into the hands of the English. On receiving the intelligence, the Port-Admiral, Sir John Gamaney, ordered the *Avon*, 3, paddle-wheel steamship, to get up her steam and proceed to sea in search of her. The *Avon* left at half-past six, taking with her the person who gave the information, and a party of marines from the *Impregnable*, flag-ship. The master of the smack had directed another fishing-boat to keep company with the Russian ship in order that she might be easily detected from a distance. The Russian was under close-reefed topsails, and had an adverse wind to contend with. The *Avon* succeeded in laying hold of her at half-past one, about twelve miles south of the Start. She proved to be the *Carlos*, 460 tons of Finland, from Lisbon, to a Russian port in the Baltic. She left Lisbon on March 25, and had been beating about in the Channel since. She is built of fir, laden with salt, and is a splendid vessel; her crew numbers fourteen men, but they offered no resistance. She was compelled to hoist her flag, and was brought into Plymouth on Tuesday night with the English ensign flying at her peak end, and the Russian Black Sea flag under.

On Wednesday morning, the *Yesta*, of Wasa, a fine barque, 472 tons, 2 guns, 11 men, from Theres, laden with 600 tons of salt, was brought into Portsmouth, by the *Mermaid* screw revenue cruiser. The vessel alone is valued at £2500. On the same day the *Nadeschda*, of *Abo*, both from Lisbon, laden with salt—the one bound for Helsingfors, the other for Christianstand—were brought into Sheerness by the *Adam*, 4 guns, paddle-wheel steamer. The owners of the *Nadeschda* had sent directions to the captain to sail the vessel at Lisbon; but he refused an offer of £1500 for her, thinking he ought to have £2000.

PORTSMOUTH, Thursday.—At eleven a.m., H. M. revenue cutter *Petrel*, Mr. John Hughes, of the revenue service in command, captured the Russian barque *Sonia*, of Wasa, laden with salt, from Sardinia. John Oseman, master; said by those on board to be bound for some port in Russia. She is a fine ship, of nearly 500 tons English measurement. She was boarded in the Channel, St. Catharine's Point.

The Port Admiral's cutter, *Fanny*, Mr. Scarlett (second master) in charge, returned from her cruising ground this evening at five o'clock, bringing the intelligence that she had taken a fine barque, of 400 tons, laden with salt, yesterday at noon.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

The circumstance of the Duke of Cambridge having gone to Vienna, instead of proceeding at once to his destination, has been the theme of yet more comments and speculation than that of the Emperor placing him on his right at the review. The Bourse, ever ready to jump with equal excitement to the most contradictory conclusions, was sensibly affected by this unexpected step. A thousand versions—most of them as destitute of plausibility as of truth—have been in circulation; and the idea that the Duke was charged with a special mission, to induce the Emperor of Austria to adopt a more decided course, and to join his forces to those of England and France in the coming war, has been generally adopted.

The Maréchal St. Arnaud is not to arrive at Gallipoli till about the 10th of May, as, instead of going there direct, he proceeds in the first instance to Athens; where, it is believed, he is to demand a categorical explanation of the course and intentions of King Otho.

The General Youssouf is to accompany the expedition, and his wife is to travel in company with Madame St. Arnaud, who—here is a detail interesting to our female readers—has provided herself for the dangers and roughing of the fierce campaign about to ensue with upwards of sixty dresses of the newest modes, to appear at the fêtes and receptions at Constantinople! We remember once listening with much interest to a clever traveller relating his experience of the Desert, and his impressions of the Pyramids, when one of the auditors, who had appeared to be extremely edified by the details, interrupted the narrator with the question, "Tray is the society in Egypt pleasant?" Mdme. St. Arnaud's travelling kit brought the anecdote strongly to our remembrance.

Marseilles has performed a culinary *tour de force* in serving to the Prince Napoléon, in consideration of its being the Jeudi Saint, a magnificent banquet *maigre*. The bill of fare was printed in gold letters, and a copy placed on the plate of each of the guests. At the departure of the Prince, the same sympathy and regard were manifested as during the whole of his progress. M. Emile de Girardin started for Paris on the night of the arrival at Toulon. *Apropos* of the celebrated *publiciste*, he has just gained a trial, on a complaint brought by him against M. Eugène de Mirecourt, for a libel contained in a notice of the life of M. de Girardin, published in his biographies entitled "Les Contemporains."

Our readers may recollect our mentioning, some time since, a formidable demonstration, made by the friends and admirers of Mdme. George Sand against M. de Mirecourt, for certain grave errors and mis-statements in his biographical notice of her, in the same publication. Decidedly, writing contemporary history, when treating of individuals, is treading dangerous ground—*qui s'y frotte s'y pique*. At the same time, if such difficulties present themselves in the way of obtaining the true histories of those who live in our own day, what degree of faith are we to place in the details given respecting the events of the lives of our predecessors? These examples, unfortunately, go far to invalidate anterior biography; for, be it understood, M. de Mirecourt is no wilful libeller—no abusive scribbler; and, however erroneous may be his assertions, they are made *de bonne foi*, and drawn from what he believes to be competent authority.

So much was the Emperor gratified by the rapidity and completeness of the execution of the preparations made at the Elysée, in removing the scaffolding, and other traces of the works of reparation going on, and in putting the entrance and exterior in order for the fête given there, on Monday week, to the Duke of Cambridge, that, to testify his satisfaction, he ordered that a dinner should be given to all the workmen employed. This fête took place on Thursday, in the *mairie* of the park of Neuilly, presided over by M. Eugène Lacroix, the architect of the palace. Upwards of 600 *convives* partook of the repast, and numerous toasts were drunk to the Emperor and Empress.

On Saturday, the Princess Mathilde gave a splendid ball, which their Majesties attended. On Tuesday, a fête and theatrical representation took place at the Hôtel de Ville; and during the course of the week, various Ministerial receptions occurred.

The Archbishop of Paris has commanded to be posted and read in the churches, a circular letter which has produced a strong sensation. This circular is one relative to the observance of the Sabbath, and the creation of labour on Sundays. It is expressed in very energetic terms, and, in accordance with the well-known democratic principles of the Archbishop, exclaims warmly against the spirit of interest and cupidity which, independent of the question of disregard of religious motives, induces those in authority to sacrifice the repose of the people on the day specially intended for rest.

The work of demolition is going on with, if possible, increased activity here. In the Rue St. Honoré, from the Place de Palais Royal to the Rue de Rohan, all the houses are marked for destruction, and the work of pulling them down, commenced but a few days since, is, it is said, ordered to be terminated in a fortnight. The same process is then to begin in front of the Théâtre Français; and the Rue de l'Echelle, in the same neighbourhood, has almost entirely disappeared.

The Odéon has produced three new pieces—"La Taverne," "Au Printemps," and "La Conquête de Ma Femme," by three young authors, MM. Barbier, Leroy, and Lelarge—all possessing very considerable merit, and likely to continue for some time in high favour. The Porte St. Martin draws crowds with the miraculous performances of the Chinese Jugglers. The "Bonne Aventure" at the Gaîté, taken from a work of Eugène Sue, the farewell piece of Frédérick-Lemaître, has not had the success anticipated for it—another instance of the inexpedience of dramatising novels.

PRINCE LUCIEN BONAPARTE.

A private letter from Rome of the 12th instant gives some details of the journey of Prince Louis Lucien Bonaparte (whose portrait we gave last week), and of his reception in the various towns he passed through. On his arrival at Bologna his Highness was visited by M. Grasselini, Extraordinary Commissioner of the Holy Father, and by His Excellency Count de Dreschenfeld de Schonberg, Lieutenant Marshal commanding the 4th Corps of the Austrian Army in the Roman States. These two personages took great interest in showing the curiosities of Bologna to the Prince. The box of the Pontifical Commissioner was placed at the disposal of the Prince on his visit to the Opera in the evening. His Highness met with a similar reception at Ancona on the part of Monsignor Arnici, Commissioner Extraordinary, and the Count Hojos, the General commanding the Austrian troops. The object of Prince Lucien's visit to Ancona was to see his mother, the widow of Lucien, Prince of Canino, the brother of Napoleon I. The Prince arrived at Rome on the evening of the 9th. On the following morning he received a visit from Cardinal Antonelli, the Minister Secretary of State; from Count de Rayneval, Ambassador of France; and General de Montreal, Commanding-in-Chief the French army of occupation. In the course of the day, Cardinal Antonelli informed the Prince that the Pope would receive him on the 11th. The French Ambassador called for his Highness at his hotel, and presented him and Major Cavagnari, the Prince's secretary, to his Holiness. Prince Lucien remained alone with the Pope, and his audience lasted an hour and a half. It was remarked as a particular favour that the Pontiff gave so long an audience to the Prince in the midst of the occupations of the Holy Week; and it was said that his Holiness expressed very warmly his gratitude for all that the Emperor did for him. On Thursday, the 13th, and Sunday, the 16th, the Prince was to be present at the great religious solemnities. Rome was full of strangers of distinction, and it was with some difficulty that the Prince and attendants were able to procure an apartment in the Piazza di Spagna, at the Hôtel Terny. His Highness was to leave Rome on the 19th for Florence.

PARIS, Thursday Evening.—The Three per Cents closed at 69f. 30c. for the end of the month, and the Four-and-a-Half per Cents at 90f.

At Madrid, on the 22nd, the Three per Cents were at 33 15.

The following is a despatch from Berlin, dated Thursday evening:—"The resignation of Chevalier Bunsen was accepted yesterday. Count Bernstorf, at present Prussian Minister at Naples, succeeds him."

THE WAR.

DIFFICULTIES OF THE CZAR.

The latest accounts from St. Petersburg speak of the financial difficulties of Russia as increasing with so much rapidity that a climax may be daily expected. It appears that, in his last ukase, the Czar has ordered an augmentation to his army of 144,000 men. Upon this, the *Pays* remarks that it is very easy to order such levies, but that an ukase will not create finances, nor ammunition, nor provender, nor the many thousand *et cetera* which are indispensable in order to make an army formidable or efficient. In the Hungarian war, which was a mere joke when compared with the present gigantic struggle, and in which the Czar had only 120,000 men engaged, he was forced to have recourse to England for a loan; and he actually contracted one in London for 137 millions. The present war has forced almost all the Powers of Europe to contract loans. France has completed hers; England is adding six millions to her floating debt; and Austria is at the present moment endeavouring to negotiate a loan, which she would be glad to get in London or anywhere else. But where is the Czar to turn for the money which he requires, and which he has not got?

Stockholm and other Swedish towns are swarm with fugitives, who are pouring out of Finland. Many, too, have left Aland, in order to escape the Russian press-gangs. The Russian fleet is in great want of seamen, and, as it is preparing to take the sea as soon as the ice gives way, the authorities lay violent hands on young and old. In the night, fathers of families are hurried off without a moment's grace, and the result is, that whole households fly to Sweden with bag and baggage, in order to escape such tyranny.

The St. Petersburg *Police Gazette* contradicts the report of the Imperial family intending to leave St. Petersburg for Moscow. The hard cash of the bank of Helsingfors has been transported to St. Petersburg, and many of the inhabitants of the former place were leaving from fear of a bombardment.

Letters from Abo, of the 4th, state that the 9th regiment of infantry had left there *en route* for Wasa, and that on the 2nd inst. two companies of Riflemen had been ordered from Abo to Aland; by which disposition of troops the former reports, stating that Aland would be evacuated by the Russians, seem to be contradicted.

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

For several days reports have been received regarding an important battle in the Dobrudja, in which the Russians are said to have been defeated with a loss of 3000, while the Turks lost about half that number. Letters from the Lower Danube, of the 13th, state that the engagement took place on the 10th, between Paschagees and Kustelli; and that, although victorious, Mustapha Pacha, owing to his want of more forces, was unable to follow up his advantages as he would have wished, and was therefore obliged to content himself with driving his adversaries into the swamp which lies between Paschagees, Kagarlik, and Taschaul. A body of marines from the British and French fleets stationed off Kustendje, are said to have rendered the Turkish commander immense assistance, by keeping the Russian left wing warmly engaged during their comrades' defeat. Like a great many other pieces of intelligence from the East, "this news requires confirmation;" but there seems to be some ground for the report, if we may credit the statement that the Emperor of the French announced it as reliable that a battle had taken place, and that a victory had been gained by the Ottoman troops.

At Kalafat the Russians, who had been preparing for a combined movement for some days, made an attack on the 16th, but were repulsed with the loss of nearly 500 men. A telegraphic despatch from Vienna, of the 24th instant, states that "sixteen squadrons of Hussars and eight squadrons of Cossacks, with six cannon, having come to reconnoitre the Turkish lines, the Pasha sent two regiments of regulars, some of Bashi-bozouks, and six cannon, against them. The combat lasted three hours. The Russians were defeated with vigorous energy. They lost 500 men. The Turks had 14 men killed, and 38 wounded."

There are rumours of the surrender of Silistria; of the withdrawal of the Russians from Kalafat to Widin; and of the Russian army in the Dobrudja having begun to fortify its position there, instead of marching forward; but none of them have been confirmed. A telegraphic despatch from Belgrade, of the 27th inst., says the Russians have met with a severe defeat at Tschernawoda.

THE FLEETS IN THE BLACK SEA.

On the 14th the *Furious* had been sent to Odessa to bring away the English Consul and the English subjects there. She was fired into and driven back, although she carried a flag of truce while on her errand.

The fleets were at Kavarna on the 14th. The news of the declaration of war which arrived there on the 9th, had caused great rejoicing. On the 13th a general illumination took place on board the vessels, on account of the welcome intelligence.

Accounts from Odessa, of the 20th, state that the Allied fleets had formed a junction, and come to anchor off that port.

The Russians seem determined to shut the navigation of the Danube against the passage of the Allied fleets. Not content with what had been previously done to interrupt the navigation, General Schilder had notified to the inspector of the Austrian Lloyd Company at Galatz, that he intended to close the mouths of the Danube altogether, by sinking three vessels laden with sand. When that has been accomplished, the only mouth that will be left open is that of Kilia, where there is not more than eight feet of water. The last accounts from Odessa state that the people of that town had seen some monster dredging-machines in tow of our war-steamers, whence it was inferred that our men were going to deepen the Sulina channel. Should they attempt that task, they will require to silence the heavy batteries which the Russians have erected there.

THE "FURY" AT SEBASTOPOL.

Captain Tatham, of her Majesty's steamer *Fury*, has had the honour of "opening the ball" in the Euxine. He was sent by Admiral Dundas to reconnoitre Sebastopol; and on Tuesday night (the 11th) he anchored near Cape Loukoul, some fifteen miles north of Sebastopol, so as to be able to run in towards the fortress just before daylight. Cossacks were seen riding towards the city to give information of his presence. At daylight, when about a mile and a half from the forts, he observed two man-of-war brigs standing out, followed by two merchant schooners. Being anxious to get information, he thought it desirable to make a prize of one of these schooners; he therefore, hoisted Austrian colours and stood right in for the harbour, passing these vessels. Having got inside of them, he put on full speed, turned round, chased one of the schooners, and ran alongside of her, with the intention of boarding her fast to the *Fury*; but the danger of lowering a boat. In this he failed, and subsequently lowered a boat, and sent his first lieutenant with the end of a hawser, made her fast, and brought the crew out of her, and took her in tow. On running alongside to bring the vessel out, the batteries opened with a heavy fire on the *Fury*, and simultaneously the brigs and steamer were observed to leave the harbour in chase, with a strong, favourable breeze. Observing that they were fast gaining upon him, he found it necessary to cast off the schooner. For nearly three hours he was very hard pressed, and several shots were exchanged; but, by dint of good seamanship, and misleading the enemy by signals, they eventually gave up the chase. He has brought in the master and crew of the schooner, from whom some valuable information has been obtained. Thus, the enterprising little *Fury*, mounting but six guns, was honoured by a chasing force of some 120 guns, and has now safely rejoined the fleet.

It appears that there are lying at Sebastopol thirteen or fourteen line-of-battle ships, of which six are three-deckers, besides a number of frigates, and thirteen steamers, ready, at a moment's notice, to put to sea.

THE ALLIED TROOPS AT GALLIPOLI.

Take dilapidated out-houses of the farmers' yards in England—remove rickety old wooden tenements in Holywell-street, Wych-street, and the Borough—catch up, wherever you can, any seedy, cracked, shutterless structure of planks and tiles that have escaped the ravages of time in our cathedral towns—carry off sheds and stalls from Billingsgate, and the wooden huts along the shores of the Thames between London-bridge and Greenwich—bring them all to the European side of the Straits of the Dardanelles—and, having pitched on the most exposed portion of the coast, on a bare round hill, sloping away to the water's edge, where the sea will surely tumble them "higgledy-piggledy" on its declivity, in such wise that the streets may resemble, on a large scale, the devious traces of a bookworm through some old tome—let the roadway be very narrow, of irregularly varying breadth, according to the bulgings and projections of the houses, and filled with large round slippery stones, painful and hazardous to walk upon—here and there borrow a dirty gutter from a back street in Boulogne let the houses in parts lean across to each other so that the tiles meet, or that a few planks thrown across from over the doorways unite and form a sort of "passage" or arcade—steal some of our

popular monuments, the shafts of various national testimonials or Irish round towers—surround them with a light gallery about twelve feet from the top, put on a large extinguisher-shaped roof, paint them all white, and, having thus made them into minarets, clap them down into the nose of buildings—then let fall big stones all over the place—plant little windmills with odd-looking sails on their crest of the hill over the town—transport the ruins of a feudal fortress from northern Italy, and put it in the centre of the town, with a flanking tower extending to the water's edge—erect a few buildings of wood by the water side to serve as café, custom-house, and government stores—and when you have done this, you have to all appearance imitated the process by which the town of Gallipoli was created

A very short time, however, will serve to make considerable changes in the place. A speculator from Smyrna has already transformed an old tumble-down ruin into a grand *Restaurant à l'Européenne*, with the following inscription above, marked out apparently with the finger "*Restaurant de l'Armée Anglaise.*" The Turkish market is amply provided with every kind of provision. Meat is from three to four sous a pound; the wine of Tenedos is from eight to ten sous a bottle—that is, the large bottle holding a French litre; and fowls are from fifteen to twenty sous each. Rice, bacon, salt, meat, bread, and wine, for the troops have been sent from France by the French Government, and each soldier is to have daily a ration of wine or coffee. A contract entered into at Smyrna ensures to the French army 2000 oxen, which are to be conveyed to Gallipoli by the *Marmora* and the *Ajaccio*. All along the Dardanelles, and particularly on the European side, are thousands upon thousands of sheep, to all appearance waiting the arrival of the troops. In addition, a commission has been formed of nine of the principal persons in the country, to second the administration in all the operations of victualling the army.

The soldiers of the Engineers are busied in making carriage-roads from the point of landing to the different camps, in order to facilitate the transport of the various stores and artillery which are shortly expected. The streets are swept every day with care, particularly in the quarter occupied by the officers of the staff and the administration, and before long Gallipoli will have assumed the air of a French town of Algeria

Captain *Sévérin*, of the Chasseurs de Vincennes, has been named commandant of the town, and is occupied in establishing order in the most perfect manner, so as to completely reassure the inhabitants. A few days after the French troops arrived, the Turkish women and children had begun to make their appearance in the streets. It seems that the Greek women had conceived the most alarming apprehensions of the French soldiers, in consequence of a frightful picture which their bishop thought fit to make to them of the morals and character of the French. This zealous pastor, who was formerly a monk, has received orders to quit the town.

On the 17th inst. there were 25,000 French, and 8000 English soldiers at Gallipoli, and provisions were said to be very scarce. The remainder of the troops are now, therefore, going forward to Scutari, where the *Himalaya* landed nearly 2000 men, women, and officers on the 15th. On the 17th the steamers *Cambria* and *Indus* arrived, with the 49th, 72nd, 41st, and 88rd regiments.

PRINCE NAPOLEON AT MALTA.

On the afternoon of the 20th, by the French steam corvette *Roland*, from Toulon, his Imperial Highness Prince Napoleon arrived at Malta, accompanied by a brilliant staff, among whom were Colonels Demeresc, Bizinski, and Roman, General Prim, and his Excellency Saith Effendi, the Turkish Ambassador. Signor Dalang, a celebrated artist, accompanied his Imperial Highness. At five o'clock the Prince landed at the Custom-house, and was received by his Excellency the Governor, in full uniform, wearing his hard-earned medals. A guard of honour, supplied by the 88th, received his Imperial Highness, who, having entered the Governor's carriage, proceeded to inspect the fortifications, and did not reach the Palace till after six o'clock, where was another guard of honour, supplied by the 68th Light Infantry. After remaining a few minutes at the Palace, the Prince, attended by his Excellency the Governor and his staff, visited the splendid Church of St. John. On his return he dined with his Excellency, and at ten o'clock honoured the Opera with his presence. He retired at the end of the third act, and on leaving was vociferously cheered by the assembled crowd. The Prince and his suite embarked at midnight for the East.

On his arrival two Royal salutes were fired—one from Fort St. Angelo, and one by the flag-ship.

DEPARTURE OF LORD RAGLAN FROM MARSEILLES.

Lord Raglan and his staff arrived at Marseilles, *en route* for Constantinople, on the night of the 20th inst. His Lordship intended to embark instantly on board the *Curadoc*, but it blew so fierce a hurricane from the south-east that he gave up the notion and took up his quarters at the Hôtel d'Orient. On the following day, the weather still continued boisterous, several of the transports which had sailed on Thursday having been forced to return; the *Curadoc*, therefore, did not start till next day.

At one p.m. on Saturday the steam-ship left Marseilles harbour with Lord Raglan and suite for the East, touching at Malta. Notwithstanding the boisterous weather, the gale from the south-east not having ceased, the captain gallantly put forward, and sailed out of the harbour in dashing style. The passengers on board the *Curadoc* were—Lord Raglan, Lord De Ros, Colonel Steele, Colonel Somerset, Major Wellesley, Captain Blackwood, Captain Bradford, Admiral Boxer, his Secretary and Flag-Lieutenant, Mr. and Mrs. Stewart, and Mr. Wood.

SIR CHARLES NAPIER IN THE BALTIC.

The boisterous state of the weather appears to have prevented the transmission of news from the Baltic fleet, for the last fortnight. Very little has transpired regarding the movements of Sir Charles Napier, for the last ten or twelve days. In order to blockade the Gulf of Finland more closely, he has ordered one portion of the fleet to be stationed in the Gulf of Bothnia, while another portion examines the coast of Finland. Nearly forty Russian vessels have been captured by the English cruisers in the Baltic.

The English flag has been hoisted upon the various Russian and Finnish merchantmen in Kioge Bay. These ships are now all of them manned by English sailors, while the Russians are placed as prisoners of war on board the English men-of-war that are on the eve of sailing from the Danish to English ports.

COPENHAGEN, April 26.—The *Tritonia* has just brought in two Russian prizes. The fleet is off Goetgram, in Gothland.

THE FRENCH BALTIC SQUADRON.

The French squadron for the Baltic, under the command of Admiral Parseval Deschênes, consisting of five sail of the line, two sailing frigates, one steam-frigate, and one steam-sloop, arrived and anchored in the Downs between eleven and twelve o'clock on Thursday morning.

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT IN THE BALTIC.

A letter from Memel of the 19th inst. reports the melancholy death of a most meritorious officer, Captain J. Foote, of the corvette *Conflict*. Captain Foote went on shore on the morning of the 19th, with another officer, on business connected with the prizes. About five in the afternoon he wished to return on board. A fresh north-wester had been blowing for some time, right against the stream of the Haf, where it debouches. There was a heavy surf, especially between the moles. The pilot at Memel strongly advised Captain Foote to take a larger boat for his return, but in vain. The captain, with his lieutenant, got into a long narrow gig that was manned with five sailors. In less than ten minutes after the boat suddenly disappeared. In an instant the life-boat was launched and manned with pilots, but it came too late to save all; the lieutenant and one of the men were still alive, and clinging to the thwart-straps of the boat, but half frozen: the captain, with four of his men, had already found a watery grave.

PREPARATIONS FOR THE WAR.

The Admiralty have had in consideration a plan by which their Lordships will render available for service at sea the officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of the Woolwich division, now required to do duty at Deptford and Woolwich Dockyards. The plan is understood to be carried into effect by increasing the strength of the police force in these establishments ashore.

Considerable excitement was created among the apprentices to free lightermen and watermen this week, it having been announced that it is the intention of the Waterman's Company immediately to provide a portion of the quota (600 men) that the company is compelled by its charter to supply for service in the Royal Navy. This rule of the feudal system was strictly observed during the last war, and the requisite number is completed as follows:—Lists of the apprentices of three, four, five, and six years' standing are filed, and the number is balloted for, first from the junior classes; and should the list of apprentices be expended before a sufficiency has been obtained, the free watermen then take their turn on the ballot, or provide substitutes.

The Master General of the Ordnance has issued instructions for the different recruiting parties to use every exertion in obtaining the desired number of men to place the Royal Artillery in such a state as to be ready for any contingency.

IMPORTANT CONVENTION BETWEEN ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

The steam-ship *Canada*, which sailed from Boston on the 12th inst., arrived at Liverpool on Monday. The most important news brought by her relates to a treaty which is said to have been negotiated by Mr. Buchanan between Great Britain and America. In the House of Representatives on the 10th inst., Mr. Dean, of New York, moved the following resolutions, for the purpose (as is stated by some of the papers) of opening the way for the treaty:—

Resolved: That in the war which now seems impending in Europe, it is the policy, and is declared as the manifest interest, of the Government of the United States to observe and maintain a strict neutrality between all the belligerents; and, in the event of a war, the rights of our citizens and the security of our commerce demand the maintenance of the principle heretofore asserted and strenuously contended for by this Government, but not hitherto admitted or established as the law of nations, that free ships make free goods, except as to articles clearly known as contraband of war; and that the neutral flag protects from unwarrantable search and seizure the ships bearing it; and also that neutral property on board a vessel of any of the belligerents is not subject to seizure and confiscation.

Resolved: That the President of the United States be requested, if in his opinion not incompatible with the public interests, to communicate to this house whether any, and if any, what, arrangements have been made, and what correspondence has taken place between this Government and any of the Governments of Europe to establish the foregoing principles as international law, and to protect the neutral commerce of the United States in the event of a war between any of the Powers of Europe.

The *New York Herald* states that the draft of a convention has been concluded between Mr. Buchanan and Lord Aberdeen, on behalf of their respective Governments, "by which England admits, in the approaching European war, the doctrine that the flag covers both ship and cargo, and that free ships make free goods; also renouncing the right of search for the impressment of seamen so far as American vessels are concerned, and conceding the restriction as to the right of blockade. In return, the United States is pledged to strict neutrality and non-intervention in the contest between the Western Powers and Russia." The American papers speak of the arrangement as a great diplomatic triumph. "It places us in the position that we should have occupied years ago," says the *Herald*, "and at once enables us to become the great carrier on the seas of the world."

THE SPANISH AND AMERICAN QUARREL.

The affair of the *Black Warrior* does not seem likely to be settled in an amicable manner. All accounts agree in representing the notes of M. Soulé, the United States Chargé d'Affaires at Madrid, as exceedingly violent. It is said that he gave the Spanish Government only forty-eight hours for an answer; and this, moreover, in the Holy week, when, in countries professing the Christian religion, business does not go on at a slower pace than usual. Such haste and violence have given ample grounds for suspecting that the American Government really intended to pick a quarrel with Spain. It is too much like the conduct of Prince Menschikoff towards Turkey. The impetuous M. Soulé demanded nothing less than 300,000 dollars paid down instanter, and the disgrace of the Captain-General of Cuba. The reply of the Spanish Government was to the effect that as the official report had been received on the subject; and that, consequently, they could not, until they had received information from their own agent, come to any determination. Thus the matter stands for the present.

THE OVERLAND MAIL.

A telegraphic despatch from Marseilles anticipates the Overland Mail. It is rumoured at Rome that a revolution has broken out at Ava, and that the war Prince has poisoned his elder brother, and seized that throne. Dost Mahomed has made overtures to Major Edwardes for an alliance with the British Government. The report of the discovery of gold in Ceylon has been confirmed.

SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR SOLDIERS' WIVES.

(From our Military Correspondent.)

CONSIDERABLE collections of money being now gathered for the Wives and Children of our Soldiers whose husbands and fathers are employed on foreign service, a suggestion touching the appropriation of such donations may not prove unacceptable to the givers. England having at length awakened to the condition and sufferings of this long-neglected class of our fellow-creatures, in all probability, large sums will, eventually, be raised for so charitable a purpose. The evil now exposed to the public has existed since the formation of the British army, but that offers no apology for its continuance. Astonishment pervades every class that so long a period should have elapsed without some effort being made in behalf of these unfortunates. Those who, a few days since, beheld the Dublin district pay-office thronged with deserted beings craving their miserable pittance to enable them to reach their parishes cannot readily forget the scene. Many were in rags, emaciated and care-worn, presenting most deplorable aspects. There were others more respectable in appearance, striving to maintain a decent exterior in the presence of the spectators. Nearly all were accompanied by one or more children. Anxiety and sorrow were stamped on the features of these supplicants for the public bounty; but the generality shrunk from the exposure to which their pressing necessities urged them. In all classes there must be degrees of decadence, together with grades tending to the reverse. The soldier's wife forms no exception; but, though instances of profligacy may be found among the number, there are hundreds who would willingly labour for an honest livelihood, if opportunity offered for the exercise of their industry. Subjected to the prevailing prejudice against the class, little chance is afforded them of attaining a desirable position. The very fact of having lived in barracks militates against admission into private families; and who would entrust needlework to one unpossessed of a fixed domicile, and regarding whose respectability it might be difficult to gain information? It cannot be expected a ready welcome would greet these persons from needy relatives on their re-appearance, especially if penniless and burthened with children. In such cases, the workhouse is their only place of refuge. The sum bestowed on them by Government is limited to the means of enabling them to reach their respective parishes: on arrival, they are destitute. Subscriptions now collecting for soldiers' wives would be greatly augmented were it generally known in what way the money was to be applied. A paragraph recently appeared in the *Times*, signed by the commanding officers of the three regiments of Foot Guards, deprecating the pecuniary result arising from the case of a particular individual. The view there taken was perfectly correct, since nothing could prove more beneficial to the general object aimed at than the consequence of sympathy directed in behalf of one whose position was in no degree more deplorable than that of thousands. The donations, it is presumed, are being raised for the advantage of all. With a view towards accomplishing the main object the following suggestions are advanced.—The wives and children of soldiers are scattered in every town and village throughout the kingdom; and, in advocating any particular system for their relief, it may be difficult to select the deserving from others less entitled to notice; but be it remembered that such is the case alike, and in the first instance the whole should be relieved as far as possible. After arrangements will speedily distinguish the industrious from the idle. Many well-conducted persons feel a diffidence in applying at police courts where donations have been left for their aid. However much in want, they experience a sense of degradation in openly stating their cases in a civil court, and would rather continue to suffer than pass through so repulsive an ordeal. It savours too much of parochial charity; whereas these women have an undoubted right to demand assistance from the country which separates them from their protestors when summoned abroad by the necessities of the State. Indiscriminate distribution of the boon would be obviated by the donors forwarding their contributions to the Secretary at War. There cannot be a doubt but that gentleman, so conspicuous for his many deeds of philanthropy would willingly undertake the trouble of judiciously apportioning the money either through the district pay officers, or by the hands of the staff officers, of pensioners. The women would then appreciate the gift as some recompense for the services of their absent husbands. This, however, is mentioned but as a temporary measure. A more permanent good is equally feasible of achievement.

Every military man is conversant with the mode by which shirts, socks, mitts, sawealls, and to the cavalry flannels are issued. Why should not the wives, widows, and children of soldiers be employed in making these articles? In every county throughout England magnificent edifices have been raised, denominated "unions." Could not a portion of each building be appropriated to this purpose? The sums now raising would furnish the necessary materials and machinery, while the profits arising from the women's labour would not only exempt the parishes from their present additional expense, but at the same time afford a profit to those employed at the work. The contractors would, doubtless, feel aggrieved; but monopoly should never counteract general good. As it is, the articles quoted are principally made by women, and surely none have a better right to be employed in their manufacture than the wives and children of those who wear and pay for them. Each family might be allotted a room, or apartments, to a number of soldiers, with suitable allowance of fuel, light, food, and medical attendance. If the women obtain employment outside the building, they will earn the means of supporting themselves, while those engaged in preparing the necessaries quoted, can never want occupation. Let them be paid in accordance with the work performed. If sick, they must necessarily receive subsistence and attendance. This plan would ensure a comfortable shelter, and the well-disposed would meet encouragement. When finished, the articles should be forwarded to the Ordnance stores in London or Dublin, where they would be subject to examination. If approved, they could supply the whole army, whether at home or abroad, on requisition from corps, as is now done with the great-coats. Not an item enumerated ought to pass inspection in a man's kit without being stamped by the Ordnance mark. The troops would thus be better served, and every industrious woman afforded opportunity of maintaining herself and children respectably.

If the highest authority would patronise the undertaking, the army would largely contribute to the fund, and the wealthy and benevolent, without doubt, would aid in a far greater proportion.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

WILLIAM ACTON, ESQ., LATE M.P., OF WEST ASTON, CO. WICKLOW.

The death of Lieut.-Colonel Acton, for several years the respected Knight of the Shire for the county of Wicklow, occurred on the 10th instant, at his seat, West Aston. He had attained the age of sixty-five.

Colonel Acton was son of the late Thomas Acton, of West Aston, and grandson of William Aston, Esq., by Jane Parsons, his wife, granddaughter of Sir William Parsons, Bart., of Birr Castle, King's Co. His elder sister, Anna-Maria, who married Major Warburton, was mother of Eliot Warburton, the accomplished author of the "Crescent and the Cross," and of the Rev. Acton Warburton, also favourably known to literature.

The deceased gentleman was a Magistrate and Deputy-Lieutenant for the County of Wicklow, and served as its High-Sheriff in 1820.

JOHN DAVIES GILBERT, ESQ., OF TRELISSICK, CORNWALL, AND EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

THIS gentleman, one of the co-heirs of the Barony of Sandys, died on the 16th inst., in his forty-third year, at Prideaux-place, Cornwall, the seat of his brother-in-law, Mr. Prideaux-Brune.

He was only son and heir of the late Davies Gilbert, Esq., M.P., of Tredrea, who attained to high a reputation in science and antiquities, and eventually succeeded Sir Humphry Davy in the Presidency of the chair of the Royal Society. It was through his grandmother, Catherine Davies, daughter and heir of John Davies, Esq., that the co-heirship to the Barony of Sandys descended to the family.

MILITIA EVENING SCHOOLS.—THE WEST NORFOLK REGIMENT.—At a time when it is not improbable that the services of the Militia may be required, it is gratifying to know that, in several districts, much interest is taken in the moral welfare and mental improvement of the men. The West Norfolk corps, mustering 680 officers and strong, are now in course of training at Norwich; and we learn, from a programme, that evening schools have been organised, and that lectures and concerts, and a reading-room have been provided, to afford the men every opportunity of receiving instruction and rational amusement during their stay in Norwich. The arrangements have originated, and have been conducted by the Rev. Dr. Heal, a clergyman in the neighbourhood, who has, for many years, devoted himself to the promotion of adult schools for the working classes, and taken an active interest in the popular institutions of the above city. A series of lectures was arranged, last year, by this gentleman, for the West Norfolk Regiment, in which, Professor Sedgwick and others, were his coadjutors, and the efforts of these gentlemen are stated by the commanding officer to have been materially conducive to the good conduct of the men while under command. Attempts are being made, to ensure the formation of a lending library, to be permanently connected with the regiment. We have pleasure in recording these facts, as they furnish an example worthy of being imitated by the clergy and others, in the different districts in which the Militia may be quartered.

BALL AT THE JARDIN D'HIVER, AT PARIS.

THE annual Ball in favour of the English Charitable Fund took place on the night of the 20th instant, at the Jardin d'Hiver, and passed off quite brilliantly. The large room near the entrance, was used as a vestibule, whilst the vast hemicycle of the garden was transformed into a magnificent ball-room, at one end of which was a raised platform, occupied by Strauss's band; whilst the other end was fitted up with seats for the lady patronesses and other guests. The whole was brilliantly lighted up with a vast quantity of chandeliers and girandoles, and by four lofty palm trees, the slight foliage and branches of which were marked out by jets of gas. Flowers and evergreens were disposed with great taste on every side, and the *coup d'œil* which the animated scene presented about half-past ten, when Lord and Lady Cowley arrived, was exceedingly striking. The company consisted of the élite of the English society now in Paris, together with a considerable number of foreigners and French celebrities, amongst whom we noticed Count de Morny, General Count de Flahault, Count de Bonneval, &c. A tolerable sprinkling of English and foreign uniforms added to the animation of the scene, and the display altogether was as fine as is usual at the English Charitable Ball, the most charming attraction of the scene. Buffets were arranged at each side of the entrance, amply provided with refreshments; and dancing was kept up until an early hour in the morning.

Amongst the guests were the Marquis and Marchioness of Ely, Marquis of Hertford, Marquis and Marchioness of Stafford, Lord and Lady Sydney, Right Hon. E. Ellice, Mr. Lawrence and Lady Jane Peel, Lord and Lady Gray of Gray, Lord and Lady Poltimore, Hon. Col. Duncombe, Mr. Buchanan, Lord Munster, Lady E. Pringle; Mr. Frankiyn, M.P.; Mr. Locke, M.P.; Mr. Moffatt, M.P.; Mr. and Mrs. Huddleston, Mr. and Mrs. Tudor, Mr. and Mrs. Blount, Hon. H. Howard, Admiral Dundas; R. Duff, Esq., of Fetteresso; Mr. and Mrs. Gould, &c.

THE BALL AT THE ELYSEE.

AMONG the brilliant and cordial hospitalities of which the Duke of Cambridge was the distinguished object during his visit to Paris, one of the most remarkable entertainments was the grand ball and concert at the Elysée. The most magnificent preparations were made for the occasion, numerous workmen having been employed night and day, so that the Palace, which is in course of extensive alteration, and which, only a few days before, presented a scene of the utmost confusion and disorder, was transformed, as it by enchantment, into one of those fairy edifices which French workmen appear to possess the secret of creating at short notice, beyond all others. The principal entrances were beautifully ornamented with carpeting and light-blue cloth, and the side entrances the same. The façade was decorated with an awning of blue and white alternately, and with carpet-covered steps, at intervals bordered with shrubs, for setting down the guests.

The company began to arrive shortly after nine; and a few minutes before the Imperial carriages, with his Majesty and the Empress, and the Imperial household, the Duke of Cambridge and suite, &c., arrived. From this time till a late hour the carriages came in rapid succession, the company comprising the Ministers of State, the Foreign Ambassadors, the principal nobility, English, French, and foreign, at present in Paris. The gardens were most tastefully and splendidly lighted, and had more the appearance of a scene of enchantment than a reality: the large trees were adorned with coloured lanterns of different sizes and colours, representing fruits of various forms, whilst the walks were ornamented with festoons of different coloured lights, and vases, &c., of the same description, and recalled to mind the magic beauty of the gardens described in the "Arabian Nights." The view of the garden from the ball-room on the ground floor—the lofty illuminated trees in the distance forming an immense amphitheatre, with a

BALL AT THE JARDIN D'HIVER, AT PARIS, IN AID OF THE ENGLISH CHARITABLE FUND.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

grotto in the centre, composed of pink and green Chinese lights—presented a *coup d'œil* of which none but an eye-witness could form an idea; whilst the varied groups tended to enhance the brilliancy of the scene. Of the palace itself—the apartments all newly restored and gilt with profusion, the furniture of the most splendid description, with the various decorations, together with the brilliancy of the scene, illuminated by thousands of wax-tapers from splendid candelabra in every direction, together with the brilliancy of the various military costumes, and the variety and elegance of the dresses of the fair sex, must have given his Royal Highness and the visitors who accompanied him an idea that they were present at a "house-warming" unequalled in the annals of France—so celebrated for its national fêtes. The buffets were served with more than ordinary profusion, the refreshments of all sorts being of the choicest kind. Their Majesties retired about one o'clock; after which the remainder of the company began to retire gradually, but it was not until "daylight had begun to dawn" that the whole of the company had left. Dancing—which, at the commencement, had been almost an "impossibility"—was kept up with spirit to the last.

FETE GIVEN BY THE EMPEROR TO LORD RAGLAN, THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE, AND SUITES, IN THE GARDENS OF THE ELYSEE, AT PARIS.

Bridging experiment at Joinville-le-Pont, near Paris, before the Emperor, Lord Raglan, and the Duke of Cambridge.

BRIDGING EXPERIMENT NEAR PARIS.

During the late visit of the Duke of Cambridge to Paris he was present at a very curious experiment, in throwing a bridge of boats over the river Marne, which was made for the satisfaction of the Emperor, at Joinville-le-Pont, last Saturday week. A large crowd had assembled to witness the experiment, and the Emperor and his Royal Highness were received with acclamations by the people.

The Emperor was received at the entrance to the Park of Vincennes by the Commandant of the fortress and the superiors officers of the garrison, who escorted them to the limits of the park. They then proceeded on foot towards the Marne, to the spot where the new bridge of boats, invented by M. Janvier, civil architect, had been thrown across. It was 225 feet long, and composed of forty-five boats, joined together with very light frames covered with indiarubber cloth; and, notwithstanding the lightness of the structure and the delicacy of the framework, it supported, apparently without straining, a battalion of chasseurs, a squadron of cavalry, and a battery of 12-pounders. Its appearance was so slight that the spectators were alarmed for the consequences at first, when they saw the cavalcade of troops venturing across it; but their fears were speedily set at rest: the battalion, the squadron, and the battery of artillery, all passed over it without any perceptible oscillation, or the slightest accident. As the troops passed over, they shouted "Vive l'Empereur," with an enthusiasm, which spread to the crowds who lined the banks of the river, and who repeated the *vivats* with equal heartiness. After the passage of the troops, the Emperor and his party minutely examined all the details of the construction of the bridge. Before leaving, the Emperor congratulated the inventor on the success of his experiment, and assured him that, if subsequent trials should turn out as well, the new bridge would certainly be adopted.

EMBARKATION OF FRENCH TROOPS AT TOULON.

The French Minister of Marine lately addressed a despatch to the Maritime Prefect of Toulon, expressing his satisfaction at the activity displayed in the dockyard. The rapidity with which the various detachments of troops for the expedition to the East were embarked on board the vessels prepared for them, has also been highly commended, as showing the excellent order prevailing in that port. During the twelve days ending on April 4, no less than 8000 infantry sailed from Toulon for the Dardanelles. The screw-ship *Napoleon* carried 1200 men; and the *Suffren*, line-of-battle ship, 1100. Among other regiments which sailed from Toulon was the 3rd Regiment of Marine Infantry, 2200 strong. These troops, who were originally intended to do duty exclusively in the colonies, were fully equipped for a campaign, each man carrying, besides his knapsack, a blanket, hatchet, shovel, and sticks to fasten the tents.

Marshal St. Arnaud, on Friday, the 21st, reviewed the troops of the garrison and of the different corps at Marseilles, intended to form part of the army of the East. The troops were drawn up in the Allées de Meilhan. The Marshal arrived on the ground accompanied by Lord Raglan and their respective staffs, and also by General Rostolan and a number of other officers. After passing along the lines, the Marshal and Lord Raglan took their station opposite the Lycée, and the filing off took place amidst loud cries of "Vive l'Empereur!" In the evening, Lord Raglan and his staff were present at a grand banquet given by

Embarkation of French troops, at Toulon.

Marshal St. Arnaud to all the superior officers at Marseilles. The English Generals, who was the great object of attraction, was seated between Mdme St. Arnaud and the Prefect of the department. Next morning the Marshal and his lady, accompanied by Lord Raglan and Admiral Boxer, visited the *Caradoc* steam-ship. The following order of the day has been published:—

Head-quarters, Marseilles, April 20.

Soldiers.—In a few days you will leave for the East; you go to defend allies unjustly attacked, and take up the defiance the Czar has thrown to the nations of the West. From the Baltic to the Mediterranean, Europe will applaud your efforts and your successes.

You will fight side by side with the English, the Turks, and the Egyptians. You know what is due to companions in arms—union and cordiality in the camp, and absolute devotedness to the common cause in action.

France and England, hitherto rivals, are to day friends and allies. They have learned to esteem each other in fighting together. They are masters of the seas. The fleets will provide for the army, whilst famine will be in the enemy's camp.

The Turks and Egyptians have been able to stand their ground against the Russians since the commencement of the war. Alone, they beat them in several actions; what will they not do when backed by our battalions?

Soldiers! the eagle of the Empire again takes its flight, not to menace Europe, but to defend it. Carry it again as your fathers did before you. As then, repeat, all of you, before quitting France, the cry which so often conducted them to victory—"Vive l'Empereur!"

The Marshal of France,
Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the East,
A. DE SAINT ARNAUD.

Since the commencement of the embarkation of the French expeditionary army for the East, the War Department has freighted 354 merchant ships for the transport of troops, of which 288 were hired at Marseilles, and 66 at Genoa. The whole of these vessels are capable of carrying 86,600 horses, with 14,000 tons for stores of every kind. More than the half were engaged for four months, during which they could make two voyages—each occupying, on an average, fifty days for the departure and return. In addition to this, a certain number of vessels was also freighted in Algeria. The creation of the sixth squadron for each of the fifty-three regiments of cavalry, as decreed in the *Moniteur* of Wednesday, will give an addition to the army of from 8000 to 10,000 horses.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, April 30.—2nd Sunday after Easter.
MONDAY, May 1.—Prince Arthur born, 1850. Dryden died, 1700.
TUESDAY, 2.—Camoens born, 1524.
WEDNESDAY, 3.—Columbus discovered Jamaica, 1495.
THURSDAY, 4.—Seringapatam taken, 1799.
FRIDAY, 5.—Napoleon I. died 1821.
SATURDAY, 6.—St. John the Evangelist. Battle of Prague, 1757.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE.

FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 6, 1854.

Sunday.		Monday.		Tuesday.		Wednesday.		Thursday.		Friday.		Saturday.	
M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.
h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.
3 30	4 0	4 20	4 35	4 55	5 10	5 30	5 50	6 10	6 35	7 0	7 30	8 3	8 50

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

OUR CENSUS.—Some statements have reached us of omissions in the Census, which are chiefly amongst the towns, and are of less consequence inasmuch as there is in another part of the Census a list of Parliamentary towns, containing the omitted places. A correct list of all omissions will be hereafter published, and supplied gratuitously to purchasers.

MR SCALES is informed that the figures he referred to fell out in going through the press, and the error is corrected.

A CONSTANT READER, Hendon.—See the "Self-Instructing Latin Grammar."

KNAPSACK.—A Correspondent suggests, with reference to the derivation of the word "knapsack," at page 357, that the word is pure Danish—"knap," a coat, and "sack," a sack or bag. The word is pronounced *knopp*, the p being distinctly uttered. Webster gives the derivation from the German *knoppsack*.

A CAPTAIN'S DAUGHTER, who has commenced a penny subscription for the widows and children of those brave fellows who have gone to the war, is thanked for her communication; and is referred to a paper in our present Number, entitled "Subscript ons for Soldiers' Wives."

J. N. H., Hexham.—Mr. Hensler's picture of "La Fenoda" was engraved in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for April 8.

A CONSTANT READER.—Lady Sharp is the widow of the late learned antiquary Sir Cuthbert Sharp, F.S.A., who died in 1849.

A CONSTANT READER.—An illegitimate child may adopt any surname.

W. H. W. H.—Apply at the College of Arms, Doctors' Commons.

D. N. G.—Lord Llangbel's peerage and title will be inheritable by his family, so long as one male descendant of his body remains.

PYRARCH.—It is indeed enviable that a Lady be presented to the Queen by some other Lady who has already been at Court.

J. T.—The Marquis of Anglesea was born 17th May, 1768, and will consequently in May next complete his 86th year. He fought with great coolness at Waterloo, and lost a leg on that celebrated field.

C. B.—A blazon, or description, in addition to the engraving of the arms in the Obituary, would be but a mere repetition, and we could occupy too much room in this paper, where space is so particularly valuable.

THE CENSUS OF 1851.

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 1854.

THE Emperor of Russia and his Chancellor, Count Nesselrode, are unfortunate in the use of the pen. But it is proverbially a difficult thing to make the "worse appear the better reason," and it is not surprising that the Emperor should fail in his logic, or pervert the truth, to serve his own purposes, when he has so bad a cause to defend. The Imperial "Declaration," published in the *St. Petersburg Journal* of the 31st March (a date answering in civilised Europe to the 12th April), is a remarkable document—temperate in its tone, clever in its arguments, hypocritical in its protestations; but false in its assertions, and fallacious in the reasoning based upon them. It purports to be a reply to the declaration of war by the Maritime Powers, upon whom it throws the whole blame and responsibility. The Czar never admits or even seems to reflect upon the notorious fact, that his invasion and occupation of the Danubian Principalities was an act of decided hostility and the real commencement of the war. He states that "he sincerely laments the manifold evils which are about to fall on humanity," but his acts, both of the present and the past time, belie his words. If he had been as sincere as he pretends, he might long ago have withdrawn, without loss of honour or dignity, from a false and perilous position. If he cannot at the present time retract without self-stultification and dishonour, and without danger to his throne, from the wounded feelings of his humiliated people, the fault is entirely his own, and in no way chargeable upon the Two Governments—which exhausted negotiation as well as patience before they were reduced to the unhappy, though inevitable conclusion, that the Emperor was bent upon his purpose, and would not be deterred from its pursuit, except by the application of a physical force superior to his own. In allusion to the demand made upon him for the evacuation of the Principalities on or before a certain day—fixed by Great Britain for the 30th of April, and by France for the 15th—he asks, "By what right did the Two Powers thus pretend to exact everything from one of the two belligerent parties, without demanding anything from the other?" The obvious reply is that Turkey was wholly in the right; and that Russia was wholly, grossly, and insultingly in the wrong. It was impossible to exact from Turkey anything whatever that Russia had a title to demand. The "Declaration" also alleges that "all honourable retreat was peremptorily cut off for the Emperor by an imperious summons, such as Russia never before received within the whole period of its history;" a fact which is but too true; for it would have been for the advantage of all Europe at the present moment if a summons equally imperious had on another memorable occasion been addressed to it, by Powers able to enforce it. When Poland was partitioned was the proper time for such a summons to Russia. It is a European misfortune that so gigantic a wrong was permitted. Had it been resisted, the probability is that the ambition of the Czars would have received a check, and that they would never have been in a position to attempt, much less to carry out, a similar design against the Ottoman Empire. But Europe is at last awake to its duty; and if the Czar do not relish the nature of the summons directed to him, he will, it is to be hoped, learn for the future to deserve respect, and not hostility. The "Declaration" accuses Great Britain and France of exaggerating the object of this "disastrous" war by "bringing vague accusations against Russia;" and denies that the Emperor either attacked their "honour" or their "material interests." The accusations brought against Russia are by no means vague; but clear, precise, and tangible. The Emperor's favourite image of the "sick man and his inheritance," and the negotiations he attempted to build upon the state of things thus vividly allegorised, are not vague to the understanding of any man in Europe. If any doubt existed upon the meaning of the Emperor's words, his actions would be far more than sufficient to remove it. The honour of Great Britain and France are, no doubt, intact; and the Emperor, as far as we know, never made any attempt to emperil that of either Power, unless when he conveyed, through Sir Hamilton Seymour, the offer of Egypt and Candia, as bribes, to the English Government, if it would aid him in the dismemberment of the Ottoman Empire. As regards the Emperor's denial that he ever attacked the material interests of either Power, the world has only to be reminded of the fact that Russia, contrary to treaty, has blocked up the Sulina mouth of the Danube by its studied and systematic neglect, to see how little truth there is in the Imperial allegation. The Danube is a great artery of European commerce; and if Russia, which is solemnly pledged to prevent it from being silted up, wilfully and maliciously allow sand-banks to accumulate until the only inlet by which merchant vessels can proceed into it from the Black Sea is strewed with wrecks and the remnants of valuable cargoes, he inflicts a material injury upon every commercial nation, and more especially upon Great Britain and France. The Emperor appeals to all Europe against the Two Powers, "to decide if the general equilibrium be really exposed to the dangers which are attributed to it from the alleged excessive preponderance of Russia;" and hints a danger of revolution or insurrection in Lombardy, Hungary, and Germany, to be apprehended from the efforts of the Maritime Allies. The Emperor of Russia deceives himself if he imagines that such arguments will have any weight. The Emperor of Austria must know, by this time, who is the great anarchist and insurrectionist of Europe; and the King of Prussia must be equally aware of the real source of the dangers which menace him. The two great German Powers have signed a treaty of alliance, and whichever side they take, they will go together. The Emperor of Austria is young and able, and surrounded by wise counsellors. He has already taken the auspicious occasion of his marriage to raise the state of siege throughout his dominions, to pardon political offenders, and to show his people that his reliance is not upon Russian bayonets, as in the unfortunate years of 1848 and 1849, but upon the patriotism and affection of his subjects. There are other and more powerful reasons for the belief that the anti-Russian alliance will not long be confined to France and England. With or without the aid of Germany, the Maritime Powers will speedily convince the Czar that he alone is responsible for the war. We wish with all our hearts that he alone might be made to suffer its penalties.

THE railways not long ago introduced the custom of borrowing money on bonds bearing interest payable half-yearly, and redeemable at certain fixed periods. These bonds having coupons, which enable the parties holding them to obtain the interest without parting with the security, have become rather a favourite investment with the public; and last year the Chancellor of the Exchequer proposed to issue similar securities under the name of Exchequer Bonds for the conversion of the Debt to a considerable amount. He fixed the interest too low, in the face of a rising Money-market, to succeed; and of the £30,000,000 of Bonds he took power to issue, not £500,000 were purchased. The Money-market at present being fully stocked with Exchequer Bills, and it being probable, or rather certain, that a greater amount must be issued to meet the current expenses of the Government, the Chancellor of the Exchequer has issued proposals to borrow £6,000,000 on Exchequer Bonds bearing interest at three-and-a-half per cent. Of this sum £2,000,000 are to be paid off at par on May 8, 1858; £2,000,000, in 1859; and £2,000,000, in 1860: the interest to commence on May 8th, and to be paid half-yearly. Thus, he is to borrow £2,000,000 for four years, £2,000,000 for five years, and £2,000,000 for six years, certain. The price he will accept for the Bonds will not be known till May 2, when no more tenders will be received, and the lowest price declared. Offers will, no doubt, be abundant; but whether they will fall or not within the Chancellor's terms, and whether he will be successful in negotiating the loan, cannot till then be known. That the Government can easily raise twice as large a sum of money is certain; but there is some doubt whether the Chancellor and the public take the same view of the future condition of the Money-market, and regard this new security with equally favourable eyes, and as they agree or differ on these points, he may or may not be successful.

Because the public have regarded the railway debentures favourably, it is supposed that the Exchequer Bonds will be very acceptable to the middle classes; but it is very rare that they take such kind of securities except at second hand: they buy them of bankers and others, who subscribe for them in large sums. Admitting, therefore, that Exchequer Bonds will be acceptable to men of small means and saving disposition, it will not be they but the bankers and other moneyed classes of London—as no lenders below £1000 will be accepted—who will now offer for them, and they will be guided by the value of other securities. For them, an Exchequer Bill at the same rate of interest (3½ per cent) which it now bears, will be more acceptable than an Exchequer Bond; and the Chancellor must put his Bonds at rather a low figure to induce the exchange. His object, in fact, is to take Exchequer Bills out of the market, and to substitute for them Bonds redeemable at distant and certain periods. He advertises expressly for Bills at par, and he requires on every £100 in money 1s. more than on £100 in Exchequer Bills. Should he succeed, the loan thus raised will no doubt be the forerunner of similar loans, for the current service of every year—reducing the number of Exchequer Bills, of which the Government always stands a little in awe, as it may be required to pay them at an inconvenient time—and a new species of Government security payable at fixed times, will get into general use. Then the saving middle classes, and the classes immediately below them, will be very likely to invest £100, £200, or £300 in these Bonds; but, while no less a sum than £1000 can now be tendered for them, the middle classes are not likely to become purchasers. It is quite a fallacy to represent this as a popular loan, like that of the French Emperor. It is both too small in amount, and the smallest sum for which tenders will be accepted is too large, to deserve such a character.

Though the loan is contemporaneous with the beginning of the war, it is not made necessary by any expenses yet incurred on its account. For any that may immediately arise, the Chancellor is authorised to issue £1,700,000 Exchequer Bills, to be redeemed by the increased Property-tax as it accrues. But the Chancellor has appropriated the balances in the Exchequer to pay off dissentients from his plan of conversion, and now finds himself, while unknown demands on account of war are threatening him, with little more than £2,400,000 in hand, including a variety of trust moneys which he cannot touch; while, for many years back, at the same period, the balances have been rarely less than £6,000,000, and generally more. The loan is intended, as has been said, to place the Chancellor of the Exchequer in credit with his banker, or have in the Bank a good available present balance.

THE COURT.

The Queen and Prince Albert, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Princess Alice, Prince Alfred, the Princesses Helena and Louise, Prince Arthur, and Prince Leopold, left Windsor Castle, at twenty minutes before three o'clock on Monday morning, travelled by a special train on the Great Western Railway to Paddington, and proceeded in several of her Majesty's carriages, escorted by a detachment of Carbineers, to Buckingham Palace, where they arrived at twenty-three minutes before four o'clock. At four o'clock the Queen held a Privy Council, at which a proclamation was ordered to be issued respecting the Fast Day.

On Tuesday morning the Duchess of Kent paid a visit of congratulation to the Queen at Buckingham Palace, on the birthday of her Royal Highness the Princess Alice. Her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Prince Alfred, and the Princess Alice, went, at one o'clock, to pay a complimentary visit to the Duchess of Gloucester, at Gloucester House, on the return of her Royal Highness's natal day. The Queen and Prince Albert left the Palace at half past three o'clock for the Crystal Palace at Sydenham. In the evening her Majesty and the Prince Consort honoured the Haymarket Theatre with their presence.

On Wednesday (the day of the Solemn Fast) the Queen and Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, the Princess Alice, Prince Alfred, and the Duchess of Kent, attended Divine Service in the private chapel of Buckingham Palace. The service was performed by the Bishop of Chester and the Hon. Rev. G. Wellesley. The Bishop of Chester preached the sermon.

THE DRAWING-ROOM.

The Queen held a Drawing-room (the second this season) on Thursday afternoon, in St. James's Palace. Her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert arrived from Buckingham Palace at two o'clock, escorted by a detachment of Life Guards, and were received by the great officers of State. Their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess Mary were present, attended by Major Baron Knesebeck.

The Queen and Prince entered the Throne-room attended by the Mistress of the Robes, the Duchess of Sutherland; the Ladies of the Bedchamber—the Countess of Charlemont (in Waiting), the Duchess of Wellington, the Countess of Desart, the Viscountess Canning, and the Viscountess Jocelyn, and the Ladies and Gentlemen of the Royal household.

Her Majesty wore a train of lilac and silver moire antique silk, trimmed with white tulle and silver stars. The petticoat was white crape, with two flounces, and was trimmed with silver, and silver and crape ribbons. The Queen's head-dress was a diadem of emeralds and diamonds, and feathers.

The diplomatic circle was first introduced. The general circle was brilliantly attended. A number of presentations took place.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester completed her seventy-eighth year on Tuesday. Her Royal Highness, although still very weak, has quite recovered from her recent indisposition.

The Duke and Duchess of Wellington have arrived in Belgrave-street, from Italy.

The Duke and Duchess of Northumberland have arrived in Paris, *en route* to London, from Genoa.

The Earl and Countess Granville have returned to town from Paris.

The Earl and Countess Constance Grosvenor have returned to town from Cliden.

THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA'S NUPTIALS.

The Imperial bride arrived at Schonbrunn on Saturday. She left Linz at eight in the morning, and was met at Nussedorff by the Emperor. The solemnisation of the Imperial nuptials took place on Monday. Great enthusiasm prevailed on the occasion in Vienna. The Emperor has granted an amnesty to 356 political prisoners, of whom 248 receive a full pardon; the sentences of the others are commuted into various terms of imprisonment. All criminal suits in Galicia for treason are quashed. All similar suits for off-nces against his Majesty throughout the empire are quashed. The state of siege in Lombardy and the Venetian territory will be raised entirely after the 1st of May. The Emperor has also ordered 200,000 florins to be distributed among the poor of the various provinces.

SVEABORG.

THREE miles south-east of Helsingfors, the capital of Finland, rise the threatening walls of Sveaborg; the honour of which gigantic work belongs to Count Augustus Ehrensvärd, who is buried there. The building of the fortress was begun in 1748. With infinite labour, and at the cost of immense sums of money, docks were blown out of the rocks; deep water channels were filled up, and thus rendered impassable; while walls of granite rose above the barren steeps.

The main fortress stands on five separate islands, viz., Wargön, Stora and Lilla (the Large and Little), Oster-svartö, Wester-svartö, and Lemnan. Close to these lies the Fort of Gustafsvärd, strengthened by all that science can devise, and commanding by its guns the narrow and only inlet for ships of war.

With astonishment the eye rests on those mighty walls and battlements—those wharfs and arsenals, which bear witness to the stupendous exertions which have been lavished upon them. Prisoners from all parts of Finland are confined here, while Russian shipsof war are always lying at anchor: some, dismasted, being used as block-ships and dwelling-houses—others in all the proud attire of war. Gardens here and there garland the grey walls with green, but fail to divest the fortress of its sombre aspect

The loss of Sveaborg may be called the loss of Finland to Sweden; for, as long as that stronghold was in the hands of its rightful owners, they felt secure. But the first tidings of its capitulation fell like a stone on the hearts of the soldiers, and crushed every hope within them. It was on the 8th of May 1808, that the Russians sang their Te Deum at the grave of Ehrensvärd—that the Swedish flag was struck, and the Russian eagles hoisted in its stead. a dark day in the annals of Swedish and Finnish story!

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

[A portion of the following Letter appeared in our Late Edition of last week.]

SCHUMLA, April 3, 1854.

AFTER leaving Sistova, where the preparations for the advance of the Turks into Wallachia appeared to intimate that the operations carried on there were only part of a plan of general operations, I proceeded to Rustchuk, where, as I had reason to suppose, Omer Pacha intended to effect the passage of the Danube in force. There, indeed, everything seemed prepared. Gun-boats of large dimensions, capable of carrying upwards of a thousand men, were ready for the transport of troops to the other side. His Excellency Ismail Pacha had just been appointed to the supreme command, in place of Hall Pacha; and had made known his appointment to the troops in garrison by the issue of a general order, in which he gave the soldiers to understand that valour alone was not the bond by which an army could be kept together, but discipline, without which no army could exist in time of war. He then, in a series of articles, recapitulated the duties which he considered it incumbent on the men under his command to perform; and he ended by saying that his Excellency Omer Pacha, the General-in-Chief of the Sultan's armies, had recently given a notable example of the fate which might befal officers inattentive to their duty, by dismissing from the service a Pacha, several majors, and other officers, who had been proved to be guilty of conduct unbecoming the high military commands which they filled. Japhir Pacha, an Albanian, who had recently been elevated from the rank of Bey to that of General of Brigade, had embezzled the Imperial moneys, by drawing pay for 2000 Arnauts, whilst he really had but 400 under his command. Another officer had been dismissed for drunkenness; and he rest for crimes not less unbecoming or contrary to discipline in time of war. Yet, whilst it was evident that active steps were about to be taken against the enemy—whilst 8000 Egyptians were known to be on their way from Schumla, means were not neglected to prevent an attempt, on the part of the Russians, to effect a landing upon the Turkish shore. Not only were the soldiers of the garrison of Rustchuk actively at work in repairing the fortifications of the place, many parts of which were in a state of neglect; but the inhabitants, Turkish as well as Bulgarian, were pressed into the service; and the streets of the town offered the strange spectacle of a deserted city, of which all the shops were shut, and all the trade for a moment brought to a sudden stand. By the help of such vigorous measures, even an unpractised eye could see the speedy progress with which the scarp was disencumbered at its base from the loads of earth which in course of time had fallen from the parapet; the embrasures were everywhere made square with blocks of hardened loam; and the ditch itself was deepened in parts where vegetation had sprung up, and in course of years choked up the space. At the same time several English officers who were in the town were consulted as to the mode of improving the defences, and they suggested various small changes and improvements in the flanking fires of the batteries.

Rustchuk is built in an oval form, and has a ditch and scarp—the former not so wide, the latter by no means so high, as those of the fortress of Widdin; but the natural position of the place—strengthened by a line of forts on the heights behind it, and by outworks on one side—is such as to render the utmost art of fortifications unnecessary. The walls which face the Danube are at a considerable height above the river, and within seven hundred yards of the banks of an island occupied by the Russians. The near proximity of the sentinels and videttes, caused a perpetual fire to be kept up during the day, as the Minié rifle was plied on both sides, sometimes with effect more frequently, however, without success. During a walk which I took with his Excellency Ismail Pacha, and several British officers along the lower batteries, we were more than once fired at; and in one instance, the aim of a Cossack was very near being painfully true. Meanwhile, also, batteries *en barbette*, were built on the plains above and below the town, pierced for eight guns each, and made large enough to contain a strong force. The position of Maritina, twelve miles distant, was fortified; and a fort was built there, containing twelve field pieces, firing from a considerable height, and scouring the plain below and the opposite bank of the Danube.

It so happened, however, that the preparations of the Turks to cross into Wallachia were foiled by the activity of the enemy. Ismail Pacha, who had taken possession of his command in Rustchuk on the 26th of March, was suddenly recalled on the 28th, and on the 29th was on his way to Schumla. There were endless rumours as to the cause of this recall; but there seemed every reason to believe that offensive operations had been put an end to by a movement of the enemy. I left Rustchuk, accordingly, on the morning of the 29th, in company with his Excellency Ismail Pacha. We slept the first night at Byzantz, a small village distant about twenty-five miles from Rustchuk; on the 30th we reached Rasgrad, which we passed at noon; and, spending the night in a village seven miles further on, we arrived in Schumla on the 31st before twelve o'clock. Near Rasgrad we met 8000 Egyptians, under Suliman Pacha, marching back to their old quarters. Although the sun was warm, the wind was cold. For miles along the road were hundreds of arabas drawn by oxen, carrying the provisions and tents of the troops. In front, near Rasgrad, were six heavy pieces, drawn each by six buffaloes, and the ammunition waggons, drawn by four. The sight of these guns, so drawn, appeared to excite the choler of Ismail Pacha. He called upon Suleiman Pacha to know how it was that the guns were not drawn by horses; and why the ammunition waggons, which are heavier than guns, had but two pair of buffaloes harnessed, whilst the guns had three. The Pacha threw the blame on the Major of Artillery, who said that he had sent the horses on before. Ismail Pacha reproved him by telling him publicly that he was an ass, and no soldier (*askier yok amma eschek*), and rode off, leaving the crest-fallen Major to groan over this public reproof. As I approached Schumla, I perceived how strong as a natural position was that place, which has never succumbed to the Russians in any war. About three miles from the town, we found ourselves at the base of a high and precipitous range of hills, up which our horses toiled for half an hour. Having accomplished the ascent, we entered a pass commanded by several forts, and then slowly descended on the other side; the minarets and houses of Schumla appearing to us at the bottom and on the sides of a deep hollow. The town, in fact, is encompassed by hills, all difficult of access; but, perhaps, less so on the side of Varna. There, however, art has added to the natural strength of the place, and numerous fortifications impede the progress of an enemy.

We were not long in Schumla before we learnt the cause of the retrograde march of the troops and the recall of Ismail Pacha. We were informed that the Russians had crossed the Danube in force at Galatz, and had taken possession of the Dobrudja. This was startling news; but the attention of Omer Pacha had been already attracted, as I informed you, to the concentration of the Russian forces in the direction of Matchin. On the morning of the 4th ult., the corps of General Luders, supposed to be 30,000 strong, effected the passage of the Danube, near Matchin. The Turks had erected a barbette battery of four guns on the island of Chatalbournu, to which they had access by a bridge of boats. This battery had been erected by the Turks some time before, so secretly, as they conceived, that the Russians knew nothing of it. A battalion had been placed there; and it was supposed that the Russian flotilla might be easily bombarded from that place. The enemy, however, were made aware in proper time of this operation, and he even endeavoured to surprise the place; but, on the first occasion, the attempt was unsuccessful, and the enemy was repulsed. On the 4th of March, however, a large Russian force was embarked before daylight in nineteen gun-boats and two steamers. The island was occupied in every part, the sentries killed, and the bridge of boats communicating with the mainland seized. By this means the unfortunate battalion found itself immediately cut off from all assistance. It was briskly cannonaded from two sides by the Russians, who then endeavoured to storm it. Twice the gallant defenders repulsed the enemy, but at the third charge they were overwhelmed. The Russians entered, and killed or took prisoners the greater part of the battalion. A few men cut their way through, swam over, and got off; the rest were killed or made prisoners. In this desperate affair, the loss on the Turkish side was 640 killed, wounded, and prisoners, and four guns. Among the killed were Ali Bey, colonel; Osman Aga, major; and other officers. The Russian loss it will be impossible to ascertain. It is supposed to have been great.

The passing of the Danube by so large a Russian force of course rendered untenable the positions of Matchin, Isaktschi, and Toutscha. Osman Pacha, in command in Isaktschi, was, it appears, so struck with terror at its advance, that he retreated in a panic without order, and without any plan as to what position he should fall back on. The garrison of Toutscha retired on Varna, that of Matchin on Silistria; the remainder made their way to this place. The greater part of the baggage and ammunition, and all the guns in the positions, were taken off in safety. The places were all subsequently occupied by the Russians, who advanced their Cossacks to Babadagh: it is feared that by this time they have pushed as far as Kustendje and Karasu, Trajan's Wall.

The result of this successful Russian manœuvre is the complete frustration of the plans of the Turkish Generalissimo. Kalafat, which has been too long occupied by the Turks, and which can serve no purpose, since it is effectually blocked by a small Russian force, must now be evacuated, and the soldiers despatched to Sophia. Widdin, Nicopolis, Rustchuk, and Silistria must be occupied in force, and the re-union of the places along the Danube must be evacuated. That Omer Pacha will do this is, I am told, probable. No one doubts the necessity of such steps; but the Turkish Generalissimo will not abandon without a pang the position of Kalafat, where he has spent so much time, so much money, and so many men.

In a short time 50,000 men will be concentrated in Schumla, and the Turks will remain on the defensive until the arrival of the European forces. The first French division, under General Canrobert, has arrived at Gallipoli. The regiments which form the army are all drafted from Africa, or have at one time or another fought in that country. France has four regiments of *Chasseurs d'Afrique* cavalry: two of these regiments are coming. She has three regiments of Zouaves—men dressed as Turks, and the bravest of her African army: these three regiments are coming. She has one regiment of native Arabs—that has also come. All the officers are the best and the youngest in the army. All this, as well as the English force, will now be necessary to repel the Russians, who are not so easily to be beaten as one may suppose.

Several European officers are here—Colonel Dien, aide-de-camp of General Baraguay d'Hilliers, Colonel Carmon, and Captain Symmons. More are expected. Lieut. the Hon. W. Wellesley, of the Coldstreams; Lieut. Burke of the Engineers, on the staff of General Burgoyne; and Colonel Dickson, Royal Artillery, left Rustchuk on the 26th ult. for Tirnova, to inspect the passes of the Balkans.

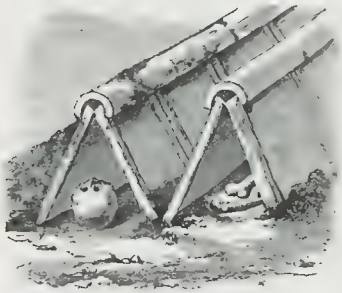
It is supposed here, and I believe with reason, that Russia would not have advanced her troops into the Dobrudja, had she not been sure of the support of Austria. The presence of so large a force as that which now lines the banks of the Save. The arrival of their pontoon trains at Semlin, Mytrowitz, and Sabatcz, and the imposing army assembled upon the frontier of Transylvania and Wallachia, are also considered as so proofs that the intentions of Austria are hostile to Turkey. I have no reason, therefore, to withdraw any of the remarks which I made in my last letters with respect to the position which has been assumed by that Power. So alarmed has the Porte been by the preparations of her neighbours, that she has sent Assiz Pacha, a young but capable man, son of Izzet Pacha, commander of the fortress of Belgrade, to sound the Cabinet of Vienna. We shall soon see whether the assertion of Prince Coronini to the Pacha of Belgrade is confirmed, and whether the mighty preparations of Austria are merely for precaution sake or not. Our statesmen, and the press of England, from what I can see and hear of them at this distance, have been fondly hoping that an armed neutrality was the sole purpose of the Imperial German power. I have no such hopes, and I cannot believe that 200,000 men are placed on a frontier merely for the sake of observation.

REMAINS OF A ROMAN BUILDING, AT CUMA.

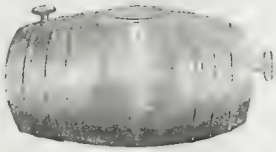
FURTHER DISCOVERIES AT CUMA AND CANOSA.

NAPLES, April, 1854.

THE excavations which have taken place this year at Cuma and Canosa, afford new and interesting material which may be turned to public utility. The antiquary of to-day is not the mere collector of objects for the glass-case; we are beginning to copy and adapt to modern purposes and practical uses the arts of the ancients. Classical antiquities, therefore, are likely ere long to become interesting to the manufacturer, and will certainly educate the public mind and improve our taste. The discoveries now in progress at Cuma and Canosa are the more attractive, inasmuch as they represent the best periods in the art history of the world. My present report may be considered as a continuation of what has already appeared in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS on the same subject.



GRAVES OF ROMAN POOR, AT CUMA.



GLASS VESSEL, FOUND AT CUMA.

It is necessary to remind the reader that Cuma is, perhaps, the most ancient city of the Mediterranean. The roving Phœnicians brought the art and civilisation of the East to Cuma; from which period, up to the time of Lucullus, this city was of considerable importance. Its Necropolis, therefore, records the art and architecture of past centuries.

INTERIOR OF A GREEK TOMB, AT CUMA.

On my last visit to Cuma I found a group of workmen uncovering a number of Roman graves, evidently of the poorer class. Flat tiles (*tegulæ*) leaning on each other, and covered by the *imbrex*, formed a grave (See Illustration). With the skeleton are sometimes found a few terra-cotta vases, but more frequently nothing but the bones of the dead. Whilst sketching, my friend, Mr. Ashpitel, the architect, who accompanied me, suddenly disappeared. Presently a boy came running up, and informed me my friend had tumbled down a tomb. On arriving at the spot, I found him safe and sound, engaged in sketching and measuring a large Greek tomb, of which I send you a copy. The roof of this building is most interesting. It is not vaulted or arched; the stones have all a level end, projecting gradually over each other, like the celebrated Treasury of Atreus, till they meet at the top. Nothing of importance was found in this tomb; its chief interest consists in the solid construction of the building. Not far distant is a Roman tomb, with three chambers, and the usual columbaria.

Further on, and some thirty feet below the surface of the earth, workmen were employed in excavating the graves of the earliest settlers at Cuma, which are supposed to be those of the Phœnicians. Occasionally they handed up small terra-cotta vessels, whereon are painted grotesque animals—strange metamorphoses of birds and beasts, such as a naturalist might dream into existence after an uncomfortably heavy supper. I send you a drawing of one of the most remarkable They are generally from three to eight inches high; the animals are represented in dark-red and brown colours, and have a marked Egyptian character The people whose remains occupy these graves appear to have burnt their dead; you find the urn with burnt bones therein, generally protected by rude stonework. The vase were tributes which accompanied the ashes, and have, no doubt, a religious meaning.

Strolling over the site of this classical city, I came upon a very picturesque farm-house, built on some Roman remains (see Illustration). It was a scene for reflection: a modern house, spliced on to a huge mass of Roman brickwork. An excavator was smoking his pipe very tranquilly, with a number of antique vases at his feet, whilst a pig and a dog were getting up a quarrel in the foreground.

H.R.H. the Prince of Syracuse, at whose expense the excavations at Cuma are carried on, has added some valuable objects to his collection this year: including three noble vases, with wreaths of gilt flowers in relief round the necks of the vessels; carved ivory pins; penates; perfume-boxes; two terra-cotta figures, painted in colours; many small Phœnician pottery, and an endless variety of small objects. The Prince is still carrying on the excavations with much spirit, and thereby increasing the archæological wealth of the world. I have selected one object for illustration—a curious glass chemical vessel. In the centre is a basin to hold the liquid; with taps, so to speak, at each end of the vessel, for introducing hot water to set on the middle bowl. This object is from a Greek tomb. It is about a foot and a half long, and the largest example of ancient glass yet found.

PHŒNICIAN VASE, FROM CUMA.

M. Bonucci, by Royal authority, is continuing his excavations at Canosa. The Necropolis is of far greater extent than was at first supposed, and the tombs lately indicated are on a grand scale. A grave near the northern gate of Canosa has been opened, and found to contain a complete suit of armour. Scattered round the skeleton were many *pateræ* and small vases, together with five large vases, not less than five feet high: the drawing of the figures representing some incident of the Greek mythology of the highest order. Indeed, Canosa promises objects of the best period of Greek art.

E. N. B.

"THE DRAGON WELL" AT WALTHAMSTOW.

THE subject of this Illustration derives interest, as well for its rarity in modern days, and for the liberality of the donor, as for its intrinsic merit and usefulness. It has recently been erected on the Forest, at Walthamstow, from the design of Mr. G. E. Pritchett, of Bishop Stortford, architect, through the liberality of a neighbour, whose object was to provide with water a poor neighbourhood hitherto unsupplied. The whole is beautifully executed in Caen stone, by Mr. Rattie, of Cambridge. An eagle's head forms the spout, and above is an iron lamp, of pleasing design. The basin is of oak, slightly ornamented. In the carved panels is inscribed:—"Jesus said, whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again, but whosoever drinketh of the water I shall give him shall never thirst, but the water that I shall give shall be a well of water springing up to everlasting life." Under the carved work at the top is inscribed:—"Ho every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters." The popular name is derived from the dragon sculpture.

PUMP, RECENTLY ERECTED AT WALTHAMSTOW.

EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.

The Exhibition of the Society of Painters in Water-Colours, for the present year, may be pronounced an unusually attractive one. The landscapes and sea-pieces are of the usual amount and variety; and there is more than the average number of figure subjects, all more or less interesting.

The two places of honour, at the north and south ends of the room, are occupied by group pictures, illustrative of the Royal Sports at Balmoral, by Carl Haag, "Hofmaler" (*Anglice*, Court Painter) to H.S.H. the reigning Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, which will attract more than ordinary attention. The first, entitled "Morning in the Highlands, the Royal Family ascending Loch-na-gar," represents the Queen, with Prince Albert, and the Royal children, seated on their ponies, and scrambling up the steep side of a rugged hill, attended by the usual retinue of gillies, dogs, &c. The Queen occupies the centre of the picture, half way up the pass; the Prince-Consort is on the topmost pinnacle; the younger members of the family, and the attendants, forming a winding train below. The portraits have been carefully studied, and, for the most part, are happy in expression, and considerable ability has been displayed in the arrangement of a rather difficult subject: not, however, without betraying some symptoms of effort. The companion picture, "Evening at Balmoral—the Stags brought Home," represents the arrival of a party of gillies before the porch of the Palace of Balmoral, leading a stout mountain pony, upon whose back the antlered victims of the day have been carried in from the scene of action. The gillies are occupied in unpacking the stags, and casting them to the ground for the inspection of her Majesty and her Court, who, in full evening costume, have apparently just left the dinner-table for the purpose. Prince Albert, in a spirited attitude, lays his hand upon the antlers of a noble stag, which he points out with an expression of pride to the Queen and Prince of Wales. Close behind the Prince stand the Prime Minister and another nobleman; other members of the Royal family, and of the Court circle, complete a very effective group — the scene being illumined by the glare of torches, which the gillies held aloft at various points. This is in all respects a more pictorial and effective production than the other. The artistic execution of the details in both is admirable, and the colouring clean and luminous. The "Morning" subject has been painted by command of Prince Albert; the "Evening" by that of her Majesty.

The same artist has several other works, in different styles, and of more or less merit. "The Ruins of the Temple of Vesta, at Tivoli" (29), is sober and delicate in tone. "A Roman Monk—Study of a Head" (114) wants character in the expression, and the roundness and reality of life in the structure of the head. "Un Campagnole" (131) represents a mountaineer, standing leaning against a pole, and surveying the surrounding country from an elevated spot. Not a badly-painted figure, but very like one which we have seen before, and engraved.

Gilbert has not been idle during the recess; and the result of his labours are such as to support and enhance his well-earned reputation. "The Rosary" (6) is a small study of a female, half-length, kneeling at a *prie-Dieu*, and telling her beads—treated with sobriety of colouring, and a happy freedom from affectation in the expression.

"Hudibras and Ralpho in the Stocks" (18) discovers a rich vein of humour, and a nice appreciation of character, entitling the picture to honourable companionship with the same artist's "Sancho Panza," in the British Institution. The colouring is delicately and agreeably balanced.

The work, however, upon which most labour and study have evidently been bestowed is "The Drug Bazaar at Constantinople" (24), which is admirably real. The Bazaar is a long gallery with a vaulted roof, the narrow passage beneath which is flanked with wooden stalls, within which turbaned Mussulmans sit, cross-legged, waiting for custom. The crowd of pedestrians hurrying to and fro in the midst, comprise an endless variety of character, occupation, and costume, amongst which are prominently seen, near the spectator, a Turkish woman of the middle rank, with her black slave, both enveloped in their white veils or *yashmaks*; and an Armenian carpet vendor. But it would be impossible by description to give an adequate idea of the amount of detail crowded into this production, or to do justice to the richness of colouring in which the whole is produced. "A Turkish Water-carrier, Constantinople" (137), is a clever study of a single figure.

"The Witch Acrasia charming her Lover in the Bower of Bliss" (66), by J. Stephanoff, is a florid

"HUDIBRAS AND RALPHO IN THE STOCKS."—PAINTED BY JOHN GILBERT.

But Hud'bras, who scorn'd to stoop
To Fortune, or be said so droop;
Chew'd up himself with nods of verse,
And sayings of philosophers.

Quoth he, "Th' one half of man, his mind,
Is, *sui juris*, unconfined,
And cannot be laid by the heels,
Whate'er the other moiety feels.

'Tis not Restraint or Liberty,
That makes man prisoners or free;
But perturbations that possess
The mind, or examination . . ."

Quoth Ralph, "How great I do not know
We may by being beaten grow;
But none, that see how bare we sit,
Will judge us overgrown with wit."
Hudibras, Part I., Canto 3.

NEW CHURCH IN THE PUNJAUB.

This edifice, which has recently been erected at Sealkote, in the Punjaub, acquires additional interest from its being the first Protestant church opened in that province, the latest of our Indian acquisitions. The good work was commenced in 1852, when the foundation-stone was laid by the Archdeacon of Calcutta. At this time, only about £600 had been raised by subscription, and there was little hope of aid from the Government, who, however, shortly afterwards, promulgated a wise and comprehensive scheme of church building. For this boon, the European residents are mainly indebted to the advocacy of the present Governor-General of India, who has uniformly evinced a pious sympathy in the work, and largely aided by his own contributions. Assistance has also been derived from unexpected sources. Through the interest of Mr Inglis, the district officer, the bricks of a ruined little fortress (dismantled on account of the rebellion of its owner, an influential Sikh), were placed at the disposal of the Church-building Committee, in quantities sufficient for the entire structure. Another timely gift was tendered by the Maharajah of Cashmere. Sealkote joins the Jummoo frontier, and Gholab Singh has always manifested a friendly interest in the concerns of the Station. Admiring the exertions of his Christian neighbours in the cause of their religion, this heathen Prince offered gratuitously as much wood and lime as might be needed for the Church; and the offer was thankfully accepted, by permission of Government. It should be explained, that the above materials are extremely scarce in the Punjaub, and can only be procured in large quantities from the Jummoo territory; and the wood and lime which the Chief thus generously gave is valued at not less than £1000.

CHURCH, RECENTLY ERECTED AT SEALKOTE, IN THE PUNJAUB.

The Church having been completed, was opened by the joint chaplains of the Station, the Rev. C. Sloggett, and the Rev. Cave Brown, on the Sunday before Christmas-day last; and Divine Service is now regularly performed in the sacred edifice. The style of the architecture is Decorated Early English. The windows are filled with stained glass, procured from Delhi. The gabled roof is ornamented with trusses and pendents, coloured in imitation of dark oak; whence punkas (swinging fans) have been suspended. In the aisles are niches and recesses, some of which are occupied by tablets to the memory of those who fell at Chillianwallah and Goojerat. The flooring will shortly be laid with stone to be obtained from the Jummoo territory. A private subscription is in progress for adding a portico, tower, and belfry, with chimes; and one large bell has already been supplied from the Ferozepore foundry.

To adapt the Church to the climate, the clerestory windows are made to open; the aisle windows have only their upper portions glazed, the remainder being filled with Venetian blinds, or, in the sultry season, with "tattas," or wetted grass-mats. There are openings along the ridge piece, and at the ends of the roof.

The Rev. Mr. Sloggett has, with truly pastoral zeal, aided in the good work by collecting subscriptions, and acting as Secretary of the Building Committee. The Church was designed by Lieutenant Harley Maxwell, who superintended the works. The masons and carpenters employed were all natives of the Punjaub, and Sikhs by religion. The accompanying View of the edifice is from a photograph.

affair. Above, in mid air, is a numerous group of nymphs and cupids, very striking as to colour, but inaccurately drawn; below, the lovers sleeping in a bower of roses; the gay plumage of a peacock giving additional brilliance to the scene.

Miss E. Sharpe produces a touching illustration of womanly weakness, in its weakest point—personal vanity (92). The incident is related in a German romance of the Lady Richildi proceeding to consult the magic mirror, trusting to be assured that she is still the most beautiful woman in Bruant, when the silken curtains draw apart, and present to her view the still more beautiful image of her step-daughter. The uplifted hands, no less than the perturbed features, betray the poor lady's agony of mind.

Jenkins's study, so called, of a "Russian Serf" (97), is rather *couleur de rose*. A female, not ill looking, apparently well-fed, and of contented aspect, clothed in woollen drapery of coarse material, but gracefully arranged, bears a pitcher of water on her shoulder, in classic attitude; whilst a young, blue-eyed slave—her son, perhaps frolics near her, smiling, unconscious of the terms of the "protecting" power which rules his after destiny.

"Valentine's Day" (121), by O. Oakley, is a clever production, though we are not quite clear about the story intended to be told. The scene is in a gipsy encampment; where two young females, and of the tribe are seated, with valentines, of the transfixed-heart style, open beside them. Their looks evince the mingled surprise and satisfaction which they experience at the perhaps unexpected compliment, whilst an elder female looks on, from behind with a mysterious, and not altogether contented expression.

"The Festival of the Popinjay" (144), by Frederick Tayler, is a large picture, full of figures, illustrative of a well-known passage in "Old Mortality."

The Green Marksman, as if determined to bring the affair to a decision, took his horse from a person who held him, having previously looked carefully to the security of his girths and the fittings of his saddle, vaulted on his back, and, motioning with his hand for the bystanders to make way, set spurs, passed the place from which he was to fire at a gallop, and as he passed, threw up the reins, loosed one foot upon his saddle, discharged his carabine, and brought down the Popinjay. *Vide Old Mortality*, Vol. I., chap. 8.

On the left is Lady Margaret Bellenden, seated erect and stately on her favourite palfrey, and wearing still the widow's weeds which the good lady had laid aside since the execution of her husband for his adherence to Montrose; next to her, her grand-daughter, the fair-haired Edith—looking like "spring placed close to winter." The lumbering state equipage of "the Duke," so particularly described by Sir Walter Scott, with its jolly-looking occupants, forms a conspicuous object on the left. On the right are troopers, soldiers of the Guards, with their band, &c. The grouping is scattered, but effective; displaying in its several parts a great variety of colours. The same artist has a little picture of a "Highland Shepherdess" (232), which is pretty, but rather formal in treatment.

"St Patrick's Day in the Morning" (165) and "St. Patrick's Day in the Evening" (226), by H. P. Riviere, are two sketches, not devoid of spirit and humour, though rather coarsely treated. In the former a raw Irish lad is sallying forth upon the adventures of this adventurous day, his sweetheart being a shamrock in his button-hole, exclaiming, "Success to St. Pat'," &c., in the words of the song. In the latter, the happy pair are dancing "a right Irish jig," also according to the song.

"The Top of the Morning to you" (226), by the same artist, is another bit of low life, blocked off without effort at qualification.

"The Contrivance" (169), by T. M. Richardson, is a window scene, taken from within the tap-room rent, with a lady playing a lute—produced with high finish. The same artist has a larger picture in a very different style, a "View of the Town of Lauenberg, in the kingdom of Poland," which is fine, bold and characteristic, with masses of buildings in various parts; executed with a free and feeling hand.

Margaret Gillies has several pleasing studies, finished with great miniature delicacy. "The Mourner" (182) breathes a tender sentiment, in harmony with the lines of Tennyson—

> I watch thee from the quiet shore—
> Thy strength to mine can reach,
> But in dear words of human speech
> We two can commune no more.

"Listening to the Nightingale" (276) shows us an extremely pretty face. The lady, however, has laid down her guitar, and ceased to sing, whilst she listens to her feathered rival.

Hunt has apparently cleansed his well-known ugly boy, who has served him as a model for so many humorous sketches, and has adopted a female subject, which he treats with no less poquancy of effect in "Diffidence" (258) we have a small girl, in a bright spotted frock, seated in a chair, plunging up her left shoulder [illegible] in the secret with awkward mixture of shamefacedness and pettishness.

No. 166 is a story without a title, of a girl looking upward with an earnest and intelligent expression.

On the same screen with the above is another clever study of a simi-lar class, by W. Hemsley, entitled "The Lesson" (287). In these little cabinet pictures everybody evidently tired of her studies, and anxious to be off to play with her doll.

But it is time we make mention of some of the principal Landscape subjects. Harding with Calcott, we have from his pencil a view, finished and the like view of the fine old city of "Basle" (9), taken from the bridge; and a view of "Eastgate-street, Chester" (45), done in a rich brown tone of shade, on an autumnal evening. "La Rue d'Arras," at Calais (77), is another architectural.

John Callow produces several capital sea-coast views: among others, "Yarmouth," and "Mount St Michael, Cornwall," besides some pretty shipping pieces. In the "Reet at Sotheal, July 28, 18—" (5) the effect of the rays of the setting sun upon the sails which hang lazily from the cross-trees, is bright, genial, and cheerful. "Shipping on the Humber, Hull" (110), is executed in a good healthy tone of colouring; the hay engravings, with her bright yellow paddle-boxes, forming the centre object, with novel effect.

Copley Fielding has numerous specimens, but of unequal merit; some of them betraying hasty execution. "Langdale Pikes, near Ambleside, Westmoreland" (16), is rather jottery in appearance. "The Clyde at Lowther" (20) is an effective view, with Shakspeare's Cliff in the distance. The "View over Menteith to the Highlands from Stirling" (30), "Over the Clyde from near Greenock," "Arran from Ardlamont," "Loch Tay, at the Head of Loch Tay, Perthshire," are conscientiously and successfully executed. In the last-named the arrangement of the plane in the foreground, with mountainous background, is [illegible] "A View of Snowdon" (101) must also be mentioned with praise.

Mr. W. C. Smith has a fine view, upon a large scale, and elaborately treated, of the "Bay of Uri, Lake of Lucerne" (61), taken from near Tell's Platte—the mountain character of this celebrated mountain gorge being well given. "Loch Lomond, from the Road to Inversnaid" (79), and "A Calm, Vessels off Northfleet Creek" (256) are characteristic sketches of objects near home.

J. Holland, amongst other coast or beach pieces, has one of peculiar historic interest, viz.—"The Britannia, [illegible] steamer, for Sir C. Napier, entering the Baltic, 1854." The morning is foggy, and the fleet are in close order, the flag-ship signalling to the rest. Success and honour attend them!

NEW PALACE AT BALMORAL.—The new buildings in course of erect on at Balmoral are rapidly progressing. The portion including apartments for the Princesses, Ministers of State, visitors, &c., has been roofed in, and the first story of the principal state-rooms has been built. The building will be fire proof, patent malleable iron beams being used. A portion will be finished in course of next autumn, but it is not intended that any part shall be inhabited during the present year.

ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH TO BALMORAL.—Through the liberality of Prince Albert, whose example in contributing £300 towards the extension of the electric telegraph to Aberdeen has been followed by the merchants and manufacturers of that city—there is now a certainty that the telegraph will be erected in the course of the present summer. The directors of the Deeside Railway Company are to have the telegraph extended to Banchory, and so to the Castle of Balmoral to Parmoss from about thirty miles, it is intended, we believe, to lay a wire to Balmoral, so that the Court may be in immediate communication with London.

THE ROYAL ACADEMY EXHIBITION.

YESTERDAY was the Private View of the Eighty-sixth Exhibition of the Royal Academy. Her Majesty was present before the nobility and critics were admitted, and it is said to have expressed her entire approbation of the Exhibition. All the artists, we observed, looked pleased, and there was an air of good humour about connoisseurs and professional critics, as if the Exhibition were, as a whole, one worthy of the position which English artists seek to support and advance. There can be no doubt of its being a good Exhibition, in spite of finding such men as Mulready and Millais, Dyce, Herbert, and Gibson absent as exhibitors. Maclise and Frith were never seen before to such advantage; Stanfield and Roberts sustain their old and well earned reputations; Lee and Sydney Cooper are on the move forward; Creswick has made a decided advance; Ward exhibits a great sense of colour; Frost is still nearer Milton's mark; Frank Stone betrays no falling off; Edward Cooke is once more in Holland; and, as for the outsiders—the men without the pale of the Academy—how much have they done, and ably done, to rival some of the best within the pale! Yes, it is an excellent Exhibition, in spite of a solitary Female Head from Sir Charles Eastlake; in spite of a professedly "unfinished" picture by Sir Edwin Landseer; and in spite of any great work from Webster, or from Egg.

Our readers will remember that the Exhibition is shown in three great rooms, leading into one another; in two offshoots, for Miniatures and Architectural Drawings; and in a kind of coal-cellar, for Sculpture. The principal room is to the east, facing the portico of St. Martin's Church; and there the places of honour are occupied by Eastlake's "Irene" (a female head so called); by Landseer's very large picture of "Royal Sports on Hill and Loch," by Frith's "Life at the Seaside;" and by Leslie's picture, from Sir Roger de Coverley, "Sir Roger and the Gipsies." Next to these, among the portraits of honour, we find Grant of the Life Guards, "Lord John Russell" facing Pickersgill's bad full-length of "The Archbishop of Canterbury." In the Middle Room, the best places are occupied by Maclise's "Sisters;" Frank Stone's "Old, Old Story," Creswick's "Passing Cloud;" Landseer's "Dandie Dinmont, the favourite old Skye Terrier of her Majesty;" "The Chequered Shade" of Lee and Cooper; Edward Cooke's "French Lugger Running into Calais," and Ward's "Last Sleep of Argyll." Passing westward, into the West Room, we observe that the Hanging Committee has determined to display the places of honour to Hannah's "Countess of Nithesdale," "Phillip's "Seville Letter-writer," Dobson's "Charity of Dorcas," "Le Jeune's "Christ Blessing Little Children," Egg's "Sophia Western Face," Roberts's small picture of "The Frith of Forth," and Charles Collins's pre-Raphaelite, "Thought of Bethlehem."

If we had to characterise the Exhibition, we should say that Maclise and Frith excel in their best pictures, as a whole, is unquestionably Mr. Frith's "Life at the Sea-side"—a picture of such surpassing merit, that it is fairly worth any other half-dozen pictures in the Exhibition. In Scriptural subjects, and in the higher order of painting, Dobson and Frost most unmistakenly take the lead; in Landscape, Roberts and Stanfield, Lee and Creswick, Cooper and Cooke, are still pre-eminent—though there is an Anthony in the West Room (his only picture), "A Solitary Pool," that is more than up to the level of the best of them; in History, Ward and Hannah may be named together; in Portrait-painting, Grant takes the lead over all competitors—his full-length of Lord John Russell being by far the finest portrait in the Exhibition. He has this year outdone (no easy matter) Sir Thomas Watson Gordon, though he is followed hard, but in a different way, by Boxall. Strange to say, Grant is not good in his female portraits—his best is a full length, in black, of Mrs. Percival Heywood. In the Miniature and Crayon Room, Ross and Thorburn reign without a rivals likely just yet to rob them of sitters. Though we must own that the "Lady Sarah Choimondeley" of Mr. R. J. Wells, is all but up to the Thorburn and Ross level. Among the Crayon portraits, we miss Richmond and Watts, but are glad to find a new exhibitor of successful practice—a Mr. Charles Martin, the son of the distinguished painter so recently deceased. In the Architectural Room there is nothing in point of excellence to be mentioned in the same breath with the three Pen-and-ink studies of Mr. E. Falkener: three sheer drawings are to be seen in any exhibition where they are done with the skill of an architect, the knowledge of an antiquary, and the feeling of an artist. Of the Octagon Room we are unwilling to speak: our inspection of it was a hurried, unrewarded one. In the Sculpture Room, the chief point to be noted is that there is no large portrait statue, beyond that of Sir Robert Wolpole (by Bell), for the New Houses of Parliament. Mr. Jones's busts of the Queen and the Prince, to be presented to Sir Dargan, occupy the principal place in the room, and are likely just yet to rob them of sitters. Though we must own that the "Lady Sarah Choimondeley" of Mr. R. J. Wells, is all but up to the Thorburn and Ross level. Among the Crayon portraits, we miss Richmond and Watts, but are glad to find a new exhibitor of successful practice—a Mr. Charles Martin, the son of the distinguished painter so recently deceased. In the Architectural Room there is nothing in point of excellence to be mentioned in the same breath with the three Pen-and-ink studies of Mr. E. Falkener: three sheer drawings are to be seen in any exhibition where they are done with the skill of an architect, the knowledge of an antiquary, and the feeling of an artist. Of the Octagon Room we are unwilling to speak: our inspection of it was a hurried, unrewarded one. In the Sculpture Room, the chief point to be noted is that there is no large portrait statue, beyond that of Sir Robert Wolpole (by Bell), for the New Houses of Parliament. Mr. Jones's busts of the Queen and the Prince, to be presented to Sir Dargan, occupy the principal place in the room, and are likely just yet to rob them of sitters. Though we must own that the "Lady Sarah Choimondeley" of Mr. R. J. Wells, is all but up to the Thorburn and Ross level. Among the Crayon portraits, we miss Richmond and Watts, but are glad to find a new exhibitor of successful practice—a Mr. Charles Martin, the son of the distinguished painter so recently deceased. In the Architectural Room there is nothing in point of excellence to be mentioned in the same breath with the three Pen-and-ink studies of Mr. E. Falkener: three sheer drawings are to be seen in any exhibition where they are done with the skill of an architect, the knowledge of an antiquary, and the feeling of an artist. Of the Octagon Room we are unwilling to speak: our inspection of it was a hurried, unrewarded one. In the Sculpture Room, the chief point to be noted is that there is no large portrait statue, beyond that of Sir Robert Wolpole (by Bell), for the New Houses of Parliament. Mr. Jones's busts of the Queen and the Prince, to be presented to Sir Dargan, occupy the principal place in the room, and are likely just yet to rob them of sitters.

When one who has seen the Exhibition chances to meet with a visit to another who has not seen it, the question is always, "What has Landseer got?" We will answer the question at once, and leave it to us by the public. He has two figures, both connected with the Queen: one is the Dandie Dinmont dog, to which we have already referred as being the property of her Majesty, attended by the Viscountess Jocelyn, stepping from a boat, to inspect the produce of the Princess's sport on hill and loch. The Prince, on foot, and the Prince of Wales, on a pony, are both by the side of the lady, ready to receive her Majesty. The foreground is of course, strewed with dead game, painted in the best manner; but, as a whole, we confess the picture is not altogether to our liking. On the frame we observe the word "unfinished," on a gilt ground. The picture is to be engraved. The Dandie Dinmont dog picture has a hedgehog in the foreground—the whole in Landseer's happiest mood.

Taking the pictures—as the Duke of Wellington always took them—in the order of the Catalogue, we would direct attention to the following (the Nos. having already mentioned): 68, Head of Mr. Macaulay" by Mr. Grant—an admirable portrait painted on the Raebarn principle; 70, "Beckerbring" by G. Smith—a small picture by no common hand; 73, "The Silver Reel," by R. Lee; 85, "A Villager's Offer," by Calcott Wehnert, R.A.—a fine effect; 94, "Lake Scene," by Creswick, R.A.; 102, "Le Rocheble," by Stanfield, R.A.; 200, "Church of Santa Maria de la Saute, at Venice," by Roberts, R.A.; 205, a portrait (Lady Dunbar), by Boxall, A.; 212, "An old French Interior," by Hemsley; 216, "The Last Sleep of Argyll," by J. C. Hook, R.A.; 220, "The Landing," by Cope, R.A.; 227, "A Study," by Egg, A., and 233, "The Flight of the Persecution of the Christian Reformers in Paris" by Hook, A. In the Middle Room—"Harvey's hand-looker-by," observe 254, "Norman Abbey," by Cobbold; 257, "Dolgelly," by W. H. Hunt: and 260, "The Old Old Story," Stone, A.; 263, "Zuyder Zee Boiler"—a picture by Cooke, A.; 267, "First Class, the Meeting," by Frost, A.—a picture of considerable merit; 269, "Mr. H. Solomon," a small but masterly portrait by Grant; 270, "Christ Blessing Little Children," by Le Jeune, A.—a picture, by W. H. Hunt: and 280, "Evening in the Meadows," by Linnell, Sen.

Her Majesty expressed a wish to become the possessor of Mr. Frith's picture, as we mentioned in our column or Table Talk, a few weeks ago. It was a commission from Mr. Lloyd, the publisher, at the price of one thousand guineas, and her Majesty, unless she is very urgent, is not likely to become its fortunate possessor.

APPREHENDED LOSS OF THE "CITY OF GLASGOW" SCREW STEAMER.—The fate of this Liverpool and Philadelphia steamer, so long a missing ship, excites the most painful attention at Lloyd's, where, day and hourly, anxious inquiries are made by the relatives of the people who sailed in her—numbering in all no fewer than 480. She sailed from the former port on the 1st of last March, since which no tidings have been heard of her. An impression prevails that she has been beset by the ice, large masses of which are known to be drifting about on the banks of Newfoundland and the coast of North America. A New York correspondent, writing on the missing steamer, says an opinion prevails there that she may have been in the ice and damaged her propeller, and stood away for the West Indies to procure repair and replenish the stock of provisions and water.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

ACCOMMODATION FOR OUR TROOPS ABROAD.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH called the attention of the Government to a statement made by a correspondent of one of the morning papers, to the effect that no preparations had been made for the proper reception of our troops upon their arrival at Malta or Gallipoli, and that they were consequently exposed to much privation and inconvenience.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE said he was happy to be able to give the statement a most complete contradiction. So far from the troops having suffered from the want of due preparations, in the places referred to, the most satisfactory arrangements for their reception were made both by our Consuls and Commissary officers.

The Earl of HARDWICK reminded the Earl of Clarendon that the statement he had made on a former evening in respect to the movements of the Russian fleet in the Black Sea, was completely contradicted by an official statement recently published by the Russian Government in the *St. Petersburg Journal*, by which it appeared that the Russian fleet had been scouring the Black Sea, and had conveyed troops from various forts on the Circassian coast to Sebastopol, with the view of strengthening that garrison.

The Earl of CLARENDON said that he had made the statement upon the authority of a despatch received from Admiral Dundas, which statement he believed to be correct. The facts were these. An English steamer which had been sent to survey the Circassian coast observed four small Post-office steamers of Russia employed in conveying some troops from a few small forts on the coast which had been dismantled and destroyed. When those steamers saw the English vessel, they immediately made for the nearest Russian port, having been pursued for a time by the English steamer. That circumstance, however, took place on the 16th March, and war was not declared until the 28th; so that it was impossible that the English steamer could act otherwise than it did.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE hoped that all the despatches received upon the subject would be immediately placed upon the table of the House, inasmuch as the Russian Government had published an official statement which differed widely from that of the noble Earl. Although the formal declaration of war had not been made at the time alluded to, yet a declaration of war had virtually been made previous to that date, by the fact of our Government having sent a message to the Governor of Sebastopol to keep the fleet in harbour, for, if the ships were seen in the Black Sea, the British fleet would either compel them to return to port, or would destroy them. He (the noble Marquis) thought that our power in the Black Sea would have been greatly increased if our fleet had destroyed these forts on the Circassian coast, instead of permitting the Russians to have done so (Hear, hear).

The Earl of CLARENDON consented to the production of the despatches.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

On the motion of Mr. HAYTER, a new writ was ordered to be issued for Flintshire, in the room of the Hon. Mr. Mostyn, who, since his elevation, has succeeded to the Peerage.

Mr. REID gave notice that on Tuesday next he would call attention to the conveyance of the civil and military servants of the Government to the East.

Mr. PACKE gave notice that, on Tuesday, the 9th of May, he would call attention to the question of Church rates.

In answer to a question from Mr. M. Gibson, Lord J. RUSSELL said, that, at present, he was only informed that the goods of Sir H. Seymour would not be allowed to be taken from St. Petersburg; but he would soon give a more definite answer to the right hon. gentleman.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY BILL.

On the motion that the Speaker do leave the chair for the House going into committee,

Mr. HEYWOOD moved that the bill be committed to a select committee. The hon. gentleman said that the Universities had ceased to be national institutions, and, like all monkish foundations, required extensive reformation. He complained that the private tutors, on whom really devolved the work of education, were not consulted in the bill, as he thought that where they possessed the requisite learning and ability, they should be eligible to Professors' chairs. Brasenose College was, in a great measure, connected with the county of Lancaster; and in the case of what was called Hulme's Exhibition, the property originally bequeathed for it being greatly increased, about £60,000 was collected, with which it had been expected that new scholarships would have been created; and the authorities of Brasenose would not allow of it, but insisted that the money should be expended in the purchase of Church livings. He was opposed to the system of granting scholarships and fellowships to persons of particular counties, and to the practice of compulsory examination. Unjust as was the exclusion of the Dissenters from the advantages of the University of the people, it also rendered impossible those reforms which would, on the contrary, be greatly benefited by a free and open election of the University officers.

Mr NEWDEGATE thought that a great number of the members present were not acquainted with the constitution of the University of Oxford or with the nature and extent of the privileges of which it was now sought to deprive it. The hon. member read the recent protest of the Heads against the measure—a protest which had been signed by 500 members of the University.

In the course of the discussion, Sir. DISRAELI said that inasmuch as a question affecting the interests of the University of Oxford was involved in the present bill, he should not oppose it, but that the latter reform should not also be postponed.

The House having divided, the numbers were—For going into committee, 179; against it, 89: majority for going into committee, 82.

The committee was then proposed.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

There being no business before the House, their Lordships adjourned a few minutes after five o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

In reply to Sir J. Walsh, Sir J. GRAHAM entered into some details as to the number of troops which had been sent from England since the 8th of February; and as to the facilities which already existed for the rapid transport of soldiers and of military stores.

In reply to Mr. D. O'CONNELL, Sir J. GRAHAM stated that, according to Act of Parliament, it was necessary that the service performed by naval chaplains should be in accordance with the Ritual of the Church of England; and he was not prepared to advise any alteration in the law upon that subject.

THE ALLIED FLEETS.

In reply to a question from Lord D. Stuart, Sir J. GRAHAM detailed the circumstances under which a certain number of Russian troops were conveyed from the coast of Circassia to Sebastopol, which operation had been witnessed by the vessels of a British steamer, but the Commander of this vessel, acting under instructions, did not conceive himself bound to interrupt the progress of those operations; and he (Sir J. Graham) was prepared to maintain the propriety of that course—this movement, on the part of Russia, having been made previous to the declaration of war.

In reply to Lord D. Stuart, Lord J. RUSSELL stated that Austria had agreed with the Porte that the troops of the latter should not occupy Servia, except in case of the entrance of Russian troops into Servia, or in the event of an insurrection.

RECEPTION OF OUR TROOPS AT GALLIPOLI.

In reply to Mr. D. Seymour, Mr. S. HERBERT stated that the reports which had appeared in the public papers respecting the reception of the British troops at Gallipoli were incorrect. The reception had been as satisfactory as the rapid transit of the troops rendered possible, and no blame was to be attributed to the Commissariat officers. He understood the duties of foreign newspaper correspondents to be the writing of graphic pictures for the perusal of the English reader, and not the furnishing of official information to occupy the serious attention of that House.

THE GREEK INSURRECTION.

Mr. COBDEN asked Lord J. Russell, whether the Government intended to lay before Parliament any papers relating to the insurrection of the Greek Christians in Turkey, and explanatory of our present relations with the Court of Athens. The honourable gentleman censured the conduct of the Government in the matter, and characterised its decree on the subject, as worthy an Hebrew cat parallel with the edict of Nantes.

Lord J. RUSSELL said, it was the intention of the Government to lay before the Parliament papers relating to the question as speedily as possible. The noble Lord described the Greek insurrection as inspon-

tuneous and unsystematic, and as another effect of the unscrupulous ambition of the Emperor of Russia.

Mr. Bright insisted that the interests of British commerce had been sacrificed by the conduct of our Ambassador at Constantinople.

Mr. Layard said that, although the Greeks residing in the Turkish dominions had the advantages of Turkish subjects, they refused to pay even the local taxes which the Turks themselves were bound to pay in Turkish coin. Their complaint was, therefore, of a most frivolous kind.

Mr. Gibson complained that, notwithstanding the Orders in Council, that neutral and foreign vessels might be allowed to sail from a British or any other port up to the 10th of May, yet our vessels had taken ships under the foreign flag before the 10th of May had arrived. The right hon. gentleman referred particularly to the case of the *Ann M'Alister*, which had landed last year at a Russian port for an English port, and that they should not be seized as prizes of war. By the law of nations, the *Anne McAlister* had nothing to fear from England or France, as her cargo was on board before the declaration of war. The effects of Sir Hamilton Seymour were not on board that vessel, but on shore, and would, under any circumstances, be allowed to pass.

Lord D. Stuart called the attention of the House to the dilatory measures pursued by the Government in the prosecution of the war. And said it was his opinion that we should have made preparations for war here and abroad for the reception of our troops in the East, before the declaration of war was promulgated.

In the course of some further discussion, Lord J. Russell said that Sir H. Seymour's effects had not been seized or confiscated at St. Petersburg. They were only prevented being put on board a vessel.

The subject having dropped, the House went into Committee of Supply, when £16,024,100 Exchequer Bills were voted.—Adjourned.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,

TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, APRIL 27.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading	Thermometer. Lowest Reading	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches
	Inches.	°	°	°	°	°		Inches.
Apr. 21	29.460	47.8	33.0	38.8	+ 11.6	78	E.N.E.	0.01
,, 22	29.373	49.0	40.9	46.5	— 1.0	93	E.N.E.	0.37
,, 23	29.427	47.5	29.0	41.3	— 6.5	76	N.E.	0.00
,, 24	29.262	52.2	32.0	41.7	— 6.6	68	N.E.	0.00
,, 25	30.392	52.0	27.5	40.3	— 8.2	69	N.E.	0.00
,, 26	30.557	56.5	29.0	46.3	— 2.5	85	N.E.	0.00
,, 27	29.813	55.5	42.0	47.7	— 1.5	81	N.E.	0.13

Note.—The sign + denotes above the average, and the sign — below the average.

The reading of the barometer decreased from 29·53 inches at the beginning of the week, to 29·44 inches by the morning of the 22nd; increased to 30·44 inches by the morning of the 26th; and decreased to 29·81 inches by the end of the week. The mean for the week, at the height of 82 feet above the level of the sea, was 29·956 inches.

The mean daily temperature was below the average on every day, except on the 21st, when it was 39° nearly, exceeding the average by 12° nearly. It fell to 4l° on the 22nd, to 4l° on the 23rd and 24th, and to 40° only on the 25th.

The mean temperature of the week was 46·1°, being 2·1° below the average of the corresponding week during 38 years.

The range of temperature during the week was 44·2°, being the difference between the highest reading of the thermometer (71·9°) on the 21st, and the lowest (27·5°) on the 25th. On this day the lowest reading of the thermometer is placed on grass, was 13°.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 15·3°. The least was 8° on the 22nd; and the greatest 24·9° on the 25th.

Rain fell during the week to the dep h of half an inch.

The weather throughout the week has been dull, and the sky has been mostly overcast. The wind has been almost constantly from the N.E quarter, and blowing hard.

James Glaisher.

Lewisham, April 28th, 1854.

Health of London.—During the week ending last Saturday, the births of 1,168 children were registered in the metropolitan districts; the average num e r in the nine corresponding weeks of the years preceding years was 1,047. The number of deaths registered during the same week was 1,021, showing an increase of 106 upon the preceding week. The average number in the ten corresponding weeks of the years preceding years, corrected for the increase of population, was 1,000. Therefore, the actual number exceeds the estimated by nearly 100 to measles, 41 deaths are referred to diarrhœa, 28, and to hooping-cough, 33: the number of deaths registered from the same diseases last week, were 34, 18, and 63, respectively.

The May Meetings or Nine Weeks.—Next week the month of May begins, and Exeter-hall will be filled each day, and even twice in a day. The societies which meet there in that week have an annual income of about £500,000. The Wesleyan Missionary Society will fill the hall on the morning of Monday, the 1st of May, and that of the Church of Scotland in the evening; the Church Missionary Society on Tuesday, both morning and evening; the British and Foreign Bible Society on Wednesday; the London City Mission on Thursday morning, and the Sunday School Union in the evening; the Society for the Promotion of Christianity among the Jews on Friday morning, and the Religious Tract Society in the evening.

St. Marks Hospital.—The seventeenth anniversary of this excellent charity, and the opening of the new Hospital, just erected in the City road, were celebrated by an anniversary dinner at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate street, on Tuesday, St. Mark's Day. The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor presided; and in proposing "Prosperity to St. Mark's Hospital," the Chairman very advocated the claims upon the institution for increased support. Since the first establishment of the infirmary in 1835, upwards of 8,000 patients had been attended to; the number of applicants was increasing, there having been no less than 6,000 patients received during the past year, of whom 283 were cured, and 242 much materially relieved. But, withstanding there had been several very liberal donations towards the building fund, a further sum of about £2,000 was required before the committee could fully carry out their intentions with regard to the institution. The toast was drunk with great applause. The healths of the Chairman, the Treasurer (Mr. Mastermann, M.P.), the Auxiliary Society (a society of working men who have experienced the benefits to be derived from the in-titution, and who annually subscribe about £25 to the funds of the parent charity), and its treasurer, Mr. Alderman Copeland, were then drunk. Next followed the healths of the members, Messrs. Daniell; and Mr. Salmon, the founder of the institution, to whose unwearied exertions in its behalf ample testimony was borne by several speakers. A variety of other toasts were drunk. The report stated that Her Royal Highness Prince Albert had contributed during the past year the sum of £25 to the funds of the hospital, which was hoped would lead to a more extended recognition of its claims by the higher classes of the country. There was now, and a noble contribution of £17 17s. from a body of workmen in the employ of Messrs. Broadwood, several of whom had themselves experienced the benefits of the institution. The munificent subscription had also been contributed, anonymously, towards the building fund; yet the demands upon the charity, and the extended sphere of its benevolence, rendered the increase of its annual income indispensable. The sum realised during the evening amounted to £1,600, including £1,111 towards the building fund.

Moses Moses, the Receiver of Stolen Property.—The cash deposited at his bankers' is stated to be but little short of £20,000. The principal property already recovered remains packed in large wicker baskets, in vaults under the Mansion-house, and from its varied character, gives the place the appearance of an exhibition. The prisoner remitted his premises of a few cab proprietors; and, from the peculiar construction of them, they appear to have been admirably adapted for the felonious purposes to which they have been applied. In the course of the multifarious inquiries instituted by the police, they have discovered that an organised gang of cabmen exists, ready, upon all occasions, to assist in the pilfering of London warehouses at midnight. In many instances the vigilance of the police has been frustrated by their carrying sliding plates, bearing different numbers, and substituting one plate for another, in order to prevent their being traced from p ace to place. The detectives have just made the discovery; and a communication has been made to the Excise respecting the reputed owners of these veh cles, which will lead, it is expected, to important disclosures. It has been ascertained that several vessels, laden wi h stolen goods, are now on the high seas for Australia; and measures have been adopted to secure the booty.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

F. A., Chester.—The "stifled mate" is not so uncommon in actual play as you suppose; and the enemy's sent. It useless, for Black throws away an easy w n ng game by playing his Queen to Q Kt 7th, instead of giving the obvious check w th her at R 5 th.

E. B. We shall with pleasure find you every assistance in our power, but your endeavours are not likely to be advanced, nor our readers edified, by the publication of such a game as that received

F. S. A.—1. It is a copy of the ancient MS work on Chess by Jacobus de Cessolis—one of which may be seen in every great library of Europe. 2. For an account of the magnificent set of Chess-men said to have belonged o Charlemagne, which were preserved at the Abbey of St. Denis, and are now in the Archæological Museum of Cluny, see the "Archæologia," vol xxiv.

M. de R., Circle des Echecs, Paris.—A private communication has been forwarded ten days since.

J. D., of Bruges.—No. 1 admits of an easy mate in three moves No. 2, a neat and ingenious, and shall appear shortly

A. F., of Florence. Problems (with answers) safely received, and very acceptable.

Argus, T.—*The New Series of the Chess Player's Chronicle* began last year. Your best course is, therefore, to commence with that Volume, and order the Monthly Numbers for this year to be sent as they come out.

Ignotus, Clifton.—The Bristol, of Bridgma. No. 850 appears to be—1. R takes Q P., and then discovering Checkmate by playing the Kt to K 5 th, or Q Kt 3rd, according to which of the Rooks Black takes. 2. Your solutions are all wide of the mark.

Sigma B., Rome.—See our notice below to "Foreign Correspondents." Two letters addressed to you must be sent, have been return d to the Dead Letter Office, and it is useless to write again until you favour us with a more regular address

J. E. R., Stuttgarde.—1. It's common custom abit to run his name into a bull "Stuttgarde" in the Germ n vernacular, tongue. 2. Problem 39 cannot be solved in four moves.

J. R., of B.—1. To do away with all doubt on the subject of the integrity of Mr Horwitz's Problem, No. 829, it has been suggested that a *White Pawn* should be added at Wh te's K B 5th square. It appears to us that this slight addition will make the stratagem perfect! We are compelled to publish the solutions by Correspondents as they reach us—those sent first appear first.

Old Subscriber.—There is but one St. George's Chess-club in London. This Club is at No. 38, St. James-street. Candidates for admission must apply by letter, addressed "to the Committee of the St. George's Chess-club" The whole of the solemn and gentlemanly ceremony of members

Cecil.—1 Those problems are best which most resemble actual end-games 2. Your attempted solution is quite a failure; by your move Q ch, P might be promoted indefinitely.

B. T.—Accept our warmest acknowledgments of your attention

J. S. Y., Dorchester.—It shall be seen next

Blue Cub.—The first game is cleverly played on both sides, and if the competitors are "young beginners," it is highly creditable to their cancel ors. The second has been writ en down to exhibit only as to the first attempts to tread the move

M. T., Wisconsin.—We are glad to hear that our suggestion respecting the introduction of a Chess column in "The Illustrated London News" has not been without effect and that the projectors of that Journal have made arrangements with M. de Rivière, the Honorary Secretary of the Paris *Cercle des Echecs* for a weekly supply of Chess matter. We have no doubt this arrangement will be mike beneficial to the periodical itself, and to the interests of Chess in France.

A. K., Arundel.—A player cannot so alter after moving his King.

G. G. C.—It shall be noticed on next week.

Solutions of Problem No. 529, by F. R., of Sir W. Grimshaw, S. S. A; A. H., of Bradford; P. Q. R., W. H., Gamma, Subaltern, Deuvon, Arnold, Vasikens, Munco, J. S. F., are correct

Solutions of Problem No. 530, by Agnes; F. R., of B; R. Pall, Devron, Liverpool; A. H., of Bradford, J. C. D. Ayla, Hastings, Lancaster, each are correct.

*** To Foreign Correspondents We request the attention of Correspondents from abroad to a resolution on the part, which subjects us to a good deal of needless correspondence and loss to many disappointment. We allude to their invariable practice of sending us only a general address, as "Paris," "Rome," "Florence," "Genoa," "Leghorn," &c., the consequence of which is that three letters out of four are directed by us, are, after a delay of months in the Foreign Post-office, returned to London. Every communication addressed to us which requires a private acknowledgment should be accompanied by an exact and unmistakable address, including both the name of the street and the number of the house to which the writer resides

Solution of Problem No. 529.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. R takes Q B P	R takes Kt or (a)	3. P to K 8 sth (be- coming a Kt)	R takes K (best.)
2. Q to K Kt 5th	B to K Kt 2nd (best)	4. Q to Q B 4th (ch)	R takes Q
		5. Kt to K 6th—Mate.	

(a) 1. Q takes Kt
(The variations on Black's first move are too numerous for us to give.)
2. Q to K R sq

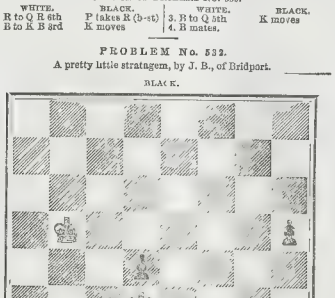
1. Q to K Kt sq (ch) Kt interposes
2. Q to Q B sq (ch) Kt interposes
3. Q to K R 4th—Mat .

Solution of Problem No. 530.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. R to Q R 6th	P takes R (b-st)	3. R to Q 3rd	K moves
2. B to K B 3rd	K moves	4. B mates.	

PROBLEM No. 532.

A pretty little stratagem, by J. B., of Bridport.



WHITE.

CHESS IN INDIA.

Brilliant little affair between Mr. Cochrane and the Brahmin Moheschunder.

(*Irregular Opening.*)

WHITE. (Mr. Cochrane.)	BLACK. (The Brahmin.)	WHITE. (Mr Cochrane.)	BLACK. (The Brahmin.)
1. P to K 4th	P to Q Rd (a)	15. Q B P takes Kt	K takes Kt
2. P to Q 4th	K Kt to Q B 3rd	16. Q to K R 5th (ch)	K to K sq
3. Q Kt to Q B 3rd	P to K 3rd	17. K Kt to K B 3rd	P to K 4th
4. P to K 5th	B to K 2nd	18. R to K Kt 3rd	P to K B 4th
5. K Kt to K B 3rd	Castles	19. Kt K 4th takes P (ch)	K takes Kt
6. B to K 2nd	P to Q Kt 3rd	20. B to K R 6th (ch)	K to R sq
7. Castles	P to Q B 4th	21. B takes R (discvch)	K to Kt sq
8. P takes P	Q Kt P takes P	22. B to K R 6th	Kt to K B 6th (c)
9. Q to K 2nd	Q Kt to Q 2nd	23. Q to K 8th (ch)	K to K R 2nd
10. P to B 5th (b)	P takes a P	24. B takes B	P takes Kt
11. P takes P	K Kt to Q 4th	25. Q to K R 7th (ch)	K to K sq
12. Q Kt to K 4th	Q to Q B 2nd	26. B to K Kt 5th	B to Q sq
13. K Kt to Kt 5th	Kt takes K P	27. B to K B 8th (ch)	And Black resigned.
14. Kt takes a K R P	Kt takes K B		

(c) As we have before observed, the "close" game, with its crafty lures and subtle ambuscades, is much more common in India than in this country. The daring and impetuous onslaughts of the European school, that, even after long acquaintance with the latter, so frequently put terror into better pleased, and more at home, with his Pawns are one step in advance and meet o. his hero pieces hidden behind them, than if he had a King, Queen, Bishop, and commanding power.

(b) Mr. Cochrane's treachant style is the one of all others to confound and overthrow a player of inferior tactics. In the present game, as runs through Mr Mosehunder's combined Pawns and pieces with such rapidity, that the latter is fairly bewildered, and has been completely carried off his legs by the very essence of the assault.

Mr. Cochrane's quiet and Mohesch under's self-possession, he might have retrieved his fortunes. He should have played the Queen to her Kt 3rd. While must then have abandoned his attack; and, being a gen nious, would have lost the game

CHESS ENIGMAS.

No. 868.—By Ricardo.

White: K at K 4th, Kt at Q B 2nd, B at Q R 4th, Kt at Q B 6th; Ps at K B 2nd, K 6th, Q Kt 5th, and Q R 2nd.
Black: R at K 6th; P at K Kt 4th, K 2nd, Q Kt 3rd, and Q R 4th.
White to play, and mate in five moves.

No. 869.—By B. W. F.

White: K at K R 5th, R at Q B sq, Bs at Q 8th, and Q R 3rd; Kt at K B 3rd, Ps at Q 2nd and Q Kt 2nd.
Black. K at K B 4th, Kt at Q Kt 2nd; Ps at K B 3rd and 5th, K 7th Q 2nd and 6th, Q Kt 6th, and Q R 4th.
White to play, and mate in five moves.

No. 870.—By Mr. W. Grimshaw.

White: K at Q Kt 7th, Q at Q sq, Bs at K B sq and K B 8th, Kts at Q 4th and Q B 7th; Ps at Q R 3rd and 4th.
Black: K at Q B 6th, Q at K R 6th, Rs at K Kt 4th and Q 3rd, Kt at K 4th; Ps at K 4th, K Kt 3rd at 7th, and K 3rd.
White playing first, gives mate in two moves.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

We were pleased the other day with the poetical and retrospective turn given to the present war by a distinguished English author. "This is not the first time," said our friend, "that the English will have fought on the banks of the Danube.

> Illustrious youths that left their native shore
> To march where Britons never marched before."

The great Duke of Marlborough carried our arms to the banks of that celebrated river, and won victories for us—happy preludes, I believe, of what the coming campaign will be by a more distant portion of the same stream. Addison, in his beautiful poem of "The Campaign," has much that is applicable to the present juncture. What was true of Queen Anne is equally true of Queen Victoria:

> To Britain's Queen the nations turn their eyes;
> On her resolve the Western world relies;
> Confiding still, amidst the dire alarms,
> In Anna's counc ls and in Churchill's arms.
> Thrice happy Britain, from the kingdoms rent
> To sit the guardian of the Continent.

It is as guardian of the Continent that this very war is entered upon by Great Britain. Nay, what was true of Louis XIV, is equally true of the Emperor Nicholas:

> Deluded Prince! how is thy greatness erost,
> And all the gaudy dream of empire lost.
> That proudly set thee on a fancied throne,
> And made imaginary realms thy own!
> Thy troops, that now behind the Danube join,
> Shall shortly seek for shelter from the Rhine.

Parallels are not always exact; but there is much in Addison's poem that may be applied to the present moment.

The author of "Pelham" and "My Novel" has been delivering a lecture at St. Albans, on the "Literary Associations of Hertfordshire." Sir Edward is a well-read man, and Knebworth is one of the finest seats in the county to which his lecture related; but, strange to say, Sir Edward has missed two of the most attractive points connected with places particularly referred to in his lecture. When mentioning Hitchin, he did not tell his hearers that old George Chapman, the translator of Homer, is called by Brown, the pastoral poet—

> The learned shepherd of fair Hitchin-hill.

When alluding to Hatfield, he should have remembered that in the church (so well seen from the rail) lie the remains of Richard West, the correspondent of Gray, and the most promising of all our young scholastic poets. Hertfordshire, we may observe, is particularly associated with Lord Chancellors. Here was one of Wolsey's seats; at Gorhambury Bacon lived; Somers had a house within its boundaries; and Panshanger was the property and re idence of Lord Chancellor Cowper.

We are glad to observe that a subscription is on foot for the purpose of erecting a statue in Edinburgh to the memory of Professor Wilson. It is undecided yet whether the statue shall be in bronze or marble, but it is settled that it is to form "an ornamental object in some prominent station in Edinburgh. As, in every public subscription, so much depends on the activity of the secretary, we are pleased at finding that Mr. Robert Chambers is already at work in that important office. We have no fear about the complete success of the subscription.

There is nothing, it is said, more remarkable in literature at the present juncture, than the unanimity of the press, in the propriety of the war. Pamphleteers were divided on the propriety of the campaigns of the Duke of Marlborough and Lord Peterborough. When Walpole was at peace—poets and prose writers incited him to war—*Pope*, Johnson, Akenside, and Thomson were all for a time—

> When Spain shall rob and France insult no more.

If we refer to publications of the period of the American war, or newspapers referring to what is called "the last war," we see, at every turn, how faction was divided, and how hot party spirit ran, both in print and in the House. Now our writers are unanimous, that our present war is a wise and necessary proceeding.

We are assured by Mr. Panizzi, in his report on the Library of the British Museum, just presented to the House, that "the necessity for the steps taken to enforce compliance with the provisions of the Copyright Act has been abundantly proved by the results." During the year 1851 publishers, who were in arrears, were required to forward the books due from them, but no proceedings, Mr. Panizzi informs us, were taken, and the number of articles received was 9871. When, in 1852, proceedings were taken, the number of articles received rose to 20,364. During the past year the number has further increased to 14,081. But as this, we are told, includes the receipt of arrears from the country, from Scotland, and from Ireland, it cannot be expected that the numbers should be so high in future. But, concludes Mr. Panizzi, no doubt with an eye to Mr. Bohn, "a considerable increase upon the previous years may be looked for, now that it is well understood that the provisions of the Copyright Act will be steadily enforced."

People are talking about the election on Thursday last, into the Royal Society. It was once an honour to belong to that learned body. Only really eminent persons were members. Like other institutions, it became easily abused. Candidates of every complexion were admitted to (what Pope calls)—

> Shine in the dignity of F.R.S.

Sir Joseph Banks was, it is said, too good-natured; Sir Humphry Davy, too inattentive; Mr. Davies Gilbert, too idle; the Duke of Sussex, too stupid; the Marquis of Northampton, too indulgent; as Presidents; and now we are told the Earl of Rosse is too strict. There are more candidates of distinction on the list than the law, on Thursday last, would allow to be admitted. Candidates, we are told, will be excluded of greater merit than hundreds already within the Society. We do not care for this. It was wrong to admit anybody on anybody's recommendation. As this was unchecked, out you will be able to admit more worthies in. The distinction of belonging to such a society chiefly consists in the rarity of the distinction. If the Order of the Garter was as common as the Order of the Bath, it would be less coveted than it is at present. When we see the letters R.A. attached to an artist's name, we know that he is one of forty chosen by his brethren in art, after a long knowledge of his works; but when we see the letters F.R.S., we find that there is no other present notion attached to this combination of letters than that the person is respectable, on a scale one degree higher than the famous "gig" principle of recognition.

CHEVALIER BUNSEN.

The departure of Chevalier Bunsen, who had so long filled with ability the post of Prussian Minister in London, will be a subject of regret to the literary and artistic circles. A short time since, the clever medallic portrait of the Chevalier, engraved upon the next page, was taken by Mr Alexander Munro, by whom it has been sculptured in marble: it will be found in the approaching Exhibition of the Royal Academy. Chevalier Bunsen is highly respected for his learning, for his sound sentiments, and genial manners. He was born in Germany in 1790, early distinguished himself for scholarship; won the friendship of Niebuhr and Neibuhr, and became eventually the successor of the latter as Prussian Ambassador to Rome; and subsequently represented his country in Switzerland and at the Court of St. James. He has written an elaborate work upon Egypt, a "Life of Niebuhr," and "Hippolytus and his Age."

With respect to the recent misunderstanding between the Prussian Ambassador and his own Court, it is now stated that Chevalier Bunsen has conveyed to the King of Prussia his determination not to remain in the service of his Majesty on any ambiguous terms, or as the instrument of a policy at variance alike with the true interests of Germany and of the Western Powers. He has, therefore, replied to the clandestine efforts to obtain his recall by placing h s resignation in the hands of the King, and by requesting to be relieved from the performance of duties which are neither consistent with his political opinions, nor with the firm alliance between Prussia and this country. At Berlin, it is thought that the resignation will be accepted promptly. Count de Bernstorf, Prussian Envoy at Naples, is spok n of as his successor or temporary successor. Meanwhile, M. de Bunsen is expected at Homburg in a few days.

FORT JOUABS ON THE BLACK SEA.—BLOCKHOUSES ON FIRE.

A CRUISE IN THE BLACK SEA.

(From a Correspondent.)

CONSTANTINOPLE, March 21, 1854.

We have just returned from a very interesting cruise in the Black Sea, rounding the coast of Georgia and Circassia, to reconnoitre the Russian forts; and, as it is the first time that coast has been visited by an English man-of-war, I send you few details.

We left Beicos on the afternoon of the 9th, with the French steamer *Cacique*, under our orders; and we having on board Capt. Brock, the surveyor, a civil engineer, Lieutenant Strunton, and Mr. Elcock, chief engineer, who had formerly been in the Russian service, and knew the coast well. We got to Sinope at 12 p.m., on the 10th; it was in just the same state as when we were last there. We went on, touching at Trebizond and Batoum, but heard no news of consequence; and on the morning of the 14th, found ourselves off the Russian fort, called Redoubt Kaleh. We went in close enough to make observations; when the Russians all ran to their guns, evidently not knowing what to make of it; but as they none of them pointed seaward, it was not very formidable. We next got to Soukum Kaleh, where there are a good many soldiers who have wooden barracks above the fort; they also ran down to their fort on seeing us, but they let us pass quietly. I have no time to go regularly all through the forts; but, on the 15th, off Cape Constantine, we saw a Russian steamer, which immediately turned, and ran off as hard as she could. On our nearing the next fort, we perceived four steamers (Russian) blowing off their steam. We cleared all ready for action, and I think we could have managed them, but they again got under way, and crept up under the guns of the fort. The next fort (Golovin) we were surprised to find in flames. The Circassians, who had fired, and were plundering it, ran up the hill on seeing us, but returned when they made us out friends. I enclose you a sketch which may give you an idea of the place. After we had passed on, we heard a tremendous explosion, we supposed a magazine. As we proceeded, we saw several Russian vessels, and one steamer towing a transport, which seemed full of troops. As soon as they perceived us, the steamer dropped the poor transport and made off. We boarded the transport, and learnt she was taking troops to Gelenjik. The Russians had evacuated Golovin; and the Circassians immediately came down and burnt it. We went on to Jouabs, about the best fort we had seen. Here the Russians were on the beach, in heavy marching order, waiting to embark in transports; and we observed a number of Circassians on the heights above, evidently waiting their departure to burn the fort. They had already set two block-houses outside on fire. In the evening we arrived off a fort, of which only the blackened and smouldering ruins remained, the Circassians plundering as usual. We anchored there for the night; and Captain Brock went on shore to learn any news. They told him the Russians were evacuating all the forts, except Gelenjik, where they were concentrating their troops, and making stronger fortifications; and they (the Circassians) made an offer that if two of our steamers would attack it by sea, they would at the same time by land, which terms we could not agree to, as war had not been declared. We proceeded to Gelenjik, which did not appear nearly so strong as we had expected. At Soudjak Bay, the next fort, we saw a little steamer coming out; but on sighting us, she turned and beat a retreat to the fort at the head of the bay. Anapa was our last station, the fort there (more formidable than any we had previously seen) is situated on a cliff, with the guns pointing right over it.

We coasted along the Crimea, passing Cape Aitodoro, called the garden of Russia. Here are some magnificent palaces, Prince Woronzoff's amongst the best. We passed about thirty miles from Sebastapol, and steered straight for the Bosphorus, where we arrived on the 19th; and, after communicating with the Admiral, proceeded to Constantinople, where we are now coaling, with a brig on each side.

I should add that the forts are, for the most part, of a rectangular shape, with two square and two round towers at the corners, the walls between loopholed, and the barracks generally inside. Most of them have a number of poplar trees inside. The houses are built of wood, with shingle roofs, painted either slate colour or bright green. The native villages are curious; you can hardly distinguish them; they are so much the colour of the earth, being built of clay and thatched. The Circassians have very fine horses, and we saw them galloping along the beach. Their dress is a sort of brown tunic, fastened round the middle; leggings; the cap the same as the Russians' (with the exception of the conical top), is made of fur. They are armed with rifles and knives, and I have no doubt can use them well. The weather the whole time was beautiful, and the view of the mountains of the Caucasus, covered with snow, was very fine.

MEDALLION OF CHEVALIER BUNSEN, BY ALEXANDER MUNRO.
(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

FORT GOLOVIN, ON THE BLACK SEA, ABANDONED BY THE RUSSIANS, AND BURNT BY THE CIRCASSIANS.

SCENE FROM "MATILDE DI SHABRAN," AT THE ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

The Illustration represents the scene in the opera of "Matilde di Shabran," which forms the finale to the first act. The scene is in the hall of *Corradino's* castle, when the hostile rencounter is about to take place between that chief and the young *Edoardo*, who seeks to free his imprisoned father. On the left, *Corradino* (Lucchesi) is receiving his arms from the hands of his mistress; and the ridiculous poet *Isidoro* (Ronconi), grotesquely armed, is beating a drum to animate the soldiers. They are confronted, on the other side, by *Edoardo* (Mdlle. Marai), the *Countess d'Arco* (Albini), and *Raimondi* (Polonini). The soldiers on each side are ranged in the background. The figures are all portraits.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.

Mr. Planché's "Revue" and Mr. Buckstone's "Voyage" meet, we are happy to find, with the success fairly earned by the elegance of the composition and the costly style in which the pictorial and scenic successes are placed on the boards. The mind is carried through the events of the year by a series of significant symbols, skilfully chosen, and accompanied by remarks in the dialogue—not only witty but wise, calculated to instruct as well as amuse. One of the brilliant scenes in the piece we have selected for the above illustration. The worthy manager is supposed to have traversed Europe. Crossing the Dardanelles, he continues his journey by the Overland route to Asia, whose Divinity discloses herself to his enraptured view, in the manner delineated in the picture. The opportunity for the introduction of "a Grand Oriental Spectacle" is naturally seized; and the Dance of the Bayaderes exhibits to great advantage the attractions of the *corps de ballet*, and the skill of Miss Lydia Thompson and Miss L. Morris. It is in creating such opportunities, and in skilfully improving them, that the merit of this peculiar sort of drama consists The scale and extent of the illustrative decorations depends on the liberality of the management; and it may be truly asserted that Mr. Buckstone has very judiciously spared no reasonable expense in making the spectacle most ornamental and effective. Of the continued success of such a piece there can be no doubt; one which, pleasing as it is to the eye, has also mental allurements that distinguish it even among Mr Planché's productions, which in most instances are classical in their finish, and, as in this, as remarkable for the intellectuality of their aim as for the beauty of their appointments.

SADLER'S WELLS.

This theatre, for the summer season, has been placed under the management for the performance of vaudevilles and the lighter class of modern pieces; "The Times," as produced at the Olympic, being among the number. The comedy of "Vanity Cured" has been recently added. Mr. Henry Farren and Mr. Ranger figure as the leading performers of the company, which seems sufficiently well adapted for the purpose intended.

SURREY.

Miss Cushman has migrated to this transpontine stage, and appeared on Monday in *Lady Macbeth*. The part formed one of the earliest triumphs of this celebrated actress; and she still performs it with considerable force, though perhaps not with all the effect for which it was once remarkable. We noticed many differences, both in style and detail; and particularly the presence of more effort than formerly. This was still more distinguishable in the somnolent scene, which was characterised by certain physical exaggerations of which we have no recollection on former occasions. But these probably, are portions of that system of realisation which it would appear Miss Cushman's present aim to carry out. She seeks to become the principal in the Physical School of acting, substituting power for subtlety. In her case, there can be no necessity for taking refuge in any such expedient. No actress can better indicate mental processes than she, or speak to the soul more directly. We would, therefore, sincerely counsel her to retrace her steps, and rather aim at intellectual refinement than sensible embodiment. By much study of a character, no doubt, many suggestions are added; but a tasteful selection is in most cases of more importance than an ambitious accumulation. Mr Creswick performed the over-tempted and superstitious Thane, with his usual care, and occasionally with a success that served to mark the progress which he has lately made in the difficult art of which he is so worthy a professor. His influence at this theatre cannot fail to be beneficial; and we wish it were more effectual to promote the inte-

HAYMARKET THEATRE.—SCENE FROM "MR. BUCKSTONE'S VOYAGE ROUND THE GLOBE (IN LEICESTER-SQUARE)."

rests of the higher drama. We stayed to witness the new piece entitled "The Sultan and the Czar," in which an attempt is made to turn the present war with Russia to theatrical account, but the thing is utterly worthless, and not at all calculated to promote the dramatic education of the popular mind, which ought to be the purpose constantly held in view by the conductors of so large and important a suburban theatre. They have, however, already deserved praise for meritorious management. Our object is not so much to censure what has been done or is doing, as to point to the expediency of still higher efforts in a praiseworthy direction.

MUSIC.

At the Royal Italian Opera, on Tuesday, Donizetti's pretty "Elisir d'Amore" furnished an agreeable entertainment to a numerous audience Mdlle. Bosio acted the little rustic girl charmingly, and sang with even more than her usual brilliancy. Ronconi's *Dr. Dulcamara* was inimitable; it is the finest piece of buffo acting on the stage The gallant *Sergeant Belcore* had a very good representative in Taglialico, Had the *Nemorino* been, as the part used to be, in the hands of Mario, the performance would have been complete; but Signor Lucchesi, though he performed the character carefully and respectably, was unable to give it sufficient interest, either vocal or dramatic On Thursday evening Mdlle. Sofie Cruvelli made her first appearance this season, in the character of *Desdemona*, in Rossini's "Otello," Tamberlik being the *Otello*. We shall notice this performance fully next week.

At the Drury-lane Opera, the "Freischütz," in German, was produced on Thursday evening. *Agathe* was performed by Madame Cardori, *Max* by Reichart, and *Caspar* by Formes. This opera is familiarly known to everybody, and there was nothing remarkable in its performance. Things of much greater interest, however, are said to be immediately forthcoming. "Don Giovanni" is to be produced next week, and the celebrated German *prima donna*, Madame Rudersdorff, is to make her *début* in this country in the character of *Donna Anna*. The same lady is afterwards to appear in the "Abduction" of Gluck,

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

THE ROYAL OPERA, DRURY-LANE.—LAST NIGHTS OF ROBERT THE FREISCHUTZ. On Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday, her Majesty's servants will perform (on Gye and Wyatt's Opera DEAL FREISCHUTZ, Agathe, Madame Caradori. Anna, Mdlle. Sedlatzek; Max, Herr Reichardt, Caspar, Herr Formis. To conclude with a Ballet Gallery in 1 pic. 2s.; area, 3s.; dress circle, 3s.; stalls, 7s. Private boxes, one, two, three and four guineas each. On Wednesday and Friday, LA SONNAMBULA.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.—MR. BUCKSTONE'S VOYAGE ROUND THE GLOBE EVERY EVENING, with, Monday and Thursday, London Assurance, Tuesday. The Hope of the Family, Wednesday and Friday, Town and Country, and Saturday Rasclags.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE, Oxford-street.—On MONDAY, and during the Week will be performed (MARRIED UN-MARRIED, and the new and original Drama of FAUST AND MARGUERITE, with other Entertainments.

GREAT NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE, Shoreditch.—On MONDAY, and during the Week, an Evening Performance, to commence with BEN BOLT, after which the Farce of Born to Good Luck. The Last Week of the Season. On Wednesday, a variety of Entertainments.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.—OPERA BOXES and STALLS in the best situations, and on the most moderate terms, can always be procured at EDMUND BECKER'S MUSICAL LIBRARY, 9, New Bond-street, opposite the Clarendon Hotel. Opera Pit Tickets and Private Boxes.

G. BROOKE'S FAREWELL PROVINCIAL TOUR.—He will perform at Aberdeen from May 1st to 13th; and at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, from Monday the 15th May. Mr Brooke's stay in England is limited to a very few weeks.

GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street. The DIORAMA of the OVERLAND MAIL will positively CLOSE ON TUESDAY, MAY 2, for the production of a New Dioramic Scene, representing the LANDEE and BLACK SEA.

MR. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC, including the Barrens Oberland and the Simplon, EVERY EVENING at Eight o'clock, except Saturday, and Tuesday and Saturday mornings, at Three. Stalls, 3s.; numbered seats in the Reception-room every day from Ten to Five, and at the Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly.

CONSTANTINOPLE and the WAR.—The LECTURE illustrating the MOVING DIORAMA, the ROYAL ITALIAN BALL is delivered on WEDNESDAYS and SATURDAYS by Mr. HOPKINS, at Eight. Admission 1s. Stalls, 2s. Family Ticket, admitting Lady, at Half-past Two and Eight. Admission 1s.

MR. the POLYTECHNIC, Regent-street, and the WONDERS of the GRAND MOVING DIORAMA of CANADA and the ST. LAWRENCE, DAILY, at Three and Eight o'clock. Lectures on Canada and River St. Lawrence. With Songs, Scenes, and Characters. Mr. Pepper's new Lectures and Songs illustrated. Admission 1s. Stalls and Box-office open daily.

GALLERY of GERMAN PAINTINGS.—The SECOND ANNUAL EXHIBITION of the WORKS of MODERN GERMAN MASTERS is NOW OPEN DAILY, from Nine a.m. to Six. Admission, 1s.—Gallery, 168, New Bond-street, next door to the Clarendon.

SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER-COLOURS.—The FIFTEENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN at the Gallery, 5 PALL-MALL East.

DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM IS NOW OPEN, in the Spacious Premises known as HOLT'S MUSEUM, 7, Leicester-square, Corner of Panton-street, Haymarket. Admission, 1s. Open from Ten a.m. to Ten p.m. Admission, 1s.

VENTRILOQUY.—PHILHARMONIC ROOMS, Newman-street, Oxford street. MONDAY MAY 8, and every Evening. Mr. LOVE, unknown by accepted as the first Ventriloquist in Europe, will present his last new entertainment, entitled THE LONDON SHARPS in which he will introduce the most celebrated Characters, with other Entertainments. Tickets, 1s., 2s., and 3s. Begin at Eight.

ST. MARTIN'S HALL.—Rossini's "Stabat Mater," and the successful Operetta "Daniel," at Mr. JAMES G. McNULTY, MAY 15th. Madame Clara Novello, Bishop, Messrs. Sims Reeves, Champion, Weiss, and Formes. With full Chorus and Orchestra. Conductor, Mr. Anderson. Stalls, 10s. 6d. Tickets at most music houses; or of Mr. G. Lake, Addington-place, Camberwell.

COLOGNE CHORAL UNION (DER KÖLNER MANNER GESANG VEREIN). HANOVER ROOMS.—Mr. MITCHELL respectfully announces that the above-named society will give a second series of SIX MORNING CONCERTS on Every Thursday, Commencing May 4, and to take place on the following Days—Monday, May 8; Wednesday, May 10; Thursday, May 11; and Saturday, May 13; and Friday, May 19. The Repertoire of the Concerts will be entirely different from that announced, many of them entirely new. The Concerts will be arranged as last year commence at Half-past Three, and terminating about Five o'Clock. EVENING MORNING CONCERTS which can be given during the short Engagement of the unprecedented Cologne Choir will take place on SATURDAY EVENING, May 13 and Saturday Evening, May 20, commencing at Half-past Eight o'Clock.—Tickets of Admission (reserved Seat for the Six Concerts, Two Guineas, Ditto, single Tickets, One Guinea; to be had of the Secretary at the room, 5a; where may be had at Mr. MITCHELL'S Library, 33, Old Bond-street.

MRS. PLUMMER'S SOIREES MUSICALES.—Mrs. PLUMMER respectfully announces that her CHILD BOREE will take place at the NEW BETHOVEN ROOMS, 27, Queen Anne-street, Cavendish-square, on FRIDAY EVENING, MAY 5. The following talented artistes will assist: Vocalists Mesdemoiselles Rainforth, Zimmermann, Plummer; Messrs. T. Williams, Geo. gr. Tedder, Walter Bolton, and Signor Negri. Instrumentalists: Grand Pianoforte, Professor Frager; Violin, L. Ries; Viola, J. Weslake. Violoncello, Hildebrand Romberg; Harp, Mr. John Thomas, his first appearance this season in London; Clarionet, Mr. George Key. Conductor, Herr Anschutz. Reserved Seats, 10s. 6d.; three for One Guinea. Unreserved Seats, 7s., or four for One Guinea, may be obtained at Hodgson's Library, 6, Great Marylebone-street, as at Mrs. Plummer's residence, 36, York-street, Portman-square.

UNDER the IMMEDIATE PATRONAGE of her Most Gracious Majesty the QUEEN, His Royal Highness Prince ALBERT, her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester, her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cambridge. Mr. HENRIQUES'S ANNUAL MORNING CONCERT will take place at the HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, on FRIDAY, JUNE 16th, when the most eminent Vocal and Instrumental talent will be engaged to deserve the distinguished patronage it has received for so many years. Full particulars will be duly announced. Reserved Seats, One Guinea each, may be had at the principal Musicsellers and Librarians, and of Mr. Benedict, 4 Manchester-square.

GEOLOGY.—KING'S COLLEGE, London. Professor TENNANT, F.G.S., will give a COURSE of TWELVE LECTURES on PRACTICAL GEOLOGY, having reference to the important applications of the Science to Engineering, Mining, Agriculture, and Architecture, commencing with a course on WEDNESDAY MORNING, May 3rd, at Nine o'clock. They will be continued on each succeeding Friday and Wednesday, at the same hour. ROBERT W. FRASER, D.D., Principal.

LECTURES to WORKING MEN, being the Third and Last of those courses for the present Session, to be delivered at the INSTITUTION of MECHANICAL SCIENCE, in the Course of Six Lectures on METALS, by JOHN PERCY, M.B., F.R.S., will be commenced on MONDAY, MAY the 8th, at Eight o'clock. Tickets may be obtained, by Working Men only, on Monday, the 1st of May, from Ten to Five, on payment of a registrar fee of 6d.

ATTRACTIVE NOVELTIES.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION, Patron, H.R.H. Prince ALBERT.—The SEAT of WAR, showing the Principal Places on the Danube, Black Sea, Wallachia, Gallipoli, Schastopol, the entrance to the Black Sea, Battle of Alma, and Destruction of the Turkish Fleet, and other scenes lately engaged by the Proprietors of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS; each being in MASS of DISSOLVING VIEWS. Lectures by J. H. PEPPER, Esq., on the Chemistry of our Daily Bread, in each of which is exhibited by the new process at the Marvellous Workhouse daily at two o'clock; and in the evenings at the Manufacture of Paper of Paper, Lecture by Dr. BACHHOFFNER on Electricity, and the Electric Light. Exhibition of Treasures found at Jubilee Seaton Vessels, &c. &c.—Open Morning and Evening. Admission, 1s.; Schools, and Children under ten years of age, Half-price.

ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, REGENT'S PARK.—Fellows and visitors are informed that a pair of GIANT ANT-EATERS, an adult pair of INDIAN LIONS, and a pair of LEOPARD, have been added to the Collection. Admission, 1s. Mondays, 6d.

PHOTOGRAPHIC INSTITUTION.—An EXHIBITION of PICTURES by the most eminent Photographers in the World is NOW OPEN DAILY at the Photographic Institution, 168, New Bond-street.

OPENING of the CRYSTAL PALACE, 1854.—It is intended to OPEN the CRYSTAL PALACE and PARK at the end of MAY, after which they will be open Daily, Sundays excepted.

The following are the arrangements for the admission of the Public:

FIVE SHILLING DAYS.—On Saturdays, the public will be admitted by payment at the doors, Five Shillings each; and by tickets to include conveyance by railway.

HALF CROWN DAYS.—On Fridays, the public will be admitted by payment at the doors, Half-a-Crown, or 2s. 6d. each; and by tickets to include conveyance by railway.

SHILLING DAYS.—Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays will be Shilling Days. At the gates, a payment of One Shilling each will admit the public to the Palace and Park, and also to conveyance along the Crystal Palace Railway, from London bridge Station to the Palace and back, will be issued at the following prices:—

Including Railway Fare and Carriage ... ... 2s 6d.
Ditto ditto ... ... 2s 0d.
Ditto ditto ... ... 1s 6d.

CHILDREN.—Children under twelve years of age will be admitted at half the above rates.

HOURS OF OPENING.—The Palace and Park will be opened on Mondays at nine o'clock; on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays at ten o'clock; on Fridays at Eleven; and on Saturdays at twelve o'clock, and close every day an hour before sunset.

CRYSTAL PALACE RAILWAY will take place about the end of May. The precise day will be announced as early as possible. On that occasion a general holiday will be admitted.

SEASON TICKETS.—Season tickets will be issued at two guineas each, to admit the proprietor to the Hand and Park on the day of opening, and on all other days when the building is open to the public.

Season Tickets to include conveyance along the Crystal Palace Railway, from London bridge to the Palace and back, without further charge, will be issued at four guineas each, subject to the regulations of the London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway Company; but these tickets will be available only for trains from and to London, and the Palace on such days as it is open to the public, and will not be available for any intermediate stations.

No Season Ticket will be transferable or available except to the person whose name it bears.

FAMILY SEASON TICKETS.—Members of the same family who reside together will have the privilege of taking visitors to view the grounds, with or without railway conveyance, on the following reduced terms:—

Families taking two tickets will be entitled to 10 per cent. in addition to the above number; families taking three tickets, to a discount of 15 per cent., taking four tickets, to a discount of 20 per cent.; and for ten tickets and upwards, to a discount of 25 per cent. Families taking the above privileges, and desiring to avail themselves of it, must apply for the necessary forms and these tickets will be available only in the personal names of such applicants.

Printed forms of application may be had at the Office, 3, Adelaide-place, and at the other offices therein.

Season tickets will entitle to admission from the opening day till the 30th of April, 1855.

Applications may be made for season tickets at the offices of the London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway, London bridge station, as soon as ready, will be delivered in the order in which the applications are received, at the offices of the Company, 3, Adelaide-place, London bridge and 4, Regent-street; and at the various railway stations, Mr. Simms, St. James's-street; Mr. Mitchell, Bond-street; Westerton's Library, Knightsbridge. The tickets to include conveyance by railway will be delivered at the Office of the Secretary to the Brighton Railway, London bridge.

SPECIAL REGULATIONS AND BY-LAWS. All the general provisions and regulations mentioned above are to be understood as being subservient to such special provisions, regulations, and bylaws as the part of the Railway Company and the Palace Company as may be found necessary to regulate the traffic and to meet special occasions and circumstances within may from time to time arise.

By order of the Board,
GROVE, Secretary.

Adelaide place, London-bridge, April 15, 1854.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR FAMILY SEASON TICKETS.

To the Secretary, 3, Adelaide-place, London-bridge.

Sir,—I request you will forward Season Tickets for myself and the following members of my family, who are all residing with me:—

Yours, obediently,

Christian Name. Surname. Address. Description.

Schedule of Prices of Family and Season Tickets.

Number of Tickets.	Including Railway.	Including Conveyance by Railway.
Two tickets	£3 16 6	£4 17 6
Three	5 7 6	10 14 6
Four	6 15 0	12 9 0
Five	7 17 6	15 15 0
Six	9 0 0	18 0 0
Seven	10 2 6	20 1 0
Eight	11 5 0	22 4 0
Nine	12 7 6	24 6 0
Ten	13 10 0	27 0 0

Note.—The above Application must be addressed to the Secretary, as above, and accompanied by a remittance to the full amount of the tickets asked for, according to the above scale. Post-office Order, payable to Simms, 3, Adelaide-place. Cheques must be on a London banker, and be crossed "Union Bank of London."

And no application, unless so accompanied, will be attended to.

EASTERN COUNTIES RAILWAY.—On and after MAY 1st the following ARRANGEMENT of EXCURSION TRAINS from LONDON will come into operation:—

FAMILY EXCURSIONS to YARMOUTH and LOWESTOFT, available for Return on the Same Day, will leave London at 1.30 p.m. every WEDNESDAY and FRIDAY to CAMBRIDGE, YARMOUTH, LOWESTOFT, and all the Stations on each Line between those Places.

AN EXCURSION to IPSWICH or HARWICH every WEDNESDAY, at Seven a.m. Fare, First Class, 2s.; Second Class, 1s. 6d.; Third Class 1s.

On Wednesdays to Ipswich or Harwich by STEAM-VESSEL from NORTH WOOLWICH, in conjunction with 8.45 a.m. Train from Bishopsgate, returning by Train from Ipswich same day. Fares, First Class, 4s.; Second Class, 3s.; Third Class, 2s.

For further particulars see placards or hand-bills, which may be had at the Company's offices, or read after this day.

By order,

WALTHEW'S LIVERPOOL LINE of AUSTRALIAN PACKETS.

FOR MELBOURNE direct, to sail about the 25th MAY, the magnificent Clipper Ship MORNING STAR, 1,053 Tons register, 1000 Tons burthen.

This fine ship will land passengers and luggage on the wharf free of charge. For further particulars apply to James M. Walthew, 24, Chapel-street, Liverpool; or to Thomas Woolley, 15, Fenchurch-street, London.

ADELAIDE, PORT PHILLIP, and SYDNEY.—The splendid and FAVOURITE CLIPPER ship Bourne free. Saloon, £45, Cabin on Deck, £35 to £30; Intermediate, £20 to £18; Steerage, £16. Children half-price. Infants under twelve months, free. Cuddy or half-cabin. In outward berth, for first-class ships. Apply to WM. BARNETT and CO., 35, Philpot-lane, London, Merchants, Colonial, Shipping, and General Agents.

LIVERPOOL BLACK BALL CLIPPERS.—These celebrated Ships SAIL EVERY FORTNIGHT, for MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, Sydney, Adelaid, and Launceston. They are first-class, and have made the fastest passages on record. Cash orders for Steerage Passengers, and Bills of Exchange granted. Apply to John Jaffray and Co., Great St. Helens, London; or to the owners, James Baines and Co., Dock-street, Liverpool.

BLACK STAR LINE OF AUSTRALIAN PACKETS.

LIVERPOOL to MELBOURNE.—To SAIL, early in MAY, the celebrated strong Clipper-ship INVINCIBLE, 1,000 tons burthen. A. JOHNSTON, Commander. The celebrated strong Clipper-ship has accomplished several of the fastest passages recorded in naval history and being fitted in the most superb manner possible with a view to the amusement of convict and thorough ventilation, together with a most excellent cook and steward, she will be found one of the best ever despatched to the Australian colonies. Every possible means will be taken to give the voyage every character of pleasure and comfort that can be given. They will carry chess draught, and backgammon boards, as well as a full library, and a surgeon will be married. For saloon, 2nd cabin, and single gentlemen, as the case may be, can be fitted to suit their own taste, without a separate charge, expected a few days' notice only. The spacious promenade deck, which is free from every connection, will be found one of the most desirable features in the ship's arrangements for passenger conveyance. The Captain is a gentleman of the highest talent and experience, and has ever been distinguished for his sincere devotion to the welfare of his passengers. A fully-qualified surgeon will be shipped. The entire arrangement conducted under the inspection of her Majesty's Emigration officer.

Passages secured, and other information obtained, on application to JAMES THOMAS and CO., 64, Dale-street, Liverpool.

THE WEST INDIA ROYAL MAIL STEAM-PACKETS, which leave England on the 2nd and 17th of each Month, now proceed DIRECT from SOUTHAMPTON to ST. THOMAS, and thence to CHAGRES, via Jamaica and Carthagena.

Mails, Passengers, and Parcels for HAVANA, VERA CRUZ, and TAMPICO, will be carried out by the Steamer of the 2nd, and those for HONDURAS and NASSAU, by the Steamer of the 17th of each month.

For all other places comprised in the Company's West India Scheme of Sailings, including Santa Martha, Carthagena, Chagres, and Grey Town, Mails, Passengers, and Parcels will be conveyed by the Steamer of the 2nd and 17th of each month.

Particulars as to Rates of Fares, Freights, &c., may be had on application at the Company's Offices, 3, Old Broad-street, London, where parcels, packages, and publications continue to be received as usual.

Return Tickets issued, available for six months, with an abatement of 25 per cent on the passage-money.

N.B.—Goods taken on moderate freight to and from Barbadoes, Demerara, Porto Rico, Grenada, Trinidad, Jamaica, Honduras, St. Thomas, Nassau, Santa Martha, Carthagena, Chagres, and Grey Town (Nicaragua); and (homeward only) from Tampico, Vera Cruz, and Havana.

Parties are as to cargo may be had of Robert Rickuth, Esq., the Company's Superintendent of the cargo department at southampton. Freight being prepaid.

A. MOORSOM, Secretary.

LONDON HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL, 32, Golden-square. A CONVERSAZIONE, in all of the Wards of this Hospital, will be held at the HANOVER SQUARE ROOMS, on TUESDAY EVENING, MAY 2nd, at Eight o'clock. Tickets may be had at the Hospital, 32, Golden-square, and at all the Homœopathic Chemists and Booksellers. Single Tickets 7s. 6d., Family Tickets, to admit four, £1 ls.

MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL.—A SERMON will be PREACHED, at ALL SOULS CHURCH, St. Marylebone, on SUNDAY NEXT, APRIL 30, by the Right Rev. Lord BISHOP of CHICHESTER, in behalf of the Middlesex Hospital. Divine Service to commence at Eleven o'clock. A Committee of Governors will attend in the Vestry to receive subscriptions.

ALEX. SHEDDEN, Sec.

THE TONIC SOL-FA ASSOCIATION will hold TWO SINGING SERVICES in FINSBURY CHAPEL, to be opened by the Rev. JOHN CURWEN. First Service on TUESDAY EVENING, MAY 2, Subject: "The Advent of our Lord." The Rev J. ANGUS, D.D., of Stepney College, will preside. Second Service on FRIDAY EVENING MAY 5. Subject: "The Death and Resurrection of our Lord." The Rev. W. BROCK, M.A., of Boston, will preside. Each Service will commence at Half past Seven o'Clock. Tickets, 1s. each, may be had at the Institution of Mr. J. Bath, Royal British Institution, Tabernacle-row, City-road; and at the doors of the Chapel.

ROSE. GRIFFITHS, Hon Sec.

ROYAL ASYLUM of ST. ANNE'S SOCIETY, Malmesbury, Clothing, and Educating Children of three years to fifteen years of age not by Voluntary Contribution. The GIRLS' ANNUAL MEETING for Examination of Children, Report, and Distribution of Prizes, will be held at [illegible] on WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 1854.

[illegible] Chair.

[illegible] ook in the Afternoon.

F. LEEKS, Secretary.

GUY'S.—The SUMMER SESSION commences on MONDAY, the 1st of MAY. Gentlemen desirous of becoming Pupils are invited to attend the introductory lecture as to examination and conduct. They are required to pay £40 for the first year, £30 for the second year, and £10 for every subsequent year's attendance. One payment of £190 entitle s a student to a perpetual ticket. Dressers, Walking Dressers, Ward Clerks, Dressers' Apprentices, Obstetric Residents, and Dressers in the Eye Ward, are selected according to merit from those Students who have been one year in the house, with apartments in the Hospital, partly furnished, and without any charge for board, but an annual allowance of coals, amounting to ten, and a limited supply of gas. All applications and testimonials must be accompanied by answers in a printed form which, with a copy of the duties, may be obtained at my office here, and must be returned to me on or before saturday, the 29th instant.

Medical Registrar. W. H. WALLER, Clerk.

Hackthrift, April 25, 1854.

PREVENTIVE and REFORMATORY INSTITUTION, 16, New-road, near Gower-street. These New Premises will be OPENED on MONDAY EVENING, MAY 1st, by the Rev. JOHN T. LESLIE SERVILLE, Hon. Secretary to the Asylum for Female Orphans, and the Rev. JAMES BALLANTYNE, Esq., Deputy-Governor of the Edinburgh Original Ragged Schools. Persons taking an interest in the subject of Criminal Reformation are earnestly invited to inspect the Institution (where an experienced Superintendent, Husband, and Turner give instructions in their respective branches), and to be enrolled as Members, on the forms, or of the Treasurer, G. J. BOWYER, 43, Ampthill-square. A Committee of Management will meet at the Institution, on the 1st of May, at 3 o'clock.

L'ESPRIT, composed by LOUIS RENNE and published by LEADER and COCK, for the benefit of the Institution, price 3s.

ROYAL EXCHANGE ASSURANCE, Incorporated A.D. 1720, by Charter of George the First. Chief Office, Royal Exchange, London; Branch, 29, Pall-Mall.

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This Corporation affords all the advantages of modern practice, and possesses the privileges granted by the Royal Charter and Special Acts of Parliament, and is ed by the experience of nearly a century and a half. There is but one older Life Office in existence.

Further particulars may be obtained on application at the Office of the Corporation, or to the Agents appointed in all the principal towns in the Kingdom.

ALEX. GREEN, Secretary.

THE EIGHTEENTH PUBLIC DRAWING.—The CONSERVATIVE LAND SOCIETY, At the Offices, 33, Norfolk-street, Strand (Twelve doors North of Exeter Hall), on TUESDAY, the 18th of MAY, the EIGHTEENTH PUBLIC DRAWING, to regulate, in the order of rotation for choice of Lots on the Society's Estates, in various counties, will take place.

CHARLES LEWIS GRUNEISEN, Secretary.

THE ST. MARGARET'S ESTATE, RICHMOND.—The magnificent Mansion and picturesque Park at St. Margaret's, adjoining Richmond Hill and Terrace-Gardens, to be divided between the heirs of Twelve and Five o'clock (Sundays excepted), by cards only, on the last day of the Exhibition of the CONSERVATIVE LAND SOCIETY. The allotment of this valuable PROPERTY, on the BANKS of the THAMES, has been fixed for WEDNESDAY, the 7th day of JUNE; Cards will be issued

Offices, 33, Norfolk-street, Strand, [illegible]

NATIONAL PROVIDENT FREEHOLD LAND SOCIETY, 51, Parliament-street, and 33, Norfolk-street, City Agents, &c. Cheapside, corner of Bucklersbury

Chairman—Lord Viscount Ingestre, M.P.

This Society being enrolled under 6 and 7 Victoria IV., cap. 32, the members are entirely free from personal responsibility, beyond the [illegible] of 3l. per share, making a provide for [illegible] Shares to the amount of 3l. 15s. per share, may be subscribed at the Office, or by letter, post paid, addressed to the Secretary.

A Post-office order for 1l. (being one month's subscription entrance fee) on application to the Secretary will insure immediate allotment.

A year's subscription, 1l. 8s. A pass up share bearing interest at the rate of 5l. per cent per annum, which is immediately realized on the order of eight to choose land independent of the ballot, 45l. 3s.

Five per cent interest allowed upon all deposits of money, paid-up shares, and subscriptions six months in advance.

The whole amount of deposits or shares may be taken up, in accordance with the rules, be at any time withdrawn with the interest due.

Shares issued and subscriptions received by Mr. F. G. Debenham, Auctioneer and Land Agent, 33, Norfolk-street, Strand, and at the Office (as well as at the chief offices) prospectuses, copies of the rules, and plans of the estates purchased for the members may be obtained.

JOHN P. COX, Secretary.

LOANS GRANTED.—£10 10s. to £500 advanced on personal and other security, by the MUTUAL LOAN FUND ASSOCIATION, 3, Old Broad-street, Threadneedle-street, London. Forms gratis, or forwarded on receipt of two postage stamps

SALE of the Rev. G. S. FABER'S LIBRARY. Mr. WHITE has received instructions to SELL by AUCTION, in the House, No. 1, NORTH BAILEY (next door to the Exhibition Room), DURHAM, on TUESDAY, MAY 9, and following days, the extensive and valuable LIBRARY of the late Rev. G. S. FABER, Prebendary of Salisbury, and Master of Sherburn Hospital, Durham; consisting of Editions of the Fathers, Works on Divinity, General Literature, &c.

Catalogues are now ready, and may be had of Messrs. P. and J. Rivington, No. 31, St. Paul's-churchyard, and 59, Waterloo-place, Pall-Mall East; London; Messrs. Blackwood and Sons, Edinburgh; of Mr. Andrews, Bookseller, Durham; and of the Auctioneer.

Catalogues will be forwarded by post by Mr. Andrews, Bookseller, Durham, on receipt of Two Postage stamps.

REMOVAL of W. G TAYLOR'S (late Hall and Co.'s) JUVENILE and OUTFITTING WAREHOUSE to 53, BARBICAN, NEAR Aldersgate Street [illegible] W. G. TAYLOR begs to announce that the premises [illegible] joined, will be made to be favoured with a continuance of the distinguished patronage the house has always enjoyed.

NEW BOOKS, &c.

THE IMPERIAL BURGLAR.—PUNCHINELLO'S Political Photographs:—See "Punchinello," No. 9, the cheapest and virtual illustrated Periodical.
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London: JOHN W. PARKER and Son, West Strand.
*** Sold by all Booksellers, and at all the Railway Stations.

Now ready, Third Edition, price 1s. 6d.; or, by post, 2s.,
LATERAL CURVATURE of the SPINE, with its appropriate treatment. By CHARLES HALL, M.D., Leeds: LONGMAN, BROWN, Green, and Longmans, London. Sold also by all Booksellers.

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FALLACIES of the FACULTY, with the Chronothermal System of Medicine. Price 7s. 6d
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Just published, price 5s.,
THE EYE in HEALTH and DISEASE, with a Description of the Optometer for the Adaptation of Spectacles for Impaired, Defective, or Aged Sight. By ALFRED SMEE, F.R.S., Surgeon to the Bank of England, Surgeon to the London Ophthalmic Hospital &c. Second edition. To which is added a paper on Vision, by C. Stein, Jun., Manufacturer, Sutherland Graves, E. S. Vernon, Buist, May, and Mrs. Jones.
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A CHARMING RESIDENCE, three miles west of Hyde-park-corner. The LEASE of Ninety years to be SOLD, of a genteel FAMILY RESIDENCE, containing seven bedrooms, and elegant VILLA RESIDENCE, built by an Architect for his own occupation. The soil is pure gravel. Apply to Mr. Wolor, No. 13, Paddington-green.

TO be SOLD, a capital PAIR of CARRIAGE-HORSES, Fifteen Hands Two Inches High. Price 120 Guineas. To be seen and tried any day (except Sunday), at 9 [illegible] Railway Terrace, Kingsland-road. Apply by letter, stating price, to Mr. Jay's notice to Mr COLSON, Dartmouth park, Forest-hill, Kent.

A MARRIED CLERGYMAN having, as Domestic Chaplain to a Nobleman, but light clerical duty, can receive into House a Married Pupil. Terms moderate. Address at Lacky's under the late Dr. Arnold, and took honours at the University of Cambridge. He has also had considerable experience in Tuition. Address Rev. X. Y., care of Messrs. Rivington, Waterloo-place, Pall-Mall

WALMER, Kent.—Mr. WILKINS, residing LITTLE ROYS, from seven to twelve years of age, to PREPARE for the PUBLIC SCHOOLS. Terms, 70 to 100 guineas The vacation commences May 1st.

EPSOM GRAND STAND.—A NEW GALLERY has been erected, containing Reserved and Numbered Seats similar to Opera Stalls, for six or more seats can be enclosed for the month, superbly engraved and coloured, representing the prevailing styles for walking and evening dresses. A copious and interesting article on Le Monde, comprising reviews of all the new materials, dresses, &c. In the literary department a variety of original contributions by C. Seale, Lancaster, Sutherland Graves, E. S. Vernon, Buist, May, and Mrs. Jones.
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N.B. If delivery is experienced in obtaining the Paper by evening post it is requested that a line to the Pub lisher will, on application, furnish the names of news-agents ready to supply it.

LE FOLLET for MAY.—Two Additional Plates Gratis.—With the May number of this universally esteemed magazine of fashion will be presented a splendid double PLATE of LADIES MANTLES, illustrating all the newest and most recherché designs, and a highly-finished engraving of the Bonnets, and Bijouterie, &c. It will also contain, as usual, three plates of fashions for the month, superbly engraved and coloured, representing the prevailing styles for walking and evening dresses. A copious and interesting article on Le Monde, comprising reviews of all the new materials, dresses, &c. In the literary department a variety of original contributions by C. Seale, Lancaster, Sutherland Graves, E. S. Vernon, Buist, May, and Mrs. Jones.
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PARIS FASHIONS FOR MAY.

EVENING DRESS.

BONNET, CAPE, AND CANEZOU.

EVENING WALKING DRESS.

(*Continued from page* 394.)

wrists ornamented with handsome Valenciennes lace. Another dress was *en grenadine*, the colour blue Louise, with large squares formed by lines of three different blues, trimmed with three rows of flounces, edged with quilled ribbon, on a dress of pale rose-colour. Sarcenets and watered silks are worn plain. Plaid silks admit of a great variety. The petticoats have returned to the greatest simplicity, and are worn quite plain. The body is worn rather open on the chest, and turned back with Chinese basquines; the sleeves are almost Amadis at the top, but they gradually widen to the elbow. For such as prefer ornament, fashion sanctions the bows Louis XIII., which are placed at will on the bodies and on the skirts, with the small ornaments in velvet cut out like lace. A very singular, as well as useful, ornament are the puffed ribbons, which have all the appearance of bows, are tastefully arranged, and possess the advantage of constantly retaining their form. The bonnets continue to be worn small, but are rather wider; they are literally covered with lace. The capotes and crape bonnets are ornamented with peach-blossom flowers, or a bouquet of Alpine violets.

The fashions for young ladies are beautiful novelties. Barège dresses are most in vogue. The skirts form three tunics; the body forms the point plain without basques, rather low. Grenadine is also much worn by young persons. The following is a very pretty dress: pink sarcenet plaid dress, with cherry-coloured stripes; canezon in spotted net and ribbons; trimming, Valenciennes lace; head-dress, bandeaux puffed and turned up, accompanied by a large bow of ribbon of the same colour as the ribbon of the canezon. This completes a very pleasing toilette for young persons.

THE ILLUSTRATIONS.

Children's Dresses.—The most charming costumes for children are seen in the Champs Elysées, round the carriage drawn by goats, the favourite amusement of children.

A favourite dress for a little girl is Scotch poplin, or pink, pale-green, or blue Louise sarcenet, in small squares, formed by a black and-white stripe, trimmed with flounces. Some children's dresses are made with basques, slashed in the Spanish fashion. Round hats in Leghorn straw are worn, with long ends to the bows.

The little boys wear doublets of poplin, or of satin de laine, ornamented with velvet or braid, white shirts, or striped cambric, collar turned over, and scalloped with the same colour as the stripe; light beaver or straw hats, trimmed with feathers, ribbons, or galoon.

Evening Walking Dress.—Dress of grey sarcenet with three flounces, ornaments in violet-colour velvet, placed at intervals from the bottom towards the top of the dress. Mantilla, with a wide fringe.

Toilette for Small Parties.—Dress of pou-de-soie of the best quality in shot silk; canezou of the same material, fitting tight to the shape, with bows of ribbon trimmed with a puffing of silk fawn-colour; head-dress, bandeaux, with bows and ends of ribbon.

Bonnet.—with puffings of net; top trimmed with Parma violets.

Morning Caps.—with Valenciennes trimmings.

Canezou in spotted net; ribbon of the same colour as that of the skirt; bows arranged *à la vieille*, and Valenciennes form the basques.

CHILDREN'S DRESSES FOR MAY.—THE GOAT-CHAISE IN THE CHAMPS ELYSEES.

ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS SUPPLEMENT.

VOL. XXIV.] SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 1854. [GRATIS.

PILGRIMAGE TO "THE HOLY CITY" OF KIEFF.

KIEFF, Kiew, or Kiow, one of the most picturesque spots in Russia, the "Holy City" or Rome of the Greek Church, draws each year thousands of pilgrims to the shrines of its many saints. It is situated on the Dnieper, in the government of the same name, and is the capital of Little Russia and the Ukraine. It possesses twenty-four churches, to most of which are attached wealthy convents. Among the most famous is the Lavra, occupying a commanding position on the summit of the steep banks of the Dnieper, in the centre of the Petchersky fortress, seen in our Engraving. Its lofty tower is visible from the long flat Moscow road on the opposite side, at a distance of seventy versts. Here the metropolitan of the Greek Church resides. This monastery is supposed to contain immense riches in gold and jewels—reserved, probably, to pay the expenses of our gallant troops, should they penetrate so far in pursuit of the flying Muscovites. Beneath the hill on which the church and citadel stand are the catacombs, a vast labyrinth of cells and chapels, in which are preserved, it is stated, undecayed, the bodies of 110 martyrs, and various relics of saints. Formerly, Kieff boasted of 800 religious establishments. Accounts of that city in the seventeenth century make mention of inscriptions in the Greek language, on some of the monuments, then almost illegible.

In 861 KIO, Prince of the Muscovites, made this town his capital; and it had become celebrated for its Eastern magnificence and luxury in 1070, when Boeslas, Duke of Poland, with a view to the conquest of Russia attacked Kieff, and, after a long siege and dreadful carnage, took the capital. The most authentic historians relate that Boeslas, tempted by the luxury of Kieff, and captivated by the beauty of the women, remained there with his soldiers, so long indulging in every excess, that his subjects at home broke out into open revolt. Upon this Boeslas raised an army of Russians, and, falling upon his rebellious subjects, put the innocent and the guilty alike to the sword. Poland was inundated with blood. The primate of Warsaw, Stanislas, dared to reproach Boeslas with these excesses, and was slain by him at the foot of the altar.

In 1615 Kiew was invaded by the Tartars, from which time its ancient importance declined. It was subsequently overrun and possessed by the Cossacks under the protection of Poland; but in 1654 the inhabitants, discontented with their rulers, revolted, and submitted to Russia, and have since remained subject to that Empire. The vast privileges enjoyed by the natives have gradually been abolished, and they are now on the same footing with the other Russian provinces.

This government is exceedingly fertile, and produces the best wheat in Europe, although the climate is subject to great extremes of heat and cold. The population, according to the last census, amounts to 1,665,800. The city of Kieff is about 490 miles S.W. of Moscow, has 45,000 inhabitants. It is divided into three parts. The Fortress of Petchersky, on the heights facing the south, contains the Lavra church, monastery, and dependencies, and the suburbs of Petchersky and Libki. The part called Old Kiev is built on an eminence facing the north, where stands the ancient cathedral of St. Sophia: on repairing the interior walls of this building frescoes were lately discovered, which are being restored. Padol, the commercial part of the town, lies below in the plain on the banks of the Dnieper, and contains numerous churches, besides the shops and magazines. In that quarter an annual fair is held (similar to the one at Nijeni-Novgorod): it is called the "Contracts;" and is the scene of great gaiety. Both Petchersky and Old Kieff are fortified, according to the mountainous nature of the situation: the fortifications, connected by numerous detached round forts, is still in progress of completion.

The Easter Festival of the Greek Church is the appointed season for the pilgrimage to the various churches and monasteries: the "Lavra" and catacombs being the chief objects of attraction—adjoining which various buildings have been erected by the monks for the accommodation of the pilgrims. To the poorer of them, who sleep *à la belle étoile*, black bread is distributed daily by the nuns. A pilgrimage to Kieff is one of the essential acts of the Greek religion; and from high to low there are few Russians who have not, once in their lives, performed the journey. One church has a beautiful silver canopy, offered to the patron Saint by the Countess Orloff. The serfs, however, form the mass of pilgrims. Nothing can exceed the picturesque appearance of the groups that, day after day, during the Easter week, enter the city, from the borders of Turkey to the distant regions of Kamschatka. The dress of the Russian peasantry in each of the governments is marked by peculiar characteristics, and partakes of the Oriental type; and the artist's eye is struck by the draping of their linen and woollen garments, which fall about their figures in classical folds. Distance, however, as in many other cases, decidedly "lends enchantment to the view;" for, on a nearer inspection, cleanliness is not the distinguishing feature. It was amongst the crowd collected around the "Lavra" that the cholera broke out in 1848; and the authorities of the town, alarmed at its fearful ravages, issued an order for the immediate dispersion of the devotees; but the evil was done. The small figures in the Sketch, though each taken from nature, scarcely convey an idea of the variety of costume; bright colours mark the dress of the females; and the young girls of the Ukraine plait and adorn their long hair with flowers and flowing ribbons. The effect of the scene is heightened by the clear sky, the broad noble river, the rafts, and the high-masted craft, with their immense expanse of canvas; the wooded heights of the hills of Kieff, are crowned by the lofty tower and splendidly gilt cupolas of the "Lavra" in clear outline on the deep blue sky; and in the distance, the Padol, with its Asiatic minarets.

The weary pilgrims will this year have a more expeditious, though less picturesque, mode of crossing the Dnieper than in the old ferry-boats; since the magnificent suspension-bridge—half a mile in length, erected from the designs and under the superintendence of the English engineer, Mr. Vignoles—was opened last autumn. (AN Engraving of the bridge, with particulars, may be referred to in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for Feb 24, 1850.)

A more important advantage to the Czar, under present circumstances, is the facility of transporting his troops across the wide river, from the interior of Russia on their road to Turkey: a few hours now being only required for the passage of an armament that would formerly, at this present season of floods, have required days, and even weeks, to effect.

PILGRIMS CROSSING THE DNIEPER TO "THE HOLY CITY" OF KIEFF

THE DAY OF HUMILIATION AND PRAYER.

WEDNESDAY having been set apart for the solemn observance of a General Fast, Humiliation, and Prayer, invoking the Divine blessing and assistance upon our arms during the present war, and for the speedy restoration of peace, business was very generally suspended throughout the whole of the metropolis. The public offices were closed as far as the requirements of the service permitted; the banks, counting-houses, and shops were almost universally shut; and, in fact, the day was observed with more strictness than Sunday is in general.

Upon two ensuing pages we have Engraved a selection of Portraits of the Clergy of the metropolis by whom Sermons were preached in observance of the day. The series appropriately commences with his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, by whom were composed the impressive Collect and Prayers in the appointed "Form." We next present to our readers brief Abstracts of the Sermons preached by those of the Clergy whose Portraits are here engraved.

ST. JAMES'S, PICCADILLY.

REV. J. E. KEMPE.

"Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God"—1 Epistle of St. Peter, v., 6.

The rev. gentleman commenced by observing that, within the recollection of nearly all who were present, days had been set apart for national humiliation and prayer before God, on two occasions when this country was ravaged by a fearful pestilence. The calamities of those visitations were forced upon the attention of all, and it might be fairly presumed that there was a very general impression as to the fitness of the posture which, at the periods to which he referred, the nation was required to assume. A peace of nearly forty years' continuance had raised up a generation which knew nothing of the sad and frightful realities of war. Some persons might ask, "Why should we humble ourselves? Where is our present chastisement? Where is the cause of fear? Have we not every prospect of a complete and speedy triumph?" Now, in justification of the act of the Sovereign in summoning her subjects not only to prayer, but also to humiliation, he wished to impress upon his hearers a clear and strong appreh nsion of the general truth, that the suitable attitude of the suppliant to God must always be that of abasement and contrition. The rev. preacher called upon his hearers not to remember how much was involved in the prayer for exemption from temporal evils. It was, in fact, a kind of special miracle of grace which they sought to have wrought in their behalf, and they ought to ask this boon in the posture of patience and humiliation. In the next place, they ought to understand and feel, at the present time, their need of God's help and defence in the coming struggle, and the utter hopelessness of success to their arms if He was not on their side as their strength and salvation. It was a truth rather to be apprehended by faith than enforced by reasoning. Let them look to the enormous weight of neutral power in Europe which might, before the end of another year, be thrown, more or less largely, into the opposing scale. What seemed, however, to render the position of this country one of the most anxious uncertainty was one of the most absolute dependence upon the will of God was the circumstance that one-half of their strength might be rent from them by the quenching of a single spark of human life. Who would venture to assure them that if to-morrow the Lord of Life and Death were to bid his angel knock at the Palace-gate of their Imperial ally, the very next day the English alliance might not be repudiated, and the fleets and armies which had been called into efficiency by the present crisis might not be employed against this country? On a former occasion he had enumerated some of the chief calamities of a state of war, even to people who watched its progress at a distance from their own shores. He might, however, remind them of another consideration—the evils which war would inflict upon them, to which they were themselves the to the ills it was sure to bring upon themselves. Persons might talk exultingly of our strength, and might be anxious to see our fleets wield their tremendous powers of destruction; but could any one contemplate without horror the picture of a noble ship, loaded with the freight of brave and gallant men—men born for eternity? These were men, be it remembered, who, though not of our race and not speaking the same tongue, were men of the blood which God had infused into the veins of every nation under heaven, and Christian men too. They must feel, then, that the period of history upon which they were entering was a period of calamity, and therefore of Divine chastisement. "Wherefore should I chasten?" it might be asked. "God does not willingly afflict the children of men." But national sin was the aggregate of individual sin; and therefore, under national chastisement, individual self-examination, individual confession, and individual amendment, were required to turn away the wrathful frowning of God.—Among the congregation were the Earl of Aberdeen and his brother, the Hon. Admiral Gordon, the Bishop of London, Earl de Grey, and the Bishop of Winchester.

ST. GEORGE'S, BLOOMSBURY.

HON. AND REV. B. M. VILLIERS, M.A.

Help us, O Lord our God, for we rest on Thee, and in Thy name we go against this multitude. 2rd Chronicles, xiv., 11.

The preacher first drew attention to the original circumstances under which the words were applied—to the excellence of Judah's king, the number and effic ency of his army, and yet to the deep conviction which existed in the Royal mind, that the only real independence rested upon the arm of the Omnipotent, so that under these feelings he cried unto the Lord in prayer. The preacher then spoke of war being an unmixed evil, though a necessary evil, and a lawful one. He was anxious to remove from the minds of his hearers any mistaken notion that war was in itself unlawful, and that it was possible to hope for peace and to maintain the rights of nations, without having recourse to arms. At the same time, the very principles of Christianity demanded the greatest exercise of patience and forbearance, and required that every means of maintaining peace should be exhausted before recourse was had to war. He remarked it was in accordance with those principles that the Church urged her members to pray for the Queen that she may be led to keep her people in peace, godliness, and honesty. Mr. Villiers then contrasted the difference between private revenge and public justice, and remarked that, such was our fallen state, a great war might be essential to the maintenance of a great and lasting peace. The preacher then remarked on his hearers that difficulties to be successfully foiled in the day implied there were grounds for which we should humble ourselves; that though it would be unjustifiable to connect a war, such as this, in any special sense, with the day demanded that our eyes should be directed to it as one peculiar sin. Many of a grosser form might be mentioned, but he would only speak of some which, he thought, might well deserve to be mentioned. The first to which he alluded was national pride. The question, he said, was not were we superior to other nations in wealth, power, and moral character; but if superior, did we recognise the hand of the Lord, and give glory to God. He next spoke of worldliness. He did not attempt to interfere with questions of Political Economy, nor presume to suggest remedies for evils; but the fact he thought patent to all, that, while we were not to expect men to have all things in common, or that the poor should cease from the land, or that perseverance and intelligence should not succeed over idleness and stupidity, yet that the principle of every man for himself was diametrically opposed to the Royal law of love one neighbour as ourselves. The next point was the neglect of opportunities of spreading the Gospel at home and abroad. Fears of results upon the heathen mind had interfered with the national duty of spreading the Gospel. No knowledge of that only name by which men of every clime and every age can be saved. The last sin he would touch upon was the tampering of the national Church with the Romish principle. He preferred, as anxious to guard himself against being supposed to allude to the political question of admitting Catholic into the Legislature, the most earnest Protestant, in his opinion, could refer to that; but he referred to the Reformed Church of England. Towards none were the Romanists more active than towards those who were the truest members of the Church of England. Between the Church of Rome and the Roman abyss, while they themselves could maintain their standing, they rather favour preferment, in the Protestant Church of England, than by their open profession, at the fast of 1000 clergymen and regretting that members of the Greek Church should leave their own holy altars, if that body, to seek the purer worship of the Protestant Church to which we belong. After that, the rev. gentleman drew on the fact that the best reliance implied acknowledgment of weakness. We were about to enter our council on courage for our armies, and on strength for our enemies. The prayer of faith was effectual—but prayer must be earnest, and spring from a truly penitent heart. This led to the practical inference of personal holiness. Attention was required to the preaching evinced for the soldier, but the rev. gentleman's sympathy should be shown for sailors also.

ST. CLEMENT DANES.

REV. W. W. ELLIS M.A.

And Asa cried unto the Lord his God, and said, Lord, it is nothing with Thee to help, whether with many, or with them that have no power: help us, O Lord our God; for we rest on Thee, and in Thy name we go against this multitude. O Lord, thou art our God; let no man prevail against Thee.—2nd Chronicles, xiv., 11.

The text here chosen seems to contain much at least, if not all, that is absolutely requisite for our practical consideration at the time when our hosts are going forth—in a righteous cause, as we believe—against the enemies of peace. First, the text is a prayer—the surest weapon in war, as in all other emergencies; secondly, it is the prayer of a king on the eve of battle, and therefore partakes of a national character; thirdly, it is a prayer of faith, exhibiting reliance upon the Divine arm for help, and therefore implying humiliation, together with a distinct conviction that no human force, however vast, can ever prevail, except under the recognised championship of the Almighty. The appropriateness of this text will appear still more striking if we call to mind the historical circumstances with which it stands immediately connected. This is the prayer of Asa.—and Asa, it will be remembered, was one of the good Kings of Judah, the greater part of who e long and prosperous reign was blessed with peace in consequence of his integrity, and whose arms were crowned with victory in a war of necessity against the Ethiopians, because, whilst making every human preparation to meet the hosts of a mighty enemy, he showed, by public acts of piety and faith, his entire dependence upon Divine succour for a successful result. The peace which Asa and his people had enjoyed is attested directly by God: "The land had rest: and he had no war in those years, because the Lord had given him rest." Nevertheless, in that time of peace, he made great preparation for war, not exceeding, in the usual course of human events, that, however, favoured by the Almighty, he should be always exempt from the necessity of national conflict with an enemy. Accordingly, we read that, during peace, he built fortified cities, and raised an army of 580 000 men, of whom 300,000 were spearmen, and 280,000 drew the bow. Nor was this preparation in vain, for at length a gigantic enemy arose Zerah, the Ethiopian—and made an aggressive attack against him, with a host of 1,000 000 of armed men. The battle was on the point of being set in array—army against army—and then it was that Asa employed the critical interval in offering up a public prayer, in conjunction with his people, to invoke that indispensable arm without which countless hosts would be as nothing, and by aid of which a sling and a stone might prevail against Goliath. And Asa cried unto the Lord his God, and said, "Lord, it is not ing with Thee to help, whether with many, or with them that have no power: help us, O Lord our God, for we rest on Thee, and in Thy name we go against this multitude." I do not purpose to make here any lengthened application of those circumstances in the Sacred History to the dread occasion which has now called forth our national cry of supplication to Him who alone can "defend the right," and give victory to the battle. I will only say, by way of testimony to the fact, that we, too, as a nation, have been highly favoured with the blessings of a long peace. Thrice happy are we under the benignant sway of a good and virtuous Sovereign, though, as a nation, we cannot dare to claim these blessings as a reward for our national or individual righteousness. We have made also a vast preparation against an impending struggle. Compelled at length, in spite of the most patient and persevering efforts for the preservation of peace, to go forth in defence of a weak ally against a powerful aggressor, whose palpable aim is to strike through that weaker side, a deadly thrust at the heart of other nations, and eventually to paralyse our own empire; and, having made this preparation, determined to employ all human means that are lawful to check the unjust aggressor, with a simple view to regain for ourselves and for others the Christian object of an exclusive and permanent peace, we now solemnly commit our cause to the disposal of the Almighty. We use the precious interval between the rush of conflicting armies and the crash of embattled navies to implore the crowning consummation of the whole, that, as ever, and thy sword of the Lord of Hosts. Not trusting merely to our human equipments, however vast, which might be blasted in a day, or an hour, by the breath of the Almighty—not depending only upon the help of earthly allies, though never strengthened by fairer treaties of friendly concord, which might be snapt asunder in a moment, if not held together by a power of unity from above—not boasting of former victories as if past success must necessarily insure success for the future—not calculating upon the numbers enlisted on the one side or the other, as if numbers alone were to decide the issue—but rather resting on the same kind of faith as that which dictated the prayer of Asa, "Lord, it is nothing with Thee to help, whether with many, or with them that have no power: help us, O Lord our God, for we rest on Thee, and in Thy name we go against this multitude." The preacher next asserted the lawfulness of a just and discriminating process of reasoning by a quotation from Bishop Horne's sermon before the House of Parliament on the breaking out of a former war, in the year 1780, and then proceeded to show the important one of this days humiliation. But, though perfectly justifiable as a means of preparation for the exercise of wise and corrective justice, we are, nevertheless, bound as Christians to view this war in the light of Scripture, as in itself an evil, as a national calamity, and, it may be, as a Divine judgment for national transgressions. Hence the paramount importance of this day of humiliation. The sword is drawn—who can tell when that sword shall return peacefully to the scabbard? For let us not be wilfully blind to the future) who can tell, now that the sword is once drawn, what a complication of national disasters it may possibly entail—what vast treasure may be exhausted what sacrifices we may have to make—what national and personal losses we may have to sustain—what oceans of blood may be doomed to be shed? And, lastly, on what incalculable contingencies may and must hang the final conclusion of peace. Nations must be kept together in unity; myriads of human will must be overruled; a bridle must be put in the mouth of Sennacherib. Ought we not to feel more than ever that we are at the mercy of the Almighty? If so, is there not still more ground laid down for our humbling ourselves before God—spreading the case before the Lord—solemnly committing and into His hands, and, with hearts full and eyes turned upward, breathing the spirit of Asa's supplication while the hosts are rushing to the scene of battle, "Help us, O Lord, our God, for we rest on Thee, and, in thy name, we go against this multitude"

ST. JAMES'S CHAPEL, HAMPSTEAD-ROAD.

THE REV. HENRY STEBBING D.D., F.R.S

I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.—St. Luke, xv., ch. 18

With these words the service of this day commences, and they explain the principle upon which the day has been set apart. It is for humiliation and confession of sin, by each individual, that so the general punishment of guilt may be averted. All calamities have their origin in sin; and war, with all its consequences—the dearness of food, the distress of the poor, the non-remunerating of industry, the want and poverty, no less than the sacrifice of life and the friendless homes it involves—is one of the effects of sin. It would be a blessed thing indeed if, in obedience to the call of our Sovereign, every man in this kingdom would take up the parable of the text, confessing his own individual sinfulness; and, if generally, we entreat the Lord, as we have forfeited our claim, personally and nationally, to our right to rule, still to permit us to become His servants, and, by His grace, to be enabled to fulfil His will. But there are national sins also demanding our attention. No country, perhaps (and we bless God for it), has so few national sins as our own: for we ought to be thankful that those which are countenanced by the will and voice of the people, as represented by their representatives in the Legislature, and not those which are only generally prevalent, are properly so called. Of these, one is intoxication—a vice which is legitimated by the Government, by granting so many licenses to houses for the sale of ardent spirits, instead of being repressed. Another is that of Sabbath-breaking, which is lightly thought of in the Senate, and is set at nought by the great companies who offer excursions and pleasure trips, by railway or steam boat, on that holy day. No one who has seen an excursion train disgorge its cargo of debauchery on the Sabbath can listen to the plea that such persons are as fit to confess their sins, and pray for pardon and grace, at the end of their journey, as if they had remained at home. Nor ought we to lament if God should visit upon all such enterprises the ruin and distress which such undertakings deserves. Another national sin is spreading up among us, which, perhaps, requires to be dealt with more tenderly, but is of no less importance. England owes all its safety and prosperity in the past to its Protestantism; it gained the respect of the world, and stood firm amidst general confusion so long as it allowed the pure Evangelic faith to be spread throughout the land, and its Church abided by the word of God. But what shall we say of the courage or firmness of British Christians who will suffer the introduction of a pseudo-Romanism, simply because of the position of those who, with the prestige of a great name, or of high station, venture to propose it. Why not crush the serpent while it is yet in the egg, rather than allow it to come forth, the curse of the nation, the destroyer of its liberties and the cause of provoking God's wrath upon our land? But while these are national sins, let us not forget that they are all personal ones, which every one, more or less, in his position, can help to diminish. It is in this way that we can make the day of humiliation profitable—first, by bringing our sins before us, and mourning over them, and then by taking care not to allow the good impression of the day to pass from us, but to regulate our future conduct by our present resolves. Not thus to act is to make a mockery of the solemn service: for while, indeed, we all meet together to pray that God's bless ing may rest upon the noble defenders of our country who are engaged in the war, and earnestly desire that they may return victorious; yet the purpose of humiliation and confession of sin is our first duty, as it is only by the application of the great doctrines of the Gospel, the pardon which we obtain through Christ in the blood of Christ, and by the quickening and sanctifying power of the Holy Ghost, that this nation and all others can be made, in each of their members, peaceful and happy, as well as prosperous and united, in their efforts for the general good and improvement of the world.

ST. MARGARET'S, WESTMINSTER.

REV. WILLIAM CURETON, M.A.

And it shall come to pass in the last days that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills, and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go, and say, Come ye and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people; and they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation neither shall they learn war anymore.—Isaiah, ii., 2, 3, 4.

The general scope of the sermon (after drawing attention to the solemnity of the occasion upon which they were called together, and commending the act of her Majesty's Government in thus publicly seeking for God's blessing on our arms) was to show how the prophecies contained in the text, predicting Christ's kingdom and the prevalence of universal peace throughout the world, are gradually being accomplished how the vast resources which the long peace we have enjoyed has developed have proved to all, even the men of the world, that peace is beneficial to all classes of society and for all nations; and that, consequently, it becomes the interest of even the man of the world to co-operate with the Christian in promoting and maintaining that peace which, of it self, affords the best opportunities for the propagation of the Gospel; and now, both of these mutually are co-operating to effect, in the end, the accomplishment of that glorious prophecy, and, as the practical inference, to exhort all men, in their several conditions and capacities, to labour diligently to fulfil their Christian duties, by which means they will best contribute to the maintenance and preservation of that state of peace throughout the world which contributes so vastly to men's temporal happiness, as well as tends so visibly to hastens the perfection of the kingdom of the Prince of Peace, both in the hearts of men and in the political relations of the world.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY

THE VEN. ARCHDEACON W. H. BENTINCK. (MORNING).

Some trust in chariots, and some in horses; but we will remember the name of the Lord our God. Psalm xx., 7.

The rev. gentleman's petition (said the rev. gentleman) in our liturgy which we are in the habit of repeating day after day, and Sabbath after Sabbath, is, that is to be feared, without sufficiently attaching to it the importance it deserves. In the petition I speak of is—"Give peace in our time, O Lord; because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only Thou, O God." For nearly forty years that prayer which it may have been carelessly uttered and slightly appreciated—has received a gracious answer; for the Lord has given peace in our time, and we have enjoyed that peace so long that we seemed almost to have forgotten that God is the author of temporal as well as of spiritual peace. We learn to appreciate the value rather by their loss than by their possession. Now that war is proclaimed in our time, it is well we should remember from whom acknowledgment which we connect with our prayer. "There is none other that fighteth for us, but only Thou, O God." As far as human foresight will allow us to judge, the prospect of victory is in our favour. Yet the enemy is not one to be despised. In the words of a writer of the day, "the enemy against whom our arms are directed is not one whose power is to be safely slighted. A colossal empire, possessed of vast resources, wielded by a sovereign of indomitable character and vast ambition, who has for years been collecting strength for a gigantic effort to sweep away every barrier by which the realisation of that ambition has been impeded. In our opponent. The issue to him is most momentous. It is to decide whether he is to be hereafter the controlling power in Europe and Asia; to rule absolutely the Baltic; to hold the keys of the Euxine and Mediterranean, and push his conquest east until he clutches Hindostan; or whether he is to be driven back, and confined within the limits of the empire which Peter the Great established to his successors." On the other hand, Great Britain enters into this struggle with every recognised prestige of success. She has as her active ally the greatest military nation in the world, whose soldiers and sailors are for the first time ranked with ours to fight side by side against the common enemy. Looking at our possession of the finest fleet ever yet seen in ancient or modern days, and the best disciplined troops that ever marched to battle, our great mercantile marine, as well as our command over all the improved appliances which modern science has constructed for war, we might, I feel sure, be almost full enough to trust in. The records of our own national history will remind us of the great fleet prepared in former days against our own land—the "Invincible Armada." Our gallant fleet, puny in comparison, sailed to meet it and protect our shores. The victory was gained, not by fair valour and skill of her sailors, but by the hand of God. He blew with His wind, and our enemies were scattered. Again, there was the vast expedition against Russia, composed of the bravest troops, and led by one of the most consummate generals of the age. In their victorious career they penetrated the very centre of the Russian empire, and possessed themselves of the Russian capital. But how short-lived was it at triumph! The Grand Army returned a scattered band of wretched fugitives. It was His, and His alone weapons are the elements which saved the empire against whom it was led. These instances, my brethren, will serve to show us it is vain to trust solely to naval or military preparations in time of war; it is the proud confidence of those who put their trust in horses will be be ught low. We have not rushed heedlessly into this war; it has been forced upon us. We are not striving for dominion or power, but to check the ambitious design of our enemy. An honourable peace with security against them: therein is what is declared and what we should be fervent with our pray, "Give peace in our time, oh, Lord! because there is none other that fighteth for us but only Thou, O God." Peace was vouchsafed to Israel for forty years; let when forgetfulness of God came on the people, "their enemies were strengthened against them," and because they chose new gods, "then was there war in the gates." We, my brethren, have national sins to atone for; let us, then, enter upon individual repentance. The seat of war are on our land; may it please Almighty God to lighten them to us, and speedily remove them from us; to defend those who have gone forth to fight our battles; to preserve our land from foreign enemies, and again to give peace in our time.

THE REV. LORD JOHN THYNNE, D.D.—(AFTERNOON).

When Thou saidst seek ye my face, my heart said unto Thee, Thy face, Lord, will I seek.—Psalm xxvii., 8.

The purport of the sermon was, in the first instance, to deduce a lesson from the example of David; then, after observing how the present war had been forced upon the country in spite of the truly Christian efforts of the Ministers to maintain peace; to show that, being evidently ordered by the wise providence of God, we should regard it as His will to effect some great and special purpose; which purpose appeared to develop itself in the concessions already made by the Turkish Government to England as an ally, which were indignantly denied to the imperious demand of the Russian Autocrat; so that the emancipation of the Christians living in the Holy Land, and the re-establishment of Christianity through all Palestine became appa ently the design of God in the turn of present events; and the selection of England as the honoured instrument to [illegible] gious purpose, appeared to them to seek His face with great fervour in their guidance and support.

ST. GEORGE'S, HANOVER SQUARE.

REV. H. HOWARTH, M.A.

And all Judah stood before the Lord, with their little ones, their wives, and their children. Then upon Jahaziel, the son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, a Levite of the sons of Asaph, came the spirit of the Lord in the midst of the congregation; and he said, Hearken ye, all Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem, and thou King Jehoshaphat, thus saith the Lord unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours, but God's.—2nd Chronicles, xx., 13–15.

The rev. preacher, in a very lucid and logical discourse, combated the notion of those who hold all wars whatever to be contrary to Scripture and injunctions, and showed from various precepts of the Bible that they were not only justifiable but that on some occasions the people had been commanded to engage in them. He then proceeded to inquire into the justice of this country entering into the present contest, and contended that justice was on their side. Adverting to the vices by which a great portion of the community are degraded, he exhorted his congregation to examine their hearts, and implore the Divine grace for amendment. An element of hope in the Divine favour was to be found in the example set by her Majesty the Queen, and by many in exalted positions.

ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL.

THE VERY REV. DR. MILMAN. (MORNING)

In Thee, O Lord, do I put my trust; let me never be put to confusion.—Psalm 71, 1.

The sermon commenced by observing, that of all the awful duties which belonged to the office of a minister of God, none could be more awful than that which was imposed upon him by the ceremony of that day. To him was not merely committed the solemn office of inviting the people to prayer and acts of humiliation at a period of impending peril and difficulty, but he was likewise compelled to perform the incongruous office of appealing on behalf of the people to the judgment of God, upon the war in which we are now unhappily engaged. God is, as it were invoked upon this great and momentous question, and his approbation is supplicated in the proclamation of a war which rests as of the blessings of a peace unexampled in duration, and the wonderful advancement in human civilisation. The rev. preacher having observed that our appeal to arms was only to be justified by stern and indexible necessity, proceeded at considerable length to depict the horrors of war, and concluded a most sublime discourse by maintaining the necessity of cultivating the love of God, an unshaken trust in his mercy and goodness, a perfect resignation to his Divine will, and a meek submission to the sacrifices which all persons will be called upon to make during the continuance of the awful and momentous crisis.

THE BISHOP OF LONDON.—(AFTERNOON)

The afternoon service commenced at a quarter to three o'clock. The Lord Mayor, Sheriffs, and other members of the Corporation, attended in state, and walked to the Cathedral in solemn procession. The cloisters were crowded in every part.]

There is no King saved by the multitude of an host: a mighty man is not delivered by much strength. A horse is a vain thing for safety: neither shall he deliver any by his great power. Behold the eye of the Lord is upon them that fear Him, upon them that hope in His mercy. To deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine. Our soul waiteth for the Lord: He is our help and our shield.—Psalm xxxiii., 16–20.

The Bishop of London commenced by observing that within the last few years they had met together twice in that church under extraordinary circumstances. The first occasion was to supplicate the throne of Mercy to avert from us the pestilence which had visited the country; the second was to offer up our prayers for the cessation of the famine which had destroyed whole families and villages in the same island. They were assembled now again for the third time to acknowledge their sins, and to send up their prayers and supplications to the Divine Majesty, imploring His blessing and assistance on our arms, for the restoration of peace to her Majesty and her dominions. Those evils were probably sent to us by God's providence as a punishment for our transgressions, and for the purpose of convincing the nations of the world how much we are all dependent upon Almighty God for everything we possess. The right rev. Prelate then proceeded to notice in vivid language the various evils of war, and the many crimes and sufferings which followed in its train. "War is the greatest scourge with which our unkind—the most comprehensive and the most diffusive of physical and moral ill. It is an evil the most to be dreaded, and the most earnestly to be deprecated. The late Illustrious Duke—the greatest military character of his age—was accustomed to say, during the period that sacred place had declared that, next to a defeat, the most dreadful of all calamities was a great victory. If the evils, then, of a war are so great, it is, of course, the duty of Christian rulers to avert them, if possible—only from their own country, but from all the nations of Europe. He thought that we had all good reason to be thankful to our own Government for having so long striven to preserve to this country, and to Europe, the blessings of peace. Whatever our wishes may be, we have not to answer for having brought this war upon our country, by running to arms, impelled by a love of conquest, or a thirst of gain. Notwithstanding the praise worthy efforts of our Government to avoid the horrors of war, we are at length compelled to resort to arms to oppose the ambition and unprovoked attacks of the Sovereign of Russia, who is seeking to establish a despotism over several of the nations of the earth. Were it not for the belief that the downfall of the Turkish empire would inevitably lead to the domination of the Autocrat of Russia, it might be reasonably considered that our position was anomalous in protecting an unbelieving people from the aggression of a Christian power. But we believe that the progress of Christianity is more secure, and will be better, though more silently, advanced by supporting the existence of the Mahomedan power, and thereby leaving it to be gradually improved by its free intercourse with Christian nations; while, at the same time, every security is taken for the enjoyment of equal privileges and the most perfect toleration by the Christian subjects of the Sultan. Amid much that is gloomy, there is, however, one consolatory feature in the present crisis of our affairs—namely, our present friendly relations with that great and powerful people of France, who have been too long known as our implacable enemies. We, however, cannot but look upon war as the greatest and most dreadful of all calamities, and as being fraught with countless evils both to the victor and the vanquished. The first cannon shot will announce the beginning of sorrow—of which no man can see the end—to thousands of our fellow creatures and to the world at large. This, ther fore, is a most fitting subject for national humiliation. We have all many grievous sins to answer for, and we should prostrate ourselves before God for His mercy and assistance. As the sins of nations are made up of the sins of individuals that compose it, so national repentance must be testified by individual repentance. Whether this great calamity be a judicial visitation or not, and although we know that Almighty God has decreed or permitted it, we should also recollect that He has the power to mitigate its evils, and to shorten its duration. We have been told how effectual with God is the fervent prayer of one righteous man What then may we not hope for from the united supplications of a whole Christian people prostrate at the throne of Mercy, acknowledging God's omnipotence and goodness, and confessing our own great unworthiness." The right rev. Prelate concluded a most eloquent discourse by the utterance of a beautiful prayer in behalf of the people, and of all those engaged in the present war.

ST. MARY LE STRAND.

THE REV. J. P. DENHAM, M.A., F.R.S.

I cannot hold my peace, because thou hast heard, O my soul, the sound of the trumpet, the alarm of war. How long shall I see the standard, and hear the sound of the trumpet?—Jeremiah, iv., 19, 21.

The reverend gentleman said:—"We are called upon to renew those humiliations and petitions which are among the earliest recollections of the aged. The reign of death, in its most revolting form, has recommenced; the bereavement of families by the spirited destruction of life against his fellow man has returned: the prosperity of commerce is checked; the progress of science and art is impeded, public expenditure increased, and the demoralising effect of national hostilities again blights the sympathies of the national mind. Our position, though alarming, is not without its consolations. The foremost of these is derived from the efficacy of rightly-offered prayer, in averting impending evils, or causing them to be overruled by the Providence of Heaven for the production of still greater and more lasting good. If 'the fervent effectual prayer of one righteous man availeth much,' how great may be the advantage accruing to our native land from the united supplications this day, of multitudes who are equal holiness render them successful supplicants before the throne of Mercy! We may hope that the present check to our prosperity may also check that self-ness and idolatry of earthly things which a long-continued course of prosperity tends to produce. It was the pious hope of the prophet that 'when the Divine judgments were abroad in the earth its inhabitants would learn righteousness.' It is, however, lawful to mingle confidence in the designs of Providence with our humiliation and repentance. National improvement—moral, moral, and religious—have often followed war and conquest. As far as the present conflict has proceeded, it has already served to cement the interests of two nations commonly calculated to be useful to each other, and to the world at large; and to emancipate the Christian population of the Turkish empire from a unjust and injurious disabilities; and it may terminate in the restoration of Christianity itself to the land at seat of its dominion." The duty of continual prayer for our rulers, and for our country, was then inculcated; and the reprehensible impropriety of contributing to the association formed for the assistance, protection, and employment of the wives and children of soldiers and sailors, was pleaded. The gift of time—always sanctified by prayer, through the mediation of the Saviour—would be redeemed in the Divine blessing upon a nation, renewing its repentance with an act at once so highly just and humane.—The collection for this object was then made.

ST. MAGNUS THE MARTYR.

REV. S. M'CAUL, D.D.

Rend your heart, and not your garment, and turn unto the Lord your God: for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth Him of the evil.—Joel, ii., 13.

Our assembling here to-day, by the Sovereign's command, reminds us that we have commenced a new, solemn, and anxious era of national existence. We find ourselves engaged in a fearful struggle with a young, extensive, and powerful empire. The war is, indeed, "just and necessary," but this is not sufficient to bring us to a successful issue. Our gracious Sovereign reminds us that to ensure victory the blessing and help of Almighty God is required, and that this is to be sought by humiliation and prayer. Leaving the bitter subject for the consideration of the evening, we proceed now to consider the necessity and nature of national repentance. The Royal proclamation proceeds on the principle that obedience to God is the bounden duty of nations as of individuals, that national sin is followed by national punishment. The prayers that we have offered up, remind us that, as a nation, we have sinned, and that our sins call for the Divine judgment. A general confession is not enough. We are bound to examine our conduct as a nation. The sins mentioned in Scripture, as followed by national ruin, are impurity, idolatry, preference of tradition to the written word, opposition to or neglect of missionary efforts. Of these, as a nation, we have been guilty. To escape ruin, therefore, national repentance is necessary. A day's outward humiliation is not repentance. Rend your hearts, and not your garments, and turn to the Lord. Forsake your sins: do what you have omitted; contribute, each in his station, to maintain Divine truth, to extend the kingdom of God, and so to influence the powers that be, that this nation may be a people fearing God and working righteousness. Go to your houses, and humble yourselves before God: confess your own sins, which have helped to swell the awful account of national guilt, and to draw down vengeance.

ST. MARTIN'S-IN-THE-FIELDS.

THE REV. H. MACKENZIE, M.A.

Lord, behold, here are two swords.—St. Luke, xxii., 38.

The rev gentleman said he trusted that, in the solemn declaration of war, which was the cause of that day's humiliation, they would lead not merely the words of a great Sovereign seeking to defend the rights of humanity, but also the awful will of the Sovereign of Sovereigns, who had therein sent one of His "four sore judgments" upon the earth that it might learn righteousness. His duty to the King of Kings made it imperative on him to go before them that faith in the revelation of God's Word ought to lead them to look upon war as a scourge of God—as a sign of his wrath—as a judgment upon the earth. It would be superfluous, he remarked, for him to point to members of the national Church the lawfulness of engaging in a righteous cause; for that was essential, as her deliberate judgment in the 37th Article of Faith. In illustration that that judgment was in perfect harmony in Scripture, he referred to the fact that war had been sometimes given to the people of God as a mission—as in the cases of Moses, Joshua, Gideon, Barak, and Saul; that it was sometimes laid on them as a necessity, in invasions of Judah and Israel; that it was sometimes encouraged as an act of justice as when Abraham pursued the Kings, and when David, with his armed followers, attacked the churlish Nabal; and that, at other times, it was considered as an act of patriotism, as in the case of the youthful David and Goliath, and of the King David against the Philistines. War had been declared by God, by the mouth of Ezekiel, to be one of His "four sore judgments." It was as a recognition of God's will and authority that that day of humiliation had been set apart by the nation. Without wishing to derogate from the valour of our fleets or of our armies, they had yet to confess that their confidence was not in them, but in God. The preacher then proceeded to point out the grounds of humiliation. The first was the perfect holiness and exalted majesty of Jehovah; and the second, our sins—as national, as local, as of sin personal. Among our national sins might be reckoned pride, intemperance, profane swearing, and covetousness. Licentiousness took the lead among our local sins, followed by indifference to religion, and flagrant neglect of the Lord's day. Of personal sin what could be say, but that "the heart knoweth its own bitterness"? It must be the hope of all that the war might not interfere with the advancement of those sanitary and social improvements at home which had hitherto lingered rather than vigorously progressed. The sword had been drawn—the scabbard had been cast away, and the question, "Are we right in so doing?" demanded consideration. The voice of the country was that their cause was that of independence against tyranny, of justice against oppression, and of the right of nations against the arrogance of an encroaching power. The circumstance that should be unparalleled solemnity, for they were at war with an empire whose territory was enormous—whose resources were exhaustless—whose wild and snow-clad regions had swallowed up within the memory of some present the noble army of a powerful and warlike state. Our bond of union was poli ical expediency, and military rule; but how powerless that would be—if we had no other hope—against the subtle policy of those powers. He was sorry he had been misled, as he alluded to our ignorance of prophecy in connection with coming events; but it was not uninteresting to know that, while uninspired records of extreme antiquity contained predictions of the Muscovite power occupying the seat of the ancient Greek empire, men had been earnest and devout expositors of the Word of God who had fixed the exhaustion of the Mahomedan power at a date little remote from the present day, and who had led people to expect that the destruction of the city of the Seven Hills would be contemporaneous with the downfall of the symbol of the Crescent. Recurring to the words of the text, "Lord, behold here are two swords," the preacher remarked that of the two only one was used, and that the use of that one was elected by the benign words of the Prince of Peace. So it might be with us. God might issue the word to sheathe the drawn sword, and might then give us grace to draw the other sword, which by its rest in the scabbard indicated the Spirit of Peace.

After the sermon a short prayer, which had been drawn up and used so far back as 1597, was offered up for the success of her Majesty's forces by sea and land.

CHRIST CHURCH, NEWGATE-STREET.

REV. M. GIBBS, M.A.

My bowels, my bowels! I am pained at my very heart; my heart maketh a noise in me, I cannot hold my peace, because thou hast heard, O, my soul; the sound of the trumpet, the alarm of war.—Jeremiah, iv., 19.

The rev. gentleman said, the Christian was affected by things in a different manner to the ungodly. The ungodly deeply deplored war on account of heavy taxation, depression in trade, and the general inconvenience felt in commercial enterprise; but the lamentation on account of war manifested by the Christian arose from an alliance with the false prophet, whom God denounced. Two other services were performed in the afternoon and evening to a very attentive congregation.

ST. BRIDE'S

THE REV. CHARLES MARSHALL, M.A.

It is He that giveth salvation unto Kings.—Psalm 144, part of the 10th verse.

"The horse is prepared against the day of battle," says the wise man, "but safety or victory is of the Lord." It is for man to use means, but God alone can make them successful. David was very sensible of this, and was no less forward in openly avowing that he owed all his safety and success in enterprise to the Lord Almighty. "I will not trust in my bow, it is not my sword that shall save me;" "In God we boast all the day long." "It is He that giveth salvation unto Kings" who delivered David, His servant, from the hurtful sword." It is a humiliating consideration, that creatures endued with reason and humanity should ever so allow their passions to gain the ascendancy over them, as to employ force against one another, and add the direful miseries of war to the many sufferings to which life is subject. Humiliating, however, as this is, when wicked passions and resentments, or a desire for unjust gain, or a greedy ambition, prompts men to war—or when wrongs leading to unjust usurpation are done to a nation, and persisted in, and all redress refused, there remains no method of protecting or recovering invaded rights, but by an appeal to arms. If this appeal be made, as in our case it is, for the purposes of justice, with a sincere desire for peace, we are encouraged by the Word of God to look to Him for His blessing on our fleets and on our armies. Under such circumstances, our first duty is to humble ourselves before God, for our sins, and in doing so let us not shrink from charging home to ourselves the guilt we have contracted by neglecting to improve the privileges and blessings God has bestowed upon us. We a nation have been so highly favoured as ours, in respect of the means of grace and opportunities for knowing the will of God as revealed to us in the Gospel? Yet how many thousands among us live as if they had no soul to save, no knowledge of a judgment to come—how many are neglectful and careless of the duty of public worship—how many are so engrossed in the business and pleasures of this life as to give themselves no time for religious consideration, self-examination, or for making their peace with God, through Jesus Christ. Nor is this the only cause for humiliation. Even among those who are really in earnest about their souls' eternal welfare, how few are to that self denial, holiness of life love of their God and Saviour, and benevolence to man, which ought to result from their abundant means of grace? And are there not many who place such confidence in their skill, their talents, their resources, as to leave out of mind the only source whence any certainty of success can be obtained? Let us, therefore, caution you against attributing to second causes what you ought to view as the appointment of a Divine hand. A real safety and repose are alone to be found in God's protection and favour, which is to be obtained through Christ alone. Such as these their neglects and sins in their own persons, houses, or preparations, provoke God's displeasure, and tempt Him to frustrate their endeavours. If to depend on the interposition of Providence without human exertion is to tempt God; to confide in an arm of flesh, without a king like unto his is to deny Him. The Dove of peace does not always first visit with its vengeance those who have run the greatest career of guilt. Far otherwise; judgment often begins at the "house of God." He frequently chastises his servants with severity before he proceeds to the destruction of his enemies. To decide on the comparative guilt of two parties demands a much more comprehensive knowledge of circumstances than we are usually able to obtain. The mere external conduct is not sufficient to form the basis of a sound conclusion. It is certain that much might be urged in extenuation of the guilt of other nations which cannot be alleged in our favour. We have long possessed the clearest display of Divine truth, and the fullest liberty of conscience. At the same time, is it not a melancholy truth that many a member of our Evangelical Church has continued in the midst of this light unchanged and unimpressed? May it not, with all propriety, be asked, "Are there not with you, even with you, sins against the Lord?" Are there not many who adopt the forms of religion, and are virtual destitute of its power? who bear the name of Christ, without having any sense of Christianity in their heart. Awful, indeed, is the condition of such! Our first duty, therefore, in all our circumstances of prosperity or sorrow, is a devout acknowledgment of the hand of God. Let us, then, implore God's blessings on our counsels and our arms. Be it our prayer that God would so accompany our efforts with success, that peace may be soon and permanently restored. Our first duty is to humble ourselves for our sins, then to acknowledge God's hand and implore His blessing, for Christ's sake, on the means used for obtaining success, and with confession and humiliation should always be joined praise and thanksgiving. While, therefore, you humble yourselves before God, alleviate, as far as you can, the distress of the wives and children whom our soldiers have left at home; and, for the purpose, I now ask your liberal contributions out of that which God has given you.

ST. SAVIOUR'S, SOUTHWARK.

THE REV. S. BENSON, M.A.

The Lord sitteth upon the flood, yea, the Lord sitteth King for ever.—Psalm xxix., 10.

All things serve the Divine purposes; all things contribute to the bringing round of his designs, however short-sighted mortals may be, whose understanding is limited, and power finite, may be unable to comprehend the Divine ways; may be utterly confounded in their variety, greatness, and depth. Our conclusions, as to their design, and nature, and extent, and termination, may be altogether erroneous in the finish. It is not given to us, unless to do our duty in the station of life in which Providence may have placed us, to observe the constant unfolding of the same. Providence, and to be encouraged to perseverance in good works, in the Divine promises, and in the unmistakable operation of the Divine power, wisdom, and love. The preacher, having dwelt on the Psalm as one pre-eminently for the comfort of God's people, applied the text, first, to several periods of the history of the Jews; and then to several parts of English history—as the Reformation from Popery, the Civil War, and the attempt of Rome to recover her lost power; ending in the Revolution of 1688, from which time to the present—amidst many contests by sea and land, and civil and commercial changes—the country had been enabled, without material alteration, to maintain a proud position among the nations—the sanctuary for pure Christianity—the refuge for the oppressed. For about forty years our God permitted the sound of war on our own shores, but made us a saviour of the civilised world, and restorer of European liberties. This oppressor had in an unexpected hour become a barrier to his triumphant progress. He could subdue others, but not us. We came to the rescue of nations; as all that was dear to us, our very existence, was at stake. And God said to him—Thus far shalt thou go and no farther. If we were now to have war with a power with which we were then friendly, and, in alliance with a power, the ambition and tyranny of whose head we then sought to restrain, such were the extraordinary occurrences in God's providence, we should look with thankfulness towards the past, and rejoice that still the Lord sat on the floods—the Lord was a king for ever. But, was war really allowable? God did not only in old time permit His people to make war, but it was His will when there should be war. The New Testament showed that men might take up arms and not be disowned of God; be soldiers and yet Christians; and that it was our duty to submit ourselves to temporal rulers in this matter, as in others, affecting the general welfare. Nearly all persons in the country were agreed in the justice of the present war. A small matter kindled the strife: but, this being apparently settled, demands succeeded, clearly evidencing a desire for aggression, for ambitious conquest to take advantage of the declining strength of the Mahometan power, by the aid of a greatly extended dominion. The injustice of such a proceeding appealed for resistance; and, in association with France, we were willing to spend our resources and best blood, that the injured may be righted, and the wrong and evil-doer made to understand the folly of his course. God's hand was in all; His purposes were accomplishing; His word fulfilling. The way might be preparing for the return of His people to their land, and the establishment of the Redeemer's kingdom. Both great and mighty nations might help to ensure for a while the Mahometan power; but Mahometanism, and Popery also, must shortly fall. God might permit us to be foiled in our hopes; only He delighted in mercy; and, as He had exalted us among the nations, and given us large possessions, and distributed our people and language, and customs, and religion, in most distant and in various places, so might there be a most important part to be acted by us ere the end might come; and England and her happy institutions and privileges only disappear, the kingdom of Christ having become those of the God and His Christ. For "He is King of Kings and Lord of Lords."

ST. STEPHEN'S, WALBROOK.

REV. GEORGE CROLY, LL.D.

[The service was attended by the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress, and the Sheriffs and other civic officers were also present.]

Happy art thou, O Israel. Who is like unto thee, O people, saved by the Lord, the shield of thy help, and who is the sword of thy excellency! And thine enemies shall be found liars unto thee, and thou shalt tread upon their high places.—Deuteronomy, xxxiii., 30.

By the Queen's command, the preacher observed, they had been summoned to meet together that day to unite in supplication for the help which God alone could give—to acknowledge His sovereignty, to confess

FAST-DAY SERMONS.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGES.)

THE REV. J. E. KEMPE, M.A. (ST JAMES'S, PICCADILLY). FROM A PRINT.

HIS GRACE THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY. FROM A DAGUERRÉOTYPE BY BEARD.

THE REV. H. HOWARTH, M.A. (ST. GEORGE'S, HANOVER-SQUARE). FROM A PORTRAIT BY BAUGNIET.

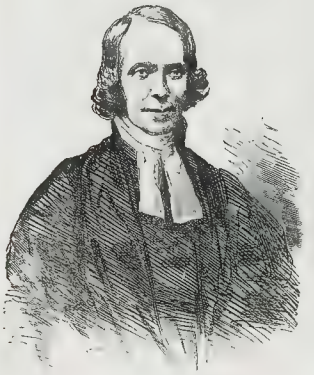
THE HON. AND REV. MONTAGUE VILLIERS (ST GEORGE'S, BLOOMSBURY). FROM A PORTRAIT BY BAUGNIET.

THE REV. W. CURETON, M.A. (ST MARGARET'S, WESTMINSTER). FROM A DAGUERRÉOTYPE BY BEARD.

THE REV. H. H. MILMAN (DEAN OF ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL).

THE REV. W. W. ELLIS, M.A. (ST. CLEMENT DANES). FROM A DAGUERRÉOTYPE BY BEARD.

THE REV. J. F. DENHAM, M.A., F.R.S. (ST. MARY-LE-STRAND). FROM A DAGUERRÉOTYPE BY CLAUDET.



THE REV. H. STEBBING, D.D., F.R.S. (ST. JAMES'S CHAPEL, HAMPSTEAD ROAD). FROM A DAGUERREOTYPE.

THE REV. LORD JOHN THYNNE, D.D. (WESTMINSTER ABBEY).

THE REV. A. M'CAUL, D.D. (ST MAGNUS). FROM A DAGUERRÉOTYPE BY BEARD.

FAST-DAY SERMONS.—(SEE NEXT PAGE)

THE REV. H. MACKENZIE, M.A. (ST. MARTIN'S IN THE-FIELDS).
FROM A DAGUERRÉOTYPE BY BEARD.

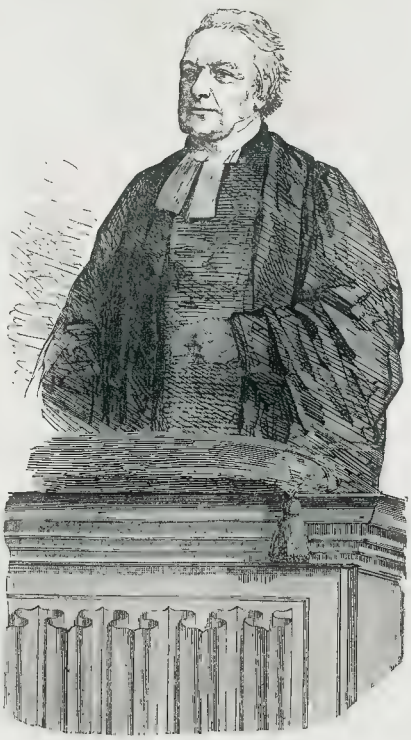
THE LORD BISHOP OF LONDON (ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL).

THE REV. GEORGE CROLY, LL.D. (ST. STEPHEN'S, WALBROOK).
FROM A DAGUERRÉOTYPE BY BEARD.

THE REV. M. GIBBS, M.A. (CHRIST CHURCH, NEWGATE-STREET).
FROM A PHOTOGRAPH.

THE REV. H. BEAR, M.A. (ST. MARY WOOLNOTH).
FROM A DAGUERRÉOTYPE BY BEARD.

THE REV. C. MARSHALL, M.A. (ST. BRIDE'S, FLEET-STREET).
FROM A DAGUERRÉOTYPE BY BEARD.



THE REV. T. ROBINSON, D.D. (TEMPLE).—FROM A PAINTING.

THE REV. S. BENSON, M.A. (ST. SAVIOUR'S, SOUTHWARK).
FROM A DAGUERREOTYPE.

THE VEN. ARCHDEACON BENTINCK (WESTMINSTER ABBEY).
FROM A DAGUERREOTYPE BY BEARD.

THE REV. D. MOORE, M.A. (CAMDEN CHURCH, CAMBERWELL).
FROM A PORTRAIT BY HALNSLEY.

their own unworthiness, and to solicit His mercy. A whole people at once bowing down before their God was the noblest sight that earth could witness. It was a practical command to "be just, and fear not"—to think only of our duty, and to be resolute in its performances. It preserved the individual from all perplexity, the nation from all fear, and made them respect their interests in the hands of a Power that could not be defied.

The Almighty would guide them, like the Israelites, through the wilderness; and, like the Israelites, their harps would hang under their own vine and their own fig-tree. The object of the war was that they was to prove the existence of two principles: one, that the nation which upheld the cause of the weak and the injured, against the powerful and the oppressor, would ultimately never suffer for its generosity; the other, that the breach of treaties was never passed by without a speedy visit of punishment directly connected with the offence. Unlike individuals, nations whose judgments are pronounced and executed upon them here, and those judgments must be in the eyes of men conspicuous and condign. For evidence in support of this assertion, he would go no further back than the history of the last century. In 1772 the three great powers of Austria, Prussia, and Russia, entered into an iniquitous conspiracy to dismember the kingdom of Poland, a country with which they all had treaties. Now the special guilt in breaking treaties was the disregard of society and God wilful, the existence of society, of which treaties were the buttresses and support. The conspiracy succeeded the unjust principle triumphed, and Poland was enslaved. Then came the retribution (a quarter of a century had scarcely elapsed, when those three great powers—themselves the principal military powers of Europe—were successively delivered into the hands of a remorseless executioner—France. Their territories were invaded their towns were slaughtered—their capitals were besieged—and their kings, in chains, and bleeding under the scourge, they were compelled to sue for peace at the feet of the conqueror! But the country, too, supplied a prominent example of the eyes of sanction. In 1775 the English colonies in North America revolted. In 1778 the Bourbon King, unable to resist the temptation of enfeebling England, broke his treaties, and made war against us. What was the instant consequence? Revolt in America was followed by revolution in France. That unhappy King perished on the scaffold; his family were exiled; his nobility and priesthood were massacred; and a Monarchy of 800 years' duration was cast to the ground and trampled on. Further, when in 1798 the French Republic had conquered peace, the use it made of the opportunity was to break its treaties with Turkey, and invade Egypt. The fleet was the largest, the army the most perfect, the General the most famous in Europe. But what was the result of this national crime? Shame, defeat, ruin! Of that fleet not a ship ever returned to its native shore; not a sailor returned but as a prisoner. That consummate General returned but as an escaped fugitive! And Egypt was lost. But vengeance went even further than this. That General had conquered Italy in the space of about two years. Italy was reconquered in the same number of months. The whole French army was slaughtered. The French standard was tossed over the Alps. The Republic was overthrown. Its Government was extinguished. All hopes of a free constitution were scattered to the winds; and a whole population, which had fought so gallantly for liberty, was defeated into the iron hands of despotism, the most imperious and inexorable of all despotisms, the despotism of the sword. The Rev. Doctor, having referred to similar examples in Spain, proceeded to observe—In 1791 the French Emperor made his treaties with Russia, without excuse, and for the sole purpose of excluding England from the Russian ports. He passed the frontier with half a million of men—beat back the Russian army—penetrated to the heart of the empire, and captured Moscow itself. But the hour of Russia's triumph—of Judgment was to come from Heaven not from man. The hand of Him who sent a storm against the vaunting Armada was to be seen in the destruction of the invader: and the snows of Russia were the death-bed of his army. Then came the arrest of Englishmen travelling under the Imperial passport of the French Emperor—a manifest and flagrant breach of treaty and national faith. What was the consequence? An unexampled act of treachery was followed by an unexampled punishment. The Emperor of France—the noblest man in the world—was given up a prisoner into the hands of England; and he was the only Sovereign of France for a thousand years who had died in a prison. Who, then, could resist the belief of these histories, or doubt a principle that had so often been exemplified? Above all, who could deny that most lofty, essential and luminous of all principles, that there was a God who governed the world? He could not hesitate to express his humble yet full conviction that the Emperor of Russia was laying up for himself, or his people, or both, a tremendous measure of Divine vengeance. Still, that vengeance might yet be delayed. There might yet be much to do in the councils of the Almighty. The infidel city of Germany and the profligacy of all Continental life might require a scourge. The cup might not yet be full, but the judgment could assuredly come; for there was never a more unprovoked war, or a war less won more destitute of palliation. Ambition never stood before the world in more marked deformity. Plunder itself had never been more lawless in rapine. The sole offence of the Turk was that he possessed territory; the sole motive of the Russian was that he coveted its possession. That the Emperor of Russia, amidst all the enjoyments wealth could give—the dazzling, or costly, could imagine—and satiated with pleasure and power, should seek for a new excitement in usurpation, rapine, and blood—what a conception did this supply of human nature, and what of the horrors of despotism! A word from that man could still save the lives of thousands of his own people; and there was not a family in the country from Cape to Archangel, that knew how to maintain them! But already was the Imperial spoiler beleaguered in his own land. Yesterday the Sovereign of two years; to-day he dared not show himself in the streets of his capital from a his palace window without seeing the banners of his enemies. He could not obtain a sound from Europe that was not one of execration. He could not draw a breath that was not surcharged with the scorn, the ridicule, and the reprobation of mankind. The whole disaster of a hundred millions of human beings, he could now associate with none but the slaves over whom he ruled. And fortunate for him would it be for him if the ferocity of his wild beast, he had the insensibility. Yet, even in this case we should not ask the hand of Christianity, and pray for his ruin but his reformation. We prayed, scarcely for victory; for we knew it was for the noblest of victories, a victory over his evil nature—over his fierce passions, his fierce prejudices, a victory over his lawless ambition. We prayed only that we might support the cause of justice, of truth, and of God. We prayed not for his destruction, but that he might give up his throne, reconcile the world to the recollection of his character, and [illegible] into the paths of humanity and peace. [illegible] day they were called upon by the Sovereign [illegible] to pay their homage to the Almighty God whom they worshipped, to humble themselves before His throne, to make [illegible] for their sins, to repent of the past and to relieve their [illegible] [illegible] assisted in mere words, and let [illegible] [illegible] munificently by contributing to the support [illegible] children of those who were now exposing themselves to the [illegible] and the tempest in defence of the common rights of nations.

ST. MARY, WOOLNOTH.

THE REV. R. DEAR.

God is our hope and strength: a very present help in trouble.—Psalm xlvi., 1.

In the present [illegible] her cause was "Humiliation and prayer"—[illegible] circumstances of our present time. They had had to maintain [illegible] terrible war, and had been called upon several times by authority to [illegible] themselves in contrition and prayer. We have been hitherto more happy than our forefathers. For forty years peace has continued to bless us; and great and worthy fruits have been borne, having relation to the promotion of God's kingdom upon earth—the building of two thousand new churches [illegible] of schools for the poor, ameliorating changes socially, morally, and [illegible], at home and abroad, not to mention the many important and stupendous undertakings which minis er to man's temporal happiness. It is evident that such works could not have been accomplished in time of war. Therefore might our existing position be rightly termed, in the Psalmist's language, "a trouble." None knew better than David how sore a trouble, for he had often experienced it, and records as his experience that "in the day of trouble" he sought the hands of the Lord; and into the hands of man preferring, on one memorable occasion, pestilence or famine to the sword of his enemies. To whom, then, should we look for "help"? To God, as "our hope and strength." He can alone give us the victory; and if He so deem fit, can cause "our foes to be again at peace with us." Prayer, therefore, should be offered up that He will interpose His arm; and, in order that it may be effectual, examination should be made into the causes of the visitation, whether we have provoked God individually or nationally.

TEMPLE CHURCH.

THE REV. ARCHDEACON ROBINSON.

Through God we shall do valiantly, for it is he that shall tread down our enemies.—Psalm lx., 12.

The rev. gentleman commenced by saying that David, the patriot King of Israel, after a lengthened struggle with the nations upon the immediate borders of his territories, and after having gained repeated victories over them, determined to restrain the proud ambition of Idumea, whose harbrought hosts, secure in the impregnable fortress of the desert, hovered upon the borders of the Holy Land and menaced the integrity of its possession, having resolved to enter upon that just and necessary war, that righteous monarch—the leader of the devotions no less than of the armies of his people—poured forth to the Almighty the expression of unfeigned humiliation at the many imperfections of his past unworthiness, and the defections which had called down upon the nation the Divine chastisement. There were many circumstances in the position of our own country, in the present eventful crisis, which presented a parallel with the history of Israel thus united upon the victorious king. There was much in the language and attitude of our own beloved Sovereign addressing her people and leading them to the footstool of God's throne to implore His favour before the first blow should have been struck by her fleets and armies, which formed an impressive and beautiful parallel with the simple devotion of the Royal Psalmist. Now, did the heart of the nation, which had unquestionably spoken its sanction and approval of the war in which we were engaged, offer up its sincerity and humility its prayer for Divine aid in that war, or did we presume to utter to the ear of Omniscience the vows and lamentations of a required repentance? That was another question; and therefore, in responding to it, he should entreat the congregation to descend to the solemn and faithful self-communion of that hour; to examine, before the thunders of war were heard, how few there were actuated by the earnestness of a simple faith in the power and the willingness to save the nation, of Him who alone could ensure victory to our arms. To no country, assuredly, in ancient or modern times, had so much of prosperity been given as to ours; and of none, as assur dly, would so much be required. How, then, he would ask, had the advantages which had been afforded us been employed? How had the aristocracy of England, by its high position not for themselves alone, but for their dependants throughout all the lessening grades of society, employed their leisure, their wealth, their influence, and their knowledge? Had the ignorance, which had been proved to be the great cause of crime throughout the manufacturing and agricultural districts, been met upon their part by any adequate provision of general and permanent education? Much, no doubt, had been attempted in that respect, much was at present in progress—but the efforts to educate the people, as yet been only partial, and had been supported but in particular directions. The rev. gentleman then proceeded to dilate upon the effects produced upon the people hitherto by the partial knowledge which they had been enabled to acquire. Knowledge in itself was not necessarily good, but a power indifferent on good or evil; and there existed great danger that increasing, but superficial and perverted, knowledge should aggravate the evils which, at first sight, it may appear as if it would remove. It was true that benefits were conferred upon the people which could be afforded by mere lectures, must be resorted to; but even that more solid teaching could not afford an antidote to the poison to which he had alluded. The true remedy for the existing evils of partial education was to be found in the establishment of moral teaching in the Church, not only by building churches commensurate with the increase of the population, but by breaking up our overgrown parishes into small districts, and placing in each one of those districts the efficient agency of God's ministry. He would not enter into politics, but he held as well as to other subjects for our many transgressions against His Divine will, we should confess with shame that Almighty God might justly have cast us off, and deprived us of His favour and protection But in the very hour of that humiliation as a people he knelt down to deplore the frequencies of the national sins will, for the past and for the present, lay the foundation of our hope that Divine Providence would not, in the hour of our need, withdraw from us His aid. Our sovereign was on distant fields; but her heart was at home, and, perhaps at that moment upon distant seas; but it was not the swords of the bravest warriors—it was not the strength of our ships, invincible as they had ever been—that would secure to us victory over our enemies. They were but the instruments of our success, that success must come from God alone. Let the nation's prayer, therefore, be to Him, as in Him was its whole strength. The truth and the reality of our prostration (and the rev gentleman repeated it with a voice beat down by the unalterable allegiance of our hearts and live to that God in whom we trust, and "who only giveth salvation unto Kings."

CAMDEN CHURCH, CAMBERWELL.

THE REV. D. MOORE, M.A.

And Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to seek the Lord, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah. And Judah gathered themselves together, to ask help of the Lord: even out of all the cities of Judah they came to seek the Lord.—2nd Chronicles, xx., 3, 4.

The preacher proceeded to a twofold division of his subject; the first referring to the Scriptural authority for these acts of humiliation, and the blessings that followed; and, the second, to the occasion of the present fast. Under the first head, it was shown that, under the Jewish dispensation, days of Divine appointment, were [illegible] analogous to England's fast on this day, where, though enjoins only by a human and uninspired authority, the approval of Heaven became manifested in the most signal manner, and the deprecated evil was turned away. And, therefore, that it was [illegible] sophy should so far have obtained the ascendancy among us as to [illegible] God out of His own world, we must believe that every act of national self-abasement and humiliation, every reverent acknowledgment of the control of a true Providence, every humble confession in the [illegible] we trust not in sword or spear, but only in the name of the Lord our God, will come up with acceptance before Him, and draw down His blessing upon our land. The preacher then proceeded to show it is one part of Jehoshaphat's fears belonging to us in the multitudinous forces of the enemy; and proceeded to censure the confident boasting with which some looked upon the present contest, as if there were not everything in the military resources of the enemy to necessitate the most prudential caution and to stir up to the most fervent prayer. Think of war as one of the four sore judgments of Heaven, as the scourge of God coming on the nation for its sins, protected by our remote and insular position from the danger of invasion. Thus look at war, as it leads to a fearful waste of human life—of human life, not in its helplessness, and decrepitude, and misery, but in its vigour, its strength, and manhood, and aptitudes for moral usefulness. Think of it in the misery it entails upon households. Oh! how earnest should be our prayers this day that none of our brave countrymen should be cut off in the prime and blossom of their sin; and, though a pious soldier or sailor be one whom we can less afford to lose, yet let us pray that such a discriminatory guilt as the foeman's fate, that none of our brave men may shed their blood in their country's service of whom it could not be said, in the highest sense, that Christ had not first shed his blood for him. He alluded also to the perpetuated jealousies and animosities which inevitably follow great national conflicts. Forty years had not extirpated the hatreds of a great nation against us, on account of our victories over the ambitious Corsican; and if the present alliance with that nation should tear up that root of bitterness, yet the present war, if successful, would only transplant it to another portion of the European soil. After some further remarks on the righteousness of the war itself—the duty of prayer for our infatuated enemies—the necessity of pleading with God for peace rather than victory—the preacher concluded with an earnest and affectionate appeal on behalf of the fund for the families of those who compose our army and navy, who are exposing their lives for us abroad, while we sit in security and peace at home.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

The Duke of Saxe Coburg-Gotha has declared his willingness to take the command of a Prussian division, in the event of Prussia taking an active part in the war.

The Cuban authorities forbid all persons who have not gone through a regular certified course of collegiate instruction, to write in news, apers.

Apartments have been taken at Homburg for M. de Bunsen, who is expected to arrive there about the beginning of May.

Lord Carlisle arrived at Constantinople on the 5th inst., and left on the 7th for Varna.

The Oriental Gas Company has undertaken to supply Calcutta with gas. One of the conditions of the agreement is that 10s. per 1000 cubic feet shall be the maximum price for public lights.

The 15th of May is appointed for the "aggregate meeting of the Catholics of Ireland," to protest against the proposed inquiry into conventual and monastic institutions.

A jockey club, recently established at Adelaide, has resolved that the annual races shall take place during the first week of the month of May.

One of the regiments which has been most successful in obtaining recruits in Ireland is the 81st North British Fusiliers. At the present time there are upwards of 300 Irishmen in this regiment.

Mr. Edwin Forrest, the American tragedian, has become a convert to the belief in supernatural knocking and other spiritual manifestations.

After a contest of unexampled duration, the parishioners of Liverpool have refused to vote a church-rate of three-farthings in the pound. The poll closed on Tuesday with a majority of 537 against the rate.

Several French officers are training, at Brussels, with Abd-el-Kader, to induce him to take the command of an Arab corps, and it is said that the Emir seems inclined to comply.

Arrangements are in progress for bringing under the early consideration of the Court of Session the question as to the right of passengers to use the piers on the Clyde on Sundays, as well as the other days of the week.

A large assembly was present on Sunday to witness the re-opening of the Church of the Sorbonne, in Paris, which had been closed for Divine Service for a quarter of a century.

The Great Southern Railway Company of Ireland has given £200, and the Irish Midland Great Western an equal sum, towards the proposed Dargan Institute.

The village of Oberberikon, in the canton of Argau, in Switzerland, was last week destroyed by an incendiary fire. Eight persons lost their lives.

Steps are being taken by the people of Edinburgh to erect some public memorial of the late Professor Wilson.

The *Ecclesiastical Gazette* of Vienna states, upon the authority of authentic documents, that in White Russia, in 1854, 30,000 persons were converted to the Greek religion. The means employed were distributions of brandy, and to those who resisted that temptation, an application of the knout.

The *Simla*, a new gigantic screw steamer belonging to the Peninsular Company, is expected to be at Southampton about the 1st of May next, to be placed on the Alexandrias line.

A duel was fought on the 18th, between two journalists of Turin, one of whom was wounded in the arm.

The Society of Merchants of Bristol intend giving a grand banquet on the 7th of June, to his Grace the Duke of Beaufort, who has recently succeeded to the title and estates.

By a late ukase the Emperor Nicholas orders the construction of telegraphic lines between Bucharest, Odessa, and St. Petersburg.

Colonel Rose, so well known for the important part played by him at the commencement of the Eastern question, has left Constantinople for Candia, to organise the hospitals in that island.

The Archbishop of Paris has addressed a pastoral letter to the curés of his diocese, recommending them to exert themselves to the utmost to have the Sunday properly observed within the sphere of their influence.

The copper mines of the Cape of Good Hope promise to be a very valuable addition to the wealth of the colony, the quantity likely to be raised being large, and the quality good.

The Emperor Napoleon III. completed the 46th year of his age on Thursday week. A number of banquets took place in the various quarters of Paris in honour of the day.

Government have agreed with three West Riding contractors for the supply of 3000 tons of hay for our cavalry and artillery horses in the East.

Mme. de Lacenal, widow of a Jew banker at Prague, who died recently, has left 100,000 effective florins (£41,666*l.*) for the erection of a hospital for the poor Jews of both sexes.

At the suggestion of Lord Palmerston, it has been proposed to form a volunteer artillery corps in Liverpool, as the most suitable manner in which the materially-inclined townspeople may contribute towards the defence of the port.

A pharmacien at Provins has recently discovered a means of producing sugar from the carrot, parsnip, beet, leaves, and stalks of borage, by a process similar to that adopted for the extraction of sugar from beetroot.

A few days ago a large tract of bog in the vicinity of Athlone by some accident took fire, and in a few hours the heath was in a flame of three miles, in a blaze. The cover for game is destroyed on a part of a thousand acres.

During the month of March thirty-six vessels, of an average capacity of 1076 tons each, and an estimated aggregate value of £465,000, were in course of construction at Quebec.

The purchase of steamers from the Australasian Pacific Company, by the Compagnie des Messageries Maritimes Imperiales, which already possesses a large number of steamers, plying in the Mediterranean and elsewhere, has been completed, and the steamers have passed into that company's hands.

A man named Caisson, nicknamed the "Prince," has just died at Villafranca, near Nice, at the age of 104, having been born in 17[illegible].

The ton of flax, which this time last year was worth only from £36 to £40, now brings £70, in consequence of the Russian war.

So great is the demand for men as substitutes in the French army that the price has increased in the departments from 1000*f.* or 1200*f.* to 4800*f.*

Iconoclasm is destroying property by wholesale in Philadelphia. Eight or ten fires occurred there between sunset on the 8th and day light of the 14th, most of which were of that kind.

Instead of attempting to put an end to the demoralizing smuggling along the coasts of Sweden, the Government, whose three years' period of service as Commander-in-Chief at Dovorport expired on the 17th inst.

The Archbishop of Mexico has addressed to all the clergy of the city, in which he recommends to them the greatest vigilance in preventing the circulation and reading of Protestant Bibles, which are being introduced from the United States across the Texan frontier.

Of the fifty-three millions and a half of people which Russia contains, 22,500,000 are serfs, and less than 4,000,000 were slaves; and of these, 15,000,000 were slaves of the Crown, or the Emperor!

Mr. Baillie, on the meeting of Parliament, is to call the attention of the House of Commons to the manner in which cadets are appointed to the Royal Navy.

Redschid Pacha is said to have stated that he never will allow either Kossuth or Mazzini to enter the Turkish dominions.

Gilbertt's library, says the *Piedmontese Gazette* of the 22nd, is announced for sale.

Prince Dolgorouky II., Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of Persia, had just arrived in the Russian capital from Teheran.

NEW MUSIC, &c.

PEACE. A Sacred Song. By W. R. BRAIN, [illegible] Third Edition of which [illegible] Just out.

THE YOUNG SOLDIER'S DREAM.—A Poem, sown pages, 2s. 6d., postage free. Written and composed with the utmost[illegible] dwelling the proceeds with the widow and children of the [illegible] killed at Alma.

CAMPBELL HASSELDEN, 307 Co., 53 New Bond-street; or, of the Author, 16, Upper Stamford-street, Blackfriars-road.

LOGIER'S SYSTEM of the SCIENCE of MUSIC, HARMONY and PRACTICAL COMPOSITION. A new Edition, of this celebrated work is just published in One Vol. 4to, containing 214 pages, price 21s., the Twentieth Edition of Logier's First Companion, and an Improved Edition of his Treatise on Thorough Bass and the Art of Playing from Score. Also the Fifth Edition of the First Book of the Companion, price 6s. Published by the Author, at his Residence, 3, Cecil-street, Strand; and by ROBERT COCKS AND SONS, 28, Hollis-street, publishers of all Logier's Musical Works.

THE MUSICAL WORLD of this Day, price 1s., contains the Second and Third Chapters of a New Life of Handel, a Memoir of Miss Hawkins, a Review of Mendelssohn's Oratorio of Elijah, a Manfarren, some Extracts from "Bishop's Musical Tour" Foreign and Provincial Correspondence, Reviews, and all the Musical News. Subscription per annum, 52s. stamped; the same, unstamped, 26s. Office, 1, Holles-street, Cavendish-square.

VILKENS'S WALTZ, by LAURENT, as performed every evening at the Royal Opera House with the greatest possible success, is published this day, with a Coloured Illustration, by Brandard, price 3s. Also the same Author, LE NOZZE and BELLE FRANCAISE WALTZES, both illustrated, price 3s. ROOSEY and SONS, 38, Holles-street.

MAY LILIES. By LINDSAY SLOPER. Price 3s. A charming Pianoforte piece, intended as a companion to a "Wild Spray," by the same composer. A Third Edition of "Wild Spray" Price 3s.
CHAPPELL, 50 New Bond street

A WEALTH to the OUTWARD BOUND. A New Song, written by the Hon. Mrs. NORTON Composed by GEORGE BARKER. Price 2s.
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DALBERT'S SULTAN'S POLKA, splendidly Illustrated Solo or Duet, 4s.
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CHAPPELL, 50, New Bond-street.

DALBERT'S NEW LANCERS' QUADRILLE, with the Figures and New Music, splendidly Illustrated, 4s.
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DALBERT'S "GEORGETTE." The last WALTZ of this popular composer. Just published, exquisitely Illustrated in colours. Solo or Duet, 4s.
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DALBERT'S "INNOCENCE" POLKA. Now first published, beautifully Illustrated Solo or Duet, 3s.
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"The very best of M. D'Albert's inspiring quadrilles."—Musical Review.
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MR. HENRY LESLIE'S VOCAL and PIANOFORTE COMPOSITIONS are published by JULLIEN and CO., 214, Regent-street.

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MEYERBEER'S NEW OPERA.—Unauthorised Editions of portions of my Works having appeared, I have requested Mr. HENRY SMART to SOLO the COPYRIGHT for the British Islands in my New Opera, "L'ETOILE DU NORD," to Messrs. CHAMPELL and CO., of Regent-street; and they and Mr. Chappell, of New Bond-street, alone, in England, have my authority to publish any of the Music of "L'Etoile du Nord," including, as I shall please from the "Corps de Ballet" music, which is charged in [illegible] "L'Etoile du Nord."—I have also accented to them the right of publishing the March and Plain music and the Entry for Peoples that I have composed. GIACOMO MEYERBEER.
Paris, March 30, 1854.

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No. 681.—VOL. XXIV.] SATURDAY, MAY 6, 1854. [WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.

THE FRIENDS OF RUSSIA.

THE British public is not unanimous in its opposition to the pretensions of the Emperor of Russia. Although there is not, as far as we are aware, a single British journal which supports the pretension of the Czar to rob his neighbour, and to rule supreme in Europe, and although the voice of public opinion declares itself strongly against Russia, and in favour of Turkey, on every opportunity that presents itself, in the press or out of it,—we learn from the debates in the British Legislature that the unanimity is not complete. We also learn from the columns of the American newspapers, that the Czar has a few friends in that country. In England, the chief allies of the Czar appear to be Messrs. Pease, Sturge, and Bright, and other members of the Society of Friends to which they belong, and Mr. Cobden. In America, the most noted friend of the Czar is an Irishman named Mitchel—a convicted traitor and felon—who hates the British Government, apparently for sparing his life, when it might justly have sentenced him to the gallows. Mr. John Mitchel expressly avows his sympathies with the Czar, and calls upon all Irishmen to fight against England, which he affects to consider the enemy of human liberty. We are sorry to place the names of respectable men like Mr. Pease and his fellow pilgrims to St. Petersburg, and those of Messrs. Cobden and Bright, in the same sentence with that of Mr. John Mitchel; but false principles, like misery, bring men into strange company. Whether it be from the spirit of pugnacity, strengthened by the long and successful agitation of the League—or from the desire of taking the side that has few supporters—or whether it be from any obliquity of moral vision, or from sheer incapacity to understand the greatness of the issues which have been raised by the ambition of the Czar—Messrs. Cobden and Bright are doing their utmost to augment the bitterness of the war, and to destroy the reputation which they once achieved. Were they not members of the British Legislature, their opinions might be left unnoticed. Like those of Friends Pease and Sturge, we might consider their peculiarities to be the eccentricities of men highly to be esteemed on 'Change—of men hating war upon principle, and loving ducats more than such small matters as national dignity and honour—and pass them over with indifference. But Messrs. Cobden and Bright have a higher position, and their statements or mis-statements go for something in forming the opinion of the country. It is for this reason, among many others, that it may become necessary, from time to time, to show how little entitled they are to aspire to instruct the public mind upon this question—how prejudiced is their judgment, how erroneous and mischievous are their principles, and how base and mean are the motives on which they would have a mighty and honourable nation conduct its foreign policy and its intercourse with the other States of the world. Of Mr. Pease and Mr. Bright it would not be necessary to say much, if they merely supported themselves on their religious dogmas. If they conscientiously believe that Turkey, in resisting attack, commits as great a wrong as the Power that unjustifiably occupied her territories with a hostile purpose; if they think defensive and offensive war to be alike wicked, we might leave them to the enjoyment of their principle, and thank Heaven that they are not the rulers of our Empire. But, when we see men like these depart from the simplicity of the faith which they allege to be in them—when they go out of their way to flatter the aggressor, to vaunt his magnificence, to laud his magnanimity—to vilify the Sovereign whom he seeks to injure, and the Allies which have taken up arms in defence of the independence of an unoffending nation; and when they have a good word to say for every paltry State that gives its support to the wrong-doer, we are entitled to ask, whether they are true to their own principles, or whether the ultra-peace party is not in reality an ultra-war party, and a party having greater sympathy with him who provokes hostility than with him who resists it. When such men talk of the barbarism of the Turks, but ignore the barbarism of the Russians—when they dilate upon the violence committed by Mahomedans, but have not a word to say about the massacre of Sinope—when they systematically refrain from alluding, in the slightest manner, to the malice prepense of the Czar's proposal to Sir Hamilton Seymour to share with Great Britain the plunder of the "sick man;" and when they take every opportunity to point out to reprobation the errors that may be committed by the unfortunate Sultan or his advisers,—we have the right to consider them as no friends of peace, but as abettors of war, or at the best as men who are contented to have dishonourable peace in their own day, at the price of cruel war in the days of their own children, and those who are to come after them.

Mr. Bright thinks the war has been "got up" by newspapers anxious to sell additional copies, and to procure new subscribers. We doubt, however, whether Mr. Bright has in reality so poor an opinion of the intelligence of his countrymen. At all events he did not think so meanly of them when the battle of Free-trade was to be fought and won. No doubt we should do Mr. Bright a great injustice if we accused him of wishing for peace *à tout-prix*—even at the price of the extinction of Turkey, and the incontestable supremacy of Russia—from any motive so vile as the desire to sell carpets in Russia. Not less unjust is Mr. Bright's accusation against the newspaper press, and against the common sense of his countrymen, which is implied by it. Mr. Bright should know better. But the fact is, that both he and Mr. Cobden are intolerant of the press, whenever it does not support and re-echo their opinions. It is not long ago that Mr. Cobden made a specific accusation against the Sultan of desiring to destroy the liberty of the press in Greece; forgetting that not many months previously he expressed his anxiety to confine the British press to the simple

KULLEN, AT THE ENTRANCE OF THE SOUND. (SEE NEXT PAGE)

function of reporting events and speeches, and his hostility to "leading articles" and editorial opinions. Mr. Bright still more constantly sneers at the press; and gives ground for the suspicion that, if he had the power to set limits to its freedom—which fortunately he has not—the English nation would not long be in possession of so inestimable a privilege as that of liberty of printing.

Mr. Cobden—who no longer speaks of the facility with which the Russian Empire may be "crumpled up," but who appears to be more desirous of "crumpling up" the Sultan, or his own renown—thinks the British Government should not allow that of Turkey to expel foreigners engaged in the attempt to create insurrection in Constantinople. Because Greek merchants, subjects of King Otho, reside in that capital, and carry on an extensive trade with England, the Sultan is not to exercise his right of expulsion; or, if he do, he is accused of being guilty of as gross an act of folly and cruelty as that which Louis XIV. committed when he revoked the Edict of Nantes. Louis XIV. banished his own subjects, because they were Protestants. The Sultan has not banished his own subjects, nor has he banished the Greeks on account of their religion. He has banished them because they were foreigners plotting treason against his authority, and attempting to deliver his country to the Emperor of Russia. Lord John Russell set Mr. Cobden right in this historical mistake; but Mr. Bright, looking at the matter as one affecting no higher interests than those of trade, insisted that "there was not a man above the rank of an idiot" who did not think that it was most unwise policy, "which must end in great loss to the commercial interests of this country." But it might have been replied to Mr. Bright that there was no man above the rank of an idiot who did not know that if the Czar obtained Constantinople, a blow a thousandfold heavier would be aimed against the commerce of Great Britain and the civilised world, than would be inflicted by the expulsion of the Greeks, were they ten times as numerous and ten times as wealthy. Even upon the narrow principle of the interests of trade, Mr. Bright should have taken the part of the Sultan rather than that of the Czar. Surely he cannot deny that it would be better to submit to a temporary inconvenience and loss, rather than incur the risk of the total annihilation of the trade of the Levant? The Sultan is a Free-trader, and the Czar a Protectionist—another fact which makes it difficult to comprehend the strange friendship which the ex-leaders of the Anti-Corn-law League have so suddenly formed for the Russian Government. It is because we believe both Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright to be sincere, that we regret the unfortunate twist which their usually clear and direct intellect has taken upon this question. The Emperor of Russia knows that they once exercised great political influence in this country. If, in his ignorance, he imagine that their influence is as great as ever, he may be induced to persevere in his wrongful course, with the hope that the war against him either is, or speedily may be, made unpopular by their exertions. Such a result would be a great misfortune, and is one of the reasons why it is necessary for the press and the people to disavow all connection or sympathy with the friends of Russia. Power and position are dear to most men, and especially to those who have once enjoyed them. If Mr. Bright and Mr. Cobden wish to lose both, they have but to persevere in their present course. Their wishes in that case will assuredly be gratified.

As regards the opinion of the great American people on the struggle into which this country has been unwillingly forced, we are glad to see that the rabid John Mitchell, and some of the fierce spirits who have left Ireland for Ireland's good, meet with no encouragement on the other side of the Atlantic. His bitter denunciations of Great Britain, or his hopes that the Czar will be triumphant, excite no other feeling but disgust. The Americans cordially support the cause of the Allies. They see, like practical and generous-minded men, that Great Britain would have voluntarily descended into the rank of a second or third-rate Power if she had quietly allowed the Emperor Nicholas to work his will against Turkey. They pray for our success and for the Czar's discomfiture, and they treat the fanatic John Mitchell with the contempt he merits. As for the Pennsylvanian "Friends," they are wiser than Mr. Bright, and say nothing.

THE BALTIC FLEET.—CAPE KULLEN.

OUR magnificent fleet in the Baltic paid a visit to Stockholm lately. On the 21st ult. nineteen vessels anchored in Elfsnaben Harbour, five hours' sail from the city; and on the 26th Sir Charles Napier had an audience of King Oscar, by whom he was most cordially received, as well as by the inhabitants of Stockholm.

By the latest accounts, which come down to the 27th ult., the line-of-battle-ships under Admirals Corry and Chads were keeping up a rigorous blockade of the Gulf of Finland, which would render the escape of a single Russian ship impossible. Cruisers were stationed off Revel, Riga, Memel, Dantsic, Stockholm, Gothland, Bornholm, in the Sound, Cattegat, and Gulf of Kiel, so that the whole Baltic Sea and coasts are under strict guard.

The *Tribune* left Copenhagen for England on the 26th with one of her prizes, having captured six. The *Magicienne* was at Copenhagen on the 26th, coaling and left for the Baltic fleet with despatches on the 27th. She was literally loaded with provisions and parcels for the Baltic fleet—making it a duty to receive anything and everything for the officers and men; and had also a heavy mail from the Government. The *Magicienne*, *Dauntless*, *Gorgon*, *Impervieuse*, and *Kuryalus* had all made prizes, which were to be sent to England immediately for condemnation.

The Danish Government lingers on the side of Russia. The Swedes are decidedly in favour of England.

Upon the preceding page we have engraved a very effective View of the romantic scenery of the Sound—Cape Kullen, which forms its northern entrance on the east. Kohl, in his forcible manner, says: "The views along the whole of the northern coast, over the Sound to the Kullen, in Sweden, and towards the Castle of Kronberg, are enchanting; and black ink, white paper, and a goose quill, can give no adequate idea of them." But the draughtsman's graphic art has here pictured a portion of its sublimity, in the rocky coast, and its greatest elevation crowned with a lighthouse.

RUSSIAN YACHTS.—According to a letter from the Baltic, the Emperor of Russia has ordered that all the boats belonging to the members of the Yacht Club of the Neva shall be placed at the service of the State, to form part of the flotilla of the armed row-boats which is being formed at Sveaborg and Cronstadt, to act against Sir Charles Napier.

TERMINATION OF THE PRESTON STRIKE.—In consequence of the funds of the weavers' committee at Preston being very small this week, the committee have issued a placard intimating the abandonment of the strike, which has now lasted thirty-six weeks. Large numbers have resumed work since Monday. The spinners, however, are resolved still to hold out; and, up to Thursday, only a very small number of them had gone in. The weavers generally are willing to resume work; but cannot so long as the spinners remain out. The card-room hands are also kept out of work from the same cause. At Stockport there are symptoms of the strike coming very speedily to an end.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

The fêtes of the official world continue with the utmost brilliancy. That of the Hôtel de Ville has been more than usually magnificent: upwards of seven hundred persons were present on the occasion, consisting entirely of the Court, the families of the Ministers, the *corps diplomatique*, the principal Government officers, members of the Senate and of the Legislative Body, and a number of foreigners of distinction, more especially English. The fête commenced with a dinner; after which, the grand ball-room was thrown open for the reception of the evening guests, who began to arrive at half-past nine. From the entrance of the hotel to the ball-room, a decoration as novel as it was beautiful was arranged—the whole of the walls were lined with a gilt trellis-work, arching overhead, in which were twined white lilac-trees, in full bloom: nothing could exceed the beauty and fragrance of these temporary bowers, which preserved their freshness and perfume the whole evening. At ten o'clock the new gallery—which, for size and magnificence of proportion and decoration, stands almost unrivalled—was thrown open, displaying at the end a theatre of considerable dimensions, with benches covered with crimson velvet for the spectators. Arnal and Numa, of the Variétés, played "Les Erreurs du bel Age"—a choice which, to our judgment, was the only spot on the good taste which presided over the whole of the rest of the entertainment. The piece is coarse and vulgar in the details, complicated and uninteresting in the plot. Arnal and Numa have both seen their best days, and are, at the utmost, only fit to represent broad farce to a not very fastidious audience. A ballet followed, "La Chasse au Papillon," which owed a portion of its piquancy to the fact that it required a decision of the Minister of State to arbitrate between the pretensions of Mdlles. Cerito and Rosati in the affair. The Préfet de la Seine having expressed a wish that the latter should perform the principal *rôle*, the former put forward her claims in the matter. The spectators benefitted, as it was decided that both the celebrated *danseuses* should appear—Mdlle. Rosati in the dancing part, Mdlle. Cerito in the pantomime. The fête, as it merited to be, was brilliantly successful.

The Emperor and Empress are about to proceed to St. Cloud, but intend previously passing some days at Fontainebleau.

M. Méry has no intention of accompanying the Oriental expedition, as was stated; his voyage is to be of a private nature, and has been retarded by his literary occupations, consisting of the conclusion of a piece originally destined for the Français, but transferred to the Vaudeville, entitled, "La Hausse et la Baisse," and the composition of a piece, in one act, called, "Aimons nous les Uns les Autres." Both are said to be most favourable specimens of the author's genius.

The Eastern nostalgia seems to have seized on the representatives of French literature. M. Gérard de Nerval is about to proceed on an Oriental trip; Alexandre Dumas intends setting out in September to tread the route rendered celebrated by Lamartine; and Mdme. George Sand has also planned an exped tion to Egypt, purposing to extend her travels to the furthest point of Nubia to which European travellers could penetrate, but it appears that the task of revising her Memoires compels her to defer the voyage to another year.

The uniform of the *Cent Gardes*, which has just been decided on, is extremely picturesque. It consists for the *petite tenue*, of a cuirasse of buff-skin, with the Imperial arms embroidered; for the *grande tenue*, of one of steel, with the arms engraved; blue sleeves, with gold ornaments, white breeches, jack-boots, and casque.

On Saturday the *Assemblée Nationale* is to make its re-appearance after its two months' suspension. It is said that in the reorganisation of the paper, it is probable that M. Charles Letellier, one of its principal writers, will cease to contribute to it.

A new rule has been adopted for all the theatres, which creates much dissatisfaction, principally among the actresses. No new piece is to be *affiché* until a representation, with costumes, decorations—in short, all the details precisely as they are to appear before the public—is given before the inspector named by the Bureau of Examination. The actresses complain bitterly of being compelled to wear low dresses of a morning, and to run the risk of impairing the freshness of their dresses, which are so tenderly preserved for the *début* of a first representation.

M. Proudhon is actively engaged in writing for posterity—the works on which he is employed not being, it appears, of a tendency which the present state of the times would permit to be published. Among others, there is said to be a comedy, written in the style of Aristophanes, containing keen raillery on many of the *notabilités* of the day, including some of the heads of the Republican party: "Le Dedans de la Statue" is, we are informed, the name of the piece.

Among the facts relating to modern magic, table-turning, &c., we learn that a book is about to appear, under the auspices of three Bishops, the object of which is to prove that the *esprits frappeurs* are neither more nor less than demons. At the same time, a new journal has just made its appearance, entitled *La Table Parlante, Journal des Faits Merveilleux*, which examines in a religious point of view, the question of the marvels lately revealed, and enters into a critical analysis of phantoms, *esprits frappeurs*, possessions—in short, all that relates to supernatural agency, real or pretended. It cites the opinions of the Père Ventura, who regards the question as one of the greatest events of our age; and of the Père Lacordaire, who calls them a fearful glimpse into the invisible world.

Mdlle. Rachel, who is at Pau, attending on her sister, who is ill, has sent from thence her resignation to the Théâtre Français, for the third and last time, according to rule. It is said that the celebrated tragedian has received, and contemplates accepting, the most magnificent proposals from America.

UNITED STATES.

The *Europa*, which left New York on the 19th ult., arrived at Liverpool on Sunday night. The latest telegraphic advices from Philadelphia state that no intelligence had been received of the steam-ship *City of Glasgow*, then fifty days out. It was proposed to send the steam-ship *Granite State* from Philadelphia in search of the missing vessel. The several packet-ships arriving at New York continued to report passing large icebergs on the passage. A very severe snow-storm had been experienced at New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Washington.

NEW ZEALAND.—FAREWELL DINNER TO SIR GEORGE GREY.—On the 26th of December last, an entertainment was given to Sir George Grey, on his retirement from the Governorship of New Zealand. The dinner was served in the Odd Fellows' Hall, Auckland; which was tastefully decorated for the occasion with flags, and beautiful tropical evergreens of the island. Between 250 and 300 merchants, farmers, and tradesmen were present; William Captain Rowdidch, a very old settler, presided; and was supported by the venerable Bishop, Sir George Grey, the Attorney-General, and the Speaker of the Provincial Council. Several native chiefs were present, and delivered excellent addresses. The Governor was received with great enthusiasm, and the proceedings were altogether of the most satisfactory character.

GREEK PIRATES.—The pirates of the Archipelago are again on the alert, and have taken a vessel bound from Malta to the Black Sea with coals for the fleet. The piracy, it is said, was committed off the Isle of Andros, where the vessel was run on shore, and the master and crew, consisting of fifteen men, murdered in cold blood.

POLISH EASTER CUSTOM.—The Poles in Constantinople, who number about sixty souls, principally refugees, had an entertainment of their own last Easter Sunday, in the style of the Jewish Passover. They met in the house of one of their principal countrymen, and ate a meal standing—a custom among them of great antiquity, and a bond of union to a people scattered abroad over the face of the earth.

THE WAR.

DEFEAT OF THE RUSSIANS.

The whole of the news from the Danube during the past few days has been of an encouraging nature. First of all, it is now beyond doubt that the Russians have evacuated Lesser Wallachia, after burning all their stores. The motive assigned for this display of weakness is "a desire of tranquillising Austria, by removing the scene of hostilities from her frontier." The real motive is, that they have found Kalafat too strong for them. On the 18th or 19th a battle is said to have been fought near Rassova, in which the Russians were defeated with great loss. One despatch speaks of a general engagement having taken place between 70,000 men under Omer Pacha, and the Russian army under General Liders; but this is not confirmed. Be that as it may, the whole of the accounts lately received represent the Russian force in the Dobradja as in a very critical position: instead of being able to attack Schumla, as was originally intended, it seems in a fair way to be cut to pieces, or starved into submission by the blockade of the Danube, which must stop the passage of its supplies from Odessa.

A second battle is said to have taken place near Czernawoda, which lasted six hours, and ended in the defeat of the Russians, whose loss is said to have been 600 killed, 250 taken prisoners, and fifteen guns.

The Russians have attacked Silistria from the opposite shore, but without much success. Attempts are making to cross the river, so as to attack from the land. A Bucharest despatch, of Russian manufacture, stated that the fortress was on the point of surrendering; but after what took place at Kalafat this is not probable.

The latest advices from Varna, of the 16th, are extremely interesting. Generals Brown and Bosquet are already at that important place, where the following troops are expected to arrive by the 4th of May:—the 33rd, 42nd, 49th, and 97th regiments; and the whole of General Bosquet's division, consisting of the 6th and 50th regiments of the line, the 7th light and the 3rd Zouave regiments, two rifle battalions, three field and two mountain batteries. It is now said that the French and English Governments have relinquished the idea of placing a very large force at Gallipoli. It is probable that some 15,000 French and 5000 English may be posted there; but it is understood that the Allies will speedily make a diversion in favour of the Turks by a vigorous attack on the left wing of the Russians.

It was confidently expected at Constantinople that, within a few days, some 25,000 Anglo-French troops would be at Varna; and this unexpected "going ahead" is attributed principally to the strong and repeated representations of General Baraguay d'Hilliers.

EMBARKATION OF MARSHAL ST. ARNAUD.

The departure of Marshal St. Arnaud from Marseilles took place on Saturday last. The Marshal, dressed in the full uniform of his rank, left his hotel at half-past one o'clock, in an open carriage, accompanied by the Prefect and two Aides-de-Camp. Madame de St. Arnaud left half an hour sooner. The Marshal's carriage was preceded by a detachment of gendarmes, and followed by General Rostolan (Commander of the Military Division), General Faucheux (Commander of the Garrison), and a brilliant staff. The streets were lined with troops from the hotel to the pier of the new port, at which the steam corvette the *Berthollet* was lying, ready to receive the Marshal. When he arrived on board, the yards of the corvette were manned, and the crew received him with three cheers; at the same time a salute was fired from the fort. The Marshal, who looked in better health than he has been for some time, took his station on the quarter deck, having Madame de St. Arnaud at his side, and received the final compliments of the Generals and the civic authorities. Orders were then given to remove the stage which had been erected on the pier to facilitate the embarkation of the passengers, and the *Berthollet* moved slowly away. It was past three o'clock before the corvette reached the roads. The Marshal continued to salute his friends as long as he remained within sight, while a military band, stationed on the pier, played several favourite airs. The pier and rising ground were covered with well-dressed persons, and altogether the movement resembled a scene at the Grand Opera. One ship only in the dock of the Joliette was dressed in her colours, and to the credit of the English nation be it said, was the *Doncaster*, of Stockton. The wind, which had been blowing furiously in the morning, abated considerably at twelve o'clock, and the *Berthollet* left with a moderate breeze from the north-west. Thirty of the Marshal's horses were embarked on the corvette during the morning, and were accommodated on the decks with wooden stalls covered with canvas. The steam corvette *Chapteal* had been fitted up for the Marshal's reception, but it was discovered that her boilers had been injured on her passage from Toulon. The *Berthollet* is a paddle-wheel steamer, of by no means a handsome model, but she has the reputation of being a fast and safe boat. The steamer *Zouave*, having General Ingueel on board, together with a detachment of Spahis, sailed for Constantinople two hours before the *Berthollet*.

DEFEAT OF THE GREEK INSURGENTS.

Peta, the principal centre of the Greek insurrection, was taken on the 26th ult. by the Ottoman troops commanded by Osman Pacha, after a combat of fifty minutes. The insurgents, who were 3000 in number, under the command of Tzavellas and Karaiskakis, left 150 dead on the field of battle; the number of the wounded is not known. The loss of the Turks was five killed and twelve wounded. The secretary of Tzavellas was amongst the slain. Among the prisoners taken by the Turks were found four or five officers belonging to the Hellenic army who had not resigned, and who were in all probability still receiving pay. The officers have, it seems, been sent to Constantinople, "as a living proof of the complicity of the Greek Government in the insurrection against the Ottoman Porte." Among the dead bodies left by the insurgents on the field were recognised those of several Greek soldiers. Documents were also found, directly compromising the Greek Government.

The reply of King Otho to the ultimatum presented by the English and French Ambassadors, is not known, but he is said to have stated in private, that he would rather lose his crown than act in opposition to the wishes of his people. This, of course, is what Queen Amalia has instructed him to say, as he has no will of his own. She makes no secret of her opinion, that there will be no peace in the East, until she and her husband are seated on the Byzantine throne.

INSURRECTION IN MONTENEGRO.

The efforts of Russia to excite an insurrection in the small but dangerous territory of Montenegro have been successful at last. Hostilities are said to have commenced on the 19th, near Slivo, on the road to Nicksich, 200 armed Montenegrins, under the command of the Voivode, George Petrovitch, attacked a Turkish convoy, with provisions and ammunition, which was on its way from Nicksich to Grahovo. A Turkish detachment came to the rescue, and the Montenegrins were repulsed. A proclamation from the revolutionary Czar has been read in the churches of Montenegro, appealing to the religious feelings of the population, and promising not to sign any treaty of peace until after having obtained for them Herzegowina, the plains of Bosnia, and a part of those of Albania. Forty Russian veterans have lately been employed in drilling the Montenegrins.

The news of the outbreak has caused a great sensation at Vienna. The occupation of Albania and Herzegowina by the Austrian troops has been decided upon. Austrian and English men of war will co-operate in the Adriatic.

THE CZAR AT HOME.—Recent letters from St. Petersburg state that within the last half-year the personal appearance of the Emperor Nicholas has undergone a considerable change. He has grown visibly older, and walks less erect; but his habits are unchanged. He rises very early, and at a quarter past six takes a walk through the Palace and the barracks. On his return he gives private audiences, and then works for some hours in his cabinet. Almost daily he may be seen, according to a habit of long standing, driving in his droschky and pair to visit his daughter Maria, the widow of the Duke of Leuchtenberg.

POWDER EXPLOSION AT CRONSTADT.—Intelligence from St. Petersburg, which has been received in Berlin, states that a laboratory on the island of Cronstadt, occupied in the manufacture of cartridges, blew up and deprived sixty human beings of their lives. The building is described as not having been within the rayon of the fortress, which has not sustained any injury; but in the town, from which the laboratory was a league distant, a great number of broken windows attest the violence of the explosion.

STEAMERS BETWEEN BELGIUM AND BRAZIL.—The Belgian Minister of Foreign Affairs has announced that, for the advantage of Belgian commerce, he had signed an agreement for establishing a line of steamers between Belgium and Brazil, and that the Chamber would be called on to sanction the expense of 35,000f. which it would occasion.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

THE INCOME-TAX BILL.

Earl GRANVILLE made a statement of the nature and provisions of the measure, in the course of which he briefly vindicated the financial policy of the Government upon which it was founded.

Lord BROUGHAM said he retained all his former objections to the Income-tax. But, owing to the war in which we were engaged, the expenses of which must be paid, the Income-tax was not only necessary, but it was necessary to double it, and on this ground alone he assented to it.

The Earl of MALMESBURY said the late Government had been turned out upon their financial policy; and, therefore, it was the more incumbent upon the present Government to show that their financial policy entitled them to the confidence of the country. Glancing at Mr. Gladstone's several propositions, he contended that all his expectations had proved illusory. He should not oppose the motion, but he left the House to decide whether the results of Mr. Gladstone's policy had arisen from ignorance or incapacity.

Lord MONTEAGLE contended at great length that our financial position at the present moment was anomalous if not dangerous. But key-stone of the system of the Government was, as explained by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, that the supplies of the year should be raised within the year. But on the 21st April, when Parliament was not sitting, an official notice appeared, stating that £6,000,000 was required, and would be raised in the very manner which all the previous declarations of the Chancellor of the Exchequer had repudiated. He expressed considerable doubts as to the expediency of this proposal; and he cautioned the Government against unnecessarily meddling with public credit, and against superintending with the finances of the country.

The Duke of ARGYLL contended that when the financial measures of the Government were prepared, they had not, from the assurances given by the Emperor of Russia, any reason to anticipate a state of war. Alluding to Lord Montegle's observations, he contended that they exaggerated the actual state of things; that he had carefully left out of consideration the existence of a state of war and the deficiency of the harvest last year, circumstances which were enough to disturb the calculations of any Minister; but he submitted that, with an increasing revenue and with a considerable balance of income over ordinary expenditure—both which the noble Lord had admitted—there was no reason for despondency.

Earl GREY had no confidence in the financial foresight of the Government.

Earl GRANVILLE replied in considerable detail to the objections urged against the financial policy of the Government, which he vindicated in all its main points. The bill then passed through committee.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY BILL.

The House went into committee on the Oxford University Bill.

On clause 1, which appoints the commissioners, Mr. HORSMAN moved to postpone the names of the commissioners until all the clauses of the bill had been gone through. He objected to the names at present inserted, on the ground that the persons selected had other important duties to discharge; and, therefore, that the execution of the trusts of the bill would be left to the secretary.

Lord J. RUSSELL opposed the amendment, and urged that the individuals designated were persons in whom full confidence was placed.

Sir J. PAKINGTON supported the amendment.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER opposed it, contending that the names of the commissioners were a guarantee for the due exercise of the powers to be bestowed.

Mr. DISRAELI protested against the bill being judged by the character of the commissioners, or except upon its own merits. The logical course was to define the powers to be given to them, and then to decide who should exercise them.

The committee divided, and the numbers were—For the clause, 169; for Mr. Horsman's amendment, 141: majority for Government, 28.

The clause was agreed to, as was clause 2, and, after some discussion, clauses 3 and 4.

On clause 5, which substitutes the Hebdomadal Council for the Hebdomadal Board,

Mr. WALPOLE explained the grounds of amendment which he proposed to the sixth clause, which provides for the composition of the council. His amendments went to increase the number of heads of colleges or halls, who were to be part of the council, from six to seven, and to do the same as regarded the professors, and to provide that, instead of such heads being elected by the congregations, they should be selected from among themselves by the heads of colleges or halls, and to make similar provision in regard to the selection by the professors from among themselves.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER removed from clause 5 some words connecting it with the provisions for the composition of the council; and, after discussion and a protest from Mr. NEWDEGATE, the clause was agreed to

On clause 6, Mr. Walpole's amendments being moved, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER entered into argument to show their inexpediency, urging that the word *clique* seemed expressly invented to describe the limited constituencies they would create, and that the whole bill was based on trust and confidence in the men for whom legislation was being attempted.

After a long discussion, the committee divided on the amendment relating to the election of the heads, and the numbers were—For the amendment, 162; for the original clause, 149: majority against Government, 13.

Mr. WALPOLE moved that portion of his amendment which referred to the professors, but it also was negatived by a similar majority, and the clause was agreed to.

It being midnight, progress was reported, and the House resumed.

The Railway Traffic Bill was committed *pro formâ*, in order to reprint it, that important alterations might be introduced.

The Witnesses Bill was read a second time.

THE MILITIA LAWS AMENDMENT BILL.

Lord PALMERSTON moved for leave to bring in a bill for the amendment of the laws relative to the militia of the United Kingdom. Under the 42nd George III., the Crown could embody the militia only in case of invasion or of peril thereof; but, though there was no danger of invasion, still, in the present state of things, with a large portion of the army abroad, it was important that Government should be able to avail itself of the militia for home service. The bill was for enabling the Crown to call out either the whole or part of the militia for a continuous period when the country was in a state of war. If a regiment were to be called out for less than fifty-six days, the rest of the time might be added, when necessary, without fresh notices being given.

Sir J. Y. BULLER said the bill would be met with cheerful assent, but regretted that no better provision was to be made for the wives and children of militia men.

Mr. GROGAN wished to know what was to be done with the militia in Ireland?

Lord PALMERSTON was preparing a bill for the consolidation of the militia law, and in that bill various other necessary provisions would be found. It would be introduced this session. He had purposely confined this bill to one specific object. It was not the intention of Government to organise and enrol the Irish militia this year.

Colonel DUNNE complained that a difference would be made between the kingdoms.

Sir J. YOUNG reminded Colonel Dunne that a very large force, under the name of the constabulary, already existed in Ireland.

Leave was given to bring in the bill.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

INCOME-TAX BILL.

Earl GRANVILLE moved the third reading of this bill.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE said, her Majesty's Government appeared to make up their minds upon their financial policy, not from year to year, nor even from month to month, but almost from week to week; and he thought their Lordships ought to have some notification as to what would be the last of their financial proposals for the present session. He thought that their Lordships ought to receive some explanation from her Majesty's Government as to whether they intended to have recourse again to loans, or whether the direct taxation of the country was to be entirely relied upon for defraying the war expenditure; or whether the scheme of the Government was no longer to be adhered to, and the whole question of direct and indirect taxation was to be left entirely open as before. To suppose that they were to go to war with an empire like Russia, with no other provision for the contest but an extra half-year's Income-tax, was perfectly ridiculous and puerile.

Earl GRANVILLE said, it was clear that neither he nor any other member of the Government in that House could consistently enter at present into the future financial measures of the Government in reference to the conduct of the war, when it had been announced that the Chancellor of the Exchequer would, in the other House, at the beginning of next week, make a financial statement, in which full explanations of the Government's intentions would be given to the public.

The Earl of MALMESBURY said, with respect to the extraordinary confidence that had been entertained by her Majesty's Government in the maintenance of peace, he must remind the House of the dates to which he had formerly referred. The Budget was presented to the House of Commons on the 18th of April. On the 15th of that month, Colonel Rose, our Chargé d'Affaires at Constantinople, informed the Secretary for Foreign Affairs that all the information he could collect showed that the Emperor of Russia was intent upon hostile acts. He (Lord Malmesbury) had been told by the noble Duke (the Duke of Argyll) that, on the same day that this despatch was received, by a strange coincidence, Baron Brunnow went down to the Foreign Office, and made the most solemn declaration that all the reports which Lord Clarendon had heard were false. That such was the case did not appear from the Blue-book; but at all events this was no excuse at all for her Majesty's Government. They ought not to have placed confidence in the Russian Minister rather than in our own diplomatic agent at Constantinople. If our own diplomatic agents were not to be believed, there was little use of maintaining them abroad.

The Duke of ARGYLL must remind their Lordships that this discussion was entirely irrelevant to the question at issue (Hear, hear). The noble Earl must be aware that the Budget of April, 1853, was drawn up under circumstances that could not have any reference to the complications in the East. The noble Earl must be aware that the whole structure of a Budget must depend upon the financial position of the country at the time, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer had to meet the difficulties in which he was placed by what Mr. Gladstone considered, and what he (the Duke of Argyll) considered the most dangerous proposal of the late Government, to reconstruct the Income-tax. The whole key of the Budget was with reference to that proposal. He utterly repudiated the insinuation of the noble Marquis (the Marquis of Clanricarde), on the part both of his right honourable friend (the Chancellor of the Exchequer), or any other member of her Majesty's Government. It was perfectly true that the Government were determined that, as far as they were concerned, there should be no war, if, consistently with the honour and the interests of England, it could have been prevented. But it was not true that any one member of the Government wished war to be avoided by any measure that would sacrifice that honour or those interests (Hear, hear).

The Marquis of SALISBURY said that the Chancellor of the Exchequer must, unless he were the blindest man in England, have been aware at the time he introduced his Budget that war was impending.

The Duke of ARGYLL said that, so far from the secret correspondence leading the Government to expect war, if the Emperor of Russia had adhered to the principles of that correspondence, there would never have been a war. The particular dispute concerning which that correspondence took place was actually settled by negotiations.

Lord BROUGHAM said, the principal objection to the renewal of the tax ten years ago, and again four years ago, was that it was not required by necessities entailed upon us by war. He hoped that pause would be taken, so to amend our system of finance, that this tax should not survive the war (Hear). The bill was then read a third time and passed.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Lord REDESDALE moved a resolution to the effect that the House should not read any bill a second time after Tuesday the 25th of July, except bills of aid or supply, or bills which the House should have declared before the second reading to be of such urgency or importance that it was necessary they should be immediately proceeded with.

The Earl of ABERDEEN said he had no objection to offer to the resolution, which might, he believed, be adopted with safety, and even with advantage, for the present session at least.

After a short conversation the resolution was agreed to.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

At four o'clock there were only thirty-six members present, and the House accordingly stood adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

The Mortmain Bill was read a second time.

The County Court Extension Act Amendment Bill went through committee.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

The Nuisances Removal and Diseases Prevention Act further Amendment Bill was, upon the motion of the Earl of SHAFTESBURY, read a second time.

On the motion of the Bishop of LONDON, the Benefices Augmentation Bill passed through committee.

The Ministers' Money (Ireland) Bill was read a third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

THE NEW TICKET OF LEAVE SYSTEM.

Mr. FITZROY, in reply to questions put by Mr. F. Scully and Sir J. Pakington, stated that the police received no special instructions with regard to the treatment of convicts liberated with licenses; and that each convict had a right to choose the place to which he was to be sent after his release. The hon. gentleman also expressed his belief that the convict George Brown, whose case had of late excited so much attention, was a very unworthy object of the public sympathy.

THE "TIMES" CORRESPONDENT IN TURKEY.

In reply to Lord Lovaine, Mr. B. OSBORNE stated that the correspondent of the *Times* newspaper had not gone out with the troops from England to Malta, and the Board of Admiralty was not at present informed under what circumstances he had obtained a passage from the last-mentioned place to Gallipoli.

THE TRANSPORT OF TROOPS.

In reply to Sir J. Walsh, Sir J. GRAHAM said that 2200 horses had already been despatched to Turkey for the use of the army in the East, and that their conveyance had, as far as it was yet known, been most success-fully accomplished. The right hon. Baronet added that the *Valetta* steamer was at present being fitted up for the transport of 800 more horses to the same quarter.

In answer to Mr. Adderley, Lord PALMERSTON said that it was his intention in the present session to introduce a measure for the establishment of reformatory schools by voluntary contributions.

The Railway and Canal Traffic Regulation Bill passed through committee.

The Militia Bill was read a second time.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY BILL.

The House went into committee on the Oxford University Bill.

Sir J. PAKINGTON proposed an amendment at the end of clause 6, to the effect that the six members of Convocation who were to form a portion of the Hebdomadal Council, should be elected by the Convocation, instead of being elected by the Congregation, as proposed in the bill. That amendment would only carry out the principle of "sectional election," which the committee had adopted in other parts of the clause, while it would also be attended with the advantage of extending the constituency, by which those six members of the Hebdomadal Council were to be elected.

Lord J. RUSSELL opposed the amendment. The election of those members ought, he thought, to be entrusted to persons who were practically conversant with the business of the University.

After some discussion the amendment was negatived by a majority of 192 to 176. The clause was then agreed to.

The remainder of the night was occupied with a discussion upon the remaining clauses of the bill.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

BOMBARDMENT OF ODESSA.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE said, it was commonly reported through the town this day, that a telegraphic despatch had been received by the Admiralty from Belgrade, signed by her Majesty's Consul at Varna, to the effect that her Majesty's forces had achieved effective operations at Odessa. He asked Lord Clarendon whether he could confirm such statements, and whether he could favour the House with any particulars respecting those operations?

The Earl of CLARENDON said, he had great satisfaction in being able to answer the question in the affirmative (Hear, hear). The news to which the Marquis referred arrived this day at the Admiralty by telegraphic despatch. He thought that the best way he could communicate the information was to read the despatch (Hear, hear). Our Minister writes from Belgrade a despatch, dated May 4, seven o'clock afternoon. "Admiral Dundas announces through her Majesty's Consul at Varna, that a division of steam-boats of the combined squadrons, on the 27th April, had destroyed the Imperial mole and the Russian ships at Odessa. The mole quarantine, the foreign ships, and the city itself, were not injured—great care having been taken to protect private and neutral property. The Pacha of Belgrade stated yesterday that the great powder magazine had been blown up, and the land batteries were entirely destroyed. The loss sustained by the combined fleets did not exceed eight men killed and eighteen wounded." We are further informed that the fleets, immediately after the attack at Odessa, sailed towards Sebastopol (Hear, hear).

THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE.

Lord REDESDALE drew the attention of the Government to the reports respecting the progress of the Duke of Cambridge, and took occasion to vindicate that illustrious Duke from such insinuations.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE said, he felt that their Lordships ought to treat such aspersions with contempt. The Duke of Cambridge, in proceeding from this country to France, and from France to Vienna, had acted entirely under the instructions of the Government. Throughout his journey the illustrious Duke had not only acted with the greatest fidelity to his instructions, but also with the greatest ability and success (Hear, hear). The Government had every reason to be satisfied with the conduct of the Duke of Cambridge in going first to Paris and then to Vienna. With reference to the imputations of sickness on the part of his Royal Highness, he could assure their Lordships that the illustrious Duke was most anxious to be employed in the public service, and subsequently to his appointment had exhibited the greatest anxiety from day to day to go to his post. The Duke of Cambridge lost no time in proceeding from this country, and when he had executed his duties at Vienna he proceeded without a moment's delay to Trieste, and he (the Duke of Newcastle) had no doubt he had arrived, before this, at Constantinople.

The Earl of HARDWICK said he hoped that the House and the public would place full confidence in the high character and ability of our commanding officers, and that such officers would not be urged on against their convictions by such unseemly attacks of the press (Hear, hear).

OPERATIONS IN THE BLACK SEA.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE complained of the vacillating conduct of the Government in not taking more vigorous measures to prevent the Russian ships conveying from the forts on the Eastern coast of the Black Sea bodies of troops to the garrison at Sebastopol, particularly after our declaration to the Governor at Sebastopol that, in the event of our fleet encountering Russian vessels of war afloat in the Black Sea, our Admirals had instructions to compel them to retire to the nearest port.

The Earl of CLARENDON defended the conduct of the Government, as well as that of the Commanders of the Black Sea fleet; and contended that before the declaration of war, we would not have been justified in adopting stronger measures than those taken by that portion of the Allied fleet that had witnessed the operations of the Russian ships upon the occasion referred to

After some further discussion, in which the Earl of Hardwick, the Duke of Newcastle, the Earl of Malmesbury, and the Duke of Argyll took part, the subject dropped.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

On the motion of Mr. HATTER a writ was issued for Devonport, in the room of the Right Hon. H. Tufnell, who has accepted the office of Steward of the Chiltern Hundreds.

A new writ was also issued for Hastings, in the room of Mr. Brisco, who has also accepted the office of Steward of the Chiltern Hundreds.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER gave notice that on Monday next, in Committee of Ways and Means, he would bring forward certain resolutions with respect to the exigencies of the public service

THE BOMBARDMENT OF ODESSA.

Sir J. GRAHAM, in reply to a question from Mr. French, stated that he had heard, by a telegraphic message from the British Consul at Varna, that, on the 22nd ult., the combined fleet destroyed all the land fortifications at Odessa, together with the outward mole, and the Russian war vessels in it, with a trivial loss of killed and wounded.

Lord D. STUART asked Lord J. Russell whether, whilst this country is at war with Russia, it is the intention of Government to furnish the Czar with the means of carrying on the war against this country by issuing any sums from the British Treasury towards the principal and for the interest of the debt called the Russo-Dutch Loan, contracted to be paid in consideration of the Russian Government adhering to the general arrangements of the Treaty of Vienna—one of such general arrangements being that the navigation of European rivers should be free?

Lord J. RUSSELL replied that England would adhere to her engagements.

The SECRETARY AT WAR, in reply to a question from Mr. Bankes, stated that Government would this session introduce the Militia Amendment Bill.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY.

Sir J. GRAHAM said, it was now his duty to propose a considerable addition to the Naval Estimates, in consequence of the war. He should assume that the war was a necessary one, and that it was expedient to conduct it with vigour and energy, so as to bring it to a speedy and honourable conclusion. The first vote proposed to be taken was £461,700 for wages of seamen. He had formerly asked for an addition of 10,000 men; but, since it appeared that war was inevitable, every effort had been made to raise the number sanctioned by Parliament; but he would now ask for 10,000 more. The coastguardmen had in large numbers joined the navy, and were patterns to the other sailors. The right hon. gentleman then went into a detailed statement of the items which made up the vote of the £461,700.

The total sum now to be provided amounts to £4,558,731, and is distributed in the following way, viz., £461,700 for the wages to seamen and marines; £200,000 for provisions, victualling, stores, &c.; £7000 for the additional expenses in domestic establishments rendered necessary by the war; £48,000 for additional outlay in wages to artificers, &c.; £697,331 for naval stores, &c., for the building and repair of ships; £7000 for new works improvements, and repairs in the yards, &c.; £30,000 for medicines and medical stores; £6000 for additional charges of pilotage; and £3,006,700 for the transport of troops and horses.

After considerable discussion the votes were agreed to.

ARMY ESTIMATES.

Mr. S. HERBERT proposed the supplementary vote for the army. The sum total required on this occasion is £300,000, which comprises the charge to be incurred for the pay, clothing, and incidental expenses of a further augmentation of 14,779 men of all ranks. A comparison of the charges for the two years shows an increase of £1,132,470 being the difference between £7,157,486 the amount for the current year, and £6,025,016, which was that of last year; but, as £332 470 was provided in the original estimates of this session, £300,000 is the additional sum now required.

This vote was also agreed to.

ORDNANCE ESTIMATES.

Mr. MONSELL proposed the Ordnance Estimates. The total of the Supplementary Estimates is £1,132,132, including £21,132 for pay, and for additional pay and allowances on foreign service; £30 000 for the purchase of horses; £2,000 for travelling expences, &c.; £30,000 for barrack supplies; £14,621 for great coats; £22,113 for boots, shoes, &c. for troops in the field; £2000 for salaries and allowances to clerks at home stations; £104,190 for wages in the different establishments at Woolwich; £455,875 for stores: £20,000 for special engineer services in connection with the expedition; and £10,000 for the erection of barracks at Aldershott.

The votes were agreed to.

MAJOR DONALD STEWART, Staff-officer of Pensioners, has been appointed Aide-de-camp to Major-General Mansel, K.H., commanding the Cork district, in Ireland, during the absence of Captain Conolly, employed on the staff of the army in Turkey.

EIGHT LIVES LOST BY FIRE.—On Saturday morning, soon after three o'clock, the premises of Nicholas Brossette, a beer-shop keeper and lodging-house proprietor, in Colchester-street, Whitechapel, were totally destroyed by fire. Mr. Brossette, and his wife and three children, were rescued by a fire escape; but eight men, lodgers, perished in the flames. A man named Frost, who jumped out of window, has since died from the injuries he received.

H.M.S. "MAGICIENNE" TOWING RUSSIAN PRIZES FROM FARO SOUND

THE FIRST CAPTURES IN THE BALTIC.

The accompanying Sketch of H.M. steamer *Magicienne* towing Russian prizes from Faro Sound will be interesting to our readers, as a record of the first-fruits of the War. The first captures made by the Baltic cruisers are four vessels. They belong respectively to the *Imperieuse*, *Euryalus*, *Magicienne*, and *Gorgon*; and were sent by those ships to the picturesque anchorage of Faro Sound, which is formed by the Channel leading through the Islands of Gothland and Faro. It is a dependency of Sweden.

The *Magicienne* was sent from the fleet of Sir C. Napier on the 20th of April, whilst cruising in the Gulf of Finland. She had, besides the charge of these prizes, the despatches for the Government; and arrived at Copenhagen on the 23rd, when she discharged the prisoners of war to H.M.S. *Tribune*, which ship was to bring the prizes to England. The *Magicienne* has been ordered to cruize in the neighbourhood of Hornholm for a week, in search of Russian vessels, and then to rejoin the fleet at Revel.

LANDING OF THE RIFLE BRIGADE AT GALLIPOLI.

THE landing of the Rifle Brigade at Gallipoli, of which our Artist has here given a Sketch, took place on the 8th ult. Sir George Brown and staff, and Lady Errol, with her husband (a Captain in the Rifles) arrived in the same vessel, the *Golden Fleece*. The town of Gallipoli forms a crescent, extending round the bay, and its only defence is an old castle. The houses, which are covered with red tiles, give the place the appearance of a large town; but they are to a great extent abandoned and in ruins, and, when examined, are found hardly to deserve the name, when compared with the most humble houses in England or France. They are generally constructed of unbaked clay, and are of the most squalid description. The French have, however, done wonders in the way of improvement, and if the Allied troops act in their cantonments in the manner in which Gen. Canrobert's troops have acted, they will do the Ottoman Empire as much good, by setting it the practical example of the blessings of civilisation, as they can possibly do in fighting its battles against the Russians. The French have been only a few weeks in Gallipoli—a place usually mentioned with horror, even in dirty filthy, unpaved, disgraceful Pera—and they have made it almost a new town. "Gallipoli," said a high Turkish officer in the service of the Sultan to an Englishman the other day, "Gallipoli is a paradise just at present. Only think—they have made broad streets, and paved them; written up the names of all the streets, and numbered all the houses; from 50 to 60 yards they have erected lamp-posts, and burn large lamps all night. They have made a large bazaar—published a tariff of all the prices; and, besides, they have built a quay to land the troops from the vessels.

THE RIFLE BRIGADE LANDING AT GALLIPOLI.

THE ALLIED TROOPS ENCAMPED AT GALLIPOLI.

"THE HIMALAYA" STEAM-SHIP LANDING TROOPS AT SCUTARI.

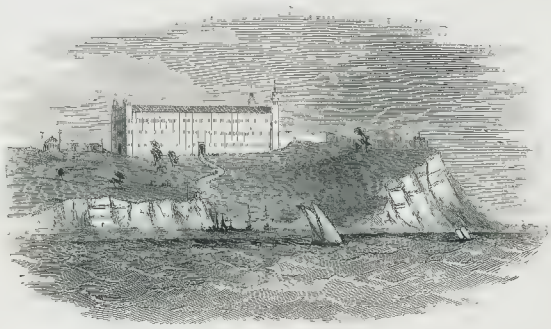
The portion of the camp nearest the town is occupied by the Engineers; the next, which is established at Boquenne (the secret fountain), has been set aside for the Chasseurs de Vincennes; the third, and by far the largest portion of the camp, which is destined for the great body of infantry and the Zouaves, is at a distance of about two leagues from the town, at a place called Boyardi-Conpousson (the Dyer's well). This camp occupies the summit and the declivity of a hill, from which the Sea of Marmora can be seen on the one hand, and the Gulf of Samos on the other. It is a very healthy and picturesque spot. The English camp is situated at a distance of about three quarters of a mile from the large French camp in the neighbourhood of a village called Boulair. This village, which contains about a hundred houses, has been placed at the disposal of the English General and his staff.

THE 88TH CONNAUGHT RANGERS.

We have been favoured by a Correspondent with the accompanying Sketch of the *Niagara*, with the 88th Connaught Rangers on board, passing through the gut of Gibraltar. The Rock, as shown on the left of the picture, looms large and dark against the sky. The town is seen at its base, and the land jutting out on the right of the Rock, and on which there is a light-house, is called Europa Point. The land on the right of the picture is the African coast, and the high rock as there shown is called Ape's-hill. The Rock bears north-east.

LANDING OF TROOPS FROM THE "HIMALAYA."

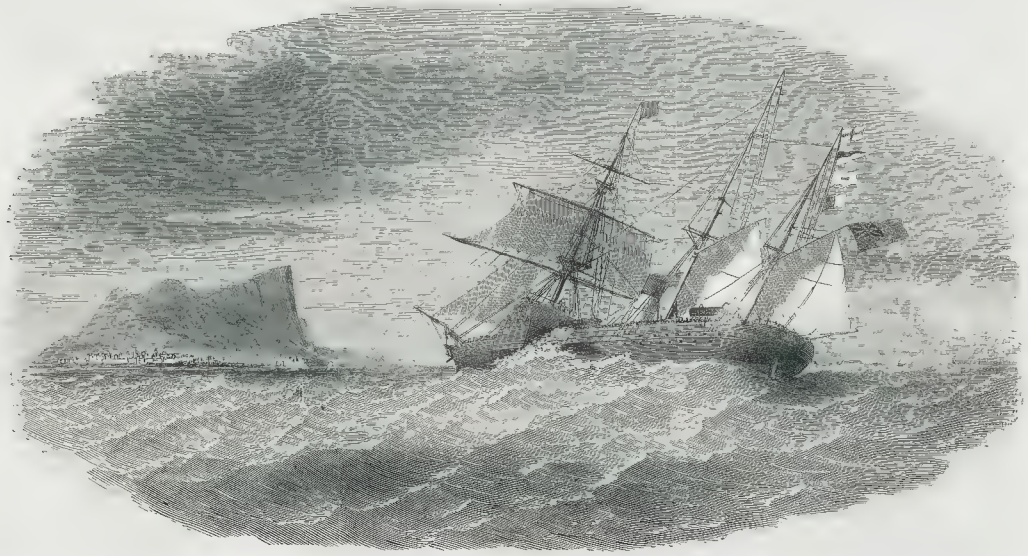
In the forenoon of Good Friday, the *Himalaya* cast anchor at the entrance of the Bosphorus, in front of the great Barrack of Scutari, with the 41st and 33rd Regiments on board. Up to Thursday the weather had been beautiful: indeed, Summer seemed fairly set in. On the night between Thursday and Friday, however, a sudden change for the worse took place, and the morning broke with a downright snow-storm, accompanied by a strong north wind, which lasted for several days, covering Stamboul and its suburbs with a drear and wintry cloak. Not a man could be landed on Good Friday, the sea running very high, and accompanied by a continual north wind. General Adams went on shore, and had an interview with the Ambassador. Next morning the weather did not promise at all fair, and snow was falling fast at eight o'clock; towards nine, however, the wind abated, and the sun broke forth vigorously; but it was not till the afternoon that the disembarkation of the troops was effected; and not even then without some difficulty, and a good many splashes from wilful waves that would leap over the boats, and be the first to wash the British soldiers after their voyage from Malta.



THE BARRACKS, AT SCUTARI-USHLA, OCCUPIED BY THE 33RD AND 41ST REGIMENTS.

The troops having been landed on the Asiatic shore of the Bosphorus, were formed into small detachments as they stepped on shore, and at once marched up the hill to their new home. A regiment of Turkish infantry was drawn out in front of the principal entrance of the barracks, and the Turkish band played a hearty welcome to the British allies as they stepped past. Turkish officers and interpreters were in waiting to receive the troops. The Pasha of Scutari was also in attendance; whilst others had gone on board to welcome the new-comers. The soldiers looked exceedingly well, smart and active, and seemed glad at exchanging the close steamer for the clean and roomy accommodation of the Turkish barrack. The first hundred men had scarcely entered the building before British sentries were already parading up and down at the four gates, having relieved the Turkish guard, with not half the fuss that takes place every morning at St. James's Palace. This metamorphosis seemed much to puzzle the population of Scutari.

Hamals (Turkish porters) and carts with oxen



H.M. STEAM-SHIP "NIAGARA," WITH THE 88TH CONNAUGHT RANGERS ON BOARD, PASSING THROUGH THE GUT OF GIBRALTAR.

were ready waiting at the landing-place, and took up the luggage. Fellows in nondescript mixtures of Turkish, Greek, and Armenian costumes, but all of them with the lower parts of their legs bare, flourished long whips, held small horses by the bridles, and shouted "Cavallo! Buon Cavallo!" with ear-splitting voices. And the small horses were mounted by Turkish officers and soldiers, who put the diminutive animals on their mettle by beating them with their chibouk sticks, while the bare-legged grooms, holding on to the manes or the backs of the horses, managed to keep up even with the smartest pace, and the cavalcade went clattering and shouting through the deserted streets of Scutari, and over the paved highway that leads through the famous graveyard, with its wilderness of tombs and forest of cypress trees, which in its time inspired the muse of Monckton Milnes.

As for the officers of the two regiments, they dined on board the *Himalaya* that evening for the last time, and, in doing so, paid some flattering compliments to the Peninsular and Oriental Steam-boat Company for the liberal style in which the commissariat department of that noble vessel had been managed. Captain Kellock, after returning thanks for the enthusiastic manner in which his health had been drunk, proposed "The British Press, coupling with it the name of Mr. Russell, of the *Times*," for which Mr. Russell returned thanks.

On the 17th the 77th Regiment arrived, and joined the 93rd and 41st in the Selimieh Barracks, Scutari. The 93rd Highlanders, too, arrived on the same afternoon, and went up the Bosphorus to the barracks on the Asiatic shore.

THE BARRACKS OF SCUTARI.

The great Barracks of Scutari, called the Barracks of Selimieh, from having been either commenced or finished by the Sultan Selim, are large enough to accommodate 16,000 men. They form a splendid building, on the elevated shore of, and overlooking, the Golden Horn, and the old Serai on the other side of the water. Two colossal mosques, with their high tapering minarets rising up to the clouds, overlook the vast structure, and enormous cypress trees stand around and shake their dark green branches.

There was a shrill bugle call, and the 41st Regiment formed in sections; the band, stationed at the further end of the square, struck up a lively march, and the Turkish soldiers, inmates of the barracks, and visitors, took up a position on the high terrace which, skirting the front side of the square, overlooks the whole of the ground. There was the usual inspection, the usual manipulations of the muskets, the marching up of the sections and forming into companies; but the most commonplace movement and detail of the routine of duty assumed a peculiar importance on such ground, in such a spot, and before such witnesses. The Turks were vastly delighted. They thronged around the few Englishmen present that could speak their language, and expressed their admiration without reserve and in a very noisy manner. Some of the soldiers asked, with great humility, "Will these red-coated soldiers be allowed to drill us? If so, Inshallah! they will make very good soldiers of us!" And their officers, twiring their black moustaches, every now and then raised their hands, saying, "Inshallah!" which with them is an expression of unbounded delight and admiration. Some went up to the men of the 93rd, who stood looking on while the 41st were on parade. They pulled their sleeves, and endeavoured to engage them in conversation. Finding all their attempts fruitless—for the soldiers only smiled and shrugged their shoulders—they came back and said very sadly, "These are very fine men and formidable soldiers. But they cannot speak. We love them as brethren, because they mean to fight for us. Truly, they are gallant men. May God give them strength!" Some women, too, strange to say, had broken through the customs of their country, and loitered about the entrances to the barrack-yard.

In the afternoon, a great many of the men, having obtained permission to go out, strolled about the graveyard and the streets of Scutari. They entered the Turkish coffee-houses, which certainly are remarkable neither for the splendour nor the cleanliness of their furniture, and stared with all their might at the Turks, who were squatting on the benches, smoking their chibouks, and indulging in dreams of Paradise and all its houris. Some of the men were much edified with what they saw, ner was it likely they should be. They did not like the coffee served up with the "grits" and the "little cups that a man can't put down." It was their opinion that Scutari is a poor place, and the Turks poor fellows—poor, but very good-natured. And, indeed, nothing could exceed the friendliness with which the Turks of Scutari, who are by far more intolerant than the Turks of Stamboul, received and treated the red-coated soldiers. They would come up to them, pull their sleeves and speak to them, nor could they, after repeated failures, be quite convinced of the melancholy fact, that these fine-looking men were utterly deprived of language—at least, as far as Turkish was concerned.

On Sunday the Serasker paid an unexpected visit to the new comers at Selimieh, whose numbers had meanwhile been increased by the arrival of five hundred and forty men of the 49th, and the whole of the 77th Regiment. Immediately after the arrival of his Excellency, the troops—nearly four regiments—were called out and reviewed by General Adams and the Serasker, whose delight and admiration were unbounded. As the 3000 men marched as if one single body were moving, as on grounding their muskets or shouldering them there was but one sound to be heard, the Turkish Minister of War raised his shoulders and flung his head back with astonishment, crying "Inshallah, Inshallah!" and these exclamations were repeated at every fresh evolution. In short, it is not too much to say, that the appearance of the first body of British troops in and near the capital of the Turkish Empire has produced a most favourable impression upon our allies, the lower classes among whom now begin to understand that the few Inglese Franks of Pera, and the tourists, are but a very small portion of the mighty nation which can afford to send so many soldiers to revive the failing fortunes of the Ottoman empire. The first, though to the more intelligent by far a greater exhibition of strength, never made so powerful an impression upon the Turkish populace, who know little of the sea, and have no idea of a sea-fight. But the concentration of an army is what they can understand and respect.

NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.

The Twentieth annual Exhibition of this Society was opened to the public on Monday. Although the collection is not of so ambitious a character, in respect of works in the grand style, or of large dimensions, as some of those of previous years, there are yet enough of productions of this class to sustain the early repute of the Society for giving extended range, and increased intensity to a medium which had formerly been considered only applicable to the sketch-book, landscape sketches, and other pictorial efforts of a comparatively humble class. In other respects, also, the display on the walls, which comprises 367 pictures, is interesting, and as a whole agreeable.

Reserving ourselves until next week for more particular criticisms upon this Exhibition, we shall, for the present, simply enumerate some of the principal works in the various classes.

Amongst the Historical and other Figure subjects, the most prominent are "The Burning of the Images at Basle"—an incident of the Reformation—by E. H. Corbould; and a Scene from "King John," as performed before her Majesty, at Windsor, by the same; "The Fatal Picture"—a poetic and art episode in the life of Rubens—by Kearney; "The Battle of Dramclog" (see "Old Mortality"), by Wiegall; "Ficiola—the Prison Flower," by E. E. Wehnhert; "The Soldier's Wife," and "The Siesta," by W. Lee; "The Warrant Delivered by the Lady Abbess of a Nunnery for the Suppression of her Convent;" and a charming single figure of a German Girl Caressing her Bird, by H. Warren, &c.

Amongst the best Landscapes, we notice "The Decline of Day—Italy," by C. Vacher; "On the Coast," by Tennant; "Ben Lomond," by J. H. Mole, and one or two others by this artist; "Bielstein, on the Moselle," by T. L. Rowbotham; "Short Common, near Alton, Hants," by James Fahey; "On the Field," by J. W. Nymmer; "Richmond Castle," and several others, by W. Bennett; "Havre de Port, Jersey," by S. Boys; "At the Mumbles," by W. N. Hardwick; "Bovisand Heights," by S. Cook; "On the East Lynn, North Devon," by D. H. M'Kewan; "The Wheat Field," by T. Lindsay; "Roslyn Chapel," by Thomas Chase; "Padua," by J. H. d'Edgville; "Scene on the Exe," by G. S. Shepherd; "A Quiet Nook," by J. M. Youngman; "At Harfleur," by G. Howse; "View in Venice," by W. Wyld; "Tripoli, Syria," by C. Vacher, &c.

Amongst the miscellaneous productions, we admire the Bird studies of Weir, and the Fruit pieces of Mrs. Margetts, as excellent specimens in this class of art.

COLONEL ROSE.—The statement copied into our last Saturday's publication, that Colonel Rose had gone to Candia, to superintend the establishment of military hospitals, was not correct. We are authorised to add that Brigadier-General Rose—that being the rank he now holds—is on his way to Gallipoli, to assume his duties as her Majesty's Commissioner to the Head-quarters of the French Army.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, May 7.—3rd Sunday after Easter.
MONDAY, 8.—Half Quarter Day.
TUESDAY, 9.—Corporation and Test Acts repealed, 1828.
WEDNESDAY, 10.—Septennial Parliaments declared, 1716.
THURSDAY, 11.—Easter Term ends. Earl of Chatham died, 1778.
FRIDAY, 12.—Lord Strafford beheaded, 1641.
SATURDAY, 13.—Old May Day. Henry IV. of France assassinated, 1610.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 13.

Sunday.		Monday.		Tuesday.		Wednesday.		Thursday.		Friday.		Saturday.	
h	m	h	m	h	m	h	m	h	m	h	m	h	m
9	30	10	00	10	45	11	20	11	55	Title		0	10
0	35	1	0	1	30	2	0	2	30	3	0	3	35

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

AMICUS is thanked, although we cannot avail ourselves of his suggestions.
WESTMINSTER should apply respecting lessons in Photography, at the PANOPTICON, Leicester-square.
A LOVER OF VIRTUE should forward his complaint to the railway authorities: we have not space for his letter.
G. T. CENTER.—The gross annual amount of duty paid on tobacco is about £4,550,000; and, at the rate of 3s. per lb. duty, that gives an average consumption of nearly 31,850,000 lb., say 21,000,000 lb. At the price of 4d. per lb. in bond the cost of this quantity will be £310,000. For the expense of manufacturing, retailing, &c., including the additional quantity smuggled, we may double this as the extreme cost to the consumer, which will make £1,020,000. If we add this sum to the duty we shall have a total of £5,870,000, as about the sum expended in the United Kingdom on tobacco.
J. B. PEYTON, Duke's Dock, Liverpool.—These are not omissions in our Engravings. When the vessels of the fleet are not under steam, the funnels are lowered in a telescopic manner to a level with the bulwarks of the ship, and can scarcely be noticed.
H. J. R. B. S.—The present Earl of Derby was summoned to the House of Peers in his father's Barony, as Baron Stanley of Bickerstaffe, in September, 1844. Since that period he has been a Member of the Upper House.
NUMMUS.—Your coin is a groat of Robert II., 1371, of no value.
SCOTUS, Liverpool, is thanked. [INCOGNITA.—Declined.

THE CENSUS OF 1851.—Next week we shall publish, gratuitously, Two Supplementary Pages, supplying the Omissions in our edition of the Census; together with additional details of the Population.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 6, 1854.

HOSTILITIES have at length commenced, and, we are sorry to add, with a bitterness of feeling which augurs ill for their speedy termination. But in this instance, as in every other, the Emperor of Russia is to blame. In defiance of the chivalry and courtesy of war between civilised nations—in defiance, also, of usage and humanity, the Russians fired upon a flag of truce hoisted by a British vessel sent to Odessa to carry away the English and French Consuls. The effect of such an outrage might have been anticipated by any one who knew the spirit which generally animates British sailors. An Englishman does not go to war like a savage. He loves "fair play," exhibits it in his own person and actions, and respects the enemy who imitates his example. But to fire upon a flag of truce is to forfeit the consideration which a truly brave man feels for his foe. The same sentiment of indignation pervaded both fleets when the cowardly act was made known; and it seems to have been immediately decided by Admirals Dundas and Hamelin to punish it in the most summary manner. To have attacked Sebastopol, unless aided by a military movement in the rear, would have been premature, and, perhaps, unavailing. Odessa, the chief commercial city of the Russian Empire, and the emporium whence the Czar draws a large portion of the supplies necessary for the subsistence of his army in the Danubian Provinces, was therefore chosen as the point of attack. On the 24th of April the combined fleets appeared before that city, and bombarded it for several hours, inflicting immense damage. For the first time since it was a nation, Russia has felt the weight of the arm of England. If the war produced no greater calamity, the Czar would not remain unpunished for his unprovoked aggression. Unfortunately for him, and for his nation, the bombardment of Odessa is but the first of a series of heavy blows. British and French troops are daily landed at Gallipoli and Constantinople; their commanders have ere this arrived; and we may expect almost hourly to hear accounts of their readiness to support the operations of the fleet on the sea-coast of the Dobrudje, in the Danube itself, or in the Crimea. The day of inaction has passed, and that of sharp and decisive warfare has arrived.

The Czar—as if at last awaking to the full consciousness of the desperate position into which his ungovernable ambition has plunged him—has appealed to the religious fanaticism of his subjects, apparently with the hope of deriving from bigotry and frenzy the support which he cannot find in the justice of his cause. In a proclamation, dated the 23rd of April, he wickedly and falsely represents the war against him as a war against "the orthodox faith." He declares that "Russia will fight for the Christian faith, in defence of her co-religionists, oppressed by their merciless enemies;" and that the real object of England and France is, not only to fight against orthodox Christianity, "but to weaken Russia, and deprive her of her powerful position in Europe." It will be seen that much falsehood is mingled with a slight modicum of truth in this nefarious proclamation. The Czar knows well that the religious question has nothing to do with the war which the Allies have commenced—that it is himself alone who perverts it to that end, and cloaks a guilty ambition under the guise of zeal for the Greek Church, which he, a Greek schismatic and heretic, does not feel, and which the Greek Christians in Turkey would repudiate, if he did. It is, however, true that the desire and design of the Allies, is to weaken Russia, and to deprive her of her position in Europe. But this design they never would have formed, and never could have hoped to accomplish, unless Russia, for political, not for religious purposes, had made herself the common enemy of the civilised world. Condemned and abandoned by his nearest friends and closest allies—forsaken and opposed by Austria, and informed by Prussia that his policy is fraught with peril to himself, and to all who are foolhardy enough to aid and abet him, the Czar shows by his despairing appeal to the worst passions of his subjects, in what a direful extremity he finds himself. History scarcely offers a parallel to his crimes. Honest men hope that his punishment will be as mighty as his offence—and that, by speedily overtaking him, the lives of many thousands of innocent people may be saved. It was bad enough to excite war—to preach a Crusade as he has done, has rendered his crime infinitely more atrocious.

THE Preston strike is at an end. We congratulate the working men of the North at this tardy return to reason. The longer the struggle was continued, the greater was the damage which was inflicted upon the interests of those who were parties to it. We might say something of the hard words in which the "Conference of Delegates" have chosen to indulge, in announcing to the working classes that for want of pecuniary support they can no longer continue the contest. But it is scarcely worth while to refute such assertions as "that there was a universal combination of employers who swept the three kingdoms *for the means of destruction to the Preston operatives.*" It is scarcely wise, however, for such men as the delegates, who received weekly wages out of the hard-won earnings of the poor contributors to the Preston fund, to speak of the paid agents of the manufacturers as "hirelings," or to vent their spleen upon the guardians of the poor, for emptying the workhouses of all who were able and willing to earn a fair day's wages for a fair day's work, in default of those who refused wages, and preferred to live idly upon other men's dole. But it is sufficient that the delegates have been defeated by the apathy of their own class, and their soreness in making their last appeal may be forgiven, if it is not to be palliated. Let us hope, however, that the working classes generally will turn the history of this memorable strike to profitable account, and that they will not again be deluded by such men as those whose names appear to the Preston address. The strike has ended, as all other protracted strikes have done, in inflicting a much larger amount of injury upon the workmen than upon the masters. It has not only deprived them of the honest means of support, for the greater part of a twelvemonth, but, by compelling their employers to look elsewhere for hands, has led to a considerable immigration of competitors, who are not likely to be turned adrift to make room for men who have only yielded from dire necessity, and who would have continued the strike if the weekly pence had come in fast enough to enable them to do so. Now that the malcontents have manifested their willingness to return to their labour, they will find a superabundance of hands in the town and neighbourhood. The consequence must be a diminution of the wages they formerly received, unless there should hereafter arise, from unforeseen causes—which, however, they would not be prudent to speculate upon—such an extraordinary demand for the goods which they manufacture, as should lead to the absorption of the whole of the surplus hands. The working classes need enlightenment upon questions of political economy. They suffer severely for their ignorance; but the day will come when they will understand such matters better, and cease to regard capital as a mythological ogre or great dragon, seeking to devour them; or such men as Messrs. Cowell, Grimshaw, and the rest, as their true friends.

THE subscriptions to the Loan of £6,000,000, in three series of Exchequer Bonds, to be redeemed in 1858, 1859, 1860, which we referred to last week, were closed on Tuesday. It did not transpire, however, till Wednesday that the minimum price fixed by the Government was £98 15s.; at which price less than £2,000,000 of the first series of Bonds had been offered for, and none for either of the other series. A further notice, therefore, was published that, till May 8th, the Government would receive offers to complete the first £2,000,000; and it is understood that this sum has now been subscribed for at £98 15s. The reasons generally assigned for the unwillingness to subscribe are the novelty of the stock, people taking that kind of security with which they are familiar; the smallness of the amount, which makes a narrow market, and exposes the holders of the Bonds to part with them at a loss; and the low rate of interest, when corresponding bonds issued by the railways bear an interest of 4½. Whatever may have been the cause, Government has not succeeded, and will be obliged to raise money by some other means. In the meantime, supplemental estimates for the war service have been issued to the amount of £4,552,731; and it is supposed that the additional Budget which the Chancellor of the Exchequer has announced for Monday, will involve additional taxation to the amount of £6,000,000.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

THE BISHOP OF SALISBURY.—The Confirmation of the Right Rev. Dr. HAMILTON as Bishop of Salisbury took place on Thursday morning, at the metropolitan church of St. Mary-le-Bow. The Consecration will take place at Lambeth Palace, on Sunday week.

NEW CHURCH AT ESHER.—On Thursday the church which has just been erected in the centre of the town of Esher, upon ground given by Mr. Spicer, of Esher-place, was consecrated by the Lord Bishop of Winchester; and the ceremony was very numerously attended. The Hon. Sir Edward Cust attended in the Royal closet as representative of the King of the Belgians.

THE NEW CHURCH AT WEST HARTLEPOOL, engraved in our Journal of April 22, was consecrated on the 20th, by the Lord Bishop of Durham, with considerable demonstration.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—*Prebendaries:* The Rev. A. M'Laughlen, to Fennor, Cashel; Rev. H. J. Barnard, to Combe the Fourteenth, in Wells Cathedral. *Honorary Canonry:* The Rev. J. H. Ellison, to Lichfield Cathedral. *Rectories:* The Rev. J. Leatherdale, to Little Plumstead, near Norwich; Rev. J. G. Longueville, to Eccleston, near Chester; Rev. G. W. S. Menteath, to Hascombe, Surrey; Rev. G. O. S. Figott, to Kingston Seymour, Somerset; Rev. J. B. H. Thompson, to Weyhill, Hants. *Vicarages:* The Rev. T. Blair, to Milbourne St. Andrew, near Blandford; Rev. A. Cowburn, to Tidenham, Gloucestershire; Hon. and Rev. H. W. V. Stuart, to Balkington, near Nuneaton, Warwickshire; Rev. C. Thoroton, to North Rauseby, Lincolnshire. *Incumbent:* The Rev. S. J. Heathcote, to Wilton, near Taunton. *Perpetual Curacies:* The Rev. R. P. Blakeney, to Christ Church, Claughton-cum-Grange, Cheshire; Rev. W. Stothert, to Forest, Prestbury, Cheshire.

TESTIMONIALS.—The following clergymen have recently received tokens of affection and esteem:—The Rev. J. Woodhouse, from the congregation of All Saints' Church, Liverpool; the Rev. W. Hey, from the morning congregation of the Church of St. Olave, York.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—We understand that, in consequence of the great difficulty in procuring iron for the construction of the water-works at the Crystal Palace, they cannot be completed this year.

PRINTERS' PENSION SOCIETY.—The anniversary dinner of this society—for the relief of aged and infirm printers and their widows—was celebrated on Thursday, at the London Tavern; A. H. Layard, Esq., M.P., in the chair—in the absence of Sir Robert Peel, Bart., M.P. About 120 gentlemen sat down to an excellent dinner. The musical arrangements were under the direction of Mr. Young, assisted by Mr. Montem Smith, Mr. Howe, and Mr. J. Shirley Hodson. The amount of subscriptions and donations announced was about £400.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVAL OF LORD RAGLAN AT MALTA, AND DEPARTURE FOR THE EAST.

On the 25th ult. her Majesty's steam-ship *Caradoc* arrived in Malta harbour, having on board the Commander-in-Chief. As soon as the *Caradoc* arrived, a guard of honour of the 62nd was ordered to the Custom-house to receive Lord Raglan, and one from the 46th at the Palace, with a similar object; but his Lordship declined every kind of honour, nor would he even accept of a salute. His Lordship spent the day in visiting the fortifications, and the various other objects of immediate interest; and, having partaken of the hospitality of his Excellency the Governor, embarked in the evening aboard the *Emu*, en route for the East. The *Caradoc* having received some injury to her machinery was unable to proceed, and remained for repairs. When these were completed, she was to leave for Corfu and Trieste, to receive at the latter port his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, and to proceed direct to Constantinople.

EMBARKATION OF THE 79TH HIGHLANDERS.

The 79th Highlanders, commanded by Lieut.-Col. Elliot (about forty officers and 900 men), embarked on Thursday morning at nine o'clock, from Portsmouth Dockyard, on board her Majesty's steam frigate *Simoom*, for Turkey. The bands of the 42nd and Rifle Brigade played them from their quarters, in Cambridge Barracks, to the dockyard. The *Simoom* went out of Portsmouth harbour in the afternoon at 2.45, amid the cheers of many thousands of persons congregated on either shore; and left at five in the evening for Turkey.

A large number of gun-room officers, who arrived in the *Himalaya* from the fleet under Vice-Admiral Dundas, arrived at Portsmouth on Wednesday evening from Southampton, and were berthed aboard the flag ship *Victory*. On Thursday evening they embarked in the steam-tender *Acorn*, for passage to the Downs, to join ships for the Baltic fleet, where the Commander-in-Chief will dispose of them throughout his force. The *Nile*, 91, and the *Miranda*, 16 guns, left Sheerness on Thursday, for the Baltic.

The *Moniteur* of Thursday publishes the following despatches:—

ATHENS, April 28.—Prince Napoleon, who arrived at Syra on the 25th, left that place an hour afterwards on his way to Constantinople.

M. Jean Scutzo, Secretary of the Greek Legation in Russia, has brought 200,000f. from St. Petersburg. It is expected that 300,000f. will be sent from Bucharest. Subscriptions are opened in Russia.

FRANCE.

An Imperial decree, in the *Moniteur* of yesterday (Friday) morning re-establishes the Imperial Guard. It will form a mixed division, will be under the immediate orders of the Marshal of the Palace, and its service will consist in guarding the person of the Emperor. General St. Jean d'Angely is named Commandant of the Guard. A picked corps of cavalry, to be called the "Hundred Horse Guards," is also established.

In the afternoon of Wednesday the police paid a visit to the house of a Russian, who has been living for years in France, and who has been lately residing at Auteuil, a short distance from Paris. They made a strict search among his papers, which they took off with them to the Prefecture of Police. The papers were again examined, and the discovery is said to have been made of a serious correspondence with St. Petersburg. The police again visited his house on Thursday and arrested the Russian. He is, for the present, detained at the Prefecture.

The *Presse* announces that Giraud, the well-sinker, who was buried by a fall of earth at Ecully, on the 14th ult., was got out on Thursday alive, and in a state which inspires no alarm for his life. There was never before an instance of a man being saved after so long an imprisonment in the bowels of the earth, and under such dreadful circumstances. The same journal gives an interesting account of an experiment with a new incendiary ball, made of glass, and containing some newly-combined inflammatory materials. The ball was thrown into the basin of the Palais Royal, and, being then broken with a stick, gave out flames which lasted nearly one minute.

THE COURT.

On Saturday the Queen, attended by the Hon. Flora Macdonald, Lord Charles Fitzroy, and Lieut.-Colonel F. H. Seymour, visited her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester, at Gloucester House, His Royal Highness Prince Albert, attended by Lieut.-Colonel F. H. Seymour, visited in the morning the Gallery of the Society of Painters in Water Colours, in Pall-mall East; and, in the afternoon, the Prince, attended by the Equerry in Waiting, went to the Royal Institution, in Albemarle-street. In the evening her Majesty and his Royal Highness honoured the performance of the French Plays with their presence.

On Monday the Queen gave a juvenile ball, in celebration of the birthday of Royal Highness Prince Arthur. The invitations numbered about 260, and comprised the families of the Foreign Ministers, of the Ministers of State, and of the Ladies and Gentlemen of the Court. At a quarter to 9 o'clock the Queen and Prince Albert, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, the Princess Alice, Prince Alfred, the Princess Helena, the Princess Louise, Prince Arthur, the Duchess of Gloucester and Princess Mary of Cambridge, and attended by the Ladies and Gentlemen of the Royal Household, entered the Throne-room, which was arranged for dancing, and the ball immediately commenced with a quadrille. The Royal Princesses were dresses of white tulle, over white silk, trimmed with apple blossoms and wreaths of the same. The Prince of Wales and Prince Alfred wore the Highland dress. Lords Albert and Ronald Leveson Gower, the sons of the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland, the Marquis of Douglas, son of the Duke and Duchess of Hamilton; the Marquis of Lorn, and the Lords Archibald and Walter Campbell, sons of the Duke and Duchess of Argyll, and other youthful scions of the Scottish aristocracy, wore the Highland costume. Her Majesty's private band officiated for the dancing. Refreshments were served, during the evening, in an anteroom; and at the conclusion of the ball, her Majesty's juvenile visitors were conducted to supper, which was served in the State dining-room.

On Tuesday the Queen and Prince Albert, accompanied by the Princess Royal and the Princess Alice, took a drive in an open landau and four.

On Thursday, the Earl of Elgin took leave, on his returning to Canada. In the evening her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert honoured the Royal Italian Opera with their presence.

The Hon. Caroline Cavendish and the Hon. Flora Macdonald have succeeded the Hon. Lucy Harry and the Hon. Mary Bulteel as the Maids of Honour in Waiting to her Majesty. Capt. the Hon. Dudley de Ros has relieved Lieut.-Colonel F. H. Seymour in his duties as Equerry in Waiting to Prince Albert.

THE LEVEE.

On Wednesday the Queen held a Levee in St. James's Palace. Her Majesty and Prince Albert arrived soon after two o'clock, attended by the Lads as and Gentlemen in Waiting, and escorted by a detachment of the Life Guards. The Earl of Warwick had an audience of her Majesty, and delivered the badge of the Order of the Thistle worn by his father, the late Earl of Warwick. Lieut.-General Lord Seaton had an audience of the Queen, and received from her Majesty his gold stick of office as Colonel of the 2nd Regiment of Life Guards.

The Queen and Prince Albert entered the Throne-room attended by the Countess of Desart, Lady in Waiting and Bedchamber; the Countess of Charlemont, Lady in Waiting; Earl Spencer, K.G., Lord Steward; the Marquis of Breadalbane, K.T., Lord Chamberlain, &c. Her Majesty wore a robe of gold cloth, trimmed with white blonde and white bugles. The petticoat was of white satin, trimmed with white blonde and white bugles, and bows of white ribbon. The Queen's head-dress was a diadem of diamonds.

The diplomatic circle was first introduced. In the general circle, the following presentations had especial interest:—

Lieutenant-General Lord Seaton, on appointment to the Command of the 2nd Life Guards, by Viscount Hardinge.

Lord Napier, on being appointed Secretary to Her Majesty's Embassy at Constantinople, by the Earl of Clarendon.

The Bishop of Salisbury (elect), by the Earl of Aberdeen.

Mr. Justice Richard Budden Crowder, on his appointment as one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, by the Lord Chancellor. Her Majesty was pleased to confer the honour of Knighthood upon Mr. Crowder.

Vice-Admiral Sir George Seymour, on his return from foreign service, and nomination as K.C.B.

Lieutenant-General Sir George Pollock, on being nominated by her Majesty a Director of the East India Company, by Sir C. Wood.

Mr. Chichester Fortescue, on his appointment as a Lord of the Treasury, by the Earl of Aberdeen.

Mr. Edwin James, on his appointment as one of her Majesty's Counsel, by the Lord Chancellor.

Mr. Barnley Kennedy, late Physician-General and President of the Medical Board, Bombay, on his being elected an Alderman of London, in succession to the late Alderman Thompson, by Sir C. Wood.

Lieutenant George Palmer, on promotion, and upon his return from the expedition for the first navigation of the River Murray, in Australia, by his father, Major Palmer.

Her Majesty and Prince Albert, attended by the Countess of Desart, the Countess of Charlemont, and the Gentlemen in Waiting, returned to Buckingham Palace after the Levee, escorted by a detachment of Life Guards.

The Right Hon. Sidney Herbert gave a dinner to the Cabinet Ministers on Wednesday evening, at his residence, in Belgrave-square.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,
TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, MAY 4.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading.	Thermometer. Lowest Reading.	Mean Temperature for the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
	Inches.	°	°	°	°			Inches.
Apr. 28	29.816	53·0	42·4	44·7	— 4·8	80	N.W.	0.05
„ 29	29.694	54·0	38·9	43·9	— 4·0	87	N.W.	0.04
„ 30	29.457	57·8	39·5	47·5	— 7·8	97	N.	0.01
May 1	29.136	57·1	40·2	49·5	— 1·2	97	W.	0.39
„ 2	29.139	61·0	44·2	50·2	— 0·8	86	S.W.	0.01
„ 3	29.472	62·0	46·0	51·0	— 0·2	94	S.W.	0.30
„ 4	29.552	66·0	40·2	52·8	+ 1·0	69	S.W.	0.00

Note.—The sign — denotes below the average and the sign + above the average. The numbers in the seventh column are calculated on the supposition that the saturation of the air is represented by 100.

The reading of the barometer has varied during the week from 29.94 inches on April 28, to 29.18 inches on May 1. The mean for the week, at the height of 82 feet above the level of the sea, was 29.450 inches.

The mean daily temperatures have varied during the week from 7.8° below on April 30, to 1.0° above their average value on May 4. The mean daily temperature of the 30th is the lowest mean temperature recorded on that day since the year 1836, when it was 38.4°. During the time they were below their average values, viz., from April 22 to May 3, the average daily defect was 4.6°.

The mean temperature of the week was 47.8°, being 1.4° below the average of the corresponding week during 38 years.

The range of temperature during the week was 32°.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 16.2°.

Rain fell during the week to the depth of rather more than half an inch.

The weather during the week with the exception of May 4) has been dull—and the sky almost covered with cloud; the sun only seen occasionally, and the atmosphere humid—rain having fallen, more or less, on every day but the last.

For the month of April the mean reading of the barometer, at the level of the sea, was 30.154 inches. The highest temperature during the month was 70.6° on the 19th, and the lowest was 27.6° on the 26th. The range of temperature during the month, therefore, was 51.1°. The mean of all the highest temperatures by day was 62.6°; and of all the lowest by night was 37.6°. The mean daily range of temperature during the month, therefore was 25°. The mean temperature of the month was 49.6°, being 3.3° above the average of 38 Aprils, and the warmest April since the year 1844, when the mean temperature was 51.7°. The mean temperature of evaporation for the month was 45°. The mean temperature of the dew point was 39.9°. The mean degree of humidity was 71; complete saturation being represented by 100. The fall of rain during the month was 0.7 inch (seven-tenths of an inch).

Lewisham, May 5, 1854. JAMES GLAISHER.

MAY MEETINGS.

CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY.—The annual meeting of this society was held in Exeter-hall, on Tuesday, the Earl of Ch chester in the chair. From the annual report it appeared that the amounts received during the past year had been as follows:—General fund, £130,478 13s. 7d.; fund for disabled missionaries, £2016 11s.; China mission, £803 2s. 1d.; total received in the United Kingdom, £134,298 6s. 8d.; local funds, raised and expended in the missions, £10,617 12s. 8d.; making the gross income for the year, £142,915 18s. 11d., being an increase over that of last year of £23,583 15s. The expenditure, including general, special, and local funds, amounted to £131,783 13s. 11d. being an excess over the income of £7867 15s. The following were the principal statistics of the missions presented in the report: Number of stations, 118; English clergymen, 103; foreign clergymen, 49; Native and Asiatic Indian clergymen, 24; European laymen, 30; European female teachers, 14; Native catechists and teachers of all classes, 1661; attendants on Christian worship in the society's missions throughout the world, estimated at 107,000; number of communicants, 17,124. Of the revolution in China, a hopeful, yet anxious expectation was expressed; it being stated that the insurgents under leaders, men constantly employed in printing portions of Gutzlaff's version of the Scriptures, making his soldiers *coporteurs*, and his officers expounders.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.—The anniversary meeting of this society was held on Wednesday, at Exeter-hall. During the year the society had issued no fewer than 1,567,528 copies of the Holy Scriptures at home and abroad, making the total number since the commencement of the society to be 27,938,631.

COLONIAL CHURCH AND SCHOOL SOCIETY.—The annual meeting of this society was held on Wednesday evening, in the Freemasons' Tavern. The Marquis of Cholmondeley occupied the chair. From the report it appeared that the income of the society during the past year amounted to £19,111 13s., which was an increase of £2000 on that of the preceding year. The report gave a gratifying account of the labours of the society's agents in our colonies.

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK.—The British and Foreign School will meet in their school-room, in the Borough-road, on Monday. In the evening the Ragged School Union will meet at Exeter-hall. In the same place the Church Pastoral Aid Society will assemble on Tuesday; that of the Jews' Society Association, on Wednesday; and the London Missionary Society, on Thursday. The annual meeting of the Destitute Sailors' Asylum will be held in the Museum of the Sailors' Home, Well-street, London Docks, on Thursday.

THE BICENTENARY FESTIVAL OF THE SONS OF THE CLERGY will take place in St. Paul's Cathedral, on Wednesday next. As a charity for the relief of the widows and orphans of clergymen this institution is too meritorious in its purpose to need commendation; but the forthcoming festival promises to be the lovers of sacred music a gratification of the highest order, for it will be solemnised, for the first time, under the dome of St. Paul's. The anthems, &c., will be selected from the works of the most celebrated composers, and the choir will number 250 voices, from the choirs of the metropolitan and provincial cathedrals, the chapels Royal, and the collegiate chapels of Oxford and Cambridge. Mr. Goss, the organist of St. Paul's, has composed an anthem for the occasion. The usual afternoon service will be performed, and will be followed by a sermon from the Archbishop of Canterbury. His Royal Highness Prince Albert has graciously intimated his intention to be present. The Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Sheriffs will attend in state, and will be accompanied by the mayors of several other cities and towns. A list of 113 stewards, each of whom, we understand, pledges himself to the payment of thirty guineas at least, contains the names of many of her Majesty's Ministers, the Bishops, Judges, noblemen, members of Parliament, &c. We have only to hope that the contributions of the friends of this ancient and national charity may be in proportion to the care which has been taken to ensure the celebration of the interesting event of the Bicentenary Festival with becoming effect.

ROYAL NATIONAL INSTITUTION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF LIFE FROM SHIPWRECK.—On Thursday a general meeting of the committee of this institution was held at the office of the society, in Johnstreet, Adelphi; Mr. Thomas Baring, M.P., chairman, when a reward of £6 6s. was voted to the crew of the life-boat of the institution, stationed at Filey, on the coast of Yorkshire, in commendation of their laudable services in the said boat to the crew of the sloop *Comet*, of Whitby, which was wrecked near that place on the 28th ult. Also a reward of £6 to four persons for their praiseworthy exertions in a small boat to the crew, consisting of nine persons, of the brig *Jane and Sarah*, of Shields, which went to pieces on the Whiting Sand, near Aldborough, on the coast of Suffolk, on the 22nd ult., the poor fellows narrowly escaping with their lives on the occasion. Other rewards were also voted. Life-boats had recently been placed by the institution at Dungeness and Sandown, three of which were newly despatched to different parts of the coast—which, with their carriages, involve a large outlay; and we regretted to observe that the income of the society was very inadequate to meet the same.

LITERARY ASSOCIATION OF THE FRIENDS OF POLAND.—The annual general meeting of this association was held on Wednesday at Sussex Chambers, Duke-street, St. James's; Lord Dudley Stuart in the chair. The attendance was highly influential, including the Marquis of Breadalbane, the Earls of Harrington and Harrowby, Lord Beaumont, Mr. M. Milnes, and a number of members of Parliament and other gentlemen. In the course of the meeting Mr. Milnes said that "A full consideration of the just claims of Poland for the restoration of her independence would form the best security for the maintenance of the balance of power in Europe, and the establishment of a solid and enlasting peace." The resolution was seconded by the Earl of Harrowby, and carried unanimously.

ELECTION OF ALDERMAN FOR QUEENHITHE.—The adjourned Wardmote for the election of Alderman, in the room of the late J. K. Hooper, Esq., took place in the Church of St. Michael, Queenhithe, at eleven o'clock, on Thursday. The election created more than usual excitement, from the position of the candidates, and the severe struggle made by their friends—the numbers being almost evenly balanced. At the close of the poll, at one o'clock, the Lord Mayor announced that the number of votes was—For Mr. W. A. Rose, 97; Mr. C. A. Croll, 35: majority for Mr. Rose, 2. The Lord Mayor then declared Mr. W. Anderson Rose duly elected Alderman for the Ward of Queenhithe. Mr. Alderman Rose then addressed the wardmote, as did also Mr. Croll, the defeated candidate. It was stated that the list contains only the names of sixty-nine persons entitled to vote, and a protest was made against the decision of the Lord Mayor as to the reception of certain voters whose names are not in the list.

TWO HUNDRED LIVES LOST AT SEA.

A collision took place in the Channel, off the Start, on the morning of Friday, the 29th ult., between a Bremen emigrant ship, the *Favourite*, bound to Baltimore, with nearly 200 passengers, and an American vessel, the *Hesper*, bound to Antwerp. At the time of the collision, between one and two o'clock in the morning, a thick rain was falling, and there was a heavy sea and a strong wind from the westward. The shock was so great that the captain of the *Favourite* was thrown out of his bed. He sprang upon deck, and succeeded, along with the mate and four of the crew, in getting on board the vessel which had run into them. At that time the emigrants could be seen rushing on deck in frantic confusion, but the vessels separated immediately after the collision, and the roughness of the sea prevented the *Hesper* from rendering any assistance to them. The *Favourite* had been cut down below the water-line and very soon settled down with all on board, about 200 persons. The *Hesper* lay to till daybreak, in the hope of being able to save some of the unfortunate passengers; but, when morning dawned, not a vestige of the ship could be seen.

BOMBARDMENT OF ODESSA.

FROM the accounts which have been received of the bombardment of Odessa it appears that twenty-six vessels of the combined fleet arrived before Odessa on the 17th ult., and that the bombardment of the city commenced on the following day, and lasted one hour only. On the 22nd (last Saturday week) the Allied fleets destroyed, in a few hours, all the fortifications, the batteries, and the military stores. Two powder-magazines blew up, and twelve vessels of war were sunk. The merchant-vessels were saved. The loss of the Allies was only eight killed and eighteen wounded.

Thirteen Russian vessels laden with munitions were taken.

The fleet left in the direction of Sebastopol.

Another despatch says, the Russian fleet had sailed out of Sebastopol, and advanced against the Allied fleet, but that, on a portion of the British navy showing battle, the Russian squadron prudently retreated to its stronghold.

The shameful outrage committed by the garrison at Odessa on the boat from the *Furious* with a flag of truce, appears to have led to the bombardment of the city, as the following extract from a report addressed to the Minister of Marine by Vice-Admiral Hamelin, Commandant-in-Chief of the French squadron in the Black Sea, dated on board the *Ville de Paris*, at the anchorage of Batschi, April 10, would lead us to infer:—

The English steam-frigate *Furious* went on the 6th of this month to Odessa, to claim the Consul and such of our subjects as might wish to leave the place at the approach of hostilities with Russia. The *Furious* arrived here yesterday; and, in throwing your eye over the report of the Captain of that frigate, your Excellency will see that, notwithstanding the flag of truce under which she had entered the roads of Odessa, the batteries of Odessa—the number of which has of late been very considerably increased—treacherously fired seven cannon-shot on the boat, a few minutes after she had left the quay and the maritime authorities. This is a proceeding without example in the history of the wars of civilised nations. It is necessary to go back to 1829—the period at which the Dey of Algiers did the same to the *Provence* line-of-battle ship (and this was a line-of-battle ship)—in order to find a similar fact; in other words, we must go back to example in a war with barbarians. Admiral Dundas and I are about to concert the severest measures which are called for by such a proceeding.

VIEWS OF ODESSA.

We have engraved upon the next page three Views, which, with the accompanying historical and descriptive details, will enable the reader to form an estimate of the importance of Odessa as a commercial port.

The extension of Russian commerce was an object of deep solicitude to Peter the Great. He duly appreciated its influence on civilisation. Impressed with that conviction, he established the trade of the Baltic, and had made preparations for similar success on the Euxine, but various obstacles opposed his plans; and, in 1711, surrounded by the Turkish army under Baltagi Mehemet, he only saved himself from destruction, by surrendering all his conquests on the Black Sea. With difficulty he retained Taganrog, in the sea of Azof, as the emporium of the commerce of the south of Russia. There is extant a letter from Catharine the Second to Voltaire, dated the 14th March, 1771, in which she states that "after the conquest of Azof, Peter the Great wished to have a port on the sea, of the same name, fixed on Taganrog. He hesitated for some time after its foundation, as to whether he should build the city of St. Petersburg on the Baltic, or raise one at Taganrog. Circumstances finally decided for the former, but no advantage was derived in respect to climate; as at Taganrog there is scarcely any winter, while ours is exceedingly long." It was reserved for Catharine the Second to realise by conquest the commercial views of Peter, on the Black Sea, and for Alexander to consolidate them by a wise Imperiality.

By the treaty of Kainardji, in 1774, and the convention of 1792, agreed upon between Russia and the Sublime Porte, vessels were allowed to navigate the Euxine, and the passage of the Dardanelles was open to them. To profit by this freedom of intercourse, Hunia, in the year 1779, founded the town of Kherson, on the right bank of the Dnieper, at about seventy versts, or forty-eight English miles, from its embouchure, which is six versts broad, when its numerous shoals are covered with water. Catharine II. conferred many privileges on this new port, which attracted numerous strangers and a flourishing commerce, which sprung up with Constantinople and the Archipelago, and soon extended to Marseilles, Leghorn, and Trieste. Experience, however, soon proved that Kherson was not adapted to become a commanding port in the Black Sea; for its conveniences were greatly overbalanced by its disadvantages. It was found that the cataracts of the Dnieper greatly impeded water communication with the interior—all merchandise being necessarily discharged at the point where they commenced, and there then carried some seventy versts by land, and again re-embarked on the Dniepar to be floated down to Kherson. All vessels which drew more than six feet water were obliged to remain at Ghsbokoge, thirty versts below the town. From the month of October, frequently to the end of March, the Dnieper is covered with ice, the breaking up of which is very dangerous to vessels, and commerce is interrupted for fa ly five months in the year. The site of Kherson is also considered insalubrious, which deters foreign merchants from residence. It is interesting to Englishmen to know that without the barrier of Kherson, and near the Church of the Assumption, is a monument built in honour of Howard the philanthropist.

Odessa, the creation of the present Empress Catharine II., has nearly absorbed all the former importance of Kherson. After the conquest of the Crimea, she determined on building three new fortresses on the frontiers of her newly-acquired territory, and fixed on a spot called Hadji Bey, where the Turks had formerly possessed a small fort. Her object, as M. Demidoff remarks, "was to form a line of defensive works from between Ovidiopol, which was to guard the mouths of the Danube, and Tiraspol, destined to command the course of the Dniester." In 1794 Odessa, then a village, was simultaneously founded by a colonel of Odessa rose on the ruins of the old Musulman fort of Hadji Bey since it is that the old Turks still call Odessa Adgeby. Admiral Khoas, a Neapolitan, in the service of Russia, was the first military Governor. This new port was called Odessa, because an ancient tradition had affirmed that, in the immediate neighbourhood of its site, the Greeks had possessed a colony named Odyssea, or Odysseo. During the reign of the madman Paul I. the interests of Odessa were neglected by the Government; but, on the intercession of Prince Gagarin, President of the College of Trade, the works that had been discontinued were resumed, and the present lazaretto was built. But this city is mainly indebted to the Emperor Alexander for its prosperity, who, on ascending the throne, admitted it to a community of laws with the rest of the empire. The Duke of Richelieu, a refugee from France during the dominion of Bonaparte, was appointed Governor, and his name is still mentioned with gratitude and respect. He greatly improved the city—founded a lyceum, constructed a theatre, and, if we mistake not, a museum of antiquities; but, above all, he vastly improved the tone of society, and infused into the higher classes a cosmopolitan spirit eminently favourable to an emporium of commerce. Alexander fully appreciated the advantages that might be derived both from the export and import trade. One of his earliest measures was to exempt Odessa from taxation for twenty-five years, and from the burden of providing quarters for the troops; while one-tenth of the customs was appropriated to the improvement of the harbour. Alexander next

SEAT OF THE WAR.—ODESSA, ON THE BLACK SEA.

THE QUARANTINE HARBOUR, ODESSA.

lowered the customs by one-fourth, while he ordered one-fifth, instead of one-tenth, of that revenue to be devoted to the amelioration of the port. Two annual markets, a tribunal of commerce, and a school for youths destined to a commercial career, were organised. In 1817 it was declared a free port to all Russian produce; and in 1819 this freedom was extended to all foreign merchandise. In 1821 a regular packet service was established with Constantinople. Odessa is the natural outlet for the wool, grain, leather, and tallow of Bessarabia and Podolia; and these forms the principal exports of those countries. Indeed, this city and harbour are of vital importance to the agriculture of the whole of Southern Russia, and the more so since the repeal of the Corn laws in England—infinitely more valuable to the Emperor Nicholas than would be the annexation of Moldavia and Wallachia to his colossal empire. The granaries of Odessa, almost palatial in their structure, are evidence of what the merchants think of the grain trade, while the jealousy and

THE BOULEVARD, ODESSA.

covetousness of the Government point in the same direction, by seeking to destroy the competition of Ibrailа and Galatz, by blocking up the Sulina Canal and the mouths of the Danube.

The population of Odessa, exclusive of the garrison, is computed at 70,000, and men of all nations are there congregated. Its streets are spacious, but the pavement is execrable. It has about it none of the characteristics of ancient Muscovy. The city is built in an amphitheatric form, round the bay on the cliffs, commanding a fine view of the sea. A quarantine exists, more for political than sanitary purposes. The city requires to be lighted with gas. Odessa has made wonderful progress in the short period of sixty years, and its prosperity must advance as the agriculture of Southern Russia is improved; and in the course of time it may become, in reference to the country behind and around it, what New York has become to the interior of the United States—the great mart of distribution, itself producing nothing.

THE PLACE PREOBRAGOJENSKAIA, ODESSA.

FIELD-MARSHAL THE LATE MARQUIS OF ANGLESEY, K.G.

THE LATE MARQUIS OF ANGLESEY

THE death of this nobleman has removed another of those gallant soldiers who during the Peninsular War, nobly upheld the supremacy of the British arms. Among them all—among the very best—stood prominently conspicuous the gallant soldier whose demise we now record—a man unrivalled in the readiness of his valour and the efficiency of his daring. He was a Murat of the British army; with this beyond the plumed, magnificent dragoon of the Imperial force there was more of thought in his armed display. He could fight and charge like the other, but he knew better when to charge and when to watch the moment that made the fight a winning one. Murat gained the wonder of the Cossacks. Anglesey did more: he won the admiration of the French themselves—civilised judges really able to decide. The military career of Lord Anglesey is in itself a lesson to cavalry officers.

The founder of the noble house of Paget was Henry the Eighth's famous Secretary of State, Sir William Paget, who was one of the executors and legatees of his Royal master, and who, in the subsequent reign was made a Knight of the Garter, and created Baron Paget of Beaudesert. On the death of King Edward, Paget espoused the cause of Mary, and after her accession was sworn of the Privy Council, and appointed Lord Privy Seal. When Elizabeth succeeded in 1558, he retired from public life at his own request, and Camden informs us that her Majesty "returned an affection and value for him, though he was a strict favourer of the Romish church."

After the lapse of almost a century and a half, the descendant and representative of this distinguished statesman, Henry, seventh Lord Paget, was advanced to the Earldom of Uxbridge. His grandson and successor, Henry, second Earl of Uxbridge, died unmarried in 1769, when the Earldom became extinct, but the barony of Paget devolved on his kinsman, Henry Bayly, son of Sir Nicholas Bayly, Bart., and Caroline Paget, his wife. This nobleman, who assumed the surname of Paget, was summoned to Parliament as ninth Lord Paget in 1770, and was created Earl of Uxbridge in 1784. He married in 1767, Jane, eldest daughter of the Very Rev Arthur Champagne, Dean of Clanmacknoise, and by her (who died in 1815) had several children, the eldest, Henry William, who succeeded as second Earl of Uxbridge in 1812, was the late lamented Marquis of Anglesey; the second, William, a Post Captain R.N., died unmarried, in 1808; the third, Arthur, was the late Sir Arthur Paget, G.C.B.; the fourth, Edward, was a General officer, and also a K.C.B.; the fifth, Charles, was Vice-Admiral of the White, and a Knight Commander of the Bath; and the sixth, the Hon Berkeley Paget, died in 1842.

Henry William Paget, Marquis of Anglesey, Earl of Uxbridge, and Baron Paget of Beaudesert, and a Baronet; Lord-Lieutenant and

BEAUDESERT, NEAR LICHFIELD, THE SEAT OF THE LATE MARQUIS OF ANGLESEY.

Custos-Rotulorum of the counties of Anglesey and Stafford; Constable of the Castle, and Mayor of the Borough of Carnarvon: Ranger of Snowdon Forest, and Vice-Admiral of North Wales and of the county of Carmarthen; Captain of Cowes Castle; a Field-Marshal in the Army, and Colonel of the Royal Horse Guards, and of the Royal Regiment of Artillery; K.G., G.C.B., G.C.H., K.M.T., K.S.G.; was born on the 17th May, 1768.

After being educated at Westminster School, and at Christchurch, Oxford, Henry William Paget raised among the tenantry of his father a corps, since known on the roll of military renown as the 80th Regiment of the Line, "the Staffordshire Volunteers." Lieut.-Colonel of this force, Paget with it commenced his military career, by joining, in 1794, the Duke of York, then commanding in Flanders. At Turcoing, Paget first gave a sample of that sil-daring valour which was the pecular and brilliant distinction of his after course. Though victorious in the onset, and, if rightly supported, likely to continue so, the Duke of York was foiled in his progress from want of fresh supplies; for, the Government at home had not yet acquired the energy needed in such a war. The memorable retreat of his Royal Highness was most effectually assisted by Paget, then in his 25th year, and by the valiant 80th, whom he led.

After his return from Holland, Lord Paget remained some years at home, disciplining and perfecting the cavalry under his command. Towards the close of 1808, having in the meantime been gazetted a Major and Lieutenant General, Paget was ordered into Spain with two brigades of cavalry, consisting of the 7th, 10th, 15th, and 18th Regiments of Hussars, to strengthen the corps of the army under Sir David Baird, who was marching through Gallicia for the purpose of effecting a junction with the main body advancing upon Salamanca under Sir John Moore. When the celebrated retreat to Corunna commenced, Lord Paget was stationed with his division of cavalry a few miles from Sahagun. At the latter place a body of the enemy's horse, amounting to seven hundred, had been posted, which his Lordship proposed, by a rapid movement, to cut off from the main body of the French force. Accordingly, at two on the morning of the 21st Dec., 1808, Major-General Slade was despatched by a different route than that which his Lordship proposed pursuing, with the 10th Dragoons, while Lord Paget, with the 15th, moved rapidly in a contrary direction, reached Sahagun from the other side, and surprised the enemy. He out-manœuvred and charged them while getting into line. The rapidity and force with which his cavalry rushed on could not be withstood by the French—their line was broken, slaughter, total dispersion soon followed. Two Lieutenant Colonels and upwards of two hundred other prisoners proved the fruits of this bold and well-planned expedition. In the remainder of the retreat his cavalry brigade brought up the rear, when his Lordship's zealous ardour frequently exposed him to imminent danger. Skirmishes, of course, were of more than daily occurrence; but, by the masterly disposition of Lord Paget, and the consummate discipline and alacrity he had created, the British troops were enabled to continue their retreat with trifling loss. At Mayorga, a well-directed attack was executed on a considerable force of the enemy by a detachment of the 10th Hussars, in which the British were successful, and upwards of one hundred of the French, men and officers, were made prisoners. At the plains of Corunna, while some soldiers were conveying their wounded and dying commander from the field, Lord Paget hastened with the reserve to support the right wing of the army. Perceiving Colonel Beckwith, at the head of the Rifle corps, retiring before a superior force, his Lordship attacked it with surprising courage, repulsed it, and then pressing on dispersed everything before him, until the enemy, perceiving their left wing in danger, drew it entirely back. This bold movement decided the fate of the day: it deterred the French from further advance, and the victory of the contender was safely interred, and the entire army embarked in the vessels waiting in the harbour. Thus Lord Paget gradually acquired for the English cavalry that high character which they so well maintained in subsequent campaigns. The able daring through which the retreat upon Corunna was protected by the Hussar division had the warm approbation of Moore: it will ever continue a theme for military admiration and example. Lord Paget likewise commanded a division of the army under Lord Chatham, at Walcheren.

Another return to England, and another lapse of time, occur; and then Lord Paget, after (in 1812) succeeding his father as Earl of Uxbridge, is to consummate his warlike reputation on the field of Waterloo. The March of 1815 brought Napoleon back to France from Elba, and recalled the scattered armies of the Allies. The command of the large cavalry forces attached to the Anglo-Belgian force was given to the Earl of Uxbridge. His bearing and exploits on that field have been the theme of orator and historian. There are few anecdotes of all their incidents to require repetition. Conspicuous as ever for bravery, the Earl contributed largely to the success of the operations that won the day. Almost the last cannon-shot fired by the foe struck his Lordship in the right knee, inflicting a wound which rendered immediate amputation necessary: the leg of the hero lies buried beneath a green mound in a garden opposite the inn at Waterloo.

The Earl of Uxbridge was, on the 23rd of June, 1815, created Marquis of Anglesey.

In politics Lord Anglesey was, in some matters, Liberal; in others the reverse. He took rather a conspicuous part in public affairs. Under Canning's brief Administration he succeeded the Duke of Wellington as Master-General of the Ordnance, with a seat in the Cabinet. On the 1st March, 1828, he was appointed Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, and with great popularity held the office for one year. He was succeeded by the late Duke of Northumberland; but was himself again appointed in December 1830. Declining health made him finally resign the Vice-Royalty in 1834. From that period he retired into private life; but there, again, he was not inactive, for he was wont to share with lively interest in all the social occupations and amusements that became the English gentleman, such as he was in manner and bearing. Like the great Duke, his illustrious chief, the Marquis (as well observed by a contemporary), was to be constantly met in places of public resort; and, like the Duke, he was always recognised with pleasure, and looked on with affectionate regard. In those who win battles for them, the English people have a kind of grateful pride that never dies.

Lord Anglesey married, first, the 26th July, 1795, Caroline Elizabeth, daughter of George, fourth Earl of Jersey. This marriage having been dissolved by the law of Scotland (her Ladyship subsequently marrying George, sixth Duke of Argyll, and dying in 1835), his Lordship wedded, secondly, in 1810, Charlotte, second daughter of Charles, first Earl Cadogan—her union with Sir Henry Wellesley, late Lord Cowley, having been previously dissolved by act of Parliament. Her Ladyship died the 5th July, 1853.

By his first marriage, the Marquis of Anglesey had issue two surviving sons—Henry, fourth Earl of Uxbridge (now second Marquis), and Lord William Paget; and five daughters—Caroline, Duchess of Richmond; Jane, Marchioness of Conyngham; Georgiana, Lady Crofton; Augusta, Lady Templemore; and Agnes (who died in 1846), the wife of the Hon. G. Stevens Byng.

The Marquis, by his second marriage, had three sons—Lords Clarence, Alfred, and George Paget; and three daughters—of whom the eldest, Emily, is the wife of Viscount Sydney, and the second, Mary, of the Earl of Sandwich.

Lord Anglesey died at Uxbridge House, on the 29th ult. The noble Marquis is succeeded in his honours by his eldest son, Henry, who was, in 1832, summoned to the House of Peers in his father's barony of Paget.

The accompanying Portrait is from a picture painted by the Hon. Mr. Graves, for the Earl of Sandwich: the likeness is admirable.

BEAUDESERT (a View of which is engraved on the preceding page) is situated two miles south-west of the Armitage station of the Rugby and Stafford Railway. The mansion is placed upon an eminence, embosomed in trees: it was partly rebuilt in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, by Thomas Lord Paget; the exterior is magnificent, and the restorations have been judiciously conducted. The plan is that of a half H, and includes a picture-que entrance-porch; a grand hall, with a lofty roof, and a fine window of armorial glass; a magnificent gallery, and a suite of state rooms. The estate belonged, originally, to the Bishops of Lichfield, and was granted to Sir William, afterwards Lord, Paget, by King Edward VI. Of this nobleman, Fuller observes a foreign potentate said: "he is not fit to represent Kings, but to be a King himself."

The funeral of the late Marquis will take place this day (Saturday), in Lichfield Cathedral. We shall illustrate the impressive scene in our Journal of next week.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

THE KNIGHT OF GLIN.

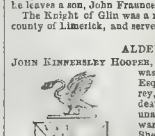
THE death of this respected gentleman, of cholera, occurred last week. The singular title the deceased bore originated thus:—John Fitz-Thomas Fitzgerald, Lord of Decies and Desmond, by virtue of his Royal seigniory as a County Palatine, created three of his sons Knights, and their descendants have been so styled in Acts of Parliament, patents under the Great Seal, and all legal proceedings up to the present time. From Gilbert, the eldest of the three sons, descended the White Knight; from John, the second, the Knight of Glin; and from Thomas, the third, the Knight of Kerry.

John Franncois Fitzgerald, the late Knight of Glin, was born 28th June, 1791, the only son of John Fitzgerald, Knight of Glin, by Margaretta Maria, his wife, daughter of John Fraunois Gwynn, Esq., of Ford Abbey, Devon. He married, 28th July, 1812, Bridget, fifth daughter of the Rev. Joseph Eyre, of Westerham, in Kent, by whom he leaves a son, John Franncois Eyre Fitzgerald, and other issue.

The Knight of Glin was a magistrate and Deputy-Lieutenant for the county of Limerick, and served as its High Sheriff in 1830.

ALDERMAN HOOPER.

JOHN KINNERSLEY HOOPER, Esq., an Alderman of the city of London, was the third son of the late Richard Hooper, Esq., of Queenhithe, and of Lumpfield, Surrey, and was born in the year 1790. On the death of Alderman Venables, in 1840, he was unanimously chosen to succeed him in the ward of Queenhithe. He served the office of Sheriff in 1842: and, in 1847, was elected Lord Mayor. The year in which he filled the civic chair was one of no ordinary difficulty and responsibility: during it occurred the memorable 10th of April, 1848, when the safety, not only of the metropolis, but of the country at large, seemed in jeopardy. The Lord Mayor (Hooper) displayed on that occasion much sense and decision; and to his judicious arrangements may be greatly attributed the preservation of the peace. Later in the same year, Lord Mayor Hooper received the French National Guard at the Mansion-house.



The Alderman died at St. Leonards-on-Sea, on the 17th ult., aged sixty-three.

LORD COCKBURN.

HENRY THOMAS COCKBURN, a distinguished Scottish advocate and judge, was born in 1778. He was the son of Archibald Cockburn, a Baron of the Court of Exchequer in Scotland, by his wife, a daughter of Capt. David Kerr, of Ardville Castle, and sister of the first wife of his colleague, Henry Dundas, Viscount Melville. Henry Cockburn was called to the Scotch bar in 1800, and soon acquired reputation and practice. His eloquence was remarkable. "Of all the great pleaders at the Scottish bar," says one friendly critic, "Mr. Cockburn is the only advocate who is capable of touching, with a bold and assured hand, the chords of feeling—who can, by one plain word, and one plain look, convey the whole soul of tenderness, or appeal with the authority of a true prophet to yet higher emotions which slumber in every breast, but are dead, I think, in none. As every truly pathetic speaker must be, Mr. Cockburn is a homely speaker; but he carries his homeliness to a length which I do not remember ever to have heard any other truly great speaker venture upon. Mr. Cockburn's effect on a Scottish jury is such, that no one would wish to see him alter anything in his mode of addressing them. He is the best teller of a plain story I ever heard. He puts himself completely upon a level with those to whom he speaks; he enters into all the feelings with which ordinary persons are likely to listen to the first statement from a partial mouth, and endeavours, with all his might, to destroy the impression of distrustfulness which he well knows he has to encounter. He utters no word which he is not perfectly certain his hearers understand, and he points out no inference before he has prepared the way for it, by making his hearers understand perfectly how he himself has been brought to adopt it." This was written in 1818; for a long period after that, Cockburn continued to melt and move the Scotch courts with masterpieces of oratory.

The year 1830 saw an end of the exile of the Whig party from power. The offices of Lord Advocate and of Solicitor-General for Scotland fell, by common assent, to Jeffrey and Cockburn—names long linked together in men's mouths as rival leaders at the bar; now to be associated as colleagues, first in political office, and afterwards on the judicial bench to which both were elevated in the same year—1834. They were destined hereafter to be known in a still dearer relation, by that unbroken friendship of fifty years, to which we owe one of the most interesting of recent biographies—Cockburn's "Life of Jeffrey." In 1834, Henry Cockburn became one of the permanent Lords Ordinary of the Court of Session, and assumed the courtesy title of Lord Cockburn. In 1837, he received the additional appointment of Lord Commissioner of Justiciary. Except the too brief biography of Lord Jeffrey, which he published in his seventy-fourth year, Lord Cockburn printed only a few fugitive pieces—articles in the *Edinburgh Review*, and the like. His love of art and devotion to the Scottish capital drew from him, some four or five years ago, a characteristic pamphlet on "The Best Way of Spoiling the Beauty of Edinburgh."

Lord Cockburn died at Bonaly, near Edinburgh, on the 26th ult., after a short illness.

THOMAS PLUMER HALSEY, ESQ., M.P.

THIS gentleman was the eldest son of Mrs. Sarah Halsey, of Gaddesden-park, by her first marriage with Joseph Thompson Whately, Esq., third son of the Rev. Dr. Whately, brother of the Archbishop of Dublin, and nephew of William Plumer, Esq., many years M.P. for Herts. Mr. Joseph Thompson Whately assumed the name of Halsey by Act of Parliament, in 1804. His son, Thomas Plumer Halsey, the subject of this notice, was born the 26th Jan., 1815, and married, in Jan., 1839, Frederica, daughter of Lieut.-Colonel Johnston, representative of Johnston of Hilton, by whom he has, with other issue, a son, born in 1839, now a student at Eton. Mr. Thomas Plumer Halsey was first returned to Parliament for Hertfordshire in 1846, on Tory principles. In 1847 he came in without opposition; and on the occasion of the last contest, in 1852, he was at the head of the poll. The family of Halsey is one of the oldest in the realm; their property is very extensive, and is almost entirely situate in the county of Herts. The maternal grandfather of the deceased represented Hertfordshire during the years 1774, 1780, 1784, and 1790. Mr. Thomas Plumer Halsey, his wife, and youngest son, together with two servants, were drowned in the Mediterranean, on the night of the 24th ult.—the *Ercolano*, the vessel in which they were, having foundered immediately after its collision with another vessel, the *Sicilia*.

ERRATA.—In the memoir of Lieutenant-Colonel Acton, at page 383, the Rev. Acton Warburton should be the Rev. *Thomas* Acton Warburton. In our memoir of James Holford, Esq., we were in error in stating that he was of the same family as the late Lieut.-Col. Gwynne Holford. No relationship, we are informed, existed between them.

TOWN AND TABLE-TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

THE principal subjects of conversation during the week have been the Royal Academy Dinner on Saturday last, and the Literary Fund Dinner on Wednesday last. At the Academy dinner Sir Charles Eastlake presided, and at the Fund dinner Lord Mahon was in the chair. Sir Charles spoke to the point: he was neat in all that he said; and Academicians, accustomed to lament that eloquence, departed from the Academy with Sir Thomas Lawrence and Sir Martin Archer Shee, have been loud in their praises of their new President. Sir Charles exhibited considerable tact in bringing Lord John Russell and Mr. Disraeli to reply to the same toast, and both spoke well—the landscape-painters of the Academy preferring the novelist, the portrait-painters giving their suffrage in favour of the Lord. But the best speech of the evening was the Lord Chancellor's; and so apposite was an allusion which he made, that the portrait of Lord John Russell is now known among the students (those who are wags) as the portrait of Prince Lee Boo. It may be proper to explain the allusion. When Lee Boo was asked if he knew the object of the portrait for which he was sitting, "Oh, yes," was his reply, "me understand it well. *This* Lee Boo die; *that* Lee Boo live." And Mr. Grant's portrait of Lord John will live.

At the Literary Fund dinner Lord Mahon spoke feelingly and appropriately. But he was not well supported. How was this? There were very few literary men of any rank present. And yet his Lordship is deservedly popular with his fellow authors—liked for his history—esteemed for his manly and courteous bearing. To what, then, are we to attribute so poor an attendance? We fear to the unpopular administration of the Fund. And yet the secretary is liked. But it is not the fault of the secretary that the Fund is so unpopular among authors who do not require its assistance, and who are able and would be willing to support it were it differently conducted. The truth is, the Literary Fund stands in need of an entirely new committee of management. Like the Highlander's gun, it wants a new lock, a new stock, and a new barrel. Money it does not want; and the distribution of its funds, in secrecy, is the true delicacy of real charity.

The Royal Academy, we have always been assured by its members, is a private body; but its privacy on its great day is fast disappearing, if reporters are admitted, and the speeches are to be read at full-length in the papers of the next day. We shall be glad to see the privacy entirely disappear. The dinner in olden times was a kind of bribe to patrons—and the Academicians, whose picture remained unsold after the dinner, was thought to have done his day's work badly. Now this button-holding of patrons at the private view, and at the dinner, is all but an extinct custom. Noblemen are no longer talked into becoming purchasers of pictures they do not understand; and ladies are not persecuted from room to room to sit for a full-length, or at least a kit-kat. For what is said, the utmost publicity is now courted. Thanks to Sir Charles Eastlake, Mr. Robert Vernon, for this wholesome change. Prince Albert was not present at the Academy dinner; but he was not, perhaps, expected this year. Last year he was. Who does not remember the excellent speech made by the Prince on the last anniversary but one? Another such speech was expected last year; and another such speech would have been heard, had his Royal Highness attended the dinner. The Academicians expected too much. His Royal Highness's attendance was given partly as a compliment to the new President.

Christie's rooms this week have been crowded with collectors, critics, connoisseurs, and artists. The pictures of the late Mr. Wadmore have been on view: and the three Turners, to which we directed attention at the time of Mr. Wadmore's death, have had their full share of admiration. High prices have been talked about—£1500 for each; nor should we be surprised if at least one of them went for a few hundreds more. The choicest of the three, to our liking, is an early picture, "The Guardship at the Nore"—one of Turner's best-known works, and full of his finest qualities. It is smaller in size and infinitely less showy than the two pictures of a later date which hang beside it: these are "Cologne" and "The Harbour of Dieppe"—the latter being, as was generally admitted, the better picture. Fine efforts in landscape painting are these two marvellous pictures. If anything, they are too yellow. They were painted, no doubt, in Turner's "Jessica" period, when his palette was prepared for that wonderful piece of gamboge so familiar to all who are acquainted with princely Petworth. But the three Turners were not the only attractions at Christie's. A little Wilkie, "A Trumpeter of the Life Guards pulling up his Horse to receive a Glass of Spirits from a Girl" (a study for the Chelsea Pensioners), detained the eye by its vigorous treatment and fine colour. A portrait of Mrs. Garrick (by Hogarth), painted in his "Peg Woffington" vein, and some sunny landscapes by John Burnet, engraver, painter, author, found many admirers. We shall chronicle some of the prices in our column of next week.

In the obituary of this week we observe the name of William Pickering, publisher—he that has given us so many beautiful editions of our best authors; who was always reprinting Walton's "Angler," and "Lives," and George Herbert's "Remains," in the best type and on the very best paper. He was far from an ordinary publisher: he had little or nothing of what Johnson used to call "the mercantile ruggedness of that race." He was full of information about the best books and the best authors; and, in his willingness to communicate what he knew, he reminded us of poor Thomas Rodd. Much curious information died with William Pickering. He should have died rich, but his death was hastened by an unexpected bankruptcy. The world is not often kind to its best benefactors. The reading world owes a debt of gratitude to William Pickering.

Mr. Weld has very properly called our attention to a slip of the pen in our last week's paper:—

THE ROYAL SOCIETY.—*To the Editor of the* ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.—Permit me to rectify an error in the last number of your Journal, with reference to the Royal Society. It is there stated, "People are talking about the elections on Thursday last, into the Royal Society." No elections took place on that day. The Council, in accordance with the statutes, selected a certain number of candidates to be recommended to the Society for election in June next; on the 1st day of which month the Fellows at large will, in virtue of their charter, elect whatever candidates they think proper.—I am, &c., C. R. WELD.—Somerset House, May 2.

If we had written selection instead of election, we should have accurately recorded the gossip of the day.

The amended bill for transferring the duties of the Prerogative Will-office from the Archbishopric of Canterbury, contains some capital provisions. The wills registered in England and Wales are to be swept up to London, to one central office, and the calendars of the wills are to be printed. These changes will lead to other changes, and to an inundation of knowledge about men and property, and manners and customs, that will surprise the most intelligent and industrious of antiquaries. The present Prerogative-office is to be called the "Testamentary-office," until another office shall be appointed by her Majesty in Council. The three Registrars are to have £1600 a year each, and the two Record Keepers £600 a year each. Any year's excess of income over expenditure is to be paid into the Consolidated Fund—in other words, the public purse; and, should a deficiency in any year occur, it is to be made good from the same source. All this should have been done at least thirty years ago.

WILLS.—The will of Sir John Conroy, Bart., of Arborfield-hall, Berks, who died in March last, has been proved in Doctors' Commons. He has devised his real estates to his eldest son; and his personalty, estimated at £10,000, he leaves to his widow.——John Courage, the eminent brewer, of Shad Thames, and Horseleydown, and of Dulwich, died intestate; but possessed of personalty estimated at £160,000.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

FERGUS, OLLAPOD, and others.—The solution of Enigma No. 805 is as follows:—

WHITE.	BLACK.
1. Q to K R 3rd (ch)	K takes Kt or Q 4th
(If Black takes the other Kt, White checks at K Kt 5th, &c.)	
2. Kt to Q B 7th—and Mates next move	

J. L. of T. C. P.—Quite correct. In future send your solutions earlier.

J. F. R. of Stuttgardt.—It is given in the May number of the *Chess-Players' Chronicle*.

J. W. S. of H., LINCOLN, SCOTSMAN, "S. F. H."—Under consideration. Contributors should always send their names and addresses.

ESDNOR D., of Keone.—No good enough to observe our notice to Foreign Correspondents in the last number.

MR. VON H., M DE R., RUSSELL.—MANY thanks—an acknowledgment was forwarded by post.

SIGNOR CALVI will greatly oblige us by sending a precise address. The name of a foreign city is not sufficiently explicit.

ALBERT, Surbiton.—Join the Richmond Chess club, and you can then have the practice you require. The Secretary is Mr. Harris, Chemist, of Richmond.

T. Y., Camberwell.—It is much below our standard, and requires too many moves.

J. G. L.—In Problem No. 532 White is to mate in three moves. 2. Your solution of No. 530 will never do.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 531, by Deevers, Tops, M. P., Omega, Medicus, Philo-Chess, Chelicus, T. J. Harwood, Ernest, S. F. Q. R., Hiberius, are correct.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 532, by True Blue, M. P., Major R., Omicron, F. R. of B., are correct.

SOLUTIONS OF ENIGMAS by Deevers, J. N., F. R. of B., Gregory, True Blue, O. P. Q., Alpha, are correct. All others are wrong.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 531.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. Kt takes Q P (dis ch)	K takes Kt (best)	3. R to Q 4th (ch)	K takes R
2. Kt to Q B 6th	R to K 6th (best)	4. Kt takes Kt—Mate	

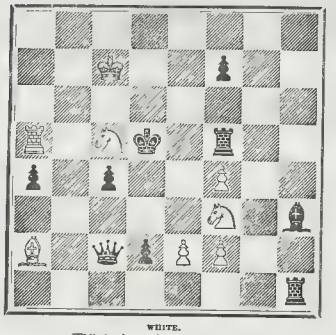
PROBLEM No. 532.

The conditions of this stratagem, which were omitted last week, are—"White to play, and mate in three moves." We reserve the solution till our next Number.

PROBLEM No. 533.

This fine position is by Mr. W. GRIMSHAW.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in four moves.

SOUTHAMPTON CHESS-CLUB.—The second annual soirée of this Club was held on Friday, the 21st ult., and was fully attended. During the evening, Herr Horwitz amused and astonished the ladies and gentlemen present, by playing three games at one time—two of them without seeing the Chess-boards, and the third against the President of the Club.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

NEWMARKET FIRST SPRING MEETING.—MONDAY.

Match 100; h. ft.—Nathan, 1. Assault, 2.

Handicap Sweepstakes.—Vesty, 1. Lady Flora, 2.

Sweepstakes of 200 sovs.—Ladybird, 1. Miss Charlotte, 2.

Sweepstakes of 50 sovs.—Scythian, 1. Weathercock, 2.

Handicap Plate.—Ariosto, 1. Captain Flash, 2.

TUESDAY.

Match, 200 sovs.; h. ft.—Umbriel, 1. Miss Sarah, 2.

Coffee room Stakes. Spinaway, 1. Fact, 2.

Two Thousand Guineas Stakes.—Hermit, 1. Middlesex, 2. Value of the stakes, £2700.

Handicap Sweepstakes.—Leybourne, 1. Child of the Mist, 2.

The Queen's Plate.—Khadidjah, 1. Perfidious, 2.

Fifty Pounds.—Ariosto, 1. Sackbut, 2.

WEDNESDAY.

Sweepstakes of 50 sovs.—Pelham, 1. Margaretta, 2.

Plate of 50 sovs.—Bobby, 1. Chorus, 2.

Selling Handicap Sweepstakes.—Durindana, 1. Rally, 2.

Renewal of the Sweepstakes of 50 sovs. each.—Epaminondas, 1. Spinaway, 2

Handicap Plate of £50.—Poodle, 1. Nervous, 2.

Match 100, h. ft.—Economy 1. Herbert, 2.

Sweepstakes of 50 sovs. each.—The Trapper walked over.

THURSDAY.

Queen's Plate.—Ratsplan, 1. Lamentine, 2.

Sweepstakes of 100 sovs. Champagne, 1. Scythian, 2.

The Second Guiness Stakes.—Virago, 1. Meteoro, 2.

Handicap.—Ephesus, 1.—Testy, 2.

FRIDAY.

Match.—Acrobat beat Physalis Colt.

Newmarket Stakes.—Champagne, 1. Middlesex, 2.

Handicap Sweepstakes.—Fully o' the Day, 1. Sweetness, 2.

Sweepstakes, 10 sovs.—Thessaly, 1. Freckle, 2.

LATEST BETTING AT NEWMARKET.

CHESTER CUP.—12 to 1 agst Dr. O'Toole; 14 to 1 agst Alsford; 14 to 1 agst Acrobat; 20 to 1 agst Newmbuster; 20 to 1 agst Piggy; 25 to 1 agst Tom (taken freely). 30 to 1 agst Sandhurst; 30 to 1 agst Joe Miller; 30 to 1 agst Llandovis; 30 to 1 agst Caspian; 50 to 1 agst Lancashire Lass; 50 to 1 on Newmuster agst Acrobat.

DERBY.—8 to 1 agst Antocrat; 8 to 1 agst Devrish; 20 to 1 agst Wild Huntsman (taken freely); 100 to 1 agst Marley Hill (t).

AQUATIC FEAT.—One day last week five young men, all under twenty years of age, left Vauxhall-bridge in a four-oared outrigged cutter, and reached Margate Charta Island in time to breakfast with their friends at Wraysbury, by 2 o'clock. They returned to their homes, in Lambeth, at nine o'clock on the evening. The distance of the two journeys is about eighty miles; they had seven locks to pass; and they not only spent several hours at Wraysbury, but also an hour at Hampton, and another hour at Sheerlake.—*Windsor and Eton Express.*

ROYAL LITERARY FUND.—The sixty-fifth anniversary dinner of this institution took place on Wednesday evening, at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street. Viscount Mahon presided; and, in proposing "The Literary Fund," took occasion to speak with congratulation as to the many political men who had cultivated a taste for literature. If he wished to produce an example of how the love of literature could be combined with eminence in politics, he knew not that he could find a more appropriate instance than that which was supplied by their own President, the Marquis of Lansdowne. It was, if he mistook not, not less than forty-eight years since Lord Lansdowne first sat in a Cabinet; and he sat in a statesman was wholly without a precedent in the annals of this country; and in the midst of political contention Lord Lansdowne had never ceased from pursuing literary accomplishments, and from showing, as they could bear testimony, the most courteous and anxious attention to every person and to every subject connected with the literary profession. The TREASURER announced that grants to the amount of £1400 had been distributed during the last year among forty-seven persons—of whom thirty-one were gentlemen and sixteen were ladies; and read a long list of donations, including that of 100 guineas from her Majesty (seventeenth year).

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

SCHUMLA, April 6th, 1854.

ALTHOUGH the Turkish peasantry is flying into Schumla to escape the enemy, there is reason to believe that the Russian force in the Dobrudja has not been considerably increased since I last wrote; nor has it advanced further forward than the town of Babadagh. The Russians, it would seem, only intended the passage of the Danube at the point they chose as a blind to conceal more important operations. Their plan, it is supposed, was to lead the Turks to believe that the great body of their army had been concentrated at Braillow, and that it would by degrees pass on to this side of the Danube. Omer Pacha, under this impression, would, as they supposed, advance from Schumla to meet them, and fight a battle in the neighbourhood of Karasu. Whether that battle were won or lost is not here the question. Omer Pasha would have been called away to a distance from Schumla, and the main body of the Russians, which is concentrated near Bucharest, and not at Braillow, would have crossed between Toutracan and Rustchuk, taken the Turks in flank, destroyed them, and then marched on in triumph to Adrianople. If such was the calculation of the Russians, they have been mistaken. Omer Pacha has not advanced a single man to meet the corps of Lüders on the Dobrudja, and is still determined to remain on the defensive, watch the Upper Danube, and wait for the coming of European reinforcements. Orders in the meanwhile have been sent to Achmet Pacha, to forward to Schumla all the available cavalry which he can spare; and, for the present, the remaining force in that place is not to be withdrawn. The impressions already more than once conveyed to you that this corps was only amused by a small force of Russians, is confirmed by news just received from Widdin. The Turks advanced a few days ago from Kalafat to Poyana, and found it occupied by four squadrons of cavalry only. These, instead of being surprised by daybreak, as was intended, were not attacked till after daylight, and therefore retired behind Poyana, from whence the Turks also withdrew, without much bloodshed. The report so firmly believed by Achmet Pacha, that Poyana was entrenched and strongly fortified, is thus entirely disproved.

Officers who have arrived within the last few hours, fresh from the scene of the Russian advance, inform me that the utmost terror has been created by it throughout the whole Dobrudja. The Turkish inhabitants of the villages on this side of Karasu are flying in all directions carrying off their moveables, and destroying all that they cannot carry. From the neighbourhood of Babadagh to within thirty miles of Schumla the panic is the same. A captain of Cossacks who started from hence some time since to gather in 800 Dobrudja recruits, had proceeded as far as Mangalia with a provision of clothing, accoutrements, and arms for the men, when he heard of the Russian advance. He described the terror of the people as extreme. So great was it, that as he appeared they fled from him and his small troop, without noticing that he was one of their own army. Unaccustomed to the Cossack uniform, except as being worn by the enemy, the peasants considered him as one of their invaders, and did not, in their terror, even think of doing him any harm. The villages on this side of Karasu, as well as those between that place and Babadagh, have been entirely abandoned; there are many, in which not a soul is visible. The roads are described as filled with people hastening away with corn, oats, and furniture, and driving before them herds of cattle. In many instances beasts were slaughtered in the streets, that they might not fall into the hands of the Russians. To add to the general confusion the conduct of the Turkish Irregular troops, in their retreat, has been marked by the greatest excesses. Being certain of impunity, the Arnauts plundered without scruples the places through which they passed, and committed acts of violence on the Christian inhabitants.

The Cossack recruits who were to have joined the Turks here have, it appears, been seized by the Russians and sent to Braillow. Scarcely 50 out of the 800 engaged have made their way to Schumla, which they reached yesterday, after seeing their houses and villages robbed and burnt by the enemy. These Cossacks are descended from a race which, in the time of Catherine, was driven from the Don by the Russians. They settled at first in the Crimea, from whence they subsequently found a refuge in Bessarabia. There again, however, Russia found them, and forced them to retire, and they took refuge in the Dobrudja. There they settled down in considerable numbers, and gave themselves up to the sole occupation of fishing—the vast lakes which cover the surface of the country being peculiarly favourable for that pursuit. Their number, however, is by no means large. There are 500 of them here, under the command of Sadyk Pacha. One squadron has been sent to Kalafat, and a few recruits have since been added to the number. They are divided into regular and irregular, and are armed with lances and firelocks. They are remarkable as the first Christian corps that has ever been raised in Turkey, and their flag is red, with a silver cross on one side and a crescent on the other. To-day the whole force march out of Schumla, to a camp prepared for them outside the town.

The flying inhabitants of the villages of the Dobrudja are coming into Schumla in large numbers. The road which leads to Varna is covered with arabas, on which are household goods, beehives, and old women. They are drawn by buffaloes, and are accompanied on foot by the young and active of the families. Many of these people had a number of horses with them when they left their abodes, but they have brought none of them as far as Schumla, the Turkish Irregulars having driven them off and appropriated them. These poor people are now encamped on all the public squares of the town, and even outside the lines they may be seen in troops surrounded by their waggons.

I learn that a Russian, with a parliamentary flag, crossed over to Silistria, coming from Kalarasch, and summoned the garrison to surrender. He also demanded speech of Ismail Mushir Pacha, with whom, and none other, he had orders to speak. This last is supposed to be an attempt to ascertain whether Omer Pacha, who is generally in company with Ismail Pacha, is really in Silistria. The Russian was ordered off, without being vouchsafed a reply.

It is with considerable pleasure that I inform you also of a fact which has reached me. Omer Pacha has officially declared that whoever was to be Commander-in-Chief of the combined armies destined to act on the Danube, he, for one, was ready to obey in every particular, the orders he should receive. This was not a moment, he added, when jealousies were to be shown. He, as Commander-in-Chief of the Turkish armies will, therefore, give the first example of his anxiety to forward, by the necessary denial of self, the future welfare of his adopted country.

As counterbalancing this agreeable and important intelligence, I am sorry to say that the Pacha and other officers whom Omer Pacha dismissed the service a few days since during his hasty journey through the cities of the Danube, have been pardoned on their arrival here. More than ever at this moment are severe examples required to bring the Turkish armies to a fit state of discipline and order.

April 10.

On the 8th instant the whole of the infantry which occupied the towns of Matchin, Isaktchi, and Toultcha, marched into Schumla, with all their guns. Of field pieces—12 and 6-pounders—there were forty-one, and three pieces of heavy artillery. The greater part of the troops were Egyptians, who marched past in order, and carried arms with great precision. They were preceded by Sappers, with blood-red aprons, drummers, and trumpeters with French horns. The whole force was commanded by Mustapha Pacha. Several Redif battalions followed, and the usual number of arabas with clothes and provisions, closed the march. The cavalry consisting chiefly of Bashi-bozouks, remained behind, and has been with some difficulty brought together at Bazardjik. An advanced guard of Bashi-bozouks is still at Karasu, where the Russians have not, as yet appeared. It is said that Hirsova has been occupied by the latter; but they have certa nly not entered Kustendji, where, at the last dates, were three steamers of the united squadrons. It is evident that the Russians have determined at present to wait, having failed to attract the Turks towards them; nor have they made any movement higher up the Danube, where all remains quiet as ever. A courier from Rutschuk arrived yesterday here, having come in eight hours. All there was quiet, and the same pastime of Minié rifle-shooting was being carried on as usual.

I have hitherto not given you an account of some incidents in the passage of the Russians, which may be known already, but were new to me. When they passed at Pottashi, near Toultcha, they were opposed by two battalions of Turks, in a battery, which effectually prevented the passage for some hours. The Russians had landed three pieces from their gun-boats. With these they feebly returned the Turkish fire; but they were at last forced to abandon them. For three hours these guns remained without masters—the Turks being unable to sally out and take them, the Russians being prevented by the fire of the Turks. Ultimately ammunition failed the latter, who retired with little loss.

Several fresh arrivals of English officers may be noticed. Captain Nolan, of the 15th Hussars, Messrs. Shirley and Grange, and other gentlemen connected with the military profession, are here. The day before yesterday there was a review of artillery before these officers, under the orders of Ismail Mushir Pacha.

April 14.

An Imperial firman, conferring upon Ismail Pacha the title of Mushir was brought from Constantinople here by an Imperial Chamberlain, two days ago. The Pacha, with his suite, went out to meet the dignitary of the Porte with all his suite, and found him not far distant from the town, where the usual ceremonies were performed. The Pacha, having alighted, received from the Chamberlain the firman of his dignity, which he embraced, and then returned. The two great men then resumed their march, and were escorted by battalions of infantry and squadrons of cavalry to the *konak* of Hassan Mushir Pacha, where the firman was read. An Imperial salute was fired, the troops shouted "Long live the Sultan," and there the ceremony ended. All the Pachas, including Omer Pacha, the Commander-in-Chief, were present on the occasion, and congratulated Ismail Pacha on his elevation to his high military dignity. It must be admitted that none could have been more meritoriously conferred by the Sultan; for Ismail Pacha has signalised himself by repeated acts of bravery, which have raised him gradually from the rank of a private in the Turkish army to that which he now holds. Ismail Pacha is, by birth, a Circassian.

With the exception of small reviews, and experiments in the explosion of mines, little novelty has marked the last few days; and the General-in-Chief succeeds in whiling away time by visits to the works by which the surrounding hills are covered. I know not whether the manner in which these visits are made is the usual one in time of war, but it will cause no small astonishment to our officers when they witness it. When the Pachas ride out in the morning, they are accompanied each by an aides-de-camp, two orderlies, chiboukji carrying pipes, servants carrying water—in all, four or six persons, who press forward to attend their masters, unmindful of any thing except their service: Pachas, servants, orderlies, aides-de-camp, all form a ruck, in which foreign officers find themselves inextricably confounded. I witnessed, on one occasion, with some amusement, the efforts of the French Representative here to extricate himself from the crowd of servants. His Excellency Omer Pacha had invited all the general officers to accompany him to see the explosion of a mine; and a motley crowd of people pressing together, and elbowing each other, followed the General-in-Chief. The pace was slow, and the spot where the experiment was made was somewhat distant: three hours were thus spent in doing what, with an English or French General, would have taken half-an-hour. His Excellency then returned, and visited the various forts round the town. He stopped at the first large outwork, where he alighted, and the chiboukjis produced pipes. An hour was consumed in smoking the calumet then again to horse, when a second fort was visited. At the third a stop was again made, and more pipes were smoked. At the fifth a still longer stay was rendered necessary by the calls of hunger. A sumptuous breakfast was laid out by the numerous attendants, and the day was far spent before the party of Pachas returned. As an instance of the habits of the Turks, these facts are curious. It is not my intention in describing them to throw any ridicule on the proceedings; but would it not be better, in time of war, to abandon all this apparatus which only suit a time of peace? Would it not be cheaper, more dignified? Nay, will it not be necessary when European armies set the example of simpler manners, for Pachas to reduce their overgrown establishments—especially when they ride out? I have no doubt that these crowds of attendants must be a serious burden on the finances of the Generals.

These, however, are mild reforms compared to those which have become imperatively necessary for checking the plundering and other criminal propensities of the Irregulars belonging to the army. On more than one occasion I have described to you the various disadvantages of these corps; their truculence in dealing with harmless and unarmed peasants; their utter worthlessness in the field, and the excesses to which they gave themselves up in the last retreat from the Dobrudja. A few days ago an incident occurred in which the life of an English officer was involved. Lieutenant Nasmyth, one of the Bombay Artillery, having purchased a cart-load of straw, was proceeding to unload it in front of his house, when a party of five Arnauts passed by. One of these, when he saw the straw, proceeded to help himself to a quantity of it, notwithstanding the remonstrances of the groom, who endeavoured to take it back from him. From words to blows was the matter of a moment; and Lieutenant Nasmyth, who heard the noise, issued from the house, accompanied by his servant, in time to see the Arnaut inflict on the groom two severe blows on the chest with the butt-end of his tomahawk. Rushing to the assistance of his man, Mr. Nasmyth pushed aside the Arnaut, and saw the remainder of the party deliberately raise their long firelocks, which they cocked with the intention of firing at him. Upon this he retreated within doors, for the purpose of getting his revolver, whilst his servant ran to a neighbouring guard-house. The Arnauts took this opportunity to effect their retreat also; but they were met at no great distance by a party of three of the guard fetched by the servant. The latter pointed out the chief culprits, who took refuge in the centre of their party, which by this time had increased to about forty men. The guards finding themselves overmatched, sent for a reinforcement, which having arrived, the culprits were again pointed out by the servant and Lieut. Nasmyth, who had by this time come up. The soldiers of the guard, about eight in number, appeared quite ready to deal summarily with the offenders, and, at once, take them prisoners. The officer, however, blenched, declared that he would be no party to the affair; ordered off his men, and said to the aggrieved Briton that if he proceeded with the matter he would produce a revolution. Fortunately, his Excellency Omer Pacha was not of the same opinion as the officer. Captain Symmons, who represents the British Ambassador here, having laid the matter in due form before him, the officer of the guard and the Arnauts were arrested yesterday, and the latter have been sentenced to 300 blows of the stick, severally. The sentence will shortly be carried into execution, and the opportunity

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

OMER PASHA RECEIVING COSSACKS FROM THE DOBRUDJA, AT SCHUMLA.

will be seized to punish in a similar manner two or three hundred Bashi-bozouks, who have been found guilty of leaving their corps in the Dobrudja, and overrunning the country for the purpose of plundering and killing the inhabitants. I notice these acts of firmness on the part of Omer Pasha with the greatest pleasure, as it proves that in the difficult position in which he is placed he has not hesitated to bring these notorious offenders to condign punishment. I trust that no mitigation of the punishments awarded will be permitted, and that the sentences will be fully carried out. After this infliction the criminals will, it is said, be set to work in cleansing and keeping in order the streets of the town. In the interest of all the great folk who now inhabit this place, this is a measure which should have been adopted long since. The only fear is, that the moving of the dung-heaps which 'for ages have braved," not the battle and the breeze, but the efforts of a swift-running stream, to carry them off, may produce infections worse than those which are at present exhaling from them. As it is, however, at present, nothing can be imagined more unhealthy than the dust which, for the last few days, has covered the city like a hideous yellow cloud, spreading odours, and forcing down the throats of the inhabitants the pulverised filth with which the streets are covered.

Of the Russians there is nothing new to tell you; and, as far as is known here, the relative positions of the contending forces are still the same as they were a week ago. The British and French fleets are, it seems, in the Black Sea, acting, it is said, against Sebastopol.

April 16.

I am sorry to inform you that the punishment awarded to the Arnaouts who insulted Lieutenant Nasmyth has not been of the sort required by the circumstances, nor according to the manner described in my letter. Two days after the perpetration of the offence, the priest of the Arnaouts waited upon Captain Symmons, accompanied by the chief offender, and begged the pardon of the culprit. He said that the Prince Demetri, who commanded these Arnaouts, had himself inflicted corporal punishment on the offender, whom he had now taken with him to obtain the pardon of the offended. The Arnaout was then led in, and he kissed the feet of Mr. Nasmyth; who, seeing that nothing further was to be obtained in reparation, consented to a pardon: such being the nature of the punishment inflicted on an occasion where life was endangered. I believe myself right in thinking that it is insufficient to prevent the recurrence of similar scenes in future. The Turks in this case are unable to urge the difficulty of punishing a Mussulman for an offence against a Christian; for the corps of Prince Demetri is a Christian corps, composed exclusively of Albanians of the Catholic faith. I do not believe in the corporal punishment inflicted, as stated, by Prince Demetri.

HIS EXCELLENCY ISMAIL MUSHIR PASHA.

It is announced here (but not confirmed by sufficient authority) that 12,000 French troops have reached Adrianople, and that a small portion of the English army has arrived at Varna. The news is probable as regards the French; but, with respect to the English, the intelligence must be premature. The want of certain knowledge on such a subject will, however, show how uncertain are the communications here, and how difficult it is to obtain accurate information.

A new batch of Bashi-bazouk plunderers reached Schumla yesterday. They were chained; but I know not what to say as to their future punishment.

VICTIMS OF THE WAR.—A BULGARIAN FAMILY LEAVING A VILLAGE.

JAMES MONTGOMERY.

Our great writers are fast sinking into their graves. This year has already taken two from our now scanty list of surviving poets. The ink is hardly dry that announced the death of the poet of the Isle of Palms; and now we are called upon to chronicle that James Montgomery is no more. The poet who has given us "The Wanderer in Switzerland," and "The World before the Flood," died at Sheffield, on Sunday last, in his eighty-third year. Who is there at all acquainted with English literature that has not heard of James Montgomery, of Sheffield?

Though Sheffield has long laid claim to Montgomery as her son, yet he was not a Sheffield man, but a native of Irvine, in Ayrshire, where he was born, on the 4th of November, 1771. His father was a Moravian missionary, who, leaving his son in Yorkshire to be educated, at Fulnick, a Moravian seminary near Leeds, went with his wife to the West Indies, where they both died while, we believe, their son, the distinguished poet, was still a boy. His education was strict and good; but when and how he became a poet no one has told us. He is said, when a mere lad, to have ventured to London with a volume of verse; and to have sought in vain for either a printer or a publisher. Disappointed in London, he hastened back to Yorkshire, became an assistant in a shop at Mirfield, near Wakefield; and, in 1792, removed to Sheffield, where he found congenial employment under Mr. Joseph Gales, a bookseller in that town, and proprietor, and some say editor as well, of the *Sheffield Register*, a newspaper somewhat, for those days, democratic in its opinions. So democratic was it, that Gales had to fly from England to escape imprisonment, and the editorship of the paper was left to Montgomery, who changed the name to that of the *Sheffield Iris*. But, in changing the name, Montgomery would appear to have made no change whatever in the principles of the paper. The *Iris* was as Radical as the *Register*. This was soon known, and the insertion in it of a song by a clergyman, entitled "The Fall of the Bastille," led to a conviction, a fine of £20, and an imprisonment of Montgomery for three months in York Castle. On his release he wrote an account of a riot in Sheffield, in which two men were killed; an indictment followed, and he was fined in the sum of £30, and sent for six months to prison. He lived to see a great change in editorial responsibilities, and to receive, now many years ago, expressions of regret from the magistrate at whose instigation he had been prosecuted.

He found, like others before him, that stone walls do not a prison make. He had his consolation in a good cause and a love for verse, the results of which were given to the public in the year 1797, in a volume entitled "Prison Amusements." The volume was well received both in and out of Sheffield; and in 1805 he published his poem of "The Ocean," written at Scarborough, and not unworthy of his reputation. This was followed, in 1806, by the "Wanderer in Switzerland;" in 1809, by "The West Indies," of which 10 000 copies were sold at a high price; and in 1812, by "The World before the Flood."

THE LATE JAMES MONTGOMERY.

He was now a recognised poet,—but critics differed about his merits. The *Edinburgh Review* condemned him as a poetaster at the best; but the *Quarterly* took him up as a true poet, and in its review of "The Wanderer in Switzerland," replied smartly and properly to the bitter and unjust criticism of Jeffrey in the *Edinburgh*. Nor was this the only service that the *Quarterly* rendered to Montgomery at this period; by quoting at length his two poems of "Hannah," and "The Grave," it gave publicity to two of the best of Montgomery's performances.

He was now silent as a poet, and allowed seven years to elapse before he again ventured before the world with another volume of verse. His next work appeared in 1819, entitled "Greenland, a Poem." It is in five cantos, gives an account of the Moravian missions to that desert country, and was favourably received. Its reception, however, was not such as to induce him to hurry again into print. He allowed a larger period to elapse, before he courted the public anew—for the "Pelican Island," a poem in nine cantos, founded on a passage in the voyage of Captain Flinders to New Holland, did not appear till 1828. This, with the exception of a few hymns and spiritual songs, were the last offspring of his muse.

The claims of Montgomery as a poet were recognised by Sir Robert Peel, who, during his first Ministry (1834-35), granted him a pension of £150 a year. This was gratifying to him, both as a man and as a poet; and not less pleasingly were his better feelings touched when his poems were collected by the Messrs. Longmans, and published first in monthly volumes, and afterwards in one well-printed and readable volume.

Montgomery will not hold any high position as a poet. But he will live. He is the poet of gentle emotions and fire-side truths. His ear was good, and he had an eye alive to the beauties of nature. His great defect is want of vigour. Yet he gains upon his readers, partly by his subjects, chiefly by his skill. He has great tenderness, but no ecstacy.

In person he was above the middle height, with

CITY IMPROVEMENTS.—CANNON-STREET WEST.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

looks always composed, and now and then tinged with melancholy. In Sheffield, where he lived and died, he was beloved by old and young—rich and poor.

The following letter relates to the lectures which Montgomery delivered on Poetry:—

TO MR. THOMAS WALESBY.

The Mount, Sheffield, June 11, 1842.

Dear Sir—My "Lectures on Poetry and General Literature" have been out of print for some time, nor have I any intention at present to issue a new edition. Another course of "Lectures on the British Poets," which I have been delivering on special invitations, in London, Manchester, Bristol, Bath, Birmingham, Newcastle, Leeds, and other towns, have been so well received, and comparatively so well rewarded, that I have chosen to keep them in manuscript till I have time and inclination to prepare them for the press, which, if I am spared in life and health a year or two longer, may perhaps be done. But the plain fact is, that I find people everywhere so much more ready to hear me read than to read them for themselves, that I have little temptation to kill the goose while she continues to lay golden eggs for what the dead bird would produce in the Paternoster-row market. The former course, after being successfully delivered at the Royal Institution, and before other audiences, was published, and the edition sold off in a reasonable time, but not so rapidly as to make me eager to issue a second, till I had completed my plan by bringing out both that course and the current one together.

I am your friend and servant, J. MONTGOMERY.

Mr. Thackeray acted on Montgomery's principle—he did not print his admirable lectures till he had done delivering them.

NEW CANNON-STREET.

THIS new thoroughfare, nearly a direct line from St. Paul's Churchyard to the end of King William street, London-bridge, is one of the greatest improvements that has been completed of late years in the city of London. From where Budge-row joined to Old Cannon street, the alterations requisite to make the new thoroughfare have been confined to widening Cannon-street itself by pulling down the houses on its southern side, and rebuilding them on a greatly improved plan as regards size and accommodation, and the fronts of some of the blocks of houses present very creditable specimens of street architecture; and there is sufficient variety in their general details and characteristics to prevent a great monotony of appearance. Until late years in the city of London from where Budge-row joined to Old Cannon street, the alterations requisite to make the new thoroughfare have been confined to widening Cannon-street itself by pulling down the houses on its southern side, and rebuilding them on a greatly improved plan as regards size and accommodation, and the fronts of some of the blocks of houses present very creditable specimens of street architecture; and there is sufficient variety in their general details and characteristics to prevent a great monotony of appearance. Until late years in the city of London most of the new warehouses and shops are built contrasts strongly with the small, low, mean, and crowded-looking domiciles on the northern or olden side of the street. Westward, from the corner of Budge-row (and this is the point given in our illustration, where the offices of the Minerva Life Assurance Company form the corner building) *New* Cannon-street, strictly speaking, begins. In olden times, masses of houses filled the space from hence to St. Paul's Churchyard, and lanes and streets opened out from every direction. The clearance effected in this part is wonderful, and when completed will be very striking. The new warehouses erecting here bid fair to be of imposing character, and very good design; and some on the south side, near St. Paul's, will form a good foreground to the magnificent view of the Cathedral obtained from this spot. Indeed, for almost the whole length of Cannon-street, old and new, the exquisite outline of the exterior of St. Paul's Cathedral is peculiarly striking, and from the slight windings which the street takes, and the inequalities of its level, the different portions of St. Paul's are now shrouded, and now come into view with marvellous grandeur, until, approaching the end of the street, the hugeness of its mass is fully displayed by contrast with the warehouses now building. It has been greatly deplored lately, that an open space should be left at the western end of this new street, so as to allow of one striking view of St. Paul's at least, being obtained; and it is greatly to be hoped that the City authorities will, in this matter, yield to the express wishes of numerous influential men of taste, and, though at a sacrifice of yearly rental, show that they appreciate the beauties of their famed cathedral. As before stated, one of the views in the new, or Cannon-street West, and the houses on the northern side in close proximity to, but further on than the Minerva Life Office, are fine new buildings; but beyond them the old houses again are seen, and it once on to St. Paul's they are all old. On the southern side are new buildings all the way, many as yet, however, only in commencement. The tower of the church which just appears over the nearest block of houses, is that of St. Mary Aldermary, one of the hybrid Gothic churches of Sir C. Wren, in which the Grecian and Gothic styles strive for mastery.

MUSIC.

The third concert of the NEW PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY took place on Monday evening at St. Martin's Hall. The performances were conducted partly by Mr. Benedict and partly by Dr. Wylde; and the chief feature of the concert was the latter gentleman's music to Milton's "Paradise Lost." Mendelssohn's Concerto in G Minor was charmingly played by the gifted young pianist Wilhelmina Clauss, and most enthusiastically applauded. Beethoven's superb symphony in B flat was well performed under Dr. Wylde's direction. Miss Louisa Pyne sang the famous air, "Gli angui d'Inferno," in the "Zauberflote," with marvellous brilliancy; and Miss Lascelles rendered Mozart's "Parto, parto" in the "Clemenza." This composer (the uncle of the fair singer of whom we have heard so much) is in vogue in Germany at present—on what grounds we know not; for this specimen of his talents is a mere chaos of confusion—a mass of discordant noises, without form, melody, or meaning.

The production of "Otello," at the ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, which we mentioned last week, has not been successful. It was performed on Thursday and Saturday, and, in all probability, will not be repeated. This opera, notwithstanding its great musical beauties, can never become popular in the land of Shakespeare, of whose tragedy the Italian piece is really nothing better than a ridiculous burlesque. *Otello* is a mere brute: and "the gentle lady wedded to the Moor" is a bold-faced strumpet. Hence, though Tamberlik and Mlle. Cruvelli exerted themselves greatly, and sang with much power and beauty, the whole performance was coldly received. On Thursday last Cruvelli appeared in the character of *Leonora*, in Beethoven's "Fidelio." Her very fine performance of this part, at Her Majesty's Theatre, must be in the remembrance of many of our musical readers. It is in every way suited to her, and is one of her most brilliant efforts. Tamberlik's *Florestan*, too, is remarkable both for dramatic feeling and vocal power.

AT THE DRURY-LANE OPERA, the "Freischütz" continues to run with unabated success. Mdlle. Bury has appeared in "La Sonnambula" with the warmest applause; performing the part with the simple tenderness which constitutes its charm; and singing the music with a sweetness and expression which reminded us not a little of Jenny Lind. The production of Don Giovanni" delayed in consequence of the successful run of the "Freischütz," will take place next week.

THE HARMONIC UNION gave a fine performance of "The Creation" at Exeter Hall, on Wednesday evening. The solo parts were admirably sung by Miss Louisa Pyne, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Mr. Weiss. It was preceded by a sacred Cantata, composed by Dr. Wylde, and entitled "Prayer and Praise." The solo parts were sung by the vocalists above named; and the choruses, in which there is considerable grandeur, were carefully and steadily executed, under the direction of the composer, to whose talent and attainments the whole work does much honour.

THE THEATRES.

ST. JAMES'S.

On Friday week the season of French plays at this theatre commenced, M. Lafont having undertaken the direction, on the plan of a twelve nights' subscription. The manager recited on the occasion an address in which he congratulated the public of late years in the city of London on the present alliance between the two countries being emphatically and appropriately introduced. The comedy by M. Bouilly, of "L'Abbé de l'Epée," preceded. The part of the old and benevolent gentleman was undertaken by M. Ferville; that of the afflicted orphan lad being cleverly interpreted by Mdlle. Adrienne de Jerzy. This character it is which lends the title to Mr. Holcroft's English version of the play, "Deaf and Dumb." It was followed by M.M. Fournier and Meyer's vaudeville of "La Parisienne Piquet;" M. Ferville renewing an old triumph in his capital performance of the *Chevalier de la Rocheferrier*. In addition to the names we have mentioned, the programme includes those of M. Brindesu, Mdlle Luther, Mdlle. Pix, M Regnier, and M. Caillat. This company is well capable of sustaining the interest of the pieces proposed, by the high finish of style and the reputation already attained by its members. The strength is, undoubtedly, in their favour. Her Majesty, Prince Albert, the Duchess of Kent, and the Duchess of Cambridge, were present. On Monday evening two vaudevilles were performed—"Le Rue de la Lune," by MM. Varin and Boyer, and "Le Revell du Lion," by MM. Bayard and Jaime. In the latter M. Ferville sustained his original character, *M. Stanislas de Fonblanche*. M. Lafont himself, also, appeared in the second act of "Catherine," as *Sergeant Austerlitz*.

On Tuesday evening the theatre was occupied by an amateur company, the proceeds being laudably devoted to the funds of the Central Association in Aid of the Wives and Families of Soldiers ordered to the East. The performance, though respectable, was decidedly amateur, and very amateurish. The kind of acting has recently so much improved, and its professors have so much regular practice at the one or two small theatres engaged for the purpose, that it now seldom offers the more salient points for the peculiar gratification expected by its admirers. On this occasion, however, the particular shortcomings were quite refreshing; and the difference between untutored nature and experienced art received copious illustration. One young lady, who performed *Lecnie de Villegontier*, in "The Ladies' Battle," and *Mary Miffs*, in "The Fast Coach," manifested great intelligence but her *naiveté*, which was emphatically impressive, was likewise identified with singular regularity and awkwardness. The amount of training wanted was prodigious; and the resulting oddity of manner most mirth-provoking: but good-humour was the prevalent feeling. With the training required, this very awkward young lady would prove, no doubt, an excellent *soubrette*. The representative of the *Countess* was not deficient in stage-tact, but was by no means stage-voice, and drowned throughout with great propriety. In "Where there's a Will there's a Way," *Don Scipio de Pompolino* was performed with much animation by a small gentleman of great vivacity and no lungs. With one exception, indeed, elocution was a gift the need of which did not seem to have been appreciated by the performers. In this respect, however, it is to be hoped they will mend. An Address in rhyme was spoken between the first two pieces, with considerable effect. It was also well written, as well as respectably delivered.

On Wednesday the French performances re-commenced; and Mdlle. Luther, according to previous announcement, appeared in her favourite and effective part of *Madame de Maulty*, in "Livre III," which she acted with wonderful animation. M. Léon, as *Octave Dudonney*, was fairly extravagant and enthusiastic in his love-making; and we sympathised with the lady whose little *ruse* had brought her into such manifest peril. The performances went off well, but the audience was not numerous.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

The tenders for the £6,000,000 Treasury Bonds having been more than two thirds short of the amount required, the list has been removed from the Treasury to the effect that subscriptions will be received at the Bank of England for the remaining portion of the £3,000,000 unsubscribed for until Monday next. The advance price is £98 15s. for each £100 Bond, in each of the series of issues.

There has been a steady demand for money for commercial purposes; but we have no advance to notice in the rates of 6% ; the best paper for first-class acceptances, have ruled from 4½ to 5 per cent per annum.

On the whole, the market for Consols has been steady this week; but the amount of business doing is by no means extensive. Prices have kept up remarkably well, and the tenders for Exchequer Bonds have had very little influence upon jobbers in general. Monday, being the 1st of May, was observed as a close holiday in the Stock Exchange. The transactions, on Tuesday, were to a fair average extent. Bank Stock was 209½ to 201 to 204½. The three per Cents Reduced were done at 86 ⅝ ; the three per Cent Consols, 87⅝ to 88, the closing price being 88, the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 87⅝ to 88; the New Two-and-a Half per Cents, 75¾; and Long Annuities, 15 5-16ths. India Bonds, 1850, 1s. India Stock was 255; South Sea Stock, 11⅝. Exchequer Bills were 2s. dis. to 2s. prem. On Wednesday business was comparatively trifling. The Three per Cent Reduced was at 86⅝ to 86⅞; the Three per Cent Consols, 87⅝ 88 to 87⅝ ⅝; the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 87⅝ to 87⅝, Consols for Account, 87⅝. Long Annuities marked 4¼ to 4⅛ ; Bank Stock unchanged thanks at 208 to 204. discount. The Market, on Thursday, was flat, and prices tended downwards. The Three per Cents for Money were 87⅝ ⅞ to ⅞ ; and for the Account, 87⅝ ⅞. The New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents were 87⅝ ⅞ ; and the Three per Cents Reduced, 86⅞ to 87. Exchequer Bills realised 2½ dis. to 2s. prem.

Most Foreign Bonds have been rather inactive, but we have to material change to notice in their value. The following are the leading prices:—Brazilian Five per Cents, Small, 98, Mexican Three per Cents, 24; Ditto Five per Cents, Small, 98, Ditto, Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 86; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 58; Ditto, Four per Cents, 94¾; Spanish Three per Cents, 36½ ; Ditto, New Deferred, 19¾ ; Ditto, Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 69; Portuguese Four per Cents, 84; and Buenos Ayres Six per Cents, 84.

The dealings in Joint Stock Bank shares have been as follow:—Australasia, 72 to 72½; British North American, 43½; Chartered Bank of Asia, 4½; Chartered of India, China, and Australia, 8½; London Chartered of Australia, 15½; London and Westminster, 34½; Oriental, 43½ ex div.; Union of Australia, 54½ ex div.; Union of London, 31½ ex div. Railway shares have been in good demand, and prices have generally improved. Australasian Pacific Mail, 15½; Canada Six per Cent Bonds, 106; Crystal Palace, 6½; East and West India Dock, 104; London 66½; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, 112; Ditto, New, 8½ ex div.; Red River, Land and Mineral, 4¼; North of Europe Steam, 7⅜; Water-works Shares have been firm:—Berlin, 1⅝; East London, 104½; Ditto, New, 104½; London Hydraulic Power, 2½; South Essex, 1⅝; Southwark and Vauxhall, 89½; West Middlesex, 10.. Ditto, New, 104½ In Canal Shares have continued to fluctuations; the following among them has not been extensive:—Albion, 52; Ailas, 19½; Argus, ... Church of England, 2½; County, 125; Surrey, 19; General, 8½; Globe, 126; Guardian, 52; Imperial Fire, ... Life, 10.. 0; London, ... Sun, ... Provident, 1½; Rock and Commercial Insurance, 3½; Rock Life, 20.. Royal Exchange, 235; Sun Life, 20.. Union, 1.. 1-16.

The imports of bullion have been on a very liberal scale, viz., about £360,000, chiefly from Australasia and America. Large supplies of gold have been purchased of the Bank for shipment to the Continent. The exports have been little short of £2 0,000. The stock of gold in the bank is now only about £13,200,000

Railway Shares have been dealt in to a moderate extent, and prices have not been supported. The supply of scrip in the market has not increased. The following are the official closing prices on Friday evening:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Aberdeen, 23½; Caledonian, 65½; East Anglian, 1½; Eastern Counties, 12½; Great Northern, 85½; Ditto, B Stock, 120; Great Western, 72½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 66½; Leeds Northern, 14½; London, Tilbury, and Southend, 8½; London and Brighton, 99½; London and North Western, 96½; London and South-Western, 77½; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 20; Midland, 85½; Newmarket, 1 Part; Paris Extension, 4½; North Devon 4½; Scarborough, 4½; North Western, 7½; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 7½; Scottish Midland, 6½; Shrewsbury and Birmingham, 8; Ditto, A, and B, Vale of Neath, 8½; Shrewsbury and Hereford, 7½; South Devon, 14; South Eastern, 9½; Stockton and Hartlepool Railway, 3½; Yarmouth and North Staffordshire, 9½.

LINES LEASED AT FIXED RENTALS.—Buckinghamshire, 82½; Clydesdale Junction, 98½; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 81½; Hull and Selby, 102.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Chester and Holyhead, No. 2, 9½; Ditto, 9½; Great Northern Five per Cent, 113; Great Western irredeemable Four per Cent, 88½; Shrewsbury and Birmingham, 8½; Vale of Neath, 8½; North British, 88½; Shrewsbury and Birmingham, 8; York and North Midland B. and S. Purchase, 9

FOREIGN.—Province of Canada, 21½; Luxembourg, Guaranteed, 3½; Northern of France, 20½; Paris and Lyons, 22½; Paris and Strasbourg, 22½; Sambre and Meuse, 6.

Mining Shares have been very dull. On Thursday, Agua Fria were done at 1⅛; Anglo-Californian, ½ to ⅝; Australian Cordillera, ½; Copiapo, 13; Great Polgooth, 1½; Linares, 10½ to 10¾; and Nouveau Monde, 3¾.

Friday Evening.

The business doing in the Consol Market, to-day, has been comparatively small, at drooping prices. The Three per Cents Reduced have marked 86⅝ ⅞ ; the Three per Cent Consols, 87⅝ ⅞ ; the New Three-and-a-Half per Cents, 78¾; and Consols for Account, 87⅝ ⅞. India Bonds, 15s. discount; Exchequer Bills, 2s. discount to 2s. premium; Long Annuities, 4⅛ to 4¼. All foreign Bonds and Railway Shares have been heavy.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE (Friday).—The fresh arrivals of English wheat to-day were small, constwise and by land carriage. Although the show of samp ns was limited, the demand for all kinds was heavy to the extent of fully a week's supply, and for fine samples of fine new money than on Monday must have been accepted by the factors. We were very extensively supplied wi h foreign wheat, which met a ready sale at barely and the currencies had a downward tendency. Floating cargoes were much neglected, but we have no actual decline to notice in the value. The show of barley was extensive for the time of the year it was heavy, at 1s. per quarter less money. Malt ruled dull, at barely last week's currency. Oats and beans were tolerably firm, at full prices. Peas and flour were very dull. Arrivals were moderate, and prices to-day were:—

ARRIVALS.—English: wheat, 1070; barley, 610; malt, 1690; oats, 230; flour, 760. Irish: barley, 20; oats, 240. Foreign: wheat, 63,080, barley, 11,270, oats, 1060; flour, 6300 sacks, 2s,060 barrels.

England.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 70s. to 83s; ditto, white, 74s. to 85s; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 66s. to 78s; ditto, white, ... to ...; rye, 48s. to 50s.; grinding barley, 34s. to 36s., distilling ditto, 38s. to 40s.; malting ditto, 40s. to 44s., Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 64s. to 68s.; brown ditto, 58s to 62s.; Scotch, ... and Ware, 70s to 78s.; Chevalier, 72s. to 74s.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 28s. to 30s.; potato ditto, 31s to 34s.; Youghal and Cork, black, 26s to 30s.; ditto, white, 27s. to 32s.; tick beans, new, 44s. to 46s.; ditto, old, 48s. to 52s.; grey peas, 44s to 46s., maple, 47s to 48s., white, 47s to 52s., boilers, 50s. to 52s. per quarter. Town-made flour, 56s. to 70s.; Suffolk, 50s. to 52s.; Stockton and Yorkshire, 47s. to 52s. per 280 lb. *Foreign:* American flour, 26s. to 44s. per barrel.

Seeds.—Linseed has met a steady demand, at full quotations. In all other seeds very little is doing. Cakes are quite as dear as last week.

Linseed, English sowing, 74s. 76s.; Baltic, crushing, 68s. to 70s.; Mediterranean and Odessa, 66s to 70s.; brownseed, 46s. to 44s. per quarter Coriander, 10s. to 12s. per cwt. Brown mustard-seed, 10s. to 12s.; white ditto, 12s. to 13s.; and tares, 5s. 6d. to 8s. per bushel. English rapeseed, £31 to £32 per last of ten quarters. Linseed cakes, English, £10 10s. to £11 5s., ditto, foreign, £10 to £11 10s. per ton Rapeseed cakes, 28 15s. to £7 5s. per ton. Canary, 49s. to 52s per quarter. English clover seed, white, 36s. to 84s.; ditto, red, 56s. to 66s. per cwt.

Bread.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 10d. to 11d. of households' and 9d. to 9½d. per 4 lbs. loaf.

Imperial Weekly Average.—Wheat, 79s. 5d.; barley, 37s. 2d.; oats, 26s. 9d.; rye, 43s.; beans, 40s 7d.; peas, 43s. 6d.

The Week's Average.—Wheat, 77s. 5d.; barley, 37s. 4d.; oats, 27s. 6d.; rye, 51s. 9d.; beans, 43s. 2d.; peas, 44s. 2d.

Duties.—Wheat, 1s.; barley, 1s.; oats, 1s.; rye, 1s.; beans, 1s.; peas, 1s.

Flour.—Very large public sales have been held this week. The biddings have ruled rather lower, and have had a downward tendency. Up to Saturday last, duty was paid on 14,490 993 lb., against 10 026 528 ditto in 1853.

Sugar.—The market continues very dull, and the quotations are well supported. Fine yellow Barbadoes has changed hands, at 33s. to 36s.; low to good, 32s. 6d. to 37s. 6d.; crystallised Demerara, 37s. 6d. to 39s. 6d.; fine yellow Mauritius, 32s. 6d. to 36s.; brown, 29s. to 32s.; brown Madras, 29s. 6d to 32s 6d. per cwt. Refined goods are firm, at 42s 6d to 43s per cwt. The total clearances to the 26th ult. were 1,060,580 cwts., against 1,354,726 ditto in 1853.

Coffee.—Mocha has met a dull inquiry, and prices have given way 2s. to 3s. per cwt. Good ord. native has been steady, at from 44s. to 45s. per cwt. In other kinds of coffee very few transactions have taken place

Rice.—A few parcels of Bengal have sold at from 13s. 6d. to 14s. per cwt.; but the market generally is inactive.

Provisions.—New Irish butter has met a steady market, at from 98s to 100s. per cwt. Foreign qualities are easier to purchase. English butter is dull, and 2s. to 4s. per cwt lower We have a good demand for bacon, for which the value of white continues to improve. Lard is held at full quotations, but other kinds of provisions are dull.

Tallow.—The article is flat, at 63s. 6d. to 64s. 6d. per cwt. Town Tallow is pressed for sale at 58s. ten cash. The imports continue good.

Oils.—Linseed oil has changed hands at 32s 6d to its present. In the value of other oils, very little change has taken place Turpentine is offers, on easier terms

Spirits.—There is steady business doing in rum, the value of which are rather higher. Proof Leewards, 2s. 6d. to 2s. 7d.; East India, 2s. 5d. to 2s. 6d. per gallon. We have a dull market for brandy, at barely last week's prices. Geneva and corn spirits are quite as dear as last week.

Hay and Straw.—Meadow hay, £3 15s. to £5 5s.; clover ditto, £2 15s. to £5 5s.; and straw, £1 15s. to £2 4s. per load.

Coals.—Stewart's Hartley, 19s. 6d.; Holywell, 18s. 6d.; Hetton, 17s. 6d.; Eden Main, 18s.; Braddyll, 18s. 6d.; Ashton, 18s.; Newvart's, 18s.; Hough Hall, 18s.; Tees, 17s. per ton.

Wools (Friday). A steady business is doing in most kinds at rates, at prices fully equal to those paid last week.—Sh.i and East Kent pockets, 10 to 10½ ; Weald of Kent, 10½ to 10¾ ; Sussex ditto, 9½ to 10¼ per cwt.

Smithfield (Friday).—Although the supply of beasts in to-day's market was but moderate, the demand was by no means brisk, and the top prices of Monday's quotations could not be obtained. We were fairly supplied with sheep, which moved off slowly, at barely stationary figures. There was a dull inquiry for lambs, at a decline in the currencies of 6d per Stone. The top figure was 6s 8d per 8lbs. For calves we had a dull market, at the following reduction of per 8lbs. Lambs, 6s 6d per score.

Per 8lbs. to sink the offals—Coarse and inferior beasts, 3s. 2d. to 3s. 4d.; second quality ditto, 3s. 6d. to 3s 8d.; prime large oxen, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; prime Scots, 4s.; and small ditto, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; coarse and inf rior sheep, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 0d.; second quality ditto, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; prime large ditto, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; prime small ditto, 4s. 10d. to 5s.; large coarse calves, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; prime small ditto, 4s. 8d. to 5s.; large coarse and inferior pigs, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.; middling ditto, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; prime ditto, 4s. 0d. to 4s. 2d.

Per 8lbs. to sink the offals—Inferior beasts, 2s. 8d. to 3s. 0d.; middling ditto 3s. 2d. to 3s. 4d.; prime large oxen, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.; prime small ditto, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 0d.; large cows, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 2d.; inferior sheep, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.; middling ditto, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 2d.; prime ditto, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; veal, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 0d.; small pork, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; lamb, 5s. 0d. to 6s. 4d.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, MAY 2.

WHITEHALL, MAY 2.

The Queen has been pleased to direct letters patent to be passed under the Great Seal, appointing Lieutenant-general Sir Hew Dalrymple Ross, K.C.B., to be Lieutenant-General of the Ordnance of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

ADMIRALTY, MAY 2.

Royal Marines: First Lieut. and Adjutant W. Mansell Mansell to be Captain, vice Pitcairn Drewry, deceased. Lieut. J. Pulley Murray to be First Lieutenant, vice Mansell.

MAY 1.—Vice-Admiral of the Red Charles James Johnston has been appointed to receive a Medal for the Victory, G.B., to be Vice-Admiral of the Red; Vice-Admiral of the Blue James, 1850, vacant by the decease of Admiral J. Mackellar: and the name of Vice-Admiral Johnston has been ordered to the Inscription on the Medal accordingly; and, in consequence of this removal, the following promotions, dated 15th April, have been placed:—Vice-Admiral of the White Sir Thomas Harvey, C.B., to be Vice-Admiral of the Red; Vice-Admiral of the Blue J. W. D. Dundas, C.B., to be Vice-Admiral of the White; Rear-Admiral F. Brown to be Admiral of the Red. Rear-Admiral Hall-Pay; Rear-Admiral of the Red H. Prescott, C.B., to be Vice-Admiral of the Blue; Rear-Admiral of the White Sir Richard Saunders Dundas, C.B., to be Rear-Admiral of the Red; Rear-Admiral of the Blue W. J. Hargood to be Rear-Admiral of the White; Capt. W. Seymour, R.N., Rear-Admiral Sir H. J. Leeke, Bart., Capt. Hon. Sir Edmund Lyons, K.C.B., Capt. Sir Michael Seymour, Bart., Capt. Hon. Sir Frederick Grey, Bart., Capt. Hon. Sir Frederick Paget, K.C.B., Capt. Hon. Sir Arthur Gordon, K.C.B., Capt. Hon. Sir Henry Keppel, K.C.B., Capt. Hon. Sir Henry Percy, K.C.B., Capt. Hon. Sir Frederick Stanley, K.C.B., Capt. Hon. Sir Henry Duncan Graham, K.C.B., Capt. Hon. Sir Henry Ashley Maude, K.C.B., Capt. Hon. Sir Henry Keane, K.C.B., Capt. Hon. Sir Henry Hotham, K.C.B., Capt. Hon. Sir Henry Byng, K.C.B., Capt. Hon. Sir Henry Bruce, K.C.B., Capt. Hon. Sir Henry Hope, K.C.B., Capt. Hon. Sir Henry Fitzroy, K.C.B., Capt. Hon. Sir Henry Percy

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

THE ROYAL OPERA.—DRURY LANE.—On Monday, by desire, NORMA, for the Last Time. Tuesday, FIDELIO, for the First Time. Wednesday and Friday, LUCIA DE LAMMERMOOR, for the First Time. Thursday, DER FREISCHUTZ; and on saturday, FIDELIO. Gallery, 1s.; Pit, 2s; Reserved, 3s.; Dress Circle, 5s.; Stalls, 7s. Private Boxes, 31s., 42s., 63s. and 84s.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.—Every Evening, MR. BUCKSTONE'S VOYAGE ROUND THE GLOBE (on Leicester-square), preceded by, on Monday, Town and Country; on Tuesday, Speed the Plough; Wednesday, Town and Country; Thursday, Rannigal; Friday, Town and Country; and, Saturday, Married Life.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE, Oxford-street.—On MONDAY, and during the Week will be performed MARRIED UNMARRIED, and the new Original Drama of FAUST AND MARGUERITE, with other Entertainments.

GREAT NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE, SHOREDITCH. On MONDAY, MAY 8th and during the Week Wednesday excepted, a Selection of the most Successful Dramas, called the SON of the WAVE; or, the Sails on Fire. To be followed by the Jubilee Burletta, A Ballad Divertissement. To conclude with Kate Winsley. Prices as usual.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.—OPERA BOXES and STALLS in the best situations, and on the most moderate terms, can always be secured at HAMMOND'S MUSICAL LIBRARY, New Bond-street, opposite the Pantheon, Italian Opera Pit Tickets and Private Boxes as all the Theatres.

ROYAL GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street.—The Grand New DIORAMA of the DANUBE and BLACK SEA, including with the Seat of War, Europe to the East, is now Exhibiting Daily, at Three and Eight. Admits 1s., 1s., and 3s. Box-office open daily.

CONSTANTINOPLE and the WAR.—The Last Week but Two of illustrating the Seat of War in the EGYPTIAN HALL, is the week on WEDNESDAYS and SATURDAYS by MR. STOCQUELER, and on the other days by MR. G. KENNEY, Jerby, at Half-past Two and Eight. Admission 1s

MR. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC, including the Bernese Oberland and the Simplon, EVERY EVENING, at Eight o'clock, except Saturday; and every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday mornings, at Three. Stalls, 3s.; which can be taken at the Box-office every day from Eleven till Four, and, 28, Gallery, is.—EGYPTIAN HALL, Piccadilly.

NEXT the POLYTECHNIC, Regent-street, FOR FURTHER'S GRAND MOVING DIORAMA of CANADA and the UNITED STATES, DAILY, at Three and Eight o'clock Descents of Niagara and River St. Lawrence. With Songs, Glees, and Choruses. Mr. Friend now Lectures and Sings himself. Admission 1s., 2s., and 3s. Box-office open daily.

VENTRILOQUY.—PHILHARMONIC ROOM, Newman-street, Oxford-street. MONDAY, MAY 8, and every Evening Mr. LOVE will present his new Entertainment, called THE LONDON SEASON, with a New Song, Dresses, and Appointments.—To-day, at 3, 8, and 10. Begin at Eight.

DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM IS NOW OPEN, in the Spacious Premises known as the HALLE ROUGE, Piccadilly, for Gentlemen, from Eleven till Five, and from Seven till Ten daily. On Wednesday and Friday a portion of the Museum is open for Ladies only, from Two to Five.—Admission 1s.

GALLERY of GERMAN PAINTINGS.—THE SECOND ANNUAL EXHIBITION of the WORKS of MODERN GERMAN MASTERS IS NOW OPEN DAILY, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.—Admission, 1s.—Gallery, 168, New Bond-street, next door to the Clarendon.

SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER-COLOURS.—The FIFTIETH ANNUAL EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN, at their Gallery, 5, PALL-MALL EAST. Admittance, 1s., Catalogue, 6d. JOSEPH J. JENKINS, Secretary.

PHOTOGRAPHIC INSTITUTION.—An EXHIBITION of PICTURES, by the most celebrated French Italian, and English Photographers, embracing a series of the finest Views of Monuments, Countries and Cities of Europe, is now OPEN Admission, 6d. A portrait taken by Mr. Fisher's Patent Process, and two glass transparent copies for 10s.—Photographic Institution, 168, New Bond-street

NEW PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.—On WEDNESDAY NEXT MAY 10th, will be performed Beethoven's GRAND CHORAL SYMPHONY. Tickets, 10s. 6d., 5s., and 2s. 6d. To be had at Mitchell's Library, Bond-street, and Cu's.

MUSICAL UNION.—Mdlle. Clauss, Ernst, Vieuxtemps, and Sainton, have engaged for TUESDAY, MAY 9th, Quartets, C minor, Beethoven; and No. 3 E flat Op. Mendelssohn; Solos Ernst Concertante, Op. 2, Vieuxtemps; Grande Polonaise, Mdlle Clauss. Doors open at Three J. ELLA, Director.

ST. MARTIN'S HALL.—MAY 15th, Rossini's STABAT MATER and George Lake's successful Oratorio DANIEL. Madame Clara Novello, Miss Dolby; Messrs. Sims Reeves, Charpillon, Weiss, Bonetti.—Apply early for tickets at the Hall; or, Addison's, 210, Regent-street.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, Exeter-hall.—Conductor, MR COSTA.—On FRIDAY next MAY 12, will be performed BEETHOVEN'S GRAND SERVICE in C. Principal Vocalists—Madame Clara Novello, Miss Dolby, Mr. Sims Reeves and Jules Formes; with Chorus of nearly 700 performers. Tickets 3a., 5s., and 10s 6d. each, or Subscriptions, One, Two, or Three Guineas per annum, at the Society's Office, No. 6, Exeter-hall. The Performance will commence at Seven o'clock precisely. Doors open in C, Op. 124.—Mr. Mac-arren's Analysis (40 pages quarto), with Musical Illustrations, on sale, price 6d., or sent by post on receipt of 12 postage stamps

QUEEN'S CONCERT ROOMS, Hanover-square, MISS GUSELLA ARCHER'S (pupil of Mr. Aguilar) FIRST CHAMBER MUSICALE, will take place on MONDAY, MAY 10th, 1854, to commence at Eight o'clock precisely Vocalists, Miss Dolby, Miss Lascelles, and Sontag, Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Hobbs, Miss Marion Adams, and Miss Brockton; Mr. Frank Bodda and Herr Pauer. Instrumentalists, Herr Ernst, Mr. Blagrove, Mr. Aguilar, Violin; Herr Jansa; Violoncello, Monsieur Paque; Pianoforte, Miss Goddard, Arthur Coudenhove, Mr. Aguilar. Reserved Tickets, 10s 6d. each. Single Tickets, 7s.; Family Tickets (to admit four), 21 1s. To be had at the Musical Warehouses; and of Miss Gusella Archer, 431, New Oxford-street.

COLOGNE CHORAL UNION (DER KOLNER MANNER GESANG VEREIN) MONDAY NEXT.—HANOVER SQUARE ROOMS.—Mr. MITCHELL respectfully announces that the above distinguished Society will make a second Essay of SIX MORNING CONCERTS at the Hanover-square Rooms, which are fixed to take place on the following days:—Monday next, May 8; Wednesday, May 10; Friday, May 12; Monday, May 15; Wednesday, May 17; and Friday, May 19. Mr. Mitchell begs to state that the Concerts will be arranged as last year—commencing at Half past Three, and terminating about Five o'Clock. The ONLY AVAILABLE SUBSCRIPTION for the whole Series of the above Engagement of this distinguished Society will take place on Saturday Evening, May 6, and Saturday Morning, May 20, commencing at Half-past Eight o'Clock.—Reserved Seats, 10s 6d.; admission to the body of the room 5s., which may be had at Mr. MITCHELL'S Royal Library, 33, Old Bond-street.

MR. AGUILAR respectfully announces that his ORCHESTRAL CONCERT will take place at the HANOVER SQUARE ROOMS, on THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 11th, commencing at Half past Two. Vocalists: Madame Hermine Rudersdorff (from the Berlin Opera), Mdlle. Marie Seclatschek (from Vienna), Miss Eleanor Reinhart, and Herr Formes. Violin, Herr Ernst; Pianoforte, Mr. Aguilar; Accompanyist, Mr. Brinley Richards. Drawing a column of water 87 feet in height.—The most magnificent Working Model ever constructed—Machinery in Action—Steam Loom, Punching, Shaping, Drilling, Slotting, and Punching Machines—Cylinder, Steam Perforating Printing Machine—Clarsen's Circular Loom—Fin and Needle-making Machines—American Sewing Machines—Silk-Weaving Looms of various descriptions—Stationary-Valied Pianoforte, Model by Mozart and Gambini—Picture Gallery—New Musical Instrument, by Mr. Bowell—Lasting Electric Telegraph, Key—Working Model of Steam Hammer and Crushing Machine—Professor's Patent Self-closing Harness-valve Feed-forcing Bridge and Economising Fuel. Optical Diorama Illustrative of Handel's Serenata of "Acis and Galatea," with selection from the music accompanied on the grand organ. In the Lecture Rooms will be given Demonstrations by Mr. Tagliabue—Lectures on English Music and English Composers, by Mr. Aspinall Wood, R.A.M., with Vocal and Instrumental Illustrations, &c. The Photographic Gallery of this Exhibitionment will be open to the public free of extra charge, where specimens may be seen in every style of the art, and portraits taken irrespective of the weather. Hours of Exhibition—Morning, 10 to 5; Evening, 7 to 10 (Saturdays excepted) Admission, 1s.; Saturdays, 2s. 6d. Schools and Children under Ten half-price.

OPENING of the CRYSTAL PALACE, SYDENHAM, and of the CRYSTAL FOUNTAIN and PARK at the end of MAY, after which they will be open Daily, Sundays excepted.

The following are the arrangements for the admission of the Public:—

FIVE SHILLING DAYS.—On Saturdays, the public will be admitted by payment at the doors, by tickets, of 5s. 6d. each, and by tickets to the said conveyance by railway.

HALF-CROWN DAYS.—On Fridays, the public will be admitted by payment at the doors, by tickets, of 2s. 6d. each, and by tickets to the said conveyance by railway.

SHILLING DAYS.—Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays will be open to the public, by the gates, special of One Shilling each, which admit the public on tickets, and long the holder to admission to the Palace and Park and to conveyance along the Crystal Palace Railway. Return tickets from London Bridge Station to the Palace and back, will be issued, at the following prices:—

Including first-class carriage .. .. 3s 6d.
Ditto second ditto .. .. 2s 6d.
Including third ditto 1s 6d

CHILDREN.—Children under twelve years of age will be admitted at half the above prices.

HOURS OF OPENING.—The Palace and Park will be opened on Monday, and on each succeeding Wednesdays, Saturdays, at Twelve, at ten o'clock a.m., and on Fridays and Saturdays at twelve o'clock, and close every day at Six o'clock.

OPENING DAY.—The opening will take place about the end of May. The precise date will be announced as early as possible. On that occasion season tickets only will be available.

SEASON TICKETS.—Season tickets will be issued at two guineas each, which will entitle the proprietor to the Palace and Park on the day of opening, and on all other days when the Building is open to the public.

Season Tickets to include conveyance along the Crystal Palace Railway, including admission to the Palace and Park, without further charge, will be issued at four guineas each, to admit to the occasion of the London Brighton and South Coast Railway Company's trains will leave Victoria Station for trains from and to London and Brighton, which are open to the public, and will not be accommodated at intermediate stations.

Season Tickets are not transferable or available except to the person whose signature is borne.

FAMILY SEASON TICKETS.—Members of the same family who reside together will have the privilege of taking season tickets for the same, at seven guineas each, admitting to the Palace on the following reduced terms:—

Applications for two tickets will be entitled to 10 per cent discount on the gross amount paid for such tickets; taking three tickets, to a discount of 15 per cent; taking four tickets, to a discount of 20 per cent; taking five tickets and upwards, to a discount of 25 per cent. Families obtain by the above privilege, and desiring to avail themselves of it, must apply to the managing firm; and these tickets will be saved, the only to the persons named in such application.

Family Season Tickets may be had at the Office, 2, Adelaide-place, and, the other offices for tickets.

Season Tickets will contain admission from the opening day till the 30th Ap. 1 1855.

Applications may be made for season tickets at the offices of the Company, 3, Adelaide-place, London-bridge Season tickets, as soon as ready, will be delivered in the order in which the applications have been made, at the offices of the Company, 3, Adelaide-place, London-bridge, and 14, Regent-street; and at the Crystal Palace, London-bridge, and at Mr. Sams', 1, St. James's street, Mr. Mitchell's, 33, Old Bond-street; Waterloo-place, Pall-mall; and the Crystal Palace. The conveyance by railway will be delivered at the Office of the Secretary to the Brighton Railway, London-bridge.

SPECIAL RULES.—THE LAST MAY 1st.—The general provisions and regulations mentioned above are to be understood as being subservient to such special provisions, regulations, and by-laws on the part of the Railway Company and the Palace Company as may be found necessary to regulate the traffic and to meet special occasions and circumstances which may from time to time arise.

By order of the Board,
G. GROVE, Secretary.

Adelaide-place, London-bridge, April 15, 1854.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR FAMILY SEASON TICKETS.

To G. Grove, Esq., Secretary, 3, Adelaide-place, London-bridge.

Sir,—I beg to enclose a remittance for Family Season Tickets for myself and the following members of my family, who are all residing with me.

Yours, obediently,
Name .....
Address .....
Description .....
Surname.
Christian Name.

Schedule of Prices of Family and Season Tickets.

Without Conveyance by Railway.		With Conveyance by Railway.	
Two tickets at	£5 16 6	Two tickets at	£7 11 6
Three ,,	8 7 6	Three ,,	10 14 6
Four ,,	10 18 6	Four ,,	13 15 0
Five ,,	13 17 6	Five ,,	15 15 0
Six ,,	9 9 6	Six ,,	18 18 0
Seven ,,	11 11 6	Seven ,,	21 0 0
Eight ,,	13 13 0	Eight ,,	23 4 0
Nine ,,	15 14 6	Nine ,,	26 7 0
Ten ,,	17 15 0	Ten ,,	31 10 0

—The above Application must be addressed to the Secretary, as above, and accompanied by a remittance for the full amount of the tickets asked for, according to the above Schedule, in favour of George Grove, Esq., Adelaide-place. Cheques must be on a London banker, and be crossed with the words "Union Bank of London."

And no application, unless so accompanied, will be attended to.

CRYSTAL PALACE and PARK.—SEASON TICKETS will be entitled to Admission on the Opening Day, and further available until the 1st of May, 1855, may be obtained, by subscribers of Directors, at Mr. MITCHELL'S LIBRARY, 33, Old Bond-street. Single Tickets, Two Guineas each with a resolution noon two or more Tickets for Members of the same Family. Regent-st., 14, Old Bond-street.

ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, REGENT'S-PARK. Fellows and visitors are informed that a pair of GIANT ANT-EATERS, an adult pair of INDIAN LIONS, and a pair of CAMELOPARDS, have been added to the Collection. Admission, 1s Mondays, 6d.

TULIPS!—W. H. LAWRENCE, of the RED LION, HAMPTON begs to inform his Friends and the Public that his annual EXHIBITION of TULIPS are in BLOOM, and will continue to the end of the month. Admittance, Gratis

JOHN B GOUGH will deliver ORATIONS on TEMPERANCE, on the Nights of
MONDAY, MAY 8,
WEDNESDAY, 10,
and THURSDAY, 11,
Doors Open at Seven; to commence at Eight o'Clock

Tickets to each Meeting, 6d. each; Reserved Seats, 1s.; may be obtained at the Office of the Temperance League, 337, Strand; and at the Hall on the evenings of the meetings.

W. TWEEDIE,
JOHN PHILLIPS, } Hon. Secs.

London Temperance League, 337, Strand.

SONS of MISSIONARIES' FOREIGN BAZAAR, in AID of the BUILDING FUND, will be held at the HALL of COMMERCE, Threadneedle-street, on FRIDAY next, MAY 12, SATURDAY, MONDAY, 15, and TUESDAY, 16, when the magnificent contributions from China, India, the West Indies, and the Continent, will be exhibited for Sale at Twelve, and close at dusk. First day, 2s. 6d.; following days, 1s.

ANGLO-FRENCH ALLIANCE.—To celebrate the happy Alliance of England and France, a GRAND DINNER Ball, in Aid of the Funds of the FRENCH BENEVOLENT SOCIETY (founded in 1848), under the Patronage of his Excellency the French Ambassador, will take place at the HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, on FRIDAY, MAY 12th, 1854. Gentlemen's Tickets, 15s.; Lady's Ticket, 7s. Tickets to be had of the principal Music and Bookselling, and at the Office of the Society, 10, Dukestreet, Portland-place.

THE GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY.—The prices of COALS brought to London by this Railway have been reduced, and are at present as under:—

Delivered within five miles of the Station.

FROM THE SOUTH PARTS OF DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE.

Hetton Coals, first Quality	s. d.
Lambton's Wall's End	23 6 per ton.
Trundtons' Hartwood Wall's End, screened	23 6 ,,
Adelaide Hetton Coals, screened	23 0 ,,
FROM THE SOUTH YORKSHIRE COAL FIELD.	
Silkstone, screened	21 6 ,,
Silkstone Coals, Second Quality	20 0 ,,
Elsecar, soft, screened	20 0 ,,
Ditto, Hards or Furnace Coals	21 0 ,,
Elsecar Hard	21 0 ,,
Whitwood	20 0 ,,

Orders can now be promptly executed.

Beyond five miles from the Stations, 1s. per ton per mile, for cartage. Cash to be paid on giving the Orders at the Delivery.

The only offices for Coals brought to London by the Great Northern Railway is within this Station, and care should be taken to address orders to Mr. HERBERT CLARKE, Sole Agent for the sale of Coals consigned to the King's-cross Station, or to the Secretary.

By order,
J. R. MOWATT, Secretary.

King's-cross Station, London, May 1, 1854.

THE CONSERVATIVE LAND SOCIETY.—The 37 MARGARET'S ESTATE, RICHMOND.—The magnificent Mansion and picturesque Park, at St. Margaret's, opposite Richmond Gardens, and the VINEYARD HILL Estate, adjoining, divided into 74 Allotments, have been fixed for WEDNESDAY, 7th JUNE. Cards to view may be had of the Auctioneers, Messrs. Debenham, Tewson, and Farmer, 80 & 81, Cornhill. The Eighteenth Public Drawing on the 18th August, at noon. CHARLES J. EWEN GUINNESS, Secretary.

Offices, 33, Norfolk-street, Strand, May 6, 1854.

SLOUGH, Bucks.—The Directors of the NATIONAL PROVIDENT FREEHOLD LAND SOCIETY are happy to announce that a very eligible estate adjoining the Slough Station on the Great Western Railway, and commanding a splendid view of Windsor Castle, has been purchased for Allotment amongst the Members.

The NEXT BALLOT will shortly take place, of which due notice will be given. All Shares previously taken will participate.

Offices, 33, Norfolk-street, Strand, May 6, 1854.

JOHN F. COX, Secretary.

TERCENTENARY FESTIVAL of the SONS OF CLERGY, in Aid of the Funds of the Corporation for Assisting Necessitous Clergymen, Pensioning their Widows and Aged and Single Daughters, and Educating, Apprenticing, and providing Outfits for their children.

The TWO HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY will be celebrated on WEDNESDAY, the 10th of MAY, under the Dome of St. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL with a full Choral Service, in which the Choirs of her Majesty's Chapel Royal, St. James's, Westminster Abbey, and St. George's Chapel, Windsor, usually assisting at the Annual Festival, will be increased by a large number of two hundred and fifty voices, by members of various other Cathedral Choirs, and by other gentlemen, who have kindly offered their services. Mr. Goss, Organist of St. Paul's, will have the direction of the Choir, and, at the request of the Governors, will preside at the organ on the occasion. The Solemn Divine Service will commence at Three o'Clock.

The SERMON will be preached by the Most Rev the LORD ARCHBISHOP of CANTERBURY before his Royal Highness Prince Albert, the Lord Mayor, and Sheriffs, the Prelates, and the Noblemen and Gentlemen acting as Stewards, &c.

The ANNUAL DINNER will take place on the same day, at Six o'clock precisely, in Merchant Taylors' Hall, Threadneedle-street—the Lord Mayor presiding, supported by his Royal Highness Prince Albert and the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury.

STEWARDS.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE ALBERT, K.G.
Chancellor of the University of Cambridge (3rd time).

The Lord High Chancellor (3rd time).	The Rev. W. Page Wood, M.A.
The Duke of Devonshire, K.G (3rd time.)	The Rev. W. Finch, M.A.
The Duke of Newcastle	The Rev. C. Ferrers, M.A.
The Marquis of Westminster (2nd time).	The Rev. J. F. Powis M.A.
The Earl Spencer, K.G	The Rev. H. Bathurst, M.A.
The Earl of Derby, Chancellor of the University of Oxford (3rd time).	The Rev. G. C. Rowden, D.D.L.
The Earl of Winchilsea and Nottingham.	The Rev. W. Wayland, LL.D.
The Earl of Aberdeen, K.T.	The Rev. F. E. Witts, M.A.
The Earl Howe, G.C.H	The Rev. H. Raikes, M.A. (3rd time).
The Earl Amherst, G.C.H. (3rd time).	Richard Baggallay, Esq. (3rd time)
The Earl of Darlington.	George Bacon, Esq.
The Lord Viscount Palmerston, G.C.B., M.P. (3rd time).	James Bentley, Esq (4th time).
The Lord Bishop of London (5th time).	Edward Ladd Hoste Esq.
The Lord Bishop of Winchester.	Chas. Wilkins Forster, Esq., M.P.
The Lord Bishop of Carlisle (3rd time).	Joseph Cunnington, Esq.
The Lord Bishop of Rochester (3rd time).	William Cole, Esq.
The Lord Bishop of St. David's (2nd time).	William Cotton, Esq. (3rd time).
The Lord Bishop of St. Asaph (2nd time).	John Dyson Dixon, Esq.
The Lord Bishop of Hereford.	Charles Elliott, Esq. (3rd time).
The Lord Bishop of Bangor.	William Evans, Esq. (3rd time).
The Lord Bishop of Peterborough (2nd time).	Charles Few, Esq., Jun
The Lord Bishop of Oxford.	James Hendley, Esq.
The Lord Bishop of Chichester.	William Gladstone, Esq.
The Lord Bishop of Rochester (3rd time).	John Henry Hopkins, Esq.
The Lord Bishop of St. David's (2nd time).	Howel Gwyn, Esq., M.P. (3rd time).
The Lord Bishop of Llandaff.	Oliver Hargreave, Esq. (3rd time).
The Lord Bishop of Hereford.	Benj. Harrison, Esq (3rd time).
The Lord Bishop of Bangor.	Henry Hoare, Esq.
The Lord Bishop of Peterborough (2nd time).	Christopher Jones, Esq.
The Lord Bishop of Oxford.	Francis Bligh Hookey, Esq. (3rd time).
The Lord Bishop of Chichester.	H T Hope, Esq.
The Lord Bishop of Rochester (3rd time).	Thomas De Horsall, Esq., M.P.
The Right Hon. the Lord Justice Knight Bruce (3rd time).	Lewis Loyd, Esq. Jun.
The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor.	Thomas Lucas, Esq.
Mr Alderman and Sheriff Wire.	Charles Pilcher, Esq. (3rd time).
Mr Sheriff Wa.ls.	John Pretsman, Esq., M.P.
The Ven. Archdeacon Bonnell (3rd time).	James Reeves, Esq.
The Ven Archdeacon Lane-Freer.	Charles Reynolds, Esq.
The Ven. Archdeacon Lonsdale.	William Rothery, Esq.
The Rev. M. J. Routh. D.D. President of Magdalen College, Oxford (3rd time).	George Moore, Esq.
The Rev. H. Hamilton, Esq., D.C.L., Principal of Magdalen Hall, Oxford.	John Pery, Esq. (4th time).
The Rev. Thomas Worsley, M.A. Master of Downing College, Cambridge.	Edmund Pepys, Esq. (3rd time).
The Rev. W. Jacobson, D.D., Regius Professor of Divinity, Oxford.	John Innes Pocock, Esq. (3rd time).
The Rev. J. A. Jeremie, D.D., Regius Professor of Divinity, Cambridge.	J. T. Powles Esq.
The Rev. J. F. N. Molesworth, D.D.	Samuel Rogers, Esq. (2nd time).
The Rev. H. L. Mansel, B.D.	Edward Twisleton, Esq. (2nd time).
	John Pretsman, Esq., M.P. (3rd time).
	James Reeves, Esq.
	Charles Reynolds, Esq.
	William Rothery, Esq.
	George Moore, Esq.
	John Pery, Esq. (4th time).
	Edmund Pepys, Esq. (3rd time).
	John Innes Pocock, Esq. (3rd time).
	J. T. Powles Esq.
	Samuel Rogers, Esq. (2nd time).
	Edward Twisleton, Esq. (2nd time).
	John Pretsman, Esq., M.P. (3rd time).
	James Reeves, Esq.
	Charles Reynolds, Esq.
	William Rothery, Esq.
	George Moore, Esq.
	John Pery, Esq. (4th time).
	Edmund Pepys, Esq. (3rd time).
	John Innes Pocock, Esq. (3rd time).
	J. T. Powles Esq.
	Samuel Rogers, Esq. (2nd time).
	Edward Twisleton, Esq. (2nd time).

And
Sir Robert Harry Inglis, Bart. (2nd time).
Wm. Taylor Copeland, Esq., Alderman (3rd time).
James WILLIAM FREEMAN, Esq. } Treasurers of the Corporation

The first Festival was held in St. Paul's Cathedral in the year 1655, when certain zealous members of the Church, moved with compassion for the helplessness and privations of the widows and children of the calamities of those times, formed themselves into an association to shelter, relieve, and educate. This association was called the Society of the Sons of the Clergy.

In celebrating the Two Hundredth Anniversary of the charity, the committee are desirous of rendering the Festival worthy of the noble object hope that many benevolent persons will assist by liberal contributions, by attending out their stewards, and by becoming Members of the Institution. The funds are limperially augmented to claimants from all the Dioceses of England and Wales, and annually assist about 1200 persons, of whom 700 are widows and aged unmarried daughters of deceased clergymen, whose small pensions of £10 is in one of the objects of the charity. The other 500 are annual grants, which is to extend the means of the Corporation for assisting sick and disabled clergymen, widows of clergymen, and their families in urgent cases of distress. A third object is to educate and place out in life the children of clergymen, and that by occasional assistance, granted highly valued by parents, and peculiarly calculated to effect great and lasting benefit.

The Stewards acknowledge with the greatest respect and gratitude the liberality experienced by Royal Highness Prince Albert, a munificent and generous aid which the laity are kindly affording.

The ambiguity of the Charity, the excellence of its objects, and the esteem of its Benefactors, are sufficient reasons, it is presumed, to secure for it the confidence and liberal support of all benevolent persons

Contributions will be thankfully received by the Stewards, and by C. J. Baker, Esq., Registrar of the Corporation, 9, Bloomsbury-place; Messrs. Hoare, Fleet-street; Bridges, 54, Lombard-street; Messrs. Coutts, and Mr. Edmund Fayerman, the Collector, 79, Pall Mall.

Tickets for the Dinner will be gratuitously presented to Governors and Subscribers prior to the Festival, and Tickets for the Festival and Dinner will be issued to Stewards. Applications for Tickets, addressed to Mr. Fayerman, as above, and Mr. Dalby, 10, Paternoster-row; but, to prevent disappointment, application should be made as early as possible.

No person will be admitted to the Cathedral or Merchant Tailors' Hall without a Ticket.

THE PERMANENT WAY COMPANY call the attention of Railway Directors and Engineers to their patent Bull-dog-iron, Fish-joints, and other important improvements, now in use on upwards of 200 miles of Railway.

Extract from the half-yearly report of the Directors of the Midland Railway Company, 1853:—"The Imperial Act has passed for the present (for the main-tenance of the Permanent Way) is, that the Company's engineers have been instructed to adopt the whole of the improvements wherever the Fish Joint, or certain other improvements are hereafter specified.

Every information may be obtained on application to Mr CHARLES MAY, C.E., 3, Duke-street, Westminster, or MILLIAM HOWDEN, the Secretary, 35, Great George street, Westminster

ROYAL HOSPITAL of BETHLEM.—WANTED a MATRON. Candidates must not be under 30, nor above 45 years of age; and must be unmarried, or widows unencumbered with families. They must be respectable in life, and able to devote the whole of her time to the service of the Hospital, other qualifications being equal, preference will be given to persons having experience in the treatment of the insane. The salary will be £50 per annum, with apartments in the Hospital, coals, candles, and other usual rations; also an annual allowance of coals, not exceeding ten tons, and a limited supply of gas. All applications and testimonials must be accompanied by answers to a printed form, which, with a copy of the duties, may be had on application at the Hospital. Applications must be forwarded to me on or before Saturday, the 20th May next.

Bridewell Hospital, New Bridge-street, B. WELTON, Clerk.
18 addressed April 26, 1854.

THE WESTMINSTER and GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE ASSOCIATION, 37, King-street, Covent-Garden, London.

TRUSTEES.
George Lyall, Esq.
Colonel W. H Maycock.
Sir James Duke, Bart.

This Office, established in 1836, by Members of the Westminster Fire-office (founded 1717), has been highly successful in its operation. An economical management, a judicious adjustment of the premium to the risk incurred, and a careful investment of the funds, have enabled the Directors to make additions to policies, which have equalled one-half of the premiums received. The profits are divided every five years—the next division of which will be in 1855, and assurances effected prior to 1st of January next, will par ticipate in the profits for three years. Any information respect-ing life assurance, with prospectuses and forms of proposal, may be obtained on application to the Office.

Agents required in the principal country towns.

GEOLOGY and MINERALOGY.—Elementary Collections to facilitate the study of this interesting science, can be had, from Two Guineas to One Hundred, of J. TENNANT, 149, STRAND, London.

NEW BOOKS, &c.

HOW HOT IT GETS!—See PUNCHINELLO, No. 10, Price One Penny, the Cheapest and Wittiest Illustrated Periodical
W. STRANGE, 4, Warwick-lane, and all Newsvendors.

THE THIRD VOLUME IS NOW READY,
Price only 5s., bound, with Portrait, of the
CHEAP EDITION of Mdme. CAMPAN'S MEMOIRS of HER CORRESPONDENCE
Comprising the Narrative of her Residence at the Court of Queen Charlotte.
Also, now ready, the FIFTH VOLUME, price 7s. 6d. bound, with Portraits, of the
CHEAP EDITION of MISS STRICKLAND'S LIVES of the QUEENS of ENGLAND.
Published by Henry Colburn, Publisher to her Majesty, HURST and BLACKETT, 13, Great Marlborough-street.

THE NEW NOVELS.
Now ready at all the Libraries, in Three Volumes,
AUBREY. By the Author of "Emilia Wyndham," &c.
ATHENÆUM.—"By Miss MITFORD, Author of "Our Village," with Portrait of the Author, and other Illustrations. "Atherton is a charming tale.—Athenæum
"One of the most powerful and pleasing novels that have appeared for a long time."—Spectator.
PHEMIE MILLAR; a Scottish Story, by the Author of "The Kinsters."
"We feel obliged to the author for having given us such a fresh, pleasant story as 'Phemie Millar.' Out of the homeliest details a certain fascination is evoked. which insures the reader's interest to the end, 'Phemie Millar' is as charming a heroine as we have met with for a long time."—Athenæum.
JANET MOWBRAY. By CAROLINE GRAUTOFT.
"The very pleasant tale is a love story, and a very good one, full of agreeable variety and interest."—Examiner
SAM SLICK IN NEW YORK.
The Americans at HOME; or, Byways, Backwoods and Prairies. Edited by the Author of "Sam Slick." 2 vols., Just ready.
HURST and BLACKETT, Publishers (Successors to Henry Colburn), 13, Great Marlborough street.

THE NATIONAL DRAWING-MASTER.—"A work we can safely recommend."—Art Journal. Containing Copies, Drawing-pap r, Rules, &c. Enables any one to Ed. monthly, to rapidly reach to the Art.
ALEXANDER and CO., 96, Strand.

This day is published, price 1s. 6d.
OUR MEDICAL LIBERTIES; or, The Present Position of the Question, as Influenced by recent and proposed legi lation; comprising Observations on the Compulsory Vaccination Act, the Medical Registration and Reform Bills, and on Maine Law. By JOHN GIBBS, Esq. Dedicated, by permission, to the Right Hon. Earl Waldegrave
London: SUTHERAN, SON, and DRAPER, 10, Little Tower-street, and 331, Strand

TO ADVERTISERS.—The Official Stamp Returns, just issued, show the CRITIC to have the largest exempt circulation of any Literary Journal, being 1,000 more than the Critic, 750?, Athenæum, 2026; Spectator, 3817; Literary Gazette, 478; published on the 1st and 16th of each Month. A copy sent to any one enclosing six postage stamps to the Critic office, 29, Essex-street, Strand.

Valuable secure Modern and Ancient Paintings; also, an importation of costly Crown Cabinet Furniture.

MR. HARDING has received instructions to offer by PUBLIC COMPETITION, without the least restriction as to price, at the MART, on THURSDAY and FRIDAY, MAY 11 and 12, Twelve each day, a COLLECTION of high-class PICTURES in excellent preservation, in carved and gilt frames; principally of the Dutch and Flemish Schools.

St. Agnes richly coloured, C. Dolci
A fine Example, P. Wouwerman
Fruit and Flowers Van Os
Portrait of the Artist, G. Dow
Ye deepe, Lingbelee, &c.
His Family, J. de Cortona
Portrait of Prince Albert
Stags
Crucifixion, Van Dyck

Landscape and Cattle, P. Potter
The Convert, very elaborate, Terburg
An Interior, Metzu
Landscape, wi h Sheep (life-like), Cuyp
Gungunck
The Rescue, Albano
Highly-finished Specimens, Metsu

And many others, by esteemed Masters.

Also, a COLLECTION of ORMOULU and MARQUETERIE Foreign and English CABINETS and CHIFFONIERS, Marble en suite; a variety of beautiful walnut and rosewood centre, card, and occasional tables; a handsome Chippendale Mahogany Sideboard, Dressing Sheratons, mahogany and other chairs, work-stands, &c.; the whole of which are of choice design and excellent workmanship.

May be viewed two days prior, and morning of sale.

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DEAFNESS.—The new and INVISIBLE ORGANIC VIBRATOR, an extraordinarily powerful, small, new, inverted instrument, for deafness, entirely differing from all others, to surpass anything of the kind that has been, or probably ever can be produced. Being of the same colour as the skin, it is not perceptible, it enables deaf persons to hear distinctly at church and at public assemblies; the unpleasant sensation of singing noises in the ears is entirely removed; and it affords all the assistance that possibly could be desired.—Messrs. S and B SOLOMONS, Opticians, 39, Aldermanbury, Piccadilly Observe opposite the York Hotel

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"Mr. Mayall's portraits represent the high art of the Daguerreotype: they are as superior to the generality of such pictures as a collection engraving is to a screw woodcut."—Art Journal, Nov., 1853.

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ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS SUPPLEMENT.

VOL. XXIV.] SATURDAY, MAY 6, 1854. [GRATIS.

THE ROYAL ACADEMY EXHIBITION.

WE were enabled to give in part of our impression of last week a hurried but general account of the Royal Academy Exhibition, as it appeared to us at the Private View. Yesterday (we observed) was the Private View of the Eighty-sixth Exhibition of the Royal Academy. Her Majesty was present before the nobility and critics were admitted, and is said to have expressed her entire approbation of the Exhibition. All the artists, we observed, look pleased, and there was an air of good humour about connoisseurs and professional critics, as if the Exhibition were, as a whole, one worthy of the position which English artists seek to support and advance. There can be no doubt of its being a good Exhibition, in spite of finding such men as Mulready and Millais, Dyce, Herbert, and Gibson, absent as exhibitors. Maclise and Frith were never seen before to such advantage; Stanfield and Roberts sustain their old and well-earned reputations; Lee and Sydney Cooper are on the move forward; Creswick has made a decided advance; Ward exhibits a finer sense of colour; Frost is still nearer Milton's mark; Frank Stone betrays no falling off; Edward Cooke is once more in Holland; and, as for the outsiders—the men without the pale of the Academy—Ansdell, Phillip, and others—how much have they done, and ably done, to rival some of the best within the pale! Yes, it is an excellent Exhibition, in spite of a solitary Female Head from Sir Charles Eastlake; in spite of a professedly "unfinished" picture by Sir Edwin Landseer; and in the absence of any great work from Webster, or from Egg.

If we had to characterise the Exhibition (our criticism continued), we should say that Maclise and Frith excel in invention, and that the best picture, as a whole, is unquestionably Mr. Frith's "Life at the Sea-side"—a picture of such surpassing merit, that it is fairly worth any other half-dozen pictures in the Exhibition. In Scriptural subjects, and in the higher order of painting, Dobson and Frost most unmistakeably take the lead; in Landscape, Roberts and Stanfield, Lee and Creswick, Cooper and Cooke, are still pre-eminent—though there is an Anthony in the West Room (his only picture), "A Solitary Pool," that is more than up to the level of the best of them; in History, Ward and Hannah may be named together; in Portrait-painting Grant takes the lead over all competitors—his full-length of Lord John Russell being by far the finest portrait in the Exhibition. He has this year outdone (no easy matter) Sir John Watson Gordon; though he is followed hard, but in a different way, by Boxall. Strange to say, Grant is not good in his female portraits: his best is a full-length, in black, of Mrs. Percival Heywood. In the Miniature and Crayon Room, Ross and Thorburn reign without rivals likely just yet to rob them of sitters; though we must own that the Lady Sarah Cholmondeley of Mr. H. T. Wells, is all but up to the Thorburn and Ross level. Among the Crayon portraits we miss Richmond and Watts, but are glad to find a new exhibitor of successful promise—a Mr. Charles Martin, the son of the distinguished painter so recently deceased. In the Architectural Room there is nothing in point of excellence to be mentioned in the same breath with the three Pompeian studies of Mr. E. Falkener: three choicer drawings are not to be seen in any exhibition—they are done with the skill of an architect, the knowledge of an antiquary, and the feeling of an artist. Of the Octagon Room we are unwilling to speak: our inspection of it was a hurried, unrewarded

(Continued on page 424.)

"THE LAST SLEEP OF ARGYLL BEFORE HIS EXECUTION, 1685."—PAINTED BY E. M. WARD, A.R.A.

INDUSTRY IN THE UNITED STATES.

REPORTS OF MESSRS. WHITWORTH AND WALLIS.

THE Commissioners sent from England to report on the New York Industrial Exhibition, have done more to make the industry of the United States known in this country than all previous travellers. Two of them, at least—Mr. Joseph Whitworth, the eminent engineer, or, rather, tool-maker, of Manchester; and Mr. George Wallis, connected, we believe, with Birmingham—have made special reports, and their descriptions are calculated to astonish, and perhaps, alarm, the devoted admirers and patriots of Old England. Of the great superiority in future, in point of numbers, of the Americans to our population, and, indeed, to the population of any single empire of the world, except China, there is no doubt. Between 1801 and 1851 the population of Great Britain and Ireland has nearly doubled, or increased from 16,000,000, speaking in round numbers, to 28,000,000; but, in a similar period—between 1800 and 1850—the population of the United States increased from 5,300,000 to 23,000,000, or more than four-fold; and there is good reason to believe that it is increasing in an accelerating ratio. At the same rate of progress, while our population by the end of the century may be 50,000,000, the population of the United States will be nearly 100,000,000. Without positive evidence, it might have been inferred—as only industry and skill can increase the means of subsistence—that the Americans are both industrious and ingenious, and the two Commissioners have laid before the public much evidence of this important fact. Not only have the Americans a large continent before them to subdue and fill, but they are achieving their great task with indomitable energy. The most extraordinary part of the matter is that means are everywhere provided for the education of the multitude as they increase. Every child, of either sex, goes, or may go to school. On leaving school he is perfectly free to exercise his faculties as nature prompts: he shares in all public discussions; he has his newspaper: and every one, therefore, of the increasing multitude will be, as the rule, a perfectly developed human being. There is an abundance of the means of subsistence, united with complete freedom, so that all the faculties, bodily and mental, of the vast mass, will grow unrestrained. This is the short summary of the astonishing information the two Commissioners have brought from the United States, and have boldly stated to all her Majesty's subjects.

"I could not fail (says Mr. Whitworth) to be impressed, from all I saw there, with the extraordinary energy of the people, and their peculiar aptitude in availing themselves of the immense natural resources of the country. Their skill in the aid of machinery in almost every department of industry. Wherever it can be introduced as a substitute for manual labour, it is universally and willingly resorted to." For example, in plough making, eight men are able to finish thirty ploughs per day; in door making, twenty men make a hundred panelled doors per day; in last making, the process is completed in a minute and a half; in sewing, by machinery, one woman does the work of twenty; in net making, one woman does the work of a hundred. "The eager resort to machinery, wherever it can be applied, under the guidance of superior education and intelligence, is mainly the cause of the remarkable prosperity of the United States." "Combinations to resist the introduction of machinery are unheard of in the States. The workmen find with satisfaction all mechanical improvements; the importance and value of which, as saving them from the drudgery of unskilled labour, they are enabled, by education, to understand and appreciate." "In every state of the Union, and particularly in the North, education is, by means of the common schools, placed within the reach of each individual, and all classes avail themselves of the opportunities afforded. The desire of knowledge, so early implanted, is greatly increased; while the facilities for using it are amply provided, through the instrumentality of an almost universal press. No taxation of any kind has been suffered to interfere with the free development of the powerful agent for promoting the intelligence of the people; and the consequence is, where the humblest labourer can indulge in the luxury of his daily paper, every body reads, and thought and intelligence penetrate through the lowest grades of society."

The observations made by Mr. Wallis confirm those made by Mr. Whitworth. He speaks of—

"A constant effort to supply the want of skilled labour by applications of mechanical powers." He, too, is "impressed with the advantages derived from the long and well-directed attention paid to the education of the whole people. As there is no apprenticeship system (he says) properly so called, the more useful the youth engaged in any industrial pursuit becomes to his employer, the more profitable it is for himself. Bringing a mind prepared by thorough school discipline, and educated up to a higher standard than those of a much superior social grade in the Old World, the American boy develops rapidly into the skilled artisan, and, having once mastered one part of his business, he is never content until he has mastered all. The restless activity of the mind, body, and anxiety to improve his own department of industry, the facts constantly before him of ingenious men who have solved economic and mechanical problems to their own profit and elevation, are all stimulating and encouraging; and it may be said that there is not a working boy of average ability in the New England States, at least, who has not an idea of some mechanical invention or improvement in manufactures, by which, in good time, he hopes to better his condition, or rise to fortune and social distinction."

Thus the astounding fact is revealed to us by Mr. Whitworth and Mr. Wallis, that the individuals of the mighty mass of human beings existing and coming into existence in North America, are superior to the average of Europeans. If they are not exactly as has been said, a nation of Franklins and Stephensons, they abound in men of energy, genius, and talent, and are as much superior individually, as they are in national progress, to the Italians, the Spaniards, and the Germans.

It is very commonly supposed that the Americans are indebted to European arts and to the assistance of European workmen for their great success. There is some truth in the supposition, but it is not entirely true. That the Americans were able, in the first instance, to apply European knowledge and European arts in a country unfettered by European systems of Government, and the European appropriation of the soil is undoubtedly one cause of their wonderful progress; but Mr. Wallis tells us:—

There are very few Englishmen, compared to what I expected to find, or are generally supposed to be, engaged in the industrial establishments of the United States. The hours of labour are too long for most of those who are induced to emigrate; and it is no uncommon thing for the really skilled and steady artisan, who can earn a sufficient livelihood at home, to return after a brief trial in the United states. Taking into consideration the whole number of English, German, and French, employed in the United States, I believe that eight-tenths of the artisan class are Americans, or the children of Europeans, rather than Europeans themselves.

Mr. Whitworth, too, states that the Americans, finding a great plenty of wood in their country—having, in fact to clear it away, in order to get unencumbered ground to cultivate—have applied it to every possible purpose, and manufacture it by every kind of labour-saving machinery. They have saw mills, planing-machines; machines for making boxes, matches, and laste; machines for saving labour in making furniture, ploughs, churns, carriages, &c. So that Mr Whitworth, one of the most ingenious and well-informed of men, is himself astonished at the numerous applications of machinery to the manufacture of wood. "England has done something in this way," he remarks, "by the celebrated block-making machinery at Portsmouth, but much less than has been done in America." Instead of the Americans borrowing from Europe, the people of Europe, especially of England, who are best able from their own achievements, to appreciate what is done elsewhere, are borrowing from America. From one thing the Americans have gone to another, without coming through Europe.

The character (says Mr. Whitworth) thus given to one branch of manufactures has gradually extended to others. Applied to stone dressing, one man is enabled to perform as much work as twenty masons by hand. So great, again, are the improvements effected in planing machinery, that one man can attend to a mule containing 1068 spindles, each spinning, three hanks, or 2764 hanks in the aggregate per day, in Hindostan, where they spin by hand, it would be extravagant to expect a spinner to accomplish one hank per day: so that in the United States we find the same amount of manual labour by improved machinery doing more than 300 times the work.

On many other points they are eminently successful. They have machines for making shirts entirely, except the gussets; and one woman does as much as from twelve to twenty hand sewers. In applying Indiarubber to many purposes they are eminently successful. They have more railways and telegraphs than any other people, and make more use of them. They do not waste their resources on ornamental buildings before the railway is brought into working order, but, good sense predominating, they study economy in the construction and speedy completion of railways. There are between twenty and thirty electric telegraph companies in the States, and there are not less than 15,000 miles of telegraphic lines, and more are continually being constructed. The lines are used by all classes, and for the conveyance of all kinds of information. Thus, while it is quite true that the Americans derived the beginnings of their knowledge and their arts from Europe, they have long since gone far ahead of Europeans; and, in material arts, as well as in political and moral regulations, they surpass all that is considered to be excellent in the Old World. Their progress, which is connected with their freedom, illustrates its advantages. For the complete proof that political freedom gives birth to individual superiority in every man in the States, approximating to the first-rate geniuses of the Old World, we are indebted to the elaborate and excellent reports of Messrs. Whitworth and Wallis. Mr. Whitworth visited and inspected a number of establishments for making steam-engines and machinery of all kinds; he examined all sorts of instruments and all sorts of factories. Mr. Wallis did something of the same kind, but was more limited in his range, confining himself chiefly to "manufactures as a result;" while Mr. Whitworth extended his observations to "machinery as a means," in which, says Mr. Wallis, the Americans are remarkable for "originality of conception, construction, and application." While other travellers have glanced over the surface of society in the States, amusing us by its oddities and its merry or farcical contortions, these Commissioners have been privileged to inspect the beatings of its youthful and mighty heart, to examine the sinews and the muscles of its growing and herculean frame; and the picture which they draw of its impulse and its power excite our admiration of the probable destiny of man on earth. That civilisation proceeds with tolerable uniformity, seems exemplified by the past history of Europe. That all nations are hereafter to grow and expand together more than heretofore, seems highly probable from the rapidly increasing communication between all. The most distant in space are brought within a few days or weeks of each other. The oldest and the newest—China and America—are in close and continual communication. Therefore, we may hope all mankind will become what the Americans are. At least, the addition, in a century, of 100,000,000 to the population of the civilised world—the addition having in advance of the majority of the nations of Europe, as much as these are in advance of the majority of the nations of Asia, will have a wonderful and beneficial influence on the progress of all. Into the various important details of the different manufactures carried on we cannot follow the Reports of the Commissioners; but from no other writings or books that we are acquainted with can so much information be obtained of what is doing in America, or such an insight be gained into society there.

THE SWITZER'S SONG ON THREATENED INVASION.

I.

THE gusty wind of stormy March
Comes booming loudly through the trees;
From dusky pine and lofty larch,
Ring wild and wierd like harmonies.
It whirling smites our cottage grey.
Then fearless leaping gorge and peak,
Till, passion spent, it dies away.
Pile high the faggots! let them blaze
As beacon sight to nations stray;
With generous wine the flagon fill!
Through storms and tears
Hope radiant peers:
Life's short—enjoy it while you may!

II.

O'er all the East a tempest lowers,
Scared Freedom turns to face the gloom,
Such stillness fears the thunder showers,
Or hurrying march of fierce simoom.
The surging sounds from gathering hosts
Float hitherward, like ocean's hum.
We fear no foe—the nations know
The Switzers' welcome when they come.
Pile high the faggots! let them blaze!
Bring forth the trusty sword and gun!
With generous wine the flagon fill!
Come hope or fear,
Our course is clear—
Life's short, but sweet with duty done!

III.

Should ruthless squadrons venture near
With flame of war—however brave—
Our shaggy trees shall form their bier,
Our valleys green a quiet grave.
Here thrice ten thousand hearts beat high,
And guard the land they love so well;
Willing great Arno d's death to die:—
Worthy the bow of dauntless Tell.
Pile high the faggots! let them blaze!
'Tis wise preparing for the worst.
With generous wine the flagon fill!
Come peace or war,
Come death or scar—
Life's short, and should be duly nursed!

IV.

The storm that strikes the pampered elm,
And brings its crown of glory low,
While wrestling with our mountain pine
Makes every root the firmer grow.
Though tyrants strain, with rack and chain,
Till beaded blood tears start and roll—
O Torture's tooth but gnaws the truth
The deeper in the patriot's soul.
Pile high the faggots! let them blaze!
The voice of freedom swells the gale:
With generous wine the flagon fill!
The God of might
Defends the right—
Life's short, but none dare us assail.

V.

For liberty our fathers fought,
For liberty we, fight again.
Better is death with freedom wrought,
Than life where liberty is slain.
If poor in wealth, we're rich in health;
If small our power, few cares have we.
Within our misty mountain home,
We're, like our Alpine torrents, free.
Pile high the faggots! let them blaze!
Our love of freedom ne'er shall cease;
With generous wine the flagon fill!
Come storm or strife—
Come death or life,
Life's short, but heaven is full of peace!

April, 1854. FRANCIS BENNOCH.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC

Mr Rowland Hill is appointed principal secretary at the Post-office, in the room of Col. Maberly, who goes to the Audit Board.

Lord Carlisle arrived at Constantinople on the 14th ult., in the *Fury*, from Varna.

It is said the Emperor of the French will, before long, cause the remains of his uncle, Prince Lucien, to be brought from Canino to Paris, to be deposited in the vaults of St. Denis, in the spot destined by Napoleon I. for the members of his family.

The Marquis of Waterford is erecting at Coolfin, near his Lordship's estate, a race-course, which is to be similar to that of Manchester.

Before the French troops had been in Gallipoli three days they had named the streets, numbered the houses, and established a police.

A smart shock of earthquake was felt in Kingston, Jamaica, on Saturday, April 1, a few minutes after 5 p.m.; its duration was not longer than one could count ten, but the undulation was severe.

Among the military sketches and caricatures now seen in the Paris picture shops, one representing a French army on the Danube, has lately appeared, with the following apostrophe to Russia at the foot:—"You have reminded us of the frost of 1812, we will make you remember the thaw of 1854."

Lord Palmerston is about to bring forward a measure to establish an efficient police in counties and boroughs in England and Wales.

The comet was visible at Jamaica on Sunday, April 2, for the first time, above the western horizon. It was of great magnitude, and was watched with much interest by the thousands of spectators.

In the Legislative Council of Victoria, a bill for the extension of the franchise to the diggers was introduced by the Colonial Secretary on the 1st of February.

The Swedish Government has just presented to the diet a bill for the adoption of the decimal system in money, weights, and measures.

There are now on the roll of the British army but two Field-marshal, viz. His Royal Highness Prince Albert and the King of the Belgians.

The letter recently sent by the King of Prussia to the Emperor of the French is said to have had no political character, but simply expressed his thanks for certain works of art forwarded to his Majesty.

Lord Napier, late Secretary to the British Legation at St. Petersburg, has been appointed Secretary of the British Embassy at Constantinople.

The contract for a new railroad from Quebec to Montreal, on the north shore, has been given to a Mr. Baby, a very enterprising French Canadian. The distance is over 150 miles.

A Russian decree announces that Nicholas Baird, a British subject, employed since 1823 as mechanician by the Navy Board Administration, has become a Russian subject, and is to continue his functions in the port of Cronstadt, with the title of a civil engineer, and the rights of hereditary citizenship.

The steam-ship *Great Britain*, which left Liverpool for Australia on Saturday put back on Sunday, in consequence of one of her steam-pipes having burst. It is said that the accident will cause a detention of ten days.

It is said it is to be in contemplation to alter the original plan of the Holyhead Breakwater.

The average traffic receipts on the Great Indian Peninsular Railway for the short distance opened amount to £2360 per week. Those on the Great Western of Canada for the week ending April 7th were £5679.

The total emigration from Liverpool to all foreign ports last month, in ships subject to Government inspection, has been 29 654, a larger number than ever was sent from that port in the same period.

No less than 1351 tons of copper were shipped from the Cliff Mine last year; and the *Lake Superior Journal* states that it has produced, on an average, 100 tons per month during the past year, without any apparent diminution.

Several agents are at present in Tunis, where they have gone to purchase horses for the English army.

The Australian ships which arrived in the Thames on Saturday last brought the first clip of new wool.

The last accounts from the guano islands say that there were sixty-five British vessels lying there, with an aggregate of 40,275 tons; that seamen were very scarce, and that 1000 men were wanted to supply vessels at the Chinchas, without crews capable of taking them home.

There are now three regimental colonelcies at the disposal of the Commander-in-Chief—those of the Royal Horse Guards, vacant by Lord Anglesey's death; of the 70th Foot, by General Halls; and of the 86th, by General Parkes.

The wheat throughout France presents the most luxuriant appearance. In the strong lands it is fifteen days earlier than in ordinary years, and there is every prospect of a most abundant harvest.

The total amount issued out of the Consolidated Fund for payment of interest on the portion of the Greek Loan guaranteed by this country, has been £503,602, of which the Greek Government has repaid £31,050, leaving a balance due of £472,950.

Workmen are now engaged in laying down pipes along the whole range of quays in St. Katherine Docks, for the purpose of applying hydraulic power to the numerous cranes in the warehouses.

A few days ago there was lying in the Toxteth Dock, Liverpool, a vessel taken by Nelson in 1801, at the battle of Copenhagen. She had been an 18-gun brig and was considered a prize, was in excellent condition.

The Grand Council of Zurich has almost unanimously approved of the decree of the Council of State concerning the Polytechnic School, and voted £1,000 towards the completion of an appropriate building for the establishment.

Seventy of the inhabitants of Guernsey have chartered a vessel to enable them to emigrate to Australia. The population of the Channel Islands is declining. Hundreds of houses in Guernsey are to let.

The volunteer corps of "cross bearers" organised by the Russians in Wallachia, as a chosen band of champions of Christ, has been disbanded; not as a concession to Austria, but on account of its indomitable propensity to stealing.

The steam-ship *Lusitania* reports that the vine disease has reappeared in Madeira.

The hippopotamus in the Zoological Gardens has become so furious lately, that a new building has been rendered necessary for its safe keeping. The present den will be occupied by a female hippopotamus, a present from the Viceroy of Egypt, which is expected in June.

The Panama Railroad Company has obtained a large number of labourers from Jamaica, at 3s. 2d. per day, with rations. The sugar-planters are rather sore at the abstraction of their hands.

Three attempts were made to set fire to warehouses in Manchester last Sunday, all of which were unsuccessful. Altogether, about twenty attempts of a similar kind have been made in Manchester within a few weeks.

The last Australian Mail states that the attention of the colonists was principally directed to the means of defending Melbourne and Port Phillip from an attack by Russian cruisers. It was proposed to raise a mining, to fit out gun-boats, and to arm small steamers with Congreve rocket batteries.

The pear crop in Worcestershire, so celebrated for its perry, will be a failure, owing to the injury the blossom has received from the late cold and frosty nights.

The population of the city of Cleveland, Ohio, has grown from 500 in the year 1825 and 6071 in the year 1840, to 35,000 in 1854; to which is added 10,382 in O to City, on the opposite branch of Cuyahoga River, making altogether 45,382.

A Ragged School was opened last week in Southampton.

The total gold and silver coinage by the United States, from the establishment of the Mint in 1792 down to the 31st October 1853, a period of sixty years, amounts to 370,008,191 dollars. Of this 288,390,565 dollars were of gold, and 86,217,627 dollars of silver.

The departure of the *Simla* steamer with the outward mails from Southampton, for India, has been postponed to the 8th instant. The mail to go by her, viâ Marseilles, will be made up on the evening of the 9th.

A letter from Adrianople announces the arrival in that city of the Kurd Amazon, with her 400 horsemen. She was only waiting for the orders of the Governor to begin a campaign.

From a return just published, it appears that the national income for the year ending the 5th April amounts to £54,774,266 1s. and the expenditure to £51,250,129 6s. 1d. Thus shows a surplus of £3,524,736 14s. 11d.

The imports of coffee into the port of London this year have been more than double what they were up to the date in 1853.

Recent advices from Alexandria state that the Viceroy of Egypt has repealed the decree prohibiting the export of grain.

An observatory is being erected at Madrid, and the Government has ordered the requisite instruments to be constructed at London, Paris, and Munich.

At the last meeting of the Geographical Society of Paris, the gold medal was awarded to Dr. Barth, for his important geographical discoveries in Central Africa.

LITERATURE.

REGINALD LYLE. By Miss PARDOE, author of the "Life of Marie de Medici," &c. 3 vols Hurst and Blackett.

We feel almost afraid to speak the truth about this new novel by Miss Pardoe. When there is nothing very unusual or very singular to be said of a work, everybody takes the critic's account of it with perfect good faith. Mediocrity is common both in people themselves and in their performances, and no one is surprised to hear, or to gather that he will find in it one or other of its thousand varieties, if he reads this or that last publication. On the opposite hand, when rare excellence happens to be attributed to any production, a great many persons immediately suspect that there must be some mistake. In general, people much more readily believe an assurance that only what they themselves could do has been done, than that something has been done which is much beyond the average capacity. An immense majority understand at once how a writer can be stupid; they could be stupid themselves, if they tried.

Drawing a long breath, then, we will confront the natural difficulties of a duty which devolves but too seldom on the literary reviewer. Miss Pardoe's last work is one of the most remarkable fictions we have ever read; and—why should we not say it courageously, since we think it honestly?—we consider "Reginald Lyle" to be, in fact, by at least equal, if not superior, to any novel written by a woman, in the English language. Of course (speaking still of lady writers), we put aside as things of no estimation or account whatever, in that grade of literary merit which we have now to examine, the whole mass of those miserable incubrations which have no other distinction than that of being called "fashionable novels." Fashionable life is a fair and proper subject, like any other manner of actual and real life, for the novelist. Therefore we would not condemn, and we never have condemned, a fiction, because it selects that particular phase of the social orb for map or picture—still less because it includes it in wider delineations. But those unessential almanacks of all that is most transient and worthless, and purposeless in the arrangements, not of men and women, but of euphonious names and grand coat titles, offered to our attention in the place of human beings and their human vicissitudes—those wretched professions not the writings to be superior to which we would call a merit in "Reginald Lyle."

The mere "fashionable novel," to which we here passingly allude, is fast becoming extinct, as a class of "literary," or rather as a class of most *illiterate*, works. But, unhappily, the want of judgment in some of our writers, that, while abandoning the principle of making a book exclusively depend upon the rank and fashion of the imaginary characters introduced in it, they nevertheless rely a good deal for success in the employment of a smaller quantity of the same "*enthusiasm*," has ruined the elders and founders of their only very slightly amended school. From the lowest let us look to the highest. Miss Edgeworth appears to us to be unmeasurably the best of the female novelists of the three kingdoms, for reasons which it would cost us no difficulty indeed, but much space, to state. And even if our readers, on perusing this new work of Miss Pardoe's, should agree with us in thinking that there is no individual book of Miss Edgeworth's quite so finished as "Reginald Lyle," that will not affect Miss Edgeworth's paramount fame, or her title to be called the first in merit. This, for two reasons. The first is found in the great variety and quantity of what she has written, almost all excellent and all, perhaps, superior to everything by the author of "Reginald Lyle," except that work itself. The second reason consists in the greater originality and fire of Miss Edgeworth, evinced even in the very productions, which, as appertaining to each and such genus or classes of literary labour, answer to their ends less completely. Here are scores of novels which are less perfect than "Reginald Lyle," and which, nevertheless, display both more genius and more knowledge. But, as a piece of work, with a beginning, a middle, and an end, with enough of what its own mechanism wants, enough for utility, enough for pleasure, enough for profit, and with nothing extraneous; clean, incisive, bright, finished, durable, and beautiful, it is hard indeed, to conceive a novel more perfect even in idea than this actually in execution.

But how? It must, then, be a very unusual sort of book. Well, it is not a book of the usual sort. And if we devote to it but a short notice in proportion to its merit, this is the consequence of the exigencies of our space. However, we will indicate one or two things in a more particular manner. In the first place, out of some 930 pages of which the three volumes consist, there is not even one which can be termed dull; and, so far as our memory serves us, there are only five which come not justly within the description of interesting to an unwonted and remarkable degree.

The great point in a plot in these works which treat of common men and women, and of their common passions and common interests—taking as history and science are forced to omit and to neglect. The great point in these valuable and necessary works is *a plot*; and the great point in a plot is to have it simple. Now, the plot of "Reginald Lyle" answers the primeval, natural, indispensable requirement of unity and simplicity in such a way that, on the subject and scheme and origin of it in a dozen words to a friend; and yet that plot is so full of pith and intrinsic juice, that it germinates into an inexhaustible prodigality of natural incidents and situations. Why is a plot or design—for they are words which imply the same—so thinly sown in modern fictions, rather than execution? Because nothing can be executed till what is to be executed is determined. Two engineers sink for a well. The sinking belongs to execution. Where to sink belongs to design. One works in the wrong place, the other in the right. Even if the less perfect and the less scientific works be in the right place, and the more perfect and more scientific in the wrong, can there be any doubt about the result? The same principle, here pointed, would condemn in all works of art the wasted and scattered energies of a design which wanted unity and simplicity and which was either misdirected originally or diverted by intervening digressions. We spare our readers a hundred obvious illustrations.

The next great merit in a novel is character. In "Reginald Lyle" there are many characters, and so fleshcasted, that we venture to say that not one of them will be easily or soon forgotten by those who read the work.

Of the four cardinal requisites of a novel, we now mention, third, what, in certain points of view, is perhaps the smallest—we mean *style*; a potent angel, however, whose presence, in the guise appropriate to the wants of the occasion, makes an incalculable difference in the fate both first and last, of literary productions. The style of the present book is, in the main, good; it is lively, fluent, natural, and tolerably correct. But that is the utmost we can say in its favour. There is one *grammatical* mistake repeated wherever there is room for the repetition—"*Whomsoever*" cannot be nominative to a verb. "I give the lie to *whom* never said so," or to "whomsoever may be the false knight, and disgracefully slattern style. Of course, Miss Pardoe knows all this as well we know it. Such mistakes are mere oversights; but it is a thousand pities to permit oneself to contract a habit of making them, or that they should disfigure a work full of exalted beauties and merits. These forms are no excuse: it is as if a woman imagined that, because she had great and noble qualities of mind and heart, she could afford to appear in public with her stockings over her shoes, or her hair unbrushed, or exhibiting habitually any other undeniable form of small incorrectness.

The last great point is the morality of the work. Nothing can be higher. The tone all through is admirable; the treatment of incidents and machinations is skilful; and there is not a little of brilliancy and originality in the evolution of the result. We will not spoil the interest by telling the story; but its lesson we might adumbrate by observing that you could inscribe for motto on the title page of such a narrative the suggestive words—*Persons, Almost as Bad as Bad Princes.*"

CORREGGIO: A TRAGEDY. By ADAM OEHLENSCHLAEGER. Translated, with Notes, by THEODORE MARTIN. John W. Parker and Son

So far as England and English readers are concerned, the 'Correggio' of Oehlenschläger will, we think, remain for ever rather a play to read than a play to act. And yet it ought, in itself, to suit the stage excellently. The plot is natural and straightforward; the incidents clear; the characters are marked with astonishing distinctness; the sentiments are noble or base in that vigorous degree which is suited to tragedy, and the poetry of the composition is of a simple and beautiful kind. The play, we say, ought in itself to succeed on the stage. Yet it will scarce be the English stage. The incidents are but few; the action is far more gentle than that of the tragedies to which our national taste has suggested to the muse of this land; and, perhaps, indeed, the whole tone of the work is too tender, and the natures of the interest too quiet, too retiring, and too straitened in scope, and too similar in its source, to suit an audience accustomed to the rapid and vivid excitement of the British drama. An artist's hopes and fears, and trials, as such, are in truth not the best subject for tragedy, whatever may be the scene of representation, or of whatever nation the audience. An artist's destiny—if treated by a dramatist who bears in mind that the character, before and above being an artist, is a man—for is a proper element enough in any drama; just as a soldier, a merchant, a priest may mingle in the mimic plot, for they mingle in the real. But we question whether Oehlenschläger has not made an original and fundamental mistake in the sources from which he seeks to derive the interest of his tragedy on the painter Correggio. Let us not be misunderstood. It is a fact which we could not deny, that thousands of persons exist, to whom their several pursuits and professions are respectively all the world, containing everything which concerns, and everything which, in their actual career, bridles them. Therefore, in telling their story, the main interest would be in those things, or nowhere; and such a story might be a necessary story in recording facts; it might also possibly be an eligible subject, in peculiar cases, for fictitious narrative. But in the drama the very essence of what is wanted, is to represent characters in their relations with the general interests and the common passions of mankind; and even where, in a narrative, the chief peculiarity to be described in any given person, might be that he withdrew habitually from the contact of his fellow creatures, and led a life of remote isolation, yet, were that person made the principal figure in a tragedy, the only real interest with which he could be invested, would be entirely wanting, unless situations in his life could be found, where that which constituted the paramount estrangement of his character prevailed not at all, and where he could be represented in the very thick of human relations, and of the ordinary passions and destinies of life. A painter may, indeed, be an excellent character in a tragedy; but then the immediate plot-interest of his part must be made stronger than the peculiar professional interest of his character. The *character* is that which belongs to him independently of all the other individuals in the play; the *part* is the character in action along with the other individuals. And in the play, we contend, (and it is evident) the part is superior to the character. Wherever the character eclipses the part, it enfeebles and injures the drama as such. There must come out more of the character of a doctor, for example, in ten years' ordinary practice, than in the half-hour during which he happens to save some illustrious patient snatched in despair by every other physician. But that half-hour is more dramatic than the previous ten years.

We question, then, whether in this tragedy, with its hero, the painter in this 'Correggio," Oehlenschläger has not a little, just a little (for natural human interest he introduces also), more poet than dramatist. However, it is a noble and beautiful work to read, and before a select or congenial audience we could conceive it brilliantly successful even on the stage. The English public have now an opportunity of estimating the Danish poet. Mr. Theodore Martin's translation does not read in the slightest like a translation, so wonderfully easy, natural, and excellent is the English. We strongly recommend the book. The original is deemed a masterpiece in the north of Europe.

Before closing this brief account of one of the finest modern emanations of the Scandinavian muse, so admirably rendered here in our language, we must make a curious little passage in the original; we say in the original, for, of course, Mr. Martin is not responsible for what Oehlenschläger may happen to have written. Probably, Mr. Martin himself will have remarked what we mean; he must have perceived it towards the bottom of page . This version, occur the following lines (*loquitur* Julio Romano):—

> Raphael has raised to heaven what was of earth.
> You draw the heavenly downwards from the skies,
> To marry with a form of earthly mould.

We referred to the original text of Oehlenschläger; we think we have here to make no less a curious little passage in the original; we say in the original, for, of course, Mr. Martin is not responsible for what Oehlenschläger may happen to have written. Probably, Mr. Martin himself will have remarked what we mean; he must have perceived it towards the bottom of page . This version, occur the following lines (*loquitur* Julio Romano):—

> Raphael has raised to heaven what was of earth.
> You draw the heavenly downwards from the skies,
> To marry with a form of earthly mould.

We referred to the original text of Oehlenschläger; we think we have here to do with the original text, rather than one of the noblest of all English poets, John Dryden. Has the gifted Danish author ever read that inspired ode on "Alexander's Feast"? It ends, he will remember, with this couplet:—

> He raised a mortal from the skies;
> She drew an angel down.

ARCHITECTURAL STUDIES IN FRANCE. By the Rev. J. L. PETIT, M.A., Weale

THE study of the Gothic style of architecture has of late years been ably illustrated by the publication of several important works on the subject; the better appreciation of which is likewise to be traced in the edifices erected by contemporary architects. We no longer witness the multiplication of "Carpenters' Gothic," the stigma applied to many buildings of the first quarter of the present century. Our architects have studied with advantage the noble examples of antiquity; and have not applied their designs "here a little and there a little;" but have imbibed the spirit of the period, and shown its artistic brilliance in scores of churches built within the last thirty years, to the commendable neglect of the miscalled Classical style adopted by Soane, and a host of designers of less note and success.

The volume before us is a valuable acquisition for the study of what has been termed our own style, in some of the finest examples, in French architecture, in many instances the work of English architects. In the advantage of this text and study M. Petit thus illustrates:—"The peculiarities of a national style strike the visitor more forcibly than the native; while, on the other hand, the features to which he is accustomed acquire a new interest. The student may discover that many of those which he has been taught to consider necessary marks of Gothic architecture itself are, in fact, no more than national or local distinctions; and hence he may reduce into a narrow circle the system from which he endeavours to work out the true principles of the style.

"We cannot, I think (continues the author) fully enter into the character of English architecture, unless we give some attention also to French, German, and Italian. And if we take that most interesting period when the germs of the Gothic style was beginning to develop itself, namely, the end of the twelfth and the beginning of the thirteenth century, we shall at once see the high claims of French architecture. The Italian never did reach to the Northern Gothic," which M. Petit considers the true Gothic, however fully he admits the beauty of the Southern Pointed style. The German transition appears to him scarcely more than a peculiar form of the Romanesque, with little or no tendency to further progress. The French and the English have, however, at the above time, a double movement in the direction of Northern Gothic; and they possess inherent and independent vitality of their own. It will be observed that the period to which M. Petit refers is subsequent to the Norman Conquest; hence he terms the architecture Normanised English, or Normanised French; "for the Normans are more indigenous people than of one country than of the other." In England, there can scarcely be said to exist any anti-Norman style, for her alleged Saxon remains present nothing that can be opposed to the merits of the Norman. M. Petit supposes the case to have been much the same with a great part of northern France: "It is, therefore (he observes), in these localities that we might look for a more ready, rapid, and complete transition; while, in places where either Norman influence was less felt, or the native architecture more firmly established, the transition would be slow and imperfect, and a frequent impulse from without might be required to bring the new style to maturity. M. Petit believes the Gothic principle to have been more completely developed at an early period in England than anywhere else; and the comparisons between Amiens and Salisbury do not convince him to the contrary. In the work before us he has devoted himself principally to the Ante-Gothic, the Transitional, and the Early Gothic styles; those of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, much as they contribute to the magnificence of French ecclesiastical architecture, having occupied but little of the author's attention.

In advocacy of the plans here adopted, he maintains that a student would obtain more knowledge of English buildings, and less of foreign ones, [illegible] by [illegible] examples—than by giving up his time exclusively to the former, and examining every old church or old specimen in the country. In England we do not possess sufficient remains of mediæval architecture for its revival, which is [illegible] the number of [illegible] and [illegible] and [illegible] and [illegible] casually; but the children is occasionally laid under contribution. [illegible] engravings consist of [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] details. Some are amateurish professedly rough copies of [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

OPENING OF THE EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY, 1854.

"A LETTER-WRITER, SEVILLE."—PAINTED BY J. PHILLIP.—THE PROPERTY OF HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

(Continued from first page.)

glance. In the Sculpture Room, the chief point of note is that there is no large portrait statue, beyond that of Sir Robert Walpole (by Bell) for the New Houses of Parliament. Mr. Jones's busts of the Queen and the Prince, to be presented to Mr. Dargan, occupy the principal position; flanked on either side by a "startled" girl, called "The Young Naturalist," by Weekes, and "Godiva," unstartled, by Marshall—the latter by far the better figure.

Of the general arrangement of the Exhibition we gave this account:—Our readers will remember that the Exhibition is shown in three great rooms, leading into one another; in two offshoots, for Miniatures and Architectural Drawings; and in a kind of cell or coal-cellar, for Sculpture. The principal room is to the east, facing the portico of St. Martin's Church; and there the places of honour are occupied by Eastlake's "Irene" (a female head so called); by Landseer's very large picture of "Royal Sports on Hill and Loch;" by Frith's "Life at the Sea-side;" and by Leslie's scene from the "Rape of the Lock;" while above, among the portraits of honour, we find Grant's fine full-length of Lord John Russell, facing Pickersgill's bad full-length of the Archbishop of Canterbury. In the Middle Room, the best places are occupied by Maclise's "Strongbow," Frank Stone's "Old, Old Story," Creswick's "Passing Cloud;" Landseer's "Dandie Dinmont, the favourite old Skye Terrier of her Majesty;" "The Chequered Shade" of Lee and Cooper: Edward Cooke's "French Lugger Running into Calais;" and Ward's

"THE WOODLAND TREE."—PAINTED BY T. CRESWICK, R.A.

"TRAVELLER ATTACKED BY WOLVES."—PAINTED BY R. ANSDELL.

"Last Sleep of Argyll." Stepping westward, into the West Room, we observe that the Hanging Committee has deservedly assigned places of honour to Hannah's "Countess of Nithsdale," "Phillip's "Seville Letter writer," Dobson's "Charity of Dorcas," Ansdell's "Traveller Attacked by Wolves," "Le Jeune's "Christ Blessing Little Children," Sydney Cooper's "Common Fare," Robert's small picture of "The Frith of Forth," and Charles Collins's pre Raphaelite, "Thought of Be——."

Taking the pictures—as the Duke of Wellington always took them—in the order of the Cataloguing Committee has recorded their assent to the following:—50, "The Swing," by F. Goodall, A.; 57, "The Last of the Crew," C. Stanfield, R.A.; 63, "Royal Sports on Hill and Loch," by Sir E. Landseer, R.A.; 68, detail of Mr Macaulay, M.P.—an admirable portrait, painted on the Rembrandt principle; 74, "Blackberrying," G. Smith; 78, "The Silver Pool," F. R. Lee; 85, "A Villager's Offering," T. Webster, R.A.—a child offering a dish of mushrooms to an old woman at a cottage door; 104, "A Breakfast Party"—a little girl and two dogs begging—by the same artist; 116, "A Jury," by J. B. O'Neill—fellow-jurymen trying in vain, evidently, to per-uade an obstinate juryman; 122, "The Woodland Tees," Creswick, R.A.; 123, "Lady Sarah Spencer"—a small full length—by J. Hollins, A.; 150, "La Rochelle," by Stanfield, R.A.; 171, "Life at the Seaside" by Frith, R.A.; 192, "Scene from 'The Rape of the Lock,'" Leslie, R.A.; 200, "Church of Santa Maria de la Salute, at Venice," by Roberts, R.A.; 205, a Portrait (Lady Eastlake), by Boxall, A.; 212, "An Old English Homestead," by Redgrave, R.A.; 216, "The Pet of the Common," by J. C. Horsley; 217, "The Parish Pet," by Cope, R.A.; 227, "A Study," by E——, A.; 243, "Interior of the Persecution of the Christian Reformers in Paris," by H——. In the Middle Room, as Mr. Murray's handbook says, observe 264, "Morning Effect—Harbledown Park" Cooper, A.; 265, "The Old, Old Story," Sone A.; 264, "Zuyder Zee Boiter"—[illegible] ing to port Cooke, A.; 278, "Sheep Gathering in Glen Breeze," Isle of Skye;" 314, "First Class—the Meeting" and 315, "Second Class—the Parting," both by Mr. Solomon, and in the hanging shamefully parted; 350, "Chastity," from Comte, by Frost, A.; 377, "The Awaken ing Conscience," a pre-Raphaelite picture, by W. H. Hunt; and 394, "French Lugger Running into Calais" by the West Room, visitor will do well to observe 403, "Last Sleep of Argyll," by Ward, A.R.A.; 425, "The Governess," by Miss R. Solomon; 426, "The Countess of Nithsdale and George I." by Hannah; 471, "Spring Flowers," by Miss Mutrie; 479, "O——," by Miss Mutrie; and 502, by Miss A. F——. "Cordelia and Arriagus Repeating the Dirge over Imogen," by W. Gale almost a new name to us, but one of [illegible]; 503, "Tyndale Translating the Bible into English," by A. Johnston; 506, "Christopher Sly," by H. C. Marks—a new name and no common hand; 507 a clever kind of Vander Leyden view and [illegible] longer another new name; 520, "The Charity of Dorcas," by W. T. C. Dobson—worthy of Eastcote in his best period; 582, "Scene from the Castle at Chobham," by Mrs E. M. Ward; and 584, "Evening in the Meadows," by Lee and Creswick. Of these we are enabled, this week, by the courtesy of their artists, to Engrave four:—1, Ward "Last Sleep of Argyll" (403); 2, Creswick's "Wood land Tees" (122); 3, Phillip's "Letter-writer of Seville" (470); 4, Ansdell's "Traveller Attacked by Wolves" (386).

Mr. Ward's large and *only* picture represents the "Last Sleep of the Earl of Argyll," who was executed at Edinburgh [illegible] by James II. It was the son of the [illegible] of the [illegible] pictures [illegible] for the [illegible] Exhibition, and [illegible] the following passage in Macaulay's History:

> So effectually had religious faith and hope, co-operating with natural courage and equanimity composed his spirits, that, on the very day on which he was to die, he dined with appetite, conversed with gaiety at table, and after he had risen from it, lay down, as he was wont, to take a short sleep, in order that his body and mind might be in full vigour when he should be summoned to the scaffold. At this time one of the Lords of the Council, who had been bred a Presbyterian, and who had been seduced by interested motives into the communion of the Church had come to his chamber, came to the castle with a message from his brethren, and demanded admittance to the Earl. It was answered that the Earl was asleep. The Privy Councillor thought that this was a subterfuge, and insisted on entering. The door of the cell was softly opened, and there was found on the bed, sleeping, in his irons, the placid sleep of infancy. The countenance of the renegade smote him.

Mr. Ward has worked well up to the passage. He has had the scene, and the occasion is continually before him. He has wrought, indeed, as if he had lived in Argyll's times, and been a spectator of the scene he so successfully depicts. His figures are of the size of life, and the whole is painted with a full and juicier brush than usual. It is in every respects a noble pendant to his "Monmouth" in the same corridor. With a tact everywhere visible in Mr. Ward's best works, he has confined the incident of his picture to the purport of the passage quoted by Mr. Macaulay. The spectator of the incident is said to have turned away sick at the heart, and to have run from the Cast e as if to free his mind from so solemn a circumstance. Mr. Fox has told the story, in our opinion better than Mr. Macaulay; but the reader shall judge for himself.

Before he left the Castle, he had his dinner at the usual hour, at which he discoursed not only calmly, but even cheerfully, with Mr. Charter and others. After dinner he retired, as was his custom, to his bedchamber, where, it is reported, that he slept for about a quarter of an hour. While he was in his bed, one of the members of the Council came, and several attendants a desire to speak with him. Upon being told that he was sleeping, and that he had ordered not to be disturbed, the manager disbelieved the account, which he considered as a device to avoid further questionings. To satisfy him the door of the bedchamber was half opened, and he then beheld, reposing in sweet and tranquil slumber, the man who, by the doom of his and his fellows, was to die within the space of twosheet hours. Struck with the sight he hurried out of the room, quitted the Castle with the most precipitation, and had himself in the lodgings of an acquaintance who lived near, where he flung himself upon the first bed that presented itself, and had every appearance of a man suffering the most excruciating tortures. His friend who had been apprised by the servant of the state he was in, and who naturally concluded that he was ill, offered him some wine. He refused saying, "No, no! that will not do for me. I have had a draught already, new from sleeping as peaceably as ever man did, within an hour of eternity. But, for me, ——." The name of the person to whom this anecdote relates, is not mentioned, and this omission, it may, therefore be fairly considered liable to that degree of doubt, with which men of judgment receive every species of traditionary history. Woodrow, however, whose veracity is above suspicion, says he had it from the most unquestionable authority. It is not in itself unlikely; and who is there that would not wish it true? What a satisfactory spectacle to a philosophical mind to see the oppressor in the zenith of his power reduced by his victim! What a solemn testimony of the superiority of virtue—what an affecting and forcible lesson of the value of that peace of mind which innocence alone bestows! We know not that this man was; but when we reflect that the anguish which agonised him was probably incurred for the sake of some vain title, or at least of some increase of wealth which he did not want, and possibly knew how to enjoy, our disgust is turned into commiseration. His fatal passion for that very foolish class of men whom the world calls wise in their generation

We must stand no longer before Mr. Ward's picture, the spectator may exclaim with the person who actually beheld the scene—"I have been in Argyll's prison; I have seen him within an hour of eternity, sleeping as sweetly as ever man did."

The subject of Mr Creswick's landscape engraved in our present Number, is "The Woodland Tees," and a sweeter landscape never came from the pencil of this thoroughly English painter. The junction of the Greta and the Tees is the subject of one of Turner's finest drawings. How beautiful are our English rivers! Coleridge meditated over a poem, to be entitled "the Brook," and chose his motto from Burns:—

> The Muse nae poet ever fand her,
> Till by himsel he learn't to wander
> Adown some trotting burn's meander,
> And no think lang.

But he made no progress in what had been from his Muse a first-rate performance. What a delightful book might be made from the fine things said about, and from the fine pictures painted from, our English rivers! Whenever such a book is published, Mr. Creswick will be found a large and valuable contributor

Mr. Phillip's "Letter-Writer of Seville," painted for her Majesty, is in its way a little masterpiece. It reminds us, from the subject especially, of Wilkie's "Letter-Writer"—Wilkie's last great work—now about to pass under the hammer of Messrs. Christie and Manson, with the rest of Lord Charles Townsend's pictures; while in its treatment, in its unsuccessful fidelity of its details, it is up to the mark of John Lewis—no mean excellence to have reached. If this was a commission, her Majesty has obtained a fine picture; if it was a purchase when painted, her Majesty has evinced anew her taste in the Fine Arts

What can be said of Mr. Ansdell's large Snyders-like picture, that occupies an entire page of our paper, and forms so attractive a feature in the Exhibition, but that it is every way worthy of his well deserved reputation? What can be finer than the dying wolf? Life is seen retreating from his limbs, while pain is visible in every part. Wolves like these followed Mazeppa, and howled so loud, as Campbell tells us, on Ostrolaska's shore.

THE ROYAL ACADEMY DINNER.

The Eighty-sixth Annual Exhibition of the Royal Academy of Arts was inaugurated on Saturday by the usual Banquet. The rooms were thrown open at two o'clock to the guests, and several Cabinet Ministers and personages of distinction availed themselves of the excellent opportunity has afforded to inspect at leisure the pictures assembled there. Every Mr. Grant's portrait of Lord John Russell, in the [illegible] Room, received universal attention and much applause, upon its arrival received the congratulations of many of the leading members, both of his political opponents, and the spirited and characteristic likeness

Sir Charles Lock Eastlake, the President of the Royal Academy, took the chair about half-past six. Among the distinguished guests were—the Lord Chancellor, the President of the Council, Lord J. Russell, Viscount Palmerston, the Duke of Newcastle, the Earl of Clarendon, Viscount Hardinge, the Marquis of Bath, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the President of the Board of Trade, Mr. Sidney Herbert, the Bishop of London, the Bishop of Oxford, the Bishop of St. David's, Mr. Disraeli, the Marquis of Cambridge, Lord Campbell, the Lord Chief Baron, the Master of the Rolls, the Attorney General, the Solicitor General, Lord Ashburton, the Lord Chief Justice of England, the Hon. Justice Coleridge, Mr. C. Buller, Mr. Labouchere, the Earl of Hardwicke, Mr. Layard, the Lord Mayor, Mr. M. Milnes, Lord Overstone, Professor Owen, Sir R. H. Inglis, &c. Upwards of one hundred and forty sat down to dinner

The cloth having been removed, and the customary loyal toasts given, the President proposed "The Army and Navy," and alluding to the services and valour engaged in active service, expressed a hope that they might return in triumph, and that their future conquests would be the conquest of [illegible] peace.

Lord Hardinge replied on behalf of the army, and the Earl of Hardwicke on behalf of the navy. The latter referred to some length to the important importance with which the public demand that some [illegible] should be done against Russia. For his part he did not think [illegible] were for our ships to try their strength against some walls [illegible] the utmost confidence in the judicious conduct of our commanders, in the [illegible] of our officers, and in the [illegible] determined fighting material on the part of our seamen, but, [illegible] overcome out of port, the present campaign would prove a [illegible] series of warfare.

After proposing the health of the Lord Chancellor, and that of the Lord Chancellor [illegible] both gentlemen replied in very [illegible] terms to the [illegible] and the [illegible]

Lord John Russell in answer [illegible] said he was happy that party [illegible] opposition had [illegible] on this occasion, and that [illegible] he might observe that, so far as politics were concerned, [illegible] was entirely those tender tints [illegible] with regard to political opinions that harmonise [illegible] with your president as a painter has hardly been mistaken (Laughter). In one respect, however, there has been a point of agreement between myself and the right hon. gentleman. Both of us have had the honour of having our resemblance painted by a distinguished artist—by a man whose talent I honour, and whose friendship I have the happiness to enjoy (Hear, hear). I am glad to avail myself of the opportunity to pay this eminent artist the tribute of my regard and gratitude for the honour that has been done to me and in that sentiment I am sure I shall be joined cordially by the right hon. gentleman (Cheers).

Mr Disraeli, without affectation, felt honoured in having his name associated with a celebrated artist and a famous statesman. After some well-timed complimentary remarks to Lord J. Russell, he said he was anxious to show the fallacy of the common notion that, because a nation is at war, the arts of peace must be neglected. "You will rather find, if you appeal to history, that it is when a nation is engaged in the most [illegible] arts flourish (Hear, hear). It was during the greatest struggle in which the Athenians were ever engaged—he Peloponnesian war—that Phidias flourished, and we ought to be at this moment [illegible] cultivate the civils of war if, while it is our determination to make those efforts that are necessary to vindicate the honour and interests of the country, we do not also do all in our power, by our deeds and by our energy, to advance the cultivation of the human mind and the refinement of the human intellect (cheers). After all it is a marvel how little is required really to assist the public taste [illegible] [illegible] a [illegible] sums to mourn over those opportunities which we have lost for the want of a very small sum advanced by the Government to [illegible] which would have produced [illegible] I can imagine the despair of a public servant when he sees [illegible] sons expended for the operations of war and the arrangements of a campaign, and feels that a gallery must be sacrificed, and that [illegible] of obtaining works of art of priceless value must be for-gone when [illegible] can be obtained at a slight expenditure compared with the vast [illegible] lavished by the country which we, from [illegible] [illegible] Heaven, are not to [illegible] the opinion that it is necessary to forego [illegible] opportunities which may present themselves of advancing the public [illegible] we shall be considered the duty of a statesman to serve his country and to advance the arts" (Loud cheers).

The President [illegible] Prosperity to the City of London and the health of the Lord Mayor," expressed a hope that the noble opportunity now presented to the Corporation of opening a free space on the south-east side of St. Paul's would not be lost. The Lord Mayor said he would do his utmost to impress upon the Corporation the views expressed by the President

The Health of Lord Palmerston" was proposed by the President, who alluded to the obligations which the [illegible] Art [illegible] to the Home Secretary for the Smoke Prevention Act.

Lord Palmerston [illegible] said that [illegible] with prolonged cheering) said: "it could hardly be expected, when so dark a cloud is lowering over the face of Europe that the unwholesome cloud that has lowered over the surface of London should not [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] give to the subject. But in such an assembly as this, in which I see collected some of the most eminent artists in Europe, it is natural to you that I should draw attention to a blessing which the progress of works of their genius. Mr. President, that which the Government of which I have the honour to be a member accomplished last year was merely altering the law of the land, so as to render it no longer lawful to make, on this, that the smoke should vanish in our chimneys, instead of blackening our mansions (Continued laughter) It had long been a subject of great grief to me that the condition in which the air of London was [illegible] of carbon which was perpetually floating over our heads, all the time [illegible] of ancient art, and the productions of modern genius. Whether [illegible] of our great [illegible] architects, were doomed to receive accumulation, hiding their [illegible] and defacing their features (Cheers). It we could at any time [illegible] the prospect of the removal of the incumbrance [illegible] now, when we look around us [illegible] many beautiful productions of modern genius, and feel what a calamity it would be if, in the course of a short period, all the tints of the pictures we see before us were destined to become shadows, and all the [illegible] blank darkness, and if their beauties were and from view by a dusty deposit of those abominable [illegible] which used to greet us when we put our heads out of the window."

Several other toasts having been given, the President left the chair shortly after ten o'clock; and, after a brief glance round the saloons, which were brilliantly lighted up for the occasion, the guests [illegible]

The following donations have been made to the undermentioned charities in the name of the late Miss Taylor, of Claremont Villa, [illegible]-road, by William Taylor, Esq., her administrator, viz.:—St. Mary's Hospital, £10; Royal Free Hospital, £50; Royal Orthopædic Hospital, £100; Society for Promulgation of the Gospel, £50; Samaritan Free Hospital, £50; Asylum for Idiots, £50; Society for Teaching the Blind to Read, £50.

THE CORN TRADE BETWEEN RUSSIA AND HOLLAND.—[illegible] from Rotterdam state that a considerable [illegible] [illegible] importers of Russian grain [illegible] their position in consequence of the war. The trade between Holland and Russia is large, particularly in rye, which is used for the manufacture of spirits, and it appears that it has been the custom of the merchants to effect purchases during the winter, for delivery at the opening of the navigation at all the various ports, Archangel included, and meanwhile to make heavy advances. For the whole to arrive, it is alleged, it would be necessary to allow shipments during the entire summer; and, as the Orders in Council recently issued by the British Government are now considered to convey a certainty of such permission being granted, a deputation is now [illegible] of the leading grain importers of Holland to proceed to London. These gentlemen, it is said, will wait upon Lord Clarendon, with the view of petitioning the Government for special licences for the transport in Dutch vessels to Holland of such *bona fide* property as they may now have lying in Russian hands.

LOVE AND MAY.

BY MRS. T. K. HERVEY.

With buds and thorns about her brow
I met her in the woods of May
Bending beneath a laden bough:
She seemed so young—and was so fair,
A rosy blush was in her air
Spoke morning gliding into day.

Wild as an untamed bird of Spring
She sported mid the forest ways
Whose blossoms pale did round her cling.
Blithe was she as the banks of June
Where humming bees keep sweetest tune;
The soul of love was in her lays.

Her words fell soft upon my ear
Like dropping dews from leafy spray.
She knew no shame, and felt no fear;
She told me how her childhood grew—
Her joys how keen, her cares how few
She smiled, and said her name was May.

May of my heart! oh, darling May!
Thy form is with the shows that fleet;
And I am weak, and worn, and grey!
I see no more the things I loved,
The paths wherein their beauty moved
Do——m to fall beneath my feet.

I marked her for a little space;
And soon she seemed to feed me not,
But gathered flowers before my face.
Oh! sweet to me her untaught ways.
The love I bore her all my days
Was born of that wild woodland spot.

I never called her bride nor wife;
I watched her bloom a little more,
And then she faded out of me:
She quaffed the wave I might not drink,
And I stood thirsting on the brink!
Oh! hurrying tide—oh! dreary shore!

They knew not that my heart was torn;
They said a fever left me mad,
And I had babbled of a thorn,
A withered May, and scattered bloom,
A well of tears, and wayside tomb——
Alas! 'twas all the lore I had!

And to this day I am not clear;
My stricken mind doth grope its way,
Like those who walk where woods are seer:
I cannot see to set apart
Two things so crushed into my heart
As May and Love—and Love and May!

Still, shouting 'neath the greenwood tree,
Glad children call upon her name;
But life and time are changed to me;
The grass is growing where she trod,
Above her head a blade is seen——
The very earth is not the same.

Oh! heavy years, grow swift and brief!
Death, lay thy hand upon my brow!
I wither as a shrunk-up leaf.
I perished while my days were young;
The thoughts to which my spirit clung
Consumed me like a sapless bough.

And now, O May! my vanished May!
Our thorns are gathered, one by one,
And all their bloom is borne away.
The corn is reaped, the sheaf is bound,
The gleaner's foot is on the ground,
And pain is past—and life is done!

THE LATE PROFESSOR JAMESON may almost be said to have been a native of Edinburgh, for he was born in its largest suburb, Leith, in 1773, and there he was, at the time of his death, upwards of eighty years of age. He had the chair of Natural History in the University of Edinburgh as Regius Professor of that branch of science for very nearly half a century, in regard to time, almost without precedent in the lives of teachers in any one department of instruction. In 1804 he was appointed to the professorship, and instituted as Lecturer on Mineralogy, and Keeper of the rich Museum of the University. He began his career as a student at college, intending to devote himself for medicine; but he was soon over-ruled by the charms of natural science, particularly mineralogy. He placed himself under the instruction of the celebrated Werner, at Freyburg, in Germany, and made such progress in the Royles Professor of that branch of science for very nearly half a century, in regard to time, almost without precedent in the lives of teachers in any one department of instruction. In 1804 he was appointed to the professorship, and instituted as Lecturer on Mineralogy, and Keeper of the rich Museum of the University. He began his career as a student at college, intending to devote himself for medicine; but he was soon over-ruled by the charms of natural science, particularly mineralogy. He placed himself under the instruction of the celebrated Werner, at Freyburg, in Germany, and made such progress in the knowledge of that subject of study, which led him to do this, he acquired that complete knowledge of the German language—then not much known in the country—for which he was so well known, and which led to such good results in his extensive translations and publications. His first work was "Outlines of the Mineralogy of the Island of Arran and the Scottish Isles." Subsequently, he published "A System of Mineralogy, comprising Oryctognosy, Mineralogical Chemistry, Mineralogical Geography, and Economical Mineralogy. The rare and beautiful collection of objects of the Museum of the University of Edinburgh was brought together, and arranged in its present masterly manner, almost entirely under his direction and personal superintendence; a collection of natural history specimens, which, for beauty, number, and variety, is hardly to be found surpassed, if equaled, in any other museum. He was one of the originators of the *Edinburgh Philosophical Journal*, which has for years commanded and maintained the very highest position amongst scientific periodicals. He moreover contributed valuable papers to other scientific journals, as the "Wernerian Transactions," &c. Professor Jameson was a member of almost all the scientific societies of Europe and America.

TURKISH PATRIOTISM.—Diamonds and pearls of the finest description have been received in Paris from Turkey, to such an extent, that the dealers anticipate a great fall in the market. They are utterly unsaleable at the prices asked for them, but there is no doubt the owners, when they have reconsidered an account of the state of the nation, will consent to some reduction. Some of these diamonds and pearls are said to have been sent by the sultan himself; but the greater part have been consigned by members of the Turkish nobility, who want to raise the means of contributing to the expenses of the war.

MR. HOBBS AT MANCHESTER.—Mr. A. C. Hobbs, who so much astonished [illegible] at the time of the Great Exhibition, by picking in succession the locks [illegible] having been challenged by Mr. Edward Cotterill, of Birmingham, to pick one of his "patent chromax detector locks," visited Manchester last week to make the attempt. The experiment was made on a lock supplied to Mr. Benjamin Fothergill some months ago, and affixed to an iron chest in his office; and Mr. Cotterill undertook to pay fifty guineas to Mr. Hobbs, if successful within twenty-four hours. The experiment commenced, in the presence of proper witnesses, at eleven o'clock on Friday morning; and Mr. Hobbs, after examining the outside of the lock, and making instruments for the purpose, continued engaged at the work—with the exception of short periods for refreshments, and to get some of the instrument repaired—all day and all night. At seven o'clock on Saturday morning, when the time had expired, he had entirely failed. Mr. Hobbs was afterwards allowed to examine the interior of the lock, and frankly acknowledged that an extension of time would not have led to success, because he had involved in the dark as to some of its details.

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

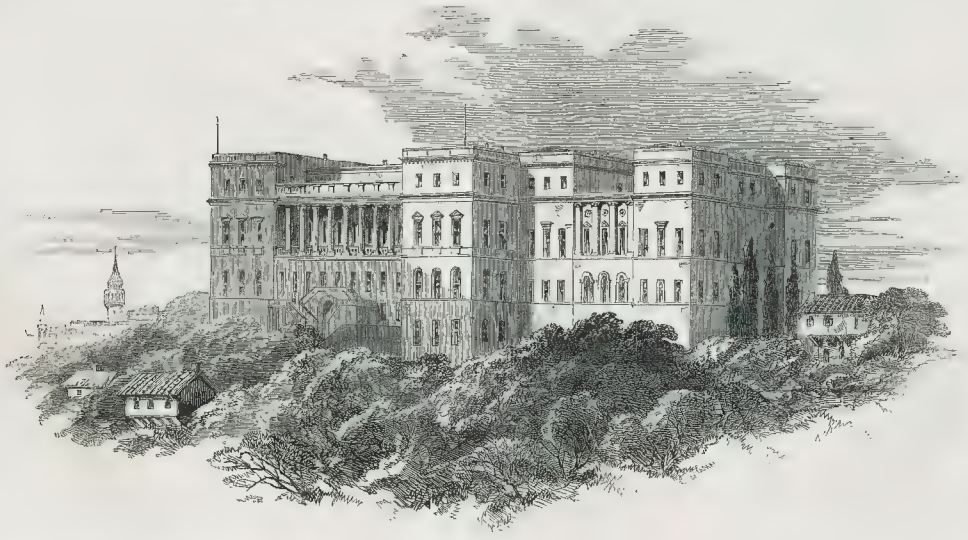
No. 682.—VOL. XXIV.] SATURDAY, MAY 13, 1854. [WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.

THE WAR AND ITS CRITICS.

Mr. Disraeli and Lord Derby are of opinion that, if Lord Aberdeen had not been Prime Minister, there would have been no necessity for a war against Russia. Lord John Russell has interpreted this to mean, that the Emperor Nicholas would have been so frightened by the talent arrayed against him, if Lord Derby had continued in office, and Mr. Disraeli had still led the House of Commons, and controlled the national finances as Chancellor of the Exchequer, that he would have "withdrawn his unjust pretensions on the Turks, disavowed Prince Menschikoff, and allowed the Sultan to remain in undisturbed possession of his provinces and possessions." Mr. Disraeli was too modest to accept the definition; though it is possible, as Lord John Russell hinted, that it may, nevertheless, remain the "private conviction" of the right hon. gentleman. Perhaps, however, Lord Derby and Mr. Disraeli entertain no such inordinate ideas of their own importance; but simply assert that the war might have been prevented by any Minister who should have displayed more vigour at an earlier period. If this be their opinion they will find many persons to agree with them; though it may be urged against this supposition that the Emperor of Russia may have been so determined upon war, or the seizure of Turkish provinces, that he would have persevered in his unjust claims, even although Great Britain should have declared war against him immediately after the passage of the Pruth. If this supposition be correct—and there are no means of proving it to be erroneous—the arguments of Lord Derby and Mr. Disraeli fall to the ground. Nothing would have been gained by such policy but a war a twelvemonth older than it is. If by such a stroke of decision they could have brought it a twelvemonth nearer to its close, there would be reason to lament that they had not the opportunity of proving their superior capacity. Perhaps these eminent statesmen have asked themselves the question—always supposing the Czar to have been as obstinate and wrong-headed with a Derby, a Malmesbury, and a Disraeli in power in this country, as he has proved himself while Lord Aberdeen, Lord John Russell, and Lord Clarendon were in office—whether Great Britain might not have found herself without allies in the quarrel? If the display of patience under provocation—of a sincere desire to maintain the peace of the world, if it could be maintained with honour—of a reliance upon the good faith and sanity of the Czar as long as it was possible to believe in them—of the exhaustion of all modes of persuasion and reasonable forms of compromise;—if all this had the effect of placing the Czar more emphatically and flagrantly in the wrong, and of enlisting on the side of justice, not only Great Britain, but France—and not only these two mighty, and, we may say, invincible States, but the Emperor of Austria, and the sympathy of all Germany, it is surely no matter for lamentation that Lord Derby and Mr. Disraeli were deprived of the chance of embroiling us prematurely. But there is so much confidence to be placed in the sobering and sedative effects of office upon the rashness of public men, that it may safely be predicated of the ex-Ministers, that it is the peculiar atmosphere of the Opposition benches which loosens their tongues against their successors. If they had remained in office, they would, doubtless, have thought themselves justified in exhausting negotiation before rushing into war; and they would have been fortunate if their efforts, like those of the present Ministry, had leagued against the wrong-doer all that is great, powerful, and civilised in Europe.

THE EARL OF LUCAN, COMMANDER OF THE BRITISH CAVALRY FOR THE EAST.—FROM A DAGUERREOTYPE BY MAYALL.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

We must, however, do these statesmen the justice to say that they do not seek to render the war unpopular. They may cavil against the Ministry, with the object of proving how much better a Ministry their own would have been; but they do not strive to abate the ardour of their countrymen in a just cause, or raise impediments to the successful prosecution and termination of the contest. That task is reserved for those who cry "Peace, peace!" where there is not and cannot be peace; and who continually dwell upon the costliness and horrors of war, as if they made the discovery for the first time, and as if every man of common sense were not as fully impressed as they are with its manifold evils. One public journal, which at an early period supported the Czar, but afterwards lent its powerful advocacy to the cause of European right, has, within the last few days, made the notable discovery that the war is a "people's war," and that "the people" will have to pay for it "very dearly indeed." If the journal in question means by the phrase that the war is one which has been urged upon the Government by popular clamour, and that the Government would not otherwise have undertaken it, we think it does both the Government and the people a wrong. The war is not a "people's war," in the narrow sense of the word, but a national one, in the broadest meaning of the term. As regards its cost, the people, high and low, are well aware that wars are expensive—"very expensive indeed," but they are quite prepared to bear the burden. The war is an unfortunate necessity, and its burdens are inevitable; and neither individuals nor nations are wise if they complain of what cannot be honourably avoided. The British public is neither ashamed nor afraid of the task before it, but accepts the war with all its responsibilities.



LORD RAGLAN'S QUARTERS (LATE THE RUSSIAN EMBASSY), AT CONSTANTINOPLE.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

The people have no sympathy with those who seek to abate their enthusiasm by useless lamentations about hardships that must be endured, and expenses that must be borne. They have entered upon the struggle with a spirit which will save them many millions of money—because it is the omen and the forerunner of victory. To begrudge their money would be to lengthen the war; and they are too prudent and far-sighted to indulge in any such meanness, however much some of their pretended friends would urge it upon them by their gratuitous condolences.

There is another class of persons in Parliament who, while they approve of the war, do not approve of any criticisms upon it, or upon the conduct of the officers engaged. The hon. member for West Surrey has made himself more conspicuous than others in this respect. Discarding the "unknown tongues," with the renown of which he is so commonly associated, Mr. Drummond speaks in the well-known tongue of Billingsgate, and designates all the gentlemen whom the London journals at great cost despatch to the seat of war, to gather and communicate the most authentic intelligence, as "gabbling gossips," and as "gabbling purveyors of slander for London." Mr. Drummond states that the lamented Sir John Moore was "sacrificed" by the London press—and that the newspaper correspondents of that day, "so continually irritated Sir John Moore's susceptible mind, that he was always thinking what the London press would say, instead of bending all his endeavours to preserve the troops committed to his care." If the hero of Corunna were his friend, Mr. Drummond has taken an eccentric mode of proving the wisdom of the proverbial saying of "save us from our friends." His statement—if a true one—is the severest condemnation that could be passed upon a military commander. The truly great man profits by just criticism, and despises that which is unjust. The criticism of public events is an element in the life of a free nation, and no man worthy to serve Great Britain is unduly sensitive to public opinion. The case of Admiral Dundas, which called forth Mr. Drummond's attack upon the press, and upon the memory of Sir John Moore, is one in point. It is true that considerable dissatisfaction was expressed at the inactivity of the Black Sea fleet, and that comments, more or less wise, or foolish, as the case may be, were made, upon what was considered the supineness of the British Admiral. But all these criticisms have fallen harmless. They were natural in the then temper of the nation, and every sailor in the fleet shared the impatience of the people at home, and longed for the opportunity of coming to close quarters with the enemy. The opportunity at last presented itself: war was officially declared, and Admiral Dundas brushed away his momentary unpopularity, and did what was expected of him at Odessa, in a style which leads to the anticipation that, if Sebastopol remain much longer in the possession of Russia, it will not be the fault of the gallant Admirals or the united sailors of France and England. Mr. Drummond and those who do not wish to read the graphic intelligence provided by the newspapers, and which no other agency could communicate, may, if they please, remain in the dark concerning the progress of the war, until the dry, official despatches of the *London Gazette*, a month or two after date, shall divulge the bare facts of a victory. But if they choose to remain ignorant of matters that so vividly interest their countrymen, they may, at all events, refrain from libelling the character of the honourable and accomplished gentlemen who perform the arduous duties of foreign correspondents of the London press. These correspondents, doubtless, commit mistakes, which are inevitable to all who are compelled to form hasty judgments, and to write in a hurry; but there is not the slightest reason to accuse them of being slanderers. No one begrudges liberty of speech to members of Parliament; but it is a happy thing for England that freedom is not confined to that assembly.

MAJOR-GENERAL THE EARL OF LUCAN.

IN this week's number of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS we present our readers with an admirable Portrait of Major-General the Earl of Lucan, appointed to command the cavalry division now in course of embarkation for the seat of war.

His Lordship entered the service, as an Ensign, in the 6th or Royal First Warwickshire Regiment, 29th of August, 1816. He was promoted to a Lieutenancy in the 8th, the King's Regiment of Infantry, 24th of December, 1818. On the 16th of May, 1822, the Earl of Lucan (then Lord Bingham) held a commission in the Household Cavalry as a Captain in the 1st Life Guards. At the expiration of three years, he purchased a majority in the 17th Lancers, to the command of which Lord Bingham succeeded 9th November, 1826. The rank of Colonel was conferred on him during November, 1841, and he was gazetted as Major-General 11th November, 1851. Lord Lucan's professional career offers one of the few exceptions to the common routine of promotion; ten years only having elapsed between the date of his first commission and that which conferred upon him the honour of commanding a distinguished cavalry corps. On joining the 17th Lancers, ample opportunity was offered for displaying both zeal and judgment. The regiment had only been ten years at home, having returned from India a skeleton, and of course disconcerted. Although retaining its place in the *Army List*, virtually a new regiment was necessitated to be raised. Obstacles to be surmounted before a corps of cavalry can be embodied and rendered serviceable, demand no inconsiderable degree of ability to surmount.

The last review at Hounslow at which the 2nd Royal Dragoons the Duke of York was present, was ordered by the Commander-in-Chief for the purpose of inspecting the 8th Hussars and 17th Lancers, both of which reached England in the same month; and the general appearance and efficiency of these troops elicited high encomiums from the Duke. Lord William Russell was in command of the 8th, and Lord Bingham of the 17th

The aptitude evinced for business by the present Earl of Lucan, coupled with quick discernment and rapid decision, when called upon to determine in matters of difficulty, are well known and appreciated by those with whom he has served. No regiment was in finer condition than the 17th Lancers when under his Lordship's control, and they have ever since retained that distinguishing characteristic.

The cavalry division intended for active service in Turkey, and placed under Lord Lucan's control, comprises two brigades—the heavy and light. The first includes the 4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards, the 5th Princess Charlotte of Wales's Dragoon Guards, the 1st Royal Dragoons, and the 6th Inniskilling Dragoons, under the orders of Brigadier-General the Hon. J. Yorke Scarlett. The light brigade is formed by the 8th King's Royal Irish Hussars, 11th Prince Albert's Own Hussars, the 13th Light Dragoons and the 17th Lancers—mustering in all 3000 sabres.

The Earl of Lucan is a Knight of the Order of St. Anne of Russia, and Lord Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum of county Mayo, in Ireland, a Baronet of Nova Scotia, and representative Peer. His Lordship descends from a Saxon knight, Sir John de Bingham, of Binghams Melcombe, county Dorset, in the reign of Henry I.; whence Sir Richard Bingham removed to Ireland in the time of Queen Elizabeth, and, having there distinguished himself, was appointed Marshal of Ireland and Governor of Leinster, in the year 1598.

The number of immigrants who arrived in Canada during the half-year ending September 30, 1853, was 36,639, and yet the supply of labour falls greatly short of the demand.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

SCHUMLA, 18th April, 1854.

An engagement has already taken place between the Turkish and Russian outposts. I have not been able to ascertain the date of this affair, but it is certain that a combat of small proportions has been fought at Karasu. It was between two squadrons of Russian Cossacks, and a body of Turkish Irregulars. The latter lost twenty-five men killed, the loss of the former is stated at fifty. Whether the Russians passed Karasu, after this affair, or not, it is impossible to say at present.

Yesterday, arrived here from Varna, General Bosquet, who commands one of the divisions of the French army. This General is forty-three years of age, is stout, short, and muscular, and reputed a good soldier. His past career has been chiefly in the artillery.

The same ceremonies which marked the arrival of the messenger bearing Ismail Pasha's firman, were performed yesterday at his departure. A regiment of infantry turned out in its best, and all the Pachas accompanied the Mahaberndji outside the town, when he speeded back on his journey, in the direction of Varna. It became known, during the ceremonial, that important intelligence had reached Omer Pacha from Belgrade, to the effect that Austria and Prussia had declared war against Russia. There was consequently an air of elation in the Pachas, which marked their interest in such good tidings.

We hear from Constantinople that the town has been placed in a quasi state of siege, in consequence of the movement of the Greek population, of whom about 30,000, subjects of King Otho, have been expelled. Up to the latest dates known here, there were 18,000 French arrived at Gallipoli.

April 24.

Since the garrison of Silistria was summoned some weeks ago, the Russians have made great preparations to pass a force into Bulgaria at that point. A continuous line of batteries has been formed on the left bank of the Danube, opposite the town: these are pierced for two three, four, and ten guns. As yet—that is, up to the latest date from the fortress—no pieces had been placed within the embrasures. The Russians have established their camp about 2000 yards below their lowest batteries, and they have occupied the large island contiguous to the Wallachian shore. Their communication is kept up by a bridge of boats. They are proceeding rapidly with works at that place, and they have brought up a flotilla from the Lower Danube, which lies at present at anchor about five miles below Silistria. The Turks have worked day and night to strengthen their positions opposite the Russian works; and they have occupied, and fortified with batteries, the island on the Bulgarian side. We may expect to hear of some warlike news from that quarter.

Whilst these preparations are proceeding at Silistria, we learn that a slight engagement took place about ten days ago at Kalafat. I give you the details as they arrive here, premising that I am not answerable for their correctness; and that the exact day of the engagement is as yet unknown, even to Omer Pacha, on account of an omission in Halim Pacha's despatch. It appears that the Russians made their appearance on the day in question with three regiments of cavalry, and a force of Cossacks, and remained in battle before the trenches of Kalafat. They had with them a battery of eight field pieces. Hitherto, the Turks have permitted the enemy to remain in order of battle without attempting to molest them. On this occasion, however, Halim Pacha determined to attack them, and moved out with two regiments of cavalry and a battery of six guns. The en tire force of Bashi-bozouks also accompanied him. How long the engagement lasted, or how it commenced, is not as yet known here. The Turks, however, assert that the Russians were unable to resist the attack, and that they retired towards Magluvitz, where a force of infantry turned out and prevented the further advance of Halim Pacha. The ground was found strewed with Russian kalpaks (casques), swords, lances, and carbines, to the amount, it is said of 300, or thereabout. The loss of the Turks in the affair was 13 men killed and 32 wounded. That of the Russians is not stated. Equally vague accounts as to date and details are current here of a landing of English from their ships at Kustendji. The Russians, it was said had not occupied that town on account of the presence of one or two British vessels, but this was erroneous. When our men landed they found themselves opposed by a body of Cossacks, who fired at them from some light field-pieces. The ships' guns, however, put to flight the Cossacks, and our tars returned to their ships. Such is the version of the story here. We hear, besides, that the English and French fleets, having returned from Sebastopol, where fourteen Russian sail of the line and several frigates were seen with sails bent, and apparently ready for sea, have made their way to Odessa, which they bombarded. It was feared that the Russians might take advantage of the time and bombard Varna. The fact that Varna is quiet has proved that these fears were unfounded.

General Bosquet, after making a stay here of three days, took his leave of Schumla the day before yesterday. He will join his division which is now probably at or near Adrianople. All here have learnt with pleasure that no more troops had been sent to Gallipoli—a point which, in view of operations after the Russians had thoroughly occupied Bulgaria, would have been well chosen, perhaps, as a military point; but which must be useless now that operations are to be carried on against the Russians on this side of the Balkans. I heard a most interesting account from an officer on General Bosquet's staff of the manner in which the aspect of Gallipoli was changed in a very few days after the arrival of our forces. Like all Turkish cities, it was dirty, ill-paved, and stinking. The General s instantly formed a health commission—brigades of sweepers cleansed the streets, and carts were put in requisition to carry off the accumulated filth of Gallipoli. A crowd of modern signs, both French and English, then made a sudden appearance in the place, and Highlander and Zouave might be seen, arm-in-arm, walking into wine shops, with "A l'Alliance Francaise et Anglaise," "Aux deux Drapeaux," and such-like appropriate signs. There is no doubt that the same scene will be renewed here, if the foreign troops make their appearance in Schumla. This, however, is a point which at present remains dubious. Already, in anticipation of the general requirments, we have inaugurated a new hostelry here, where European dinners can be obtained for reasonable prices; and there is a prospect of obtaining, even, fresh butter—that luxury of all luxuries—which is not to be had in Turkey, because the Turks do not make it. It may serve to give a faint idea of what Turkish eating is merely to say, that butter is unknown, that hog's lard is prohibited, and that oil is too expensive. The fat with which meat is prepared is therefore a sort of dripping, from beef or mutton, preserved in hides, of which the skinny side out and the woolly side in, forms a compact and solid, but by no means a sweet-scented, mass. Great hopes are entertained by all the Europeans here of an improvement in articles of cooking when the English and French armies arrive. The nearer they approach, the more glad they appear; and they therefore hail with joy the arrival of the *Himalaya* and *Cambrian* at Constantinople, not only as an addition to the present armed strength, but as the harbingers of still greater numbers.

With the exception of this new addition to material comfort, no change has taken place in the aspect of Schumla. Rumours of marching orders, counter orders, and all the false alarms incident to a period of war, are of course current, but they are only believed by the credulous. Omer Pacha appears to spend most of his time in daily visits to the fortifications of the town, some of which are at considerable distances at the mouth of the passes. These passes are not generally picturesque, notwithstanding their ruggedness. If the sides of the hills were covered with forest, instead of underwood—if the stone of which the hills are composed were granite, and not that soft, white, limestone that crumbles when exposed to the atmosphere—the landscape would, perhaps be nearer than it is. There are still, however, some points of great effect to be seen in ascending the steep acclivities that surround one on every side. Where the hills rise abruptly, vegetation is scarce, the white limestone glares in the sun, and relieves itself on the pure blue sky; the pale-green tents shine out on the horizon like bright specks of light; and the soldiers, who toil along the ascents, and painfully carry their water and provisions, appear as negroes on the white and powdery way. As they ascend, their heads now and then upturned to gain a glance at their distant encampments, they seem like pilgrims pressing on to a place of worship. When they descend, their eyes can roam a will over every portion of the town. The flat brown roofs appear below them, clustered and combined like the shields in the Roman tortoise, and out start glaring white minarets like the lances of legions. Sheltered under the overhanging roofs, the people are invisible from above. The windings of the lines of human beings all seem to diverge from one point, to which other lines are converging perpetually. The heart of the mass is the market-place of Schumla, from which the main arteries carry a broad and ceaseless stream, which divides and divides again, to return by the veins. The market-place is consequently a mass of people on horseback, on foot, sitting, standing, loitering, and sauntering. Under the pent-houses sit the lazy Bashis, smoking their pipes and sipping their coffee. Vendors of every species of ware squat stolidly on the ground Here are lines of children selling loaves; there vendors of sweet stuffs around whom are congregated flocks of consumers. They eat comfits blanc-mange, mastic (made of starch and sugar), nougat (made of almonds, flour, and honey). Amidst the eaters, the drinkers, and smokers, the crowd waves to and fro. A peripatetic auctioneer rushes up and down the irregular square, taking, bids for a musket, a tobacco-bag, a bridle, a pistol, or a cangear. An Arab shows the paces of a broken-down pony, and Pachas pass by with their chibboukjis, and are saluted by the guards at the corners with a clang which none but Turkish muskets can give. All this takes place in an irregular space, ill paved, full of mud, of litter, and holes, through which one stumbles, and jumps, and picks his steps, shoving his neighbour on one side, and making a way with difficulty. Then the place is a very Babel too. The Turks and the Arabs talk loud and hoarsely; the German, Hungarian, and Polish tongues are to be heard amidst the confusion: and the sweet Italian loses all its sweetness in the mouths of hoarse valets and bumptious apothecaries. If, in the midst of all this, one can conceive a very high wind to be blowing, and carrying through one's hair, into one's eyes, and over one's clothes, the minutest particles of white lime with which the atmosphere is impregnated, one has a faint idea of what is Schumla market-place.

April 25.

I hasten to inform you that intelligence of considerable importance has just arrived here. Perhaps the intelligence will have reached you by other channels than this, but this letter will serve to confirm it. On the 20th, I believe, the Turks left Kalafat in force, and advanced into Little Wallachia, driving the Russians before them. The latter did not stand at any point, but retired. Had Austria declared war, as was stated, one might conceive more easily the retreat of the Russians, who must have found a position in Little Wallachia dangerous; but it appears that, so far from declaring war, Austria and Prussia have determined to be neutral. This changes the aspect of affairs. Omer Pacha, at all events, deserves great praise for this advance, which I believe he has made at his own risk, and perhaps contrary to advice from other quarters.

P.S. The Turks, I hear, have actually taken Krajovo, after a battle, in which they captured several officers and men. This you will, no doubt, know the truth of before my letter reaches you

ARRIVAL OF LORD RAGLAN AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

On the 28th ult. Lord Raglan arrived on board the *Emeu*, accompanied by Colonel Cator, commanding the artillery. The advent of the Commander-in-Chief is a great thing for the army, which until now was without that high authority which could be appealed to in cases of difficulty and decide what was to be done. The palace, formerly the residence of the Russian Ambassador, had been prepared for the reception of Lord Raglan. We have engraved the Palace upon the preceding page.

Prince Napoleon arrived at Constantinople on the 30th ult., Marshal St. Arnaud may next be expected; and, last of all, the Duke of Cambridge. The latter, it is reported, has declined to avail himself of the palace prepared for his use by the Sultan. The Duke is unwilling to place himself in any respect above his commanding officer, Lord Raglan.

Sir De Lacy Evans, part of the Staff, and thirty-six horses, arrived in the *City of London* on the 24th ult. General Evans has taken up his quarters in Schmieh Barracks. He came in time to be present at the grand ball which the Austrian Embassy gave in honour of the marriage of the Emperor Francis Joseph, and entered the room with Lord de Redcliffe, who, on this occasion, appeared with a retinue of British field officers.

The Grenadier Guards, the Fusilier Guards, and one company of the Coldstreams, arrived in the Bosphorus on the 27th ult. As the whole of the regiments at Selimieh, with the exception of the 41st, 47th, and 49th, were under canvas on Haydar Pasha, a wide plain behind the barracks, there was plenty of room for the Guards either in the barracks or on Haydar Pacha, which, if used as an encampment, will accommodate 20,000 troops.

A grand review of the British troops at Scutari was announced for Tuesday, the 25th inst., and large were the crowds from Pera and Stamboul that crossed the Bosphorus in caiques and steamers, anxious to see the first-rate manœuvring. But for some reason or other the review was put off, and when the eight-sers arrived on Haydar Pacha they saw nothing but two regiments, the 41st and 88th, practising field manœuvres. On returning to the shore they had the satisfaction of witnessing the unshipping of General Sir De Lacy Evans's baggage.

On the morning of the 27th ult. eight of the regiments at Selimieh and on Haydar Pacha were reviewed by the Seraskier. They were drawn up in two open columns at half distance, with colours flying; and as his Excellency, accompanied by the generals Adams and Sir De Lacy Evans and his brilliant staff rode past, the bands struck up the first bars of "God Save the Queen." After the Seraskier had left, the troops deployed on the ground, formed into a column, and practised field manœuvres. Rarely has so large a British force manœuvred before so motley an assemblage as the crowd collected on the occasion. Wherever the soldiers went, the front of their line was immediately occupied by an army of admiring followers, of every imaginable colour and in all possible costumes, who squatted down on the ground before them, and never moved until, perhaps, pressed by an advance of the military force, when they took to their legs and ran, only to stop and squat down again the moment the line or the detachment became stationary. Amongst the crowd were also many white donkeys, and a troop of Bashi-bozouks on very wretched-looking horses, armed with long lances, at the end of the points of which there were large black tufts, which reminded one disagreeably of bundles of human scalps. These dingy-looking sons of the desert were evidently excited by the newness of the military spectacle, and emulous to eclipse the glories of the infidel soldiery by some choice feats of their own. They commenced a sham fight in front of the long line of red-coats, and galloped to and fro, chasing one another, and flourishing and thrusting with their lances. But though their efforts were praiseworthy, the success which rewarded them was but indifferent, and it required all the conceit of the savage for them to continue their exhibition in spite of the jeers and hootings of their fellow Moslems. One of these men who, from his scarlet cloak and silver-mounted pistols, was a chief or a very successful robber, or both, was quite indefatigable in his antics, and never left off riding about and flourishing his lance until the last column of soldiers had

entered the gate of Selimieh, and the sounds of military music, heard fainter and fainter, at length died away in the vast corridors of that palace residence of the British soldier. Then, and then only, did he turn his horse's head, and rejoin his comrades in Scutari.

A DIPLOMATIC DISTURBANCE

A good deal of uneasiness was excited at Constantinople towards the end of last month, by a dispute between General Baraguay d'Hilliers and the Porte, respecting the expulsion of certain Roman Catholic Greeks. Taking advantage of a single case, in which protection had been granted to a Greek merchant in consequence of the naturalization of Lord Stratford, the French Ambassador urged Redschid Pacha to grant the same indulgence to all Greeks who were Roman Catholics This favour he obtained; but, as it would have led to many evils, Lord Stratford persuaded the Porte to recall the order for that purpose. General Baraguay d'Hilliers was much offended, and announced his intention of leaving Constantinople in forty-eight hours; but the quarrel was ultimately made up. The French Government does not approve of the conduct of the Ambassador. In Paris papers state that General Baraguay d'Hilliers is recalled to assume an important command under the Emperor at the Camp of St. Omer; and that General Daumas is likely to be the new Ambassador

A POLISH LEGION FOR THE EASTERN WAR.

The Polish emigrants, both at Constantinople and at Paris, do not hesitate at present to express their belief that the legion which they are so anxious to form in Turkey will receive the sanction of the Turkish, English, and French Governments. The great difficulty relative to the accomplishment of their hopes at present arises from want of money. The Porte requested General Wysocki and Colonel Count Zamoiski to lay before it separately their suggestions as to the best means of carrying at the formation of the Legion. General Wysocki immediately sent in a plan, in which the effective force of the contemplated Polish Legion is set down for the commencement at two battalions of infantry, four squadrons of cavalry, and a battery of artillery. Nothing definitive had been done when the last letters left Constantinople.

At Paris there was a meeting of Poles at the Hôtel Lambert, the residence of Prince Czartoryski. About 400 were present, and the Prince pronounced an address, in which he alluded to the hope which he and his friends had now, they thought, reason to entertain that better days were dawning on Poland. He dwelt on the necessity of union, and recommended that every exertion should be made to effect the formation of the Polish Legion in Turkey. No one, the Prince observed, thought of personal interest when Poland was concerned; all that many one had in view was the well being of that unfortunate country. Should General Wysocki obtain the command of the Polish Legion, Count Zamoiski, the Prince said, would not hesitate to serve under him. General Dembinski addressed the meeting after the Prince, and then rose and declared that he was willing to do everything in his power for the advancement of the common cause, and that for the future he would be guided by the views of Prince Czartoryski. It was mentioned that Lord Stratford de Redcliffe had shown great anxiety in favour of the views of the Polish emigrants, and in endeavouring to obtain for the Porte to consent to the formation of the Legion.

THREATENED OCCUPATION OF GREECE BY FRANCE

It is stated in official quarters in Paris that not only the blockade but the occupation of Greece is determined on. The *corps d'armée* to be sent without delay for that object will amount to 12,000 men. It is also said that the Emperor Napoleon has addressed an autograph letter to King Otho, couched in the strongest possible terms, and, in fact, commanding him to desist from taking part with Russia in the war waged by the Powers to whom Greece owes her existence as a nation, and to whom she is indebted for many favours against that Power, and that if Greece persists she will have to bear the consequences of her conduct.

RUPTURE BETWEEN RUSSIA AND PERSIA

According to letters from Teheran, the Russian Ambassador Extraordinary, Count Kaunikoff, who had been sent to Persia to extort fresh concessions from the Shah, and forced Persia to declare herself against the Sublime Porte, is said to have sent from Tiflis, where he deemed it prudent to remain, to M. Dolgorouki, Russian Minister at the Court of Persia, an order to call on the Persian Government, by means of an ultimatum to declare within two hours whether it intended to take part with Russia against Turkey. The same letters announce that the Shah of Persia replied to this arrogant ultimatum, by giving orders to 30,000 men to proceed to the Turco-Persian frontiers, under the command in chief of Prince Khan, his Minister of War. The Shah is said to have demanded from Russia the restitution of the provinces which have been taken from him at different periods.

THE ALLIED FLEETS IN THE BLACK SEA.

The news regarding the proceedings of the combined fleets since they left Odessa is meagre. They are said to have appeared before Sebastopol on the 27th, when the frigates approached the port, and threw in some bombs, but there was no reply. Accounts from Varna of the 24th state that two English and two French ships were blockading the Sulina mouth of the Danube. A letter from Kavarna says the blockading squadron destroyed the Russian trenches at the mouth of the Danube, and then sailed in the direction of Odessa. On the 20th, the *Tiger* captured, in the vicinity of the island of Serpents, about ninety leagues from Odessa, twelve Russian vessels (transports).

THE STATE OF SIEGE IN RUSSIA.

The near approach of hostilities is strongly felt at St. Petersburg, and measures are being taken with a view to dangers which are strongly feared by all parties, whatever they may pretend. Four batteries have just been established at the entrance of the Neva. The metallic reserve of the forts has been sent to Moscow. From the 27th ult. the command of the town was to be divided between four military governors, and the state of siege applied in all its rigour. Many persons are leaving for the interior of the country. The departure of the Emperor for Peterhoff, where the Court was to have gone on the 27th, was adjourned. His Majesty is in such ill health that he had been obliged to countermand twice a review which he had intended to pass.

On the 21st ult., the English Consul at St. Petersburg received notice that the Russian Government would no longer recognise him in his official capacity. Count Nesselrode further informed him, in the most polished terms, that his passports would forthwith be prepared, and desired to know for what place they should be made out, and by what persons he intended to be accompanied. The understanding was, that he must not delay his departure beyond a fortnight from that day. There were so many people escaping from the clutches of the despot, and selling off their property, that no buyers were to be found for anything but the necessaries of life. There was an utter and general dearth of money, and purchasers were not to be found at any price for the goods and chattels of those unfortunate persons who were obliged to leave, and, of course, convey their goods to England.

The *Monsieur* states, that, in communicating this determination to the Consul of her Britannic Majesty, Count de Nesselrode offered him his passports, whereas he announced to M. de Castillon that the Emperor Nicholas authorised him to continue to reside at St. Petersburg. The French Government has refused to accept the benefit of the difference of treatment which the Russian Cabinet has endeavoured to establish between the Consuls of the two Allied Powers, and has ordered M. de Castillon to quit his post.

THE BALTIC FLEET.

The British fleet which remained at Elfinabben till the 8th inst., has been reinforced by the *Prince Regent*, 80, and *Cumberland*, 70, from England, with the French liner *Austerlitz*, 100, in company. Sir Charles Napier's sudden departure was said to be owing to intelligence received that the Russian fleet was leaving Helsingfors. The *Leopard* arrived at Stockholm on the 5th, and signalled that the enemy's vessels were coming out of Helsingfors, and the signal was at once made to the fleet, "Make ready for sea immediately."

A telegraphic message was received on Monday, announcing the arrival of the fleet under Admiral Parseval-Deschenes in Wingo Sund. The French squadron did not anchor there, but proceeded immediately to join the English fleet.

THE RUSSIAN CAMPAIGN.

In spite of all the flaming accounts from Bucharest of the great extremities to which Silistria was reduced by the Russian army under General Schulders, we are now informed that it has received little or no damage. Omer Pacha is said to have assured the Turkish Government that it is able to hold out till the arrival of the Allied troops, even were they to be delayed till July. An Austrian staff officer, who gives a review of the present state of affairs on the Danube, doubts whether Silistria will be able to hold out; but, as he remarks, the Dobrudja, in this fatal month of May, will, in all probability, prove a more formidable enemy than the Allied armies and fleets. The campaign of 1828 cost the Russians nearly the whole of their cavalry; and when Diebitsch opened that of 1829, with fresh troops, his first step was to besiege Varna, which fell before Russian gold. The passage of the Balkan was effected by means of a stratagem of war, and 45,000 half starved, sickly men succeeded in reaching Roumelia, "where they would infallibly have been annihilated, if the fanaticism of the Turks had not for the moment been paralysed by Sultan Mahmoud's new organisation." At present the Black Sea is in the hands of the Allies, all the more important fortresses on the right bank of the Danube are still occupied by the Turks, Omer Pacha is at the head of a powerful army, the passes of the Balkan are effectually secured, and a splendid though small Gallo-British army is already in the field. When these circumstances are taken into consideration, the present prospects of Russia are anything but brilliant.

Advices from Jassy, of the 23th ult., state that 10,000 Russian dragoons and several thousand cuirassiers, with infantry and artillery to match, are shortly expected to arrive in Moldavia, by way of Skoula and Skulenpi. These troops are said to be destined for the frontiers of Bukowina and Transylvania. This intelligence, if confirmed, would prove that the present attitude of Austria and Prussia has given rise to serious apprehensions on the part of Russia.

THE WHITE SEA SQUADRON.

The *Forydice*, 26, Captain Commaney, completed swinging ship on Saturday at Portsmouth, for the purpose of ascertaining the deviation of her compass. The *Brisk*, 16, screw Commander B. Seymour, got up steam at Portsmouth, on Saturday, and is completing stores as fast as possible, and will accompany the *Forydice* to the North Cape into the White Sea. A third vessel will be added, so as to form a small yet powerfully armed squadron, under the entire command of Captain Commaney, who can see what the Russians are about in the vicinity of Archangel and other parts of the White Sea.

UNITED STATES.

The steam-ship *Arctic*, which left New York on the 30th ult., arrived at Liverpool on Wednesday evening. There was no news of importance from Washington. The Gadsden treaty had been ratified by the Senate by a vote of thirty-thirteen. A correspondence relative to the forcible seizure of the Amazon had taken place between the English Charge d'Affaires to Washington and the Peruvian Minister for Foreign Affairs. The English Charge d'Affaires received answer that the treaty between Brazil and Peru gave the former Government privileges and advantages not allowed to any other nation. The Mexican Consul at San Francisco had been arrested by the United States Marshal for violating the laws of the United States, by enlisting men within the said States into the service of a foreign Government.

The most distressing and extensive fire had taken place at New York on the 26th ult.; fourteen firemen being killed and thirteen wounded, occasioned by the falling of the walls.

On the 27th inst. New York was visited with a severe tornado. Several lives were lost by the falling of houses and the upsetting of boats. The calorie-ship *Ericsson*, careened from the force of the blast, and one of her ports being open, she filled and sunk, the crew and passengers barely escaping with their lives.

The New York papers contain full details of the wreck of the *Powhattan*, with all the horrors attendant upon an event of so disastrous a nature. There were upwards of 200 passengers and crew, but not a single person seems to have escaped. The schooner *Mosliman* was ashore about half a mile below the scene of the *Powhattan's* wreck. Out of a crew of nine men, one alone was saved, and he was thrown violently into the surf, and was washed ashore perfectly insensible. The schooner herself was completely wrecked. The screw-ship *Gulnare* has also been wrecked. All souls on board were saved, but a portion of the cargo was destroyed.

THE OVERLAND MAIL.

The steamer *Calcutta*, with Indian news, arrived at Trieste at half-past eleven o'clock, on Tuesday morning, in 113 hours from Alexandria, which port she left on the 4th inst. The Indian mail brings advices from Calcutta to April 6; Madras, April 10; Shanghai, March 18; and Bombay, April 1. Burmah continues in a disturbed state. The Russian fleet left Manilla, March 13, for Batavia. The English out steamer had not arrived at Alexandria on the 4th.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

CONSTANTINOPLE. A letter of April 30 states "that part of the British troops in the camp of Haydee Pacha are under immediate marching orders for Adrianople. The first detachments are to leave tomorrow morning. The order was given last night, after Lord Raglan had communicated with the Ambassadors, the Porte, and Generals Adams and Evans in Scutari."

THE BALTIC FLEET.—STETTIN, Thursday.—Sir C. Napier's fleet, after going towards Sando, off Gothland, was proceeding towards the Gulf of Finland, when a French dispatch-boat overtook it.

The Swedish Court was thought to be leaning to the Western Powers. Frequent meetings of the Council of State had taken place. Great meetings had also occurred.

MORE RUSSIAN PRIZES.—On Thursday another Russian prize, the *George Jongeblood*, arrived in the river off Gravesend, and was subsequently placed in the West India Docks. The schooner *Wide Awake*, of Harwich, has witnessed the capture of the Russian brig by H.M.S. *Dido*. The ship *Johanna Emilie*, from Lisbon, seized in the London Docks, by Mr C. J. Cox, as being a Russian ship sailing under false colours, has been condemned by the Admiralty; her cargo consists of wine and guns, and is of considerable value. A Swedish vessel, the *Thor*, a barque of 500 tons, was brought into Plymouth on Thursday morning by the pilot, and gave herself up. She is from Mealmen, with a cargo of stores for the Russian Government.

AUSTRALIA.

NEW GOLD DIGGINGS DISCOVERED. A private letter was received at Liverpool on Thursday, by the ship *Ariadne*, from Melbourne to Valparaiso, and thence from New York. It is dated March 1, the day on which the *Ariadne* sailed, in company with the *Marco Polo*, for England. New and extensive gold diggings, eclipsing, it is stated, anything hitherto heard of, had been discovered near Melbourne. The commercial business of Melbourne was reported satisfactory. The mining accounts are also favourable.

THE CHASE OF THE "FURY."

(From a Correspondent.)

H.M.S. *Fury*, Kavarna Bay, April 14, 1854.

We left Constantinople on the 5th for the Sea here, arriving the next day. Soon after our anchoring, the *Niger* arrived with the news of the declaration of war; on the signal being made by the Admiral, three cheers were given by all our ships. The French did not receive their news until the afternoon, in consequence of which no operations could be commenced. Immediately after the arrival of the *Niger* we were ordered to take the news, &c., to Varna, returning the same night. The next morning we received orders to proceed to Sebastopol to reconnoitre, which we did with a hearty good will, no other vessel accompanying us. We met over to the Crimea during the night of the 11th, and hove to close in shore, about twelve miles to the northward of Sebastopol. At day dawn we crept down the coast, so that a little before six we were off the port about a mile and a half. We made all the observations we could, the batteries not attempting to fire on us; we noticed two brigs and a steamer getting under way. As two small coasting vessels came out and ran to the northward, we stood after one, and made a present of her, taking her crew out and her in tow. Just as we completed this, we observed two frigates and two brigs under all sail, standing out of the harbour. We attempted to tow our prize off, but found that the latter sailed in us too fast, so we cast her adrift. We were in a very bad predicament, being dead to leeward of the enemy, and our only chance of escape was getting all the steam we could, and get to windward. Fortunately for us, our flagstaff was carried away with our ten-inch gun, which the enemy's frigate returned. We soon increased our distance, but they did not give up the chase until they were twenty-five miles off port. It was a great pity that we had not another good steamer with us, as then we might have shown them some play. On the chase being given up, we crossed quietly to the Danube, and not finding the fleet there, came on here this morning. The *Fury* at present is the lion of the day—all congratulating us, not only on our escape, but as having fired the first shot after the declaration of war, or, as it is termed, "opened the ball." The prisoners, also, are quite a curiosity; though only six of them, we gained our end, and got all the information required, and more than expected.

FESTIVAL OF THE SONS OF THE CLERGY.

It is very rarely that the great open spaces and commanding architectural effects of our cathedrals can be turned to their fullest advantage. When a suitable occasion presents itself, however, nothing can well be conceived more striking than the spectacle of worship conducted on so grand a scale, and celebrated with all the beautiful simplicity of the Church service. The Festival of the Sons of the Clergy, which took place at St. Paul's on Wednesday, was one of those rare occasions. An assemblage of from 5000 to 6000 persons, all belonging to the wealthier classes, filled the vast space under the dome and a large portion of the central nave. The choirs of the Chapel Royal, of Westminster Abbey, of St. George's, Windsor, of Bristol, Canterbury, Chester, Ely, Hereford, Lincoln, Norwich, Rochester, and Winchester Cathedrals, of the Temple, and other churches, assisted. His Royal Highness Prince Albert, the Lord Mayor, Sheriffs, and Aldermen, the civic authorities of other cities and towns, were present. The interior of the sacred edifice had been fitted up by Mr. Newman, the architect, so that full service might be performed, with the effect of 300 voices, under the dome.

On the arrival of the Prince, who entered by the western approach to the Cathedral, a procession was formed in the following order:—

Choristers of the Chapel Royal, Westminster Abbey, St. George's, Windsor, Bristol, Canterbury, Chester, Ely, Hereford, Lincoln, Norwich, Rochester, and Winchester Cathedrals, of the Temple, and other churches.

Canons and Prebendaries of the Cathedral (two and two)

The Archdeacon of London. The Lord Bishop of London. The Dean.

Members of the Festival Committee.

Treasurer of the Festival.

Stewards of the Festival (two and two, according to rank).

Masters of Orders and Ceremonies.

Officers of the City of London.

The Sheriffs of London and Middlesex.

The Aldermen (in single file, juniors first). The Recorder. The Remembrancer. The Junior Aldermen. The Lord Mayor's Chaplain. The Lord Mayor.

The Bishop of London and Dean of St. Paul's. The Lord Archbishop of York. Chaplains of the Archbishop of Canterbury. The Lord Archbishop of Canterbury. The Lord Chancellor.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE ALBERT, K.G.

Grooms of the Bedchamber (Marquess of Abercorn, K.G.). Equerry in Waiting (Colonel Bouverie). Groom-in-Waiting (Colonel Wylde). Aide-de-Camp (Lieut.-Colonel Bentinck).

The Stewards proceeded to the seats immediately in front of the choir; the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, Sheriffs, and city officers, to those on the north side; the mayors of cities and towns to seats in the north transept. His Royal Highness and the Archbishop and Bishops occupied places on the south side. While the Canons and Prebendaries were seated below, the Dean proceeded to his stall and the Bishop to his throne. During the service with over a lemming effect in that grand space, the full organ chord and the pealing notes of the organ giving a sublime expression to the words of the Church liturgy. The presence of so vast a congregation added much to the impressiveness of the celebration. An anthem, composed for the occasion by Mr. Goss, the organist of St. Paul's, was performed after the first lesson. Wind instruments were introduced to strengthen the choir, and told admirably. The Archbishop selected for his text the 41st verse of the 10th chapter of Matthew—"He that receiveth a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward." The sermon was a very impressive one, though of course it could only be heard by a small portion of the congregation. The collection at the Cathedral amounted to the large sum of £680. It is to be hoped that this successful experiment will induce the Corporation of the Sons of the Clergy to celebrate the anniversary festivals in future years in a similar manner. The first festival was held in St. Paul's Cathedral in 1655, two hundred years ago, and during that long interval it is probable that on no occasion have the claims of the charity upon public benevolence been so well put forward, or so generally responded to as they were on Wednesday.

In the evening a dinner took place, according to custom, in the fine hall of the Merchant Taylors Company. Upwards of 460 noblemen, prelates, divines, and laymen sat down to table. The Lord Mayor presided; and the Prince Consort honoured the company with his presence.

When the cloth had been removed, the Lord Mayor rose and, in a few loyal and well chosen words, gave the toast of "Church and Queen." He singled the National Anthem as the sounds were variously applauded, especially at those passages which were considered most applicable to the present state of public affairs.

The second toast was "His Royal Highness Prince Albert, the Royal Steward of the year, Albert Prince of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family." When the cheers with which it was received had subsided,

His Royal Highness rose, and returned thanks on his own behalf, and on that of the Royal family, for the cordial response which had been made to the toast. After expressing how much gratified he had been on witnessing the large assemblage of persons at this festival, he went on to express his approbation of the principles on which it was founded.

Were our ancestors purified the Christian faith, and shook off the yoke of a domineering priesthood, they felt that the keystone of that wonderful fabric which had grown up in the dark times of the middle ages was the celibacy of the clergy, and they stamped it as a chief tenet of reformed faith and piety. Our religious liberty would, on the contrary, only be secure in the hands of a clergy united with the people by every sympathy—national, personal, and domestic (cheers). Gentlemen, this nation has enjoyed for 200 years the blessing of a Church establishment which rests upon this basis, and cannot be too grateful for the advantages afforded by the fact that the Christian ministers not only preach the doctrines of Christianity, but live among their congregations, an example for the discharge of every Christian duty as husbands, fathers, and masters of families—themselves capable of assuming the whole depth of human feelings, desires, and difficulties (Cheers). While we must gratefully acknowledge that they have, as a body, worthily fulfilled this high and difficult task, we must also in mind that many times an equal participation in one of the actuating motives of life—the one which among the "children of this generation" exercises, perhaps of necessity, the strongest influence—I mean the desire for the acquisition and accumulation of the goods of this world (Cheers). Gentlemen, the application of "a money making parson" is not only a reproach, but a condemnation of a clergyman, depriving him at once of all influence over his congregation. Yet this man, who has to shun opportunities for acquiring wealth, open to most of us and who has hours of only an ordinary life-time allotted to him for his services, has a wife and children like ourselves, and we wish him to have the same solicitude for their welfare which we feel for our own (Cheers). Are we not bound, then, to do what we can to relieve his mind from anxiety, and to preserve his children from destitution, when it shall have pleased the Almighty to remove him from the scene of his labours (Cheers)? You have given an answer to the affirmative by your presence here to-day, and although this institution can do materially but little, morally it gives a public recognition of the claims which the sons of the clergy have upon the sympathies of the nation, and which, we trust, will, as such, be of the greatest value (Cheers). May it continue for further hundreds of years as a bond of union between clergy and laity, and on each recurring century may it find the nation ever advancing in prosperity, civilisation, and piety! (Loud cheers.)

His Royal Highness concluded by proposing "the healths of the Archbishop of Canterbury and Lord Denman (the President and Vice-President of the Corporation of the Sons of the Clergy)."

The Archbishop of Canterbury returned thanks for the honour, and proposed "the health of the Lord Mayor."

After several other toasts had been proposed, the Treasurer read the financial report, which announced that his Royal Highness had contributed £105 guineas, that the 113 stewards of the festival had handed in lists amounting to £4500, that the collection at the Cathedral doors was £690 that the subscriptions at the dinner gave a sum of £3145, that an estimated sum of £3600 might be added as the proceeds of sermons preached in aid of the funds, that the Dowager Lady Willoughby de Broke had given a donation of £600, and that the receipts for the year would amount to £12,050. This gratifying statement was received with loud cheers by the company.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN SCHOOL SOCIETY.—The forty-ninth general meeting of this society took place on Monday, at twelve o'clock; the Right Hon. Lord John Russell in the chair. Lady Russell was on the platform, by the side of the noble Lord. The report—which was read by the Secretary, Mr H. Dunn—opened by referring to a series of resolutions for a special subscription of £10,000. Mr. Samuel Gurney, Mr. Pease, M.P., and Mr. G. J. Barclay had sub-scribed £500 each. The foreign operations have the future promise: grants of school materials have been made to various schools in the West Indies, Canada, South Africa, Western Africa, New Zealand, Australia, the East Indies, and the South Sea Islands. Financially, the society is prosperous, although enlarging operations require enlarged funds. The annual subscriptions have increased £200 during the last three years. The receipts of the year have been £15,183 9s. 2d., and the expenditure about equal. Lord John Russell, in the course of his remarks, reiterated his conviction that religious could not be separated from secular instruction in the public school. His Lordship said that it was the duty of all to urge forward the cause of education, that all the children of the country might be instructed.

THE EARL OF ELGIN.—It is said that the Earl of Elgin is charged with a special mission to the Government of the United States, in reference to questions arising out of the present war, and that for that purpose he will proceed to Washington on his return to his government of Canada.

EGYPTIAN TROOPS PASSING BEFORE OMER PACHA, AT SCHUMLA.

SKETCHES FROM THE DANUBE.

We have received from our Special Correspondent at Schumla the accompanying Sketches of the war movements in that locality. His first scene represents Egyptian Troops coming in from the Dobrudja, Matchin, Tontcha, and Isaktchi Most of these men are fine fellows, soldierly and brave. One marked characteristic is to be noticed amongst them: generally, the Egyptian has very small eyes. This gives a peculiar aspect to the face. Not content, with having two small eyes, the Egyptians had a habit of blinding one of them, to avoid the conscription; others have mutilated their forefingers, for the same reason. Mehemet Ali, however, put an end to this by making one-eyed regiments, and four-fingered regiments; now they are incorporated together with the army.

Omer Pacha is in the foreground of this Sketch; and is accompanied by Captain Nolan, of the 15th Hussars, Colonel Cannon (now Bayiam Pacha), Captain Symmons, Captain Grange, Surrey Militia; Lieutenant Nasmyth, Bombay Artillery; and Captain Govoni, of the Sardinian Staff.

The second Sketch represents a large party of Bashi-bozouks coming in from Matchin. The street they came up is one of those leading in from the Varna-road. In front are three Bashi-bozouk fools, beating their little wooden kettle drums. The men who wear white petticoats are Albanian Bashi-bozouks. On the right is a fountain, of which the streets are full. Here the dogs lap water, and the horses are brought to drink.

Schumla, April 17, 1854.

The rumours of the arrival of troops at Adrianople and Varna turn out to be unfounded. A French Lieutenant-Colonel, however, has arrived at the former place, and General Bosquet yesterday reached the latter. General Bosquet is shortly expected in Schumla, when, no doubt, he will make some efforts to ascertain with certainty what the Russians are doing. It is generally supposed that they are quiet, and wait only to ascertain the movements of the Anglo-French army to resolve on their movements; but, in the meanwhile, it is unpleasant to consider that 40,000 enemies are concentrated in the Dobrudja, and that no truthful information respecting them can be obtained. The concentration of troops continues here; and artillery and cavalry have arrived to-day in considerable numbers.

Achmet Pacha, whose recall I announced to you, has arrived at Sistova *en route* to this place.

Up to the latest accounts Omer Pacha was still concentrating his forces in Schumla Troops were pouring in from the Dobrudja and the banks of the Danube daily. The whole of the division of Mustapha Pacha has left that theatre of the war One part has gone to Varna, the rest is now at Schumla. The number of pieces of artillery said to have been lost by the Turks, in the late affairs in the Dobrudja, is stated to be as high as thirty. But even Turkish disasters, when spoken of, may be exaggerated by some persons.

Omer Pacha is using the most indefatigable exertions to put his army and camp in the best working order that he can. Remonstrance with such a horde of savages as the Bashi-bozouks would be just as effectual as the language of censure addressed to the untamed beasts of the forest; and, therefore, Omer Pacha, instead of appealing to the moral perceptions of these cruel, brutal, and cowardly banditti, who have brought discredit on his army, has most wisely had recourse to physical force, with a view of at once punishing them for the crimes they have committed on the peaceable inhabitants of the Dobrudja, and for preventing them perpetrating the same atrocities elsewhere. He has sent out his cavalry to get them collected together, and we shall very soon hear of the arm of military law coming down upon them with proper rigour.

On the 11th ult. there was a review of a considerable part of the troops. Very few places afford such facilities for a display of this kind as Schumla. The plain towards the east has not only space for any body of troops, but is quite open and dry. Omer Pacha did not appear. Ismail Pacha, however, was there: he was accompanied by ten Englishmen, most of them officers belonging to some of our services. Of the field artillery, the Egyptian corps was pronounced to be the best. But the horses belonging to the whole of this force want strength, and the evolutions were not performed with that rapidity which people acquainted with the state of our own or that of the East India Company's artillery are accustomed to witness A considerable number of battalions of infantry were also turned out. The vigorous appearance of the men struck every one. They are evidently well fed; and, although their clothes are coarse, yet they are warm They do not go through their work with that quickness and animation which the British and French troops display, but make a very good appearance for soldiers who are so ill provided with efficient officers.

BASHI-BOZOUKS COMING INTO SCHUMLA FROM MATCHIN.

TESTIMONIALS TO THE 34TH AND 69TH REGIMENTS.

It will be recollected that, about a year since, H.M.S. *Dauntless*, now in the Baltic, was severely infected with fever, when nearly the whole of the crew and officers were prostrate by the disease; while a midshipman and one or two of the crew, who were free from the scourge, with the greatest difficulty navigated the ship into Barbadoes. Upon its arrival, the officers and men of the 34th and 69th Regiments, stationed there, not only braved the dangers of contagion, but sacrificed their own personal comforts, and altogether devoted themselves in a truly noble spirit in assisting their maritime brethren in arms.

The officers of her Majesty's Naval Service, Royal Marines, and Royal Marine Artillery, as soon as they heard of this devotedness, suggested that it would be in accordance with the general feeling of the service, that a sense of the kindness shown by these regiments be testified by the presentation of a piece of plate to each of their messes, as a lasting memorial of their conduct on that occasion. The Commander-in-Chief, flag-officers, captains, and other officers of her Majesty's ships at Portsmouth, having signified their approval of the above suggestion, a meet-

TESTIMONIAL PRESENTED TO THE OFFICERS OF THE 34TH AND 69TH REGIMENTS.

ng was held at the Royal Naval College, on the 29th of June—Vice-Admiral Sir Thomas Cochrane, K.C.B., in the chair—when a subscription was organised among the naval clubs; and, the requisite funds having been raised, the Plate has been executed by Messrs. Hunt and Roskell.

We have engraved one of these Testimonials—a characteristic composition, bearing upon its base a representation of the *Dauntless*.

Each piece bears this inscription:—

Presented by the officers of the Royal Navy and Royal Marines to the officers of her Majesty's 34th Regiment, in grateful remembrance of the unbounded kindness and generous aid afforded by them to the officers and crew of her Majesty's ship *Dauntless*, when suffering and disabled by yellow fever, at Barbadoes, in 1852.

In the second case, the number of the regiment, 69th, was substituted for that of the 34th. The pieces of plate in other respects were the same.

MADAME ANNA CARADORI.

This distinguished *prima donna* was born at Pesth, in 1822, of Italian parents. At the age of seventeen she made her début in her native city, when she appeared in "Robert le Diable," the "Freischütz," the "Barbière di Siviglia," and other pieces. In the same year (1839) she sang at Vienna with great success. Since that period she has sung in all the chief towns of Germany, and also at Warsaw, Cracow, and Lembergh, appearing in the principal operas of Mozart, Meyerbeer, Rossini, Bellini, and Donizetti. In 1840 she performed at Vienna and, in 1846 and 1847, she was engaged at the theatre of La Scala, at Milan; and for several subsequent years she appeared at Ancona, Florence, Verona, Pesaro, Ferrara, and other principal Italian theatres—achieving everywhere great success. In 1851 she was engaged for the opening of the Theatre of Jassy, in Moldavia; and in the spring of the following year she visited Constantinople, where she performed a round of her principal parts. In 1853 she was at Naples, where she gave several brilliant concerts at the Theatre of San Carlo; but she declined an engagement for that theatre, having determined to pay a visit to London. In September last she appeared at the Drury-lane Opera in the "Freischütz," "Norma," and "Lucrezia Borgia," with a degree of éclat which must be fresh in the memory of our musical readers. During the last winter season she was the *prima donna* of the company formed at Edinburgh for the performance of Italian and German operas, and mainly contributed to the remarkable success of that undertaking, in the same manner as she is now contributing to the great success of the "Royal Opera" at Drury lane.

MADAME ANNA CARADORI, OF THE ROYAL OPERA, DRURY-LANE.

The Trade Museum.—The committee of Lloyd's have recently issued a circular to all their agents, inclosing documents for their guidance, and requesting them to promote the collection of raw and other materials for the inspection and information of merchants and manufacturers, by all means in their power. This unprecedentedly liberal step from such a body is most creditable to the committee. The Lords of the Treasury have also instructed the Custom-house to forward direct to the Trade Museum all cases which may arrive from abroad, containing contributions from foreign countries. This is most important, as the specimens will thus be saved from injury during the careless examination. Manufacturers all over the country are evincing considerable interest in the proposed museum: specimens of industrial art, &c., are fast coming in, and promises of further samples are most numerous. In some leading towns, local committees have been spontaneously formed, with the mayors and other civic functionaries at their head. The leading societies of the kingdom and the colonies—especially the Royal Agricultural Society of England, the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland, the Royal Scottish Society of Arts, the Royal Society of Dublin, the Zoological and Entomological Societies of London—are all cooperating most efficiently with their old and respectable sister society, the Society of Arts, which has already accomplished so much that is useful.

Longchamps Fashions.—The absorbing question of *corsage à basques* has been decided in their favour; the depth of the *basque* being increased to an extent which may eventually lead to the reintroduction of the *paletôt de dame*. There is a rage for every article of the toilette of the same colour—the robe, *canote*, *mantelet*, boots, gloves, parasol, and even the veil, must be of the same shade.—From *Le Follet* for May.

PRINCESS' THEATRE.

M. Carré's drama abounds in clever stage adaptations of the most salient suggestions in Goethe's. The subject of our present Illustration is an example. Poor *Marguerite* is tempted, in both productions, with a casket of jewels. In the play at the Princess' Theatre the casket is left in the garden, on the balustrade of the steps leading to the door of her dwelling. The arrangement is exceedingly pretty, and a point is made of the situation, by the circumstance of a humble lover having previously left a bouquet of flowers as his morning gift, whence *Mephistopheles* takes the opportunity of moralising on the competition between diamonds and flowers. Alas! the former win, as the fiend had maliciously predicted. Such are the commonplaces—shallow enough, but skilfully introduced—which Carré has substituted for Goethe's subtleties. They are good theatrical heirlooms, and serve the playwright's purpose as well as the best poetry, and are at once understood. The class of pieces preferred by the management being understood and accepted, we take the present precisely for what it is worth, and acknowledge the superb manner in which it is presented, with all the commendation it merits. It is an instance in which the cabinet is more costly than the jewel which it contains; the latter may be paste only, but the former is of ivory and gold. The spectacle is deservedly attractive; but we could have wished that it had illustrated the original poem, if only that we might have been gratified with Mr. Kean's interpretation of the genuine *Faust*, furnishing, as it does, so many fine opportunities for recondite and refined acting.

SCENE FROM "FAUST AND MARGUERITE," AT THE PRINCESS' THEATRE.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, May 14.—4th Sunday after Easter. Robert Owen born, 1771.
MONDAY, 15.—Rapin died, 1725 Cuvier died, 1832 O'Connell died, 1847.
TUESDAY, 16.—Tillotson died, 1694. Battle of Sempach, 1386.
WEDNESDAY, 17.—Talleyrand died, 1838. Dr Jenner died, 1823.
THURSDAY, 18.—Trial by Jury first instituted in England, 970.
FRIDAY, 19.—St. Dunstan. Anna Boleyn beheaded, 1536.
SATURDAY, 20.—La Fayette died, 1834 Columbus died, 1506.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE
FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 20 1854.

Sunday.	Monday	Tuesday.	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday.	Saturday.
M. m.	M. m.	M. m.	M. m.	M. m.	M. m.	M. m.
2 55	3 15	3 35	4 0	4 30	4 45	5 10
5 30	5 50	6 10	6 35	7 0	7 15	7 40
8 5	8 25	8 45	9 10	9 30	9 50	10 9

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

AN OLD SUBSCRIBER, Glasgow.—The pelisse slung on the left shoulder in the 11th Hussars forms no exception to the uniform worn by the 7th, 8th, 10th, and 15th Regiments of Light Cavalry. This description of troops form the national horsemen of Hungary and Croatia, and the pelisse was originally intended to be used over the jacket, to protect the wearer against cold and wet, and, at the same time, leaving the soldier untrammelled by the folds of a cloak. They were introduced into the French service in 1692, and owed their origin to the Hungarian cavalry which was subdued by France before the reign of Louis XIII. The adoption of Hussars into the English army is of a much more recent date

FREDDY.—Fitting ships with iron masts has been done in more instances than one but with what success we are unable to say.

ERRATUM.—In last week's list of presentations, for "Edwin James, Esq." &c., read "Edward James, Esq., on his appointment as one of her Majesty's counsel."

A CONSTANT SUBSCRIBER, Castle Hedingham.—Your coin is a farthing of Edward I or II., reading "Londoniensis" rather scarce. "Hawkins' English Silver Coins" is a good work, and of moderate price.

B. O. M.—"Ne vile fano"—"Bring nothing base to the temple"; or, with the *jeu de mot*, "to Fane."

CLARENS.—Armorial bearings derived from the source mentioned by our Correspondent have no value whatever For instance, an applicant of the name of Howard of low birth, can appeal in no possible way with any branch of the illustrious house of Norfolk, is assigned by this self-constituted authority, the old heraldic coat of the first Peer of the Empire. A Mr. Brown gets the ensigns of the Viscounts Montagu. A Mr. Seymour, however humble in parentage, acquires the splendid bearings of the Dukes of Somerset, and so on. The whole proceeding is a nullity. Arms, to be correctly used, must be authorised by the Heralds' College in England, the Ulster's Office, in Ireland, or the Lyon Office, in Scotland.

J. D., Wolverhampton.—Arms of Francis Earl of Guilford (who (as holy orders): Az. a lion passant or, between three fleurs-de-lis arg. Crest: A dragon's head erased sa., scaled, ducally gorged and chained or. Motto: "Animo et fide" (*Animo*, "By courage and faith.")

SPES.—It is impossible to define the arms of the gentleman in question unless the family to which he belongs is indicated.

J. B., Sussex.—We do not undertake to identify or discover arms. The task would be very troublesome, and the result uninteresting to the querist.

MISLAID.—You are clearly entitled to quarter the arms of your mother That lady, having no brother, was a co heiress in heraldry.

ESCUTCHEON.—Refer to Noble's "History of the Heralds' College."

AN OLD SUBSCRIBER.—When the force is embodied the rank may be assumed; but it seems scarcely accordant with good taste to add the military designation on your private card.

J. J.—Frederick Richard, Earl of Bective, son and heir-apparent of the Marquis of Donegal, died (unmarried). at Naples, 11th Feb., 1854.

ESCUTCHEON.—Arms of Lockwood: Arg. a fesse between three martlets sa.

A MANCHESTER MERCHANT.—The three fleurs-de-lis or, and field az (the arms of the Bourbon, the prior Kings of France), would never do now the displayed eagle (the Imperial ensign of Napoleon I.) appears to be again the universal emblem throughout France.

THE WAR WITH RUSSIA.—SEBASTOPOL.

In preparation, for

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS,

BY PERMISSION OF THE ADMIRALTY,

A LARGE VIEW OF SEBASTOPOL,

AND THE ADJACENT COAST;

With a DIAGRAM, and accurate Sketch of all the FORTIFICATIONS in and near the Harbour; drawn by Lieutenant MONTAGU O'REILLY, when H.M.S. *Retribution* boldly entered that port in January last.

MARRIAGE OF THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA.—Next week we shall illustrate this magnificent event, with a View of the Bridal Procession, and a Portrait of the Imperial Bride.

*** The publication of the CENSUS SUPPLEMENTARY PAGES is unavoidably deferred till next week.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 13, 1854.

THE War Budget of Mr. Gladstone will excite considerable opposition; but we doubt whether the opposition will avail to defeat it, or whether its rejection would not be considered a calamity, even by many persons who may feel themselves bound by their own past professions to speak against it. The Ministry having wisely determined to try whether the nation cannot pay for the war as it goes on, without resorting to the expensive system of borrowing, it only remained to decide how the necessary funds could be best raised. To restore the Excise-duties that have been abolished—to return to the ancient Protective system—to levy imposts upon articles of manufacture—to undo, in fact, the great work commenced by the late Sir Robert Peel, and carried on with such remarkable success by his disciple and successor—would have been a course of proceeding which the country would not have tolerated. Whatever the members of the late Ministry might have attempted in this way, if they had had the opportunity, it was not to be expected that the framer of the memorable Budget of 1853 would allow even the urgent necessities of the war to force him to propose, in whole or in part, the reversal of a policy which had been productive of such benefit. The first and most obvious resource, therefore, was to increase the Property and Income-tax. In his brilliant speech of Tuesday night, Mr. Gladstone detailed the auxiliary measures that were necessary to provide for the estimated expenses of the struggle. The Property and Income-tax, which was doubled for the first half of the present year, is to be doubled for the whole period of the war. The country may not relish the proposal, but will not seriously object to it. Great Britain is far more wealthy than it was during the last war; and if it was able to pay a ten per cent Property-tax at that time, it will now levy a five per cent Property-tax to be an intolerable burden. John Bull will probably grumble—for it is his habit and his privilege to do so—but he will pay—and, in his secret conscience, will admit that the Minister had no alternative; and that it is far better to pay six per cent to nip an evil in the bud, than have to pay ten or twenty per cent at a future but no very distant time, for not having the spirit and the wisdom to resist it at the commencement. But as it is not right that the comparatively small number of persons who are liable to the Property and Income-tax should bear the whole burden of the war, and as the proposed increase would only bring in £3,250,000; and, as upwards of £10,000,000 are required, the Government has found it necessary to have recourse to indirect taxation. In fixing upon the Spirit and Malt-duties for increase, we think Mr. Gladstone exercised a sound judgment; and one that, notwithstanding a loud outcry from the agriculturists, will be approved of by the country. He proposes to augment the duty on Irish spirits by 8d. a gallon, and on Scotch spirits by 1s. a gallon; and expects to raise by this means about £450,000. The Malt-tax is to be raised from 2s. 9d. to 4s. per bushel; which, taking the consumption at 40,000,000 of bushels, will produce the sum of £2,450,000. By postponing the reduction of the Sugar-duties, a further sum of £700,000 will become available; and thus the Government will be in possession of £6,850,000, in addition to the amount of increased Income and Property-tax, already voted for the half-year. These items amount, altogether, to upwards of £10,000,000, and will raise the revenue of the year to £66,746,000—the anticipated expenditure being £63 039,000. There will thus be an available margin of at least £3,500,000.

The only part of this scheme which will excite any real dissatisfaction will be that relating to the Malt-tax. A large and influential party have so long been taught to consider the Malt-tax as one operating injuriously against the farmers and proprietors of land, and the agriculturists have so long been led to anticipate and demand its abolition as a matter, not of favour, but of jus tice, that we can scarcely expect they will submit without some angry remonstrance. But their remonstrances will be unavailing. The tax is not a tax upon farmers and agriculturists; for, though paid by them in the first instance, it falls upon the consumers of beer—upon hard-working artisans and labourers—upon servants—and all housekeepers who are able to indulge in the cheap luxury of malt liquor. The men of the towns, who will be the real sufferers by the increased duty, will not, we may be sure, raise any very formidable objections to it; for no tax that the wisdom and ingenuity of all the financiers in the world could devise, in the present circumstances of the country, would be found less objectionable in theory or less oppressive in practice. The farmers themselves, whose prosperity has been greatly increased by the financial policy of the last few years, are less inclined to quarrel with Free-trade than they used to be in those happily by-gone days when they had faith in Mr. Disraeli, and in some unknown thing "that was looming in the future." The more they reflect upon the real incidence of the Malt-tax, the more they will be convinced that it operates no injustice against them as a class; but that its burden, like that of all taxes laid upon articles of consumption, falls ultimately upon the purchaser and consumer, not upon the seller and grower. But whether they approve of the tax or not, there is no chance of a substitute being provided. They will have to submit to the evil; and join—as we have no doubt they will—in the universal wish that speedy victory may crown our efforts in the just and necessary war in which we are engaged. Taxation would then fall to its ancient level; and Great Britain will have offered to the world and to posterity the noble example of bravely defending the right, and of cheerfully paying the cost of it.

IN a letter to the Duke of Wellington, written and published exactly twenty-five years ago, by that clear-headed Englishman, the late William Cobbett, it was stated, "that what was called the liberation of Greece" would be of little substantial benefit to the Greeks themselves. Events have proved the sagacity of the prediction. Mr. Cobbett was also of opinion "that the Greeks were a very bad people," and "that the Russians were at the bottom of their rebellion against the Sultan." "I did not wait," he added, in his honest and homely English, "till Russia had hatched a quarrel and declared war against Turkey; I did not wait for the invasion of Wallachia and Dalmatia; I did not wait for the '*victory of Navarino*,' and the strange coalition there exhibited against a Power which an idiot would almost have perceived it was necessary for us to support. This victory, this disgraceful victory, this untoward victory, lauded to the skies one day, bragged of one day, and lamented the next; this victory I did not wait for, in order to express the above-stated opinions." "Even on the score of humanity," said he in an article of the *Register*, published a year previously, "it became every man to be cautious how he gave encouragement to projects for 'the deliverance of Greece.' Even on this score alone, there was ground for great hesitation; but when to this consideration was added the certainty—not the *possibility*, but the *certainty*—that the liberation of the Greeks, that the separation of them from their masters the Turks, would let the Russians into the Mediterranean, and would lead to a dismemberment of the Ottoman Empire—when this certainty was so clear to all men of sense, where was the Englishman who was not the most perverse or stupid of wretches, that could give encouragement to the rebellion of the Greeks?" Unhappily for the peace of the world in the year 1854, the efforts of the Russians to weaken the Turkish Empire, by establishing an independent Greek kingdom, were blindly aided by Great Britain and France, in the years preceding the crowning blunder of Navarino. As far as the Greeks are concerned, the people of this country are not likely, a second time, to throw away their sympathy. The people of to-day are as wise as Cobbett was more than a quarter of a century ago, and will cordially support any measures that may be necessary to suppress the rebellion fomented in Albania by Russian agents and Russian gold, and to punish the King of Greece for his complicity in the plot. The recent insurrection, which had not even the excuse of a decent grievance—for it broke out at a time when the Sultan had granted a greater degree of civil and religious liberty to his Greek subjects than they had ever had the spirit or the sense to demand—will not, it appears, be at the Allies much trouble to put down. Its leaders are despirited, and can scarcely show a front against the Turkish commanders, much less against the naval and military forces of Great Britain and France. We may reasonably expect to hear of their final discomfiture before many weeks—certainly as the best news, [illegible] that Albania is revolted; and the Mainote Greeks in preventing rebellion, not only in Albania, but in Montenegro. The King of Greece has not had the honesty to declare war against the Sultan; but if his complicity, and that of his Government, in stirring up an armed rebellion in the dominions of his neighbour, can be satisfactorily proved, it is likely that his want of manliness in the mode of proceeding will not prevent the Allies from holding him responsible. It is a misfortune for Europe that his kingdom was ever allowed to be established. It is now the duty of Europe to make the misfortune as little grievous as possible, by insisting upon the good behaviour of those who govern it. A romantic and foolish sympathy with the modern Greeks has long since passed away; and if they desire to retain the independence which they possess, it will behove them very carefully to respect the independence of their neighbours. To those who desire further information on the Greek question, we recommend the well-timed reprint of Cobbett's "REASONS FOR WAR AGAINST RUSSIA IN DEFENCE OF TURKEY"—a little pamphlet from which we have above quoted. It not only shows the acuteness of one of the ablest public writers that England ever produced; but breathes a spirit of patriotism worthy of all commendation and imitation in the present day. "The question put to me," said Cobbett, "is this—Would you, if you were Prime Minister, go to war?—Yes, at once—and my fleets should negotiate the Russians out of all the Turkish territories. The Autocrat should hear England speak from the mouth of the cannon, and from no other mouth." The advice was given in 1834, but it is available for 1854—and none the worse for having been once given in vain.

THE COURT.

The Court has been unusually gay during the past week. On Monday her Majesty gave a concert at Buckingham Palace, at which the artistes of the Royal Italian Opera assisted. The Royal Family, the Foreign Ministers, and a large circle of the nobility were present

On Tuesday the Queen and Prince Albert honoured the Society of Painters in Water-Colours with a visit, at their Gallery, in Pall-mall East. The Duke and Duchess de Nemours visited the Queen in the course of the afternoon. In the evening her Majesty and the Prince honoured the Royal Italian Opera with their presence.

On Wednesday, at half-past two o'clock, the Prince Consort went to St. Paul's Cathedral, to attend the Bicentenary Festival of the Sons of the Clergy. His Royal Highness was afterwards present at the annual dinner of the Governors of the corporation, given in Merchant Taylors' Hall Threadneedle-street. The Queen took a drive in the afternoon, and in the evening honoured the French Plays with her presence.

THE QUEEN'S DRAWINGROOM

The Queen held a Drawingroom (the third this season) on Thursday, in St. James's Palace. Her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert, escorted by a detachment of Life Guards, arrived from Buckingham Palace soon after two o'clock.

The Queen and Prince Albert entered the Throne-room attended by the Mistress of the Robes, the Duchess of Sutherland, the Ladies of the Bedchamber, the Viscountess Jocelyn (in waiting), the Duchess of Wellington, the Viscountess Canning, the Countess of Desart, and the Marchioness of Ely, &c. &c.

The Queen wore a train of green and white brocaded silk, trimmed with white tulle and blonde, and bunches of violets and pink and white May blossoms; the petticoat of white satin, with white tulle and blonde, and bouchés of violets and pink and white May blossoms, to correspond with the train. Her Majesty's head dress was a wreath of violets and pink and white May blossoms, and diamonds.

The diplomatic circle having been first introduced, several presentations took place.

The general circle were next introduced. The presentations were not very numerous, neither were there any calling for especial remark.

The Queen and the Prince returned to Buckingham Palace after the Drawingroom.

On Friday (yesterday) the Queen and the Prince, with the Duchess of Kent and the Duchess of Cambridge and the Princes Mary, honoured the Ambassador of France and the Countess Walewski with their presence at a *bal costumé*, given at Albert-gate House, the residence of the French Embassy.

This day (Saturday) her Majesty will be present at the launch of the *Royal Albert* line-of-battle ship at Woolwich.

Her Majesty the Queen will give a State Ball on Wednesday next, at Buckingham Palace.

The Viscountess Jocelyn has succeeded the Countess of Charlemont as the Lady in Waiting to the Queen. Lord Rivers and Sir Frederic Stovin have relieved Lord de Tabley and Lieut.-Col. the Hon. A. N. Hood as the Lord and Groom in Waiting.

Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess d'Aumale and the Duke de Nemours visited the Duchess of Kent, on Saturday, at her residence, Clarence-house, St. James's.

The Marchioness of Waterford has arrived at Viscount Canning's, in Grosvenor-square, from Curraghmore-house. The noble Marquis is expected in town shortly.

Mrs. Gladstone had a brilliant assembly on Wednesday evening, at the official residence of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in Downing-street.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—*Rural Deans:* The Rev. R. A. Gordon to Buntingford; Rev. A. Upcher to Brooke Norfolk. *Rectories:* The Rev. R. Cage to Rathconnell, Westmeath; Rev. G. de Crespigny to Little Bealings, Suffolk; Rev. J. M. Hobson to Templemoyle; Rev. J. P. Lightfoot to Kidlington, Oxfordshire; Rev. W. P. Musgrave to Elton, Yorkshire; Rev. S. Robins to St. James's, Dover; Rev. A. D. Shafto to Benenden, Kent; Rev. Bernard to Salford, Bath; Rev. D. Williams to Llysewen, near Hay, Brecknock; Rev. W. W. Woolcombe to Wotton, near Northampton. *Vicarages:* The Rev. J. Davidson to Ninebanks, Yorkshire; Rev. H. Leech to Eccles; Rev. W. Lanek to East Haddon, near Northampton; Rev. C. A. Mooney to Honiton, near Dover. *Incumbencies:* The Rev. C. Allen to St. Paul's Church, Bolton; Rev. J. R. Chatterton to Halstead, near Godalming, Surrey; Rev. J. Lees to St. Mark's, Islington; Rev. G. A. Perryn to Sutton Gulden, Cheshire; Rev. T. P. Wilson to Barnsley, Lancashire.

The Rev. William Goode, M.A., Rector of Allhallows the Great, Thames-street, has been appointed to the Warburtonian Lectureship at Lincoln's-inn.

TESTIMONIALS.—The following clergymen have recently received tokens of affection and esteem:—The Rev. W. A. Ormsby, by the parishioners of St. James' with-Pockthorpe, on the resigning incumbency of that parish; the Rev J. Jackson, by the parishioners of Wrentham, on his resignation; the Rev. L. F. Clarkson, from the parishioners of Stamford Rivers, on his leaving the curacy of that parish; the Rev. J. F. Murphy, by the teachers, scholars, and friends of the London road branch of the St. George's Church Sunday-school, Sutton, Macclesfield; the Rev. J. F. Serjeant, Curate of the parish church, Sheffield, by the teachers of the boys' Sunday-school; the Rev. W. J. Hutchings, from the congregation of the District Rectory of Christ Church, Mary-le-bone.

METEOR.—A Correspondent writes from Pakefield that, on Tuesday evening, he and his son observed a brilliant meteor at about half-past seven o'clock in the evening, while walking on the edge of the cliff, about two miles to the south of Lowestoft. When first seen, the light was passing rapidly at a great height in the atmosphere, from an easterly direction. At first it was thought to be a rocket, but the light was too brilliant, of a bluish white cast it rapidly passed away to the southward, and, leaving a trail of light which remained for some seconds after its explosion, which took place almost immediately after it was first observed, was accompanied by a loud but whizzing sound. As the sun was barely set the atmosphere was remarkably clear, and the moon bright.

ADVANCE IN THE PRICE OF IRISH WHISKY.—The distillers of Cork have fixed the price of whisky at 8s. 2d. per gallon—an advance of 4½pence per gallon.

PRICE OF BEER.—The large brewers met at Brewers' Hall on Thursday, and resolved to raise the price of beer 3s. per barrel.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS, TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, MAY 11.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading.	Thermometer. Lowest Reading.	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
	Inches.	°	°	°	°			Inches.
May 5	29 666	62·1	37·4	50·0	— 2·0	79	W.S.W.	0.01
,, 6	29 595	60·0	39·9	48·8	— 3·4	84	S.S.W.	0.01
,, 7	29 547	62·6	39·5	50·5	— 1·7	82	W.S.W.	0.52
,, 8	29 561	59·2	36·1	47·1	— 3·3	87	S.W.	0.52
,, 9	29 641	58·7	39·5	46·9	— 5·1	91	CALM.	0.28
,, 10	29.969	62·0	37·9	48·0	— 3·9	87	N.E.&S.E.	0.00
,, 11	29.956	59·3	42·7	49·2	— 2·7	86	S.W.	0.00

Note.—The sign — denotes below the average.

The reading of the barometer decreased from 29.73 inches at the beginning of the week, to 29.89 inches by the 6th; increased to 29.62 inches by the 7th; decreased to 29.52 inches by the 8th; increased to 30.06 inches by the 10th; and decreased to 29.96 inches by the end of the week. The mean for the week, at the height of 82 feet above the level of the sea, was 29.677 inches.

The mean daily temperatures have now been below their average value on every day from the 22nd April (with the exception of May 4th, when it was 1° above), the mean defect for the period being 3·2°.

The mean temperature of the week was 48·6°, being 3·4° below the average of the corresponding week during thirty-eight years.

The range of temperature during the week was 27·7°, being the difference between the highest and the lowest readings of the thermometer on the 8th.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 20·9°. The greatest was 17·7°, on the 8th; and the least 15·2°, on the 8th.

Rain fell during the week to the depth of one inch and three-tenths.

Hail fell during the afternoon of the 9th.

Thunder was recurred on the 9th, and thunder was heard frequently during the afternoon.

The weather on the 5th, 6th, and 10th was fine, and the sky free from cloud; during the rest of the week the sky was overcast, and the weather dull. The wind blew very strongly on the 7th and 8th.

JAMES GLAISHER.

Lewisham, May 12th, 1854.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—The number of births registered in the metropolitan districts within the week ending May 6, was 1835; exceeding the average of the same week in nine years by 340. The number of boys was 958; and of girls, 877. The births within the week of the previous week was 1263; exceeding the corrected average by 217. This increase is owing, chiefly, to a great decrease on the mean temperature (as shown in our Meteorological Table) on the third and fourth days of April; and the temperature still continues below the average of former seasons.

MERCHANT SEAMEN'S ORPHAN ASYLUM.—The annual dinner of this society took place on Wednesday evening, at the London Tavern; Lord John Russell in the chair. There were about 150 gentlemen present, many of whom are largely interested in shipping. His Lordship made an eloquent appeal in behalf of the charity, reminding the company that, while in time of peace the merchant seamen were the men by whose exertions all the produce of the tropics was brought to this country to increase the comforts of all classes, in times of war, like the present, they formed a nursery for the British navy, and by their indomitable courage contributed to maintain the glory of the country. The amount of subscriptions announced was £1015 16s. 7d.

RAGGED SCHOOL UNION.—On Monday night the tenth annual meeting of the friends and supporters of this society was held in the large room of Exeter-hall; the Earl of Shaftesbury in the chair. From the report it appeared that there are now in connection with the Union 120 ragged schools, being an increase of thirteen on the year, attended by 12,150 children on Sundays, by 800 on week days, and by 630 in the evenings, all of whom are instructed by 780 paid teachers, aided by a large number of voluntary assistants. There are employed as shoeblacks, under the auspices of the union, thirty seven boys, who last year cleaned 225,306 pairs of boots, and earned the sum of £819, being an increase of £139 on last year. Of the sum so earned, £491 was paid to themselves for food, £205 placed to their credit in the savings' banks, and £103 devoted to the expenses of the society. The purposes in which the destitute obtain food, lodging, and in the majority of instances clothing, now number 15, in which are protected from the streets as many as 350 young persons of both sexes

"SUNNY HOURS."—PAINTED BY G. DODGSON.—FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.

in the midst, to the music of a guitar, tambourine, &c., contributed by the company. "Gip-ties" (147) surpasses either of the preceding, in intelligence of individual expression and carefulness of treatment; yet the materials are simple enough—two gipsy girls, one holding up a tambourine, the other leaning against a bank, and looking up laughing. The charm consists in the life thrown into the action and features. We have engraved the latter.

NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.

(SECOND NOTICE.)

E. Corbould stands prominently forward in support of the claims of historical art on the present occasion, displaying great industry and unquestionable ability; although the result is not always commensurate with the aims of his ambition, or the requirements of the subjects selected. The "Destruction of the Idols at Basle" was a striking and memorable event, which might enlist the highest resources of the pencil for its development. Mr. Corbould, in his large picture on this subject, has done all that intense and luminous colouring can do to present the physical terrors of the scene: the blazing pile within the sacred portals of the church; the prostrate effigies and altars, the scattered relics of an idolatrous worship; and aloft, contrasting with the lurid focus, the calm blue sky reproaching the frenzy and the excesses of men. But here our praise and the artist's achievement end; the moral turmoil of this "hour of madness," as D'Aubigné describes it, is not attempted; the infuriate mob, the terrified priests, are absent; and the few figures who compose the artist's group, look on with notable coolness upon the conflagration, as if it were that of a gala night at Vauxhall. It is not enough to emulate the colours used in high art—we should strive also to catch some of its inspirations. Mr. Corbould has another picture *quasi* historic, in which he is more successful; namely, "King John Refusing Allegiance to the Pope," a scene from Shakespeare's fine tragedy, as performed by Mr. Charles Kean, and the Company under his direction, before her Majesty, at Windsor Castle. As a portrait picture, or scenic representation, the effect of this work is perfect; but for that very reason as a historical representation, apart from the dramatic prototype, it is a failure; proving how difficult it is for art to imitate art with success. The extravagance of attitude—both that of action and of repose—which, in the bustle of the scene, passes by comparatively unremarked, is signally conspicuous when seized and perpetuated upon canvas, or paper. In the present instance the attitude of *John*, who throws himself forward in his seat so as to risk falling on his face, and

"SPANISH GIPSIES."—PAINTED BY F. W. TOPHAM.—FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.

"PICCIOLA; OR, THE PRISON FLOWER."—PAINTED BY E. H. WEHNERT.—FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.

the tiger fiendishness of his eye, are altogether inappropriate to the kingly dignity becoming the occasion. King John did not lose himself in passion when he rejected the Papal pretensions. His feeling was that of indignation mixed with contempt; his tone that of scornful defiance; witness his very words:—

Thou canst not, Cardinal, devise a name,
So slight, unworthy, and ridiculous,
To charge me to an answer, as the Pope, &c.

W. H. Kearney comes next, with an ingenious and carefully-painted work, on a very difficult subject, entitled "The Fatal Picture." Van Hasselt relates of Rubens that, on visiting a monastery once in search of hospitality, he was so struck by the sight of a picture which he found there, that he thought it was by his own hand. He inquired eagerly who was the artist. He was informed that the picture was painted by a monk, whose name and fame must for ever remain unknown to the world. Upon his exclamation of horror that such genius should be buried in the darkness of the cloister, and entreating that its possessor might come forth to dazzle and receive the homage of men; and avowing himself to be no other than Rubens,—"at this celebrated name," says the author, "the monk turned pale, and vanquished by the struggle within him, but, faithful to Christian humility, staggered and fell down in a swoon on the pavement of the Chapel, and a short time after he had ceased to breathe." Mr. Kearney, we repeat, has done a great deal with this difficult subject: the dignified bearing of Rubens, lavishing generous praise; and the tremulous, spasmodic, self-restraint of the poor pallid monk, in whom all the sparks of noble ambition are not yet extinct, are admirably achieved.

Augustus Mayer, who paints in the "little" style, and with the minuteness and surface *lure* of tea-board decoration, was hardly equal to such a subject as "Nehemiah Rebuilding the Walls of Jerusalem." The figures are, at best, careful Academic studies, of suspended action; and the colouring is gaudy, ill-assorted, and crudely laid on. His "Marriage Party Returning from Church," and "Blind Man's Buff, at Neighbour Flamborough's," are comparatively harmless productions.

C. H. Weigall has a picture of wonderful bustle—the "Battle of Drumclog—The Enthusiasm of Manse Hendrig at the Defeat of Claverhouse" (*vide* "Old Mortality"). The composition is crowded with figures, into all of whom energetic action has been infused; and, barring a little hardness of outline, and a shade of extravagance here and there, the result is highly satisfactory and creditable.

Absolon has a good eye for colour, and a graceful pencil, which he displays to advantage in a Group of Rustics Dancing, after Thomson's lines, "Thus they rejoice," &c. He has also some fanciful figure studies amongst which a rather clever pair of "Pyramus" and "Thisbe," in which the two lovers are represented, severally, on either side of the wall. Under the title "The Field of the Cloth of Gold—Guines," he presents us to a rich, broad cornfield, at harvest-time: a very happy idea, capitally carried out.

H. Warren has bestowed uncommon pains, and the best resources of his art, upon a picture of considerable size, entitled "The Warrant Exhibited to the Lady Abbess of a Benedictine Nunnery for the Suppression of her Convent: temp. Henry VIII." The *ensemble* of the ancient interior, with its appropriate furniture and accessorial details, is admirably real; and the grouping and action are well studied; one of the best figures being that of the old monk who sits at the table writing. By the same artist we have also a very charming subject, "Mein Vöglein" (Anglice, "My pretty little bird!"), representing a German peasant girl, standing in the garden, near her cottage, leaning her back against a wall, with a pet bird upon her finger. The feeling of innocent calm which pervades the scene is very gracefully rendered; and the work is infused with a warm, exuberant character. We have great pleasure in engraving this elegant production. Amongst the smaller pieces by Mr. Warren, we noticed, favourably, one of "An Italian Peasant."

E. N. Wehnert, whose "Prisoner of [illegible]," produced some years ago, attracted so much attention, and is still so honourably remembered, has, in the present Exhibition, another picture breathing a somewhat similar spirit, entitled "Picciola; or, the Prison-flower," the story of which is thus given:—

Picciola was now in full blossom and, thanks to Ludovic, who assisted the prisoner to construct a seat in the court-yard, the invalid could enjoy the society of his favourite for hours at a time. * * *
During these hours of study and delight, Charney, unknown to himself, had two spectators of his actions; these were Ghirhardi and his daughter, who watched him with intense and kindly interest.—*X. B Saintine.*

The picture is very carefully and cleverly painted, being finished in parts, by the way, in opaque colours; but the composition is rather clumsily managed, the artist having placed Ghirhardi and his daughter in the front, in the interior of a

MODEL OF PART OF A MONUMENT TO THE MEMORY OF THE HON. JAMES STUART.—BY J. H. FOLEY, A.R.A. FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY.—SEE NEXT PAGE.

room, and the prisoner in the background, in the yard below, and yet, apparently, so near, that he could hardly have failed seeing those by whom he was daily ob-erved. There is, moreover, a little sublimated sentiment thrown into the expression which we do not quite relish.

G. N. Laporte is not happy in his figure subjects. In "The Meet" we have a group of redcoats, after the accustomed model, but awfully out of joint as to drawing—a group in which, to reverse the passage quoted from Nimrod, "the peer and the peasant all seem equally un-hung."

G. S Shepherd has a clever sketch of "Seymour-street: Clearing up after a Shower," which we recommend to the notice of the Commissioners of Sewers, as showing the provision for surface drainage in the locality in question to be sadly inefficient.

W. Lee's domestic sketches are always pleasing for the homely sentiment which inspires them, and their natural treatment. "The Soldier's Wife" especially will command sympathy at the present moment: and close beside them, little further on, are three pieces of great merit, entitled "Sunday Morning," "The Siesta," and "A Peep into the Nursery."

Miss F. Farmer indulges us with an amusing conceit, "The Sleeping General"—a little boy fallen asleep over his toy soldiers

"The Interior of Roslyn Chapel" by J. Chase, is a careful architectural study of the "proud Chapelle," the burial-place of twenty of "Roslin's barons bold," with a dim religious light pervading it

Amongst the landscape pieces, Wreight's view of "The Canal in St. James's Park in 1670" with Charles II. feeding the water-fowl, is interesting historically, and well painted.

E. G. Warren's "View from the Wynd Cliff, Monmouthshire" is a striking landscape, consisting of a luxuriantly verdant hollow in the foreground, and a wide expanse of water in the distance; the handling clever, and the colouring pure in tone

W. Jernett has several works of remarkable merit in this class. His "View of Jedburgh Abbey, Roxburghshire," exhibits a true feeling for nature in one of her most picturesque presentments: the tone subdued but truthful, ingeniously broken by a streak of light shooting athwart the foreground from the left, and glancing off the backs of a herd of cattle. "In Rain Albey" we have the same fresh, healthy charming as in the last. In "The Wreck," Mr. Bennett shows the practicability of successfully representing the foaming waves of the sea by means of colour alone, and without resorting to the trick, which has become too prevalent with otherwise conscientious artists, of cutting away the pace for the high lights.

A. Perley has several effective bits of lake scenery, and trees; but his colouring, as evidenced in "In the Head of Woodcrome Park," and "Ullswater, from Gowbarrow Park," tends a little to the merely gaudy. The "Coast Scene with Figures—Sunset" is free from this fault, and has a good broad effect.

S. Cooke has some good sea pieces, amongst which we particularly notice "The Stag Rocks, Lizard, Cornwall," and "Coming in of the Tide on the Coast, near the Lizard."

Charles Vacher's "Marmoiée, Lycia," is a telling and agreeable view

T. L. Rowbotham's "Rehan Lake" is delicately coloured, but somewhat tame in general aspect

Ashcroft's "On the Skirts of an Ancient Forest," shows a fine feeling for tree, executed with a free and decisive touch

The Letters "Scene on the Medway—Calm," is a commendable performance, as also would be the "Dutch Vessels running into Floating Harbours," but for the lavish surface scraping for the lights

Mrs. Margetts is as successful as usual in the delicate representation of figures, fruit, and dead game, of which she exhibits several beautiful specimens.

Hurst on Weir has some very life like "Darkings," after originals, the property of Prince Albert and one "Rouen Ducks," and two very spirited sketches entitled "Never say die," and "The Fall" A score by

J. Pepple, whose large luster and pleasing have on former occasions been so great the chief attractions of the season, contains himself this year with a modest effort, entitled "A Corps de Garde," which is hardly out of the street.

THE ROYAL ACADEMY EXHIBITION.

(THIRD NOTICE.)

The exhibition of modern pictures at the Royal Academy usually supplies, to suggestive of many needed emotions. Here, in many a female portrait, we are reminded of the by now no more; or of an absent lover, no longer among the living. Here, in a picture by Leslie, we look forward, awakening reflections as to the aspect of the country engineer at full length, who has made the plans for the railway Manchester or railway. Here, in the picture of the Queen's landing on certain occasions, we are reminded of the days when we use no longer to behold, or off which some friend was wrecked; and here (to be brief with a painful subject) is a hangman's face, running past which we are no longer able to enjoy.

It is owing to these and many such-like associations of our contemporaries have noticed the present Exhibition. The morning and evening papers have looked upon it as the institution of the day—to be casually examined—of which it was sufficient to say something general, and not frequently, as we have observed, very far from the truth. Whatever we may conscientiously say of it, we observe, enlarge upon Mr. Maclise's fine picture, and give it a space rather due to it.

This unfortunate circumstance is partly a great exhibition. A young but clever, contemporary views every picture in a political light. Thus we are told that Mr. Ward's "Argyll" is painted from a Whig pamphlet, and not from the subject of history; and that the picture of "Retiring to Throne" is hardly a subject for the Palace at Westminster. The title pointed out "Good Jobs" is, we are assured, executed on Whig principles of composition; thus, on the canvas, he is seen only to let them have it in life—and fifteen years younger. Mr. Hanna's cleverly executed "Countess of Salisbury and the Knight" is not to be sent to the House of Hanover, as other contemporary (I am sorry that ought to be very sound in its artistic criticisms) has no anti-orthodox to select; but has sought to supply, and has succeeded in supplying what he thinks is small writing about every picture he condescends to notice.

If we call to mind the over-heard opinions expressed in the Exhibition itself, they will be found of a very mixed character. Each one either receives for his "three" a wish, or a word of feeble praise—a word of encouragement, or a sneer. Even the critic on Mr. Hunt's solid allegory of our Saviour is viewed with a devotional feeling by some, by others with a gaze of mystified wonderment, and by many as a piece of mediæval barbarity. Nor does his smaller picture of much better, although it is not quite so much meaning, has not often proved abortive, for "The Awakening Conscience" of this clever painter is now familiar by known as "The Loose Lodging." Maclise either praised aloud for the fertility of his invention and the delicacy of his pencil, or sneered at for his want of perspective in his really successful attempt to engraft the laboured minuteness of the pre-Raphaelites on the broader principle of his own school. Some affect to study like Mr. Ruskin over a little bit of landscape—a reedy pool, or a wood cock on its way to the sky—and have not the sense of appreciation they have at least his power of endurance. Ladies run to the miniatures, boys and girls to Mr. Frith's "Life at the Seaside" while too many people from the country delight their attention almost entirely to the portraits of people of rank and fashion

This week, as a specimen of Scripture, we engrave (No. 1397) Mr. Foley's bas-relief design for a Monument to the Hon. James Stuart. The artist has, in the Catalogue, told his own story:—"Mr Stuart is represented reading a law case, submitted by a Kandian headman who, in company with his wife and child, at ends to receive an opinion upon it. So great a favourite was Mr. Stuart among the natives, and so highly did they appreciate the benefits conferred by them, that his services were ever in request. Unceasing occupation and deep study brought on a disease of the heart, of which he died at the early age of thirty years, having obtained the high office of Deputy Queen's Advocate." Mr. Foley has handed in the clever bas-relief for the admirable monument by Flaxman in University College, Oxford, to the memory of Sir William Jones. The men and the circumstances were not dissimilar; and though Mr. Foley has had Flaxman in his eye, he has reserved himself at his free hand seldom to borrow from him. There is a thoughtful repose about the principal figure that is both appropriate and pleasing.

A CRYSTAL PALACE AT CHELTENHAM.—The inhabitants of Cheltenham, determined not to be outdone in any way by the promoters of the Crystal Palace at Sydenham, have resolved to erect a similar building in their town. It is said that the site will be on Cleeve Hill.

THE growth of land under wheat in the United States, as well as land laid by, the past, is estimated to be at least one million acres.

MUSIC.

TUESDAY was a great night at the ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA. The illustrious veteran Lablache, whose absence ever since the breaking up of the old house in the Haymarket has been sorely felt by the lovers of the musical stage, appeared for the first time on any other Garden boards. Mario, too, made his first appearance this season. The opera, moreover, was the ever-delightful "Barbière di Siviglia," which, notwithstanding innumerable repetitions, still retains all its freshness. This combination of attractions drew an immense audience. The Queen and Prince Albert, with their suite, were present, and the boxes presented a most brilliant and fashionable aspect. The "Barbière" was produced with a strength of cast which we believe to be altogether unprecedented in this or any other theatre. Mdlle. Bosio was the *Rosina;* and a more charming representative of the character has never been seen. Her picture of the young girl brought up in seclusion, innocent and timid, but high spirited, and rendered quick-witted by the force of circumstances, is full of truth and nature; and she executes the music of the part with unrivalled brilliancy. Her "Una voce poca fa," and her aria introduced in the scene of the singing lesson, were marvellous displays of the florid or ornate style carried to perfection. Mario, as *Count Almaviva*, is easy, gentlemanlike, and animated. His voice is as rich, mellow, and deliciously sweet as ever. Lablache's *Bartolo* is a performance altogether unique. Heseems to have been the fit to discover the capabilities of the part, for he was the first great actor who appeared in it, and, when he did, he made it quite a new aspect, rendering it one of the greatest features of the opera. He combines the watchful astuteness of the jealous old guardian with a disposition natura ly good-humoured and genial, in a way which no performer but himself could possibly accomplish. Ronconi's *Figaro* is well known to every frequenter of the opera: it is one of his best and most successful parts. Tagliafico made an immense hit in the character of *Basilio*. It was a masterly picture of hypocrisy and cunning; and he gave the famous air, "La Calunnia," in a manner which drew peals of applause from every part of the house.

AT the ROYAL OPERA, DRURY-LANE, the continued success of the "Freischütz" has prevented the production of anything new. The first performance of "Fidelio," however, with Madame Caradori, is announced for this (Saturday) evening.

THE two PHILHARMONIC SOCIETIES have had concerts this week—the Old on Monday, the New on Wednesday. Both concerts were good and successful; but, neither of them having produced any novelty, either in respect to music or performers, they afford no room for critical remarks at any length. However, that the New Philharmonic Society deserve great praise for their very careful and effective performance of Beethoven's Choral Symphony, the last, the greatest, and the most arduous of all its orchestral works. They are also entitled to appreciation for having given a selection from Mr. Henry Leslie's opera "In manuel," thus encouraging the rising genius of a young native musician of high promise.

THE COLOGNE CHORAL UNION, whose concerts last season attracted so much attention in our musical circles, have revisited us this season, and resumed their very remarkable performances. We may remind our readers that the Cologne Union is an association of amateurs belonging to the most respectable classes of that ancient city. They are animated by their national love for vocal harmony, and a desire to spread its cultivation among the people at large, as a means of moral and social improvement. With this view they are in the habit of giving public performances, not only at home, but in many of the principal towns of Germany and Belgium; and as we have seen, they have now extended their operations to England. Pecuniary emolument to themselves forms no part of their plan; the proceeds of their concerts (which are very large) are entirely devoted to the increase of the funds for building convents, to benefit that institution, to the support of the poor, and other praiseworthy objects. Their first concert was given on Tuesday morning, at the Hanover-square Rooms. It was quite unlike to those of last year; consisting of a number of the most beautiful choral pieces by Mendelssohn, Weber, Rucken, Kalliwa, and other modern composers, and several old national songs, harmonised for many voices. The choir consists of eighty male voices, conducted by Herr Franz Weber, an able and distinguished musician. They sing without the support of any instrumental accompaniment; nor, indeed, do they stand in need of it—for their voices, by training and practice, are able to sustain the pitch and their truth of intonation as completely as a band of instruments could do. In part of tone, delicacy, and variety of effect, we believe our best choral bodies to be inferior; certainly in admirable to hear an expression of Wordsworth's they are eight, singing as one. In blend, gradation of sound, in the grand swell of their voices, or in sinking into murmurs so fine as to be merely audible, they are to be moved by one impulse, guided by one soul. All our amateurs might to hear them; and all our chorus-singers should listen to them, for improvement as well as pleasure.

THE THEATRES.

ST. JAMES'S.

On Friday week "La Grande Duchesse," by M. Scribe, was performed; and as is the case of that lively piece, it was done by art, in the style of high comedy. Such a result is that the heroine of a piece may be the vehicle to fascinate, by her personal attractions, the heart of a youth titled to despise her by the caprice of her disposition; and to direct and fix the wandering affections on her grandmother! Such is the intricate and fantastic web of the production *Adèle*, the grandmother, however, in this revival of the piece, made the principal figure, being personated by Mdlle. Luther; while *Madame de Gerolstein*, the Grand Duchess, was entrusted to Mdlle. de St. Georges. Another principal part, *General Bertoux* (whose name is certainly not a favourite) who had sold himself to the designs of the lady on the throne, but her lover, by pretending a pretended marriage with *Adèle*. The bold and rubbishy Welsh character, part, and situation are developed under the direction of an important study.

On Monday Mdlle Luther performed *Adèle*, in "La Pensionnaire Mariée;" and on Wednesday reappeared in *Zoe*, in "Le Mariage au Miroir," when M. Brindeau made his first appearance in *Sullivan*, in the same piece. The part is a most amusing one, and was done by M. Mellerville, the author, of English manners in exceedingly curious, and in further exaggerated by the performer, who embraces each other on meeting, as foreigners do, and Englishmen do not. It seems also to be the duty of waiters for gentlemen to read the most interesting letters, notes from and society, and unaccountated with any purpose. A, in the piece on the slender basis of some amiable *Sullivan comedien de Drury-lane*) is invited to the house of the rich merchant, *Jenkins* (many enough played by M. Tourillon), for the purpose of disgusting his daughter, *Lelia* (Mdlle. Delahaye), with his conduct in private life, the lady having become enamoured of him in his public capacity. *Sullivan*, accordingly gets awfully drunk, tosses his guests, and is ultimately ordered from the house by the off ruled young lady herself. On his apology and repentance, however, she is, in the third act, reconciled to him, and their union is accomplished with the consent of the merchant father M. Brindeau looks and acts the character so thoroughly well, and displays it, may be pronounced to have made a successful *début*. Her Majesty, Prince Albert, and the Duchess of Kent were present. The house was rather thin.

LYCEUM.

This theatre was found by the public, on Saturday evening, to be closed, and has not as been re-opened.

PHILHARMONIC ROOMS.—The new public hall in Newman-street, Oxford-street, was occupied on Monday evening with the first of Mr. Lee's series of polyphonic entertainments. "The London Season" was, accordingly delivered with its various characters, which were admirably impersonated by the polyphonist, and the whole excited continual surprise, laughter, and applause. The ventriloquial sketches were first-rate. Mr. Lee was in excellent voice and nature.

WILLIS'S ROOMS.—On Monday week Signor Naples invited the public to a *soirée musicale*, which was most numerously attended. The Signor himself sings with perfect ease and unstrained force. Miss Rainford and Madame Newton Frobisher were deservedly admired in the concert was remarkable, indeed, for the general excellence of the vocalists, there being no instance of crude execution. Signor Giulio Regondi exhibited rare power in the management of the concertina, and the instruments, music was performed throughout with meritorious attention to accuracy and effect.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

THERE was a greater gathering of people in Christie and Manson's large room, on Saturday last, than in our long experience of auction rooms we can remember to have seen there before. Most assuredly much finer collections than Saturday's collection have passed under the hammer of Mr. Christie: witness Sir Simon Clarke's sale, Mr. Penrice's sale, Mr. Harman's sale, Mr. Wells's sale, Lord Ashburnham's sale. What, then, was the attraction at Mr. Wadmore's? Why, the *three* Turners to which we have already introduced our readers. They were fine works, and they sold at fine prices. Turner for some time past has been at the money-market head of English art—no pictures of our school have sold under the hammer of the successor for such high prices as have sold for. Mr. Angerstein gave the now insignificant sum of £1381 for *six* Hogarths (the "Marriage à la Mode") and Mr. Vernon gave the princely sum of 1450 guineas for the "Age of Innocence"—one of Sir Joshua's exquisite little girls so called. But these are low prices (the Hogarth especially) when we contrast them with the Turners of Saturday last.

When Mr. Christie began his pleasing task of selling the last three lots of Mr. Wadmore's sale, the room was unpleasantly crowded, and yet all was still. He did not make an oration from his rostrum, but introduced the first lot to the spectators, with a few modest words about the works he had the honour to sell. Mr. Wadmore's sons, he observed, had put no extravagant price upon them; they had no extraordinary expectations about them: all that they looked for was, that they should go "for their sober value." The first lot was the "Cologne," a picture of the year 1826, and described by Turner himself, in the Royal Academy Catalogue, as "Cologne, the arrival of a Packet boat—Evening." It was put up—at "your own price, gentlemen," and a Manchester or London dealer entered it well at a thousand guineas. So choice a picture soon made rapid jumps of twenty and fifty-guinea strides, till it was knocked down amid murmurs of delight at 2000 guineas. "Cologne" was followed by "Dieppe," a picture of the year 1825, and described by the artist himself as "Harbour of Depp" (*changement de domicile*). Like the companion picture, this, too, commenced at a thousand guineas; and, after similar strides, was finally knocked down to the same person for 1850 guineas. Then came the last lot of all—a small unexhibited picture—a picture, we should say, of the year 1809, and known to collectors as "The Guardship of the Nore." It was not entered so well, but was bravely fought for, and finally knocked down for 1650 guineas.

Our readers will, no doubt, ask by whom they were bought, and what did Turner get for them? We can answer the in quiries in part. The "Cologne" and the "Dieppe" were bought for Mr. Naylor, of Liverpool, to whom, on the 18th of November last, we introduced our readers in our column of Table Talk; and the "Guard-ship" was bought, we are told, for an ironmaster in Birmingham, who has determined to possess a collection, and has, for a beginner—this is his first purchase—began uncommonly well. Turner is said to have had £25 for the "Guard-ship," and £600 a piece for the "Cologne" and "Dieppe." Mr. Wadmore, in the year 1828, gave £1500 for the three pictures, and in 1854 the same three pictures sold for £5649. Mr. Sheepshanks's collection would sell for five times the sum he gave for it, and the Vernon collection at such prices is fairly worth double Mr. Vernon's own valuation of it—and we know that collectors are only too apt to think highly enough of their own collections.

But the Turner prices were not the only instances of the increasing market value in which good works of our English school of art are held. That charmingly-coloured sketch by Wilkie, of "The Trumpeter of the Guards," to which we called attention last week, was sold by Wilkie to Mr. Wadmore for *forty* guineas: on Saturday last it sold for two hundred and four guineas, or five times the sum the artist received for it.

But to come to living artists. At the same sale, two little pictures, for each of which Mr. Webster received thirty guineas sold for three hundred and thirty guineas, and three hundred and forty guineas. An "Interior of the Cathedral of Bayonne," for which Mr. Roberts received the same insignificant sum (thirty guineas), was thought to go cheap (as it did) at one hundred and thirty-five guineas; and, if we are not mistaken, a third little Webster, at the same sale, "The Governess," was actually sold at Lord Charles Townshend's sale, some sixteen years ago, for only *forty pounds*—on Saturday it sold for two hundred and fifty guineas!

This mention of the late Lord Charles Townshend reminds us (not necessarily, however) that his Lordship's pictures—or rather the preparation of the collection which his executors have thought fit to sell—have formed a very agreeable exhibition at Christie's during the present week. The attractions were—a beautiful Female Head by Sir Joshua, "Mrs. Bradyll," in a black and white dress, her hand raised to her cheek, in an attitude of contemplation (known to collectors by Mr. Cousins's admirable engraving from it); Mr Danby's masterpiece, "Mariotting on the Lake of Zurich," "Pilgrims Embarking for the Church of Enneclly," and a few choice bits by Frith, Egg, and Stone. On the day on which our Paper appears, Mr. Christie will dispose of the collection. We missed Wilkie's "Letter Writer." Where is that picture. The locality of every good picture should be well known.

We have found people greatly amused with the bill introduced by Sir William Molesworth and the Attorney-General, for the purpose of placing "public statues within the metropolitan police district under the control of the Commissioners of her Majesty's Works and Public Buildings." This amusement arises from the schedule, with the statues enumerated therein, and the statues left out, as it were, by particular desire. The Commissioners, of course, exclude all the City statues; but they take in King Charles I. at Charing-cross; King Charles II., at Chelsea Hospital; King James II., behind Whitehall; Queen Anne, in, Queen-square; King George II., in Golden-square, and Green-wich Hospital; King George III., in Somerset House, and Pall-mall East; King George IV., in Trafalgar-square; the Duke of Kent, at the top of Portland-place; the Achilles, in Hyde Park; the Wyatt Wellington, at Hyde-park-corner; the Wellington, in the Tower; the Nelson, on the Column; and the Canning, in New Palace-yard. But think of the exclusions! They will have nothing to do with William III., in St. James's-square; with King George I., on the top of Bloomsbury steeple; with the butcher Duke of Cumberla d, in Cur dish-market with Mr Fox's Duke of Bedford, in Russell-square; with Mr. Fox himself, in Bloomsbury-square; with Mr. Pitt, in Hanover-square; with Lord George Bentinck, in Cavendish-square, or with old Major Cartwright, in Burton-crescent. Surely George I wants more looking after, than Lord Nelson; there are outer steps on the Bloomsbury steeple, by which King George may be approached and disfigured. Will Parliament suffer the hero of the Revolution, and the first of the House of Hanover, to be pelted or spirited away, like has been spirited away the George II. of Leicester-square? Will Lord John Russell allow Mr. Fox to be neglected? and will Mr Disraeli suffer Mr. Pitt (though in bronze) to be insulted? It appears to us that they cannot—and that the Commissioners should take all out-door statues, in public places, under their protection. They do not tell us what is meant by a public statue, otherwise than by their interpretation in the schedule, and yet they insert a clause that "no public statue shall, after the passing of this act, be erected in any public place, without the written assent of the said Commissioners." A public statue should be held to mean any out-door statue erected in a public place—and the Commissioners should be held responsible for the statues erected. By the present Bill, the public places of London, included in the metropolitan police district, would not appear to occupy so much ground as the public-houses of the district. Any committee, or, perhaps, any person, may disfigure St. James's-square, or Cavendish-square, for the Chief Commissioner of Works and the Attorney General are good enough to inform us that these are not *public places*. They may, however, be made public eye-sores.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

THE IRISH EXECUTIVE.

The Marquis of WESTMEATH, in moving for papers connected with a commutation of the sentence of death upon a man convicted of murder in the county of Westmeath, contended that there had been in this case an injudicious exercise of the prerogative of mercy by the Lord-Lieutenant, amounting to an obstruction in the course of justice for the sake of popularity.

After a short discussion, the motion, with some modifications was agreed to.

The Nuisances Removal and Diseases Prevention (Further Amendment) Act passed through committee

The Church Building Acts Continuance Bill was read the second time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.

Lord J. RUSSELL moved a resolution, in reference to the standing orders of the House, to the effect that Government business should have precedence over other orders of the day upon all Thursdays during the remainder of the session.

Some opposition was made, but ultimately the resolution was adopted.

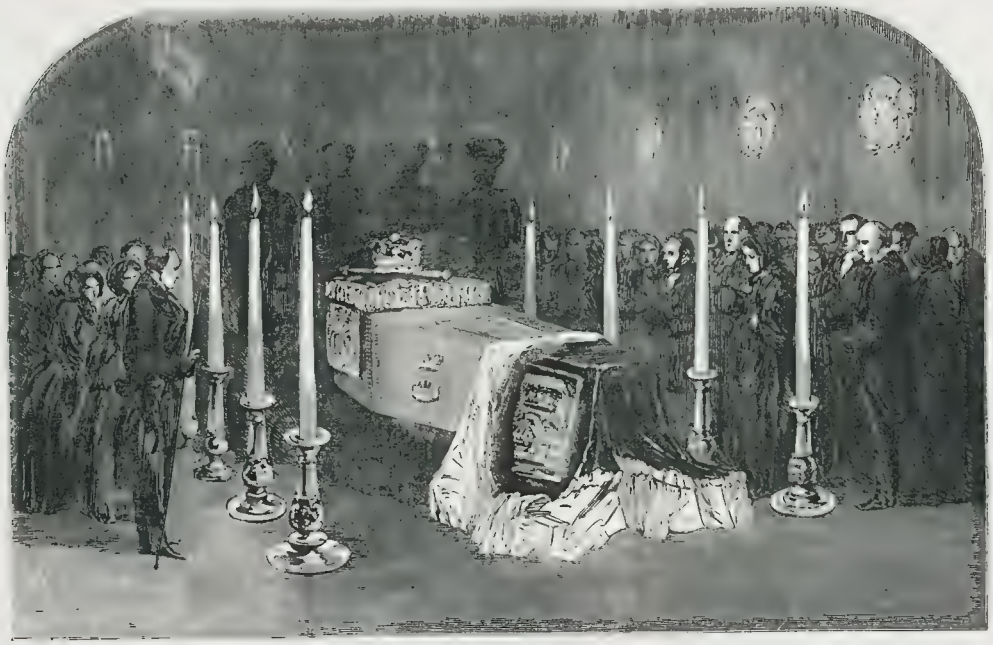
Lord J. Russell gave up the two proximate Thursdays, and consenting that the resolution should not take effect until the 25th inst.

THE WAR BUDGET.

The House having resolved itself into Committee of Ways and Means,

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER rose to make his financial statement. He adverted to the necessity which had existed for demanding a doubled Income-tax, at a time when war was not declared. It was then impossible for the Government to form a trustworthy estimate of the expenses of war, but its complicated machinery of the Income-tax made it necessary to apply to Parliament early, in order that the getting in the required revenue might not be delayed. He had at that time asked what was then known to be required, but had also stated that his demand was not adequate to the purposes of war. It now became his duty to ask for the means of carrying on the war; but, before doing so, he replied at some length to the accusations brought against him of having mismanaged the Unfunded Debt, and of having made a bad bargain in the paying off the holders of South Sea Stock. He then proceeded to announce the views of Government as to providing for the expenses of the war, recapitulating the results of his former statement when the doubled Income-tax was granted, and when an estimated revenue of £56,000,000 against an expenditure of £56,180,000, gave a surplus of £820,000. The new Navy, Army, and Ordnance Estimates, with an additional £2,000,000 for the Militia would require £60,000,000. But it was necessary also to provide for charges as yet unknown, and he should have to ask for £6,850,000 in addition to what had been already granted. This would have to be raised by taxation. It was proposed to repeat the operation which had already been performed on the Income-tax. The former operations had given from this source £9,682,000; and the addition would give £3,250,000; and, in all £12,932,000. This augmentation, which was from seven pence to fourteen pence in the pound, would be asked for the period of the war; and should the war terminate—which he prayed God might grant—during the existence of the tax under the Act of 1853, the augmentation would cease. In this way, about two-thirds of the expenses would be provided for. As regarded the remainder, Government was not inclined to push the doctrine of the Income tax so far as some were disposed to do; they did not think that the subjects of that tax ought to bear the whole excess of a national war. Nor was there any other direct tax which Government could propose; and, least of all, could they apply to the Assessed taxes, or draw into a trap those who had been invited to regulate their establishments under the new system. As regarded Indirect taxes, they had resolved to alter the system of postage, which had been so prosperous and beneficial, except for the purpose of augmenting its benefits. In connection with this part of the subject, the Chancellor introduced a tribute to Mr. Rowland Hill, and a congratulation to the country on his protection. Nor did Government intend to re-impose the taxes of last year, believing that notwithstanding the last extremity would induce Parliament to restore the fetters of Excise when they had once been removed. Nor could they touch the Tea duties, or those on tobacco. Passing from the negative to the positive conclusions of Government, he said that it would be necessary to go to the consumer, but this would be done in the least oppressive or injurious mode. It was proposed to repeat the operation of last year on Scotch and Irish spirits, and to add 6d. in Scotland and 1s. in England and in Ireland by 8d.; and this, he estimated, would be a gain to the Exchequer of £450 000. It was proposed to classify the Sugar-duties, and to meet the grievances of the sugar refiner by a scale of charges on all sugar foreign and colonial, according to the relative value of the different sorts; and by this means £700,000 would be raised. It was proposed to augment the duty on malt (Sensation on the Opposition side). He observed that as might fairly come upon the wealthy for the first charges of the war, but that a natural right to do so was denied by all classes. The Malt tax pressed on all, was easily and completely collected, and the addition required no increased staff to get it in, and, therefore, the object seemed to fulfil the conditions which should be sought after. The Malt duty was now in round figures 2s. 9d. per bushel, and he proposed to raise it to 4s., which would have it lower than it was prior to 1840, and less than half what it was from 1804 to 1816, during the great war struggle. Taking the consumption at 40 000 000 bushels, this would give £2,450,000. The united amounts thus to be obtained by increased Income-tax, Spirit-duty, Sugar-duty, and Malt-duty, would be £6,850 000, which was the required sum. All these taxes were to be asked for war purposes, except the Spirit-duty increase, which was to be permanent. But it was necessary to have a resource for extraordinary contingencies, and for a possible rapid increase in the rate of war expenditure. He wished, therefore, to take powers for creating means to be used in case of need. For of the £6 850 000 of taxes in which had been asked, he could not expect to receive before the 5th of April 1855, more than £2 340 000, which would leave him at that date in deficiency of £4 510 000. This would have to be provided for, and the mode of doing so appeared to be by temporary securities. Mr Gladstone here explained and vindicated what he had recently done in regard to the issue of Exchequer Bonds; mentioning that a trifle below the £2,000,000 contemplated for the first series had been taken only, and stating that the failure of the operation, so far, had arisen not from a cause in which certainly no shame was involved, for it was the departure from the old method of gigantic financial operation at the beginning of a war, whereby contractors were used to make colossal fortunes. He thought that it was for the House, and not for the Chancellor of the Exchequer, to dictate the policy which should be adopted, and he had deemed it right, in the first place, to seek the sanction of Parliament for the measures to be adopted. He then said that he proposed to provide "some funds" as follows. He would take authority to confirm the issue of the Exchequer Bonds of the class A, and power to issue a new class of Bonds, to take payment in two instalments of Exchequer Bills, and to many more as ought not to be expected to receive before the 5th of April 1855, more than £2 340 000, which would leave him at that date in deficiency of £4 510 000. This would have to be provided for then

FUNERAL OF THE LATE MARQUIS OF ANGLESEY, AT LICHFIELD.



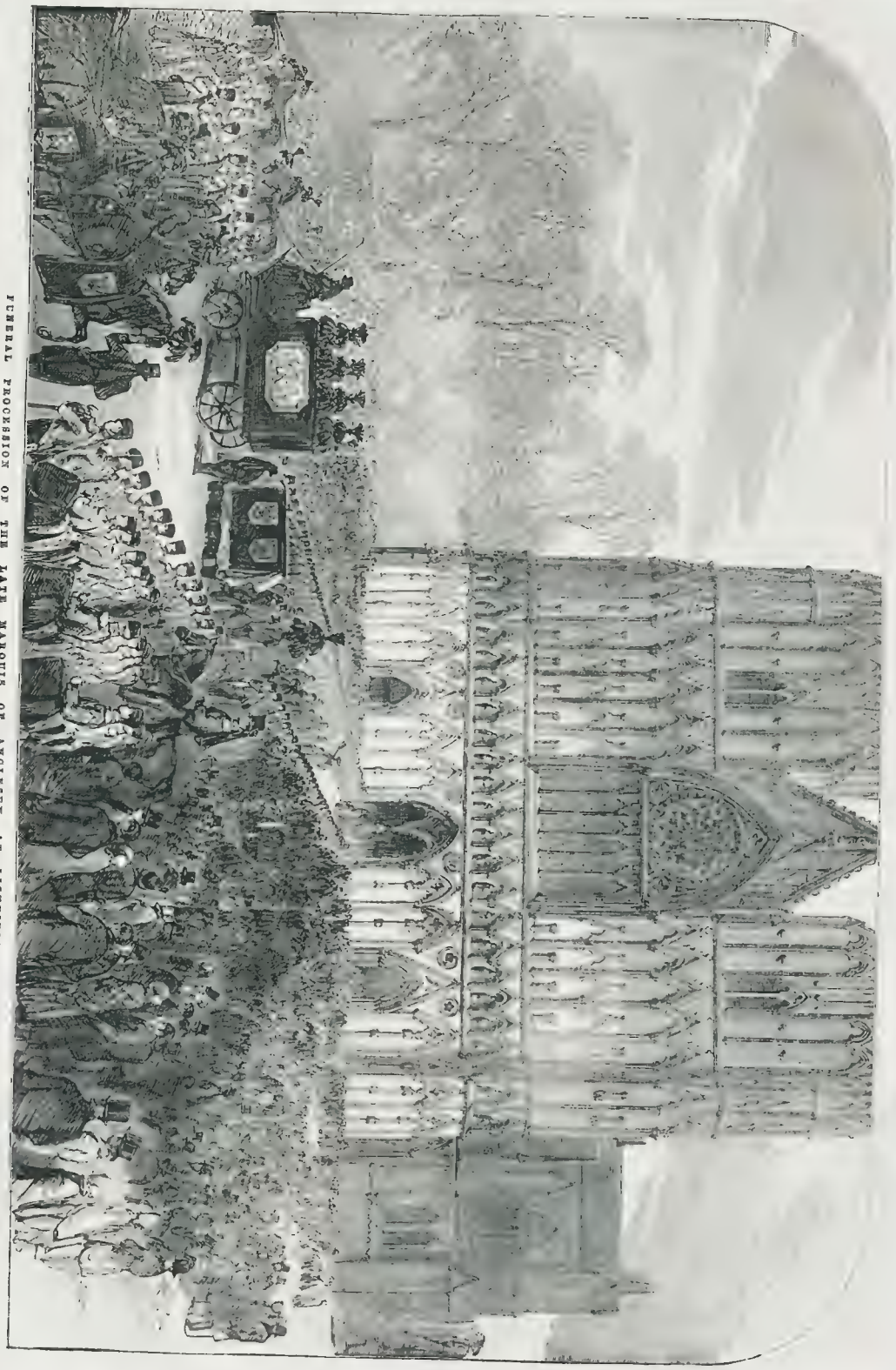
THE REMAINS OF THE LATE MARQUIS OF ANGLESEY LYING IN STATE.

The mortal remains of this gallant nobleman were committed to their last resting place on Saturday last, in the family vault at Lichfield. On Thursday, the remains of the late Marquis lay in state in the mortuary chamber at Uxbridge House; and on Friday morning, at half-past ten o'clock, the body was removed from Uxbridge House, accompanied by an escort of the Royal Horse Guards (Blue)—of which regiment the noble Marquis was Colonel to the Great Northern Railway Station, King's-cross, and after, by special train, to Lichfield. In the procession was—the band of the Royal Horse Guards, with drums muffled, playing the "Dead March in Saul." The late Marquis's coronet and Field-Marshal's bâton on a crimson silk velvet cushion, the horse covered with black cloth trappings, and a plume of ostrich feathers emblazoned with heraldry. The hearse was drawn by six horses with black ostrich feathers and escutcheons; an escort of the Horse Guards (Blue); four mourning coaches and four—first coach, containing Lord Uxbridge (the present Marquis), Lord Paget, Lord Alfred Paget, and Lord George Paget; second coach—the Duke of Richmond, Lord Crofton, and Lord Enfield; third coach Lord Sandwich, Admiral Cadogan, and Lord Templemore; fourth coach Lord Maidstone the Hon. Henry Paget, and the Family Physician; the late Marquis's carriage and horses; the Queen's carriage; Prince Albert's carriage; the Duchess of Gloucester's carriage; the Duchess of Kent's carriage. The French Ambassador's carriage followed next; and after that, sixty belonging to the nobility and gentry; the melancholy cavalcade proceeding *en route* to the terminus.

The remains were then conveyed from London by a special train, accompanied by the members of the family of the distinguished deceased. The train reached Lichfield station at half-past four in the afternoon; and the hearse containing the body moved slowly to the city, preceded by nine carriages, in which were the mourners.

The streets and windows of the houses in the line of the procession were thronged with spectators, many of whom, nearly forty years ago, had witnessed the entrance of the late Marquis into Lichfield, when, gradually recovering from the wound he had received on the field of Waterloo, he was met by the corporation of that city, and received from them a magnificent sword, as a token of the grateful esteem in which they held the hero. The body was conveyed to the George Hotel, where a guard of honour was drawn up, consisting of two companies of the 1st Regiment of Staffordshire Militia, and containing two hundred men, under the command of Major Inge, and Captain the Hon. Charles Wrottesley and Captain Fletcher. When the hearse arrived, the colours were lowered, and the men reversed their arms. The body was then conveyed to the Assembly Room of the Hotel. The room was hung with black cloth, and lighted with wax tapers in silver sconces. Four tall and large wax candles, in massive silver candlesticks, were placed on each side of the coffin. The remains had been placed in a shell, which was deposited in a leaden coffin, and again enclosed in an outer case, covered with rich crimson Genoa velvet, studded with gold nails, with massive handles attached. Over each handle was a Marquis's

INTERMENT OF THE REMAINS OF THE LATE MARQUIS OF ANGLESEY IN THE VAULT, LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL.



FUNERAL PROCESSION OF THE LATE MARQUIS OF ANGLESEY AT LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL.

Coronet. On the head panel appeared the badge of the Order of the Garter, and on the bottom panel the badge of the Order of the Bath. The coffin plate bore the following inscription, comprehending all the titles and offices of the deceased:—

The Most Honourable
HENRY WILLIAM PAGET,
Earl Marquess of Anglesey,
Viscount Uxbridge
Baron Paget of Beaudesert,
a Baronet,
Colonel of the Royal Horse Guards,
Lord-Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum of the County of Anglesey and Stafford,
Constable of Carnarvon Castle
and Ranger of Snowdon Forest,
Vice-Admiral of the United Kingdom of North Wales and Carnarvonshire,
Captain of Penrhyn Castle,
Privy Councillor,
K.G., G.C.H., K.St.P., G.C.B.,
Knight of Maria Theresa of Austria,
Knight of the Imperial Order of St. George of Russia,
Knight of William of Holland,
Born 17th May, 1768,
Died 29th April 1854

Several thousand persons were admitted the same evening, to view the body lying in state.

At an early hour on Saturday morning the great bell of the Cathedral was tolled. At the o'clock the different companies of infantry assembled in various parts of the city. The Anglesey troop of Yeomanry Cavalry arrived from Burton. The ships in the city, with very few exceptions, were closed.

At half-past ten o'clock the militia, about 1200 men, lined both sides of the street from the George Hotel to the Great Western Entrance of the Cathedral. Meanwhile, the streets and the western portion of the Castle Close became crowded. At twelve o'clock, the procession having been partially formed at the George Hotel, the coffin was placed in the hearse: the guard of honour presented arms; one of the flags of the regiment was lowered, and the soldiers reversed arms: the band of the regiment played the "Dead March in Saul" and the procession moved forward. The procession was formed in the following order:

The Anglesey Troop of Yeomanry Cavalry on foot.
The Band of the Royal Horse Guards, covered with crape.
The Band of the Anglesey militia.
The Band of the First Regiment of the Royal Carnarvonshire Militia
The Corone and Pall of the deceased Marquess on a velvet cushion.
The Coffin.
The Supporters.
With Staff Plumes and Escutcheons.
The Chief Mourner.
The Earl of Uxbridge.
The Duke of Richmond, the Hon. Fortescue Curzon, Lord Yarmouth, Lord March.
The Earl of Lichfield, Lord Templetown, Lord Mansfield, the Hon. Henry Paget, the Hon. Alexander Paget.
The Pall—The Hon. Mr. Pyne, the Hon. Mr. Cropper, Lord Hatherton, Mr. Augustus Stanley.
The Rev. Henry Graves, the Rev. Edward Hall, Lord Alcester, Lord Clanricarde, Colonel Wood, Colonel Wyndham, Colonel Keppel, Colonel Wellesley, Colonel Wynn, Colonel Peel, Major Dyott, Major Seymour, Major Gen. Sir Richard Airey, Major Gen. Sir Hew Ross, Mr. Cavendish Bentinck.
Private Mourners.

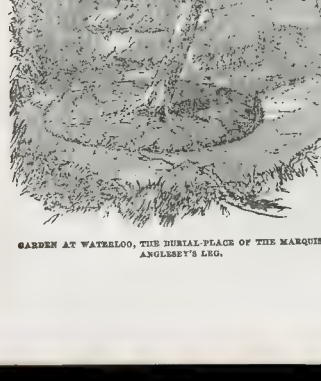
The Earl of Uxbridge was prevented by serious illness from attending, Lord Lichfield was detained by indisposition at Beaudesert, and among the mourners not named was Captain Hampton Lewis, of Archdeacon.

On the arrival of the hearse at the West Entrance of the Cathedral, the coffin was taken out, and borne along the passage, leading to the great central door; the chief mourner bearing the baton, the coronet and baton on a cushion at the head, and partially covered as the foot by a large pall, having been placed on a bier in the area of the nave. The Dean read the Burial Service appointed to be read in the Church. The Anthem by Wesley (1 Peter, i.) was sung by the choir.

The coffin was lifted from the bier; and the procession was re-formed in the following order:—the Anglesey troop of Yeomanry, the Mayor and Corporation of Lichfield in their robes, the mourners, the officers of the Militia, and servants of the deceased. The organ played the "Dead March," and the procession passed through the north door of the Cathedral to the family vault in the north side of the transept, and in the centre formed by the projection of the south transept. Croft's full funeral service was gone through at the grave. The solemn ceremony having terminated, the noble individuals and others forming the procession separated, the Earl of Uxbridge, Lord Paget, and some other members of the family remaining to the last.

The ceremonial was entrusted to Messrs. Gillow, Oxford street, London, for whom Mr. Wilson officiated at Lichfield, and the arrangements were carried out with unusual skill and great attention to detail. It was only a private funeral, an intention relinquished at the express wish of her Majesty and Prince Albert, and of the officers of the Royal Horse Guards, of which the deceased Marquis was Colonel. The interior of the Cathedral was crowded. The troops, under Major Dyott, lined the lane outside.

Among the valorous deeds of the deprived hero, his exploits at Waterloo entitle him to rank next to the great leader of the host. After apparently getting through the arduous struggles of the day, the Earl received a wound in the knee, by almost the last shot that was fired. At first, the wound was not considered material; but, upon surgical examination, it was found necessary to amputate the leg. For this purpose his Lordship was conveyed to Waterloo, and taken to the house of a draper in the village, nearly opposite the head-quarters of the Commander-in-Chief. The operation was performed without delay, and with success. Strangers who visit the place are shown the chair in which his Lordship sat while undergoing the operation; the boot that was taken from the amputated leg; the spot in the garden where the limb was buried, and over which the owner has planted a weeping willow.



GARDEN AT WATERLOO, THE BURIAL-PLACE OF THE MARQUIS OF ANGLESEY'S LEG.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

CHESTER RACES TUESDAY.

Grosvenor Stakes—Rataplan, 1. Epaminondas, 2.
Tiptaine Stakes.—Mishap, 1. Lurley 2.
Chesterfield Stakes—Glair, 1. Epaminondas, 2.
Mostyn Stakes—Flatter jr. 1. Lord Alfred, 2
Sweepstakes of 5 sovs each.—Brother to King of Troy, 1. Surgeon-General 2.
The Wynnstay Handicap.—Donjon, 1. General, 2.

WEDNESDAY.

Heiter-Skelter Hand cap.—Imbroglio, 1. Game Chicken, 2.
Third Year of the Second Triennial Produce Stakes—Deamus walked over.
The Chester Cup, or Tradesmen's Plate.—Epaminondas, 1 Indian Warrior 2 Acrobat, 3 Peggy, 4. Twenty-four started. Betting: 100 to 7 against Acrobat, 15 to 1 against Indian Warrior, 100 to 6 against Peggy, 30 to 1 against Donjon colt.
Members' Plate. Defiance, 1. Helena, 2
Sermon Like Handicap—Brother to K. 1. Jupiter, 2.
Queen's Plate—Lurley, 1. Flatterer, 2.

THURSDAY.

Dee Stand Cup.—Helena, 1. Octavia, 2.
Welter Cup.—Chatham Cornish, 1. Sailor Boy, 2.
Dee St. Stakes.—Donjon, 1. Chanoyanne, 2.
Triennial Produce Stakes.—Lord Alfred walked over.
Marquis of Westminster's Plate.—Emmendeen, 1. Indian Warrior, 2.
Sherry Handicap—Duchess, 1. Mayonnaise, 2.
Selling Stakes—Grandeur, 1. Lucerne, 2.

LATEST BETTING AT CHESTER.

Even 5 to 4 against Autocrat, 3 to 2 against King Tom, 7 to 1 against Bonnie Dundee, 10 to 1 against Herrick and Will Hutchinson.

NEAT WEEK'S RACING.—The Second Spring Meeting takes place on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday; the Lothians and Edinburgh also open on Tuesday; Carlisle on Wednesday; and on Thursday and Friday Manchester and Northumberland be held.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

If the last week's events did not contain the market for National Stocks this week. [illegible] to the [illegible] people in the House of Commons being even [illegible] in favour of temporary accommodation and increased taxation. [illegible] now though that it will not be attempted further [illegible] the stupid periods, when the necessities of the State required [illegible] Millions of Exchequer Bonds yet unsubscribed for. We may observe that [illegible] in the City are somewhat disappointed [illegible] Government have entered the market for loan, which, undoubtedly, would have materially increased the amount of business both on the parts of jobbers and dealers.

Although the supply of money has been somewhat abundant, the market has become tighter, and first class bills cannot be done under 5 per cent per annum. The imports of bullion have been under £170,000; whilst the shipments have exceeded £1 million off. Consequently the stock of bullion has increased to some extent, and the Mint now [illegible] fifty-three days for the delivery of coin. The favourable turn in the exchanges leads to the conclusion that we have passed the worst period of the drain, and that gold will shortly return to us. The low rate of money at Hamburg 2½ per cent—and no rumour that the Bank of England will [illegible] its rate of discount to 4 per cent, have been much influence in the City.

The Consol Market was very steady on Monday. The Three per Cents were done at 87½ ⅝ to 87⅞ ⅞; the Three per Cents Reduced, 88¼ ⅜; the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 87⅝ ¼; and Long Annuities, 4⅛; India Stock, 258 to 260. India Bonds, 12s. to 10s. discount. Exchequer Bills, 3s. 4d. to 2s. prem. There was an improved feeling in the market on Tuesday, and the prices of the Three per Cents advanced from 87⅛ to 88. The New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents were 87⅛ ⅜ 87⅝ ½. Long Annuities, 4 1-16. India Stock was 11½. Exchequer Bills remained at 2s. to 2s. 4d. prem. A further rise took place in the quotations on Wednesday, when the Three per Cents rose to 88 ⅛. The New Three-and-a-Quarters per Cents were 87⅝ to 88. Long Annuities, 1860, 4 9-16. India Stock, 258 to 260. India Bonds, 12s. to 10s. discount. Exchequer Bills, 2s. discount to 2s. prem. There was an improved feeling in the market on Thursday, and the prices of the Three per Cents advanced from 87⅞ to 88. The New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents were 87⅛ to 87⅝ ⅞. Long Annuities, 4 1-16. India Stock was 11½. Exchequer Bills remained at 2s. to 2s. 4d. prem. A further rise took place in the quotations on Wednesday, when the Three per Cents rose to 88 ⅛. The New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents were 87⅝ to 88. Long Annuities, 1860, 4 9-16. India Stock, 258 to 260. India Bonds, 12s. to 10s. discount. Exchequer Bills, 2s. discount to 2s. prem. There was an improved feeling in the market on Thursday, and the prices of the Three per Cents advanced from 87⅞ to 88. The New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents were 87⅛ ⅜ 87⅝ ½

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

THE ROYAL OPERA, DRURY-LANE, OPEN EVERY NIGHT for the Performance of GRAND OPERA will BALLET, on a similar scale of magnificence and completeness as the prize and Coronation Operas, and at ordinary Pay-house Prices.—For Bill of the Evening, see the Daily Papers.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.—Every Evening, MR BUCKSTONE'S VOYAGE ROUND THE GLOBE, preceded, on Monday, by The Lady of Lyons, Tuesday, The Hope of the Family, Wednesday, Rosedale; Thursday, Town and Country; Friday, A Cure for Love: Saturday, a New Drama.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE, Oxford-street.—On MONDAY, and during the Week will be performed MARRIED IN HASTE, and the new and original Drama of FAUST AND MARGUERITE, with other Entertainments

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.—OPERA BOXES and STALLS in the best situations, and on the most moderate terms, can be secured at HAMMOND'S MUSICAL LIBRARY, 9, New Bond-street, opposite the Clarendon. Hotel. Opera Pit Tickets and Private Boxes at all the Theatres

GREAT NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE, Shoreditch.—On MONDAY, MAY 15th and during the Week the Spirit of the WAVE; the Barbarous Brothers, and the drama of [illegible]. Pit—Sixpence.

G. V. BROOKE'S FAREWELL PROVINCIAL TOUR.—He will perform at DUNDEE SATURDAY, May 13th; Theatre at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, on Monday, Cornwall on Monday, 15th May. Play his Farewell at Manchester, in June; and then visit Dublin, one night; Edinburgh, one night; Dublin, three nights; London (for six nights) and Liverpool, previous to quitting for America. Parties commencing for will please be guided as above.

ROYAL GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, [illegible] Daily at Three and Past 8. Admission 1s., 2s., and 3s.

MR. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC, including the Barrenes Oberland and the Simplon, EVERY EVENING, at Eight o'clock, except Saturday; and every Tuesday Thursday, and Saturday morning, at Three. Stalls, 3s.; which can be taken at the Pavilion every day from Eleven till Four; area, 2s. Gallery, 1s. EGYPTIAN HALL, Piccadilly.

NEXT to the POLYTECHNIC, Regent-street. MR FRIEND'S GRAND MOVING DIORAMA of CANADA and the UNITED STATES, DAILY, at Three and Eight o'clock. Lecture of Mr. Friend, and Mr. Lascelles, with Songs, Glees, and Choruses. Mr Friend now Lectures and Sings himself. Admission to [illegible] 1s.

VENTRILOQUY.—PHILHARMONIC ROOMS, Newman-street, Oxford-street.—EVERY EVENING and Every Tuesday, Mr. LOVE will present his new Entertainment, called THE LONDON SEASON. A New Entrance, Now Stage, Dresses, and Appointments.—Tickets, 4s., 3s., and 2s. Doors open at 8.

DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM IS NOW OPEN, in the Spacious Premises known as the [illegible] SCRIN, Piccadilly, for Gentlemen, from Eleven till Five, and Ladies from Twelve till Five.—On Wednesday and Friday a portion of the Museum is open for Ladies only, from Two till Five.—Admission 1s.

CONSTANTINOPLE and the WAR, at the EGYPTIAN HALL. "Had it not been for the scull, I could have viewed that I was in Dunstan's old Egyptian Hall, with the most splendid of London street life swarming around me." The Eastern Correspondent, see the Daily News.—PANORAMA OF CONSTANTINOPLE, WEDNESDAYS, and SATURDAYS by Mr. STOCQUELER, and on the other days by Mr. C. KENNEY. Daily, at Half past Two and Eight. Admission 1s.

SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER-COLOURS. THE FIFTEENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN, at their Gallery 5, PALL MALL EAST.—Admittance, Catalogue, 6d

PHOTOGRAPHIC INSTITUTION, Bond-street. EXHIBITION of PICTURES, by the most celebrated French, Italian, and English Photographers, embracing views of the principal Cities and Scenery of Europe, the Stereoscope, Daguerreotypes, &c. A portrait taken by Mr. Talbot's Patent Process, One Guinea; three sizes smaller for Stereoscopic Exhibition. 168 New Bond-street

ST. MARTIN'S HALL.—MAY 15th, Rossini's STABAT MATER will be performed (for the first time in England) by Mdlle. Madame Clara Novell, Miss Dolby, Messrs. Sims Reeves, Charles Braham, Weiss, Formes.—Apply early for Stalls at the Hall, or, Addison's, 210 Regent-street.

ST. MARTIN'S HALL.—On WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, will be performed Costa's New Oratorio IMMANUEL, under the direction of Mr. JOHN HULLAH. Principal Vocalists—Mrs. Endersohn, Miss Dolby, Miss Stabbach; Mr. Lockey, Mr. Weiss. Tickets 1s., galleries, 2s. 6d., stalls, 5s.

THIS EVENING.—COLOGNE CHORAL UNION (DER KOLNER MANNER GESANG VEREIN), AT THE ROYAL KOLNER MANNER GESANG VEREIN, at the above Rooms, on Monday, May 15; Wednesday, May 17; and Friday, May 19. Doors open at 8. Commence at 9. Tickets 5s. each. Tickets can be given during the above Engagement at this the last night of Tuesday will take place THIS EVENING, TUESDAY, MAY 16, and Saturday Evening, May 20 commencing at Half past Eight o'Clock. Reserved Seats, 5s. Unreserved Seats, 3s.; which may be had at Mr. MITCHELL'S Royal Library, 33, Old Bond-street.

MR. G. LICHTENSTEIN has the honour to announce that his EVENING CONCERT will take place in the FRENCH PLAYS, on THURSDAY, MAY 18, to commence at Eight o'clock precisely. Vocalists—Mdlle. Agnes Bury, Mdlle. Nissen-salomon, Signor Belletti, Mdlle. Adelaide Lodge, Herr Gustav Schmidt (K. K. Kammersänger from Vienna), Herr Reichardt, Mr. Lockey, Mr. Charles Lunn, Mr. G. Richmond.—Conductor, Mr. Graziani. Tickets, Half-a-Guinea each. To be had at the principal Music-sellers, and of Mr. Lichtenstein, 3, Euston square.

SIGNOR and Madame FERRARI beg to announce that their ANNUAL CONCERT will take place at the HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, on FRIDAY EVENING, MAY 19, when Vocalists Madame Moreller Le Fontaine (from Augusta Theatre, Berlin), Madame Rudersdorff, Mdlle. C. Nissen, Mdlle. Wallerstein, and Signor Ferrari. Instrumentalists—Piano, Mrs. F. B. Jewson and Mr. George Russell; concertina, Herr Guido Regondi; flute, Mr. John Thomson; violoncello, M. Paque and Mr. Schroeder; violin Mr. J. Sedlatzek. Conductor, Signor Schira. Tickets, 7s. to be had at the principal music-sellers, and of Signor and Madame Ferrari, 69, Upper Norton-street, Portland-place.

ANGLO-FRENCH ALLIANCE.—To celebrate the happy Alliance of England and France, a GRAND BALL will be given in aid of the Funds of the FRENCH BENEVOLENT SOCIETY (founded in London in 1842), under the Patronage of His Excellency the French Ambassador, will take place at the HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, on THURSDAY, MAY 25th, 1854. Quadrilles at Three past 10. Lady Tickets, 7s. Tickets to be had of the principal Music and Bookselers, and at the Office of the Society, 10, Duke-street, Portland-place.

ATTRACTIVE NOVELTIES

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION, Regent-street. H.R.H. Prince ALBERT The SEAT of WAR, showing the Principal Forts in the Baltic, Sebastopol, Malakoff, Gonyave, Sulina, and the entrance to the Black Sea, Battle of Sinope, and Destruction of the Turkish Fleet; and other Scenes (taken) supplied by the Proprietors of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS) exhibited at new Series of DISSOLVING VIEWS. Lectures by J. H. PEPPER, Esq. on the Chemistry of our Daily Bread, in its several varieties as made by the Ancient and the Modern Workhouse, daily at two o'clock; and in the evenings on the Manufacture of Steel Pens, Lectures by Dr. BACHHOFFNER the Professor, and the Electric Light. Exhibition of Trotman's Improved Reading Machine Vessels, &c. &c. Open Mornings and Evenings. Admission, 1s.; Schools, and Children under ten years of age, Half-price.

BOARD of TRADE.—DEPARTMENT of SCIENCE and ART.

THE EXHIBITION of SCHOOLS and ART STUDIES of the following SCHOOLS of ART, will be OPENED on SATURDAY, the 27th of MAY, at GORE HOUSE, Kensington:—

Aberdeen	Glasgow	Paisley
Belfast	Kilmarnock	Pembroke (Shifford-shire)
Birmingham	Macclesfield	Sheffield
Chester	Metropolitan, (including Central Male and Female and Finsbury District	Stourbridge
Cork		Warrington
Coventry		Worcester
Dublin		York
Dudley		
Durham	Newcastle-on-Tyne	

The Works belong to the following stages of Instruction:—Stage 9, Anatomical Studies; 11, Painting Ornament from the Flat, and Copies; 14, Painting General, direct from Nature; 15, Painting Compositions of Colour; 16-7, Painting the Human Figure from Cast and in Colour; 18, Modelling Ornament; 19, Modelling the Human Figure or Animals; 20, Modelling Flowers, &c., from Nature; 21, Elementary Design; 23, Technical Studies in Architectural Design, Surface Decoration, Plastic Design, Moulding, Lithography, Wood Engraving, and Porcelain Painting.

Marlborough House, 10th May, 1854.

OPENING of the CRYSTAL PALACE, 1854.—It is intended to OPEN the CRYSTAL PALACE and GROUNDS, on the 10th of JUNE, after which they will be open DAILY, Sundays excepted.

The following are the arrangements for the admission of the Public:—

FIVE SHILLING DAYS.—On Saturdays, the payment will be admitted by payment at the doors, by tickets, of 5s. each; and by tickets to Italian conveyance by railway.

HALF CROWN DAYS.—On Fridays, the public will be admitted by payment at the doors, by tickets, of 2s. 6d. each, and by tickets to the sole conveyance by railway.

SHILLING DAYS.—On Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays will be Shilling Days. At the gates, a payment of One Shilling each will admit to the Park and Grounds, and by tickets, until 5 o'clock, and after 5 o'clock every day an hour before sunset.

SEASON TICKETS.—Season tickets will be issued on and after Monday, the 15th May, at Two Guineas each to admit the proprietor to the Palace and Park on the days of opening, and on all other days when the building is open to the public, up to 30th April, 1855

No Season Ticket will be transferable or available except to the person whose signature it bears.

FAMILY SEASON TICKETS.—Members of the same family who reside together have the privilege of taking season tickets for their own use, with or without railway conveyance, on the following terms:—

On two tickets a discount of 10 per cent on the gross amounts; three tickets a discount of 15 per cent; four tickets, 20 per cent; five tickets, 25 per cent; and five tickets and upwards, a discount of 30 per cent. Families residing at the above particulars, and desirous to avail themselves of it, must apply on a prescribed form, which may be had at the Office, 2, Exeter-hall, or at the Crystal Palace every day during the week. These tickets will be available only to the persons named in such forms.

RAILWAY SEASON TICKETS, including conveyance along the Crystal Palace Railway from London-bridge to the Palace and back, are issued by the London and Brighton Company, at their Offices, London-bridge Station, at £4 each. Family tickets at the same reduction as above.

SPECIAL REGULATIONS AND BY-LAWS.—All the general provisions and regulations which have been above set forth will be understood as being subservient to such special provisions, regulations, and by-laws as may be found necessary to regulate the traffic and to meet any unusual occasions and circumstances which may from time to time arise.

By order of the Board,
G. GROVE, secretary

Addiscombe Road, London bridge, May 11, 1854

WEEKLY SEASON TICKETS OF FAMILY SEASON TICKETS

Without Conveyance by Railway.				Including Conveyance by Railway.			
Two tickets	...	£2 16	0	Two tickets	...	£7 11	6
Three "	...	3 9	0	Three "	...	10 11	6
Four "	...	4 15	0	Four "	...	13 15	0
Five "	...	7 17	6	Five "	...	15 15	0
Six "	...	8 8	0	Six "	...	16 16	0
Seven "	...	11 0	6	Seven "	...	20 1	0
Eight "	...	12 12	0	Eight "	...	22 5	0
Nine "	...	14 3	6	Nine "	...	23 7	0
Ten "	...	15 15	0	Ten "	...	26 0	0

Note.—Application for Family or other Season Tickets must be addressed to the Secretary, and accompanied by a remittance for the full amount of the tickets asked for, according to the above schedule.

In favour of George Pearson, 3, Adelaide place. Cheques must be a London banker, and crossed the words "Joint Stock Bank of London."

And no application, unless so accompanied, will be attended to.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—SEASON TICKETS will be ready for delivery on and after MONDAY, the 15th MAY, and may be had at the Palace at the Offices, 2, Adelaide-place, London-bridge; and 79, Regent-street, at the Brighton Railway Terminus, London-bridge; at Sams, 1, St James-street Mitchells, Bond-street, Cramer, Lonsdale-street, Westwood's Bloughwicke's Jeanes, Prowse, and Co.'s, Chappide, and the Royal Libraries, Brighton Tickets, including conveyance, and Parcels by Money at the Office of the Secretary to the Brighton Railway, London bridge.

CRYSTAL PALACE CITY OFFICE, 48, Cheapside.—Season Tickets, 42s. each, admitting to the Palace on all other days till May 1, 1855; and Pass by Tickets, at 1s. each, admitting on the Days of Opening, Friday, Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday, may be had at the Office of the Company, 48, Cheapside.

ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, REGENT'S-PARK. Fellows and visitors are informed that a pair of ANTELOPES, a pair of INDIAN ANTELOPES, and a pair of LEIPOAS, have been added to the Collection. Admission, 1s. Saturdays, 6d.

ACCIDENTAL DEATH INSURANCE COMPANY. Capital £1,000,000 Sterling.
1, ROYAL EXCHANGE, and 10, REGENT-STREET, LONDON.
Bonus—Sir JOHN PATTESON, Knt., Q.C.
Deputy—Sir JOHN BARNARD BYLES, Knt., Serjeant-at-Law.
Persons of any age, Male or Female, may insure for any period from One Year to Seven Years, against Accidents on all Railways, Canals and Non-Canal, Inland Navigations, Steamers, Sailing Vessels, Public Conveyances, Stage Coaches, Hackney Carriages, Private Carriages, Horses, and Elsewhere throughout the World, by Land and Water, by the payment of a single Premium, or by Annual Premiums, at very moderate rates.

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Apply at the Chief Office, 3, Old Broad-street, London, where Prospectuses and Forms of Proposal may be had; at the Branch Office, 10, Regent-street; of any of the Company's Agents in the Country; or of any of the Agents in Dublin and Belfast.
By order, WILLIAM YOUNG, Secretary.
7 Bank-buildings, Lothbury

ANCHOR ASSURANCE COMPANY, for MARINE and INLAND RISKS, 27, Cornhill, London, and 16, Waterloo-place, Pall-mall.
Policies are issued by this Company at moderate rates, and without any charge for stamps.
Life Assurance may be effected in this and in foreign countries at the lowest rates.
The Prospectus of the Company and Tables for Assurance may be obtained at the chief office in London, or from any of the Company's Agents in the provinces, and on the Continent
W. P. HILLAMY, Secretary.

THE PROVIDENT CLERKS' MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE ASSOCIATION (Enrolled under the Friendly Societies Act) and BENEVOLENT FUND
INSTITUTED 1840.
Trustees—W. G. Prescott, Esq.
Thomas Hankey, Jun., Esq. M.P. Sir John M. De Rothschild, M.P.
Treasurer—Benjamin Shaw, Esq., Bank of England.
Solicitor—John Smith, Esq., Q.C.
Actuary—Francis G. P. Neison, Esq.
The Association embraces Life Assurance on the mutual principles, in all its branches, and offers to all Clerks in Public Offices and Mercantile Houses the following advantages:—
1. Security for ensuring absolutely to the Widow, Widower, or Children, the sum assured, free from Premium or Legacy-duty, or any other charge. Prospectuses may be had at the office of the Association
By order of the Board,
PHILIP HENRY BURNE,
15, Moorgate-street, April 1, 1854. Secretary.

ROYAL SOCIETY for the PREVENTION of CRUELTY to ANIMALS (Established 1824).
Patron—THE QUEEN.
President—The Marquis of WESTMINSTER.
At the Monthly Meeting of the Committee, held at the Offices No 19, Pall Mall, on Monday, April 10, 1854, the Report of the Superintendent having been read, it appeared that the convictions of the month for the last past Quarter, had resulted in ONE HUNDRED and FOUR CONVICTIONS, in the following Cases:—

Owners for causing horses to be driven with wounds	&c.	20	Ill-treating donkeys 4
Carmen &c. for driving horses		34	Ill-treating oxen 4
with wounds, &c.			Ill-treating sheep 2
Exposing a pony without food		1	Ill-treating dogs 4
Ill-treating horses		11	Assaulting officers 1

The Committee inflicted fines amounting to £82, and sentences of imprisonment with hard labour for terms varying from three months to one month in default of fine and following penalty: Four of £5; one of £4; three of £3; four of £2 10s.; thirteen of £2; three of £1 10s.; twenty-one of £1; and the remainder under £1.—By order of the Committee,
GEORGE MIDDLETON, Secretary.
May 1, 1854.

ROYAL HOSPITAL of BETHLEM.—WANTED a MATRON.—Candidates must not be under 30, nor above 45 years of age, and must be unmarried, or widowers without children, but widowers without children. The person elected will be required to devote the whole of her time to the service of the Hospital, other qualifications being equal, preference will be given to a person having experience in the treatment of insane persons. The salary will be £50 per annum, with apartments in the Hospital, partly furnished, and without rations; also an allowance of coals, not exceeding one ton, and a limited supply of gas. All applications and testimonials must be accompanied by answers to printed forms, which, with a copy of the duties, may be obtained at my office here, and such applications must be forwarded to me on or before Saturday, the 20th May next.
Bridewell Hospital, New Bridge-street, S. WELTON, Clerk.
Bridewell Hospital, New Bridge-street, April 25, 1854.

TO BE SOLD, HIMALAYAN PHEASANTS and PARTRIDGES. A Choice and Rare set of the above Handsome Birds (twenty-eight in number), viz., twenty Pheasants, eight Partridges. They are ready for the Bird-stuffer, are in good order, just arrived. For list, price, &c., apply to Mr. Hawkins, Trunkmaker, 86, Strand.

ADELAIDE, PORT PHILIP, SYDNEY.—PASSENGERS and GOODS LANDED at Melbourne free. Saloon, £45; Cabin on Deck, £25 to £30; Intermed ate, £15 to £20. No steerage. Children half price. Intermediate berths per Adelaide vessels. Apply to WM BARNETT and CO., 75, Philpot lane, London, Merchants, Colonial, Shipping and General Agents

STEAM to GOTHENBURG direct.—The packets of Europe Screw Steamship Company's first-class powerful and swift Steam-ship GOTHENBURG will be despatched from London to Gothenburg direct, on FRIDAY, the 19th inst. For further particulars apply at the Company's Office, 61, King William-street; or to C. Meder 2, Mincing-lane, Tower-hill.

LIVERPOOL BLACK BALL CLIPPERS.—These celebrated Ships SAIL EVERY FORTNIGHT, for MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, Sydney, Adelaide, and Queensland. They are all first-class, and have made the fastest passages on record. Cash orders issued in Australia from £1 upwards, and parcels forwarded. Apply to John Jeffreys and Co., Great St Helens, London; or to the owners, James Baines and Co., Cork-street, Liverpool.

THE LIVERPOOL LINE of AUSTRALIAN PACKETS
For MELBOURNE direct from the Docks at the 1st JUNE, the magnificent A 1 Copper Ship PHOENIX, W. Muppett, Commander, 934 Tons register. Intending passengers should apply immediately.
This fine ship will land goods and passengers on the wharf free of all charges. Apply to JAMES MAWSON, 61, Castle-street, Liverpool; or to Thomas and Wm Ivey, 15, Fenchurch-str e, London

THE MAIL STEAM SHIP for AUSTRALIA, 21 JUNE 4, 1854. The magnificent Screw Steam-ship LADY JOCELYN, 1853 tons, another of the fine fleet belonging to the Screw Steam Shipping Company, is intended to be despatched with her Majesty's Mails for ADELAIDE, PORT PHILLIP, and SYDNEY, on the 21st JUNE next. This vessel has been constructed for high passenger accommodation, and being fitted in the most approved and possible style for the safety, comfort and convenient and thorough ventilation, together with a most excellent Table, will be found one of the best sailing ever placed in the Australian colonies. Every possible means will be taken to give the voyage more than usually speedy. The splendid and commodious Steam-ship [illegible] is now lying in the Victoria Docks, and will be despatched every three months. Surgeon will be taken and the entire arrangement conducted under the superior for the Company's Steamers.
Passages secured, and other information obtained, on application to HENRY THOMAS and CO., 64, Dock-street, Liverpool.

THE WEST INDIA ROYAL MAIL STEAM-PACKETS, which leave England on the 2nd and 17th of each Month, from Southampton, for the West Indies, Mexico, and HONDURAS, and thence to CHARIBES, will Carthagena, Panama, Jamaica, Hayti, and Cuba, by the Steamers of the 2nd, and from HONDURAS and NASSAU, by the Steamers of the 17th of each month.
For all other places comprised in the Company's West India Scheme of routes, including Carthagena, Chagres, and Grey Town, Malta, Pensacola, and Vera Cruz, apply at the Company's Offices, South of the 2nd and 17th of each month
Further particulars as to Rates of Fares, Freights, &c., may be had on application at the Company's Offices, in London and Southampton where patterns, packages, and publications continue to be received and [illegible]
Return Tickets issued, available for six months, with an abatement of 25 per cent on the ordinary fares.
N.B.—Goods taken on moderate freight to and from Barbadoes, Demerara, Trinidad, Tobago, Jamaica, St. Thomas, Curaçoa, Chagres, and Grey Town (Nicaragua), and thousand dollars from Hamburg.
Particulars as to cargo may be had of Robert Hesketh, Esq., the Company's Superintendent of the cargo department, at Southampton. Freight being prepaid
No. Nassau-street, London R. CHAPPELL, Secretary

THE GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY.—The Directors have, from this date allotted [illegible] of Interest for Deposits on Mortgage [illegible] at the rate of [illegible] per annum. Interest will be allowed on Deposits [illegible] Bankers [illegible] Bankers' Drafts [illegible] Bankers' Drafts [illegible] Bankers' Drafts

DEPARTURE OF LORD RAGLAN IN "THE CARADOC," FROM MARSEILLES.

LORD RAGLAN LEAVING MARSEILLES.

On Saturday, the 22nd ult., just at the very time when the bombardment of Odessa was going on, Lord Raglan and suite left Marseilles in the *Caradoc* steam-ship. He had arrived in that city, *en route* for Constantinople on the Thursday previous, and intended to embark on the same day, but it blew so fierce a hurricane that he was obliged to give up the notion, and take up his quarters in the Hôtel d'Orient. The weather was no less boisterous on the following morning—several transports which had sailed for the East on Thursday having been forced to put back.

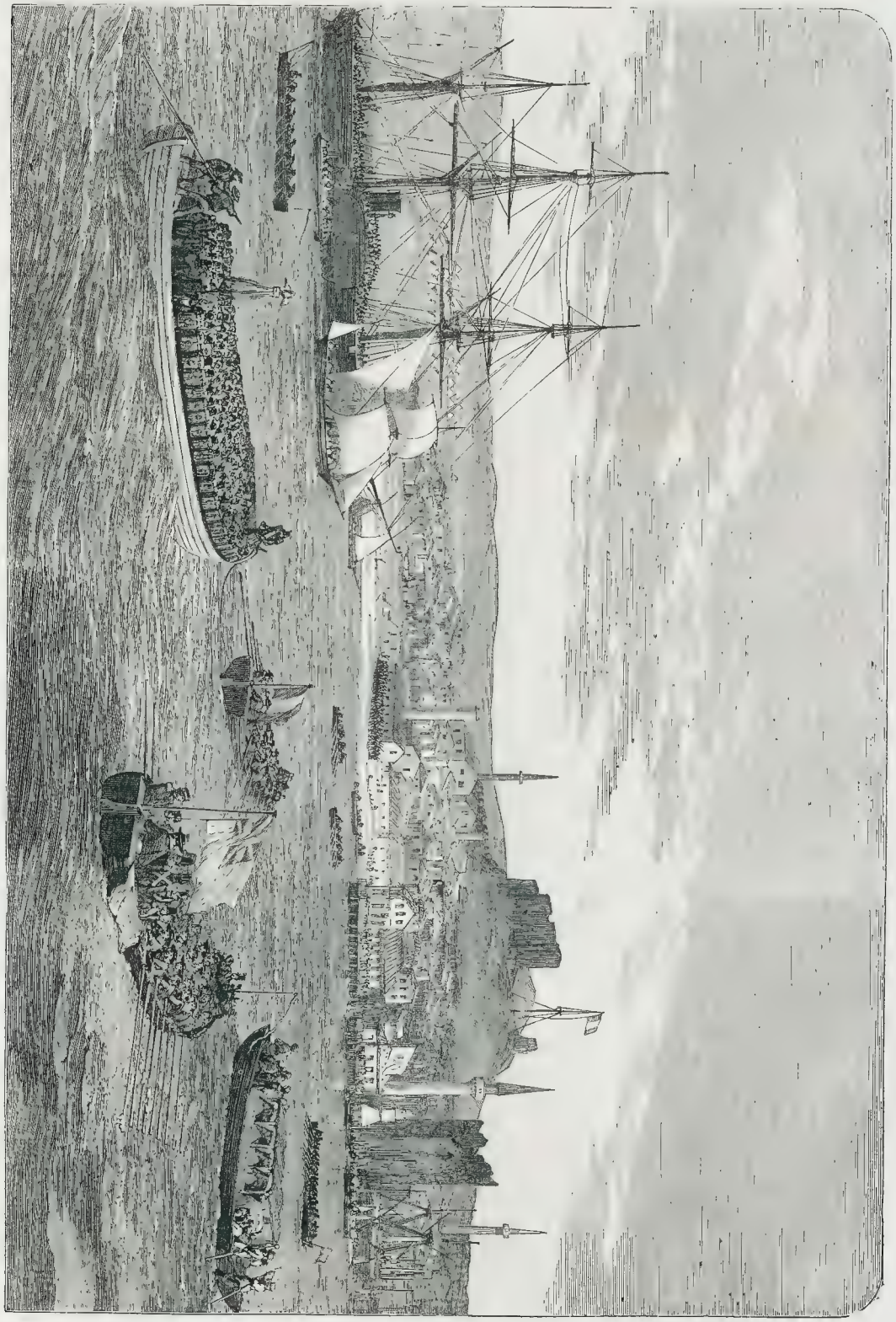
On Saturday, although the gale had not abated, Lord Raglan determined to set sail. Accordingly, the *Caradoc* left Marseilles harbour about one o'clock on that day, in spite of a strong north-easter, which the Captain encountered in dashing style. The passengers by the *Caradoc* were Lord Raglan, Lord de Ros, Colonel Steele, Colonel Somerset, Major Wellesley, Captain Blackwood, Captain Bradford, Admiral Boxer, his Secretary and Flag-Lieutenant, Mr. and Mrs. Stewart, and Mr. Wood.

EMBARKATION OF MARSHAL ST. ARNAUD.

The departure of Marshal St. Arnaud from Marseilles, last Saturday week, caused a considerable movement in that city. The Marshal, dressed in the full uniform of his rank, left his hotel at half-past one o'clock, in an open carriage, accompanied by the Prefect and two Aides-de-camp. The carriage was preceded by a detachment of gendarmes, and followed by General Rostolan (Commander of the Military Division), General Feyheux (Commander of the Garrison), and a brilliant staff. The streets were lined with troops, from the hotel to the pier of the new port, at which the steam-corvette *Berthollet* was lying to receive the Marshal. When he went on board, the yards of the corvette were manned, and the crew received him with three cheers. The Marshal, who looked in much better health than he has lately done, took his station on the quarter-deck, having Madame St. Arnaud at his side, and received the final compliments of the Generals and the civic authorities. Orders were then given to remove the stage, which had been erected to facilitate the embarkation of the passengers, and the *Berthollet* moved slowly away. It was past three o'clock before the corvette reached the roads. The Marshal continued to salute his friends as long as he remained in sight; while a military band on the pier played several favourite airs. The *Berthollet* is a paddle-wheel steamer, of by no means a handsome model; but she has the reputation of being a fast and safe boat.

The *Berthollet* arrived at Malta on the afternoon of the 2nd instant. The Marshal and the officers of his staff met with the most cordial reception from the Governor, the military authorities, and the population. On landing, he was requested to review the troops of the garrison. He afterwards visited the different establishments of the city; and in the evening a grand banquet was given by the Governor in honour of his distinguished visitor

EMBARKATION OF MARSHAL ST. ARNAUD, AT MARSEILLES.



LANDING OF THE FRENCH INFANTRY AT CALLIPOLI—(SEE PAGE 452.)

THE ALLIED TROOPS AT GALLIPOLI.

LETTERS from Gallipoli, dated April the 20th, state that the French 62nd will leave for Rodosto as soon as their artillery arrives. At the above date they had only six field pieces there. General Espinasse will lead the advance, and the troops which march from Gallipoli by the shores of the Sea of Marmora will be replaced by the succeeding regiments from France. It is generally supposed that Rodosto will only be a post on the road to Adrianople, and that the French army will push on there ere the middle of May. On the 22nd, Sir De Lacy Evans and staff passed on, after a short delay, on their way up the Dardanelles, in the *City of London*. On the 23rd ult., the *Emperor* went past Gallipoli early in the morning, with Sir R. England and staff on board, on their way to Constantinople. Later in the day the *Trent*, with the 23rd Regiment; the *Teuning*, with Brigadiers Eyre, Sir C. Campbell, and Penusulathier, Captain Cunninghame and staff; and *Mustang*, with 95th Regiment, arrived; and, after a short delay, went on to Constantinople. Brigadier Eyre, Lieutenant Graham, Brigade-Major Hope, and staff, remain at Gallipoli to act under Sir George Brown.

The 50th and 93rd marched out to Bulair on the 21st, and pitched their tents to form a working brigade with the Rifles and Sappers and Miners for the execution of the works. The profile of these lines has not yet been decided on; but the men have commenced throwing up the earth, and Colonel Waddy, of the 50th, was the first to turn up a spadeful of earth at "the fortifications," which the French have taken under their especial protection. Their troops are at work on the right flank; the English have commenced on the left; and each day about 2000 men are hard at work digging up the earth in a line right across the peninsula or isthmus. The 28th and 44th struck tents for exercise on the 20th ult.; and, as the day was hot, the wind high, and the dust excessive, the operation was not very agreeable.

On Saturday, the 22nd ult., a fete took place in the house occupied by Mr. Alexander, the principal medical officer.

THE ILLUSTRATION.

The large Illustration, upon the preceding page, from a Sketch by our Special Correspondent, represents the landing of French infantry at Gallipoli. The large iron boat is filled with some hundred men, and is towed by a boat with twelve or more oars: the scene is very striking: the soldiers are closely packed in the large boat; they carry their knapsacks and blankets; they face the officers, who are at the helm; opposite is the standard-bearer; and at the upper end of the boat is stationed a drummer, who beats a stirring march all the time. On the left is anchored an English steamer, which has just arrived; the paddle-boxes are crowded with soldiers, who lustily cheered their allies. About midway between the steamer and the French landing boat is a graceful Greek craft; beyond the steamer, leftward of the town, is an encampment of troops; and to the right is the town and harbour of Gallipoli. On the hill are the ruins of a fort, amidst which waves the tricoloured flag of France, which has a significant position in contrast with the inferior place of the Turkish colours, on the roof of the Quarantine. The white-faced building, with arched windows, is a café, with a terrace, crowded with officers: it is situated on the shore, projecting into the sea. Opposite is the Quarantine building; and beyond is a stone lighthouse. The harbour is small; but the three-masted barque and the numerous smaller craft nearly hide the large square tower which commands the town at the foot of the hill: this consists of a mass of conical darkish grey roofs, relieved here and there by minarets, and a tall factory chimney shaft.

VICTORIA.

BY MRS. T. K. HERVEY.

HER fleets are on the hostile shore,
Her sword is on the sea;
The standard that her fathers bore
Waves once more for the free.
The stranger's wrong is her's to-day,
Her shield is o'er the slave;
Her trustiest hearts are on their way
To succour and to save.

Dearer to her the flag at rest,
The sword without a stain,
The peaceful fields,—the reddening west
Glancing o'er golden grain.
It may not be; for her alone
Swords leap and true hearts beat,
Who rules, with Freedom on her throne,
And Slavery at her feet.

She must unwind the web of peace,
So beautiful now;
Her womanhood's delights must cease—
All, save her people's love.
One heart is hers through all the land,
One arm, to win or die;
Wherever peals o'er sea and strand
Victoria's gathering-cry.

A nation's call, a country's woe,
A groaning people bleeding,
She heard, and bade her legions go
At Mercy's tender pleading.
A wrong more deep, a cause more just,
Ne'er armed a conquering world;
Ne'er with a higher, holier trust,
Its banners were unfurled.

While fervent prayers for her arise
Whose hosts await his need,
"Strike home," the noble Turkman cries,
"Our champions must not bleed!"*
New courage fills the Osmanli
As Russia's hordes advance,
While rings the shout from sea to sea—
"For England and for France!"

"God speed the right!" is still the cry,
As in the time of old;
And, with His help, a day draws nigh
Whose glories are untold.
So, mercy-led, so, justice-driven,
Her keels shall cleave their way,
Till, by the gracious might of Heaven,
Victoria crowns the day!

* A speech recorded of the Turks: "Now is the time for us to fight, to save the shedding of our friends' blood."

OUR DISTINGUISHED CORPS.—A DIFFICULTY.—It is one of the disadvantages of our co-operation with the French troops in the East, that a sense of delicacy compels the British to veil the regimental devices which they earned in the great war in the Peninsula and the Netherlands, lest they should outrage the feelings of their gallant comrades. The Scots' Greys are greater sufferers by their Waterloo distinctions than any other corps, for its name used them to be kept back altogether. They are literally covered with souvenirs of Waterloo, and must have altered their uniform entirely if they had been sent to the East.

MILITARY PROMOTIONS COMMISSION.—It is rumoured that one of the uncommissioners of the Commission now sitting on the subject of military promotion is, that military officers of all ranks shall retire from active service when they have passed their sixtieth year; and another is, that the grade of major in the army shall be altogether abolished.

DEFENCES OF LIVERPOOL.—At a meeting of the Liverpool Dock Committee last week, the subject of the defences of the port was discussed. Ultimately, a vote was taken; and there being nine on each side, the chairman gave his casting vote in favour of the committee, supporting an application to Government for a block-ship, or something of the kind.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

ERRATA C.—Of those last received we are sorry to find No. 1 too easy. No. 2 impracticable (if B goes at the 4th move, may play P to Q 4th, and defer the mate), and No. 3 answerable in 4 or 5, was re-read at night.

J. W. S., of H——, Tredegarshot, and very deficient in point.

M. YEN H., of Brussels.—They have all been satisfactorily solved, and shall be duly distributed.

J. N. Bolton.—Mr. Sprockhoy has returned to Liverpool, and we are glad to hear that he has accepted the Presidentship of the Chess-club, but to the agreeable intelligence there is a drawback, for it is feared that business matters will compel him again to take up his abode abroad, for some time to come.

C. G., Flat.—Your reply, though tardy, was welcome. A second letter shall be forwarded in a few days.

A. M.—Your infirmus was correct.

A NOVICE.—Stalemate makes a drawn game.

J. K. R., Stuttgardt.—Yes with pleasure. For our solution, that Problem 532 can be accomplished in three moves.

S. F. H.—Your Red game is unintelligible, half the "adhesive men" having deserted their posts. Why do you not write the initials of the Pieces and Pawns on your diagrams, as we have so often requested correspondents to do?

G. Mc A., Aberdeenshire.—Your Problems are now under consideration. The Solutions of ours are all correct.

EX-PRESIDENT.—We do not know the number of Chess-clubs in the kingdom. There must be considerably more, however, than you mention, for the *Chess-player's Chronicle*, in its monthly list, enumerates between 50 and 60.

P. T. S.—Contributors of Games, Problems, &c., should always send their names and addresses: not for publication, but that they may be communicated with on the subject of their contributions.

CITY.—The annual subscription to the Wellington Chess and Reading Salons, in St. James street, is only one guinea. Apply to Mr. Thyer, 140, Strand.

TYRO has evidently not yet acquired sufficient knowledge of Chess to appreciate the beauty of the Problem he criticises. Were Black to play, as he suggests, the White Bishop, it is obvious, would give mate the very next move.

F. K., of B.—The suggestion shall not be forgotten.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 532, by Algerine, T. S. of Worcester, T. J., Hanworth, "Sub." Derevon, Sigma, Delta, F. for Argus, Oldpus, Le Roc are correct.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No 533, by F. K. of B., O. P., T. J. of Hanworth, X. Y. Z., A Wrangler, D. R., Miles, Cosr, Publonia, Max, Solomon, Derevon, M.P., Argonaut, D. V., Tom o' Lincoln, Ernest, are correct.

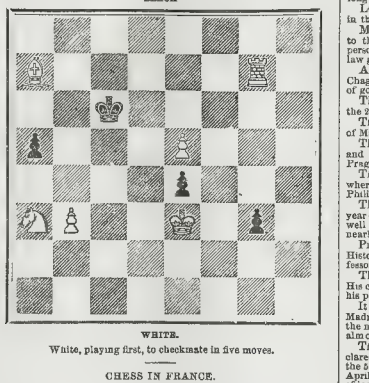
SOLUTIONS OF ENIGMAS by R., T. S., W. H. M., Mrs. Pillsworth, Wayfarer, Omega, J. S., Miles, X. Y. Z., Albert, Max, Philo-Chess, are correct. All others are wrong.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 532.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. R to K R 4th	K to K 6th or (a)	2. R mates	
2. R to K R 4th	K or P moves		
(a) 1.		2. Q mates	
2. R to R 2nd	Any move		

PROBLEM No. 534
By W. BIGLAND, Esq.

BLACK



WHITE.

White, playing first, to checkmate in five moves.

CHESS IN FRANCE.

A selection of interesting games, played by some of the most skilful Amateurs in France, has been placed at our service by the Honorary Secretary of the Paris *Circle des Echecs*, M. de Rivière. The following game off recently between M. Le Roche and Journoud:—

(Scotch Gambit).

WHITE (M. Le R.)	BLACK (M. J.)	WHITE (M. Le R.)	BLACK (M. J.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	18. Q to K 2nd (c)	Q to Q B 3rd
2. K Kt to K B 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	19. P to K B 3rd	P to Q B 5th
3. P to Q 4th	P takes P	20. K Kt to K B 4th	Q R to K sq
4. K B to Q B 4th	K B to Q B 4th	21. P to K Kt 4th	K Kt to Q 2nd
5. Q B to K Kt 5th	K B to K 3rd	22. K Kt to Q 5th	Q Kt to Q 6th (ch)
(a)		23. K to B sq	P to K B 3rd
6. Q B to K B 4th	P to Q 3rd	24. P to K B 4th	B to Q sq
7. P to Q B 3rd	P takes P	25. P to K B 5th	K Kt to Q B 4th
8. Q Kt takes P	K Kt to K B 3rd		(d)
9. Q to her Kt 3rd	Castles	26. B takes Kt	Q takes B
10. K Kt to Kt 5th	Q to K sq	27. P to Q Kt 3rd	P to Q Kt 4th
11. Q to her sq (b)	P to K R 3rd	28. P takes P	P takes P
12. P to K R 4th	Q B to K Kt 5th	29. Q R to Q Kt sq	P to Q R 3rd
13. K B to K 2nd	B takes B	30. K R to K R 2nd	B to Q R 4th
14. Q takes B	Q Kt to Q 4th	31. P to K Kt 5th	B P takes P
15. Q to her sq	P to Q B 4th	32. P takes P	K R takes P (ch)
16. P to K 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	33. K to Kt 2nd (e)	R to K B 7th (ch)
17. K Kt to K R 3rd	Q Kt to K 4th	And White resigned.	

(a) This variation effectually prevents the second player from burning the opening into a "Queen Pinn."

(b) Apprehensive, perhaps, of Black's playing his Q Kt to Q R 4th, but we believe White did wrong in moving his Q to her Kt 3rd in the first instance, for it was evident his attack could never be maintained.

(c) It was not "a white stone day" with M. Le Roche, when he played the present game, which is quite unworthy of so strong a master.

(d) In M. Journoud's position, we should certainly have ventured to take the K Pawn with the Rook; the result of which, or we are grossly in error, would have given him two minor pieces for his Castle, *viz.*:—

	25	Q R takes P
	26 Q Kt takes R	Q takes K Kt
	27. Kt to K Kt 2nd	

(This appears his best move. If he play Q to K B 3rd, Black still rejoins with R to K sq).

27	R to K sq	32 K R to K R 2nd B takes B
28 Q to her 2nd	Q to K 8 6th (ch)	31. R takes B Q takes Kt
29. R to K B 2nd	R to Q Kt 3rd	And wins.

(e) An extraordinary error, confirming our remark above, that M. Le Roche was out of use By taking the Rook, he must have won easily.

THE PROPOSED NEW UNIVERSAL CODE OF CHESS LAWS.

At the meeting of the "The Northern and Midland Counties Chess Association," which was held at Manchester in the spring of last year, it will be remembered that Mr. Staunton directed the attention of the assemblage to the gross anomalies and inconsistencies which disfigure our Chess statutes, and pointed out the advantages, and indeed the necessity, of having the laws revised, and then settled upon a firm and uniform basis. After some discussion upon the subject, the members present re solved unanimously "That Mr. Staunton be requested to put himself in communication with Major Jaenisch, of Russia, and Mr Von Heydebrand, of Germany, the most distinguished chess authors of the Continent, to induce them to co-operate with him, in drawing up a code of Chess laws for general adoption, to be reported on at the next meeting of the Association."

It will be gratifying to the great body of Chess amateurs to learn that this resolution of the Association is likely to produce the most satisfactory results. The three gentlemen named at once accepted the duties assigned them, and have for months been occupied in the consideration of the subject. The first fruits of their labours have appeared in the shape of two carefully drawn up pamphlets one in German, by M. Von Heydebrand, entitled "Entwurf neuer Vereinbigen Reglemens für das Schachspiel," the other, in French, by Major Jaenisch, and called "Règles du Jeu des Echecs, adoptées par La Société des Amateurs d'Echecs, de St. Petersbourg, comme Base d'un Code Universel de ce Jeu," &c., &c

These two productions are undergoing translation, and, with a third, containing Mr. Staunton's views, will form one volume, which it is understood will be read before the members of the Association at their next meeting; and, if approved, will then be submitted to the leading Chess-clubs of Europe as the basis for a complete and universal system of rules, applicable to, and which, it is hoped, will be adopted by, the Chess fraternities in all the civilised countries of Europe.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

It is now stated that Saturday, the 10th of June, has been finally decided on as the day on which the Sydenham Palace is to be opened.

Accounts from Trieste say that the Archduke Ferdinand Maximilian will proceed to England, to return the visit of the Duke of Cambridge.

The Whittington stone, which was said to have been demolished, has been deposited in a stonemason's yard, for the purpose of being renovated and repaired; and, in the course of a few days, it will be returned to its original position.

A new law for levying a tax upon dogs has been published at Turin; the proceeds to be applied to the relief of the poor.

Several of the most powerful hydraulic presses of Leeds are at present engaged in compressing hay purchased in the neighbourhood for the use of the cavalry ordered to the seat of war.

A proposition has been brought before the American Legislature to make it a penal offence for a boy to go into a theatre or a circus.

The reduction that has taken place in the Irish military establishment in consequence of the war amounts to about 9,000 men.

The Austrian Government has just opened subscription lists in Frankfort and Amsterdam for a loan of £5,800,000 sterling.

Upwards of ten thousand pounds were paid at the Custom-house, Bristol, on Monday, in anticipation of a rise in the Sugar-duties.

The discovery of gold in the Orange River Sovereignty has been confirmed. In the especial locality of Smithfield several nuggets are alleged to have been obtained, varying from one to four ounces each; but in the majority of cases the gold is found in minute particles.

Twenty-four magnificent palm trees, brought by the *Himalaya* from the East, were on Saturday delivered at the Crystal Palace.

The works of the Mediterranean line of electric telegraph are proceeding so actively, that in the course of the summer despatches may be received direct from Constantinople.

The annual cattle-show for the Royal Agricultural Society of Ireland is to be held this year at Armagh for the province of Ulster, during the week commencing August 7.

Not less than £1000 has been paid, in an instance or two, for the services of Finnish pilots during the whole season, till the navigation closes; and the same sum has been given to a Norwegian linguist, who speaks Russian and Finnish, on board the *Wellington*.

The electric telegraph between Agra and Calcutta, 800 miles in length, is completed.

The Emigration Commissioners have advertised for three more ships to convey emigrants to Australia: two to sail for Sydney and Geelong on the 16th of June, and one on the 25th of June for Moreton Bay.

Letters have been received from Sir John Bowring, dated Aden, in the Red Sea, reporting briefly "all well."

Mr. A. Guppy, a solicitor of Honiton, has been committed to the county gaol at Exeter, for one month, for forging another person's name to a voting paper, in order that he may be elected a Poor-law guardian.

About 2,000,000 of dollars worth of specie have been sunk in the Chagres river, owing to the snagging of the canoes. The boxes and bars of gold and silver are buoyed, however, and all will be recovered.

The town of Nice was lighted with gas for the first time on the 30th ult.

The New York Crystal Palace was to be re-opened on the 4th of May, under the management of a new committee, and Mr. Barnum.

The Duke and Duchess of Bordeaux, under the title of Count and Countess of Chambord, arrived at Dresden on the 27th ult. from Prague.

The English Ambassador left Madrid on the 25th ult. for Seville, where he will pay his respects to Queen Marie Amelie (the widow of Louis Philippe), previous to her departure from Spain.

The French Empress has bestowed a pension of 600 francs a year on Giraud, the poor fellow who was rescued the other day from the well at Ecully, after having been in his horrible and perilous position for nearly three weeks.

Professor E. Forbes is appointed to the Chair of Natural History in the University of Edinburgh, vacant by the decease of Professor Jameson.

The state of the Pope's health is said to be very unsatisfactory. His chest is considered to be affected, and the enormous enlargement of his person reveals a dropsical tendency.

It is expected that the electric telegraph which is to run from Madrid to the French frontier, will be completed as far as Saragossa by the month of June. The wires from Madrid to Irun have been placed in almost all the streets of the capital.

The official returns of the Board of Trade show that the declared value of the woollen manufactures exported in the month ending the 5th of April, 1853, was £931,216, and in the month ending the 5th of April, 1854, £1,023,690, or £102,483 more than in the corresponding month of last year.

A gentleman was fined £20, including costs, at Leeds, the other day, for giving a false character to a former servant.

A project for lighting the city of Mexico with gas is about being commenced, and will be followed by other cities of the Republic.

The Parliamentary Committee on the Wellington Dock Bill have decided that, considering the present state and prospects of the country and trade, it is inexpedient to sanction, at present, any new works of this description.

The Grand Duke of Tuscany has anticipated by one year the Exhibition of Industry which was to have taken place in his States in 1855, in order that it may not clash with that of France.

The Tyne seamen who go to the south of England are now making £12 a month. With such wages, no one can wonder at the difficulty of getting seamen to man her Majesty's fleets.

A rescript from Rome, calling on the priests of Ireland to abstain altogether from interference in political affairs, may shortly be expected, if it has not already arrived, in Dublin.

The total produce of the Victoria gold district for the last two years is given as £25,000,000.

The *Atrato*, the largest paddle wheel steamer in the world, made her first trip from St. Thomas to Southampton, a distance of 3600 miles, in twelve days and twenty hours, averaging nearly 300 miles a day.

At a *soirée* recently given by General Baraguay d'Hilliers, the Hungarian General Klapka was an invited guest; and as soon as he entered the room, all the Austrians present, the *corps diplomatique* included, retired.

The ship-building trade at Dundee is at present interrupted by a disagreement between the journeymen and their masters as to the hours of work and the rate of wages.

The East Kent Railway Company have just entered into a contract with Messrs. Fox and Henderson for the construction of a new bridge over the Medway, in Rochester.

Prince Napoleon arrived at Gallipoli on the night of the 30th ult.

The Earl of Dunraven has recently erected, at his own cost, a chapel, a monastery, and a nunnery for the Christian Brothers of Charity, at Adare, in the county of Limerick.

The factory hands in Stockport have almost all returned to work. At Preston the spinners still hold out, and prevent the power-loom weavers from returning to work.

The Russian Count Lauzanoff, who was arrested in Paris last week, after having been subjected to domiciliary visitation for carrying on a secret correspondence with Russia, has been liberated, on condition of quitting France within ten days.

The Prussian Ingenieur Staff has been making experiments with a new projectile for muskets, described as highly satisfactory.

By the opening of the railway to Ulm, which took place last week, an uninterrupted line now exists between Munich and Paris, Calais, and Havre.

The great demand for sea-weed manure in Ireland this season may be inferred from the fact that the very large sum of £10,000 has been paid for it at the Galway quay alone.

Owing to the dearness of flax, nine spinning-mills in Ulster, comprising 35,000 spindles, have partially or wholly stopped work and others are working short time. At Ballinasloe fair, which was held on Monday last, the demand was much greater than the supply of stock. The fair was acknowledged to be the best that has been witnessed for a quarter of a century.

Advices from the whaling fleet report the destruction of several vessels and the loss of numerous lives. The season this year has altogether proved extremely disastrous both in the loss of ships and crews, and in the failure of the fishing.

Twenty-two young workmen, of Berlin, are about to be sent out to the Lutheran missionaries in Southern Africa, as assistants. They are to teach the principal European trades to the natives, and, at the same time, to instruct them in the elements of Christian doctrine.

The diligences between Lisbon and the Spanish frontier have been obliged to cease running, on account of the bad state of the roads.

Mr. Thomas Johnson, clerk to the magistrates of Lancaster, has intimated his determination to resign his official connexion with the Bench, on the ground that he could no longer conscientiously prepare the publicans' licences.

THE COAST BETWEEN NICE AND ANTIBES, THE SCENE OF THE LOSS OF "THE ERCOLANO."

SHIPWRECK OF THE ERCOLANO.

The loss of the Italian steam-boat *Ercolano*, on the night of the 24th ult. between Nice and Antibes—of which we this week give an Illustration—was, evidently owing to the carelessness of the captain of that vessel, and the melancholy loss of life by which the accident was followed, may with equal justice be attributed to the want of vigilance on board the *Sicilia*, by which the unfortunate vessel was run down. Some interesting details of the melancholy catastrophe are given in the *Hertford Mercury*, as the substance of a conversation which took place between Captain Townshend, M.P., and Sir R Peel, relating to his miraculous escape.

Sir Robert said that, feeling ill from the motion of the vessel, he was sitting in his carriage which had been moved to midships, on account of the heavy rolling of the sea—smoking a cigar, when suddenly, and without the slightest warning, a collision occurred. A large vessel, the *Sicilia*) came upon them at the rate of eleven or twelve knots an hour, running right or nine feet into the *Ercolano*, and literally "doubling her up." The collis.on was so sudden—death so imminent, that there was no time for consideration. Sir Robert had just time to spring out of his carriage before the funnel of the steamer and the apparatus of the galley fell against.it, and threw it overboard. To take off his coat, his trousers, and his boots, was the work of a moment. His servant was standing by him—an old and valued servant, much attached to him and in that awful moment Sir Robert (who must pardon us for referring to a circumstance which he never intended to be made public) found time, and courage, and calmness enough to say a few words to his faithful servitor: "Good bye! God bless you! Nothing can save us! In a few minutes we shall be in the other world; but be comforted. I have made a provision for your daughter" (the old man's only child), he exclaimed. The old servant said he would never leave his master; but Sir Robert, feeling that there was no chance for either of them, except in prompt and individual activity, exclaimed, "You cannot help me. Do the best you can. I shall jump into the sea," and then he took a strong leap to escape the eddy caused by the sinking vessel, which he happily cleared. In the sea, Sir Robert got hold of something which he supposes to be the bowsprit of the *Sicilia*, which was carried away at the moment of the collision. Then he got hold of a chain, and finally of a piece of the wreck, to which he found three other persons, one of whom he thinks was his old servant, were clinging. In this position he remained, the sea rolling heavily, for three quarters of an hour. One by one his companions relaxed their grasp on the floating portion of the wreck, and dropped exhausted into the sea—their grave; and at last he alone remained, holding on till he was picked up by a boat belonging to the vessel which had run them down. Till that moment Sir Robert never lost consciousness or self-command, but, once on board the boat, he sank into a state of insensibility, from which he was restored in the engine-room of the *Sicilia*. Sir Robert says he heard the cries of people in distress from the *Ercolano*, before she sank, and he thinks that lives might have been saved if proper means had been taken.

Our Correspondent's Sketch shows the scene of the catastrophe; the port of Antibes being in the centre, and the Estrelle mountains to the right: they are, as it were, the footstool of the Alps, and are highly picturesque in their forms. Antibes is finely situated on a promontory, jutting out into the sea, and commanding views of the Maritime Alps.

How We Treat our Prisoners of War.—The *Tribune* took 150 prisoners from six of her prizes, all of whom were taken up to Copenhagen on the 20th and 21st of April, and delivered over to the charge of the Russian Minister, with all the clothes and effects they had on board their own ships. The crews were put on board a Russian ship, under a guarantee that they would not serve against the Western Powers during the present war. The Minister was desired to use all possible despatch in receiving the prisoners' luggage, which amounted to sixteen tons. The Russian Minister expressed his unfeigned astonishment at such extreme liberality being displayed towards the prisoners. Sums of money found on the persons of the seamen were immediately returned to them, much apparently to their astonishment; and they did not fail in the highest terms to express their gratitude. In one instance the sum of £200 sterling was found on the person of one of the Russian masters, which was forthwith returned to him, on his declaration that it was positively his personal property, over which the owners of the ship had no control whatever. In many other instances sums of greater or less value, with gold and silver watches, chains, jewellery, &c., were taken away by the respective owners, without question on the part of the captors. There are at present on board the *Tribune* ten Russian Finland seamen, part of the crew of the barque *America*, taken off Scarborough. They are fine, well-made, hardy fellows—all very cheerful and obedient to command. Some of them have expressed a great desire to join the *Tribune*. They unhesitatingly avow their determined hatred against Russia, and would willingly fight in the hope of Finland being restored to them, so that they may once more be—what their fathers were—a free people.

BOMBARDMENT OF ODESSA.

The English official declaration of war reached the fleet, then anchored at Baldjik Bay, near Varna, on the 9th of April, upon which the steamer *Furious* was sent to Odessa to bring away the English Consul. With a flag of truce flying at her mast-head, she hove to, and sent in a boat, also carrying a flag of truce, to demand the Consul. There was some delay in returning an answer, and the Lieutenant in command of the boat thought it right to return to the *Furious*, upon which the Russians opened a fire upon the boat and in the direction of the steamer. Six or seven shots were fired, but fortunately without effect. On the 17th (the French official declaration of war having arrived, without which Admiral Hamelin was naturally unwilling to proceed to extremities), both fleets sailed for Odessa, before which place they anchored on the afternoon of the 20th. An explanation was demanded of General Osten-Sacken, the Military Governor, as to his reasons for outraging a flag of truce, always held sacred to all nations pretending to civilization. This demand was also sent in under a flag of truce, but the boat, when backed by the fleets, was not molested. The General returned an unsatisfactory and untrue answer, declaring that he did not fire upon the boat, but upon the *Furious*, which, not heeding customary [illegible] was steaming up the [illegible] for the purpose of [illegible] areas she was motionless. Upon this the A[illegible] fa: the delivery of all the shipping in the port, and declared that in the event of no answer arriving before sunset on the 21st, they would punish this outrage on the law of nations. The vessel taking these demands having been stopped, Admiral Dundas sent a circular round the fleet stating that what he had done was on account of the Russians having fired on a flag of truce.

Here it is necessary to endeavour to give the reader some idea of Odessa. It has often been compared in general aspect to Brighton; but the line of cliffs on which the town stands has a slight curve inwards, forming a shallow bay, with a radius of some three miles. These cliffs face the north-east, and towards the north they sink into low sandy mounds and flat endless steppes. Stretching out from below them, at the lower or south-easterly end of the town, runs a long fortified mole, at the end of which was a lighthouse. This is called the Quarantine Mole, and it shelters a great crowd of ships of all nations. Their crews are never permitted to go into the town, but are imprisoned within a small walled in and strictly-guarded quarantine district, at the foot of the cliffs, even if they should happen to be detained there for six months at a time. Under pretence of preserving themselves from disease, the Russians have made the quarantine a hateful political tyranny. When the Allied fleets appeared before Odessa, this mercantile prison of all nations was very crowded; and on the morning of the 22nd each vessel had her colours at the mast-head, as if appealing for succour, and protesting against cannon balls intended for the Russians. The attacking force had orders to give this mole as wide a berth as possible, in order to be out of reach of its fire, and so to avoid the necessity of returning the fire and injuring any of the neutrals within. The following was the attacking force: French, *Mogador*, *Vauban*, *Descartes*, *Caton*; English, *Samson*, *Terrible*, *Tiger*, *Retribution*, *Furious*; and a detachment of rocket boats under Commander Dixon. The *Sanspareil* and *Highflyer* acted as reserve.

At five o'clock on the morning of the 22nd of April, the signal was made for the steamers to commence an attack on the Imperial Mole, and the fortifications in its neighbourhood. The orders were to go as far as possible in shore, so as to rake and destroy the Imperial Mole and shipping, but to avoid firing upon any part of the town, or upon the shipping in the Quarantine Mole. The steamers entered in two divisions. The first consisted of the *Samson*, *Furious*, *Vauban*, and *Mogador*. The *Samson* fired the first shot at the Imperial Mole, and the fire was instantly returned. The movement, as witnessed from the large ships, about three-and-a-half miles off, was a most curious sight. When within about 2000 yards each steamer delivered the fire of her enormous guns, then wheeled round in a circle of about half a mile in diameter, each taking up the fire in succession. Thus they kept wheeling and twisting about like so many waltzers, without ever touching or getting into scrapes. The guns in the mole answered steadily, and in the course of an hour the *Vauban* came towards the fleets, on fire from red-hot shot, and riddled in several places. Happily, the fire was got under, and she returned to her post.

At seven a.m. the second division received the signal to stand in. It consisted of the *Terrible*, *Tiger*, *Retribution*, and three French steamers. The *Retribution* led the way, closely followed by the other steamers. The Russians had laid down a "lump," that is, an old vessel was anchored to mark the distance their guns would carry. The Allied division went within this mark, and therefore exposed themselves to loss from the shot of the enemy. At first, however, their shot did not reach our ships, although they suffered severely under our fire. The *Terrible* stood further in than the rest, and commenced firing red-hot shot. After a time a loud explosion was heard. The Imperial magazine had been blown up by a shot from the *Terrible*, and great part of the mole on which it stood was rent in pieces by the violence of the explosion. This relieved the Anglo-French squadron from their most formidable opponent, the battery on the Imperial Mole. The *Terrible* continued to fire red-hot shot. A Russian frigate in the harbour took fire, burnt to the water's edge, and blew up.

Each of the vessels which remained out of action had sent a rocket boat, firing 24-pound rockets, and these caused terrible destruction. The dockyard was the chief object of these missiles, and it was soon in flames. Two new frigates, and from twenty to thirty merchantmen were either sunk or burnt. The seamen of the *Terrible*, which remained on the spot till the following Tuesday, declare that it burnt for two days and two nights, and that this vast collection of naval stores must have been totally destroyed.

The steamers were busily plying the sinking ships with shot and shell, when suddenly from behind some sheds on the low sandy shore near them, a battery of six horse-artillery guns opened out upon the rocket-boats, which were at the moment within musket-shot. Happily nobody was hurt, though a perfect shower of balls fell around them, knocking the oars about, and ploughing up the water all around them. Upon this the rocket-boats and steamers opened upon them, and soon sent them scampering. A few minutes after, the sheds behind which they sheltered themselves burst out into a furious fire. While they were thus engaged, her Majesty's steam-frigate *Arethusa* was ordered to attack the southern side of the Quarantine Mole battery as a diversion, for its guns had frequently been very troublesome. Nothing could be prettier than the way in which she stood in, hove to, and delivered her fire, filled, tacked, and again delivered her broadside. Shortly after the breeze freshened, and she deliberately reefed her topsails, though under fire, and was then recalled by the Admiral.

At half-past five p.m., when the action had lasted twelve hours and a half, the signal of recall was made. The action ceased; the *Terrible* having lost two men killed and five wounded; the *Vauban* two men killed and one wounded; and the *Retribution* one, and the *Sampson* five wounded. These were all the casualties ascertained. As the *Terrible* was the most distinguished in this action, she was received with all honours on passing the fleet. Each ship cheered her as she steamed past on her way to the Bosphorus. She has suffered much in appearance. Her paddle-boxes are a good deal knocked about, and she has twelve shot in her hull. Captain M'Cleverty remained on the paddle-box all the time, and narrowly escaped a shot.

During the fire several English merchantmen slipped out of the Quarantine Mole, and escaped. The poor fellows were very thankful to have escaped. Altogether the punishment was severe, but appropriate Russian property was destroyed, and much of it must have belonged to Government. The town and neutral ships were spared, though completely in our power; and it cannot be contended that a place with so many batteries on the sea-board was defenceless.

The city is said to have suffered comparatively little, though a few of the principal buildings, and among the rest the Woronoff Palace, were a prey to the flames (*See the Engraving upon the following page*) Odessa has, however, completely changed its external appearance. The terrific cannonade and the explosion of the magazine broke all the windows, many chimneys have fallen, and the steeples of many churches have been injured.

The fleets were to leave for Sebastopol immediately.

The *Moniteur* gives the following report of the bombardment, which differs in one or two points from the English one:—

Ville de Paris, Odessa Roads April 25.

On the morning of the 22nd, eight steam frigates—three French and five English—proceeded to the Imperial port of Odessa, and at half-past six four of them had opened their fire on the land batteries. The two mortars, as well as the intermediate batteries, warmly returned it. At ten o'clock four other frigates joined, and then the action became general. It continued until five o'clock in the evening, when Admiral Dundas made a signal to the frigates to join the squadron. The fire had gained the battery of the Imperial mole; the powder magazine had blown up; fifteen vessels, with the exception of two or three, were either sunk or on fire. The naval establishments were also on fire, or very much injured from the shells. The town and the commercial port where a number of vessels of all nations were moored, were respected. Several of these vessels took advantage of the confusion and got out, and among them the only two French vessels that were there.

The following details on the same subject, in a letter from Odessa written the day after the attack, and published by the *Patrie*, show what alarm was caused by the proceedings of the Allied fleets:—

It was on the 17th that the first division of war-steamers, French and English, made their appearance before this place (Odessa). At their arrival the greatest terror seized on the inhabitants. The wealthy families at once engaged all the horses and means of transport to withdraw into the country, and a vast number of persons quitted the town. But the vessels, after having examined the roadstead and harbour, withdrew, and by degrees the general disquietude wore away—the shops and coffee-houses again opened, and everything went on as before. But on the 22nd a great number of war-steamers, counted by many to be 33, appeared in the horizon, and the terror became greater than ever, for everyone felt that the intention was to avenge the insult offered to the English flag of truce—an act, besides, which was universally blamed by the inhabitants. The next day the alarm became greater and greater, and during the action the total destruction of the town was apprehended. This apprehension became still more violent when the powder-magazine blew up, and when the military storehouses were seen to be on fire. Add to this, that every instant wounded soldiers were carried from the batteries into the town, and the governor and the troops manifested the greatest brutality and indifference for the inhabitants. At last the firing ceased, and then the people perceived that the intention had not been to injure them, but to show the Russian authorities that they were not to insult the Western Powers with impunity. The whole affair has thrown the greatest discouragement amongst the troops, and produced a most excellent effect on the minds of the population, who see that Russia is unable to protect them; and that if the town still exists, it is owing to the forbearance of the fleets.

It is amusing to contrast the above graphic account, chiefly taken from information furnished by Englishmen, who saw the whole affair, with the following,

RUSSIAN VERSION OF THE BOMBARDMENT,

which has been issued by General Osten-Sacken.

On the 21st (April) the Anglo-French squadron, consisting of six three-deckers and thirteen two-deckers, with nine steamers, anchored at the distance of three versts (two miles and a quarter) from Odessa, hoisted four p.m. Admirals Dundas and Hamelin sent a flag of truce ashore, demanding the delivery of the Russian, English, and French ships lying in the Quarantine Harbour. This impudent demand received no answer, upon which they had probably calculated, for yesterday, at half-past six a.m., nine of their steamers (one of 54, and the others of 34 guns each—took up a position outside the line of fire of the battery No. 1, on the right side of the harbour, but immediately abreast of Nos. 2, 3, 4, and 5, which they attacked, casting shells now and then into the town, and directing their concentrated fire upon battery No. 6, which stands at the point of the Pratique Harbour. Our batteries were provided with 48 guns. The enemy availed himself of his guns of heavy calibre, and thus kept at such a distance as to prevent Batteries No. 3 and 5 from taking an active part in the combat, although they were fully exposed to the enemy's fire. But Battery No. 6, under the command of Ensign (Fähnurich) Schogaleff, fired spiritedly with its four guns; but as one was dismounted, and the enemy was without the range of the third gun, only two guns on the left flank could operate; and with these two guns Battery No. 6 maintained the combat six hours against the enemy's steamers, and at last, against eight steamers and a screw-ship of 84 guns. The battery would not even then have been silenced, nor would Ensign Schogaleff have retired from it, had not fire broken out in the vessels close by, and in the battery itself. In consequence of the fire of this battery, three of the enemy's vessels were obliged to be taken in tow. After the combat, the Commanding-General availed himself of the right accorded to him to welcome as Knights of the Military Order those who had most distinguished themselves. The brilliant conduct of Ensign Schogaleff was constantly reported to the Field-Marshal. The enemy's ships, from their drawing little water, were enabled to command the Pratique Harbour, to approach the suburb of Pericop, and to throw rockets into it from their boats, and thereby to burn the ships and some houses in and near the same. They attempted a landing also, but the grape-shot of four light field-pieces stationed on the shore, and covered by six infantry companies, put them to flight. These boats were followed by our cannon-shot, and suffered severely. We have on our side a few killed and wounded, and two gun-carriages destroyed. During the combat some of the enemy's liners left the line of battle, and approached the country-house of General Liders; but as they received the fire of our batteries Nos. 1, 2, and 3, they discharged two or three broadsides, and resumed their former position. Our artillery worked admirably. Our batteries, with the exception of No. 6, have suffered little. We have had four killed and sixty-four wounded.

On the 23rd the following orders [illegible] to neutral vessels were issued:—

1. Vessels under [illegible] flag cannot leave [illegible] so long as the enemy's flag remains in sight. 2. Steamers and crews thereof will be provided with quarters ordered for their reception, beyond the reach o. fire, and where they must submit to the quarantine regulations. 3. Ships with

ODESSA.—PALACE OF COUNT WORONZOW, DESTROYED IN THE RECENT BOMBARDMENT.

cargoes on board shall land the same in magazines appended for the purpose 4. Skippers and sailors who do not choose to submit to the foregoing orders, must place themselves at the disposal of the port captain, and in case of opposition will be subject to military law. 5. Excepting the protection offered to captains and crews and cargoes of neutrals, the authorities will not hold themselves responsible for the safety of ships. 6. All neutral vessels may leave the harbour so soon as the enemy has withdrawn."

SIR HAMILTON SEYMOUR, G.C.B.,

LATELY OUR AMBASSADOR TO RUSSIA.

ONE effect of our Parliamentary system—of which the public take but little account, and which would work injustice were it not counterbalanced by advantages—is to concentrate the national attention on the chief Ministers in this or that department of the public service for the time being, and to draw it away from the very important duties performed by other personages occupying not always subordinate, but usually less distinguished positions. Among these personages there is one class who suffers more directly than most of the others—the consequence of this concentration of the national attention on the public and Parliamentary acts of the principal members of the Government. The Ambassadors sent by the Queen of Great Britain to the various foreign Courts, are proverbially well paid and highly considered; and perhaps, as a general rule, they have little to do: but if they be, as they usually are, men of a superior intelligence and activity, they render to their country silent but inestimable services, which form the foundation and furnish the adornment of the more brilliant displays of their official superiors in either House of Parliament. While a Lord Palmerston, a Lord Clarendon, or a Lord Malmesbury, is to all appearance the great Director-General of the Foreign Policy and Correspondence of the Empire, there are patiently at work in the various Courts men whose names are less often in men's mouths, but who patiently prepare the materials out of which their chiefs are to fabricate their speeches or their despatches. A Redcliffe, a Bulwer, a Clayton, a Seymour, if he be a man of superior capacity and powers of observation, becomes a personage of importance inversely to his apparent position: he pulls the strings, and virtually makes puppets of all but the highly-dominating minds. It was rightly, though somewhat too rigidly, observed the other night, by Lord Malmesbury, that the exclusive business of an Ambassador abroad is to furnish his Government at home with the accounts of the secret movements of foreign Courts. The noble Earl gave only a part of the truth; referring rather to a period when his noble ancestor flourished in the Ambassadorial character, and when Court gossip influenced much the destinies of nations, than to the present age, when the relative rights of Sovereigns and their duties as rulers towards each other are better understood, and when an Ambassador must be more a statesman and a political philosopher than a spy and a chronicler. But, in other respects, Lord Malmesbury hit sufficiently near the mark. We have but to record the services of Lord Redcliffe at Constantinople, of Sir Henry Bulwer at Madrid and at Washington, of Sir Thomas Wyse at Athens, and, more recently, of Sir Hamilton Seymour at St. Petersburgh, to establish the vast importance of such persons, and the interest which the public ought to feel in their history and conduct.

It was, and, perhaps, still is, a common prejudice, that our Embassies abroad are useless and extravagantly expensive institutions, kept up for the purpose of making princely provision for ambitious aristocrats. The antecedents of some of our most distinguished diplomatic representatives abroad singularly contradict this notion, which is usually revived once a year, in the discussions on the Estimates. It is certainly untrue of every one of the distinguished Ambassadors whose names we have already mentioned, and it is peculiarly so with respect to Sir Hamilton Seymour. Unlike Sir Thomas Wyse, for instance, who was transplanted from the House of Commons to the Embassy in Greece, Sir Hamilton Seymour has fought his way upward to his present high rank on the diplomatic roll. In this respect he contrasts with the Earl of Westmoreland, and more resembles Sir Henry Bulwer, or Mr. Clayton, both of whom had learned the drudgery (so to speak) of diplomacy, before attaining the right to perform the chief parts. Very few persons will be prepared to hear that the public service of Sir Hamilton Seymour extends over a period of very nearly forty years! Yet such is the fact; for, in the year 1817, he was already an Attaché of the British Embassy at the Hague; and, from that time to the present, he has been incessantly employed in the diplomatic service of the country.

According to Malvolio's classification, Sir Hamilton Seymour is in the category of those who "*such eve greatness.*" The distinguished part he took in the late negotiations with Russia—the dignity, sagacity, and finesse he displayed in his communications with the Emperor—and the moral integrity which enabled him courageously to point out in his despatches the true character of the overtures of which he was made the unwilling medium—all these things have combined to invest him with no ordinary interest in the eyes of his countrymen, who naturally desire to know where so much diplomatic tact and large statesmanship had previously been hidden. We will briefly recount the main incidents of his life.

Sir George Hamilton Seymour was not exactly born "great," but he is of noble birth—uniting in himself the blood of the Seymours and the Hamiltons. He was the eldest son of the late Lord George Seymour, by the ninth daughter of the Hon. and Rev. George Hamilton. We have not at hand the exact date of his birth, but believe it to have been in the year 1797. The interest of his family early procured him employment in the diplomatic service, for which he had been designed; and in March, 1817, he was gazetted as an Attaché to the British Embassy at the Hague. The capacity he here displayed, together with his influence, led to his being brought more immediately under the eye of the Home authorities. In December, 1819, he was appointed assistant *précis* writer at the Foreign-office—a post, we need scarcely say, of a very confidential character, and usually given to young men of more than ordinary promise. In little more than a year after he was promoted to the post of principal *précis* writer; and, in a year after that, he was made Private Secretary in the Foreign-office. This special mark of confidence and favour, which was accorded in January, 1822, was followed, in the October of the same year, by another. Mr. Seymour was appointed Attaché to the special mission sent to Verona at that date. In November of the following year, 1823, he was put one step higher in the scale, by being made Secretary of Legation at Frankfort. From there he was transferred to Stuttgard, in September, 1826, and to Berlin, in January, 1828. In September of the following year he was appointed Secretary of Embassy at Constantinople, where he necessarily derived considerable insight into the nature and objects of those Russian intrigues which, from time immemorial, have disturbed the tranquillity of the Turkish Empire. We need scarcely add that his residence at Constantinople was at a most critical period, which furnished more than ordinary means of judging the relative positions of the European powers as regarded the Turkish question.

SIR HAMILTON SEYMOUR, G.C.B.—DRAWN BY M. BAUGNIET.

The ability exhibited by Mr. Seymour in this last-named capacity attracted the attention of the home authorities, by whom he was elevated at once to the rank of Minister, with Florence as his destination. Lord Palmerston, ever quick and discriminating, was now Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

At Florence Mr. Seymour remained a longer time than in any previous diplomatic employment. In April, 1836, he was still further promoted by being named Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of the King of the Belgians. Here he had less scope for the exercise of his abilities than he might have had in a more important field of action; but, during his residence in Brussels, he impressed all around him with a high sense of his unbending integrity and strong ability. The writer of this memoir well remembers him at this period, and the admirable manner in which his diplomatic functions were discharged. At the period of his appointment to the Belgian Embassy, Mr. Seymour was created a Knight Grand Cross of the Order of the Guelphs of Hanover.

About ten years and a half afterwards—in December, 1846—Sir Hamilton Seymour was appointed Ambassador to Lisbon, where, as in his previous employment of the same kind, he discharged his duties to the highest satisfaction of the Home Government. In a Court like that of Portugal, and especially at the period when Sir Hamilton Seymour was there—a period of domestic convulsion, under circumstances which compelled the British Ambassador to recall to the remembrance of the reigning Monarch the services rendered her by his nation and the duties she owed to her subjects—it required no ordinary quantity of combined firmness and tact to maintain the necessary attitude towards the Court without forfeiting the personal respect and influence, without which an Ambassador is comparatively useless. In 1847, he was created a Knight Grand Cross of the Order of the Bath.

We have now followed Sir Hamilton Seymour through the various scenes of his diplomatic education and career. We have seen him initiated into State secrets at home, and visiting successively in one capacity or other almost every important Court of Europe. The best proof of his having given the highest satisfaction in these various employments was his selection, in April, 1851, to fill a post which, in the then condition of Europe, appeared to be one of the most important in the whole range of British diplomacy; because, although the ulterior designs of the Emperor Nicholas on Turkey had not publicly transpired, it was well known that troubles were brewing in that quarter.

Sir Hamilton Seymour proved himself thoroughly well qualified for this most important post. His high cultivation and accomplishments, with the vast store of practical knowledge of contemporary men and things acquired during his long diplomatic service, rendered him personally acceptable to the Emperor, who distinguished him with no ordinary favour. Perhaps the unpretending quietude of his manners, and his not having hitherto played a brilliant part, however important, in European affairs, may have misled the Emperor as to the real characteristics of Sir Hamilton Seymour's mind. At all events, the approaches he made towards him in the memorable tragi-comedy played around the bedside of the "dying man," indicated but a moderate amount of fear of the character of the functionary whom he was then seeking to tempt or to make a tool of. While pursuing a course of the most undeviating courtesy, and quietly "drawing out" the Imperial tempter, so as to fully fathom his secret designs, the astute representative of his country's interests and policy did not permit his Royal mistress or her servants to be "compromised" by any act of his. All who have read the despatches of Sir Hamilton Seymour, constituting the major part of what is called the "Secret Correspondence," have remarked the singular felicity with which he contrived to sustain the honour of his country without giving offence to the morbid pride of his Imperial interlocutor. Any high-minded man could have felt the repulsion experienced by Sir Hamilton Seymour; but it required an extensive experience of Courts and of the "hearts of Kings" to steer with so much tact in such dangerous waters. The country undoubtedly owes much to Sir Hamilton Seymour for the zeal and capacity he displayed throughout this dangerous and difficult negotiation, and for the courage with which he recorded in his despatches the painful impressions that had been produced on his own mind by the language of the Emperor. The latter scarcely responded in a becoming manner to the forbearance shown him by Sir Hamilton, for, when it at last became evident that a rupture was inevitable, his Imperial anger at having been foiled got the better of his instincts as a gentleman and a Sovereign; and he did not treat with becoming consideration the man who ought to have commanded his respect if only for having done his duty. Of course, the distinction between the treatment of the French and that of the British Ambassador, on their severally leaving St. Petersburg, may have been only a political demonstration, to mark the difference of the sentiments entertained by the Emperor towards those several Courts; but there are many modes in which a Sovereign can mark his respect for the individual, while publicly discountenancing the Ambassador. A stronger case could not be afforded, than that of the treatment of Baron Brunnow in this country, and of that functionary's parting visits to the French Ambassador and the leading members of our Government. The detention of Sir Hamilton Seymour's effects, too, though perhaps an accident, was one of those accidents that ought not to have happened.

We have but few words to add. The arrival of Sir Hamilton Seymour in England was almost contemporaneous with the disclosure of the "Secret Correspondence," which first enabled the general public to judge of his claims to their respect. His reception was such as his merits deserved. The reader will not have forgotten his recent speech at the Mansion-house, where he so ably laid down the duties of an Ambassador; and explained in what respect Russia was badly served, in being always deceived as to the true state of things in foreign countries. Russian Ambassadors, he explained, always—or nearly always—wrote what would be pleasing to their Sovereign, who was thus misled as to the actual condition and disposition of foreign Courts and States. He was thus unconsciously proclaiming his own eulogy, by contrast.

Sir Hamilton Seymour married, in 1831, the Hon. Gertrude Brand, third daughter of the 20th Baron Dacre.

The accompanying Portrait is from a Drawing by M. Baugniet.

HELSINGFORS, IN THE GULF OF FINLAND.—FROM AN ORIGINAL SKETCH.

FINLAND:

ITS IMPORTANCE IN CONNECTION WITH THE OPERATIONS OF THE BRITISH FLEET IN THE BALTIC.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

YOUR very interesting article in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for March the 18th, with the above title, will not lose, I hope, by the following additions, now that the British fleet is in the Baltic.

Finland, although a country of no great wealth and population, is of immense importance to Russia, in consequence of the vicinity of the capital, St. Petersburg, at the extremity of the Gulf of Finland. Helsingfors, the capital of Finland since 1813, and a seat of a Russian Governer-General, has also a kind of senate of certain numbers of Councillors of State: but all their acts are subject to the acceptance or rejection of the Emperor, when laid before him at St. Petersburg by his Secretary of State for the Government of Finland, there resident. Thus, this country, although nominally possessed of its ancient constitution and laws, is governed by the Secretary of State at St. Petersburg; and the Executive is in the hands of the Governor-General (always an inveterate Russ), who puts in force the frequent ukases issued by the Emperor, independent of all law, and by which the Constitution is not of the slightest value.

A casual observer when in the country would, however, imagine that the people, now a fresh generation, were contented with things as they are; but this is only from a system of intimidation and espionage carried on by the Russian Government in every part of Finland. There is no doubt that, were this incubus removed, the country would recover its national character: it is, however, not sufficiently strong by itself to become independent, but would at a fit opportunity gladly reunite with constitutional Sweden. The country had, before it was kidnapped by Russia, been from the beginning of the sixteenth century a theatre of war; and the 45 years of peace which Finland has lately enjoyed, has been an extraordinary page in its history. By the industry of its people, commerce and shipping have been carried to a great extent and perfection, and manufactures have sprung up to a considerable extent. Last year their ships were distributed about the world, and several East Indiamen and South Sea whalers are still in the southern hemisphere. But very lately more than sixty large ships of theirs have been sold in England for fear of returning to the Baltic, either to be taken or to be laid up useless during a war. The exports of Finland consist of timber tar, corn, and provisions.

But all this has been accomplished by the sole industry of the people. To Russia, Finland is still a foreign country, as its produce pays high duty in Russian ports, and the Finland paper-money is of no value beyond its own boundaries; but, to hold it in still better check, the Emperor has lately laid his hands on the silver deposited in the Bank, and also the Correction Silver Fund: he has merely borrowed the hard specie

JANINA.—FROM AN ORIGINAL SKETCH.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

no doubt intent on repayment, if they behave themselves. This summer, if the war is carried on, the Finlanders will first perceive their true position. Deprived of their commerce, finances ruined, no importation of salt, and a large Russian army to support in the country, and a British fleet at its coast, the people will then truly find that their Russian dependence is bad indeed.

It is a question whether the recovery of Finland by Sweden would be a boon or not to the latter. It certainly would be no acquisition of value to her, unless the Russian power in Europe was considerably curtailed. Such is the object of the war: therefore, England and France ought almost to dictate to Sweden to march her army into Finland, and re-conquer the country from the Russians—which would not be a difficult task, aided by the British fleet, and the friendly part of the Finland nation. But Sweden should then give England something for retaining Finland: and it would be best for all parties to cede the island of Gothland to England, which lays midwaters between Sweden and Russia. This island is large, and of a singularly mild climate, and would become of immense importance to England in respect to all Russian trade in the Baltic. To Sweden the island is of no great value; and, by the cession to England, Sweden would acquire an additional bulwark against her eastern neighbour. It would be for Sweden to sacrifice an island for a country, and that to a perpetual ally; as Sweden has never been at war with England, and never likely to be, when we consider the geographical position of the two countries. The enormous resources of one, and the small means of the other, forbids enmity between them.

The fortress of Sveaborg is, undoubtedly, very strong: it is defended by 600 guns, but, in consequence of being built on several rocky islands, it has an immense circumvallation, and requires a large force to defend it; for, these islands, although united by bridges, cannot in time succour each other in repelling an escalade, and many joints of the fortress are vulnerable for such attacks. A steam fleet could pass through the Sound of Gastafsvärd without being in range of more than 100 guns for fifteen or twenty minutes, during which time the half, at least, of those guns would be silenced. The great number of gaarrison could not hold out long, if all supplies were cut off. There are many wood buildings in this fortress which would soon be in a blaze, and even some of the batteries are built of timber.

The Fortress of Bomarsund, on the Island of Aland, is not so dreaded by Sweden as imagined; being distant from Stockholm, in a straight line, eighty miles, and thirty-two miles to the nearest Swedish coast, and, like all boundary fortresses, now of questionable use. Four steam-frigates and some smaller vessels would starve them out, as the Russian fleet could render no assistance, while such a power as the present British fleet would give them sufficient occupation to take care of themselves.

The capital Helsingfors, in consequence of the proximity of the large fortress Sveaborg, has always been a large military station, but has no fortifications of any kind. This is also the only place on the Finland coast which possesses a fine port, large, sheltered, and deep enough for fleets. The town has reaped some benefit under Russian sway, and the inhabitants are better disposed towards Russia than any other place in Finland. In all other towns the Russian military are still considered as invaders, and anything but a friendly feeling exists between the people and them.

Should Russia meet with serious reverses in the Baltic—which can hardly be doubted—there would be in Finland a demonstration which only the present 40,000 Russian bayonets could suppress for a time; but, were Sweden to march with an army of 30,000 men into the country, there is no reasonable doubt that 29,000 brave and patriotic Finlanders would join them—provided the people might join as an independent country under the same crown as Sweden, and neither to be considered or treated as a conquered province. And which even Russia has not dared to put in force, like unhappy Poland.

PATRIOT.

(We are indebted to the Author of "A Sketcher's Tour round the World" for the View of Helsingfors, engraved upon the preceding page.)

THE GREEK INSURRECTION.

THE latest accounts from Greece speak of the insurrection as having failed, but the reports are not very definite. Janina and Prevesa are quiet, though the tranquillity of the former place is chiefly owing to the presence of several Turkish regiments, who have threatened to decimate the inhabitants should they attempt to rise. According to some rumours Grivas is still at the head of a large force in Thessaly, though other accounts mention that, having raised 100,000 drachmas for the support of his troops, and having applied it to his own purposes, he was being abandoned by many of his followers. It is said that the Ionians, who sympathised greatly with the rebel movement—having, it is said, secretly transmitted such aid in money as they could collect—and about 200 of whom managed to get across to Albania and join Grivas and Savelas, are now only too happy at being able to get back to their homes again. Some fifty or sixty who have escaped describe the condition of the rebel forces as most deplorable, wanting almost every necessary, and being, in consequence, compelled to pillage their own friends. According to these men, Grivas lately hung six of his troops, to put a stop to the desertions. In fact, the greater part of Greece is in a state of complete anarchy, law and order being violated with impunity everywhere.

Meanwhile, King Otho does his best to create a diversion in favour of the Russians, by fomenting the insurrection. On this subject the *Moniteur* makes some very significant statements. It says:—

The Cabinet of Athens, whilst promoting the insurrection in Epirus, has endeavoured to lead the population of the kingdom to imagine that the German Powers fully approve of its conduct. Whilst these false assertions were being made under the guarantee of the Greek Cabinet, the Ministers of Austria, Prussia, and Bavaria, as the Government of the Emperor had been formally assured from their Courts, received orders to blame energetically the policy of Greece, and to support in the firmest manner the counsels and representations of the Western Powers.

The Greek Chambers have been dissolved, and King Otho is evidently intent upon doing the best that a despot on a small scale can do to help the chief of all despots—the Czar.

We have engraved upon the preceding page, from an original Sketch, a View of Janina, or Yanina, situated in a valley in the heart of the province of Albania, and forty four miles north of Arta. Its site is about 1000 feet above the level of the sea. The population is estimated at 36,000, of whom 20,000 are Greeks, and from 6000 to 7000 Jews. It was much more populous before 1820, when the city was burnt down by order of Ali Pacha. The present town is built on a peninsula, stretching into a noble lake. Its principal edifice is the fortress, containing the palace of the Pacha. Janina is the residence of the head collector of Customs for Egypt, and of British and other Consuls. It had formerly a large trade with Albania, Roumelia, &c.; and an important annual fair, to which Italian produce, with French and German manufactures, were brought; but its commerce has greatly declined. The plain round Janina yields fruit and grain of most kinds in vast abundance.

The lake is bounded on the north-east by the Mitzikeli mountains (a branch of Pindus), which rise steeply to the height of 2500 feet; on the south-east by a rocky mountain of moderate height, crowned with the ruins of an ancient Epirote city, which, Colonel Leake considers it probable, was the ancient Dodona. On the south-west of the lake is the plain of Joannina, and beyond that a range of low vine-covered hills. Opposite the town of Janina is a small island, on which is a fishing village, on which, in Ali's time, were several convents, frequently used as State prisons. Ali also had a house here.

RUSSIAN CONSULAR OFFICERS.—A notice has been issued by the Foreign Office, that the "Exequatur" heretofore granted by her Majesty to the former Consul-General and Consuls of the Emperor of Russia, in this country, have been withdrawn; and that no person is recognised, or permitted to act within her Majesty's dominions, as Consul-General, Consul, or Vice Consul, or to perform any other duties as, or to act in any respect as, a Consul, Vice-Consul, Consular officer, or agent, on behalf of his Imperial Majesty.

OUR PRIZE PRISONERS.—It has been suggested that the seamen taken prisoners on board Russian prizes, who are all Fins, should be allowed to serve on English transport and emigrant ships. They are excellent sailors, and would be not only useful at a time when seamen are wanted, but would be disposed to entertain such a service.

PROGRESS OF THE WAR.—An interesting arrangement has been made at the United Service Institution, for indicating the movements of the armies in the East. A large map of the seat of war has been mounted on a board, and by means of moveable cards, the positions of the various forces—Turkish, Russian, French, and English—are day by day marked, according to the latest intelligence received. Now that our own troops are in the field this becomes particularly interesting, as each regiment, marked with its number, can be distinguished. The movements of the fleets are in a similar manner indicated on the Admiralty charts of the Baltic and Black Sea.

"TOY WORK" AT THE GIRLS' RAGGED SCHOOL, (CALMEL) GRAYS-YARD, JAMES-STREET, OXFORD-STREET.

RAGGED SCHOOLS.—EXHIBITION OF NEW PATENT TOY-WORK.

AN interesting display of these novel articles, made by children in the London Ragged Schools, will take place at the mansion of the Earl of Shaftesbury, in Grosvenor-square, this day (Saturday).

The Toy work in question is upon a new principle, combining elegance of design with great utility to children, inasmuch as the youngest capacity readily acquires a knowledge of every branch of needlework necessary to furnish one of these little models.

The new manufacture is taught in the Schools at Lisson street, Newroad; Calmel, Gray's-yard, James-street, Oxford-street; Field-lane, City; and "Grotto passage," Puddington. But, with the exception of Gray's-yard, not more than six girls of each school are occupied two hours per day for four days a week.

Our Artist has illustrated the Girls' School, in Gray's-yard, with the little manufacturers at work. The Toy-work originated in the "Tudor Villa" Model, exhibited at the Great Exhibition of 1851, and now in the possession of the Russian Imperial family.

This model was built for a benevolent lady, in order to show to foreigners the style of residence occupied by the middle classes in England: to furnish which, taxed the ingenuity of our fair Correspondent, who accordingly invented several articles of furniture, composed of bonnet or other wire, bent with the fingers to the required shape, and afterwards covered with a solution of whitening, glue and resin, which, when quite dry and hard, is ornamented with composition castings, arranged to imitate the carvings of wood or ornamental cast-iron.

The Tudor Villa and its furniture afforded so much pleasure to the thousands who visited the Exhibition, that our Correspondent thought of making it useful in some way to children; and this feeling was strengthened by the admiration it obtained abroad from artists of distinction. Accordingly, the heads of a new institution forming in aid of poor gentlewomen were consulted, and their fear that it would be too difficult for them to accomplish with facility prevented their entertaining it. The proposition was then submitted to the Earl of Shaftesbury, for the use of Ragged Schools. The Central Committee at once adopted the design, on his Lordship's suggestion.

A patent has been obtained for the toys, and as far as the little learners are concerned, the work is a pleasure. By means of the bedsteads, an easy and pleasant mode is at once secured of getting the learners to acquire all kinds of useful stitches in needle-work; and, by covering sofas and chairs, of upholstery; as well as a general idea of work, which not only brings out ideas, and ingenuity, but tells with great effect on their habits and behaviour. A year since the little girls—who are now a neat, orderly, and well-behaved set of children—came to the school with scarcely any knowledge of work, or how to use their fingers; and, though long at school, some of them could not work an eyelet-hole or run a string in a bag! They are now the best workers; and the difficulty is not how to get them to the work, but how to get them away from it, the attraction of working for a doll is so great.

The work will be exhibited at Lord Shaftesbury's mansion, in Grosvenor-square, on Saturday, to a select few, who may select from the exhibits; and on Monday and two following days they will be sold at the "German Fair," Portland Bazaar.

We understand that a specimen of this new work is being prepared to be submitted to the inspection of her Majesty.

THE SUGGESTED CHANGES IN THE CORPORATION.

A good deal of excitement prevailed in Guildhall on Wednesday in consequence of a report, to which very general credit was given, that changes to the effect stated below are proposed by the Corporation Commissioners for the consideration of Parliament. In addition to the recommendation that the numbers of Aldermen and Common Councilmen should be diminished, and that two stipendiary magistrates be appointed to do the police work of the City, it is, according to the information collected by the meeting, suggested:—

That the Court of Aldermen should be abolished, and that the Aldermen should form a portion of the Court of Common Council, and that a qualification should be required from each person appointed.

That the conservancy of the river Thames should be under the direction of a board consisting of the First Lord of the Admiralty, the Lord Mayor, the principal officers of the Trinity, and of other officers connected with the Government.

That the Lord Mayor, the Sheriffs, and the Chamberlain should be elected by the Common Councilmen.

That the Irish Society should be abolished, and that the management of their estates in Ireland should be placed under the superintendence of a committee, to be appointed by the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland.

That the Court of Hustings should be abolished.

That the office of Bridgemaster should be abolished.

That the attendance of the Aldermen at the Central Criminal Court should be discontinued.

That the City police should be amalgamated with the Metropolitan police.

That the Sheriffs' Court should be annexed to the Lord Mayor's Court, and that there should exist a right of appeal to the Superior Courts.

That the borough of Southwark should form one separate municipal district, and that other municipal districts be formed in the metropolitan boroughs.

That the City Commissioners of Sewers be continued.

That a Board of Management from the Court of Common Council, for carrying on improvements in the City, and in relation to the bridges of the City and the metropolis, be appointed.

That compensation should be given to those officers whose offices should be abolished.

THE PUBLIC STATUES BILL.—Sir W. Molesworth's bill for placing the public statues in the metropolis under the care and charge of the Commissioners of Public Works has just been printed. The bill gives the Commissioners powers to repair and protect the statues by railings, &c., whenever it may be necessary; and also provides that, after the passing of the Act, no public statue shall be erected on any public place without the written assent of the Commissioners. The public statues referred to are—the statue of James II., in Whitehall-gardens; of George Canning, New Palace-yard; Charles I., at Charing-cross; George III., Pall-mall East; George IV. and the Nelson Column, Trafalgar-square; the statue of the Duke of Wellington, on the Arch at Hyde-park-corner; the Achilles, in Hyde park; the statues of George II., in Golden-square; the Duke of Wellington, on Tower-green; George III., at Somerset-house; Queen Anne, in Queen-square; the Duke of Kent, Park-crescent; George II., at Greenwich Hospital; and Charles II., at Chelsea Hospital.

FRANCE AND ENGLAND.—The members of the Star-club have resolved to invite his Excellency Count Walewski, the French Minister, to an entertainment in the month of June. The meeting is to be made special to enable the members to invite as large a number as possible of the *corps diplomatique*, members of Parliament, and gentlemen connected with the City of London and the large provincial towns, to give effect to an expression of sympathy and satisfaction at the cordial union between France and England so worthily supported and represented by his Excellency.

LICHFIELD ELECTION.—On Tuesday Lord Waterpark was elected, without opposition, as one of the representatives of the borough of Lichfield, in the room of Lord Anson, raised to the peerage on the title of Earl of Lichfield.

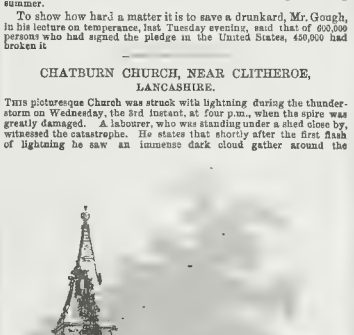
One of the oldest historical monuments in Belgium has just been pulled down, namely, the last remaining tower of the fortified castle which Pepin the Short caused to be built in 743.

Mr. Laird, of Birkenhead, has already for launching a beautifully-modelled vessel called the *Tchadda*, intended for the exploring expedition that is to survey the interior rivers of Western Africa during the ensuing summer.

To show how hard a matter it is to save a drunkard, Mr. Gough, in his lecture on temperance, last Tuesday evening, said that of 600,000 persons who had signed the pledge in the United States, 450,000 had broken it.

CHATBURN CHURCH, NEAR CLITHEROE, LANCASHIRE.

THIS picturesque Church was struck with lightning during the thunderstorm on Wednesday, the 3rd instant, at four p.m., when the spire was greatly damaged. A labourer, who was standing under a shed close by, witnessed the catastrophe. He states that shortly after the first flash of lightning he saw an immense dark cloud gather around the



CHATBURN CHURCH, STRUCK BY LIGHTNING.

Church, when, with a great rush, the fluid darted downwards and entirely scooped out one side of the steeple, carrying away the stones, connecting irons, &c., to a considerable distance, and distributing them, singly, over the adjacent gardens and fields: one stone only made its way in the Church through the roof. His only companion was injured. The catastrophe is not surprising, as no conducting rod was attached to the spire, although the site of the edifice is considerably higher than the adjoining land, and not far from Pendle-hill. The injury done to the steeple is so great that it must be taken down and rebuilt.

The accompanying Sketch of the ruins was taken immediately after the catastrophe.

PAPER-HANGINGS and PANELLED DECORATIONS.—The Cheapest in London is at CRACE'S Wholesale Warehouse, 22, Great Pulteney-street, Oxford-street, where the Palace and the Trade are now supplied from this extensive and most Extensive Assortment in the Kingdom. Thirty per Cent Cheaper than any House.

FUTVOYE'S £4 4s. GOLD WATCHES, four holes jewelled, horizontal escapement, warranted.—Silver Watches, £2 12s. Sole Gold Chains, of the most approved pattern, at per ounce; and the fashion only charged. Every description of Jewellery taken in exchange, or purchased for cash.—124, Regent-street, corner of Beak-street.

FUTVOYE'S WEDDING and BIRTHDAY PRESENTS, comprising every description of English and Foreign Fancy Goods, dressing and writing-cases, workboxes, jewellery, clocks, watches, bronzes, china, glass, alabaster, papier maché, and French stationery at Paris prices; Bibles, Prayer-books, and thousands of articles in bijouterie and earth. FUTVOYE and CO., 124, Regent-street, corner of Beak street.

FUTVOYE'S EIGHT-DAY ROUND BRASS DIALS, warranted, also an immense variety of French Clocks, from 18s. to 18 gs.; eight-day, 30s. to 35s.; also, every variety of American Clocks, at 23 3s. each, of the newest and most elegant designs.—FUTVOYE and CO., 124, Regent-street, corner of Beak-street, and 76, Rue de Rivoli, Paris.

FUTVOYE'S £3 4s. LADIES' ROSEWOOD DRESSING-CASES, with all the fittings complete for use. Both A and B are worthy of inspection, and forming cases for the most fastidious taste, combining comfort, elegance, and every description of fancy cut-set and rather goods.—124, Regent-street, corner of Beak-street.

FUTVOYE'S PAPIER MACHE ARTICLES for the Toilet, Work, Writing, and Reticule Tables, Work and Work Boxes, Envelope Cases, Inkstands, Cheese Cases, &c. Mr. FUTVOYE begs to call the attention of the ton and Manufacturer to specimens far surpassing those of any other Manufacturer. All descriptions of Japan Work supplied to equal new.—124, Regent-street, corner of Beak-street.

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

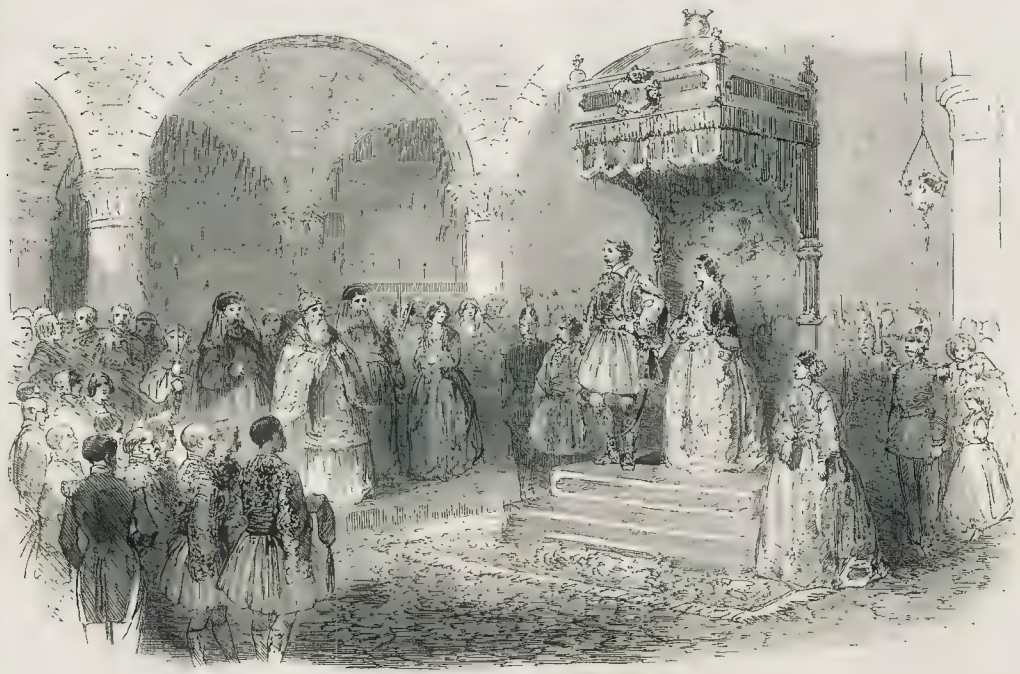
No. 683.—VOL. XXIV.] SATURDAY, MAY 20, 1854. [WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.

THE POLICY OF GERMANY AND SCANDINAVIA.

As every one is desirous that the war with Russia may be brought to a speedy, honourable, and safe conclusion—speedy because of the miseries which war inevitably produces; honourable, because war, with all its horrors, is preferable to a dishonourable peace; and safe, because the world requires a guarantee against any renewed aggression on the part of the fanatic despot who has caused the embroilment—it becomes important to know whether Great Britain and France are to have all the trouble and all the expense, as well as all the glory, of the conflict? They can doubtless manage the weighty business without allies, even were one or more of the neutral Powers to turn against them. But, strong and confident as they may be, there is no denying that there are several States in Europe whose immediate assistance would be of the highest value. It is necessary, in the first place, to restrain, and possibly to punish, the evil-doer; but it is equally necessary, when the struggle shall be brought to a close, that the Great Commonwealth of Civilisation should be preserved from a renewal of the danger. The Scandinavian and Germanic nations are more particularly called upon to take part in the question—not only because of their contiguity to the offender, but because his success would be the destruction of their independence, their freedom, and their prosperity. Great Britain and France would remain the equals, if not the superiors, of Russia, in all that contributo to the stability and the grandeur of states, were the Russian flag to float in triumph over Constantinople; but the Germanic and Scandinavian States would, in that case, only exist upon the sufferance of the Czar. Their commerce would be in his keeping, and their liberty would depend upon his caprice.

The people of Denmark, Sweden, and Norway are fully aware of their interests in this respect, and look upon the Russians with distrust and aversion. A similar feeling exists in Austria, Prussia, and the various minor States of the Germanic Confederation. To call a man a Russian is the worst term of opprobrium that the imagination of a German can invent. It implies, in his estimation, not only slavery, but dirt and brutality. The Scandinavians look upon the English not only as their natural allies, but as their brothers in blood. A leading German journal has recently expressed the pride of all true Germans that the language and literature of Germany and England have so many points of resemblance, and claimed the English as the most noble and vigorous offshoot of the Teutonic races. The Danes and Swedes openly pray for the success of Sir Charles Napier in the Baltic, and shout the chorus of "God save the Queen" with almost as much enthusiasm as the British sailors. The Finlanders detest the yoke of the Czar, and look back with regret to the days when they formed an independent portion of the Swedish kingdom, and deplore their junction with an Empire of which they form the only population that can make any pretensions to civilisation. The Prussians—who claim, with much reason, to be as highly advanced and civilised a nation as the French—are impatient of the insolent patronage of a barbarian Power; and the Austrians know that they never can become the prosperous nation which they ought to be, as long as the protection of Russia lies like an incubus upon their Government—and as long as the mouths of the Danube are in possession of a Power whose policy it is to make Austria a State as landlocked as Switzerland. Unfortunately, however, the decision of the part which is to be taken by these intelligent nations does not rest with the people, or with the Parliaments freely elected by them. The comparatively free States of Scandinavia have too little weight or power, to incur the risk of moving, until they know that the confederacy against the public enemy will become general; so that we have to look to Austria and to Prussia—one a despotism, and the other a *quasi* despotism, with the mere shadow of a free legislature—to give the signal which shall decide the destiny of Europe.

The policy of Austria begins to declare itself. Day by day the Emperor and his advisers are increasing the distance which separates them from the cause of the Czar. The spirit of the Austrian people sensibly operates upon their Government. Austria will not allow the Montenegrins to assist the Russians, and will cooperate in the coercion of the Greeks, if King Otho be mad enough to risk his kingdom in the attempt to create in his dominions, or in Albania, a perilous diversion in favour of the Russians. The "huge ingratitude," of which Prince Schwarzenberg declared his willingness to be guilty, if Russia persisted in her humiliation of the Austrian empire, begins to be considered by the Austrian Court as a piece of "ingratitude" as meritorious and necessary as it will be "huge." The Sovereign of that ancient State succeeded to the throne at a time when it seemed scarcely possible that its disintegration and destruction could be avoided. Before his youthful mind a vision of splendour has always been present,—a vision which he may have it in his power to realise by consolidating his rule, removing the well-founded discontent of his Sclavonian, Hungarian, and Italian subjects, extending the liberties of all classes and races, and freeing himself from the degrading sense of subjection, and of owing his crown, not to the affection of his own people, but to the bayonets of a foreign potentate. Could he accomplish this task, he would be the greatest and most illustrious Sovereign of the House of Hapsburg. Such a task, splendid and difficult as it is, will be possible to him, if he unite his armies with those of Great Britain



OTHO, KING OF GREECE, AND HIS QUEEN, IN THE CATHEDRAL AT ATHENS.—(SEE NEXT PAGE)

and France. The approval of his people will go along with him, and the name of Austria will cease to be synonymous with rottenness and decay. The people of Germany are slower-minded than the English and the French. They take a longer time to reflect and to act, and their Governments are even slower and more phlegmatic. But Austria has evidently begun to move, and every week adds strength to the conviction that the generous Sovereign and his experienced advisers will take that rightful side, which youthful impulse and the calculations of aged wisdom alike recommend.

The King of Prussia is by no means in so hopeful a condition. The Prussian people are ashamed of Russian protection, and long to cast off the yoke; but the King has neither the sense to understand his position, nor the courage to do either right or wrong. His whole course of conduct is suicidal. He dares not express himself openly like a man. Unfit for his high office, even in ordinary and peaceful times, he is doubly and trebly unfit at a time like the present. He is, probably, aware that his duty is to declare against Russia, but his personal feeling in favour of the Czar, and perhaps an ill-grounded hope, feoundated in his ill-regulated mind, that Prussia might chance, by the Czar's aid, to obtain in a general scramble a large accession of territory, lead him to lay false with his own conscience. While Austria seems to be approximating to the Western Alliance, Prussia is daily separating from it. Almost every post brings the news of some fresh act of perfidy committed by the King in favour of the Czar. One day His Majesty recalled M. Von Bunsen from London, because that able diplomatist saw and declared that the true course for Prussia was to join the Anti Russian Alliance. Another day he dismissed his War Minister, General Von Bonin, for asserting in eloquent language that the alliance of Prussia with Russia would be an act of parricide. Untaught by the regret or reprobation which this step created in his dominions, the King quarrelled with his brother and heir-apparent for agreeing in opinion with General Von Bonin—deprived him of his high military command, and banished him from the Court to Baden-Baden. It is not difficult to predict what will be the result of this wilful blindness on the part of the King. Unless he open his eyes he will fall into a ditch, and the ditch will be—Abdication. There is public spirit in Prussia not to be outraged with impunity. The Prussians encourage too ardent a patriotism, and have ideas too enlightened of the rank which Prussia ought to hold in the great European Commonwealth, to permit them to tolerate the degradation of their Fatherland beneath the chariot wheels of the Czar. Either the King of Prussia will have to follow where his people lead, or he will have to resign the crown to the abler, clearer-sighted, and honester brother whom he has disgraced and banished. The large French army that is immediately to assemble at St. Omer, within a few easy marches of the Rhine, will perhaps tend to impart a little energy to the King's purpose. We hope the Prussian people will not consider the French camp as a menace against their independence; but, if they do, it will show them how perilous is the indecision of a Sovereign who leaves no alternative but Russian insolence on the one hand, or French supremacy on the other. We may be sure that nothing of the kind is intended by France; but, ere the Russians take offence, they should remember the mighty interests at stake, and the perilous position of Europe. They have good sense here than sufficient to lead them right, and to discover at the same time that nobody leads them wrong but a weak-minded Sovereign, whose personal predilections appear to be stronger than his sense of public duty.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday

Paris is emptying as fast as it can of the *beau monde:* the season is over, the *soirées* are closing, the châteaux are being aired, and set in order, for the reception of hosts and guests

M. de Lazareff, whose arrest and imprisonment, on a charge of entertaining a secret correspondence with St. Petersburg, created so much sensation, has not only been set at liberty, after a short interrogation, but has received an authorisation to remain in France—a privilege, however which he declines accepting, and has taken, or is about to take, his departure from Paris.

The report, which had gained great credit, that the whole of the Champs Elysées, with the exception of the Grand Avenue, was to be built upon, has been contradicted by the *Moniteur*. The only alterations to take place in this quarter are certain enlargements, which are found to be absolutely indispensable in the new Palais d'Industrie, and the widening of some wide streets, in the place of the mean and narrow ones which now exist, between the Grand Avenue and the quays. The new Boulevard Malesherbes is to be terminated by a magnificent monument, somewhat in the style of that at the station of the Strasburg Railway; it is to form, moreover, the entrance to the Park of Monceaux, which, instead of being divided, and sold in lots, as was intended, is to be preserved, and, as a report, which appears to have some grounds of truth, states, is about to be sold by the Ville de Paris to a company for the space of ninety-nine years, for the purpose of establishing nothing less than sea-baths. Be the rumour true or false, it is positive that the plans for the formation of such an establishment are its own out; that in them it is proposed to establish a basin of enormous extent, which is to be kept constantly supplied by three machines, on the principle of those at Marly, which are to be placed on the cliffs at Passy, and to discharge the water through pipes along the whole line of the Champs Elysées to Paris. The expense of the whole is estimated at 966,865 francs.

As soon as the Camp at St. Omer is formed, it is the intention of the Emperor to proceed thither, and pass a week on the spot. The report that he is to be destined a very high command there, immediately under his own orders, for the General Baraguay d'Hilliers, on his return from Constantinople, is confirmed by the *Moniteur*.

A few days since took place the sale of the effects of the late Abbé Desmalis. It was generally supposed and reported that these were of great rarity and value; but the result has proved how greatly these reports were exaggerated. With the exception of two or three pictures, a few bronzes, and other works of art, and a small but well-selected library, chiefly containing books of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries—the value of which is not a little enhanced by their almost all possessing extended marginal notes in the writing of their late possessor—the property of M. Lamennais included little beyond what might be found in the dwelling of any individual of refined though simple taste and moderate fortune.

M. Alexandre Dumas is commencing a new novel, in twelve volumes—it is not stated in how many days it is to be completed—for the United States.

The Orangerie of the Louvre has been arranged for the barracks of the Cent Gardes. This corps is to be formed and drilled at Versailles, before entering on its functions. It is rumoured that the institution of the Pages is to be renewed, but we know not if the report have much foundation.

The attempts of the clergy to induce the shopkeepers to close their houses on Sunday, in compliance with the circular of the Archbishop of Paris, are extremely ill-received in all quarters, and there seems to be but little likelihood of much effect being produced for the present, at all events: possibly, if the clergy persevere in exhorting and preaching on the subject, as they generally do when a point is to be carried, some good may eventually be brought about.

Another innovation meets with but little more favour in some of the provinces; the new sous and two-sous pieces are, in certain parts, refused by the peasants, on the plea that they are lighter than the old ones, and that consequently they have not their money's worth—while, on the other hand, the village shopkeepers and small *marchands* object to receive the old sous, fancying their value depreciated by the introduction of the new.

The season of the Italian Opera came to a close last week. As a whole, it has been tolerably successful under the management of Signor Ragani. The "Beatrice di Tenda," sung by Frezzolini, wound up the season with loud and continuous applause; and M. Ragani is already taking his measures to re-open the theatre in four months for a "spell," as the Yankees say, of eighteen, in consequence of the Industrial Exhibition.

ANGLO-FRENCH OCCUPATION OF GREECE.

It is positively stated that an Anglo French army will occupy Greece in the beginning of June. The army of occupation, it is said, will consist of somewhere about 15,000 men, of which 10,000 will be contributed by the French. The regiments forming the English portion of the force have received their orders for immediate embarkation. They are the 20th Regiment, at Plymouth; the 34th, and first battalion of the Rifle Brigade, at Portsmouth; the 21st and 42rd, in Dublin; and the 97th, at Windsor.

The rebellion in Greece is said to have been effectually put down for the present by Fuad Effendi. Communication with Prevesa is now fully restored, and it was expected that the road to Janina would be entirely free in a short time.

The English and French Ambassadors left Athens, for Negropont, on the 3rd inst.

Letters from Smyrna state that, in consequence of the increase of piracy in the Archipelago, it is considered unsafe for vessels to leave that port without convoy.

Letters from Athens of the 7th inst. confirm the announcement in previous despatches of the closing of the Legislative Corps by King Otho.

The Illustration upon the preceding page portrays Otho and his Queen, as they appeared in the Cathedral, at Athens, on the 25th of March, surrounded by their Court and attendants. The raised throne and canopy, with their showy embroidery, are at variance with the sacred character of a church; and the helmeted guards, to our thinking, are ill-placed in a temple of peaceful religion. Opposite is the venerable Patriarch of the Church, ascending the steps leading to the choir; in the rear are young priests bearing candles in a manner peculiar to the Greek Church. The costumes are varied, picturesque, and striking. The Cathedral, in which this display of ecclesiastical and regal state takes place, is a handsome Byzantine structure, with a modern steeple.

INVESTMENT OF SEBASTOPOL.

The Admirals and the fleet left Odessa on the 26th of April, and proceeded to Sebastopol, off which place it was to be the general rendezvous of the fleet. A telegraphic message from Odessa states that the Anglo-French fleet, consisting of thirty ships of war, was within sight of Sebastopol, in a south-easterly direction, on the 28th of April. Other accounts say that a powerful division of both fleets, including the steamers under the command of Rear-Admiral Sir E. Lyons, was to be detached for the purpose of clearing the coasts of the Crimea, Georgia, and Circassia of "everything Russian" in the shape of ships or forts—a small squadron being stationed off the Sulina mouth of the Danube, and a couple of steamers left at Odessa to watch that port.

The understanding in Constantinople was that Sebastopol would not be seriously attacked until Sir Edward Lyons had returned with the steamers, after destroying the forts of Anapa, Soudjoukale, and Redoutkale. The steam frigate *Terrible* left Constantinople on the 2nd inst., to join the squadron on the coast of Circassia. Lieutenant Stanton, of the Royal Engineers, accompanied the *Terrible*, which is to land and proceed into the interior of Circassia, to meet Schamyl. A body of 200 horsemen, sent by the Circassian hero, will meet them on the coast. A letter in the *Patrie* says that—

Since the destruction by the Russians of the different forts on the coast, the Circassians have commenced to re-construct them. The works are pushed with great vigour, and executed under the direction of European engineers and officers. Fort Lazarew, which was less damaged than the others, is entirely restored, and defended by pieces of artillery which the Ottoman Government sent, and which are well served. Fort Wiliamino and Fort Navaleraki are also armed, and redoubts in earth have been raised on the shore to prevent the enemy from disembarking. A party of Circassians took possession, on the confines of the Crimea, of two Russian gun-boats which were at anchor. They were immediate y carried to the Bay of Pschad, and on the following day they took possession of a considerable number of vessels, and caused alarm all along the coast. The independent tribes showed success in organising a little flotilla they will go great mischief to the Russians.

The Turkish fleet, consisting of nine ships of the line, with twenty-four vessels of different sizes, including seven steamers, and mounting altogether 1040 guns, entered the Black Sea, on the 4th instant, with munitions of war for the Circassians. A letter from Constantinople says the Turkish fleet will land 15,000 troops in the Crimea, to act against Sebastopol, so that it may be assailed at once by sea and land.

SIR CHARLES NAPIER IN THE BALTIC.

There is no further news of any importance from the Baltic Fleet; but something important is expected daily, now that steamers have commenced running between Stockholm and St. Petersburg. An American and two Russian ships are said to have arrived at Gottland on the 5th, so that the navigation is now completely open. Letters from St. Petersburg of the 9th instant state that the British fleet had been seen within twenty-five to thirty miles off Cronstadt, and had captured a number of Russian gun-boats.

(From our own Correspondent.)

The Admiral went up to Stockholm on the 24th April, and had audience from the King (Oscar) at half-past eleven the following morning. The King's reception of the Admiral at this early hour was considered a mark of great favour, and was granted, it was said, in consequence of the Admiral's wish to be with his fleet again as soon as possible. After the audience the Queen invited him to breakfast in her apartments. The Admiral remained nearly two hours at the Palace. The people collected in crowds outside to see him come out, and cheered most enthusiastically. The Royal steam-yacht, which was waiting with her crew up, took him down to Vaxholm (about six miles below Stockholm), where a larger steamer was waiting to take him to the fleet. When it was known that he was likely to visit Stockholm, a number of people practised "Rule Britannia," to sing before the house where he might be stopping; but his short stay prevented the intended compliment. No thing can exceed his popularity here; everybody is anxious to get a sight of him; and there is a portrait of him, copied from that in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, in all the shop windows.

The students from Upsala have been down to visit the Admiral; they sent a letter down announcing their intention of waiting upon him, and came down in a steamer, which was crowded with them. After going on board the *Duke of Wellington*, they steamed round to look at the fleet, and then returned highly gratified.

ARRIVAL OF THE "AUSTERLITZ" AT THE FLEET.

May 1.—About one p.m. to-day a large vessel was seen entering the channel, and was soon made out to be the *Austerlitz*. She came up under steam alone, and saluted the Admiral with seventeen guns, which was returned with the same number. Her head is a figure of Napoleon, about two-thirds length, very well carved and gilt; her guns appear closer together than ours, and she carries them all along on the upper deck, and has thus three complete decks. Her sterns is very peculiar, and has a large figure of an angel on each side, with a spread eagle in the centre, all painted white; and her two white streaks are carried right round the stern. As she steamed close past the *Duke of Wellington*, the two figures seemed to meet; the great massive head of the Duke, with its stern expression, all white, leaning forwards towards the other, which came on with head erect, and the right arm across the chest.

May 3.—A schooner yacht has just joined the fleet—the *Esmeralda*, one of the western yachts. She came dashing up with a fresh breeze in fine style this morning, and continued cruising about among the ships during the rest of the day. We hear they are going to sea with us. Everybody was delighted to see the "plucky little craft." The *Prince Regent* arrived in the afternoon.

May 4.—The *Cumberland* came in this morning. The following is a list of the vessels here to-day, but any hour may change this, from vessels being sent away:—

SCREW STEAMERS.	SAILING SHIPS.	PADDLE STEAMERS.
Duke of Wellington	Cressy	Neptune	Basilisk
St. Jean d'Acre	Ceasar	Monarch	Gorgon
Princess Royal	Edinburgh	Boscawen	Dragon
James Watt	Hogue	Prince Regent	Magicienne
Royal George	Blenheim	Cumberland	Lightning
Austerlitz		Esmeralda (yacht)	

Fogs, with rain, are frequent now. The pilots say the ice is breaking up. A very short time will show whether or not the Russians intend coming out.

The yacht brought an account of a Swedish squadron—two line-of-battle ships and some frigates—cruising outside.

WRETCHED CONDITION OF THE RUSSIAN ARMY.

The Austrian papers begin to let out a little of the truth about the condition of the Russians on the Danube. A Vienna medical paper, after stating that the immense train of waggons and carts which follow into Russian troops into the Dobrudja had returned for fresh supplies of provisions, says they bring back hundreds of wounded, and thousands of ruined arms and spoiled equipments. More than 400 wounded are expected from Karasu. In Braila, Galatz, and Reni new wards have been hastily built up for 2000 additional patients. These, however, are not enough. The flying hospitals bring such numbers, and in such quick succession from the Dobrudja, that divisions of the sick have to be sent twice a day to Hirsova, Matchin; and thence again across to the left bank. It is difficult to describe in all their stern reality the hardships and privations now endured by the Russians in the Dobrudja. The Russians have there more than 2000 wounded, and above 3000 dead and missing. The loss in horses, baggage, and munition is equally great. This estimate falls short of the truth. Not far from Kustendjee, upon a marshy bit of ground that is not 1000 fathoms in length, there lie now 243 Russians and 71 horses; and yet this was one of the least important spots where an obstinate fight came off, and where the Russians were defeated. The Turks, far better acquainted with the country, and the means of turning it to good account, are accustomed to open fire upon their enemy at the beginning of each engagement with their heavy guns, of which they have plenty, and their effect is great indeed. Their artillery is better served than the Russian, as all eye-witnesses acknowledge. The mortality among the Russian wounded was in April last 21 per cent. A great cause of sickness among the troops is the mouldy biscuit and the want of wholesome water to drink. The affair at Tchernavoda, the bloodiest of them all—it is thus confirmed by the medical writer—has changed the face of all around. Citizen and peasant exist no longer, for every man is a soldier from dire necessity and for self-preservation. The Russian officers in Wallachia are sending back all they possess, and which they wish to keep, to Russia—that is to say, their wives, jewels, ornaments, and horse furniture. They no longer talk big of spending the summer on the shores of the Bosphorus. Behind Fokshan a new hospital is building, and this shows alone what the Russian Commander-in-Chief thinks of the present war. The *Augsburg Gazette*, which is generally well informed about Russian movements, estimates that the epidemic has already put 18,000 Russians *hors de combat* since their occupation of the Dobrudja.

The great depôt of artillery and munitions of war at Fokshani is said to have been burned as an act of vengeance by the inhabitants. Should this prove to be correct the loss to the Russians will be very serious.

Despatches received on Tuesday by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs report a signal advantage gained by the Turks on the Danube. Fifty Russian guns are stated to have been spiked or taken; and it is further said, that, owing to floods on the banks of the Danube and a rising of the Wallachians against the invaders, the Russian army in the Dobrudja is in a most perilous position.

ARRIVAL OF PRINCE NAPOLEON AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

On the 1st inst., at one p.m., the steam corvette *Roland* was descried off the Seraglio Point, conveying Prince Napoleon, with his numerous staff and suite. A Royal salute from the land batteries, as well as from all the English, French, and American ships of war, announced the event. M. Baraguay d'Hilliers, with all the *personnel* of his Embassy, got on board the *Ajaccio*, which followed in the track of the *Roland* to the Prince's Palace on the Bosphorus. On arriving there, the Ambassador, after having introduced his officials, got into his boat, and proceeded in all haste to the Imperial Palace of Tcheragan to announce the arrival of his Imperial Highness. It so happened that the Sultan had been out to ride, and Chamil Bey, the Teschifetgi, was accordingly despatched to acquaint His Majesty with the circumstance. The Sultan arrived in all haste, commanded instantly to see the Ambassador, and conversed for a few moments with his Excellency in the palace garden. A messenger was immediately despatched to say that his Highness was ready to receive the Prince, who, on arriving shortly after, was most graciously welcomed by the young Sovereign at the bottom of the staircase. The incident, trifling as it may appear, produced a great sensation, and is perhaps unparalleled in the annals of the Ottoman Court. The Sultan then conducted his Imperial guest to the Presence Chamber, and, having seated him by his side, conversed familiarly, through the medium of Redschid Pacha, on the great events of the day, and expressed, in the warmest terms, his gratitude to the French Emperor for the real and effectual assistance afforded ever since the commencement of this struggle. Two days after—another unheard-of circumstance—the Sultan returned the visit of his Imperial Highness, and anxiously inquired whether all had been provided for the comfort of his Royal guest, assuring him that the strictest orders had been given to that effect.

On the 2nd inst the French Ambassador introduced to his Imperial Highness, the French colony of Constantinople, and the chiefs of the different Missions. The Grand Vizier, the Ministers, and great functionaries, also paid their respects in the afternoon on that day. In the following day a grand banquet was given at the French Embassy, in honour of the Prince, at which the diplomatic corps, General Prim and staff, Lord Raglan, and the principal Turkish functionaries were present.

On Saturday, the 6th inst., Prince Napoleon was invited to dine with his Majesty at the Imperial Palace of Tcheragan.

THE ALLIED TROOPS AT GALLIPOLI.

On the morning of the 29th ult. a tempest fell upon the town of Gallipoli. Torrents of rain, driven by a violent southerly wind, inundated the streets. Several merchantmen in the roads were driven from their anchors, and wrecked on the coast. About four o'clock the steam-corvette, *Roland*, with Prince Napoleon, was signalled; but shortly before, the sky had cleared, and the storm abated. A quintuple salute of twenty-one guns from the ships of the squadron was fired in honour of the Prince, and the *Roland* cast anchor in the midst of the flags of the fleet, the flags of the two nations being profusely displayed. The yards were then manned, and the seven hurrahs required by the regulations were given *con amore*, while the bands on board the different ships played military airs. The generals, with the intendants and all the officers of the staff, were in attendance on the beach to receive the Prince; and the troops having been turned out as a guard of honour, the whole affair took on an appearance of gaiety to which the inhabitants were little accustomed, and which they seemed to enjoy greatly. One of the best houses in Gallipoli having been prepared for the reception of the French Prince, he forthwith transferred his quarters to it, and was occupied the rest of the day in the reception of French and Turkish officials and deputations.

On the following day, April 30, a great review of the French troops took place, for the first time since their arrival at Gallipoli, and it was calculated to excite wonder of the natives, who flocked from distant parts of the country to see the strange troops, and whose numbers are now computed of by both French and English as a positive inconvenience. The review took place half-way between Boulahir and the field of the great river, in the triangle formed by those two points and Gallipoli. The Prince was accompanied to the ground by all the general officers, the officers of the staff, the Turkish functionaries, and by General Brown, and most of the English officers. The Spanish General Prim was also in attendance. The weather was splendid, and the whole affair went off exceedingly well.

In the afternoon Prince Napoleon again embarked on board the *Roland* to proceed to Constantinople. He was accompanied to the landing-place by General Canrobert and his staff, by the Governor and authorities of the town, and by the Generals and superior officers of the English army. The troops were under arms, and received his imperial Highness with loud cries of "Vive l'Empereur!" "Vive le Prince Napoléon!" Salutes were fired by the vessels of war at anchor in the port.

The news of the bombardment of Odessa has produced a profound sensation among the Greeks living at Gallipoli. They knew it before the English did, and they made no attempt to conceal their disappointment. So true is it that in Turkey the religious creed is a much stronger bond of union than temporal interests, for the whole of the Greeks in Gallipoli are petty shopkeepers, to whom the presence of the European troops is a certain fortune. Many of them have already realised immense sums by their trafficking with the troops. According to the latest accounts, rents were so high, that a wretched shop (built of wood) is freely let for 200 francs a month—a sum far beyond what the construction of it could have cost. Provisions were dear; but there was said to be no deficiency in the supply, and the only complaint on that score was that the native population and the Ottoman troops were engaged in a perpetual contest on the subject of prices. There was a demand for everything, and an abundant supply of nothing that has become essential to the comfort of the least luxurious private. Fancy a hard old Yankee ham fetching 20s., Dutch cheese at 8s. each, and beer—not Bass's, but bad foreign beer—at 1s. 6d. a bottle! This dearth of commodities, however, appears to have been in a fair way of removal. Letters of the 1st inst., state that shopkeepers were arriving in crowds from Smolensk, Smyrna, Marseilles, Algiers, Malta, and even from London, so that we shall probably soon hear of the markets, at Gallipoli, being as completely glutted with the comforts and luxuries of life, as those of London and Paris generally are.

THE RUSSIANS IN THE PACIFIC.

The two Russian frigates *Diana* and *Aurora*, which have lately been cruising in the Pacific, stand a rather good chance of being captured by some French or English vessel, unless the captains should adopt the safe Russian method of stalking into a neutral port. Our latest news from Callao are to the 12th of April, at which time the British frigate *President*, 50, and the French 50 gun frigate *La Forte*, both remained at that port waiting the news of the declaration of war with Russia, when they would, no doubt, concert measures for capturing the *Diana*. Whichever of the frigates pursues the *Diana*, and brings her to action, the other will wait off Valparaiso the arrival of the other Russian frigate, the *Aurora*, from Rio, and do her best to ensure her before she can reach a neutral port.

The *Diana*, after lying at Valparaiso for some weeks, the *President* being there at the same time, sailed for the Sandwich Islands on March 23. A Valparaiso paper says:

During the time the Russian frigate was in port, her officers and men were often on shore. The officers are remarkably intelligent, well-bred, and good-looking men, and have by their urbanity, affability, and gentlemanly deportment secured the esteem and good wishes of many persons here, both native and foreign. When questioned as to the prospect of war between Russia and France and Great Britain, they were naturally reserved. But when asked, in reference to the probability of a hostile encounter between the *Diana* and *President*, what were their opinions of the issue, the Russian commander was only heard to say, "We shall never strike our flag."

We learn by the Overland Telegraph, that the Russian squadron that has been so long in the China Seas, left Manilla, March 18, for Batavia. We trust that they will not hear of the declaration of war before our Anglo-French squadrons take the intelligence, and the enemy too, at the same time.

EGYPT.

(From our own Correspondent.)

CAIRO, April 28th, 1854.

THE order of the Egyptian Government, that the Greeks should leave this country within twenty-four hours after the expiration of the last day of the month of April, will, doubtless, be carried out, as regards Greeks not under the protection of Great Britain or other friendly Powers. Those who are obliged to leave, complain loudly of the difficulty of collecting debts, and, consequently, of settling with their creditors. The Pacha's police, however, are lending them such aid as they can legitimately expect; nor can they, as far as is at present known, complain of any harshness whatever in the conduct of the Government or people of this country.

Various rumours are rife here of encounters between the Allies and the Russians, by sea and land, which meet but little credit with the well-informed. In the intervals of our now frequent arrivals from Europe. The only newspaper published here is the *Boulac Independent*, a fortnightly Government paper, in Arabic and Turkish.

The people seem to appreciate the active intervention of the English and French, though but little is said of the war, at least in public. There is a deficiency of labourers, owing to the large forces sent to Constantinople. The number of men employed on the railway between this and Alexandria varies extremely; indeed, it would much advance the interests of this country were more attention paid to public works of a reproductive character, and less to the construction of palaces.

The garrison of Cairo consists of about 18,000 men, 1000 of whom are cavalry, consisting of two regiments, each 500 strong—one Caramineers, in white uniform; the other, Lancers, in crimson. Attached to the cavalry are 400 dromedaries, for the conveyance of men, guns, or ammunition. Besides these regular forces, there are 5000 armed police, many of whom are well mounted, the others act on foot.

A new levy of recruits for the army is ordered, the number required being 30,000. Much difficulty will doubtless be experienced in raising so large a force in Egypt at present.

His Highness Abbas Pacha contemplates building a palace in the vicinity of Mount Horeb; and has at present above 3000 men constructing a road from Tor, a port on the Gulf of Suez, towards that sacred mountain.

In addition to the cavalry above mentioned, the Pacha has a considerable force of Horse Artillery and Irregular Cavalry, besides Mamelukes, or gentlemen troopers.

UNITED STATES.

The steam-ship *Asia*, which left New York on the 3rd inst., arrived at Liverpool on Sunday. She brings no intelligence regarding the screw steam-ship *City of Glasgow*.

In the House of Representatives, Mr. Wheeler had asked consent to offer a resolution directing the Secretary of the Navy to send out steam-vessels in search of the missing steamer, which was objected to.

In the Senate, on May 1, Mr. Mallell moved a resolution permitting the President, during the recess of Congress, to suspend the neutrality laws in the case of Cuba; which was referred, but was not expected to be sanctioned, although the organ of the Government in Washington upholds Mr. Slidell's resolution.

The American papers report serious loss of life and property by floods, caused by deluges of rain all over the States of New York and New England.

Forty soldiers of the United States army are reported to have been killed or wounded in a battle with the Indians in New Mexico.

In Mexico, Santa Anna is reported to have gained a decisive victory over Alvarez.

AUSTRALIA.

The celebrated clipper ship *Marco Polo* arrived at Liverpool on Saturday last, after a very quick run of eighty-three days, having left Melbourne on the 19th February. The present voyage may be classed as one of the best ever made by this vessel, when it is considered that she had scarcely half her complement of crew owing to desertions. She passed everything before her, amongst other ships the celebrated *Boomerang*, which sailed four days prior to the *Marco Polo*, for Callao. The *Marco Polo* was at the River Plate thirty-five days after leaving Port Phillip Head. The screw-steamer *Australian* sailed from Port Phillip Head on the 10th of February, for London, with several passengers, and 78,907 ounces of gold. She was to call at the Cape of Good Hope, for which she had £1000 in specie.

The news by the *Marco Polo*, though late, does not possess much interest to an English reader. Adelaide papers state the Government measure of having two Chambers, one composed of nominees of the Crown, was very popular, and a memorial against its adoption largely signed. A letter from Forest Creek, Mount Alexander, dated Feb. 10, says:—"Hundreds of persons are daily passing through here on their way to the Tarrengower diggings, and the number of teams loaded with stores of all kinds for the same place is almost incredible. The reports of these diggings are very favourable, but the great scarcity of water is a serious impediment to the operations of the diggers. There is another new rush about four miles from Castlemaine, and the same distance from Campbell's station, in a parallel line with the river Loddon, and leading into the Tarrengower diggings at Bryant's Creek. There are some thousands at work there doing well, and with every prospect of the gold field being extensive."

THE OVERLAND MAIL.

The papers received in anticipation of the Overland Mail, *viâ* Marseilles, bring rather unsatisfactory accounts from Burmah. A detachment of sepoys, escorting provisions to Prome, had been attacked by dacoits, when two sepoys were killed and fourteen wounded. The party, numbering seventy men of the 10th Bengal Native Infantry, under the command of Captain Phillot, when five miles from Taphoon, was fired into from the dense jungle through which the road lay, and in which the dacoits were concealed. On the first fire the cart drivers unyoked their bullocks and ran away, so that Capt. Phillot could neither advance nor return without leaving the wounded and the detachment behind. However, he charged his assailants and drove them through the jungle at the bayonet's point. After two hours' hard fighting, the detachment was reinforced by a party of the 4th Rifles, under the command of Lieutenant Dunbar, who were accompanied by two elephants, upon which the wounded were placed, and all returned to Taphoon. The loss sustained, upon this occasion, by the Burmese, has not been accurately ascertained.

From Persia we have no intelligence upon which we can place much confidence. It is, however, stated that 800 Persians had besieged the fort of Abbas, in which were the Arab Chief, Mahomet Saleem, and about 1000 men. A three-masted vessel, with 500 troops on board, was also firing on the Persians, who are said to have lost 110 men. It is added that the Persians will be obliged to retire, as the Arabs are well supplied with ammunition.

The *Delhi Gazette* has more Russian news from Cabul. A report was prevalent that Newab Jubber Khan had breathed his last, and no end of Russian and Persian agents were said to be actively employed in Khorassan and Turkistan. "Two or three parties," says the *Gazette*, "were already at Herat, with intent to induce Mahomed Taeed Khan, son of the Vizeer of Herat, to cede that place to them whilst the war rages between Russia and Turkey, offering in return Neeshapore, a Persian province of Khorassan, of equal value to Herat, which they would then strengthen and garrison properly."

The great Ganges Canal, which has cost the East India Company more than a million and a half of money, was to be opened by the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-West Provinces, Mr. Colvin, during the month of April.

The Committee to promote the interests of the Great French Exhibition for 1855 has been organised by Lord Dalhousie. It is presided over by the Chief Justice, Sir Laurence Peel. The object is to send to Paris specimens of Indian as London, like those in the department "India" in the Hyde-park demonstration. The Court of Directors has sanctioned an outlay of £50,000 for the purpose.

THE BOMBARDMENT OF ODESSA.

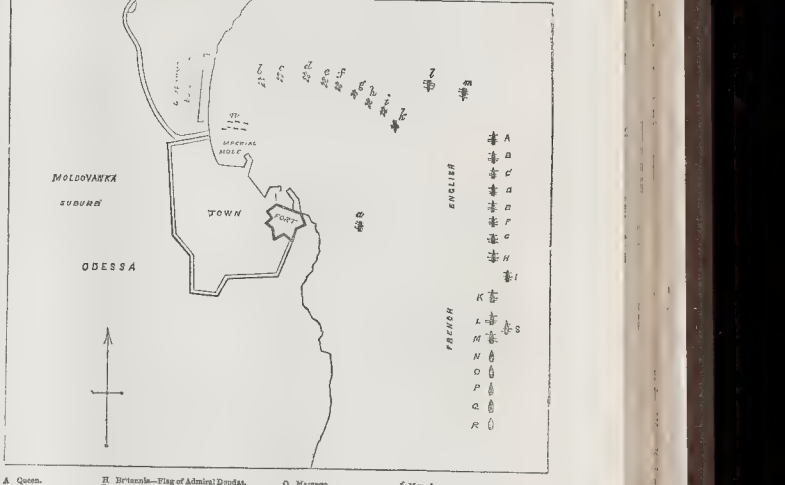
We have been favoured by a Correspondent with the accompanying Plan, showing the destruction of Russian shipping within the Imperial Mole, by steamers and rocket boats of the combined fleets, on Saturday, the 22nd April, 1854; H.M.S. *Arethusa* engaging the small batteries on the cliff and guns at the inner end of the Quarantine Mole.

The action commenced about 6 a.m., by the Imperial Mole opening fire on the *Samson*; soon after one p.m., the magazine on the Mole-head blew up, and the enemy's guns were silenced; rocket boats closed in, and set fire to shipping within the Imperial Mole.

(From a Private Letter.)

April 26th,
Three Miles off Odessa.

We arrived off Odessa on Thursday the 20th, after a passage of four days from Kavarna. The fleet anchored three miles outside, while we and the *Tiger* went in to reconnoitre, keeping of course out of gunshot, and we boarded several merchant vessels. The town is regularly built; the houses are large and handsome, and, as far as we could see, mostly built of stone. We examined the Imperial Mole well, as the Government transports lay there with a great number of small vessels, and some good-sized brigs and barques. In the evening we anchored with the fleet, which was next day joined by the *Retribution* and *Furious*. The captains were on board the flag-ship all that day; and in the evening, when the captain came on board, we heard that the *Tiger*, *Vauban*, *Descartes*, under command of the *Samson*, were going in to attack the Imperial Mole, and destroy the shipping. Accordingly, next morning, at five o'clock, we were under way, and proceeded in, followed by the *Vauban*, *Tiger*, and last by the *Descartes*. The *Sanspareil*, *Highflyer*, *Retribution*, *Terrible*, *Furious*, and *Magicienne* also got under way, in case of our requiring assistance, but kept outside. At five minutes after six we went to quarters, and loaded with shot; and thirty-six minutes after six fired the first shot at a large barque that was in the Mole. Ere the smoke from our gun had cleared away, it was returned, and the shot came whizzing into us, passing through the stern of one of our quarter boats. The wounded man knocked down his first after-gun's crew, and one of the marines was wounded in the wrist: it was, indeed, a narrow escape for the others. After this they came in pretty fast, we returning them in fine style. They had a "limp" moored off the Fort, to which all their guns were laid; and as we went round it is so covered by our little squadron, they gave us plenty of shot. One entered the aftermost port, hit the mizen mast, knocked away a bit of the wheel, and our after compass, hit a man in the thigh, and dropped down by his side. * * * The shot that struck the ship did no harm, though there were four men steering at the time. After



PLAN OF THE BOMBARDMENT OF ODESSA.

back to our former position, and anchored head and stern. Half the ship's company then got some dinner, and we being very tired, were getting a snack in the berth, when we heard great cheering on deck, and running up, beheld the fort blown up, and a number of ships on fire and sinking. A shell or rocket had fired the magazine—up it went, and they could not fire a shot after. The boats then came to the remaining ships; but, as they neared the shore, a battery of field-pieces opened on them, fortunately killing no one. We pitched some Government sheds, which at night made a fine blaze. But I am detaining the bag.

MARRIAGE OF THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA.

ALL accounts agree in representing the ceremony of the recent Marriage of the Emperor of Austria with the Duchess Elizabeth as one of the most magnificent displays ever witnessed in Vienna. First in order was the superb pageant of

THE IMPERIAL BRIDE ENTERING VIENNA.

(See Illustration, page 486.)

The entrance of the Duchess Elizabeth into the city, which took place on the 23rd ult., gave the show loving inhabitants of that city an excellent opportunity of displaying their loyalty. All her route, and especially that which lay without the line, was enlivened by crowds of the Austrians in their holiday costumes, by triumphal arches, flags and banners, in the various national colours of Austria and Bavaria, by happy mottoes on the various houses, and emblematical representations of the Imperial happiness, with music at every turn. Many of the devices were most happily conceived—as that of a window fitted up like a chapel, and containing busts of the Imperial pair, surrounded by vases of roses in full bloom, and the expression of a hope that "they might long flourish and bloom as those roses were then doing." The Theresianum was beautifully adorned with plants, garlands, and flowers from the hothouses of Schonbrun. The Empress elect here made the last additions to her toilette, assumed the wreath and diadem, and conducted by the High Chamberlains, entered with her brother the splendid coronation carriage. She wore an exquisitely fine lace dress, over a silk slip of *couleur de rose*. On her head she wore a diadem of brilliants, and a garland of fresh pink and white roses; the belt, or girdle, was splendidly set off with precious stones—rubies, emeralds, &c., and she wore magnificent bracelets. From the Theresianum, down the Favoriten and Wadner streets, and over the glacis to the Karnthner Thor, where she entered the city, it was one triumphal procession. Proceeding slowly over the glacis, amid the vivats of the multitude, a pause of some minutes occurred at the new and elegant Elizabethan Brucke, over the Wien, now for the first time opened to the public, and called after the Imperial bride. This bridge was most tastefully ornamented with flowers and evergreens; whilst on five elegant tribunes, erected at each end and side of it, the families of the Municipal Body of Vienna presided over their burgomaster, Chevalier de Seiller, welcomed their future Empress, who received at this point the welcomes and felicitations of the city. The three bands on the glacis, meanwhile, were playing the National Hymn of Austria. Advancing over this beautiful structure to the city gate, which was ornamented with evergreens so as to resemble a natural arbour, and having an allegorical figure of "Welcome" on the ramparts above it, the cortège entered the city. Here the streets were kept by lines of soldiers, as they had hitherto been by the tradesmen of the several guilds, and by the firemen of Vienna itself. The whole street was in its gayest attire; every house was ornamented with flags, tapestries, rich carpets hanging from the windows, and Imperial coats of arms and ciphers; every window was alive with spectators—the most distinguished houses being the Prussian Embassy, the hotels, and the banking house of Persenitti. Through the Karnthner Strasse the cortège proceeded by the Stockimisen Platz to the Graben, where the most splendid scene of all presented itself. Every house here was richly ornamented—those of Prince Bibesco, the Sparkasse, and Count Thun especially so. Immense tribunes occupied the open spaces, whilst one sea of heads and happy faces alone was distinguishable. By the Kholmarkt, which was in the same style, and in which the Bourgoyy Palace, the Hofsaer, and Mayerhofe houses were most conspicuous, the procession reached the Imperial Burg or Palace, and, passing through the inner court, reached the heights of Bellaria, where the Emperor, advancing at the head of his Court, assisted his bride to alight from her chariot, and after embracing her with genuine affection, conducted her into the Palace of his ancestors.

THE MARRIAGE CEREMONY.

(See Illustration, page 487.)

The decorations of the Church of the Augustins were appropriately grand and superb for this solemn occasion. The upper part of the high altar and the side walls were hung with richly gold-embroidered red velvet draperies. The brilliantly-illuminated high altar was adorned with the rarest flowers, ranged on both sides. On the Gospel side was erected a beautifully ornamented platform, with richly-gilt steps, on the upper part of which stood a throne for the Emperor and his august bride, the Imperial Crown being affixed over the same. The transept part of the nave was hung with ample red curtains suspended from the fall height of the roof of the church; the remainder of the church walls were hung with costly carpets, on which religious subjects were ingeniously embroidered. Before the altar there was a prayer desk, covered with gold-embroidered white velvet, for their Majesties, over which a canopy made of the like gorgeous material was suspended. Behind the same were ranged seats with red velvet coverings, for the members of the Imperial and Ducal families. To the left thereof was the oratorical part for the high dignitaries of the Church; on the opposite side was the tribune for the diplomatic corps, behind which on the side of the choir, in a circular and amphitheatrical form, were ranged the seats for the ladies of the Court and the high nobility, the body of generals, and a limited number of the civil and military authorities that were invited. The brilliancy of the illumination surpassed all description. Upwards of 100 large and small lustres were suspended from the vaulting of the church, and about 10,000 wax candles shed a refulgent blaze of light over this imposing spectacle. The corridor leading from the Imperial burg to the church was also hung with rich tapestries, and brilliantly illuminated. The entrances of the church were kept by the Imperial Royal body-guards (*archires*) and pages.

At precisely seven o'clock p.m., a loud and solemn pealing of all the church bells of the city announced that the Imperial bridal procession

GRAND PROCESSION OF THE EMPRESS OF AUSTRIA (ELECT) INTO VIENNA.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

MARRIAGE OF THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA WITH THE PRINCESS ELIZABETH IN THE CHURCH OF THE AUGUSTINS, AT VIENNA

had left the burg, and were approaching the church. The lower officers of the Court, and of the household, led the august procession, according to the usual State etiquette; then came the Pages of Honour, the Privy Councillors, the great nobles holding offices of state in the Imperial household, and then their Imperial Highnesses the Archdukes together. Then followed his Majesty the Emperor, in a white Field-Marshal's uniform, and wearing the large riband of the order of St. Hubert, accompanied by his Lord High Chamberlain, the Count Lanskorouski, his first Aide-de-camp, General Count Grünne, and a detachment of his Guard of Halberdiers, or Life Guards. Then followed her Royal and Imperial Highness the Archduchess Sophia (mother of the Emperor), with the Imperial bride elect, and at her left hand her Highness the Duchess Louise, mother of the bride. Her Royal Highness the Imperial bride wore a beautiful white silk dress, embroidered with gold and silver, with a magnificent train. The girdle and other portions of this bridal robe, as well as the train, were richly adorned with exquisite white gems; whilst on her head her Highness wore the diadem of brilliants which her Imperial Highness the Archduchess Sophie wore on her own wedding day, with a charming lace veil waving gracefully over her snow-white shoulders; and in her bosom appeared a nosegay of fresh roses. Their Imperial Highnesses the Archdukes followed the bride: and then the ladies of the Court closed the bridal train. A burst of trumpets and kettle-drums announced that the bridal pair were entering the church, where the Prince Archbishop Othmar, Chevalier de Rassicher, and the clergy had already assembled to receive them; and then followed the Court to the high altar, where his Majesty the Emperor and his august bride knelt down at a prie-dieu and offered up a prayer; the other members of the Imperial Family taking up their position, meanwhile, under a second lofty canopy.

The Archbishop then proceeded to commence the holy office for matrimony. All the archbishops, bishops, and prelates, in their gorgeous canonical robes, now ranged themselves on either side of the high altar. At the moment at which the usual questions were answered and the exchange of rings took place, the cannons on the ramparts thundered for the first time, and the battalion of grenadiers which was posted on the Augustine bastion, fired their first salvo. The ceremony also performed the National Anthem in the church. After the archiepiscopal blessing had been given, the newly-married pair moved to a throne erected for them on the Epistle side of the altar, and, there kneeling, offered up prayers, whilst the orchestra sung Te Deum; the artillery, at its commencement, thundering for the second time. After completing their prayers, their Majesties and the august Court, the Imperial household, and the invited guests, withdrew in the order in which they had entered the church; and a third discharge of artillery announced the happy moment. It was now half-past seven, and a shout of "Vivat!" from the assembled company echoed to each round of the artillery. The order of the procession on leaving the church was the same as that on entering it, save that his Majesty the Emperor was now at the side of the young Empress Elizabeth.

After the nuptials, the *corps d'diplomatique* were presented to their Majesties—Lord Westmoreland being the first. The Empress Elizabeth then received the ladies of the same distinguished corps; after which the generals and the corps of officers were admitted to wait on their Majesties. At the close of this reception their Majesties proceeded to the magnificent Ceremonien Saal, or Hall of Ceremonies, which was splendidly lighted up on this occasion, and where the whole of the exalted and august personages of the Imperial family had assembled meanwhile under the noble canopy. The ladies were then admitted to kiss her Majesty's hand. The Emperor conversed for some time with the foreign diplomatists; and finally left the hall in company with his youthful bride, to be present at the dinner which the Archduchess Sophie gave in her own apartments; and at which the whole of the members of both families were present.

The pair of accompanying illustrations are from Sketches by J. Laufberger, of Vienna.

A Portrait and Memoir of the Empress will be found at page 464.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, May 21.—5th Sunday after Easter. Rogation Sunday.
MONDAY, 22.—Order of Baronets instituted, 1611.
TUESDAY, 23.—Francis attempted to shoot the Queen, 1842.
WEDNESDAY, 24.—Queen Victoria born, 1819. Calvin died, 1564.
THURSDAY, 25.—Ascension Day. Holy Thursday.
FRIDAY, 26.—St. Augustine.
SATURDAY, 27.—King of Hanover born, 1819. Dante born, 1265.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 27.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
M A M A	M A M A	M A M A	M A M A	M A M A	M A M A	M A M A
h m h m	h m h m	h m h m	h m h m	h m h m	h m h m	h m h m
9 46 10 5	10 34 10 54	11 20 11 40	12 5 12 25	12 49 1 9	1 34 1 54	2 19 2 39

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

SENEX.—The heraldic insignia for the Marquis of Anglesey's funeral were executed by Cowland and Son, Long-acre.

E. U. G.—See "Short Short-Hand."

H. M. Sc——field.—We have not room for the inscription.

J. H., No. 6.—The Most Hon. the Marquis of Breadalbane, Park-lane, London, is the name and address of the Lord Chamberlain.

INQUISITOR.—The daughter of a Knight takes precedence of the wife of a Baronet's younger son.

ISOLANE.—Arms of Prince Albert: Quarterly 1st and 4th the Royal arms of the United Empire, difference by a label of three points, on the centre point a cross gu.; 2nd and 3rd Barry of ten, or and az., a bend urdle vert for Saxony. His Royal Highness's shield, with his supporters and numerous crests, very finely engraved, forms the frontispiece of Burke's "Heraldic Illustrations."

ANTI RADICAL.—A new edition of "The Landed Gentry" is announced as being in preparation.

D. W.—Lord Raglan was, previously to his elevation to the Peerage, known by his courtesy title of Lord Fitzroy Somerset. The Earl of Aberdeen was called Lord Haddo before his accession to his grandfather's Earldom.

L.—A full account of the Ladies of Llangollen (Lady Eleanor Butler and Miss Sarah Ponsonby) may be found in the Anecdotes of the Aristocracy." The Rev. Francis Mahoney, one of the most gifted writers and accomplished scholars of the day, is the author of the "Prout Papers."

M. F.—There is no recognised Earl of Stirling. The family name of those who held the title was Alexander.

ROYAL PEDIGREE.—The Duke of Modena is clearly the heir of line of our Royal House of Stuart. Charlotte, Duchess of Orleans, niece of Prince Rupert, and grandaughter of Elizabeth, Queen of Bohemia, daughter of King James I., was direct ancestress of the late Louis Philippe King of the French. The Duke of Modena is descended from Henrietta, youngest daughter of Charles I.

J. B. C.—Application must be made to the Will Office, York.

A CORRESPONDENT from Carmarthen.—The wife of a Viscount's son has precedence, in all places, of the wife of a Colonel in the army.

LONDA.—If the lady used the spoons with the crest on them, she would, we apprehend be liable to the tax on armorial bearings.

A CONSTANT READER.—The Grand Duke Constantine (the Czar's brother) is dead.

O. H. Z.—The younger sons of all Peers take precedence of Baronets. Privy Councillors have precedence of the younger sons of Viscounts and Barons, and consequently of all Baronets.

VULPES.—The only authorised sources of heraldic information are the College of Arms, in England; Lister's office, in Ireland, and the Lyon Office, in Scotland. Books are published, but they are valueless. The only means by which a "Nobleman" can become entitled to a coat armour is by grant; in England, at a cost of £76 5s.; in Ireland, of £31 10s.

BESSIE.—Sir Archibald Alison was not a Knight at the time he obtained his Baronetcy.

STELLA.—The unmarried daughters of all Barons take precedence of the daughters of Commoners married to Commoners.

A SUBSCRIBER FROM THE COMMENCEMENT.—The cockade may be borne.

A SUBSCRIBER.—The arms are correct, but [illegible] is "Dormant, Extinct and Dormant Peerage."

A SON OF TOIL will find the information he seeks in maps, which may now be had for twopence each.

J. A., Kidderminster.—In 1853 the circulation of the *Times* was 13,900,670. The recent Parliamentary returns, containing the circulation of all newspapers in 1851, 1852, 1853, may be purchased for a few pence. The present Lord Chancellor Cranworth, formerly Baron Rolfe, was raised to the peerage, on being Vice-Chancellor, in 1850.

A. X. Z., Clifton.—A small work on the management of a Conservatory may be had of Orr and Co., Amen-corner.

I. W. J., Winchester.—We think not by Shakespeare.

CECIL H., Hitchin.—We are not aware of the publication of any cheap and authentic Life of Cromwell.

FAINT HEART should [illegible] to contributors, Christ's Hospital, for a list of [illegible] &c.

W. H., Lurl [illegible]

DECLINED with Thanks, Mr. C., Rochester; and Libertas.

THE WAR WITH RUSSIA.—SEBASTOPOL.

In preparation, for

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS,

BY PERMISSION OF THE ADMIRALTY,

A LARGE VIEW OF SEBASTOPOL AND THE ADJACENT COAST;

With a DIAGRAM, and most accurate Sketch of all the FORTIFICATIONS in and near that harbour, as drawn by Lieut. MONTAGU O'REILLY, when H.M.S. *Retribution* boldly entered that port in January last.

*** The CENSUS SUPPLEMENTARY PAGES will be given in a week or two.

NEXT WEEK, A LARGE VIEW OF

THE BOMBARDMENT OF ODESSA.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 20, 1854.

THE Opposition to the increase of the Malt-duty has been less violent than might have been anticipated. As the Government commanded the decisive majority of 303 against 195 on Mr. Cayley's amendment, there is no necessity for any reproduction of the arguments of those who, in spite of proof, reason, and common sense, still persist that the Malt-tax is an injustice upon the agriculturists. The House of Commons has virtually granted the addition which the Ministry thought it incumbent upon itself to ask. The Budget is, therefore, safe from all future attack, and will pass through its various stages with as much speed as the forms of the House will allow. The Malt-tax, like every other tax, is an evil; and the day, we hope, will soon arrive, when it may become possible to reduce, if not to abolish, it. In the meantime the bulk of the people, not subject to the Income and Property-tax, will remember, if they are compelled to pay a small extra sum for their malt liquor in support of a just, necessary, and popular war, that the classes in more comfortable circumstances will not only be liable to the same inconveniences and hardship, but will have to pay a doubled Income and Property-tax. Under such circumstances, they will acknowledge, however costly the war may prove, that the Government has dealt fairly by them. The triumphant result of the division of Monday night will have the best effect throughout Europe. It would, indeed, have been a calamity which the Russians would have turned to good account in beating up for allies, if the representatives of the British people had rejected any vital part of the Budget, and thereby broken up the Ministry. From such a calamity—which, it must be admitted, was never imminent—the country has been spared. On a question like that of malt, appealing to ancient prejudices and to class ignorance, it was impossible to expect unanimity; but the majority was large enough to be entirely satisfactory, and to prove to all the world that Great Britain enters upon the war with a good spirit as well as a full purse.

It is possible that the Emperor of Russia may represent to his confiding people that the British Government has been defeated in its attempt to levy taxes for the prosecution of hostilities against him. We should not be in the least surprised to learn of a notification to that effect in the *Journal de St. Petersburg*. His obedient General, the Baron Von Osten-Sacken, has claimed the victory over the Allies at Odessa; the claim has been graciously allowed, and the victorious and mendacious commander has received, as a reward for the fabulous achievement, the praise of his equally mendacious master, and the Cross of the Order of St. Andrew. "Te Deums," in celebration of the event, have been solemnly chanted in Moscow and St. Petersburg, in impious mockery of the God of Truth. The blinded Russians are thus taught to believe, as in the days of old, that Europe cannot withstand the Czar, and that the first encounter has been fatal to his opponents. Let us hope that the Czar will speedily have as much reason to order "Te Deums" for similar victories of his arms at Sebastopol, Revel, Helsingfors, and Cronstadt.

ALTHOUGH no measure is to be founded upon it during the present Session of Parliament, the Report of the Royal Commissioners appointed to inquire into the condition of the Corporation of the City of London demands from us something more than a mere passing remark. We have, from time to time, without fear, favour, or animosity, taken up the various points of the evidence presented to the Commission; and it is with peculiar satisfaction that we now find that the deliberations of the honourable gentlemen who formed the Commission have resulted in the enunciation of principles identical with those we have felt it to be our duty to maintain.

Some persons who profess to be learned in the law have pronounced, in a manner the most dogmatic, that all Royal Commissions are illegal. Were we for a moment to admit the accuracy of this judgment, we would still be bound to acknowledge that to those tribunals we are indebted for several of our wisest modern reformations. A Royal Commission tore aside the flimsy veil from the supposed sacredness of Smithfield, exposed its abominations, and bade it begone; a Royal Commission dived deeply into the secret recesses of our University system, proved the inadequacy of these foundations, as now conducted, to meet the necessities of the present day—and this Session of Parliament will see them vastly improved; and now a Royal Commission has pronounced its judgment on the doings and misdoings of the ancient Corporation of London. It fortunately happens that a very short Act of the Legislature will render unmistakeably legal what otherwise might appear doubtful.

What the Commissioners propose to be established is best indicated by what they recommend to be abolished. The list is neither short nor unimportant, and embraces the abolition of tolls, brokers' fees, metage dues, porters' privileges, and freedom fines; which, in reality, means the annihilation of oppressive and irritating imposts amounting to some £25,000 or £30,000 per annum. It is recommended that the twenty-six Aldermen should be reduced to twelve or sixteen, presiding over a like number of Wards, with five Common-councilmen to assist them; so that the 206 members now forming the Common-council will be reduced to one-third the present number, which will ensure character and respectability to the body. The hardest blow seems to have fallen on the heads of the unfortunate Aldermen. They are not only to be shorn of their magisterial functions, but, as a legislative and deliberative assembly, are to lose their identity, and be absorbed in the Common-council. The Aldermanic display at the Central Criminal Court is to be dispensed with. They are also to be relieved of their cares and anxieties as police magistrates; and, instead of being elected for life, they must return to their constituents once in six years. They are no longer to look upon the chief magisterial chair as their natural inheritance. that high dignity may be filled, not only by any member of the Common-council, but by any citizen qualified to be elected a Common-councilman.

The river Thames may, after all, be purified! The members of the Navigation Committee are to be released from the care of the troublesome stream. Abhorring water, it was hardly to be expected that they could sincerely care for the purity or decency of the Thames. The control of the river is to be confided to a body whose interests and duties are intimately connected with it. In commending the managements of the City police, it is nevertheless judiciously recommended that the City and Metropolitan police forces should be placed under one authority. The head-quarters of the Chief Commissioner ought, in our opinion, to be within the City, where so much valuable property is accumulated and stored; and subordinate branches, with telegraphic communications to each, should be established at or near Charing-cross, Kennington, Mile-end, and Islington. The general conduct of the Commissioners of Sewers is glanced at; and, although no specific recommendation is made, it is evident that a General Commissioner of Sewers would be considered as best for the public, by ensuring concord of design and harmony in working.

Considering the temptation to write strongly, it is not the least charm of the admirable Report of the Commissioners, that, while liberal in its suggested changes, it is ever moderate and very respectful in its language. The arguments of the Commissioners are clear and convincing, while their conclusions are not to be disputed.

The proposed incorporation of surrounding boroughs, which implies the absorption of hosts of petty Boards, is excellent; while the formation of a Central Council, or Board of Works for General Metropolitan Improvements, with a taxing power conferred, is not only wise but indispensable. Such a Board, discreetly conducted, ought to consolidate and combine with itself the various Sanitary Boards and Boards of Health; so that, instead of a number perpetually shirking responsibility, but greedy of credit, we should have one body responsible for its work. The adoption of the elective principle in the formation of this Board is much to be approved. The cause of failure in many similar Boards may be traced to the nomination of individuals being made through interest, and not from merit.

The Commissioners have disposed of the Irish Society in a summary manner. Suggestions had often been made that that incorporation should be closely investigated. The simple hint gave great offence, and new-born deputies rushed to the rescue, and described that Society as the quintessence of purity; but a deputation of tenants from Coleraine and Londonderry set the matter straight. It was proved from indisputable documentary evidence, that the society had never fulfilled the conditions of its charter, and that 75 per cent of the revenue had been expended in administration, and chiefly on the members themselves. Nor need we be surprised at this. Most of the gentlemen, being respectable London tradesmen, are not immately connected with agricultural pursuits. Hearing that the farmers of the Lothians were justly celebrated all over the world, it was held prudent that before visiting the north of Ireland, they might as well visit the neighbourhood of Edinburgh and Stirling; and, being there, why should they not proceed to Glasgow, by way of Loch Katrine and Loch Lomond? The Falls of the Clyde, or even the Kyles of Bute, Mull, Staffa, and Iona, might help to qualify them for the better performance of their official duties. Besides, the sail from Glasgow to Belfast was not very wearisome nor peculiarly unpleasant. Having breakfasted at Londonderry, lunched at the Giant's Causeway, and dined at Coleraine, they had passed through their estates, the condition of which they criticised, and recorded as satisfactory. Over their wine and walnuts, the suggestion to visit the south of Ireland, and contrast its wretchedness, idleness, and pauperism with the health, cleanliness, and independence of the north, was received with acclamation, and pronounced highly beneficial; and if Killarney, Glengarriff, Cork, and the mountains of North or South Wales came in their way on their return homewards, it was the fault of those places, and not of the visiting deputation from the Irish Society. That this learned body should have been condemned for the exercise of so much prudence, forethought, and thirst for information, is somewhat vexatious to those who enjoyed such pleasant excursions. But the decision of the Commissioners will be hailed with satisfaction by the poor tenants who have suffered so long. Not the least of their annoyances being that septennially they were mulcted of £3, without knowing what became of the money, as they could not find it in the general statement of accounts. This has been traced to the pockets of the secretary, and, although it made an increase to his salary of upwards of £100 per annum, it seems to have been considered unworthy of record when that gentleman was called upon to give an account of his annual income received from every source. Being a septennial bonus, we presume that any secretary of an *Irish* society might justly conclude that it had nothing to do with annual income.

The exposition has been complete. The Report has been made, and it now remains to continue a work so fearlessly begun, and, so far, so admirably conducted.

With new and greatly enlarged constituencies—circumscribed corporate bodies, with well-defined duties, it will become the privilege, and we hope the pleasure, of the ablest and best-informed persons of each locality to undertake the responsibility of serving their fellow-citizens in whatever capacity they may be though capable of serving them best.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

ALLEGED BOMBARDMENT OF REVEL.

A report that Revel had been bombarded by the English fleet was current on the Paris Bourse on Thursday; but the evening papers of that day contained nothing to confirm the statement. The report appeared in some of the London papers yesterday, but no credit was attached to it.

THE RUSSIAN FLEET.

STETTIN, May 15.—The Russian fleet has left Helsingfors, in order to join the division of the grand fleet now lying at Cronstadt.

ARRIVAL OF THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

A telegraphic despatch announced the arrival of the Duke of Cambridge at Constantinople on the 10th. The ratifications of the triple treaty had been exchanged on the day previous. The French troops at Gallipoli were about to march to Adrianople.

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

All the accounts from the seat of war show that the Russians have the worst of it in skirmishing with the Turks. On the 3rd instant six squadrons of Turkish Cossacks and five of Turkish Hussars had an engagement with the Russian Cossacks near Radovan. The affair lasted three hours, and ended with the total defeat of the latter. After the second charge the Russians were in complete disorder, and, quitting their horses, took refuge in a large thicket. Sixty horses fell into the hands of the Turks. A Russian Major, who is lying ill at Kalafat, says the Russians had 130 killed and 12 wounded. The latter, with two guns, were brought to Kalafat. The Turks had 10 killed and 2 wounded. On the 5th instant the Russians were beyond the Sabyl, about two miles and a half from Krajova, and news of fresh rencounters was daily expected.

THE RUSSO-GREEK GOVERNMENT.

Accounts were received in Paris on Thursday, which state that the Russian Government has insured to the Greek Government a subvention of a million of drachmas per month. The Greek Government is said to have granted letters of marque to the pirates who at the present moment infest the Levant!

AUSTRIA AND PRUSSIA.

A rise took place in the French Funds on Wednesday, caused by the increased belief that the Austrian Cabinet has positively declared itself in favour of the Western Powers. This belief has been much strengthened by statements in several German journals, and particularly by the notice which is given in them of the clauses of the convention between Austria and Prussia. According to these statements, it has been agreed that the Two Powers should call formally upon Russia to evacuate the Principalities of the Danube, and that in the event of a refusal each Power is to have full liberty of action. If Austria resolves on offensive operations against Russia, Prussia is not bound to take part in them; but if Russia, in revenge, should attack any portion of the Austrian territories, or excite defection or rebellion in the Austrian provinces against the Government, then Prussia is bound to lend her aid in defence of the integrity of the Austrian territory. The treaty, therefore, although purely a defensive one, would become both offensive and defensive. Russia should make any attack upon Austria. This is important, for it relieves Austria from the fear which she would either have to encounter single-handed with the Western Powers. If Russia should attack her directly by invasion, or indirectly by exciting disaffection and rebellion in some of her provinces, she is sure of the effectual assistance of Prussia.

REPORTED LOSS OF THE "TIGER."—It is stated that she ran ashore a few miles from Odessa. Batteries were brought down, and nothing was to be done but surrender—the crew, 200 men, being made prisoners after a gallant resistance. Two steamers arrived to the assistance of the *Tiger*, but too late. They were, according to the last accounts, firing on the batteries. The *Tiger*, 16, steam frigate, was built at Chatham in 1840, and is 1220 tons and 400-horse power. It is added that Captain Giffard was wounded in the defence of his ship. If these statements should prove to be groundless—and the news comes only by the Russian telegraph—the story will be additional proof of Russian veracity.

THE COURT.

On Monday his Royal Highness Prince Albert, accompanied by Viscount Hardinge, Sir John Burgoyne, and Colonel Torrens, and attended by Colonel the Hon. Charles Grey and Captain Du Pat, left the Wenvoe Castle Station, at a quarter-past eight o'clock, for the Ash Station, on the Alton Branch of the South-Western Railway. From thence, his Royal Highness proceeded to Aldershot-common —Cæsar's Camp, &c.—to inspect the ground selected as the site for a camp, and, after riding over the ground, took the railway again at the Farnborough Station, at half-past twelve o'clock. In the evening the Queen had a dinner party. The company included his Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, the Duke of Buccleuch, the Portuguese Minister and the Countess de Lavradio, the Earl of Aberdeen, the Marchioness of Ely, and the Earl of Dalkeith.

On Tuesday her Majesty the Queen and his Royal Highness the Prince, attended by Viscountess Jocelyn, Col. Bouverie, and Captain Du Plat, drove to Hampton Court. Her Majesty and his Royal Highness inspected the paddocks at Bushy. The Queen and Prince returned by Twickenham, and paid a visit to their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Aumale and her Imperial Highness the Princess of Salerno. On the same day Mr. George G. Adams had the honour of submitting his designs for the opening medal of the Crystal Palace to her Majesty and Prince Albert; and the Prince favoured him with a sitting.

On Wednesday the Queen gave a State Ball at Buckingham Palace.

On Thursday the Queen paid a visit to the Duchess of Gloucester, at Gloucester House. In the evening her Majesty and the Prince Consort honoured the Royal Italian Opera with their presence.

THE STATE BALL.

The Queen gave a State Ball on Wednesday evening, in Buckingham Palace. The entire suite of state saloons were opened for the first time, and were brilliantly lit. The Ball-room and the Throne-room were prepared for dancing; the Picture-gallery was set apart for the assembling of the general company; the Queen receiving the members of the Royal Family in the White Drawing-room.

The invitations to the reception comprised the members of the Royal Family, the whole of the diplomatic corps (with their wives and daughters), foreigners of distinction now in this country, and a numerous circle of the ladies and gentlemen attending the Queen's Court, in all numbering about 1700. Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent arrived at half-past nine o'clock, attended by Lady Anna Maria Dawson and Lord James Murray. Their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess Mary were attended by Lady Caroline Cust and Major Horne Purves. Her Majesty the Queen and his Royal Highness the Prince Albert were conducted by the Lord Chamberlain (the Marquis of Exeter), the Vice Chamberlain (Lord Ernest Bruce), from the White Drawing room through the saloon into the Ball-room, accompanied by their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Kent, the Duchess of Cambridge, and the Princess Mary, and followed by their numerous guests.

The Queen wore a dress of white crêpe lisse, spangled with gold bouillons, with a white tulle, and trimmed with wreaths of green bay-leaves and red berries, ivy leaves and ribbon grass. The dress was ornamented with diamonds. Her Majesty wore a head-dress to correspond with the flowers, ornamented with diamonds. The Duchess of Kent wore a dress of white silk, brocaded with silver of British manufacture, trimmed with white lace, and having the stomacher ornamented with diamonds. Her Royal Highness's head-dress was formed of white velvet, ostrich feathers, and diamonds. The Duchess of Cambridge wore a dress of green gros de tours, trimmed with white Honiton lace; the stomacher of diamonds and emeralds; the necklace of diamonds and emeralds. Her Royal Highness wore a diamond tiara. The Princess Mary wore a dress of apple-green crape, over a rich gilacé silk petticoat of the same colour; the bottom of the dress was trimmed with crape and garlands of white roses. The Princess had an over-skirt of crape, looped up with garlands of white roses; the stomacher was ornamented with diamonds; the necklace was pearls and diamonds. Her Royal Highness wore on her head a wreath of white roses and green leaves, with diamond stars in front, and diamond and carbuncle stars at the back.

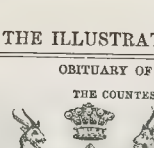
Immediately after the entrance of her Majesty and the august party into the Ball-room, a quadrille was formed, at a quarter before ten o'clock, and the Queen opened the ball with Count Colloredo, the Austrian Minister—the vis-à-vis being his Royal Highness Prince Albert and her Royal Highness the Princess Mary of Cambridge.

The quadrille bands of Mr. Wippert and Messrs. Coote and Tinney were stationed in the rooms appropriated for dancing.

The festivities were prolonged until two o'clock.

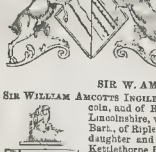
OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

THE COUNTESS OF PORTSMOUTH.



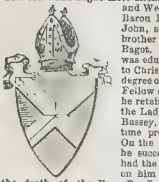
CATHARINE, Countess Dowager of Portsmouth, whose death occurred on the 12th inst., was the second daughter of Hugh, third Baron and first Viscount Fortescue, by his wife, Hester, daughter of the Right Hon. George Grenville, the celebrated statesman. She was married on the 24th June, 1820, to the Hon. Newton Fellowes, who succeeded his brother, as fourth Earl of Portsmouth, on the 14th July, 1853, and died on the 9th Jan., 1854.

SIR W. AMCOTTS INGILBY.



SIR WILLIAM AMCOTTS INGILBY, of Kettlethorpe Hall, county of Lincoln, and of Ripley Castle, county of York, M.P. for Lincolnshire, was the only son of Sir John Ingilby, Bart., of Ripley, by his wife, Elizabeth Emerson, only daughter and heiress of Wharton Emerson, Esq., of Kettlethorpe Park, county of Lincoln, and of Retford, Notts, which Wharton Emerson assumed the surname and arms of Amcotts, and was created a Baronet in 1796, with remainder to the eldest son of his daughter, Lady Ingilby. Consequently, at his demise, the title devolved upon Sir William Amcotts Ingilby, the subject of this notice, who was born on the 20th June, 1783, and who (besides inheriting the Amcotts Baronetcy) succeeded to the parental Baronetcy of Ripley as second Baronet, on the death of his father, the 8th May, 1815—having assumed, in 1812, by Royal permission, the name of Amcotts before that of Ingilby. Sir William married, first, in April, 1822, Louisa, daughter of John Atkinson, Esq., of Maple Hayes, in the county of Stafford, which lady died on the 22nd July, 1836; secondly, he married, on the 27th July, 1843, Mary Ann, only child of John Clementson, Esq., and grand daughter of the late Sir Thomas Turton, Bart. Sir William had no issue by either marriage. He died on the 14th inst., at the house of John Clementson, Esq., 23, Abingdon-street, Westminster.

THE BISHOP OF BATH AND WELLS.



THE Hon. and Right Rev. Richard Bagot, D.D., Lord Bishop of Bath and Wells, was the third son of William, first Baron Bagot, by his wife Louisa, daughter of John, second Viscount Bellingbroke, and was brother of William, second and present Baron Bagot. He was born the 22nd Nov., 1782. He was educated at Rugby, whence he proceeded to Christ Church, Oxford, in 1800. He took his degree of B.A. in 1803; and, in 1804, was elected Fellow of All Souls College, which fellowship he retained until Dec. 1806, when he married the Lady Harriet, youngest daughter of George Bussey, fourth Earl of Jersey, having a short time previously obtained his degree of M.A. On the death of the Rev. Dr. Legge, in 1829, he succeeded to the Bishopric of Oxford, and had the degree of Doctor of Divinity conferred on him by the University, by diploma. On the death of the Rev. Dr. Law, Bishop of Bath and Wells, in 1845, Dr. Bagot was translated to that see. The prelate died at Brighton, on the 15th instant. He leaves issue six sons and three daughters. The eldest daughter is married to the Hon. and Rev. Lord Charles Thynne; the second, to the Hon. and Rev. G. O. Bridgman; and the third, to William Henry, Viscount Downe.

SIR CHARLES WOLSELY, BART.

SIR CHARLES WOLSELY, eighth Baronet of Wolsely, in the county of Stafford, was the eldest son of Sir Charles Wolsely, the seventh Baronet, the well-known politician and supporter of Catholic claims, by his second wife, Anne, youngest daughter of Anthony Wright, Esq., of Wensdale, Essex. Sir Charles, the eighth Baronet, was born in 1813; he married, in 1836, Mary Anne, eldest daughter of the late Nicholas Stonor, Esq., of Acton House, Middlesex, by whom he leaves four sons; the eldest of them, Charles William, born in 1846, is now the ninth Baronet. Sir Charles, the eighth Baronet, who succeeded to the family honours the 3rd October, 1846, died on the 1st inst.

The house and Baronetcy of Wolsely rank among the oldest in the realm.

LIEUT.-GENERAL STAVELY.

LIEUT.-GENERAL WILLIAM STAVELY, C.B., Commander-in-Chief of the Madras Army, passed the greater part of the military service he commenced, under the Duke of Wellington, at Oporto, in May, 1809, that career in which he rose to the rank of Lieut.-General. Stavely shared in the glories of Talavera, Fombal, Redinha, Foz d'Aronce, Sierra de Moira, Fuentes d'Onor, Ciudad Rodrigo, Badajos, Victoria, the passage of the Bidassoa, Nivelle, and Toulouse. He acted also in the campaign of 1816, and was at the battle of Waterloo, and at the capture of Paris, where he was severely wounded. He received the war medal with eight clasps, and a reward of £100 per annum for distinguished service through the Peninsula and the campaign of 1815. Lieut.-General Stavely died in India, suddenly, on the 4th March, while in his carriage, on a journey, shortly after he had left a place called Tippicadoo.

COLONEL SIR JAMES TENNANT, K.C.B.

THE death of this gallant soldier occurred at Mean Meer, British India, on the 6th of March, at the age of sixty-four. At the period of his decease he was Brigadier Commanding at Lahore.

Few officers in the Bengal army have been more actively engaged than Sir James Tennant. In Boondelkund in Oudh, at Kalidgar, at Bhurtpore, under Sir David Ochterlony and Lord Hastings; at Maharajpoor, at Chillianwallah, and finally at Goojerat, in the staff department of Brigadier-General of Artillery, the distinguished veteran earned the highest military reputation. He was also eminent as a mathematician. His loss is deeply deplored.

THE HON. LADY GLYNNE.

MARY, LADY GLYNNE was the second daughter of Richard Aldworth, second Lord Braybrooke, by his wife Catherine, fourth and youngest daughter of the Right Hon. George Grenville; consequently, Lady Glynne was the first cousin of the present Portsmouth, whose decease is above noticed: both ladies were nieces of the first Marquis of Buckingham. Lady Glynne was married on the 11th April, 1806, to Sir Stephen Richard Glynne, eighth Baronet of Hawarden Castle, Flintshire, who died on the 5th March, 1815, and by whom she had issue two sons (the elder, Stephen, is the present and ninth Baronet) and two daughters viz., Catherine, married the 25th July, 1839, to the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, M.P. and Chancellor of the Exchequer; and Mary, married the 28th July, 1838, to Lord Lyttleton.

Lady Glynne's death has just occurred at Hagley Hall, in her sixty-eighth year.

THE MISSING "CITY OF GLASGOW."—LIVERPOOL, Thursday Evening.—A report is in circulation to the effect that the *City of Glasgow* has foundered at sea, but that the crew and passengers were saved, and had been conveyed to the coast of Africa. The rumour is found upon the letter which it is said has been received by a gentleman in Londonderry, from a Mr. Smith, one of the passengers.—The steamer *Arabian*, which sailed yesterday, was reported off Point Lynas this afternoon, putting back with machinery damaged; and, having been on shore, she will have to dock immediately.

MEDICAL BENEVOLENT COLLEGE.—The first annual meeting was held on Thursday, at the Hanover-square Rooms, Earl Manvers in the chair. The income from the Medical College was £18 000. A plot of land (of 12 acres) has been granted by the Bishop of Ely, on which it is intended to build the College, at Epsom, at a cost of £30,000, to contain accommodation for 200 residents, a chapel, offices, &c.

SECRET SOCIETY IN GREECE.—A letter from Athens, in the *Presse* of Vienna, says:—"A secret society, similar to the old Vehmgerichte of Germany, exists here. The members of it are obliged to swear on their admission that they will kill any enemy of the country, whoever he may be, except the King and Queen. Whoever is not for the insurgents is considered a traitor. The King cannot act otherwise than he does, for he would expose his life. That is why a Prussian corvette is anchored off the Piræus, in the expectation of certain eventualities."

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

WE are assured that the long-looked for brevet will immediately take place. It will include all the Colonels of 1846, but even in that case it will not give many to choose from for a command.

MAJOR-GENERAL the Honourable Sir George Cathcart is expected home from the Cape of Good Hope, and it is currently stated the gallant officer will be employed in the East.

BRIGADIER-GENERAL THE EARL of CARDIGAN reached Paris last week, en route to assume the command of the Light Cavalry now assembling at the seat of war. The regiments destined for Turkey are being embarked with greater expedition than has heretofore been manifested; but, in all probability, the staff officers attached to the Earl of Lucan's division will reach their destination prior to the arrival of the mounted force. Lord Cardigan expects to join the army at Scutari by the 22nd or 23rd of the present month. His Lordship has appointed Capt. Viscount Dupplin, 1st Life Guards (eldest son of the Earl of Kinnoul), and Lieutenant R. Fitzharding Berkeley Maxse, of the 21st Royal North British Fusiliers, his Aides-de-Camp. Major Mayow, unattached, has been selected as Brigade Major.

THE first promotion for the Russian war has been conferred upon Commander John Bourmaster Dickson (1847), Commander in Admiral Dundas's flag-ship *Britannia*. He has been promoted to the rank of Captain for his gallant services in command of the rocket-boats at the late Bombardment of Odessa.

FOOD FOR THE BRITISH TROOPS IN TURKEY.—The authorities at the Horse Guards have had under their consideration a newly-invented meat cake, which seems to be admirably adapted for soldiers engaged in a campaign like that in which we are about to embark in Turkey. Each cake allows three good meals, weighs ¾ ounces, divided in three rations of 2½ ounces each, which can be eaten dry, or when broken up and mixed with warm or cold water affords a nutritious soup. These meat cakes are easily stowed away in a soldier might, in his coat, carry a dozen in his haversack, to be used as reserved rations whenever the supply of other provisions failed, thereby being independent of the commissariat for twelve days. Mr. O'Brien, in the second edition of "A Residence in Wallachia," referring to this invention, says, "I have more than once tasted the soup made from these cakes, and found it excellent." Mr. Colquhoun has approved of them so highly that he sent some to Constantinople, with a recommendation that they should be used in the Turkish army.

THE ARMY IN IRELAND.—The reduction that has taken place in the Irish military establishment, in consequence of the war, amounts to about 9000 men. The present force consists of five regiments of cavalry, and six regiments of infantry; there are, besides, twenty-seven regimental depôts: making altogether, exclusive of artillery, a force of 14,700 men.

ORDERS have been issued for 1000 of the Minié rifle muskets peculiarly manufactured in the year 1851, to be sent out to Turkey with the least possible delay, to replace those now in use by a portion of the troops stationed in the East.

THE Admiralty, anxious to provide additional medical assistance of some sort for the navy, have consented to accept the services of young men waiting two years of completing their apprenticeship, as clerkships, at a salary of £100 per annum.

THE GUN-BOATS FOR THE FLEET.—The new gun-boats building by the Admiralty are to carry guns of the heaviest calibre used in the navy, and are to be propelled with screw machinery, so placed as to be altogether out of reach of shot, the machinery being under the waterline; they will also have the advantage of being the swiftest steamers in the fleet, as well as most formidable gun boats. Half a dozen of these are equal to a hundred of the Russian gun-boats, and will be much better adapted for war purposes than paddle-wheel gun-boats. To meet the requirements of the war, a class of gun-boats of smaller tonnage, and of less horse-power machinery, is also being constructed.

EXPLOSION OF A BALTIC GUN-BOAT.—The Government gunboat, the *Jasper*, blew up on Monday morning, twelve miles off Beachy Head, but happily no life was lost. The *Jasper*, with thirty three hands on board, left Portsmouth Harbour on Saturday morning for the Baltic, under the command of Lieutenant Crowley, having about two tons of powder on board, and other ammunition. They had proceeded as far as Beachy Head, when about half-past six o'clock they discovered a leak between the boiler and the powder magazine. Every effort was made to extinguish the flames, but without avail, for at last they deemed it expedient to quit the ship in their three boats. They lay by the vessel at a safe distance, and about half past nine o'clock the vessel blew up. The crew were picked up by the *Vanguard*, of Liverpool, which took them to within three miles of Brighton, where they were safely landed in their boats at seven o'clock in the evening, having lost nearly everything on board.

THE MIDDLESEX MILITIA.—The 1st Royal Middlesex Regiment of Militia, which is now in course of training at Hampstead, had the honour of a visit yesterday (Friday) week from his Royal Highness the Prince Consort and the Prince of Wales, attended by the Hon. Colonel Feilding. His Royal Highness the Prince Consort inspected the regiment and expressed himself astonished and delighted at their proficiency.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—*Rectories:* The Rev. R. W. Buck to Eaton Bishop, Sussex; Rev. F. Fitzpatrick to Framstown; Rev. A. Gedge to Ledborough, Lincolnshire; Rev. C. Hare to St. Maughans; Rev. Dr. F. C. Hawtrey, Provost of Eton College, to Farnham Royal; Rev. H. G. Reynolds to Grimley; Ven. J. Sandford to Alvechurch, near Bromsgrove; Rev. Dr. S. L. Townsend to Louth. *Vicarages:* The Rev. J. Graves to Kelmscar, diocese of Ossory and Ferns; Rev. F. Storr to Bercsley. *Incumbencies:* The Rev. W. R. L. Bennett to Holy Trinity Church, Dover; Rev. R. Boys to Looe, near Maidstone; Rev. E. T. Cardale to Flax Bourton, Somerset; Rev. F. T. Gregory to St. Mary's Friar, Wrotham; Rev. H. Morse to Henfenewe, near Lampeter; Rev. J. Peel to Hornsby and South, Yorkshire.

TESTIMONIALS.—The Rev. M. Duggan, from the congregation of Harworth, near Bawtry; the Rev. W. H. Buck, Curate of S. George-the-Martyr, Southwark; a rich suit of robes, a pocket silver communion service, and a purse of money.

The new church at Eton is to be consecrated on the 1st of June, The Archbishop of Canterbury, and the Bishops of Oxford, Winchester, Bangor, and New Zealand are expected to be present.

MR. DRUMMOND AND THE MEMORY OF SIR JOHN MOORE

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

SIR,—In your last Number, some assertions of Mr. Henry Drummond relative to Sir John Moore have been commented on; and if those assertions have been correctly reported, the hon. member has, with the best intentions, fallen into a grievous error.

I have seen most of Sir John Moore's letters written during his last campaign; I have studied his journal; my brother was his aide-de-camp and I am well acquainted with Colonel Seaton, who was his military secretary; and I knew intimately the late General Anderson, his bosom friend. From none of those sources could I collect that Sir John Moore ever read, much less took to heart, the newspaper criticisms of the day, during his operations. Moreover, if my memory serves me well, no attacks were made upon him, until after his glorious death. Certainly he was not of a temperament to be disturbed by such things; and as to their causing him to neglect the safety of his troops, the gist of all the flimsy censures which have been published on his conduct, is that he took too much care of their safety, and should have risked more!

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,
WM. NAPIER, Lieut.-General.

ROMAN CATHOLIC MEETING.—There was an immense attendance at the Round Room of the Rotunda at the meeting held at Dublin on Monday. The Lord Mayor of Dublin presided. Resolutions founded on the Papal Encyclic Declaration," were adopted. A stormy scene occurred in consequence of an offensive allusion by the Rev. Mr. Marshall to the present position of affairs. Albert at the Festival of [illegible] was met by the Clergy. Mr. Maguire was called to order by the chairman, and, after fifteen minutes' uproar, was allowed to proceed. A letter (indescribable confusion. Another disturbance was created by Mr. John Reynolds, late M.P. for Dublin, who was hooted by the Catholics as the editor of the *Tablet*. The proceedings terminated in the usual confusion.

GRAND LEVEE AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE.—On Tuesday last, the noble and [illegible] held a levee at St. James's Palace, on behalf of Her Majesty, in the absence of the Queen. Upwards of [illegible] Regiment of Militia, of which Earl Cadogan is Colonel, in the Chair.

A CHAIR MADE OF THE "HEIR OF MELVILLE."—Lieut.-General Sir Arthur Benson has had a chair made of the wood of the Melville Hotel, and added to the wax-work collection in Baker-street.

LAUNCH OF "THE ROYAL ALBERT."—HER MAJESTY RECEIVING THE WIFE FROM THE MASTER SHIPWRIGHT.—(SEE PAGE 470.)

LAUNCH OF 'THE ROYAL ALBERT,' SKETCHED FROM THE RIVER.—(SEE PAGE 476.)

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

THE MILITIA.—ADDRESS.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE moved an Address to the Crown, in reply to the Message respecting the Militia, praying her Majesty to call out the whole or such part of the militia as her Majesty might think fit.

After some observations from Lords GREY and DERBY—who, admitting the propriety of the step about to be taken with regard to the militia, insisted on the necessity which existed for carrying it out with the least possible appearance of a breach of faith towards those who had enlisted in the militia.—The Address was agreed to.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

LONDON CORPORATION.

Lord J. RUSSELL, in reply to Mr. I. DUNCOMBE, said, it was not the intention of the Government to introduce a measure during the present session founded upon the report of the Commission appointed to inquire into the Corporation of the City of London.

THE MALT DUTY.

On the order for the second reading of the Excise-duties (Malt and Spirits) Bill,

Mr. CAYLEY moved to defer the second reading for six months. In taking this course he professed to be actuated solely by a sense of public duty, believing that the increase of the Malt-tax was not only unjust, but inconsistent with the principles of commercial policy which had been adopted by the present Government. With regard to the war for the prosecution of which these taxes were required, he acknowledged, and endeavoured to show, that it had been brought about by negotiations at once infirm of purpose, vacillating, and obsequious, and by the want of a firm and stable mind in her Majesty's Councils. Having, however, been plunged into war, the country, he observed, was willing to vote the supplies for carrying it on, but not in an unequal and unjust manner. What reason was there why malt should be taxed in preference to cotton yarn? The effect of a Malt-tax was to enhance the cost of the article four-fold; its repeal would reduce the price of beer to 1d. per pot, while it would give an impulse to the cultivation of barley that must diminish in the same proportion the growth of wheat and oats, and consequently raise their prices—a compensation for the repeal of the Corn-laws. Having recapitulated his objections to the tax upon the ground of the burden it cast upon the landlord, the farmer, and the consumer, Mr. Cayley expatiated upon its mischievous effects in a more limited point of view.

The amendment was seconded by Mr. STANHOPE, who objected to the additional Malt-tax because it was excessive in amount, and was levied unfairly upon one class, and because there was no real necessity for raising this particular tax in the exigency of the war, it being required only to remedy the financial errors of the last session.

Lord MONCK briefly replied to some of the arguments of Mr. Cayley.

Colonel GILPIN said, the feeling of the agriculturists with whom he had communicated was unanimously against this tax, to which he objected also, because he believed it would not produce what was expected, nor compensate for the burden it would cast upon the public.

Mr. WARDEN opposed the amendment, defending the financial measures of the Government and the expediency of the tax.

The Marquis of GRANBY and Mr. POLLARD-URQUHART supported the amendment.

Mr. CROSSLEY opposed it, as did also Mr. BALL.

Mr. Bentinck, Mr. Barrow, and Mr. Newdegate supported the amendment.

Mr. J. WILSON observed that, as the House had approved the policy of the war, what it had to consider was, the means by which it should be carried on. Experiments made by increasing the Customs-duties had always failed, whereas an increase of the Malt-tax had never hitherto failed. The argument that the additional duty fell upon the producer, not the consumer, was refuted by the fact that there had been no reduction in the price of barley, and that the brewers had announced their intention to raise the price of beer a little beyond the amount of the duty.

Mr. SPOONER supported the amendment, insisting upon the injustice and inequality of the tax

Sir C. BURRELL entirely coincided with Mr Spooner.

Mr. SANDARS was disposed to find Government the ways and means by which the war might be brought to an early termination, and was of opinion that £2,500,000 could not be raised with so little disturbance of the industry of the country as by an increase of the Malt tax.

Mr. FLOYER strongly condemned a tax which fell upon a necessary beverage of the agricultural poor.

Sir E. B. LYTTON, after a general criticism of the Budget, said it was true that the Malt-tax fell upon the consumer; but did it for that reason less indirectly affect the home producer? He cited the authority of Mr. M'Culloch, who said that this tax "indirectly, if not directly, is especially injurious to the agriculturist."

Mr. DRUMMOND asked if it was possible to propose a single tax which the stupidest man in the House could not find an objection to? Were they go up to raise money for the war or not? If they were, the only question was from whose pocket it was to come. As for getting rid of the Malt-tax, the country would be lucky if that and the Income-tax were not doubled.

Sir J. PAKINGTON felt the painful position in which his party were placed in being compelled to object to any proposal for meeting the expenses of a war in the justice of which they had concurred; but the blame rested with the Government.

Lord J. RUSSELL said, the question before the House was, whether, when a formidable military Power threatened to swallow up one of our allies, is 3d. a bushel upon malt was too great a sacrifice Unless taxes were imposed upon articles of general consumption, a revenue could not be obtained; and if they were laid upon articles of necessity, they would occasion great hardship among the community at large. The object, therefore, was to levy the taxes upon articles of general consumption which were not articles of necessity; and there were none to which the description so strictly applied as those of spirits and malt. "Don't tell me," said the noble Lord, "that the tax is so objectionable that you are ready to vote any other, and that the landed interest will resist this small addition to the Malt-duty; tell me not that this is really the obstacle which prevents you from supporting the Government, but that, although you are in favour of the war, you are not ready to vote the necessary supplies."

Mr. DISRAELI supported the policy of the war; but a statesman ought to think of something more than the amount of the burden; the principle of the tax must enter into the contemplation of the House of Commons, and, if neglected by the House, would not escape the reflection of the people. He opposed this additional tax on malt, because it was unjust to those who were to pay it, and because it was unnecessary to have recourse to it

Upon a division, Mr. Cayley's amendment was negatived by 303 against 195.

The bill was then read a second time

Lord PALMERSTON brought down a Message from her Majesty relative to calling out and embodying the militia.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

The Nuisances Removal Bill passed through Committee, and the Benefices Augmentation Bill was read a third time.

TAXES ON LAW PROCEEDINGS.

Lord BROUGHAM brought under notice the subject of taxes on law proceedings. He complained of the heavy fees imposed upon suitors in the county courts. From returns, it was shown that in the superior tribunals the fees imposed upon actions for debt amounted to only £30 000 a year, while the aggregate paid in the county courts was £261,000—show ng an average of 30 per cent on the amount recovered. His Lordship moved Resolutions embodying his views.

The LORD CHANCELLOR concurred generally in the views expressed by Lord Brougham, but thought it would be inexpedient to adopt the suggestions at present. The whole question would be considered when the report of the County Courts Commission was received.

The resolutions were negatived.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

THE PERIODICAL PRESS.

Mr M. GIBSON called the attention of the House to the present unsatisfactory state of the law affecting the press He remarked that the position of the law was now this, that observations on facts might be permitted, but facts themselves might not be stated. It needed the refined intellect attributed to the Chancellor of the Exchequer to introduce such a law. If he (Mr. Gibson) chose to publish Admiral Dundas's regrets that he had been compelled to bombard Odessa, he laid himself open to a penalty, but if he published a violent attack upon the Admiral for neglecting his duty, he might do so with impunity. He urged that public policy demanded that, if observation and discussion were permitted, facts, which corrected erroneous theory, ought also to be allowed. This was a practical grievance, for numerous parties were interested in the question, and prosecutions were going on for alleged infractions of the law. He called upon the Government to remember that they could not subsist entirely on war, and begged that at the next general election they would enable their supporters to say that they had tried to do something to ameliorate the law on this subject. Dwelling upon the importance of a good and cheap press as a means of education, he moved a resolution to the effect that the laws in reference to the periodical press and newspaper stamps were ill-defined and unequally enforced, and that the subject demanded the early consideration of Parliament.

Mr A. KINNAIRD seconded the motion.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL admitted that the law was in a most complicated and anomalous state, and required improvement. Observing that some inconvenience might follow the passing of the resolution before the House, he moved the previous question.

Mr. EWART argued that, as the *odium theologicum* prevented a system of national education from being adopted, the people ought not to be denied the right to educate themselves by means of the press.

Mr. HUME was afraid that the professions of the Government as to the education of the people were all sham, for they doggedly adhered to the old system of preventing the diffusion of knowledge amongst the people by means of cheap unstamped newspapers. The taxes on knowledge tended to keep the working classes of this country in vice and ignorance.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL could not agree to the language of that resolution being adopted by the House, because it would imply very great reproach on the Government, namely, that the law had been unequally enforced. The law had not been unequally enforced from any design, caprice, or inconstancy of purpose. No doubt, the point respecting the security to be given by the publishers of newspapers was one deserving of attention. There was in the existing law relics of the six Acts of 1819, which he thought might be well got rid of (Hear, hear); and a bill might very properly be introduced for the purpose of making the law more simple and uniform on the subject.

Sir J. SHELLEY believed that a free circulation of newspapers would do more to promote education, than any system which had been devised (Hear, hear).

Mr. CROSSLEY could not agree that, because we were at war, they ought not to consider their system of taxation. They ought rather to see whether it could not be improved. He would suggest that the taxes on newspapers should be taken off, and a heavy stamp imposed on bankers' cheques

Mr. BRIGHT refused to be satisfied with smooth words from the law officers of the Crown. Their promises, he remarked, never touched upon the great evil of the case. The Government did not maintain the newspaper stamp and other restrictions on the press merely for the sake of revenue. The tenacity with which these burdens were defended arose from a wish to impede the circulation of one single class of intelligence, that, namely, relating to political subjects. At present newspapers were only accessible to the working man at the public-house.

Lord PALMERSTON suggested that the resolution should be modified, and might then be allowed to pass. The noble Lord at the same time expressed his full concurrence in the opinion that the means of affording information to all classes of the people should be rendered as wide as poss.ble.

Mr. M. GIBSON, in reply, declined to change the tenor of his motion.

Lord PALMERSTON having obtained from the right hon. member an admission that his resolution involved no censure upon any Ministerial department or office, consented to waive all opposition. The amendment of the "previous question" was then withdrawn, and the resolution passed without a division

Mr. BLAND obtained leave to introduce two bills—one, "for a better and more general mode of taking the average price of corn and other agricultural produce in Ireland;" and another, "to provide for the annual valuation of rent-charge, in lieu of tithes, in Ireland, with reference to the averages of the last seven preceding seven years."

Mr. MALINS obtained leave to bring in a bill to enable married women to dispose of reversionary and other interest in personal estate.

The Queen's Message on the subject of the Militia was considered; and an Address, in answer, ordered to be presented.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

The Registration of Bills of Sale Bill passed through committee.

The second reading of the Burgh Boundaries (Scotland) Bill was negatived without a division.

The Episcopal and Capitular Estates Bill was read a second time *pro forma*, and ordered to be committed on the 21st of January, it being understood Government will bring forward a measure on the subject as soon as they can mature one.

The Drainage of Lands Bill was read a second time, and ordered for committal on Wednesday next.

The Manning the Navy Bill and Navy Pay Bill were severally reported as before in committee, and the reports agreed to.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

THE FAMILIES OF OUR SOLDIERS IN THE EAST.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE, in reply to Lord St. Leonards, stated that it was not the intention of the Government to interfere with voluntary or private societies in the dispensation of the large funds collected under the Army of National Humiliation for the wives and children of our soldiers in the East. The Government, however, thought it advisable that a Royal Commission should issue, whose duty should be to distribute the relief of the widows and orphans of such of our soldiers as were killed in action.

IRISH LAND BILLS.

The Duke of ARGYLL moved that their Lordships should go into committee upon the Law of Landlord and Tenant (Ireland) Bill, and upon the Powers of Leasing (Ireland) Bill. Those two measures had been referred to a select committee, and had now come down to the House, having undergone certain alterations.

After considerable discussion, the bills passed through committee.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

In reply to Mr. Collier, Lord J. RUSSELL stated that the Government hoped to be able to proceed with the Testamentary Jurisdiction Bill this session.

The noble Lord also said, in reply to Mr. Bright, that the correspondence relative to the state of Greece was in the hands of the printers, and would be shortly laid before the House.

In answer to a question from Sir J. Pakington, the noble Lord stated that the Government meant to proceed to-morrow (Friday) with the Excise-duties Bill in Committee, and then with the resolutions relating to the Sugar-duties, the Income-tax, and Stamp duties; but, inasmuch as the Chancellor of the Exchequer would not be able to attend the House until Monday, they did not intend to bring forward the resolutions on the subject of the Exchequer Bonds until the latter day.

THE RUSSIAN FLEET IN THE CHINESE SEAS.

Sir J. GRAHAM, in reply to Mr. A. Pellatt, stated that the Russian fleet, which was a small one, in the Chinese Seas, had, according to the most recent accounts, sought shelter in Manilla, and afterwards in Batavia. Orders had been sent out to our naval force there to watch that fleet, and he had no doubt but a satisfactory account would be given of it by the British and French squadrons.

REAL ESTATE CHARGES BILL.

Mr. L. KING moved the second reading of the Real Estate Charges Bill

Mr. MULLINGS moved that it be read a second time that day six months. He thought that the bill, if passed, would form a fertile source of litigation

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL gave the measure a qualified support.

Mr. HALINS thought it would be a waste of time to proceed to consider in committee a measure open to so many objections.

After some further discussion, the second reading of the bill was carried by 166 votes to 124.

CONVENTUAL AND MONASTIC INSTITUTIONS.

The adjourned debate on the nomination of the committee upon Conventual and Monastic Institutions was then resumed.

Mr. NEWDEGATE referred to the repeated attempts made to prevent the success of the motion of Mr Chambers by an abuse of the forms of the House, which left the majority completely at the mercy of the minority. He could see no advantage to be gained by a perseverance in that unseemly struggle. Under those circumstances, he recommended Mr. Chambers to withdraw his proposition, and to take some other course of carrying out the views of the great majority of that House, as well as of the country at large.

Mr. BRIGHT denounced the proposition as most unjustifiable, and unbecoming the character of that House; and condemned the bigoted and acrimonious language of many of those members that had voted this inquiry.

Mr. I. CHAMBERS consented to withdraw his motion, considering physically impossible, at this period of the session, to carry it against vexatious objections of a few members that formed part of that minority who objected to any inquiry. He did not, however, mean to abandon the question, but he would renew it in another form.

Lord J. RUSSELL rejoiced at the motion being withdrawn; although he did not exactly approve of the principle of a majority of that House yielding to a minority.

Sir J. PAKINGTON though that the minority overruling the majority in the present case was a most dangerous precedent, and might be followed, on future occasions, under circumstances which the noble Lord did not seem to apprehend.

After a few words from Mr. COGAN, and some other members,

The SPEAKER put the question, when, in consequence of a call for division, the votes were taken, the result of which proceeding was as follows—For the discharging of the Order, 100; against it, 1: majority, 99.

The Gaming Houses Bill passed through committee.

The Merchant Shipping Bill was read a second time.

The Manning the Navy Bill and the Navy Pay Bill were read a third time and passed.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

REPORTED LOSS OF THE "TIGER" STEAM-FRIGATE.

In reply to the Earl of Malmesbury, the Duke of NEWCASTLE said that though he was not able positively to contradict the rumour of the loss of the *Tiger*, at Odessa, he had some reasons for thinking that the rumour was untrue. The only information received by the Government on the subject, was that conveyed in a telegraphic message received yesterday by a mercantile house in the City, containing the same rumour as had appeared in the public newspapers. The steamer that described as having been lost was represented to be a screw-steamer, whereas the *Tiger* was a paddle-wheel steamer. In reference to a statement said to have appeared in the *Moniteur*, with respect to a proposal made by Admiral Dundas to Baron Osten Sacken, at Odessa, for the exchange of prisoners, the facts were shortly these:—About forty fifty prisoners were taken from Russian coasting vessels by our ships in the Black Sea. Admiral Dundas, believing that some English sailors in the same class, while in the harbour of Odessa, were detained as prisoners by the Russian authorities, wrote to Baron Osten-Sacken, proposing the exchange of prisoners. Baron Osten-Sacken wrote a courteous letter on the same day in reply, informing Admiral Dundas that he had referred the questions in reference to an exchange, but that he would immediately write to Prince Paskiewitsch upon the subject. He (the noble Duke) had received no information as to any answer having been received from the Prince, but he had no reason for supposing that Admiral Dundas had released his prisoners. The Government had recently sent to Admiral Dundas instructions as to the treatment and disposal of the prisoners taken during the war.

The Railway and Canal Traffic Regulation Bill was read a second time.

The Boundary Survey (Ireland) Bill passed through Committee.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

Lord J. RUSSELL, in answer to a question from Mr. Hutchins, stated that from recent intelligence received from Madrid, her Majesty's Ministers had every reason to hope that there would be an amicable settlement of the difference created between the Governments of Spain and the United States by the affair of the *Black Warrior*.

Sir J. GRAHAM, in reply to Mr. Alexander, said that the Board of Admiralty thought it advisable for the present not to take as apprentices to the Royal Navy boys from the workhouses, either in England or in Ireland.

The right hon. Baronet, in reply to Mr. Hume, made a similar statement in reference to the reported loss of the *Tiger* steam-frigate, that made by the Duke of Newcastle in the House of Lords.

THE EXCISE-DUTIES BILL.

The House then went into Committee upon the Excise-duties Bill.

Mr. E. YORKE stated that he would not press the motion of which he had given notice, that the proposed increase to the Malt-tax should continue for one year.

The second clause having been put, some discussion arose as to the period at which the Malt tax should cease. It was ultimately arranged that it should cease with the 5th of July following the ratification of a definitive treaty of peace.

Sir J. TROLLOPE took occasion to observe that, in his opinion, the best policy to have pursued would have been to restore the Beer-tax on the abolition of that tax had not exercised a favourable effect upon the public morals, and it had contributed to produce the evils of the present licensing system.

The Bill passed through Committee.

SUGAR DUTIES.

The House then went into Committee of Ways and Means.

Mr. WILSON moved the proposed new scale of Sugar-duties.

Mr. MOFFATT complained that the Government proposal would introduce a sliding-scale into the Sugar-duties, and would therefore be productive of considerable confusion and inconvenience.

Sir JOHN PAKINGTON expressed his gratification at certain concessions made by the Government to the sugar trade.

Mr. CAIRNS and Mr. D. SEYMOUR severally objected to the proposal of extending the duty of 12s. 6d. (with 15 per cent) to the 16th of August, instead of allowing the duty of 12s. to date from the 5th of July. Also would necessarily be incurred by those traders who had acted on the statement of the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Mr. GOULBURN said that, if traders speculated upon statements made by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, they should be prepared to abide by the consequences

Mr. WILSON denied that the Government had changed their intention upon the subject. The Chancellor of the Exchequer would have brought his resolution under the notice of the House on the evening he had made his financial statement, if he had not been advised to postpone the details of his scheme.

Mr. RICARDO maintained that, under that proposal, the pledge given by the Chancellor of the Exchequer would not be kept.

Mr. A. HASTIE thought that the House ought not to undertake to protect a few over adventurous speculators at the expense of the public

The resolution was ultimately agreed to, upon the understanding that the subject should be open to further consideration; and the remaining resolutions with reference to the Sugar duties were also adopted.

INCOME-TAX.

Upon a solution for doubling the Income-tax having been moved,

Mr. WILLIAMS moved that "before the country shall be subjected to additional taxation, real property shall be made to pay the same Property-tax as is now payable on personal property; and that corporate, collegiate, and ecclesiastical property shall pay a duty equivalent amount to the Probate and Legacy-duties levied on other kinds proper y."

Mr. WILSON said that the hon. gentleman was in error in respect the Probate-duty. The Probate-duty was, in fact, a stamp duty, and a balance were struck between the amount of stamps issued for the purpose of transferring real property and personal property, it would be found to be largely against real property. In regard to the latter part the hon. member's motion, he was not inclined to dispute the justice of the case to some extent. A bill was in preparation for the extension of the succession-duty to corporate property; but, in consequence of the difficulties that surrounded the subject, and of the circumstances in which the country was placed, he could not pledge himself that it would be brought forward in the present session.

After some further discussion Mr. WILLIAMS withdrew his amendment.

A resolution was next adopted, granting the sum of £8,000,000 out of the Consolidated Fund towards making good the supply granted to her Majesty.

Resolutions were then proposed for altering the existing stamp duties and imposing certain stamp duties upon foreign bills of exchange.

Mr. PHINN brought under the notice of the Committee the advantage of rendering all cheques on banks liable for the future to the penny stamp.

Mr. GLYN thought that the adoption of such a tax would lead to the imposition of a heavy charge upon trade

Mr. BRIGHT believed that the proposed tax might be advantageously substituted for the existing newspaper stamp.

Mr. PHINN having declined to press any resolution upon the subject, the Stamp-duties resolutions were agreed to

Mr. J. G. PHILLIMORE proposed the second reading of the Chiltern Hundreds Bill

Mr. H. FITZROY opposed the Bill.

After some discussion the House divided, when the second reading of the Bill was rejected by a majority of 113 to 39.

SONNET:

Suggested by Mr. Ward's picture, in the Royal Academy Exhibition; representing the Earl of Argyll asleep in prison the night before his execution. Engraved in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, No. 631.

ARGYLL! though pent in by a dungeon's wall,
Condemn'd to lie in felon fetters bound,
Yet dost thou calmly breathe in peace as sound
As formerly within thy lordly hall:
Plain proof that, ever amidst disastrous fall,
There is a power and majesty profound
In conscious virtue, which no despot crowned
By eyes and bolts and bars can e'er enthral.
Sent from the Council by the King's decree
A minion, worthy of such mandate foul,
Who came to jeer and taunt with bitter glee
Thy piteous doom and noisome prison hole,
Awed into reverence stood abashed to see
The peaceful grandeur of a righteous soul.

G. W. C.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,

TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, MAY 18

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer, 32° & M.	Thermometer. Highest this day.	Thermometer. Lowest this night.	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
	Inches.	°	°	°	°			Inches.
May 12	30.151	67·1	37·0	51·7	0·0	83	W.	0.00
,, 13	30.141	61·0	45·2	54·2	+ 2·5	86	S.W.	0.00
,, 14	30.116	67·2	42·0	55·1	+ 3·2	70	N.	0.00
,, 15	30.173	67·8	47·0	56·4	+ 4·2	67	N.E.	0.00
,, 16	30.192	62·0	42·5	51·2	— 1·2	81	N.N.E.	0.00
,, 17	30.130	70·0	36·8	52·9	+ 0·1	57	N.E.	0.00
,, 18	30.021	65·6	45·2	48·7	— 4·5	87	N.E.	0.02

Note.—The sign + denotes above the average and the sign — below the average. The numbers in the seventh column are calculated on the supposition that the saturation of the air is represented by 100.

The reading of the barometer has varied but little during the week, the highest reading being 30.21 inches on the morning of the 12th, and the lowest 30.06 inches on the morning of the 18th. The mean for the week, at the height of eighty-two feet above the level of the sea, was 30.173 inches.

The mean temperature of the week was 52·9°, being 0·6° above the average of the corresponding week during 38 years.

The range of temperature during the week was 33·2°, being the difference between the highest and lowest readings of the thermometer on the 17th

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 22·8°: the greatest was 25·2°, on the 17th; and the least 10·4°, on the 13th.

Rain fell slightly on the 18th.

The Weather on the 12th was fine, but the sky was obscured by thick haze during the morning; the sky was tolerably free from cloud from the 13th to the 17th (particularly on the 14th and the 17th, when it was cloudless), and the weather fine throughout; on the 18th the weather was dull, and the sky overcast. The wind has been in gentle motion only during the week.

Lewisham, May 19, 1854. JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—During the week, ending last Saturday, the births of 1872 children were registered in the metropolitan districts: of these 976 were boys, exceeding the average of the nine corresponding weeks of the nine preceding years by 117; and 876 were girls, exceeding the average of the same weeks by 37. The number of deaths during the same weeks decreased to 1083: the numbers in the three preceding weeks being 1193, 1211, and 1263 respectively. The average of the ten corresponding weeks of the ten preceding years, corrected for increase of population, is 1041. The mortality is, therefore, still in excess of the estimated amount.

NEWSVENDERS' BENEVOLENT AND PROVIDENT INSTITUTION.—The fifteenth annual general meeting of the institution will be held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Monday evening next, to receive the committee's report, decide on an application for a pension, elect officers for the ensuing year, and to confirm the election of Mr. Charles Dickens as president (who has consented to accept the office), in the room of the late Mr. James Harmer

DINNER AT THE MANSION-HOUSE.—On Tuesday night, according to ancient custom, the Lord Mayor entertained her Majesty's Judges at the Mansion-house. A magnificent entertainment was provided for the occasion by Messrs. Staples, of the Albion Tavern, and the company invited comprised a large number of Aldermen and Sheriffs. The loving cup was sent round with the customary formality, and after the loyal toasts had been disposed of, the Lord Mayor proposed "the Church, by him was acknowledged by the Archbishop of Canterbury. His Lord ship then gave "the health of the Judges." Lord Campbell responded in graceful terms, and, alluding to the recent report of the Royal Commissioners, enjoyed the services which, at different periods in our history been rendered to the cause of constitutional liberty by the Corporation of the City of London. England, he said, would not be England without the Lord Mayor. He loved the Lord Mayor's Day and the Lord Mayor's Show; and he expressed a hope that, in discharging the duties of the Board, the Judges might not, according to the recommendation of the Commissioners, be disseverated from the chief magistrate and aldermen of the City. The large number of guests who appeared in official costume, and many ladies present, imparted a very gay appearance to the banquet, which passed off with unusual éclat. Among the company were—the Duchess of Somerset, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Lady Frances Pratt, the Marquis Camden, Lady Ann Beckett, the Earl of Munster, Lady F. Bentinck, the Earl of Malmesbury, the Earl and Countess of Bradford, Lord Campbell and Lady Strathleden, nearly all the Judges, and many Members of Parliament.

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.—The first show of the season was held at Chiswick, on Saturday last; but, owing to the launch of the *Royal Albert* taking place on the same day, the number of visitors at the Gardens was unusually small, and the array of fruits and flowers was not by any means equal to the average. There were, however, some very fine specimens of azaleas, rhododendrons, and roses. Some of the latter were in fine perfection—full of leaf and rich in colour. In the fruit collection there were some specimens of British Queen strawberries, of tempting richness and monstrous size; there were also some good contributions of pines, green figs, and grapes.

THE RAGGED SCHOOL FANCY FAIR, announced in our Journal of last week, was held at the Portland Bazaar on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday; the proprietors having generously placed at the disposal of the committee both ends of their spacious building. The new year's art toys, and also the entire profits arising from the sale of their own stock during that period. The visitors number in several thousand. The whole of the art toys, and other stock of the Bazaar, were sold, and it is proposed to keep a portion of the Bazaar exclusively for the sale of articles made by the children of the Ragged Schools.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE AT CHELTENHAM, 400 ft. long, and 90 ft. wide at the transepts, which has been erected in the grounds of the Royal Old Wells, will be opened on June 1: a portion has been fitted up as a "Fine Arts Court." On the 20th and 21st of June will be held a floral and horticultural show, for which 20,000 ft. of tentage has been provided; and seven luncheons are in course of erection in the building and gardens.

SIR J. BROOKE.—Mr. C. R. Prinsep, the East India Company's Advocate General at Calcutta, and the Hon. H. B. Devereux, of the Bengal Civil Service, have been appointed the commissioners for inquiring into the position which Sir J. Brooke holds in Sarawak is advantageous to the commercial interests of Great Britain.

THE PRESTON STRIKE.—All the factory operatives at Preston, except the spinners, having resumed work, a meeting of trades delegates was held at Manchester on Sunday, to recommend to them a proper course they should pursue under the circumstances in which they were at present placed. There were delegates from all the principal towns in Lancashire (including Liverpool), and from London, Sheffield, the Potteries, and Bristol. Mr. Neal, shipwright, of Liverpool, was in the chair. In the course of a lengthy consultation it was urged that the present was an unfavourable time for commencing the contest, and that as the prolonging of the strike by the spinners would keep many of the weavers and other workpeople out of employment without pecuniary support, it was unreasonable to struggle longer at the present time for the ten per cent. A resolution to that effect was carried, and the delegates from the Preston spinners present then retired to a separate room to give the final determination of the question. They almost immediately adopted the recommendation of the general trades meeting, and passed a resolution to that effect. On Monday morning the hands sought work at the establishments where they were engaged when the lock-out occurred, but many of them have been unable to procure employment, in consequence of their places being pre occupied. The aggregate expenditure of all the operatives' committees during the thirty-seven weeks of the contest amounts to £2 00 000, and the sacrifice of wages will probably be three or four times that sum. In addition to this, there is the manufacturers' loss of profits—no inconsiderable item.

CHESS.

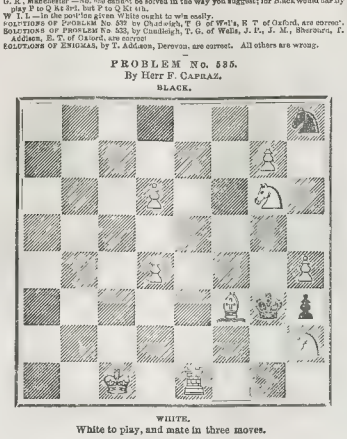
TO CORRESPONDENTS.

NED LOUIS.—New York, Sydney-street.
L. A. W.—Quite wrong. Take more pains.
H. T.—Stalemate makes a drawn game
G. R., Manchester.—No. 532 cannot be solved in the way you suggest; for Black would has By play P to Q Kt 3rd, but P to Q Kt 4th.
W. L.—In the position given White ought to win easily.
SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 532 by Chess Club, T. G. of Wells, E. T. of Oxford, are correct.
SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 533, by Cunliegh, T. G. of Wells, J. P., J. M., Sherborne, F. Addison, E. T. of Oxford, are correct.
SOLUTIONS OF ENIGMAS, by T. Addison, Devizes, are correct. All others are wrong.

PROBLEM No. 535.

By Herr F. CAPRAZ.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in three moves.

MUSIC.

THERE has been nothing new during the past week, at the ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA. Pischek, who has recently arrived in London, has been added to the company; and his first appearance was announced for Thursday, in the character of *Riccardo*, in the opera of "I Puritani." But his name was taken out of the bills, without any cause assigned, and his place was supplied by Ronconi, who formerly sustained the part Lablache performed his favourite character of *Giorgio*; and Bosio, who has succeeded Grisi in the part of *Elvira*, has made it one of her most beautiful and successful creations.

AT THE DRURY-LANE OPERA, on Saturday last, there was a very fine performance of "Fidelio," the finest, indeed, that has taken place since Beethoven's only opera was first produced in this country, at Her Majesty's (then the King's) Theatre, two-and-twenty years ago. Now, as then, it was given in its original German form, without any of the changes which have been found necessary to adapt it to the exigences of the Italian stage. There was no interpolation of sing-song recitative by other composers. The German dialogue, which is terse and forcible, was simply spoken, and thus the rapidity and spirit of the action were preserved. The music, which is thoroughly German, was sung by the German performers with kindred plainness and purity. Madlle. Caradori, as *Leonora*, strongly reminded us of Madame Schroeder Devrient, whom she resembled in her dress and whole appearance, in the beautiful simplicity of her action and elocution, and in her deep earnestness. Belchart was very successful in the part of *Florestan*: he acted with great feeling and sang beautifully. Formès was the best *Rocco* we have ever seen: he gave quite a new effect to the character of the kind-hearted gaoler. Madlle. Sedlatzek was a nice and sprightly *Marcellina*; and the subordinate parts were respectably filled. In short, this opera in which the highest dramatic interest is blended with the most beautiful music in the world—was performed in a manner which made it one of the greatest treats the musical stage can furnish.

Two Oratorios, by native composers, have been performed this week: "Daniel," by Mr. George Lake; and "Immanuel," by Mr. Henry Leslie. Neither of them was entirely new to the public. "Daniel" was performed at Exeter Hall two years ago; and, though it presented no striking or original feature, yet it was justly regarded as a creditable work; evincing sound studies and musicianlike attainments. Its repetition at St. Martin's-hall, on Monday evening, strengthened this favourable impression, and several portions were received with much approbation by a numerous audience. "Immanuel" is a work of a much higher order, entitling its author to a place among the most distinguished composers of the day. Its first performance took place so recently, and was so fully noticed by us, that it is sufficient now to say, that its repetition on Wednesday (which on this occasion was under the direction of Mr. Hullah) was completely successful. The hall was crowded, and the applause was warm and unanimous.

THE annual performance of the "Messiah," for the benefit of the Royal Society of Musicians, took place at Exeter-hall, on Wednesday The performance was in every respect similar to those of the Sacred Harmonic Society. There were the same principal singers, the same immense orchestra and chorus, and the same conductor, Mr. Costa. The hall was full to overflowing, and the performance must have been highly beneficial to the old and most valuable charity, of which the author of the "Messiah" was one of the founders.

THE principal Concerts of the week have been the Misses Cole and Mr. Gibert's performance of classical chamber music at Willis's Rooms, on Monday evening; Mr. Neate's second concert of classical vocal and pianoforte music, at Gore-house, on Thursday morning; and, on the same morning, the second concert of the Quartet Association. The Cologne Choral Union, too, have continued their performances at the Hanover-square Rooms, without giving them any feature of variety. They have, however, announced for Tuesday next a concert to consist partly of sacred music—the class of music most favourable to the production of fine choral harmony.

THE Chelsea Sacred Harmonic Society gave a performance of a portion of the "Messiah," a movement of a symphony by Mozart and a miscellaneous selection from Handel, Pergolesi, &c., on the 16th inst., at the Parochial School Rooms, Chelsea, which was well attended.

THE THEATRES.

SURREY.—While the Islington theatre is delivered over for a time to the performance of the minor drama, Mr. Phelps is starring on the stage, in company with Mr. Cresswick; and on Monday appeared in the character in which he won his earliest laurels, that of *Othello*. The selection was well made. The part of Iago calls out the best qualities of Mr Phelps's style—its tame, but impressive declamation, and its subtle passion. The *Iago* of Mr. Creswick is a remarkably careful, and for him ineffective performance; and the temptation scene, in the third act, was impressively successful. On Tuesday, the tragedy of "Julius Cæsar" was performed; and Mr Phelps' personation of *Brutus*, always excellent, presented all its points in the most amiable point of view. Mr. Marston was the *Mare Antony*, the best representative of the character we now possess. Now that Shakspeare is re-introduced to these boards, with a thing suitable to the occasion, we trust to such an improvement in the taste of the audience as will render the experiment not for him ineffective performance; and the temptation scene, in the third act, was impressively successful. On Tuesday, the tragedy of "Julius Cæsar" was performed; and Mr Phelps' personation of *Brutus*, always excellent, presented all its points in the most amiable point of view. Mr. Marston was the *Mare Antony*, the best representative of the character we now possess. Now that Shakspeare is re-introduced to these boards, with a thing suitable to the occasion, we trust to such an improvement in the taste of the audience as will render the experiment not for him ineffective performance; and the temptation scene, in the third act, was impressively successful. On Tuesday, the tragedy of "Julius Cæsar" was performed; and Mr Phelps' personation of *Brutus*, always excellent, presented all its points in the most amiable point of view. Mr. Marston was the *Mare Antony*, the best representative of the character we now possess. Now that Shakspeare is re-introduced to these boards, with a thing suitable to the occasion, we trust to such an improvement in the taste of the audience as will render the experiment of patronising the highest drama profitable in future.

SADLER'S WELLS.—Mr. Wright has been "starring" this week, in three characters—that of *Billy Lackaday*, in "Sweethearts and Wives;" that of *Simmons*, in "The Spitalfields Weaver;" and that of *Downey*, in "The Unfinished Gentleman." He has succeeded in attracting fuller houses than usual. Mr. Payne, the manager *pro tem.*, has certainly catered well for the Islington public, by providing a succession of meritorious performers. This week Miss Harriet Gordon has been added to the company, and was well received.

TOWN AND TABLE-TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

THE obituary of this week records the death of George Clint, whose inimitable pencil has done so much to preserve to posterity the comic excellences of Munden, Liston, and old Charles Mathews. Zoffany did not do more for Garrick and Parsons than Clint has done for the great actors who had the good fortune to sit to him. To many of the young frequenters of our popular exhibitions, the name of Clint, we suspect, is almost wholly unknown; but to any one conversant with art in this country, Clint's claims to excellence as a painter in the line he delighted to excel in, are at once admitted. He is on his throne at the Garrick Club—in the collection of dramatic pictures formed by the late Charles Mathews, and now, by Mr. Durrant's liberality, the property of the Club

In that small-sized picture from "Love, Law, and Physic," how admirably he has caught the artistic peculiarities of Mathews, Liston, Blanchard, and Emery. In that scene from "Look and Say," which hangs by its side, how happily he has transferred to canvas the inimitable Munden, and the not less inimitable Mrs. Orger. In that small full-length of Monsieur Mallet, who that remembers the man, does not see at once before him the most versatile of actors, the elder Mathews. In that kit-kat head of Liston, how excellently well he has shown his skill in catching the ever-changing features of Liston. Or, when stepping from the Garrick to Rutland-gate, who that has seen Liston as *Paul Pry*, but again beholds him—oh! how good he was, in that well-sustained conception. Clint was an able artist, and his pictures will rise in value, though he found no Vernon to encourage him.

The pictures of Zoffany and Clint are in art, and to good old actors, what Cibber's Apology, and some of Lamb's Essays are in literature to the same almost now extinct class of people.

Mr. Clint was the only artist who ever voluntarily withdrew from the ranks of the Royal Academy. He pursued a manly course. He was elected an Associate in 1821, and, after fourteen years of waiting for election into the highest ranks of the Academy, he, in 1835, resigned his diploma. He would no longer, he said, suffer himself to remain in a position that enabled his brethren to degenerate his talents. He had seen twenty vacancies occur, and seen them filled up, in some few instances, by his seniors, but, in most instances, by his juniors, in point of election, and, we will add, talent. Between 1821 and 1835, the Academy had been enabled to elect into its ranks two-and-twenty Associates—viz., Clint, Wyattville, Jones, Pickersgill, Wilkins, Etty, Danby, Allan, Briggs, E. Landseer, Deering, Chalon, Eastlake, Newton, Cockerell, Witherington, Wyon, Stanfield, Geddes, Gibson, Uwins, and Lee. Of these twenty-two, all have been, or are, with three exceptions, Royal Academicians. The exceptions are—Mr. Geddes, who died an Associate; Mr. Danby, who is still an Associate; and Mr. Cant, who withdrew in 1835. It was Mr. Clint's belief that the prospects of an artist are seriously injured by any body of men who can, at every fresh vacancy, pass a slur upon his talents by electing his junior to that position which it is evident to the public he is anxious to obtain. Nay, Mr. Clint would urge, and did urge vehemently at the time, that an artist should not even be elected an Associate, unless it was clear to those who elected him that he had even *then* painted pictures of merit enough to enable him to the full honours of the Academy. Our wonder is, not that Mr. Clint withdrew, but that he was so long in withdrawing. Now it is no matter in what way his prospects were injured; it is enough that he has painted pictures that will live from their own high merits, and the able actors they perpetuate, while oil and canvas will hold together. Mr. Clint was eighty-fifth year, and was finishing his old calling within a few weeks of his death. We saw, a few days ago, a clever "Falstaff" picture from his pencil, of this year's creation.

The heavy prices at which pictures sold at Mr. Wadmore's sale had no effect on Lord Charles Townshend's sale. Two thousand guineas for a single Turner did not dip deep into the pockets of a merchant prince. Messrs. Christie obtained the same war prices for Lord Charles's executors that he obtained for Mr. Wadmore's sons. The fine Danby, 'Morning on the Lake of Zurich," sold for 660 guineas (Mr. Danby had 840 for it); a good Hilton, "Venus Seeking for Cupid at the Bath of Diana," brought 315 guineas; the excellent "Britomart Rescuing Amoret from the Enchantress," sold for 420 guineas; a fine Frost, "Wood Nymphs Bathing," was knocked down at 431 guineas; Leslie's "Sterne and the Grisette" sold for 810 guineas; Frith's "Prayer" (a mother and child) brought 410 guineas; Frank Stone's "Bashful Lover and Maiden Coy" sold for 300 guineas; Egg's "First Interview of Peter the Great with the Empress Catherine" went for 255 guineas; Sir Joshua's charming portrait of Mrs. Bradyll was considered a bargain at 215 guineas; and Romney's "Head of Lady Hamilton as Cassandra" was spoken of as cheap at 120 guineas. Two anecdotes are current about this sale. The Romney was sold by Christie, some seven years ago, at Newington Butts sale, for ninety guineas; and was then deemed dear. Now, when it has sold for as much again, it is considered cheap. Such is one story. The other we allude to refers to the purchaser of the Danby. He who gave 660 guineas for this fine picture was the princely ironmaster of Birmingham who gave, a fortnight ago, for his first picture, Turner's "Guardship at the Nore," 1550 guineas. The Danby is his second acquisition. He has either good taste himself, or has no bad adviser at his back.

It has been all art-gossip this week, even in literary circles We were taken, on Thursday, to see the sixty colour drawings by John Martin, which Christie is to dispose of on Monday next. The day was against their being seen to advantage; but yet how they enlivened the room. Martin had a fine eye for nature. He could copy her when he chose, with the skill of a seedsman or a Linnæus. He was not constantly dreaming life away in celestial cities, Paphian bowers, the halls of Satan, or the haunts of Manfred. He loved to escape into green lanes, nodding corn-fields, trotting streams, sedate rivers, or quiet pools of clear water, on which the water lily lives. He would spend whole days in transcribing nature in this way. Then his fondness for our English skies was something in him that was both earnest and delightful. Other people bore one with their talk about nature, because one sees the cant of adulation in such worship when expressed, as it is too commonly expressed, by those who talk in the same breath about nature and the pre-Raphaelites. But in Martin it was natural: you saw that he was sincere in his worship of green fields and English scenery.

We were much struck with these drawings. Some we observe date back as far as 1833, when his style was rather pretty than bold. He soon grew out of this, and, we think, was never better than when he painted "My Native Vale," his "Views of the Wye and Cliff," and two or three of his Corn fields. "My Native Vale" shows what the valley of the Tyne had done for his young imagination. Here he caught that love of hill and dale, and rock and stream, and mountainous distance, which he used to such advantage in his own creations. He had, in his own vale alone, sufficient suggestive material for his finest works. He had gone into the spirit of nature so thoroughly, that he worked on the principles (if we may be pardoned the expression) on which Nature worked. An auction room, when it is filled with the best works of an artist, who was in the flesh and in health not nine months ago, is suggestive of many sad thoughts. But what beautiful embodiments of nature, and what fine creations can one pencil be teach to all time. These Martins should be seen.

INLAND BOOK POST.—Whenever the number of postage stamps on a book packet is insufficient, or when there is any other infringement of the regulations respecting book packets, the packet becomes liable to the letter rate of postage.

THE EMPRESS OF AUSTRIA.

THE beautiful and accomplished young Princess who has just been elevated to the Imperial throne of Austria, personifies the future of hope and rejuvenescence which now dawns on that empire, after all the terrible reverses of the last revolutionary epoch. The life of a young girl of seventeen, even though so exalted in station, necessarily affords but few materials for a biographical notice; but the associations she brings with her help to fill the void, constituting, as they do, a presage of future stability to the empire over which she is called on conjointly to preside. The part played by Bavaria in the politics of Europe has been overlooked, because its results have not yet been commensurate with the foundations that have been laid. Of all the royalties that grew up under the shadow of Napoleon, that of Bavaria is the only one existing, because the only one founded on hereditary right, and there certainly appears to be a degree of life in the Bavarian nation, and in the policy of the reigning family, strongly suggestive of affinity with the genius of the man to whom they owed their regal title. We may be assured that, however much of love may have entered into the alliance which has just been completed at Vienna, it has not been merely what is ordinarily termed a love-match, but that reasons of State policy have also entered into the plan. Happy the Monarchs who thus can make their interests coincide with their affections. The position of Austria is materially strengthened and improved by this close alliance with the reigning family of Bavaria. That kingdom, although only a second-rate one in the Royal hierarchy of Europe, is favorably placed for the attainment of power, or at least for the maintenance of an inconvenient neutrality. With its people hardy and well compacted, with comparatively free legislative institutions, a good understanding between the King and the people, and a command of the Danube and the Rhine, it is impossible to say to what degree of eminence it might not be raised by the agency of some Sovereign gifted with a genius either for war or diplomacy. In fact, at a time when friendly relations between Bavaria and Austria were suspended, the statesmen of the former country began to dream of making it a kind of Southern Prussia. Austrian statesmen have ever been desirous of keeping up friendly relations with this Power; and, for five or six centuries past, the alliances between the two Royal families have been frequent. The last of these marriages, that which has placed the subject of this notice on the throne of Austria, is not by any means the least important, considering the attitude assumed by the Great Northern Power of Germany; so that thus a love-match between two persons so young as the Emperor and his Empress may not be without its consequences of a certain degree of political importance.

In the Romance of History the sorrows of Queens play a conspicuous part, and it might be easily shown, that those sorrows have for the most part arisen from the custom, often unavoidable, but almost always productive of evil, of selecting the consorts of Kings from among Princesses of foreign race and manners. The history of England and France is full of such examples. The German Sovereigns have not been necessarily subjected to the same necessity, because, from the number of kingdoms and principalities into which Germany is divided, there has always been a wide field of choice. The domestic education, too, of German princes fits them to sustain their social obligations. We could cite a hundred instances of marriages of the class we have referred to, where the conjugal happiness of the contracted parties, arising from similarity of language, habits, ideas, and tastes, could not be surpassed by the most fortunate examples in private life. The young Empress of Austria enters on her married life under these favourable auspices. She is not regarded as a stranger either by the family or the subjects of her husband. The two Royal races have been so often allied before, that they are almost associated by the ties of consanguinity. The first of those unions dates at about the end of the thirteenth century, when the then Elector of Bavaria, Louis II., married Matilda, the daughter of Rodolph of Hapsburg. Since that time there have been no fewer than twenty-four marriages between various members of the two Houses of Hapsburg and Wittelsbach.

HER IMPERIAL MAJESTY THE EMPRESS OF AUSTRIA.

Elizabeth-Amélie-Eugénie, now the Empress of Austria, is the first cousin, on the mother's side, of the present King of Bavaria. On the father's side, she is but remotely allied to the Royal family, being the daughter of a younger scion, the Duke Maximilian Joseph. This Prince inherited the romanteesque character which had appeared in the persons of some of his ancestors. He was famous and beloved in Germany, not merely as a Prince, but also as a man. As a traveller, he resembled the Prince Adalbert of Prussia in our own day; and he was the author of many German songs, which even at the present time are familiar to the people. There has been at all times a kind of idiosyncratic antagonism between th reigns of Bavaria and their subjects. The association with Lola Montes. Notwithstand his epicurean follies, this Monarch is (for he h vives) sufficiently a poet to have almost wor that still more eccentric personage. In the dis able éclat caused by these vagaries the Europe lic lost sight for the moment of the services the had rendered to his country in promoting its advancement, and to the arts by his munificent age. Millions of money—much derived from private resources, more created by the spirit o prise—were applied, under his guidance, to vancement of public works throughout the co while his tasteful labours in the beautifying capital of his kingdom, and in rendering it focus of art-worship, will render his name lo long after his senile follies shall have been b oblivion.

The young Empress of Austria, then, is the ter of one, and the niece of the other, of these of the House of Wittelsbach, who have thus ill the dull opacity of the Bavarian character, an rendered their names familiar as household throughout Germany. Report says that she h self inherited much of the poetic organisation o two Princes, and that in her the arts will ha more patron. The education given to the Pri of the German families is of the highest orde it is said that the young Empress has greatly p by her instruction, especially in painting and m

The Empress is the second daughter of the Maximilian Joseph, who married a daughter of milian Joseph, the first King of Bavaria, and of Louis the Monarch, who abdicated the th 1848, leaving it to his son Maximilian Jose Second, the present King. She was born on th of Dec., 1837, and is, therefore, in her seven year. When political events had led to the abd of the late Emperor of Austria in favour of the Archduke Francis Joseph, the family and coun of the Duke sought for him a suitable alliance. dition pointed to the House of Wittelsbach, and had done the rest. A Princess of that family— beautiful, accomplished, amiable—had alread tracted the young regards of the Emperor. were betrothed on the 18th of August, 1853 after a courtship, in the course of which the oc tional ceremonies of Royalty were evaded more once by the Imperial lover, in order to see un verse with his *fiancée* (rumour even spoke of hi ing incurred the danger of assas-ination by con tors on one of these occa ons), they were at l married on the 24th April last. Seldom has a marriage been concluded under more favourabl pices.

THE ROYAL ACADEMY EXHIBITION.

Of examples of Academical skill we have already several specime wood, almost asking for publicity; but we are obliged to limit our trations of this week (much to our own annoyance) to one so example; and this we have chosen from the peaceful class of pict which the Academy, rich in such works, affords no better example Mr. Faed's picture, No 448, "Morning—Reapers going out;" a pi not only recalling a delightful scene in a delightful period of the and of English life, but one that is suggestive of many poets, who described the same scene with a thorough appreciation of the poet the occasion. Nor has Mr. Faed been unalive to the peculiar fitne the subject. He has caught—perhaps too delicately—the poetry period of the year, and has represented very touchingly the diff

"MORNING.—REAPERS GOING OUT."—PAINTED BY T. FAED.—FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

NEW MUSEUM OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, LINCOLN'S-INN FIELDS.—(SEE NEXT PAGE)

ations that the same scene awakens in old and young. How ly the boy is rushing to the field: the sisters have stolen no- , and are thinking that they are no longer to meet in the field e they loved, and the old man and his wife (both very feelingly ted) have that quiet and settled composure which age and a try life are so likely to engender.

EXTRAORDINARY SCENE AT SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE.

ew days since, this popular place of amusement was appropriated to urpose of a somewhat novel character—for a meeting of "Total Abstainers." There was, doubtless, some attraction for our thoroughgoing friends in the name of "Wells," and in the convenient contiguity to the New River—such as, in bygone times, used to draw audiences with its "real water." However, the Abstainers met, in full force—Mr. George Cruikshank in the chair; and, by the very efficient aid of his humorous pencil, we are enabled to present our readers with the "extraordinary" scene which the theatre presented on this occasion.

After the Chairman had addressed the meeting, with much piquant and incontrovertible truth, an oration was delivered by the great Temperance advocate, J. B. Gough. At the close occurred the incident which Mr. Cruikshank has described with his graphic pencil. It is well known that our Artist is a total abstainer, and naturally he was unwilling to lose so good an opportunity as then offered itself for swelling the stream to which he belonged. Accordingly, he appealed to the audience to come forward and take the pledge. Nor was the appeal made in vain. A rush from box and pit and gallery was the result. A plank bridge was laid across from the pit to the stage, along which poured the living tide. A young lady was the first to lead the way: her devotion was rewarded with cheers, such as seldom resound in any theatre. Upwards of three hundred followed her example. The number would have been greater had not the evening been far advanced, and the weary scene-shifters anxious to get home to bed.

We must add here a few words about Mr. Gough. This popular orator has been in England now nearly ten months, every night of which almost has been spent in lecturing to crowded audiences. In

"TOTAL ABSTAINERS'" MEETING IN SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE.—DRAWN BY GEORGE CRUIKSHANK.

London, every time he appears upon the platform, Exeter-hall and other places are crammed to overflowing, by people who have to pay 5d. or 1s. for admission. His chairmen have been chosen from men the most honoured in the land. The Earl of Shaftesbury and Lord Robert Grosvenor have each presided, and thus lent him the sanction of their influence and the weight of their illustrious names. Those who have heard Mr. Gough once have not been satisfied till they have heard him again. To the populace in his oratory there is an ineffable charm; and yet in his appearance there is nothing remarkable, and he gives no sign of learning or intellectual power. Apparently, he is about thirty-seven; a spare, sallow, man. You would pass him in the crowd without looking at him; yet he has theatrical gesture up and respond, and the drunkard breaks his fetters and emerges into a new and nobler life, whilst thousands take the only sure way of never becoming drunkards, and thousands follow Mr. Gough's advice for example's sake.

NEW MUSEUM OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.

THE new H.ll or Museum, at the Royal College of Surgeons, in Lincoln's-inn-fields, is the second which has been added to the Hunterian Museum, since it has been under the conservatorship of Professor Owen; the rapid increase in the number of rare and valuable specimens rendering necessitated, not only the enlargement and rebuilding the original Museum, in 1836, but the successive addition of two other halls.

The third has been recently completed, and which is the subject of the preceding Illustration, is 100 feet in length, 40 feet in breadth, and about 60 feet in height. The ground floor is appropriated to the skeletons of animals, and to general osteology; the galleries, two in number, contain the specimens of diseases and diseased parts, forming the Pathological collection.

The specimens, several thousands in number, which have been arranged in a marvellously brief period of time, are already rendered instructive by having the scientific and common names attached to most of them on the ground-floor, whilst those in the galleries are described in printed catalogues, placed there for the use of visitors.

Amongst the skeletons on the platforms may be noticed that of old Chunee, the elephant, which was shot at Exeter 'Change, before the abolition of the menagerie in that thoroughfare: it was the largest elephant ever seen in Europe. It was brought to England in 1810, of the age of twenty years, and was then so docile as to be exhibited on the stage, in one of the pantomimes, at Queen-garden Theatre. In 1814 it was purchased by Mr. Cross, the proprietor of the menagerie at Exeter 'Change, and was there exhibited until the year 1826, when a return of an annual paroxysm aggravated, as was subsequently found, by inflammation of the large pulp of one of the tusks—produced such ungovernable violence as to endanger the breaking down of the den, and to compel the keeper to put the enormous beast to death. This was at first attempted by enticing him to eat an orange—a fruit of which he was excessively fond—into which a small portion of strong mineral poison had been introduced. The elephant detected the *ruse* as soon as he had taken the orange in his trunk; and, throwing it down, he stamped upon it with his fore-foot, and would no longer allow Mr. Cross, the only one who had previously any degree of control in him, to come within reach. After many ineffectual shots with a rifle, a corporal's guard of the Guards was sent for, and the animal dropped after receiving upwards of a hundred musket-balls. The height of the skeleton to the summit of the dorsal spines or withers, is nine feet; the length, from the anterior broken extremities of the tusks to the root of the tail, is fourteen feet.

Two rare kinds of whale—the small white beluga whale and the bottlenose whale, very conveniently exhibit the ... the bony framework of those animals, which, under the guise of fish, breathe the air and have warm blood like land quadrupeds. The skeleton of the rhinoceros shows the full magnitude of that massive animal, and is the largest that has yet been set up in Europe: it is of the one horned Indian kind. Near it is contrasted the light and more delicate skeleton of the horse, said to be of the famous racer Eclipse, and which is part of the original Hunterian Collection. Amongst the rarer animals may be noticed the Sumatran tapir, the walrus, and the narwhale: the latter is the marine animal whose tooth or tusk figured as the horn of the unicorn. The skulls and other parts and separate bones of the skeletons are arranged round the floor in the wall-cases, and the choicer and smaller pathological specimens in the centre cabinets.

We believe that the Collection of the college of Surgeons, as now arranged in the three Museums, affords the most comprehensive view of the animal organisation, in health and disease, which is to be found in Europe. Particular museums may exceed it in some departments, as that at Paris or Leyden, in the number of skeletons of different races; but no capital of Europe is so complete and systematic a series of organic structures to be found, and especially so completely catalogued and well arranged.

As the history of this remarkable Museum may not be known to many of our readers, we may briefly state that the nucleus of the Collection was formed by the celebrated surgeon, John Hunter, in the last century. It was purchased, after his death, by Parliament, for £15,000, and handed over in 1800 to the then Company of Surgeons, under the condition that the Company (soon after raised to the dignity of a College), should keep the Collection in good preservation, and open it for four hours in the forenoon of two days every week for the inspection of the members of the College, and persons introduced by them: and Parliament wisely added to the condition that the Collection should be illustrated annually by a course of twenty-four lectures, to be delivered by a Museum Professor. Besides the gift of the Collection, Parliament voted a further sum of £10,000 in aid of the erection of the Museum, which was completed and opened to visitors in 1813. The late Mr. Cl.f. was appointed the first Conservator, and at the Collection was under his excellent care until his retirement, soon after the appointment of Professor Owen to the joint offices of Conservatorship and Professorship. A second grant of £12,000 was voted to the College by Parliament, and the Museum was rebuilt and enlarged, and a ... room added to it in 1836. The third Museum, completed at the commencement of the present year, was built by the College, with the aid of a third Parliamentary grant of £15,000, voted in 1852. The time of access to the Museum has been enlarged to four days in the week—Monday to Thursday, from twelve to four p.m.

There is, perhaps, no metropolis in which the intelligent inhabitants have more extensive, varied, and easy means of acquiring a knowledge of Nature and Art, in the best way—that is, by the eye—than in London at this time, considering the present state and arrangement of the British Museum, the Museum of the College of Surgeons, the Museum of Practical Geology, in Jermyn-street, and the new Museums of Art and Design, at Marlborough House. Next month will be added the stupendous displays at the Crystal Palace at Sydenham.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

NEWMARKET SECOND SPRING MEETING.—TUESDAY.

A most meagre list, as the return will testify. A very thin attendance. The weather fine, but cold.

Fifty Pounds.—Capt walked over

Sweepstakes of 10 sovs. each.—Thessaly, 1. Oxus, 2. Fifty Pounds.—Cock Pheasant, 1. Domedia, 2

THURSDAY.

Sweepstakes of 10 sovs. each.—Freckle, 1. Handsome Buck, 2. Handicap Sweepstakes of 10 sovs. each.—Diomedia, 1. Kenuyside Hero, 2.

Suffolk Stakes.—Sharavogue, 1. Domino, 2.

Handicap Plate of 50 sovs. Sabra, 1. Antevorta, 2.

Sweepstakes of 20 sovs. each.—Scout, 1. Nottingbourne, 2.

Jockey Club Plate.—Poodle, 1. Rackapelt, 2.

THURSDAY.

Sweepstakes of 10 sovs.—Pebb.e, 1. Chorus, 2.

Two-year-old Sweepstakes.—Para, 1. Contention, 2.

Sweepstakes of 10 sovs.—Handsome Buck, 1. Freckle, 2.

Handicap Plate.—Sesostris filly, 1.

SHREWSBURY RACES.—THURSDAY.

Salopian Sweepstakes.—St. Clair, 1. Medal, 2.

Longmer Hall Stakes.—Ethelbald, 1. Donald, 9.

Cleveland Handicap. Mentague, 1. Lurley, 2.

Queen's Guineas.—Defiance walked over.

Herbert Stakes.—Pope Joan, 1. Robin Hood, 2.

Welter Stakes Freedom, 1. Waterfall, 2.

Members' Plate—Lady Flora, 1. Sampson, 2.

FRIDAY.

Meiklam Handicap.—Usurer, 1. Myrtle by Sweetmeat, 2.

Attingham Stakes.—Red Coat, 1. Pope Joan, 2.

Shropshire Stakes.—Hercules, 1. Hobbyhorse, 2.

Hawkstone Cup.—St. Spiro, 1. Lurley, 2

Corporation Plate.—Field Marshal, 1. Robin Hood, 2.

Handicap Plate.—Little Davie, 1. Florist, 2.

Acton Burnell Stakes.—Florist, 1. Master Adam, 2.

NEXT WEEK'S RACING is of little amount. On Tuesday and Wednesday the meeting at Bath takes place; on the latter day and Thursday the Liverpool Hunt will be held.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

Compared with some previous weeks, the supply of Stock in the market, since we last wrote, has been rather limited. This circumstance, combined with the heavy purchases effected by the *Bulls*, for time, has had a favourable influence upon prices. The advance during the week has been about ¼ per cent, and which appears to be likely to counteract the efforts of the *Bear* party to reduce the quotations, should the next accounts of the Bank of England prove favourable.

Although the supply of money is still tolerably abundant, the rates of discount have advanced in London-street. The ... however, was to be expected, owing to the determination of the Bank directors to make money dearer. The private bankers are now charging from 3½ to 3¾ per cent upon first-class acceptances; whilst the discount houses are at one ... ¼, for money, with one month's notice. These are the highest rates ... for some time past; but it is hinted that they will not long be maintained.

Consols were very steady on Monday. The Three per Cents Reduced marked 87⅝, the Three per Cent Consols, 87⅝; the New Three and-half per Cents, 98¼; and the New Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 72. In the Stock of the Bank of England, 218; India Bonds under ... Exchequer Bills, 1 to 3 prem. Bank Stock was in good demand at 213. Long Annuities were 13 1-16. Reduced Three per Cents, 87⅝ ⅞. Three per Cents Reduced, 87⅝ ⅞. New Three per Cents, 87⅝ ⅞. New Two and-a-Half per Cents, 72¼ ⅜. New Three and-a-Half per Cents, 98¼ ⅜. India Stock, 257. India Bonds, £1000, 68. to 70s. dis.; Exchequer Bills, par to 3s. prem.; Exchequer Bonds Scrip, ½ prem. There was considerable firmness in the market on Thursday, and the quotations improved ¼ per cent. The Three per Cents, for Money, were done at 88⅛, 87⅞ and 88 to 87¾. Consols for Account closed at the latter figure. The new Three and-a-Quarter per Cents were done at 98⅜. The Three per Cents Reduced, 87⅞ ⅞. Exchequer Bills, 1s. to 2s. prem.

During the four weeks ending on the 15th ult., the note circulation of the United Kingdom amounted to £20,439,567; being an increase, compared with the previous month, of £781,503; and an increase, compared with the corresponding period in 1853, of £794 113. The stock of bullion in the Bank of England is now upwards of £5,000,000 less than it was last year at this time

For Foreign Bonds there has been a steady market. Prices, generally, have kept up pretty well. The following are the last quotations:—Belgian 5 per Cents, 103; Brazilian New Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 80; Chilian New Six per Cents, 100; Danish Five per Cents, 100; Mexican Three per Cents, 24; Peruvian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 64; Russian Five per Cents, 96. Ditto, Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 89; Ditto, Four per Cents, 82; Spanish Three per Cents, 28; Ditto, New Deferred, 18; French Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 88; ex 25f.; Dutch Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 95¾; Ditto, Four per Cents, 88⅝; Granada, 17; Greek Bonds, 15½; and Swedish Five per Cents, 85.

The last week of the Bank of France present remarkable results. The increase in the stock of bullion has amounted to £1 640,000. Out of the £800,000 lent by the institution from August 1853 to February last, £600,000 has been regained. The falling off in the discounts has exceeded £1,800,000

Joint-Stock Bank shares have been tolerably firm. Austra'asia have marked 7¾; London Joint-Stock, 4¾; London and Westminster, 3¾; Union of Australia, 69; Union of London, 23¾; Mercantile Securities have changed hands to a fair extent. Australian Land, 1¼; Australian Agricultural, 1¾; Crystal Palace, 6¾; Electric Telegraph, 1¾; Peninsular Land and Mineral, 4¾; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, New, 3¾; South Australian Land, 3¾; Van Diemen's Land, 1¾; Australasian Reversionary Investment, Inl. Waterworks Shares have marked—Berlin, 1¾; East London, 129¾; Ditto, New, 10 prem.; Grand Junction, 72; Ditto, New, 17; Kent, 80; Lambeth, 57; Southwark and Vauxhall, 89¾; West Middlesex, 91; Ditto, New, 104, Hungerford Bridge Shares were 12 prem. Railway, 6; Ditto, Old Annuities of £3 3s.; Vauxhall, 1¼. Insurance Companies have been in demand. Alliance, 69; Atlas, 125; Globe, 125; Guardian, 5; London, 29; Pelican, 6¾; Phœnix, ex div. and bonus, 8. Rock, 1¾ ex div.; Royal Exchange, 235; Sun Fire, 260; Ditto, Life, 65.

Railway shares have ruled steady, and the quotations have had an upward tendency. The following are the closing prices on Tuesday:—

ORDINARY SHARES.—Bristol and Exeter, 85¾; Eastern Counties, 12¾; Great Northern, 86¾; Ditto, A Stock, 73; Ditto, B Stock, 120; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 88¾; Great Western, 71¾; Lancashire and Carlisle, New Yards, 94¼; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 104; Leeds Northern, 12; London and Blackwall, 8¾; London, Tilbury, and Southend, 6¾; London and Brighton, 99¾; London and North-Western, 99¾; London and South-Western, 86¾; Midland, 69¾; North British 81; North Devon, 8, Guaranteed, 7; South-Eastern, 60; South Wales, 84; Vale of Neath, 17¾; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, 58; Ditto, Extension, 11¾; Ditto G. N. E. Purchase, 7¾; York and North-Midland 14.

LOAN AND DEBENTURE RENTALS.—Buckinghamshire, 93½; Northern and Eastern, 5; Wear Valley, 4¼; Wilts and Somerset, 9¾

DIFFERENCE SHARES.—Great Northern Five per Cent, 113½; Ditto, Redeemable at Par, per Cent prem., 106½; Great Western, Irredeemable Four per Cent, 90; Midland Consolidated, 123; Ditto, Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 1¾ dis

FOREIGN.—Antwerp and Rotterdam, 8¾; Grand Trunk of Canada, A Issue, 2¾; Ditto, Certificates of Debentures, 2¾; Great Central of France, 9¾; Great Western of Canada Shares, 19¾; Luxemburg, Limited Shares, 4¾; Ditto, Preferred, 5¾; Northern of France, 34¾; Paris and Lyons, 26¾; Paris and Strasbourg, 3¾; Sambre and Meuse, 9; Zealand, 1¾

Mining Shares have been steady. On Thursday Agua Fria were 1¼; Ayr Bonza, 8; Imperial Brazilian, 4¾; Colonial Gold, 1; Mexican and South American, 6¾; Quar z Rock, 4.

The imports of bullion this week have been nearly £600,000. The exports have been under £100,000.

Friday Afternoon.

The Consol market is very firm, and the quotations are on the advance. The Three per Cents, both for Money and the Account, have been done at 88⅛; the Three per Cents Reduced, 88⅛; and the New Three and-a-Quarter per Cents, 88¾. Foreign Bonds and Railway Shares are steady.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE (Friday).—We were very scantily supplied with English wheat to-day ... inactive, and by land carriage. For all kinds the demand ruled sluggish, and in some instances, fine qualities are ... and an advance in the price is obtained on Monday of la. per quarter. Foreign wheat the supply of which was pretty large, met a dull sale, and for bad an upward tendency ... the import exceeds 37,000 qrs tes. Barley ... ... dearer. Barley was ... in rather supply and moderate request, on former terms. There was only a moderate sale for malt, at full prices. The oat trade was dull, owing to the large arrivals ... The quotations, however, were well supported. Beans, peas, and flour were unaltered in value.

ARRIVALS.—Wheat, 440; barley, 1; oats, 4840; oats, 1240; flour, 410. Irish: oats, 1,100; wheat, 37,790; barley ... oats, 56,440; flour, 1,750 sacks, 2,163 barrels. Foreign: wheat, 1,000 quarters; barley ... oats, 1,000; flour, 1,350 sacks. Scotch and

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

ROYAL OPERA, DRURY-LANE, N EVERY NIGHT for the Performance of BALLET, on a similar scale of magnificence and am ing principal Continental Operas, and as an ordinary Pay- —For Bill of the Evening, see the Daily Papers.

L PRINCESS' THEATRE, Oxford- —On MONDAY, and during the Week, will be pe RRIED UN-MARRIED, and the new magical Drama ND MARGUERITE; with new Scenery, Costumes, &

TRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.— Evening, the new drama of the KNIGHTS of DUE and the new extravaganza of Mr BUCKSTONE'S OUND THE GLOBE

TRE FRANCAIS, KING-STREET, AMES'S.—On MONDAY, May 22nd, the Entertainm nce at 8 o'clock with UNE SOIREE A LA HAS- he principal character by M. Brindeau. After which ERIES on Trois Actes. The principal characters can and Mdlle. Fix (of the Théâtre Français), her first ntre. To conclude with BONHOMME JADIS. al characters by M Regnier and Mdlle Fix. Applica- on, Sheila, &c., to be made to Mr. Regnier, at the office ter; or to Mr. Mitchell, Royal Library, 28, Old Bond-

AL ITALIAN OPERA.—OPERA ES and STALLS in the best situations, and on the most ons, at very moderate prices, may be secured at the 9, New Bond street, opposite the Queensboro' Hotel. okets and Private Boxes at all the Theatres.

L GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, egent-street.—DEVISAL is now added to the DIORAMA of ARCTIC SEAS; with Boats of the Esquimaux, and ty at Three and Eight. Admission, 1s., 2s., and 3s

KHIN'S MUSEUM, SALLE ROBIN, Piccadilly.—Open for Gen lemen from 11 till 5, and 7 on Lectures at 12, 3, 4, and 8. By Dr Scaffe. On Tuesday Friday Ladies only are admitted, from 2 till 5. Lecture 8-tenn. Admission, 1s

W. S. WOODIN'S CARPET BAG 89, Cheapside, EVERY EVENING at Eight o'clock. A performance every Saturday, at Two o'clock. Doors open, ½ hour before. Stalls, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. Seats may be secured at the box-office from Ten till Five daily: at Mitchell's y, Messrs. Andrews', Ebers', and all the principal

ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC, during the Summer Chamouni and the Simplon, EVERY ING, at Eight o'clock. Private Stalls may be secured at Saturday mornings, at Three.—Stalls, 3s.; which can b Eight o'clock every day from Eleven till Four, save, Ja EGYPTIAN HALL, Piccadilly.

TANTINOPLE and the WAR, at the YDIAN HALL. "Hall is not beat for the cold, I could Hall I saw the Diorama at the Egyptian Hall" —Vide of London street life starting around me." "The Bosph ace of the Daily News. The LECTURE is delivered on AYS and SATURDAYS by Mr STOCQUELER, and on es by Mr C. KENNEY. Daily, at Half-past Two and ission 1s.

RIEND'S GRAND MOVING DIO IA of CANADA, the UNITED STATES NIAGARA, LAWRENCE, with Original Songs, Gl s and Choruses to whom arrangements can be made for Private Parties, at Eight, Saturday evening excepted Next the Pyrotechnic Admission 1s and 2s Reserved Seats, 3s ; Box, 5s

TY of PAINTERS in WATER- OURS. The FIFTIETH ANNUAL EXHIBITION at their Gallery, 5, PALL-MALL EAST, is now open. JOSEPH J. JENKINS, Secretary.

ERY of GERMAN PAINTINGS.— ANNUAL EXHIBITION of the WORKS of GERMAN MASTERS is NOW OPEN DAILY, from Nine Admission, 1s.—Gallery, 168, New Bond-street, next erndon.

PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.—The RUSH'SPITION CONCERT BUT ONE this Season on WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, when, among other Symphony in C Minor (No. 5), Beethoven; and Overture to Leonora. Conductors, Herr Lindpaintner and

D HARMONIC SOCIETY, Exeter- Conductor. Mr. COSTA. On FRIDAY, MAY 26, for th's season, as an Ext a Concert, no tickets on the Mendelssohn's ELIJAH. Principal Vocalists Miss Dolby, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Mr Obtained at the Society's Office, No 6, Exeter Hall.

ON SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, ENTH and LAST ORATORIO CONCERT, MONDAY, MAY 22, when CREATION (Haydn) will be given by the Band of Mr. Alfred the Gracious Mayley Queen Victoria, Miss Dolby, Miss Pemyas, Miss Hall from Her Majesty's Theatre, and Mr. Hobbs. Principal Violoncello, Mr. Lucas. Conductor, Mr. Costa. Tickets, 10s., 5s., and 1s. 6d. each.

R-HALL, — TUESDAY NEXT.— GNE CHORAL UNION.—The first-a-quadrille Soiree will be held at the Grand ORCHESTRAL CONCERT will take ANOVER SQUARE ROOMS on MONDAY MAY 29, 8, and Four Last Nights. Two Guineas. Family Tickets, Four, Guests Mr. Mayo, Miss Lemon and Mr. Herr Ernst, Herr Kalkbrenner, who will perform Hummel's ncerto in B Minor, and Mendelssohn's Herr Ole Bull, Herr Reichardt, Herr Pauer, and the principal Musicians Reserved Seats, 1s., Family Ticket, 2l. 2s. Private square

PLUMMER'S SOIREES CATS.—Mrs PLUMMER respectfully announces th SOIREE will take place at the NEW REGENT Queen Anne-street, Cavendish-square on FRIDAY The following talented artists will assist either of Vocalists, Thirlwall, Pommier; Messrs. T. W. Lons, Walter Bolton, and Gregor Haigh. Instrumental Mr. F. Praeger; Violin, L. Ries; Violoncello, H. Rose Clarionet, Charlesio, George Case; Concertina, Mr. Reeves. Seats, 10s. 6d., or three for One Guinea, Family Ticket for Six Guineas, may be had of Mrs. Plummer's 9 Great Marylebone-street, or at Mrs. Plummer's York-street, Portman-square

GNE CHORAL UNION.—Mr. HILL take an early opp rtunity of announcing that the is making arrangements by which all the Glee and Madrigal Societies will commence Every Week at 9, and terminate at 11 precisely. Members admitted by Mr. W. T. Best, the Organist of the Institution.— ion on Monday, 22nd inst., at—Musical Illustrations ish Gallery of this Establishment is open to the Public charge. Hours of Exhibition—Monday, 12 to 5; to 10 (Saturday Evenings excepted). Admission, 1s., Children under Ten half-price. Life Admissions, Annual Tickets: Gentlemen, 2 guineas; Ladies,

PHOTOGRAPHIC INSTITUTION. — An EXHIBITION of PICTURES, by the most celebrated French, Italian, and English Photographers, embracing views of the principal countries and cities of Europe, is now OPEN Admission, 6d. A portrait taken by Mr. Talbot's new process. One Guinea three sitting copies for 10s.—Photographic Institution, 168, New Bond-street

ANGLO-FRENCH ALLIANCE.—To cele brate the happy Alliance of England and France, a GRAND CHORAL HALL in aid of the funds of the FRENCH BENEVOLENT SOCIETY (founded in London in 1842), under the Patronage of his Excellency the French Ambassador, will take place in the HANOVER SQUARE ROOMS, on THURSDAY, MAY 25th 1854. Gentlemen's Tickets, 1l.; Lady's Ticket, 7s. Tickets to be had of the principal Music and Booksellers, and at the Office of the Society, 10, Duke-street, Portland-place

ZOOLOGICAL GARDEN'S, REGENT'S PARK.—Fellows and Visitors are informed that a pair of GIANT ANTEATERS, an adult pair of INDIAN LIONS, and a pair of LEOPARDS have been added to the collection On The Band of the Royal Life Guards will perform, by permission of Colonel Hall, on SATURDAY NEXT, the 27th inst., and every succeeding Saturday, at Four o'clock, until further notice. Admission, 1s.; Monday, 6d.

ROYAL THAMES REGATTA CLUB.— On MONDAY next, 22nd of MAY the GEMINI steamer (barge) had a thorough overhaul will leave BLACKWALL PIER at 7 in the Morning and will accompany the Fleet. The saloon being on deck with a promenade over it, render her peculiarly adapted for the above purpose. Refreshments may be obtained on board. Tickets 5s. each. To be had at Severin's Advertisement Office, 75, Old Broad-street, City As the number will be limited, an early application should be made. A band will be in attendance.

THE EXHIBITION of the ADVANCED WORKS of STUDENTS of the following SCHOOLS of ART, will be OPENED on MONDAY, the 22nd of MAY, at GORE HOUSE, Kensington:

Abertaven	Metropolitan, including
Belfast	Central Male
Birmingham	Central Female and
Cheltenham	Finsbury Evening
Cork	Newcastle-on-Tyne
Coventry	Paisley
Dublin	Pewsrie (Staffordshire)
Dudley	Sheffield
Durham	Scarborough
Glasgow	Warrington
Limerick	Worcester
Macclesfield	York
Manchester	

Admission, daily, from 10 till 5. Free.
Department of Science and Art, Marlborough House.

PEACE SOCIETY.—The Thirty-Eighth PUBLIC ANNIVERSARY of the PEACE SOCIETY will be held in FINSBURY CHAPEL, Moorfields, on TUESDAY EVENING, MAY 23, 1854. Chairman, JOSEPH PEASE, Esq., M.P.; expected to take the Chair at Half-past Six o'Clock. Doors open at Six o'Clock.

ROYAL ASYLUM of ST. ANNE'S SOCIETY, for Maintaining, Clothing, and Educating Children of three years of age, in Prosperity (orphans or not), by Voluntary Contributions.—The BOYS' ANNUAL MEETING for Examination of Certificates of Character and Distribution of Rewards, will be held at the Royal Asylum, Brixton-hill, on THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 1854. The Right Hon. the LORD BISHOP of LICHFIELD in the Chair.

EDWARD REED LEAKE, Secretary.

Visitors admitted, by tickets, at Half-past Two o'clock in the Afternoon. The Band of the Asylum will attend.

THE GRAND BAZAAR, under the immediate patronage of her Most Gracious Majesty the QUEEN, to CELEBRATE the OPENING of the NEW WING of the HOSPITAL for CONSUMPTION and DISEASES of the CHEST, Brompton, will be held (by the kind permission of her Majesty's Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851) in the grounds adjoining the Core House, Kensington, to-and-fro each of nine next

Further particulars will be shortly announced.

The Committee earnestly call upon a generous and benevolent public, to whom an urgent appeal on behalf this Hospital has never been made in vain, to assist them in carrying on their efforts to complete the Hospital, by preparing such useful and ornamental articles as may be suitable for disposal at the Bazaar.

The interior works of the new wing, which will accommodate 140 additional patients, are far advanced, and will probably be finished, and no effort will be spared for extend up to the utmost the usefulness of this charity, which confers many special claims upon it as one of the found united in any charitable institution

A treasury of works, paintings, drawings, models, autographs, in metals, botanical specimens and other curiosities, forward to the Secretary, at the Hospital, 72, Great Ormond-street, London, W.C. The Secretary, at the Hospital, will be gratefully acknowledged.

A donation of £5 10 constitutes a Life Governor and an annual subscription of £2 2s. a Governor.

Donations and donations will be received by the Treasurer, John Labouchere, Esq., M.P., Baron-lane, Messrs. Barclay and Co.; Coutts, Robarts, and Co.; Coutts and Co.; Drummond and Co.; Glyn, Hallifax, and Co.; Hanbury and Co.; Herries, Farquhar, and Co.; Ransom, and Co.; Williams, Deacons, and Co.; by Messrs. Rivington and Co. Waterloo-place; Hatchard and Co., Piccadilly; Nisbet and Co., Berners-street, and by the Secretaries

PHILIP ROSE, Hon. Secretary
Brompton, May, 1854. OSBORN F. CROSS, Secretary

Now ready, price 2s.,
NEW READING CASES for PROTECTING the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS during perusal
PORTFOLIOS, a new and Six Months' Numbers, 4s. each
CASES for BINDING the Volumes, 2s. 6d. each
May be obtained at the Office, 198, Strand: and of all Booksellers

DAILY PAPERS, 13s. per QUARTER. The Daily News, Morning Chronicle, and Morning Advertiser, two days of the day after publication, 13s. per quarter; also the Globe, Sun, and the Sun at 10s. per quarter, by A. CURTIS, General Newsagent, 37, Fulton-street, Saloopcase. Cash in advance, or reference in Town.

INSTITUTE of PHOTOGRAPHY, 179, REGENT-STREET.—Messrs COOKE and CO. respectfully solicit the attention of Amateurs to the COLLODION now used only for them from the formulæ of Mr. W. A. Dallefior. This Collodion is superior to any other, and will keep good for a year by keeping. Waxed, Iodized, and Albumenized Papers of the first quality. Also Photographic Chemicals of every kind from their own Laboratory.

THE CONSERVATIVE LAND SOCIETY. The ALLOTMENT of the undermentioned ESTATES is fixed for the 26th inst.:
ST MARGARET'S, near Richmond (Middlesex), WEDNESDAY, June 21st.
OAKLANDS GRANGE, Weybridge (West Surrey), WEDNESDAY, July 5th.
ROUNDHILL PARK, Second Portion, Brighton (East Sussex), WEDNESDAY, JULY 19th.
By order of the Board,
CHARLES E. LEWIS, CRICKMER, Secretary.
33, Norfolk street, Strand. May 17th, 1854.

THE CONSERVATIVE LAND SOCIETY. A Register of the RIGHTS of CHOICE for SALE is kept at the Offices, 33, Norfolk-street, Strand, for public inspection.
Fresh-fld Estate, near Hastings, Sussex, with immediate possession.—
By PULLER and MORSEY, at the AUCTION MART, LONDON, on WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, at 12, in one lot,
A FREEHOLD ESTATE, HASTINGS, for occupation or investment, comprising BIRCH FARM, a most exact shooting-box, with 245 acres of dry, pasture and arable land, in high cultivation. A lightly situate in the parish of Ridlington, and within half a mile of the sea-coast, and three miles from the town of Hastings. The buildings have all been erected within a few years, in a most substantial manner, and are now in complete order. There are two fine timber on the estate, consisting of oak, chestnut, and larch; and the supply of water is abundant and of excellent quality. The new high road between Battle and Hastings passes the entrance-gate, and there are numerous sites in convenient parts adapted for the erection of villas, which are much in request. The estate is freehold, and the land-tax and tithe do not exceed £14 per annum. To be viewed till the sale, by application on the premises; and particulars may be had fourteen days previous to the sale; also at the Albion Hotel and Library, Hastings; at the Bedford, the New Steyning Hotel and Library, Brighton; the Sussex Hotel and Library, Tunbridge Wells; of Messrs. Toller and Co., Solicitors, Bedford row, London; and of Messrs Fuller and Horsey, 13, Billiter-street, London.

THE PRYOR'S BANK, at FULHAM.—A Delightful ELIZABETHAN RESIDENCE, on the Banks of the Thames, adjoining the Bishop of London's Palace, and close to Mr. only ss 10d per annum; also, a Genteel RESIDENCE adjoining, built entirely of red and moulded bricks, with stone dressings, and fronting the Thames; the valuable LEASE, and the costly Fittings and Effects, including Plate, Linen, China, Glass, Fine Old Portraits, and valuable contents, will be SOLD by AUCTION, upon the Premises, next Week, commencing THURSDAY NEXT, the 25th inst (unless an acceptable offer is made previously by private treaty) of the valuable Lease, with the Fittings and Furniture, may be taken in One Lot, by Messrs. Smith and Phillips, The Elizabethan Residence contains eleven sleeping-rooms, two spacious drawing rooms, and gallery, bouldoir, noble dining room, and library, splendid dry dessert and well fitted with Gothic oak carvings of the period of Henry VIII and Elizabeth; ball, kitchen, and offices, coach-house and three-stall stable, and out-buildings. The suites of rooms are adapted as well for the comforts of quiet life as for large receptions: and its proximity to London renders this a most desirable opportunity to a fine gentleman or gentlemen for occupation or investment. Printed particulars of Charles Gwillim Jones, Esq., Solicitor, 11, Gray's-inn-square; and of Mr Pearson, Auctioneer, 13, George-street, Hanover square; also, on the premises.—N.B Omnibuses pass Church-lane, Fulham (which is the nearest way to the House), every ten minutes; and the Property will be on private view on Monday, May 22nd, and following day. The Lease will be sold on the 25th inst., being the first day's sale.

OPENING of the CRYSTAL PALACE.— The OPENING of the CRYSTAL PALACE is definitely fixed to take place on SATURDAY, the 10th of JUNE, on which occasion her Majesty has graciously signified her intention of honouring the Company's Fête with her presence.

SEASON TICKETS.

Season Tickets may now be had at the Palace, at the Offices, 3, Adelaide-place, London-bridge, and 14 Regent street; at the Bright & Sal way Terminus, London-bridge; at Sams', 1, St. James's street Mitchell's, 33, Old Bond-street; Gutter's, Lowndes-street; Stanford's Kall-hive Depot, Keith, Prowse, and Co.; Chappelle, Bell's, Royal Baths, Brighton; Cooke's Office, Southampton; and at Deare, Smart, and sons' Bookstall on the Rail ways. Tickets to include conveyance on Railway can be had only at the Office of the Secretary to the Brighton Railway, London-bridge, and at the Regent-street

HOLDERS of SEASON TICKETS ONLY will be admitted to the OPENING of the PALACE

OPENING of the CRYSTAL PALACE, 1854.—It is intended to OPEN the CRYSTAL PALACE and PARK on the 10th of JUNE, after which day the building is open on Sundays excepted.

The following are the arrangements for the admission of the Public.—

FIVE SHILLING DAYS.—On Saturdays, the public will be admitted by payment at the doors, by tickets, of 5s. 6d. each; and by tickets to include conveyance by railway

HALF-CROWN DAYS.—On Fridays, the public will be admitted by payment at the doors, by tickets, of 2s. 6d. each; and by tickets to include conveyance by railway

SHILLING DAYS.—Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays will be Shilling Days At the gates, a payment of One Shilling each will admit. Tickets, or tickets, on the holder to admission to the Palace on Park, and also to conveyance along the Crystal Palace Railway, from London-bree pt Station to the Palace and back. It will be issued at the following prices

Including first-class carriage	..	..	..	2s. 6d.
Including second ditto	..	..	..	2s. 0d.
Including third ditto	..	..	..	1s. 6d.

CHILDREN Children under twelve years of age will be admitted at half the above rates

HOURS OF OPENING.—The Palace and Park will be opened on Mondays, at nine o'clock, on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, at ten o'clock, on Fridays and Saturdays at nine o'clock, and on those every day an hour before sunset.

SEASON TICKETS.—Season tickets are now issued at Two Guineas each to admit the proprietor to the Palace and Park on the day of opening, and on all other days when the building is open to the pub lic, up to 30th April, 1855.

No Season Ticket will be transferable, or available except to the person whose signature it bears.

FAMILY SEASON TICKETS.—Members of the same family who reside together have the privilege of taking season tickets for the r own use, with or without railway conveyance, on the following scales, viz.:—

On these tickets a discount of 10 per cent on the gross amount: three tickets a discount of 15 per cent, four tickets, a discount of 20 per cent; and five tickets and upwards, a discount of 25 per cent. Families residing at the sea-side, and desiring to avail themselves of this privilege, must apply on a prescribed form, which may be had at the Office, 3, Adelaide-place, and at the other offices for tickets. These tickets will be available only to the persons named in such applications.

Railway Season Tickets, including conveyance along the Crystal Palace railway from London bridge to the Palace and back, will be issued by the London and Brighton Company, at the above Offices. London-bridge Single tickets, 4s. 4d. each Family tickets at the above reduction.

SPECIAL REGULATIONS AND BY-LAWS All the general provisions and regulations mentioned above are to be understood as being subservient to such special provisions, regulations, and by laws on the part of the Railway Companies and the Company as may be found necessary to regulate the traffic and to meet special occasions and circumstances which may from time to time arise.

By order of the Board,
G. GROVE, Secretary.

Adelaide-place, London-bridge, May 11, 1854

SCHEDULE OF PRICES OF FAMILY SEASON TICKETS.

Without Conveyance by Railway.				With Conveyance by Railway.			
Two tickets	..	..	£3 16 0	Two tickets	..	..	£7 11 6
Three	..	..	5 7 6	Three	..	..	10 14 6
Four	..	..	6 15 0	Four	..	..	14 0 0
Five	..	..	7 17 6	Five	..	..	15 15 0
Six	..	..	9 0 0	Six	..	..	18 18 0
Seven	..	..	11 2 6	Seven	..	..	22 1 6
Eight	..	..	12 12 0	Eight	..	..	25 4 0
Nine	..	..	14 5 6	Nine	..	..	28 7 6
Ten	..	..	15 15 0	Ten	..	..	31 10 0

Note.—Applications for Family or other Season Tickets must be addressed to the Secretary, and accompanied by a remittance to the full amount of the tickets asked for, according to the above Schedule, in favour of the Company, crossed "Union Bank of London." Applications must be so crossed with the words "Union Bank of London."

And no application unless so accompanied, will be attended to.

OPENING of the CRYSTAL PALACE.—To EXHIBITORS. Parties who intend to have Engravings of their produce so inserted in the Illustrated Catalogue of the CRYSTAL PALACE Gallery are requested to communicate with the undersigned, post free, on or before the 30th inst. Each Engraving must be accompanied by a description.

OPENING of the CRYSTAL PALACE.—CALLAGHAN'S CRYSTAL PALACE FOR-SPECTIVE GLASSES, indispensable to a view of the Illuminations. These glasses (introduced at the Exhibition of 1851), though scarcely larger than your thumb, yet possess such wonderful power that they enable you to show objects distinctly at the distance of a mile. Not only will they be found invaluable for the Opening Ceremony at the Crystal Palace, but also for the magnificent scenery of the surrounding country. Price 10s 6d. each. To be had only of the Inventor, Callaghan, 5, St. James's-street; Mitchell's, 33, Old Bond-street, Wisemore's, 2, Royal Exchange; and Purday's, 191, Regent-street. Receipt of stamps or money order, payable to William Callaghan, Optician, 45, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury, London.

SYDENHAM PALACE.—PERFUMERY.— ELDRICK and SON'S ODONEL, No 3 South-west Gallery (formed with above the Pompeii an Court, and 1 Nave) have selected articles for the Fête. Her Majesty's Perfumers [illegible] Horticultural Society, 3, Princes-street, Hanover-square, at Sydenham

OPENING of the CRYSTAL PALACE

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE

THE ILLUSTRATED REVIEW of the CRYSTAL PALACE GAZETTE, containing highly-finished Engravings of Architectural Features, from the Pompeian Court The Fairyland, The Gallery of Grecian Sculpture, from the Medieval Court, The Cup of Leopards Fighting, Ground-plan of the Palace, &c., &c., &c

The large amount of public interest which the "Gazette" has already attained, induces the Proprietors to spare neither expense nor labour in rendering worthy of so magnificent a subject. Each Number is devoted to illustrations and descriptions of the Palace, and to records and memoranda from time to time, as popular changes, added by the greatest of first-class artists, the wonders of science and art brought to their completion, and the whole with a view to render the Palace, in its every part, the most beautiful, interesting, useful, and edifying portion of the day.

The Engravings for Quarter 1, stamped (paid in advance), 5s. 6d. Half-yearly, 6s. 6d. Single Copies Seven-pence. Fifty-two Engravings May be had of all Booksellers and Newsmen [illegible] Office orders payable to the Publishers, A. and S. GOODRIDGE, Ludgate, hill.

CRYSTAL PALACE, 1854. GENERAL PUBLICATIONS

Preparing for Publication, and to be issued on the Day of Opening, the following

GUIDES and HANDBOOKS.

Illustrative of the Contents of the Crystal Palace.

1 GENERAL GUIDE-BOOK to the PALACE and PARK. With Illustrations. By SAMUEL PHILLIPS

2 HANDBOOK to the EGYPTIAN COURT. With Illustrations. By OWEN JONES and SAMUEL SHARPE

3 HANDBOOK to the GREEK COURT. With Illustrations. By GEORGE SCHARF, jun

4 HANDBOOK to the ROMAN COURT. With Illustrations. By GEORGE SCHARF, jun

5 HANDBOOK to the ALHAMBRA COURT. With Illustrations. By OWEN JONES

6 HANDBOOK to the NINEVEH COURT. With Illustrations. By A. H. LAYARD, M.P.

7 HANDBOOK to the BYZANTINE COURT. With Illustrations. By M DIGBY WYATT and J B WARING

8 HANDBOOK to the MEDIÆVAL COURT. With Illustrations. By M DIGBY WYATT and J B WARING

9 HANDBOOK to the RENAISSANCE COURT. With Illustrations. By M DIGBY WYATT and J B WARING

10 HANDBOOK to the ITALIAN COURT. With Illustrations. By M. DIGBY WYATT and J B WARING

11 HANDBOOK to the ROMAN COURT. With Illustrations. By GEORGE SCHARF, jun.

12 HANDBOOK to the SCHOOLS of MODERN SCULPTURE. By Mrs JAMESON

13 [illegible] to the SCULPTURE in the CRYSTAL PALACE. By RAFAELLE MONTI

14 The CENTRAL GALLERY of the CRYSTAL PALACE. Described by SAMUEL PHILLIPS

15 HANDBOOK to the ETHNOLOGICAL and ZOOLOGICAL DEPARTMENTS. By [illegible]

FORBES and DR. LATHAM

16 The Kitchen, ANIMALS and GEOLOGICAL ILLUSTRATIONS DESCRIBED. With Plan and Drawings. By Professor OWEN

17. The CRYSTAL PALACE INDUSTRIAL DIRECTORY.

These Books, written in a popular style, with a strictly instructive and educational aim, are to be published separately, at a very low price, in order to bring them within the reach of all visitors.

Advertisements for one or all of these Publications, will be received, from this date, by Messrs. BRADBURY and EVANS, Printers and Publishers to the Crystal Palace Company, at their Offices, 11, Bouverie-street, Fleet-street; where all necessary information relating to these Works may be obtained.

AUSTRALIA, &c.—The following fine first-class SHIPS will be quickly despatched, as under—

Ships.	Captains.	Tons Regtr.	Destination.
Burgomeester Van Resteln (new)	Van Kaffeler ..	953	Melbourne
Jacobus	Van Lo.n ..	394	Portland Bay
Chanzer (regular trader)	Anderson ..	669	Sydney
St. Esprit (now)	J. S Caffarena.	987	Geelong
Catherina	J. M. Paiserna ..	844	Rio Janeiro

Loading in the London Docks

For freight or passage apply to J. G. Marzetti and Sons, Venetian, Aberdeen-square

ADELAIDE, PORT PHILIP, SYDNEY.—PASSENGERS and GOODS LANDED at Melbourne free. Saloon, £40; Cabin on Deck, £20 to £30; Intermediate, £10 to £20. No steerage. Children half price. Inquire of the best first-class ships. Apply to WM. BARNETT and CO., 9, Philpot-lane, London, Merchants, Colonial, Shipping, and General Agents

LIVERPOOL BLACK BALL CLIPPERS.— These fine-sheated Ships SAIL EVERY FORTNIGHT, for MELBOURNE, one day, Sydney, Adelaide, and Launceston They are all commanded and officered by men of the highest character, and have made the fastest passages on record. Cash orders issued in Australia from all upwards, and parcels forwarded. Apply to John Jeffreys and Co., Great St. Helen's, London; or to the owners, James Baines and Co., Cork-street, Liverpool.

THE MAIL STEAM SHIP for AUSTRALIA, JUNE 4, 1854. The magnificent Screw Steam-ship LADY JOCELYN, 800 tons, Another of the fine fleet belonging to the General screw Steam Shipping Navigation Company, will be despatched with her Majesty's Mails for ADELAIDE, PORT PHILIP, and SYDNEY, on the 4th JUNE next. This truly noble ship has unsurpassed her high reputation for rapid sailing and punctuality, and is under way to the Argo, which has made the quickest voyages on record from Australia of any ship up to this time The lady Jocelyn has been long and rapidly carrying the Mails to and from England and Calcutta, and, after a voyage of about 27,000 miles, sailing at seven ports - inward, and eight homeward, has returned to Deptford in less than before her time, and, from her superior sailing and steaming qualities, it may be fairly assumed that she will make the run to Australia in sixty days. Rates of Passage from Thurso to One Hundred Guineas. All particulars as to freight and passage money, at the Company's Offices, 27 Cannon street, London.

STEAM COMMUNICATION with the BRAZILS and RIVER PLATE.—ROYAL MAIL STEAM PACKET COMPANY.—One of this Company's Steamers will leave Southampton on the 9th of every Month, viz 9th May, 9th June, &c., for MADEIRA, Teneriffe, St. Vincent, (Cape de Verds), Pernambuco, Bahia, and Rio de Janeiro, and Each alternate Steamer proceeds to Monte Video and Buenos Ayres, returning by the same route to Southampton.

Pernambuco ante to rates of Fares, Freights, &c., may be had on application at the Company's Offices in London, or at Southampton. From Robert Haskett, Esq., the Company's Superintendents of the Cargo Department, whom parcels, packages, and publications will be removed for Madeira Tea riff St. Vincent (Cape de Verds), Pernambuco, Bahia, and Rio de Janeiro—freight being prepaid.

Goods taken on moderate freights to and from Rio de Janeiro, Santos, &c., conveyed from Rio de Janeiro, Bahia, Pernambuco, St. Vincent, (Cape de Verds), Teneriffe and Madeira

Passengers are recommended to make early application for securing proper berths

Return tickets issued, available for twelve months, with an abatement of 25 per cent on the passage-money

53, Moorgate-street. R CHAPPELL, Secretary.

BLACK STAR LINE OF AUSTRALIAN PACKETS.

LIVERPOOL to MELBOURNE.—To SAIL, in MAY, the celebrated screw Clipper-ship INVINCIBLE, 1,499 tons register, 3000 tons burthen, J. JOHNSON, Commander. This celebrated screw Clipper ship has accomplished several of the fastest passages ever recorded in naval history; and being fitted in the most superb manner possible with a view to the at a meant of comfort and strength to children, together with a most splendid accommodation, will be found one of the best ships ever dispatched to the Australian Colonies. Her Log will be kept on board, and a copy the Owners, to which all passengers are welcome to look otherwise. She will [illegible] and [illegible] of marine females, single ladies, and single gentlemen, as the case may be. She will be despatched at exactly, without any extra charge, provided a few days' notice is given. The famous commander, which is free from every obstruction, will be found one of the most desirable features to the ship's crew, and for passenger conveyance. The Captain is a gun-man of the highest talent and experience, and has now over two months' [illegible] service to the welfare of his passengers A fully qualified [illegible] will be on board, and the ship will be under the constant [illegible] of her Majesty's Emigrant officer

Passages secured, and every information obtained, on application to HENRY THOMAS and CO., 44, Dale-street, Liverpool

THE GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY.— The prices of COALS brought to London by this Railway have been reduced, and are at present as under:—

	Delivered within five miles of the Station.
FROM THE COUNTY OF DURHAM.	s. d.
Lambton's Wallsend screened	24 0 per ton.
Lambton's Heart spoal Wall's End, screened ..	23 6 ..
Lambton Tees Wallsend, screened	23 0 ..
FROM THE SOUTH YORKSHIRE COAL FIELD.	
Hard Coal, Second Quality.	
Hartley's Hetton, screened	21 6 ..
Hard Coals, Second Quality.	
Hartley's, screened	20 0 ..
Seconds of Par ent Coals.	
Hartley's and	21 0 ..
Wallsend	22 0 ..
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]

Coals delivered free into the Consumer's Cellars, in per ton per cent, for carriage. Cash to be paid

The only office for Coals brought to London by the Great Northern Railway is within this station, and care should be taken to address them to the HIGHEST CLASSES Gate Agent for the sale of Coals consigned to the King's-cross Station, or to the Secretary

By order, J. B. HOWATT, Secretary.

King's-cross Station, London, May 8, 1854.

COALS, 19s. per TON, BEST, SCREENED.— The OXFORD, WORCESTER, and WOLVERHAMPTON RAILWAY COMPANY are now prepared to supply the best STAFFORDSHIRE HOUSE-COALS (selected for the London Market) at 19s. per ton, delivered within four miles of the Company's Railway at Iron Cash on delivery. Small (very strong and serviceable for [illegible] purposes), 15s. per ton. Orders for the above may be addressed to Mr. PHILLIPS, at the Company's Offices, 29, Great Georgestreet, Westminster. By order, NOEL THOMAS SMITH, Sec.

THE PERMANENT WAY COMPANY will call the attention of Railway Directors and Engineers to their patent Rail-keepers, Fish-joints, and other important improvements, now in use on upwards of 200 miles of railway.

Letters from the Secretary, Report of the Directors of the Midland Railway February 14th, 1851.—"An important feature in the consumption for the Rail-keepers, which have been patented, and the Directors are bound to reduce their charges £50 per mile, per annum, whenever the Rail-joint or certain other improvements are generally introduced."

Communications may be obtained on application to Mr CHARLES [illegible] Manager, or Mr WILLIAM HOWDEN, the [illegible] Westminster

THE NEW NATIONAL ASSURANCE AND LOAN COMPANY.

Chief Office, 484, Oxford-street, Bloomsbury, London.
Parliamentary Act of Parliament. Capital, £100,000.
Trustees—The Right Hon. Lord Monck, Sir [illegible] Bart.

Every description of Life Assurance effected, including Assurance against Accidental Death.

Endowments and Annuities granted

Loans granted on personal security, on personal and other security at five per cent per annum; repayable per weekly, monthly, or quarterly instalments

Policies from £5, and upwards, and arranged for all classes

Premiums—either weekly, monthly, quarterly, half-yearly, annually, or by single payment

Prospectuses and Forms Gratis, or sent on application on receipt of Two Postage-stamps

Active and respectable persons desirous of being appointed as Agents are requested to apply immediately to

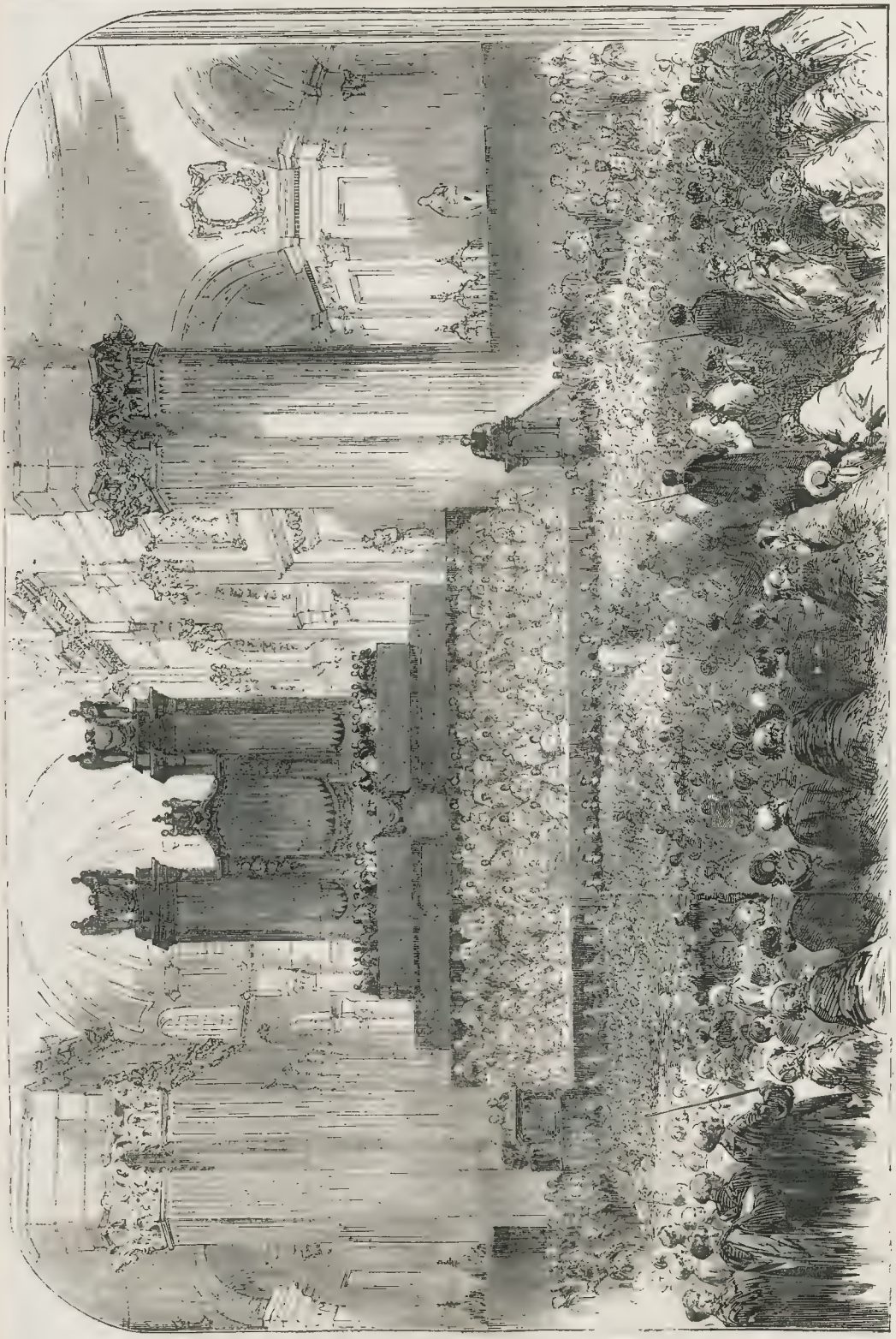
THOMAS HOURNE, Resident Manager and Secretary

ACCIDENTAL DEATH INSURANCE COMPANY. Capital £110,000 fully subscribed.
CHAIRMAN—Sir JOHN FORBES, M.D., D.C.L.
DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN—Henry Hall Mayne, Esq
Accidents on Railways, Steamers, Public Conveyances, and elsewhere, by single or annual premiums, at very moderate rates

ACCIDENTAL DEATH INSURANCE COMPANY.
Accidents by Sea, Fire, Ordinary Travelling, or from any other cause, in or abroad.
Compensation will be secured weekly, in addition to doctors' bills, in case of non-fatal accidents, and by a fixed sum in case of death.

ACCIDENTAL DEATH INSURANCE COMPANY.
War Risks, either by Land or Sea, or in the Fairs of the Enemy insured at a moderate rate
No personal attendance or medical examination required.
Prospectuses and further information can be had on application at the Company's Offices, or of any of their Agents
By order,
WILLIAM YOUNG, Secretary.
7, Bank-buildings, Lothbury.

ORRILA'S POMPEIAN HAIR DYE is now only to be procured of the sole Proprietors, CHAFFTEY and PATTERSON, 29, Red Lion-square.



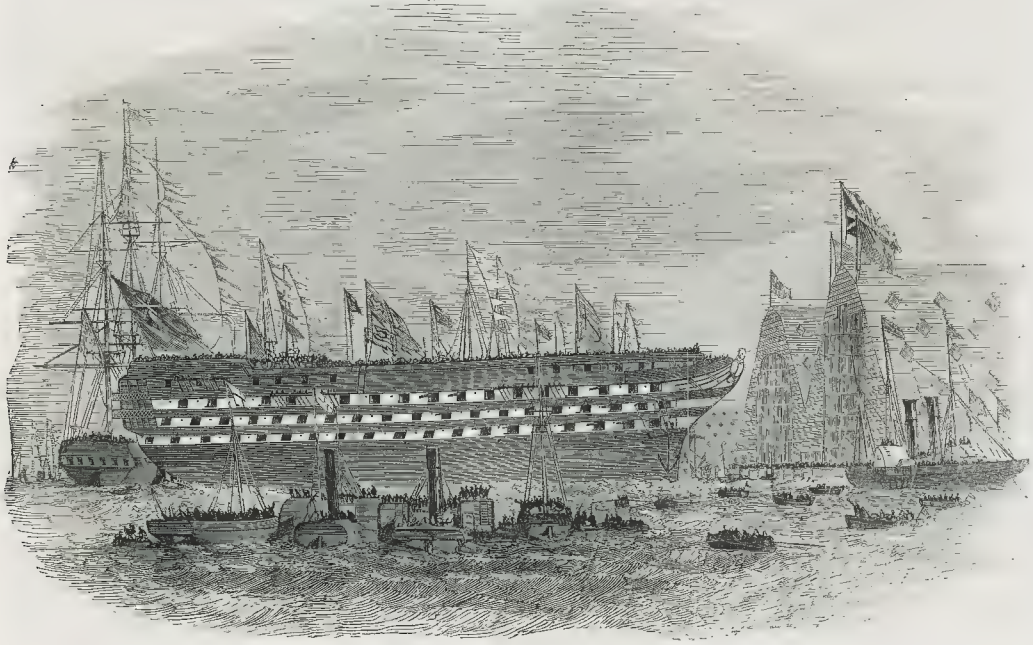
FESTIVAL OF THE SONS OF THE CLERGY, IN ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL.—(SEE PAGE 466.)

LAUNCH OF THE "ROYAL ALBERT," AT WOOLWICH DOCKYARD.

HER MAJESTY NAMING "THE ROYAL ALBERT."

THE *Royal Albert* was safely launched from Woolwich Dockyard, on Saturday, in the presence of the Queen, the Prince Consort, the Royal family, the Court, the foreign Ministers, the members of the Legislature, the naval and military authorities, and an assemblage, ashore and afloat, of at least 100,000 spectators. The morning gave promise of a brilliant, unclouded day—such a day as of itself, at this season, makes the river irresistibly attractive to Londoners. Towards noon it became rather overcast, and there were indications of a thunder shower; but it happily passed off. Before ten o'clock, the hour appointed for the opening of the gates, the dockyard was besieged by thousands of ticket-holders, and others not so fortunately situated, and long lines of carriages extended almost the whole distance from New cross up to the dockyard gates. At length, however, the gates were passed, and holders of "A, B, C," and numerous other alphabetical tickets, wended their way amid long avenues of store yards, and huge piles of timbers, to their appointed places. Around the slip in which lay the gigantic hull, were erected, in the form of a spacious amphitheatre, a series of booths, capable of accommodating at least ten thousand persons. Each of the booths was distinguished by a letter legibly painted in white upon a ground of the same colour as the ticket, an arrangement by which an immense amount of confusion was saved to the visitors. Here were seated, in spaces set apart for each, and proceeding from left to right, in the order stated, the Foreign Ambassadors, the members of the two Houses of Parliament, the Cabinet Ministers, the general visitors, the army and navy, the Admiralty, and the officers of the dockyard, of Whitehall, and Somerset-house, with their friends. By the excellent arrangements of the authorities, and by the unwearied exertions of Mr. Mallalieu, the Police Superintendent of the district, spectators who had reserved seats were enabled to reach them without any inconvenience or confusion; and the claims of the multitude were not disregarded, as after eleven o'clock the dockyard gates were thrown open to them, and leave afforded to the first comers to occupy the best places they could select.

As the hour approached for the Queen's arrival, every point whence a view of the launch could be obtained was crowded. The house-tops overlooking that part of the river were manned, and even on the Essex shore a multitude of spectators had assembled. Punctual, as usual, to a minute, the Royal carriages, with their cavalry escort, reached the dockyard at one o'clock precisely. A guard of honour, composed of the Royal Marines, was drawn up and presented arms. The gentlemen cadets from the Royal Military Academy were also present, and, with Captain Eardley Wilmot at their head, saluted as the Queen passed. The factory store-room, at the south end of which her Majesty alighted, was lined on either side by 800 boys from the Greenwich Naval Schools, who raised their shrill cheers as she passed through them. From land and water the strains of the National Anthem now resounded. Her Majesty was received on alighting by Commodore Shepherd, Superintendent of the Yard; the Surveyor General of the Navy, Sir Baldwin Walker; Sir James Graham, Mr. Bernal Osborne, Admiral Berkeley, and the other Lords of the Admiralty. The Prince Consort, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Prince Alfred, and her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent accompanied her Majesty, who was also attended by several ladies of her Court, and of the great officers of the household. The illustrious party were immediately conducted to a covered dais, tastefully decorated with flowers, and overlooking the river on the west or left side of the slip. Here a short pause ensued while the animated water pageant was sur-



THE ROYAL ALBERT."—BROADSIDE VIEW.

veyed, and the thousands of spectators afloat, cheering vociferously all the time, opened up a passage, enabling the huge war steamer, when launched, to swing stern foremost up the river with the flowing tide. In a species of semi-state the Royal party then proceeded by a reserved passage along the west side of the ship to a raised platform, covered with scarlet cloth, at the ship's bow. The Commodore Superintendent led the way; then came the Marquis of Abercorn and the Marquis of Breadalbane in their official capacities. Her Majesty, leaning on the arm of the Prince Consort, advanced next; behind them came the other members of the Royal family; the ladies of the Court, the Lords of the Admiralty, and other distinguished persons in attendance. The great assemblage of spectators on their right, representing the rank, the intelligence, and, it may be fairly added, the beauty of the country, rose to receive and cheer them; while on their left towered the mighty fabric of the war-steamer. Arrived at the platform, Sir James Graham presented Commodore Shepherd, the Superintendent of the Dockyard, to her Majesty; who, after examining an elegant oak hammer and chisel made from a piece of the timber of Nelson's ship *Victory*, and used for the purpose of dividing the cord of the dog shores, came forward to the bows of the ship, where the Master Shipwright, Mr. Rice, having been introduced to her Majesty, presented her with a bottle of wine, covered with lace and decorated at either end with the rose, shamrock, and thistle. It was suspended horizontally, so that, if filled or allowed to swing by its own gravity, it would be dashed against the bow. This was, however, not properly pointed out to her Majesty, who, standing at some distance off, threw the bottle twice without hitting the stem; but a brief explanation from the Master Shipwright enabled her to perform the rites of naval baptism on the *Royal Albert*. She appeared much amused at this incident herself, and laughed heartily when it was over. The Royal party having returned to their original station overlooking the river with the same observances as accompanied their advance from it, the preparations for the launch immediately commenced.

Now came the anxious time for Mr. M'Pherson Rice, the able Master Shipwright of the yard. It was on the 16th of August, 1845, one of the anniversaries of Prince Albert's birthday, that the keel of the mighty war steamer was laid. Designed, and in some measure constructed, by his predecessor, Mr. Lang, the task of completing her devolved upon him only in April, 1853. What if all was not right, if the launch could not be effected, or any accident took place? Time was when such operations were attended with much difficulty and danger; when in France, for example, it was the custom to employ convicts in the work, and to give them their liberty if they escaped with life; but in the present case, the science of naval architecture has made immense progress of late. The only anxiety now felt on occasions of this kind is that naturally arising, however confident one may be of the result, from the size of the vessel to be run off the slip. A ship like the *Royal Albert*, nearly 4000 tons burden, 272 feet in length, sixty-one feet broad, and sixty-six deep, is no ordinary mass to move, however favourable the circumstances. But in less than ten minutes after royalty had retired from the platform to her seat, the launch was effected in slow and beautiful style, Mr. Rice most wisely adopting the plan of launching the gigantic vessel by the blocks, instead of by the dog-shores; for, when a vessel begins to draw and press upon the dog-shores, it is not possible to retain her as in the case of the *Rosamond*, a few years since, which launched herself an hour before the appointed time; and the pressure in some times so enormous on the detaining shores that they cannot be struck away, but have to be chopped—an expedient attended with great danger. The bands on the river and in the dockyard struck up "Rule Britannia" and "God Save the Queen" promiscuously, in the excitement of the moment. There was waving of hats and handkerchiefs, too, in abundance; and many a fervent wish arose that so proud a ship might be fortunate and victorious. The mingled majesty and ease with which she moved into the water were indescribably imposing. She took possession of the river, cleared away a path for herself on its breast with a native inborn authority, and became at once a Triton among the minnows of small craft around her. Of all the great sights with which the progress of mechanical invention has rendered the present age familiar, there is none, perhaps, superior to that which is presented by the launch of a first-rate man-of-war; and of the thousands who witnessed that spectacle on Saturday, there were few whose hearts did not involuntarily echo the benediction of the Queen, who, in christening her, said, with emphasis, "Success to the Royal Albert." (*See the large Illustrations at pages* 460, 461.)

Immediately after the launch the Queen and Royal Family entered their carriages, and quitted the dockyard amid the same demonstrations of loyalty as greeted them on their arrival. The immense crowd of spectators also gradually dispersed.

With the number of fine ships that are annually turned off the stocks on the Thames, there was nothing in the mere operation of the launch on Saturday that need have excited any extraordinary degree of interest; but when one takes into consideration the dimensions of the *Royal Albert*, and other details connected with her construction, a material difference arises. She is no long backed, narrow, thin-sided swimmer of the seas, built for speed in mercantile adventure, but a veritable floating fortress, in which the honour and might of Old England may be confidently embarked. Her proportions, her armament, and her propelling power place her on an equality with the great *Duke of Wellington*. Twenty years ago the *Caledonia* was considered a model: she carried 120 guns; her length was 205 feet; her burden about 2750 tons; while the weight of her broadside of metal was about 1750 lb. The *Royal Albert* is the latest effort of naval science; and it is only by comparing her side by side with a line-of-battle ship of a former period, that we can fully estimate her gigantic size or tremendous power. If the thing were practicable, there would be no difficulty as regards space in placing the *Caledonia* in her hold. The extreme length of the *Royal Albert* is 272 feet (about eight feet shorter than the *Duke of Wellington*), and her extreme breadth 61 feet; her burden is 3760 tons, and the weight of her broadside of metal more than four times that of the *Victory*, and more than double that of the *Caledonia*, or close upon 4000 lbs. The mere weight of timber and iron in her hull alone is 5200 tons; and, when thoroughly fitted and equipped, the weight is no less than 5600 tons.

Her armament will be arranged as follows: On the lower deck there will be ten 8-inch guns for firing shells or hollow shot, and twenty-six long 32-pounder guns. On the middle deck will be six 8-inch guns, and thirty 32 pounders. On the main deck, thirty-eight 32-pounders, and on the upper deck twenty 32 pounders. On the forecastle there will be a 68-pounder gun, mounted on a pivot, and this last will be one of the most formidable of all. The gun will weigh five tons, and will throw a solid iron shot of 83 lb. weight a distance of three miles. If any one has stood upon the platform of a battery when heavy guns have been fired, he must have witnessed how, after a few discharges, the massive granite and the solidly knitted oak and iron framework has been shaken and dislocated by the force of the concussion, and can fancy what must be the strength of the timbers of a man-of-war when a whole tier or broadside of these guns is discharged at once.

On Monday the *Royal Albert* arrived at Sheerness from Woolwich at 11.45 a.m., in tow of the steam vessels *African* and *Adder*, with the steam-vessel *Monkey* in attendance. On the magnificent ship rounding the Garrison Point, the flood-tide was making very strong, and gave her through the water so much way that both steam-vessels were obliged to reverse their engines for some time to check her speed; and, by the judicious management of the officers in charge, she was safely anchored off the dockyard, preparatory to her being taken into the basin and dock.

THE GOLDSMITHS' AND JEWELLERS' ANNUITY INSTITUTION ASYLUM.

On Monday, the first Anniversary Festival of the foundation of this Institution was celebrated by a dinner at the London Tavern, John Brown Esq. in the chair, and was attended by about 200 gentlemen chiefly in the trades for whose benefit the Asylum has been founded. Also a considerable sum was subscribed by the company, and the proceedings were altogether highly satisfactory. As the Asylum has been established upon a plan differing in an important respect from a general "charity," it may be interesting to detail its rise and progress.

The Annuity Institution originated from the benevolent exertions of several of the most active members of the Goldsmiths' and Jewellers' trades, in the year 1827, when a society was organised to grant assistance to the most meritorious members by way of a small annuity; and, to make the undertaking as nearly self-supporting as possible, the yearly payment that should qualify for a vote was fixed as low as 6s. This not only enlisted the support of the very numerous body, any of whom might themselves fall into need of its assistance, but also awakened the sympathies and contributions of some of the more wealthy members of the trades.

With such encouragement, in 1837, at a general meeting of the subscribers, it was resolved to add, under proper regulations, an Asylum Fund, by which Almshouses should be provided for the needy. A committee was therefore formed, and, having soon proceeded in their good work as to purchase a piece of land, and to realise about £1000 towards an Asylum fund, they made an urgent appeal to the great body of the trade; and the requisite funding raised, the foundation-stone of the Asylum was laid on May 1st, 1851, upon the west side of Manor-road, South Hackney.

GOLDSMITHS' AND JEWELLERS' ASYLUM, MANOR-ROAD, SOUTH HACKNEY.

The Asylum, of which we engrave the façade, has been ably designed by Mr. W. P. Griffith, F.S.A., in the Tudor style; and constructed of malm bricks, with Caen stone dressings; the central octagonal pinnacle is of Anstone stone. The roofs are high spanned, and covered with Bangor slates. The chimney shafts are lofty, and diagonally clustered upon a square base, forming a prominent feature. The central tablet, having a label with oblated bosses, contains a quotation from Psalm 71, v. 9, "Cast me not off in the time of old age; forsake me not when my strength faileth." Then follow the names of the trustees and officers. The buildings accommodate sixteen pensioners, the arrangements being on the principle of the Poor Brothers in the Charterhouse. In the rear, and attached to the lower story, are wash houses, possessing a constant supply of water. It is interesting to add that the Asylum has been chiefly raised by the working community of the trades, and, with few exceptions, supported by them. Since 1827, seventy-four annuitants have benefited by pensions of £15 to males and £10 to females, annually; altogether £5500 has been expended in annuities only, and at the present time nineteen persons are annually relieved, at a cost of £245.

In addition to this, it is stated upwards of £400. The contract for the building was £1067, and there was recently wanting about £400 to complete it. The subscriptions at the festival on Monday will largely aid this object; and the committee earnestly hope that, the greater part of the good work being done, the benevolent public will enable them to obtain the rest.

NEW CHURCH OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM, EVERTON.

On Tuesday week this handsome edifice, recently erected in the parish of Walton-on-the-Hill, Liverpool, was consecrated by the Lord Bishop of Chester. The foundation-stone was laid in May, 1852; and the Church was opened on August 31, 1853. It is situate in Audley-street, Everton, a little to the east of Everton-road, upon a piece of ground generously presented by two gentlemen, and bounded on the north by Breck-road. It is in the midst of a thickly-peopled and rapidly-increasing neighbourhood, and has been erected to supply the urgent demand for increased church accommodation in that district of Everton, as well as the neighbouring township, bordering upon West Derby. Some years ago the then Bishop of the diocese licensed the Sunday-school, in Mill road, Everton, for the performance of Divine Service, which had regularly taken place since that period, under the auspices of the late Rev. R. P. Buddicum, M.A., and the present highly-esteemed Incumbent and Curate of St. George's, Everton, the Rev. W. W. Evelbank and the Rev. J. Macnaught; but the accommodation in the school having been found altogether inadequate to the increasing population of the district, an effort was made to erect a new church for the accommodation of the inhabitants; and, by the unwearied exertions of several gentlemen, who have taken a lively interest in the undertaking—more particularly the Rev. J. Macnaught, Thomas Darnley Anderton, Esq., and Netlam Tory, Esq.—it was brought to a successful issue.

NEW CHURCH OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM, EVERTON.

The style of architecture is the Decorated, from the designs of Mr. Raffles Brown, architect, of Liverpool. The interior consists of a centre, and two side aisles—the latter terminating with north and south transepts. On each side of the centre aisle is a series of arches, rising from light columns of polished granite. There are no galleries in the Church, except those in the transepts. The organ is placed on the ground floor, and enclosed within a small archway, on the north side of the approaches to the communion table; stalls for the choristers being placed on each side, in front of the altar. There is accommodation for 1400 worshippers, all in pews, with sittings of equal comfort. The sittings are arranged in five classes, the last two of which comprehend 408 entirely free for ever; and also 200 sittings, which are let at an annual rent of five shillings each.

There is a fund for the endowment and repair of the Church, provided also by voluntary subscription. Application will immediately be made to the Church Building Commissioners to assign an ecclesiastical district to the Church. The Rev. John Macnaught has been licensed to the perpetual curacy.

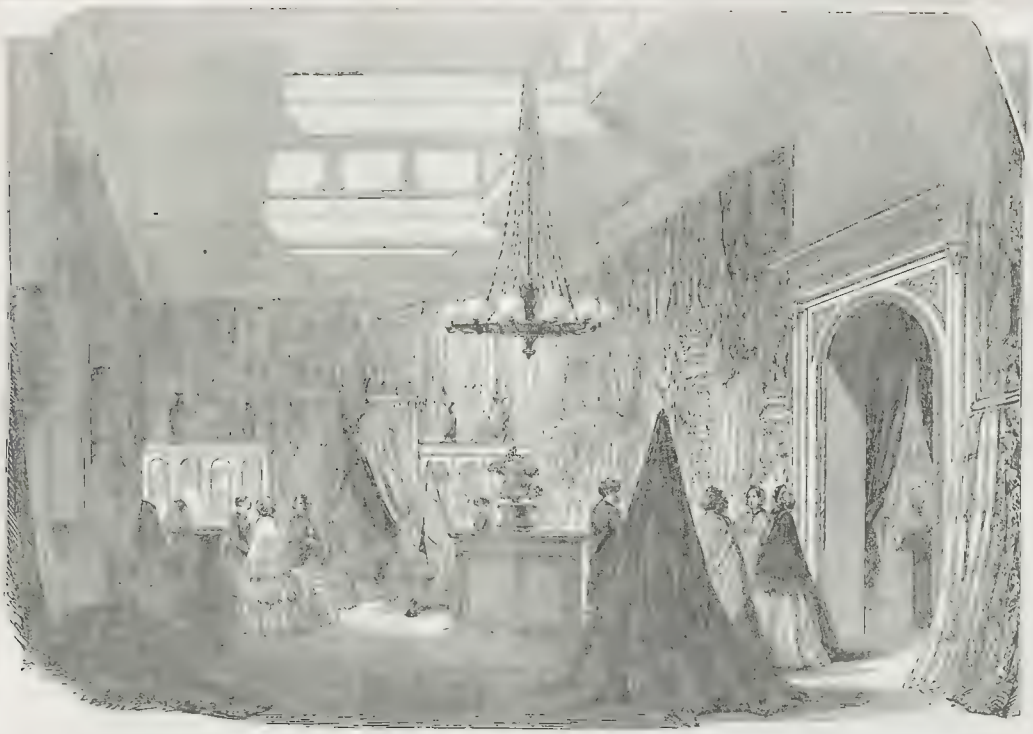
SCHOMBERG-HOUSE, PALL-MALL.

We have occasionally illustrated some of the great emporiums of useful, elegant, and fashionable textile fabrics, which, in the extent and importance of their operations, and the completeness and liberality of their arrangements, are amongst the true wonders of London. In Number 675, for example, we depicted one of the vast warehouses in the neighbourhood of St. Paul's, whence are distributed throughout England, and throughout the world, those articles of drapery in which English housewives take so much delight. We described the palatial warerooms for receiving goods, the giant cranes for lifting them, the counting houses for taking orders, the offices for sale and distribution, the regiments of travellers, the brigades of assistants, and the army of porters who assist in this distribution.

Schomberg-house, the subject of the accompanying Illustrations, presents a different aspect. Here all is elegance and refined taste. The silk mercer here is a fine artist. India, China, France, and England pour forth their various stores for his approval. This renowned *Maison de Mode*, has for a century, or more, held, in relation to the British Court and aristocracy, almost the same position as that occupied for some fifty years by Longchamps in the regards of the fair leaders of Parisian fashions. Where George III. was wont to come shopping with his daughters, royalty, in our own day, may be seen his descendants, attending to the taste of the fashionable textures, and to their fabrics of which these flowing costumes were composed, could probably tell that many homes were made happy, that many a smiling face was to contribute to the encouragement and permanent advantage of British industry.

On a former occasion, and before the completion of that work of restoration, alteration, and internal and external improvement which has made this establishment one of the most remarkable examples of the enterprise of metropolitan traders, we alluded to the historical associations connected with the place itself: to the names of eminence and celebrity, whose residence has identified it with memories of the most interesting nature. The building in its present state, comprises a series of arrangements so complete in design, so judicious in disposition and classification, that the acme of the conditions—(viz., those of perplexing research and unsatisfactory inquiry)—which in the old times, formed so great a drawback from the pleasure of "shopping," are absolutely done away with. At a single *coup-d'œil*, the fair visitor may make herself aware of what are to be the fashions of the ensuing year; and the utmost requirements of curiosity may be gratified by a half-hour agreeably spent in the noble suite of apartments of which our Engravings give only a partial view.

There are persons who, looking at the gorgeous dresses of a Drawingroom, or perusing the description of such sumptuous and brilliant fancy costumes as those displayed, for example, at the French Ambassador's Ball, will invidiously complain of the luxury of the rich, and point to "rags and starvation" as a painful contrast to robes of tulle, and golden tissues, and soft cashmeres. But the proprietors of the Pall-Mall repository, where have proceeded so many of the fine fabrics of which these flowing costumes were composed, could probably tell that many homes were made happy, that many a smiling face was

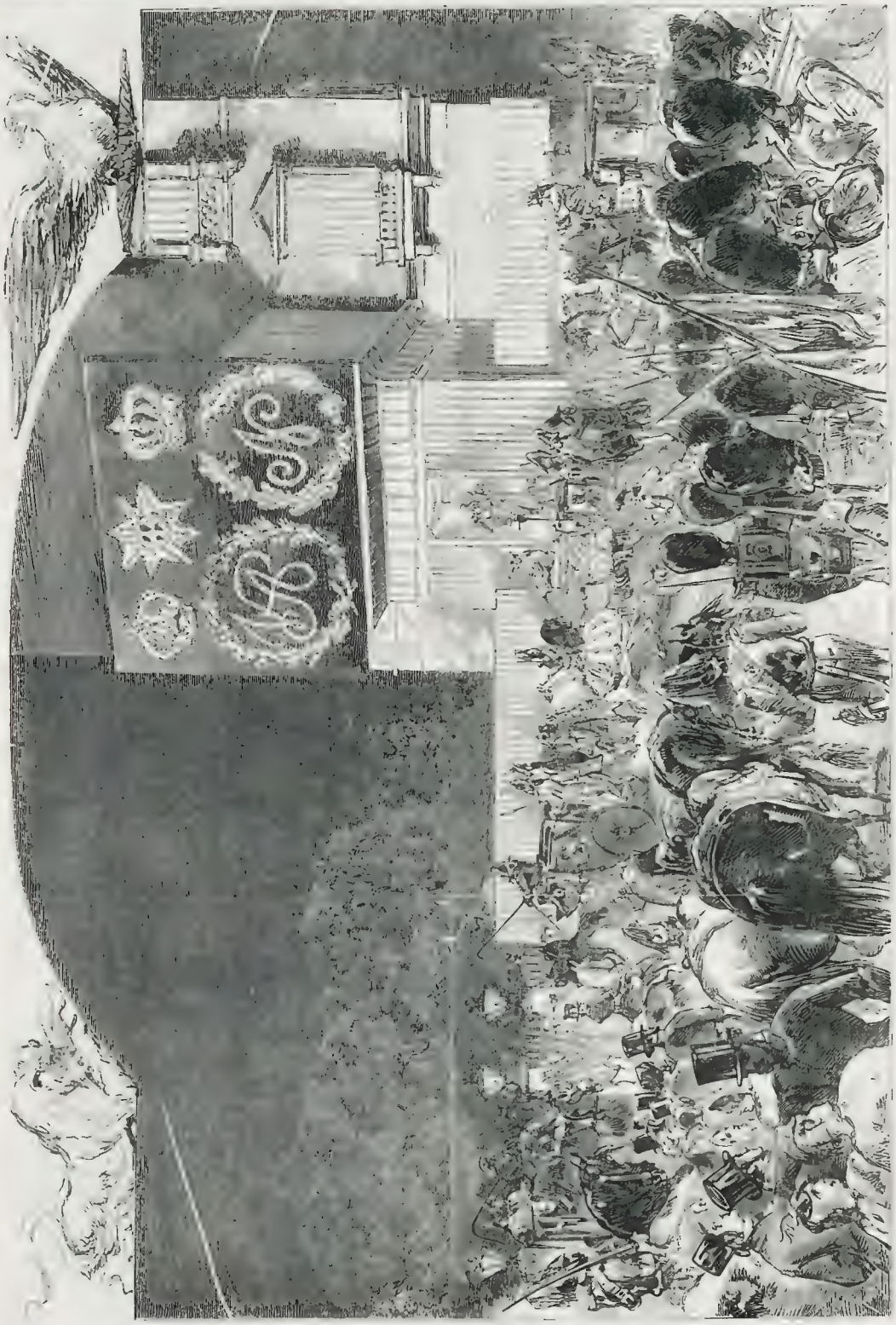


SCHOMBERG HOUSE, PALL-MALL.—THE SHAWL DEPARTMENT.

bron[illegible] the cheerful board, that many hearts were lightened, and Indu[illegible] rewarded by the employment afforded, through themselves, to the industrious, by that Drawingroom and that Ball. All is not frivolous that is fashionable, nor extravagant that is sumptuous.

Thoughts like these are naturally suggested by the spectacle witnessed in the interior of Schomberg-house, thronged as it is by visitants of the highest rank and most refined taste. Nor is the sense of sight less gratified than the imagination. Colours the brightest—hues the most fleeting, seized and fixed as if a rainbow could be photographed—shades the most delicate—fabrics really strong, yet in appearance of the airiest—flowers of undying bloom—laces of a fineness that would seem hardly able to bear the sighing of a summer wind—and last, not least, that exquisite creation of Irish industry, the guipure, which bids fair to excel those marvels in lace work that have hitherto rendered the wardrobe chests of old Spanish families the envy of many a modern courtier;—all these afford proofs, gratifying alike to patriotism and good taste, of the semi-miraculous progress which has been of late years achieved in the most elegant and intricate departments of manufacturing ingenuity. To realise the full extent of this progress and these improvements, it is necessary to view them where alone they are to be found in the fullness of perfection and variety, viz., at some depository of "fashion," conducted on the largest and grandest scale, and the resources of which enable its managers to command, at the earliest moment, the best specimens of the products of the industrial capacity of all countries.

SCHOMBERG-HOUSE, PALL-MALL.—THE MILLINERY DEPARTMENT.



THE BAL COSTUME AT THE FRENCH EMBASSY, ALBERT-GATE HOUSE—ARRIVAL OF HER MAJESTY.

THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO THE FRENCH EMBASSY.

HIS EXCELLENCY COUNT WALEWSKI, THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR.—FROM THE PICTURE BY MOTTEZ.

THE COUNTESS WALEWSKA.—FROM THE PICTURE BY MOTTEZ.

No gathering of the world of fashion for a long time past has created so great a sensation as that produced by the *Bal Costumé* given by the French Ambassador, at Albert-gate House, on the night of Friday, the 12th instant. The circumstance of a British Sovereign paying a visit of friendship to the Minister of another Power was of so unusual a character as to excite a more than ordinary degree of public interest. As was appositely observed by a daily contemporary, "there was a deep and solemn significancy in this memorable demonstration. It indicated the force and constancy of the mutual resolution of the two great nations of civilisation to stand by each other in the holy and righteous undertaking upon which they have entered—to fight, with all the energy which the consciousness of right can convey, the battle of truth, justice

BAL COSTUMÉ AT THE FRENCH EMBASSY.—RECEPTION OF HER MAJESTY.

and honour: and to check, once and for all future time, the further progress of that baleful "heresy" or policy which, for a century and a half, has menaced the peace of the world. The event formed, in short, the public consummation of that auspicious union between Great Britain and France, in the perpetuation of which the welfare of all humanity is concerned; and it is, therefore, with an emotion which no mere meeting of "rank and fashion" could excite, that her Majesty's visit to the Count Walewski will be regarded by the French people as well as by the English."

The public did not fail to give due weight to considerations of this character. Interest and expectancy were excited to their utmost tension; and from an early hour on the evening of Friday the approaches to the French Embassy were thronged by multitudes of persons belonging in great part to a social station much higher than that usually pre dominant in a street crowd. By the time the lamps were lighted, the Right-street of Knightsbridge, as well as that portion of the Park in the immediate vicinity of the mansion, presented a singularly gay and animated appearance.

Immediately above the portico of the Embassy a pavilion had been erected, the entire wall of which was converted into a gigantic illumination. On one side were the Royal initials, "V. A," and on the other the Imperial monogram, "N," each in a laurelled circle of twelve feet in diameter. Above and between both were two crowns, surmounted by a star in the centre of nine feet in diameter. The preparations in the interior were so well managed as to be brought to a close early in the afternoon. At eight o'clock the whole was illuminated; and now was first seen in all its brilliancy the full effect of the splendid *tout ensemble* which had been so sedulously elaborated in honour of the Royal visit. However opinions may vary as to the architectural taste exhibited in the construction of "the tall house at the corner," the mansion, it must be confessed, is about as ill adapted as possible to the convenient reception and accommodation of a large number of guests. As compared with the elevation, its ground area is most scanty; and a disproportionate extent is taken up by the staircase. The best possible use, however, was made of such opportunities, whether for comfort or display, as existed. The staircase itself was beautifully lighted and decorated, and the arrangements of the supper-room, ball-room, and retiring-rooms, were elaborately complete—in the former, a sculptured group, representing an allegory of France and England in characteristic attitudes, from the design of Mr. Evan Thomas, and invoking, and reiterating the solemn aspiration of Lord John Russell, "God defend the right," had a pleasing effect. The library, a small and compact apartment, was tastefully laid out for the special use of her Majesty and the Royal family.

A perfect refinement of skilful ingenuity had been successfully exercised in imparting to the ball-room that air of spacious magnificence which its narrow proportions seemed to forbid. Never was illusion more complete and gratifying. Drapery, paintings, mirrors, and every accessory of ornamentation were so happily disposed that the visitor might almost imagine himself in one of the noble saloons which form the boast of the most princely palaces in the capitals of Europe. Full length portraits of their Imperial Majesties the Emperor and Empress of France, by Winterhalter, which had been forwarded from Paris on the day preceding, specially to grace the occasion, were conspicuous amongst the ornaments of this room.

With judicious regard to the space at command, the number of invitations had been limited to 600, and very little pressure or inconvenient crowding was experienced. At nine o'clock the carriages began to set down; and by ten o'clock (the hour of the Queen's arrival) the rooms were in readiness to receive her Majesty, who was greeted with a victorious cheering by the multitude without. The Queen, who looked in excellent health and spirits, was received, on alighting from her carriage, by the Ambassador and the Countess Walewski, accompanied by the Secretaries to the Embassy, M. Ch. Baudin and M. Jules de Saux, and entered the mansion resting on the arm of his Excellency, the Prince Consort leading the Countess Walewski. The Duchess of Sutherland and the Viscountess Jocelyn were in attendance. Her Majesty was attired in a costume of great elegance, the prevailing colour of which was pink. Upon her head she wore a diamond tiara, and the same precious stones were scattered profusely over the dress. The Prince Consort wore his full military uniform as Field Marshal. After a short pause the Royal party ascended to the ball-room, the orchestra, under the direction of M. Emile Laurent, playing the National Anthem. The Queen, with her illustrious relatives, the Duchess of Kent, the Duchess of Cambridge, and the Princess Mary, then took seats on the dais, the guests defiled before her Majesty. And now approached the grand event of the fête—the entrance of the four fancy quadrilles. The first was the Spanish Quadrille, led by the Countess of Wilton, and composed of the following ladies and gentlemen:—

PINK.

Lady Georgiana Lygon.	Capt. Streatfield.
Lady Selina Meade.	Hon. Arthur Egerton.
Lady Katherine Grey Egerton.	Viscount Elmley
Lady Alice Egerton.	Hon. Francis Stonor.
Lady Blanche Egerton.	Mr. Julian Fane.
Hon. Blanche de Ros.	Mr. Francis Thynne.

BLUE.

Lady Mary Cecil	Mr. Gilbert Heathcote
Lady Arabella Sackville West.	Mr. H. D. Magens
Lady Margaret Butler.	Viscount Grey de Wilton.
Hon. Miss Montagu.	Mr. Graham Vivian.
Hon. Susan Pitt.	Mr. Thomas Leslie.
Hon. Fanny Pitt.	Mr. Keith Fraser.

The costume of this quadrille was peculiarly rich and elegant; that of the Countess of Wilton was a dress of grey satin, with a manteau of blue satin, profusely decorated with gold and precious stones. The costume of the younger ladies was composed of rich taffeta skirt, corsage *dessous en batiste fluter*, with caraco of black velvet; sleeves with epaulettes and revers of black velvet. The head-dress was formed of a Spanish lace mantilla, over a high comb. The gentlemen's costume consisted of a black velvet jacket, tastefully embroidered and decorated; waistcoat of rich gros de Naples, six gentlemen wearing blue, and six cerise. The trunks were of black velvet, corded with silver.

The next quadrille was that of Frances Countess of Waldegrave. The period selected for illustration was the reign of Henri IV., and the following ladies and gentlemen represented the characters of the Court:—

Marguerite de Navarre, Reine de France	Henri de Navarre, Roi de France
Frances Countess of Waldegrave	—Baron Marochetti.
Duchesse de Guise—Hon. Mrs. Russell.	Duc de Guise—The Hon. E. W. Russell.
Maids of Honour—Lady Louisa Bingham, Hon. Mary Bulteel, Miss Georgiana Bulteel, Miss Augusta Seymour, Miss Elphinstone, Miss Stuart Mackenzie.	Gentlemen of the Court—Hon. T. Stonor, Mr. Colchester Fortescue, Mr. Hayward, Account, Mr. Bidwell, Mr. Bellew, Mr. Glyn

The Countess herself was a faithful personification of Marguerite de Navarre described by Brantome. Her ladyship wore a robe of Royal crimson velvet, magnificently embroidered with fleurs de lis and gold borders. The ornaments were composed of pearls and diamonds. The Hon. Mrs. Russell's representation of the Duchesse de Guise, and that of the Duc de Guise by her husband, were much admired; and the commanding person of the Baron Marochetti appeared to great advantage in the character of Henri Quatre, the costume being taken from an old painting of that monarch, by Rubens.

Lady Stanley of Alderley's quadrille "Les Bergères de Watteau," came next, and was formed of the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Countess Helena Kielmansegge.	Hon. Charles Hay.
Lady Emma Stanley.	Lord Cavendish.
Lady Elizabeth Hay.	Count Chotek.
Lady Gertrude Ogilvy.	Mr. Blackburne.
Lady Elizabeth Craven	Count Castlerosse.
Hon. Maude Stanley (of Alderley).	Mr. Stapleton.
Miss Geraldine Maitland.	Mr. Jervoise Smith.
Miss Theresa Lister.	Lord Henry Thynne.

This quadrille was a charming spectacle. The ladies looked like shepherdesses just stepped out of Watteau's pictures. Four of the gentlemen wore the uniform of Louis XV.'s Guards, with blue facings; the other four wore the same uniform, with red facings.

Viscountess Barrington's "Quadrille Louis XV. Mousquetaires de la Reine," which concluded the fancy sets, was composed of the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Hon. Mary Barrington.	Hon. Charles Hanbury.
Hon. Caroline Barrington.	Mr. Wickham.
Miss Heathcote.	Mr. Lyon.
Miss Liddell	Mr. Barnard.
Miss Elizabeth Liddell.	Mr. Hedworth Williamson.
Mrs. Henry Liddell.	Mr. Grosvenor.

The ladies in this quadrille wore the Court costume of the period illustrated. The hair was powdered and brushed back. The gentlemen wore the gorgeous uniform of the Mousquetaires of the *ancien regime*.

The "set" quadrilles having been brought to a conclusion, her Majesty was graciously pleased to honour the Count Walewski by dancing with him in a quadrille which was immediately formed, his Royal Highness Prince Albert taking the Countess Walewski as a partner. Several other dances having intervened, her Majesty honoured the Duke of Hamilton with her hand in a quadrille—the Prince Consort dancing with the Duchess of Hamilton (late Princess Mary of Baden). After a short interval, during which the Queen was pleased to accept of refreshment from the hand of the Ambassador, her Majesty again danced in a quadrille, this time honouring the Earl Granville with her hand, the Prince Consort dancing with the Princess Mary. Her Majesty, at the conclusion of this dance, received presentation of the more distinguished guests on the introduction of the Ambassador, and subsequently made the circuit of the *salons*, resting on the arm of the Count Walewski.

At midnight, the Queen and the Royal party descended to the supper-room, where a banquet was spread, combining every delicacy that the art of the *cuisinier* can suggest.

After supper, the Queen returned to the ball-room, and joined in another quadrille with the Marquis of Abercorn. It was half-past one when her Majesty took her departure, amid demonstrations of affectionate enthusiasm similar to those which had hailed her arrival. The assembly did not break up until half-past three in the morning.

Our account of a festivity marked in so many respects by circumstances of a peculiar and gratifying character, would not be complete without an allusion to the very full attendance of the Ministers of foreign Powers and their Attachés accredited to the Court of St. James. The Cabinet Ministers were also present. The great majority of the company were, of course, in fancy costume. Amongst the impersonations of individual characters none was more conspicuous for grace and correctness than that of the unfortunate Marie Antoinette, by the Duchess of Wellington, whose style of beauty is eminently adapted to the part assumed by her Grace. The Countess of Walewski, as the celebrated Duchess de Nevers, wore a sumptuous costume of the 17th century, and was accompanied by her youthful son in the character of page. The epoch of Louis XV. was abundantly illustrated in all its gorgeous and ingenious variety of tastes. The Countess of Kinnoul, Viscountess Mandeville, the Duchess of Montrose, Mrs. Disraeli, Lady Graham (wife of the First Lord of the Admiralty), and a number of ladies, did full justice to the traditions of this period, which likewise had several male representatives. Miss Graham wore a peculiarly elegant and suggestive costume as Anne Vere, Countess of Oxford. The allegory of "Night," "Twilight," and "Day," by Lady Zetland, Miss Barclay, and Miss Vyner, formed an elegant tableau. The Countess Delawarr displayed fine taste in the selection of an old English costume, copied chiefly from a family portrait: to use a homely but expressive phrase, it became her "excellently well." The appearance of Lady Pakington as a Lady Pakington of the "olden time," was from a family portrait, equally characteristic.

Amongst the ladies whose costume was "observed of all observers," we may, without instituting invidious comparisons, allude to the sister beauties, the Marchioness of Waterford and the Viscountess Canning, whose dresses were nearly similar. The Duchess of Somerset adopted the happy idea of founding her costume on the circumstances of the present time, and making it emblematic of the cordial union existing between Great Britain and France. The idea was carried out with much judgment and effect. Viscountess Palmerston's costume, as the representative of the neglected wife of the miserable Charles IX. of France, displayed a remarkable precision and completeness of acquaintance with the "fashions" of three centuries since. Lady Molesworth chose the character of another Queen of France, equally slighted by her wretched husband, Louis XI. of inglorious memory. Her Ladyship's dress was historic and authentic, and distinguished by chaste grandeur. Next week we shall illustrate a few of the historical costumes.

It would be both convenient and interesting to take special notice of the costumes worn by the gentlemen, further than that they were generally of a costly and gorgeous, and, in many instances, of a very tasteful description. We may, however, observe that the Lord Chief Justice of England, in his official black velvet dress, was one of the decided "features" of the ball-room. The Corporation was represented by its Lord Mayor, in the character of that "merchant of renown," Sir Thomas Gresham, and his Lordship played his part with a quaint gravity that was effective.

The mansion was fitted up for the occasion by Mr. Thomas Cubitt, to whose representative, Mr. Waller, our special acknowledgment is due, for the facilities afforded to our Artists.

THE COUNT AND COUNTESS WALEWSKI.

COUNT ALEXANDER COLONNA WALEWSKI, the eminent diplomatist who represents the French Government at the Court of St. James, served in the French army in Africa, as a Captain in the 4th Hussars. Whilst so engaged, he was entrusted with important missions to the camp of Abd-el-Kader, and acquitted himself with a degree of ability, which led to his entry upon the career in which he has achieved fame. In the year 1840 he managed a special negotiation, on the part of France, at Athens and Constantinople; and was afterwards sent to Rio Pista, as mediator between the Republic of Buenos Ayres and that of Montevideo. In this capacity he acted in concert with Lord Howden, the mediator on behalf of Great Britain. His Excellency then served as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of Florence; and afterwards at that of Naples. His latest diplomatic appointment, previous to his accession to the Embassy to Great Britain, was that of Ambassador at the Court of Madrid. In the important posts filled by him, his Excellency has obtained a reputation not only for skill and sagacity, but for candour and good faith, which has conciliated in an unusual degree the respect and confidence of the several Governments to which he has been accredited.

The Countess Walewski is daughter of M. Ricci, and springs from one of the most ancient Florentine families, numbering amongst her ancestors the celebrated names of Machiavel and Dante. Her Excellency's mother is the daughter of Prince Stanislaus Poniatowski, nephew of the last King of Poland; the Prince settled and married in Italy after the last partition of Poland.

The Portraits are taken from the pictures painted by the celebrated Parisian artist, Mittex.

QUEEN VICTORIA AND THE FRENCH PEOPLE.—At the opening of the section of the Mediterranean Railway between Valence and Montelimar, a dinner was given by the directors of the company, at which popular demonstration took place, which shows how popular the war against Russia and the alliance with England have become in France. Before the first toast was given, Count Chotek, in the chair, rose and said spontaneously, and cried out, "Vive l'Empereur!" "Vive la Reine Victoria!" "A bas les Russes!" amidst extraordinary excitement and cheering. The cry was caught up by the crowd outside, and repeated with increased enthusiasm.

FRENCH GALLANTRY.—When the French fleet was lying off Deal, thirty women of Boulogne, most of whom had husbands or relatives on board, resolved to pay their ships a visit. Seven went in the *Duchesse* steamer, but the greater part embarked for Deal direct in a couple of fishing-boats. They were received with extraordinary honours by the fleet. Admiral Parseval Deschenes paid particular attention to one lady, whose husband he had known at Brest, and the officers of the Admiral's ship asked her to dine with them. She felt overwhelmed by this condescension, and begged not to be separated from her travelling companions. This modesty was appreciated. A separate table, with thirty covers, was laid in the officers' cabin, and there the whole party were splendidly regaled, to their own and the spectators' great delight and astonishment.

COMMUNICATION BETWEEN GUARDS AND DRIVERS.—Captain Wynne, R.E., has reported to the Lords' Committee of PRIVY COUNCIL for Trade, upon Professor Gordon's invention of means of communication between guards and drivers on railways. He says:—As far as experience went in the two trials which I made, I confess that Professor Gordon has satisfactorily established that his apparatus supplies an effective communication between driver and guard, that it combines cheapness with simplicity of construction, and apparently a non-liability to derangement; but, at the same time, I should wish to guard myself from expressing a positive opinion until the apparatus has been for some time tested by the rough handling of working constantly in a train."

CHURCH-RATES.—On Saturday a bill in the House of Commons was brought to repeal the compulsory payment of church-rates, to consolidate and amend the laws respecting the assessing and collecting of church rates in England and Wales, to remove a Dissenter from the assessment, a declaration to be signed, which declaration is set forth. Church-rates are to be assessed and recovered like poor-rates.

LOWERING IN THE PRICE OF BEER.—At a recent meeting of several of the principal brewers in the metropolis, it was agreed that, in consequence of the increased duty, the price of beer should be lowered as follows, from and after the 1st of May:—Per barrel, brown or pale ale, double stout, from 36s. to 32s.; X ale, XX, from 30s. to 28s., XXX, from 42s. to 34s., XXXX from 50s. to 60s.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

Mr. Charles Dickens has accepted the office of President of the Reading Athenæum, vacant by the death of Judge Talfourd.

M. Jaques Arago is about to leave France for the Brazils, at the request of the Emperor Don Pedro II.

Mr. Stephenson, the engineer of the Grand Trunk Railway of Canada, proposes to construct a similar bridge over the St. Lawrence, at Montreal, the estimated cost of which is £1,400,000.

The University of Edinburgh has conferred the honorary degree of LL.D. on Mr. George Finlay, author of the well known work on Greek and Byzantine history; and on William Freund, author of the celebrated Latin Dictionary.

The Consul-General of Russia at Paris, M. Debeling, in anticipation of his forced departure, has confided the protection of his countrymen to Baron de Seebach, the Saxon Minister, son-in-law to the Count de Nesselrode.

The number of wholly self-supporting private day-schools in England is 30,524, containing 721,366 scholars; and the number of aided public schools is 15,518, containing 1,421,382 scholars.

Notice was issued by the minister and churchwardens of St. Michael's Church, Highgate, last Sunday, re-stating that the church had been struck by lightning on Tuesday, and that the architect considered it to be quite unsafe to assemble therein for worship.

In Cincinnati, a fire-engine, worked by steam, is used with much success. It is only four or five tons, and steam can be got up in the short space of seven minutes.

There is not, at present, a single able-bodied pauper in the poor-houses of Ballina, county of Mayo—the entire inmates consisting of aged and infirm persons, with young children, the latter chiefly orphans.

Forty-five new planets have been discovered since the year 1608, a little before the telescope was invented and applied to the heavens.

A host of ballads (street-songs, by-the-bye) have lately appeared in Sweden, and are sold in immense numbers. They treat of the present warlike state of affairs, and breathe the utmost hatred against Russia.

The emigration from Ireland proceeds with undiminished strength; but there is a decided increase in the proportion of persons who make Canada their destination.

On Saturday evening a public dinner was given to Sir Erskine Perry, at the Mechanics' Institute, Devonport, by the Reform electors, to celebrate his return to Parliament.

A writer in the German *Democrat*, states that when Cortes landed in the Lower California, on his tour of discovery, he found the weather so exceedingly warm that he called the country *calida ferrax*, (Latin for hot furnace), and these words were abreviated to California.

In consequence of the alterations in the duty on spirits and malt, and the present high price of grain, the wholesale spirit merchants at Greenock have agreed to raise the price of spirits 2*s.* per gallon.

The total amount of gold dust shipped from California in the first three months of the present year, amounted to 10,678,120 dollars.

There are 694 public libraries in the United States, with an aggregate of 1,500,000 volumes. The number of books annually presented to the library of Congress is 12.

The report that the Count de Chambord proposes to visit England this summer, to meet the Duke of Nemours and the rest of the family, is said to be without foundation.

The Protestant Episcopal church of St. Paul, in Baltimore, was destroyed by fire on the night on the 29th ult. Loss, 100,000 dollars, and no insurance.

The King of Portugal, attended by a limited suite, will arrive in this country about the first week in the ensuing month, on a visit to his illustrious relatives the Queen and Prince Albert. After a brief sojourn in London, he will proceed to Brussels, on a visit to the King of the Belgians, and thence to Paris and Vienna, returning to Lisbon at the close of the summer.

Mr. Borland, American Minister to Central America, has negotiated a treaty with Nicaragua, the chief object of which is to extend the boundaries of that State over all the territory claimed by the Mosquito Indians.

The building for the French Exhibition of 1855 is to be finished in November. Immense preparations are making throughout Europe and the United States for an industrial display, which, notwithstanding the war, bids fair to rival the famous world's fair of London.

The West India Mail Company are getting £15,000 a month from the Government for conveying troops. They have another new steamer nearly ready, called the *Tamar*.

The *Milan Gazette* publishes a Ministerial notification, declaring it high treason to circulate money or bills originating from a revolutionary propaganda, such as Mazzini's bills, or Kossuth's dollars.

The Florence correspondent of an American paper states that Mrs. Somerville, Charles Lever, Frederick Tennyson, Mr. and Mrs. Browning, and Mrs. Trollope, are all living in that city at present.

The Rhode Island Legislature has granted to a Mr. Gourand a charter to build one or more ocean steamers, on a new plan and a gigantic scale. He proposes to have them a thousand feet in length, and propelled by engines of 5000 horse-power.

The Austrian Archduke Maximilian Ferdinand, who is about to visit London to return the compliment of the visit of the Duke of Cambridge to Vienna, will afterwards pay a visit to the Emperor of the French.

The Emigration Commissioners have advertised for three ships to sail in June with emigrants—one for Newcastle, N.S.W., on the 22nd; one for Adelaide, on the 23rd; and one for Hobart Town, on the 27th.

Frederika Bremer has written a warm appeal to the Swedish Parliament in favour of the Jews, who are subject to many civil disabilities.

The Rev. Theobald Mathew has sustained another shock of paralysis. The state of his health is now such as to cause the deepest anxiety among his friends.

The vacant seat on the Scotch Bench caused by the death of Lord Cockburn has been conferred on Mr. Charles Neaves, who was Solicitor-General under the Derby Administration.

The lowest charge on the new foreign postal rate-list issued, from the General Post-office, is 6*d.* for a single letter, with prepayment 9*d.* 7*d.* The latter only applies to one place (the Pacific, *viâ* Brazil).

Arrangements have for some time been in progress for a general exhibition of the works of German painters at Munich. The *Deutsches Kunstblatt*, published in Berlin, is to be the organ of the exhibition.

John Masbo, an inhabitant of Bexheda, in Sweden, who was born in January, 1745, died on the 1st inst. The day before his death he walked twelve miles to hear a sermon in a neighbouring village.

Up to last Friday 225,000 sovereigns had been sent out to the Commissariat Department of our Eastern expedition, besides £5400 worth of silver coin.

Dr. Gebhard, until lately staff physician in the Prussian army has been appointed organiser-in-chief of the medical department in Wallachia, by the Russian Government.

A Roman Catholic Polish priest, in the Grand Duchy of Posen, was brought to trial last week on charges of having sold to two other priests two of Maxzini's promissory notes. The charge was not established.

The Bank of Australasia has purchased an acre of land from the Australian Agricultural Company at Newcastle, for which they have given £1600, for the purpose of establishing a branch bank.

Notice has been given at Cambridge that candidates for professorships in the Melbourne University are to send in their names. The stipend of each will be £1000 per annum, with the use of a house, and £400 for an outfit.

It is said that Portugal has serious intentions of raising a loan of two millions sterling, as it is over pressed for carrying out public works, &c., and that Prussia wants four millions and a quarter sterling.

Owing to the operation of the postal alterations in 1851, a large portion of correspondence is now sent to and from different towns in America at one halfpenny a letter.

Queen Isabella of Spain has conferred the Grand Cross of the Order of Isabella the Catholic on Omer Pacha, and on Mehemet Ali Pacha, ex-Minister of War in Turkey; and the Cross of Commander of the same Order on Ferik Pacha, Mustapha Pacha, and Ismail Pacha.

In one factory in Lancashire the hands have voluntarily come forward with contributions to the fund for the relief of soldiers' wives, to the extent of nearly £25.

Mr. Bright's speech, in the House of Commons on the 31st of March last, has the equivocal honour of a translation *in extenso*, in recent numbers of the St. Petersburg Journals, and in certain Finnish papers under the immediate control of the Russian Government.

In the passage from Gourock to Glasgow, the traveller may count, from the saddle box of the steamer, forty-six iron vessels on the waters on the south side of the river, and twenty-five iron vessels on the north side.

An iron lighter, which was sunk at Leith last November in a severe gale, has been raised, with her cargo, and now floats in the harbour of that town, apparently little injured by her long submersion.

The British and North American mail steamer *Java*, which arrived at Liverpool on Sunday from New York, during three days of the passage steamed the extraordinary distance of 975 miles.

INFANTS' NEW FEEDING BOTTLES.—"We have seldom seen anything so beautiful as the nursing-bottles exhibited by Mr. [illegible] of 49, Oxford-street. . . . [illegible] and simplicity of construction."—Medical Times. The Bottles and Mounts, each complete, with directions for use, 2s. 6d.

BURTON'S Patent PERAMBULATORS.—The distinguished patronage, the flattering encomiums, and the increasing demand, are sufficient proof of the utility and excellence of these elegant vehicles, which are in fact a class of carriage for children and invalids—propelled from behind by the slightest pressure. Illustrated Circulars Shipping Orders Office, 487, New Oxford-street.

THE BEST BED for a CHILD is one of TRELOAR'S METALLIC COTS, 4 feet long, 2 feet wide, with movable sides and pillars, castors, and brass vases, price 35s.; including a wove wire mattress. TRELOAR, Manufacturer, 42, Ludgate-hill.

COCOA-NUT FIBRE MATTRESSES, equal to horsehair, and only half the price. Sizes and prices forwarded post free.—T. TRELOAR, manufacturer, 42, Ludgate-hill, London.

REMOVAL of W. G. TAYLOR'S (late Halifax) JUVENILE and OUTFITTING WAREHOUSE to 53, BAKER-STREET, near Madame Tussaud's Exhibition.—W. G. TAYLOR begs to announce that his Establishment is REMOVED to the larger and more convenient Premises above mentioned, where he trusts to be favoured with a continuation of the distinguished patronage he [illegible] always enjoyed.

IMPROVED AIR CANES, for Shooting [illegible] with small needle, with shot-cartridges, [illegible] destructive weapons, from 63s.; including pump and apparatus. J. REILLY, Gun Maker, New Oxford-street, London.

NUMBER ONE, ST. PAUL'S CHURCH-YARD.—PRELIMINARY NOTICE.—The Proprietors beg to announce to the PUBLIC of GREAT BRITAIN that they have RESOLVED upon a further Reduction of the Duty, 6d.; and Fall in the Market Value, 6d.

TEA.—The Public will [illegible] to be informed that, in consequence of the REDUCTION of DUTY at WILLIAM and GEORGE LAWS'S COFFEE WAREHOUSES, 84a, New Oxford-street, London, and 31, St. Andrew-square, Edinburgh. Goods delivered at the address

THE EMPRESS of CHINA'S TEA.—Universally admired for its purity, strong, rich, full, and delicious flavour, and moderate price. MOORE and CO., 15, Little Tower-street, London, sell small in air-tight tins of all sizes, by their Agents, throughout the country.

PHOTOGRAPHIC NOTICE.—The following American Articles can only be obtained at C. H. FOTHERGILL'S, 41, Lodgate-hill, London:—Instantaneous Views, a price-list of all articles (French, English, and American), used in Daguerreotyping, sold by him at the lowest possible rates. Photographic Apparatus, Chemicals, and Materials, of the best quality. Pocket-book price-list, 6d.; per post, 6d. The undermentioned are all American, for which C. H. F. is Sole Agent:—

Scovill's Plates,	Sensitive.
Cameron Drawing Pattern	Developing
Do. do. do.	Preserving
Creamy Boxes.	Camera Flannel.
Iron Head Rests	Stereoscopic Cases—and the
Do. Sliding Ditto	Stereoscopic Views of do.
Do. do.	ditto in England.
Glass, Assortment.	

Every description of article used in glass or paper process. Instruction given, and all boxes tested on the premises.
N.B. 41, Ludgate-hill, and Crystal Palace, Sydenham.

JOHNSON'S LIQUID GLUE.—The best of all Cements for China, Glass, Wood, Marble, Iron, &c. The Glue is simple of application, and, unlike all other cements, it requires no heating or other preparation. It is perfectly colourless, and remains untouched by lapse of time or change of climate. It is so strong, that any article cemented with it will remain the most valuable commodities without danger of separation; and it will adhere to any surface or material.
JOHNSON'S COLOURLESS LIQUID GLUE possesses all the properties of the former, without its colour. In bookwork, and particularly adapted for China, Glass, and all purposes where colour would be objectionable. Be particular to ask for "Johnson's" (the only genuine), and do not be persuaded to purchase any useless imitations.—In bottles, 1s. and 2s. 6d.; and in tin cans of various sizes for exportation. Sold by all respectable Oilmen, Glass, and Chinamen, at most of the Fancy Repositories in the Kingdom; and at the Depôt, 330, Oxford-street, London.

CROGGON'S PATENT ASPHALTE, or BITUMEN; INDORROUS FELT, for damp walls, roofs, and to roll, 32 inches wide, ONE PENNY per Square Foot. Also, DRY HAIR FELT, to prevent the transmission of heat and cold. Specimens and Prices forwarded on application to CROGGON and CO., 2, Basinghall-street, London.

ENCAUSTIC TILE PAVEMENTS.—MAW and CO., of Benthall Works, Broseley, Shropshire, and, post free, their Pattern Book, and Sketch designs for this beautiful and durable production (with estimates), to any part of the kingdom, churches, entrance halls, passages, conservatories, verandahs, &c. Specimens at 31, Aldersgate-street, London.

TROUT-FISHING.—The Inventor of the [illegible] Trout flies as sent or made to pattern, is 6s. per dozen. Best Silk and Hooks, 1s. per dozen extra. Salmon Flies, 1s. 6d. per dozen extra. Catalogues and Testimonials post free.—SAMUEL WARREN, 31, Friar-gate, Derby.

DUNN'S TAILOR'S LABOUR AGENCY, for the profitable attention to the principles on which it is conducted, and the economy combining high wages to the one, with low charges to the other. Conducted by the Agent in small cash, it secures the best labour, and pays the best price for it: while it appears to be a trading profit to the moral and social question of [illegible] and has provided, at a cost of nearly £1000, Schools for the Children of their children, Lecture-hall, Library, Warm [illegible] to a more lengthened statement in the "Times" of any week for a Prospectus, and for a Prospectus, useful Post Card, 2d. Wages [illegible] Making, 10s. 6d. A first class Dress coat, 42 lbs. Waists paid for same, 12s. A Frock coat, 42 lbs. Trousers, 8s. 6d. 32 and 40 Bridge-street, Westminster, and 49 and 50, Bridge-street, Blackfriars, and Walk for other houses.

STOOPING of the SHOULDERS, CONSUMPTION, and DISEASE of the CHEST can be forwarded by post. Particulars and mode of measurement, on receipt of a postage stamp, by A. BINYON, 3, Great Marlborough-street, London.

EVANS'S PATENT SHOWER BATHS, of Warm and Cold Baths, Pumps, Lifts, and Force Baths, Sponging and Dressing Baths, and Baths of every description, including all recent improvements, and every variety of shape and pattern.
Garden Rollers, Garden Engines, Horticultural Tools, Scythes, Shears, Syringes, and garden requisites in general. Illustrated Catalogue, with lowest prices, sent free.—EVANS and PULLEN, Pall-mall and Coffee House Yard, Piccadilly, and machines of new and approved construction, combining all the recent French and English improvements.
Patent Self-Tea-trays and Waiters, Table Cutlery, Plated Ware, Dish Covers, and every article for the Table. Always on show at Jeremiah Evans, Son, and Company's Stove, Grate and Cooking Apparatus Manufactory and Warehouses, 33, King William-street, London-bridge.

HER MAJESTY'S ROYAL LETTERS PATENT, for valuable and extraordinary improvements in the most powerful and beautiful ACHROMATIC LARGE PRESPECTIVE, RACE-COURSE, and OPERA-GLASSES, to know the distances of objects viewed through them of great importance to the Army, Navy, and others. Messrs. S and S SOLOMONS, Opticians, 39, Aldermans-street, Piccadilly: closed—opposite the York Hotel. These telescopes possess such extraordinary powers that some [illegible] inches, with an extra eye-piece, will show distinctly Jupiter's Moons, Saturn's Ring, and the Double Stars [illegible] Messrs. S and S SOLOMONS have also invented a Telescope for Sea Service, from 2 to 3 inches, that cannot be surpassed by any other kind for the whole [illegible] and also with increasing powers very small, powerful, waistcoat-pocket glass—the size of a walnut—by which a person can be seen and known a mile and a half distant. They answer every purpose—as the race-course, at the opera-house, country scenery, and ships are of any size at 12 to 14 miles. They are invaluable for shooting, for reading, reading—to sportsmen, gentlemen, shipowners, and tourists, with [illegible] opera, race-course, pocket, perspective [illegible] with wonderful powers, an object can be clearly seen from 10 to 2 miles distant. Newly-invented spectacles immediately these are placed before extremely imperfect vision; they afford better assistance and distinctness to aged defective sight if brought to the youthful, natural, and original state.
DEAFNESS, NEW DISCOVERY.—The ORGANIC VIBRATOR, an astonishingly powerful, small, newly-invented instrument, for deafness, entirely different from all others, to surpass anything of the kind that has been, or probably ever can be produced. Being of the same colour as the skin, it is not perceptible; it enables deaf persons to hear distinctly at church and at public [illegible] Messrs. S and S, 39, LONDON, opposite the York Hotel.

SILKS FOR THE MILLION. Several new and important LOTS of SILKS at [illegible] and MANTLES. 1, 2, and 3, [illegible]-street, and 4, Leicester-street.

SHAWLS, CLOAKS, MUSLINS, LINENS, RIBBONS, &c., &c. An Inspection of our Choice and Immense Stock is solicited. STAGG and MANTLE, 1, 2, and 3, [illegible]-street, and 4, Leicester-street.

SILKS, SILKS, SILKS.—The largest Stock, the newest Designs, and the greatest variety, at WHITE and COMPANY'S, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, High Holborn, the cheapest Silk House in the metropolis. Patterns sent post-free to any part of the kingdom.

SILKS, SHAWLS, RIBBONS, LACE, CLOAKS, and DRESSES of every description. The SELLING [illegible] WHITE and COMPANY'S rich and [illegible] Stock, at 192, Regent-street, can only continue a short time longer, for [illegible] to sell in an early visit, as every day materially decreases the variety, and such an opportunity may never again occur for purchasing really good materials at half prices.
WHITE and COMPANY (late Grange and Bradley),
192, Regent-street.
It is requested that all outstanding debts may be paid to Mr. White the continuing partner, on the premises

MANTLES and SHAWLS.—The best house to [illegible] for Mantles and Shawls is BOWITT and CO.'s, 250, 252, 253, 259, 260 Regent-street. The public have the advantage of selecting from a Stock unrivalled in extent and cheapness.

DRESSES, DRESSES.—The best dressed in London for Dresses is BOWITT and CO.'S, 250, High Holborn. [illegible] have now a [illegible]

BONNETS.—LADIES will save themselves much trouble in visiting G. W. JONES'S Establishment, 191, Oxford-street, where they will at once meet with [illegible] and advertisement would fail to do, viz. that the style and price is not to be surpassed in the Metropolis. N.B.—G. W. Jones, 191, Oxford street, corner of Johns-street.

PARIS EMBROIDERY, in Sets of HABIT SHIRTS, CHEMISETTES, &c., and Sleeves to correspond, [illegible] or gentlemen.—The [illegible] is capable with every novelty of the season in Lace and Embroidery, selected for Mourning, Evening, and Ball Costume. Fit a and Rule ordered Handkerchiefs, Gloves, Hosiery, &c. [illegible] 247, Regent-street (opposite 1770), St. Oxford-street.

ESTABLISHED AS "HAYWARD'S," 1770.
SPECIALITÉ de VENTELLES et de BRODERIES, WEDDING ORDERS. Brussels and Honiton Lace in beautiful and approved designs for Cuffings, Squares, Scarfs, Veils, and other Dress Appointments, equally recommended by the Brussels Establishment, from 14 to 400 guineas. Brussels and Honiton Bridal scarfs, from 7 to 45 guineas. Flounces, from 3 to 40 guineas. A beautiful imitation of the above at a very moderate price. [illegible] 247, Regent-street (opposite Swan-street), 1770, St. Oxford-street.

MUSLIN FLOUNCINGS (very wide).—A [illegible] STOCK, [illegible] at 2s. 6d. the Dress, from the original cost, commencing at 6d a yard. Silks, Ribbons, Lace, &c., any length cut, at the wholesale prices.
WHITE and COMPANY, 192, Regent-street.

GLOVES!
REAL PARIS KID,
Cut and fitted by
Anatomical Measurement,
All at is. 3d. per pair.
And every Size and Quality kept at
BAKER and CRISP'S, 221 and 225, REGENT-STREET, LONDON.
Sample Pair sent for two extra stamps.

MOURNING.
The FRENCH MUSLIN COMPANY have
An Extensive Variety
of
MOURNING MUSLINS and BAREGES,
3s. 9d. the Dress.
Patterns sent free.
15, Oxford-street, near Soho-square.

DO YOU KEEP LIVERY SERVANTS.—DOUDNEY'S LIVERIES please [illegible] gentleman's hall, best quality, 42s. Doudney's [illegible] Buckingham-street, and 49, New Oxford-street.

HOLLYAND'S RENOWNED BEAUFORT FROCKS, and Morning or Riding Beaufort Coats, are now made in every new and elegant manner at for Spring wear The style and quality of these [illegible] are [illegible] to render them at most modern charges. New seasonable materials for Trousers and Waistcoats in unrivalled variety. Fashion Suits, Yachting Jackets, &c., to order. 150, Strand, two doors west of Somerset House.

MESSRS. NICOLL, Regent-street.—In England, and [illegible] in France and Germany, the best talent in cutting, [illegible] and [illegible] Messrs. NICOLL'S [illegible] Messrs. NICOLL'S Establishment, 114, 116, 118, 120, Regent-street, and 22, Cornhill, London.

GUINEA HATS!—The richest first-class HATS, produced from the most costly French Velvet Imperial, Fabrikens and Six—light and ventilating.—JOYCE, Manufacturer, 199, Strand, [illegible]

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

No. 684.—VOL. XXIV.] SATURDAY, MAY 27, 1854. [WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.

OUR NATURAL ALLIES IN THE BALTIC.

We endeavored to draw attention in our last to the strong sympathy expressed by the Scandinavian nations for the cause in which Great Britain and France are engaged. We return to the subject, with the view of showing how greatly it is the interest and duty of the Allies, and more especially of England, to encourage this friendly sentiment and to turn it to account. Austria and Prussia may desire nothing so much as peace—peace *à tout prix*—peace unaccompanied by the punishment of the man whose insane ambition has so wantonly disturbed it. But Great Britain and France can have no desire to respect what is called the "integrity of the Russian Empire." Their love of peace has a stronger foundation; for if peace can be better secured by the partial disintegration or dismemberment of that Empire, than by respect for its actual limits, it will be alike their interest and their duty to endeavour to push the war to that extremity. A Power whose systematic policy, ever since the days of Peter the Great, has been to assault the integrity of its neighbours, must give "material guarantees" to keep the peace. It is not sufficient to prevent the aggressor from enriching himself merely in one direction. His virtual monopoly of the Black Sea is but one of many dangers to be guarded against. The Czar has proved that no considerations of justice can restrain him, and that no reliance can be placed upon his word or upon his prudence. To restrain him from aggrandising his empire at the expense of Turkey is not enough. Defeated in that object, he or his successors, if left unpunished, will all the more vigorously endeavour to extend the Russian supremacy in another direction. If he cannot have the Black Sea, he will make every effort to command or to monopolise the Baltic. In addition to the actual possession of Finland, wrested by conquest from Sweden, and which forms one of the most valuable jewels in the Imperial Crown, the Czar has a reversionary interest in the Duchy of Holstein. On the death of the present King of Denmark, that province becomes his inheritance. Such a circumstance is a European misfortune; but if the people of Holstein themselves have no desire to be yoked to the Barbarian, it will not be wise on the part of Great Britain and France to suffer them to be dissevered from the Danish Crown. It is morally certain that the object of Russia—especially if she be signally defeated in the South—will be to strengthen herself in the North. Sweden and Denmark are free states—inhabited by brave and intelligent races, closely allied, not only by language but by sympathy and by religious opinion, with the people of Great Britain. They are our natural allies, and no social or political circumstances exist to show that they are in a state of decline. The Turks may or may not be able to maintain themselves in Europe. It is a question of extremely doubtful solution with many persons who give no support whatever to the nefarious ambition of the Czar, whether the Turks, notwithstanding all the wise and extensive reforms of the late and the present Sultan, possess that elasticity of mind and enterprise of character which will enable them to play their proper part in the great scheme of civilised Europe, and whether their religion be not, in reality, an insurmountable bar to their national advancement, and to their existence as a bulwark against Russian encroachment. But if there be any truth in these arguments—which, however, we do not assert—no similar objections can be taken against the Swedes and the Danes. Sweden has been robbed by Russia, and her people earnestly desire to repossess their ancient province. The people of that province themselves detest the yoke of their barbarian task-masters, and hail with delight the prospect of being reunited to that free Protestant and maritime State, with whose ancient glories their own are so intimately associated. Should not Great Britain and France assist the Swedes and the Fins to come together again? Has not the time arrived, when advantage should be taken of the popular sympathy expressed towards the great cause of European freedom by the Scandinavian nations? And should not our Government enter into negotiations with the Courts both of Sweden and Denmark to guarantee them support and assistance, and to secure them on our side?

Russia is busily engaged in the attempt to make these States break through their declared neutrality. It is our duty to follow the example. Our supremacy in the struggle will secure the independence of Denmark and Sweden: the supremacy of Russia will be fatal to them both. Sweden will not only remain without Finland—her rightful possession; but Denmark, in spite of the sympathies of the Holsteiners, and in spite of the interests of every other province of that brave, but too small kingdom—will be dissevered from association with civilised Europe, and united with a Government which maintains its connection with foreigners by the sword, and with its own subjects by the knout. Were the alternative fairly placed before Sweden and Denmark by the Government of this country, and were our alliance offered them upon the terms which they have a right to expect, and which it is our palpable interest to offer, there can be no doubt of the enthusiastic alacrity with which they would give their decision.

Although the anticipations of victory excited by the appearance of the gallant Napier in their seas, have not yet been justified by any considerable achievement, the Fins and the Swedes know that our conquests are certain, and look with almost as much interest as the people of England do to every move in the game. When Revel and Helsingfors are taken, as they will assuredly be whenever Sir Charles Napier thinks it expedient to attack them, the entrance to St. Petersburg will be as effectually blocked as if our fleets were at Cronstadt. The Swedes are preparing their minds for the day when St. Petersburg itself shall be in our possession. They do not understand the delays of our diplomacy, and have begun to express their astonishment that no definite overtures have yet been made to them by the Allies. The Danes are equally on the alert. It is publicly stated in Copenhagen that by a new treaty between Great Britain and France, signed on the 15th ult., those Powers have bound themselves to procure a categorical answer from the two Scandinavian States, whether they will join the Anglo-French or the Russian Alliance. Time will show whether this statement be true; but there seems no inherent reason to doubt its correctness. Both Den-

THE SULINEH MOUTH OF THE DANUBE—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

mark and Sweden could give effectual aid; and we see with pleasure that the amount and quality of that aid are freely set forth by one of the ablest of the Swedish journals. It is stated in the *Aftonblad* that Sweden alone—not including the Norwegian contingent, the militia, and reserves—is able to provide an army of 94,980 men; composed of 85,000 infantry, 5564 cavalry, and 4416 artillery. Of this force, 60,000 men would be available for a war against Russia, and an attack upon St. Petersburg by land. How valuable an auxiliary such a force would prove to our own military and naval forces in the Baltic, need not be insisted upon. In addition to this force, Sweden, if not Denmark, could provide large numbers of flat-bottomed vessels, such as Admiral Napier requires, and expressly built for the navigation of the shallow waters of the Upper Baltic and the Gulfs of Finland and Bothnia. We believe that our Government has but to offer to aid the Swedes in the endeavour to repossess themselves of Finland, to be secure of their hearty and zealous co-operation Sweden has often played a great part in the history of Europe. It is for the interest of all Europe, that that State should be restored to her ancient place in the great Commonwealth of Civilisation. Such a result of the war would not only be the greatest punishment of Russia, but would be one of the most effectual "material guarantees" against Russian aggrandisement. By such a stroke Russia would lose nearly her whole maritime population—for the native Russian is no better a sailor than the Swiss or Tyrolese; and by such a re-arrangement of the map of Europe, there would be little reason to fear the encroachments of the Czar or his successors for half a century to come. Denmark is almost equally interested with Sweden; and although the King, the Court, and the Cabinet are pro-Russian—but more perhaps from fear than from sympathy—it remains to be seen whether King, Court, or Cabinet could resist the impulse of the population, or the example of Sweden, if Great Britain and France relieved them of their fears of Russia, by boldly demanding of them to take the side of civilisation—and of their own interest.

THE SULINEH MOUTH OF THE DANUBE.

After a course of nearly 1800 miles, the river Danube, before it flows into the Black Sea, divides into several branches, of which the three principal ones are—the Sulineh, the Kilia, and the St. George's Channel The Sulineh mouth, through which nearly the whole of the navigation of the Danube passes, has been claimed by Russia ever since the treaty of Adrianople, and every means has been taken by that Power to close up the free passage of the river with a view to promote the prosperity of Odessa. So long as the mouths of the river formed part of the Turkish territory, a depth of sixteen or eighteen feet was maintained on the bar, so that large vessels had no difficulty in passing it. Since it fell into the hands of Russia, the culpable neglect of the authorities has caused such an increase of the bar that the depth of water has fallen to eight or ten feet, while, at the same time, the channel has been so much contracted by the formation of sand banks, and from the remains of shipwrecked vessels being allowed to remain there, that it is difficult for any vessel to pass, except in calm weather, and with a skilful pilot. Our Government has frequently remonstrated with the Russian authorities on the necessity of dredging the channel, and they have always promised they would take effectual measures to remedy the evil; but, like all the other promises of Russia, nothing has ever come of it. A long correspondence on the subject, which ultimately assumed a very angry character, took place between Lord Palmerston and Count Nesselrode, two or three years ago, and would probably have ended in a serious quarrel with Russia had the Eastern question not occurred. Last summer Lord Palmerston, having been asked whether any instructions had been sent out by Government to inquire into the case of British vessels then detained in the Danube, owing to the imperfect navigation of the Sulineh channel, gave a long explanation of the way in which Russia had trifled with this country. After many remonstrances from our Government, the Russian Government would send a steam-dredge to carry away all the obstructions on the bar. "The steam-dredge came," said Lord Palmerston, "and the steam-dredge worked, but in two hours it was always put out of gear from some accident or other (Laughter), and they were obliged to go back to Odessa for repairs" It is easy to understand the meaning of all this. Though very guarded in his language, Lord Palmerston did not scruple to state that "there was rivalship on the part of Odessa, where there existed a desire to obstruct the navigation of the Danube, and to direct it, if possible, by way of Odessa." Taking this fact into account, and bearing in mind how dishonest and unscrupulous the Russian authorities are in international affairs, no one will expect to see the navigation of the Danube placed on a proper footing while Russia retains any power over it.

With a view to prevent the passage of English or French gun-boats up the Danube during the present hostilities, the Russians lately erected several batteries at the Sulineh mouth of the river, but these suffered so severely from repeated attacks of the Allied fleets, that they have dismantled them, finding the place untenable against an assault by water.

The illustration on the opposite page will give some idea of the dangerous nature of the navigation. The remains of wrecked vessels scattered over the river show what havoc has been made by the selfish policy of Russia.

The King of Prussia's Courtesy to Russians.—His patriotic Majesty the King of Prussia has conferred the following distinctions upon the Russian officers specified below:—The Red Order of the Eagle, first class, to the Lieutenant-Generals Riesenkampff, Tutschkoff, and Tscheer, all three holding high and active commands in Russian Poland; the Red Eagle, second class, to Colonel Ulrich, and the same, third class, to Colonel Maximoff; the same, fourth class, to Captain Stern, to First Lieutenants Masloff and Jegoroff, and to Second Lieutenant Renwald.

Russian Intrigues in Portugal.—A letter from Lisbon says: "The Miguelite journal *A Nacão*, which has just appeared under a new form, rivals the journal *de St. Petersbourg*. Its first article is an enthusiastic paraphrase of the last memorandum of Russia. There is no difficulty in recognising that the articles of the *Nacão* are the work of a pen more skilful than that of the ordinary editors of that journal. The details which it gives of the policy of the Czar, and of the operations of the belligerent armies, sufficiently indicate the source from whence the Miguelite journal derives them."

Despatches from Turkey.—In order to receive accounts from the theatre of operations with greater celerity and regularity, a service of Tatar couriers has been organised between Adrianople and Belgrade. The journey will be performed in four days after which, by the telegraphic line of Semlin, despatches will reach Paris in less than seven hours, by Peterwardein, Lovrin, Szegedin, Czegled, Pesth, Vienna, Lintz, Munich, and Paris. A service of couriers corresponding with that between Belgrade and Adrianople, will be established between the latter city and the head-quarters of the army of the East. It is calculated that, by means of these measures, news of the operations of the French army may be received in six days.

Nelson's Column, Trafalgar-square.—The last instalment of the artistic embellishment of the pedestal of Nelson's Column has been placed on the west side, facing Pall-mall. The subject is by Mr. Watson, representing Nelson receiving the sword of the Commander of the San Josef, in the action of St. Vincent. The massive plate representing the scene is of gun-metal, supplied by Government, and weighs about five tons. Messrs. Robinson and Cottams, of Pimlico, were entrusted to finish this instalment. It was cast in three divisions, and there appears to be scarcely the slightest flaw in any part.

Statue of Charles I.—The statue of King Charles I., at Charing-cross, is to be restored and renovated, preparatory to being placed under the surveillance constituted by the new Act.

La Plata Treaty.—A treaty has been concluded between England and France with respect to the division of prizes taken from Russia. They are to be divided in proportion to the number of men engaged in the different captures. The whole terms of the treaty show that the utmost confidence exists between the two Governments, and that they are both actuated by the same feeling, of not doing more than is absolutely necessary, or anything that can outrage the feelings of humanity of the most scrupulous.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Paris, Thursday.

The season is finally and effectually terminated by the departure of the Court for St. Cloud, which would have taken place sooner than it has done, but for certain reparations and improvements to which that palace has been submitted. The Emperor and Empress purpose remaining here until the formation of the Camp de la Manche is completed, when they proceed thither; the Empress, during the Emperor's stay, remaining at Boulogne, for the benefit of sea-bathing.

The return of M. Hubner, the Austrian Minister, was last week the theme for a thousand speculations, a thousand commentaries. The popular opinion—ever sanguine—declared that the result of his representations at Vienna—his tendencies being well known to be all in favour of the Western Powers—would be the declaration of Austria's uniting her forces with those of England and France, and that her levy of 85,000 men was the preparatory step towards this coalition. Certain persons, likely to be well informed, incline to the idea that this hope is at least premature; and that, whatever may be the course adopted by Austria later, she is not at present on such terms with Russia as to render an immediate rupture by any means probable. In support of this opinion, they cite the fact of the movement at Montenegro being suddenly interrupted by the arrival of two superior Russian officers, coming from Austria, and proceeding at once to an interview with Prince Danilo; and by the general inactivity of the Russian army in the Dobrudja, as if waiting for some expected arrangement ere taking the decisive step of crossing the Balkan.

It is confidently stated that Lord Cowley is shortly to give a fête in imitation of that of M. de Walewska, at which the Emperor and Empress are to be present.

A trial has been made of the uniform of the new Imperial Guards; it consists of a blue coat with facings, *garance* trousers, and gaiters: the head-dress, a bearskin cap with a band, is found to look heavy, and will, probably, undergo some modifications. The Cuirassiers of the Imperial Guard were to have a cuirass, with a golden sun, white breeches, and boots cut away at the top; but this shape being found to possess certain inconveniences, it will probably be altered; but the rest of the costume is, we believe, to be retained.

The two seats in the Académie Française left vacant by M. Jay and Tissot, have been filled, at the recent election, by M. de Sacy, the popular writer—whose articles in the *Journal des Débats* are marked by a degree of talent giving them an interest beyond that generally accorded to topics of the day—and M. Dupanloup, Bishop of Orleans.

The races at Chantilly have been much affected by the badness of the weather, which has prevented the attendance of the usual concourse of the *beau monde*, which habitually attends them, and rendered the ground heavy for all the horses, but more especially the less strong ones.

Last week took place the sale of a most interesting collection of autographs, belonging to M. de la Roulaie Rochefort. The letters, belonging to no particular period or class, possessed no less variety than value. Among others were those of Charles Quint, François I., Gustavus of Sweden, Marguerite d'Autriche, Richelieu, Robespierre, St. Just, Mdme. Roland, Rousseau, Walter Scott, Wellington, Soult, Talma, &c., &c. Some of these autographs fetched good prices, but as the general rule, they sold indifferently.

It is a positive fact that the agents of the Russian Government have adopted the custom of making out, every time an engagement takes place, three different reports of the event. The first, which is true in all points, is for the eye of the Emperor alone, and is read by none but him; the second is for the Minister and is the one destined to appear in the public press, and to go the rounds of the rest of Europe: the third, filled with the most ridiculous accounts of the bravery and successes of the Russians, and the discomfiture of their opponents, is only meant for internal circulation, to re assure the people of the interior. This report is printed only in Russian; and is put up in the churches, and read aloud by the priests, and the greatest care is taken that no copies of it shall go abroad.

The Théâtre Lyrique has a brilliant success with a new opéra-comique, written by M. Méry, and composed by M. Ernest Roger, entitled "Maître Wolfram." The scene, as the name indicates, lies in Germany. *Maître Wolfram*, a young composer, and organist, loves with a passion he deems hopeless and dissembled, *Hélène*, an orphan, adopted by his host, *Wilhem*, brought up in the house with him, growing under his eye from childhood to an age when the affection of the young man changes its character. *Hélène* loves *Frantz*, a young officer; but *Wilhem*, led into error as to the object of her attachment, and believing it to be *Wolfram*, communicates to him the supposed discovery, which transports him with delight, and fills *Hélène*, who has for him a warm regard, but of another sort, with regret and embarrassment. The mistake is, however, explained; *Hélène* and *Frantz* are united; and the composer returns to his organ, to try to console himself with a mistress who, though she has proved insufficient to occupy all his heart, is, at least, more faithful to him in his affliction than he was to her in his hour and fleeting joy. The poem and the music rival each other in grace, sweetness, and originality of style and treatment; and "Maître Wolfram" may certainly be considered as one of the greatest successes of the day.

UNITED STATES.

The steam-ship *Arabia*, which left New York on the 8th inst., arrived at Liverpool on the 20th. The American papers supply no news of the missing *City of Glasgow* steamer.

The steam-boat *Pennsylvania* had exploded in the Delaware on the 6th inst., killing nine persons and sixteen horses.

The excitement on the Nebraska Bill was again as great as ever. In the House of Representatives, on the 8th, seventeen bills were laid aside in order to give it precedence; and the *New York Express* says, "When the Nebraska Bill came on, the House was a scene of no little tumult. Members were on their feet, and clapping of hands was heard in all parts of the Hall. A motion that it should lie on the table was defeated by a vote of 85 to 105. Some of the members, hitherto opposed to the bill, now voted for taking it up. In New York and all the principal cities of the Union, the interest upon this question was very intense."

The New York Chamber of Commerce had memorialised Congress in relation to the rights of neutrals, and the importance of taking advantage of the existing state of affairs in Europe to negotiate treaties with the different maritime Powers of the world for the protection of the rights of neutral vessels, and to establish the American principle, that free ships make free goods. Mr. Ingersoll had delivered a speech in the Senate on the European war, advocating the immediate declaration, that free ships make free cargoes, and that the United States would not permit the search of American vessels or the overhauling of their papers.

Government had resolved on energetic measures in regard to the *Black Warrior* affair, the despatches from Madrid having given great dissatisfaction. The Captain-General of Cuba was pushing to the utmost all measures for the defence of the island in the event of a war with the United States. The military force was estimated at 12,000 men. The correspondent of the *New York Daily Times* again reports the landing of three corps of slaves at Cuba.

On Wednesday the *Pacific* steam-ship arrived at Liverpool, with four days' later news. When she left, the Nebraska Bill was still under debate. It was said that the President would recommend to Congress the blockade of Cuba, in case Spain refuses to give redress in the *Black Warrior* affair.

The caloric-ship *Ericsson*, which was capsized on her trial trip on the Hudson river, had been raised on the 11th inst. There was no damage done to her hull or engines; and the loss sustained by damage to her furniture and ornamental work is estimated at 30,000 dollars.

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

Schumla, May 1, 1854.

The first really important naval operation of the campaign against the Russians, has taken place within the last few days. The British and French fleets having received orders to make for Odessa, left Baltchik on the 17th ult., and reached their destination by the 21st. The *Retribution* and two other steamers—one of which was French—had been for some time cruising in front of Odessa, and had succeeded in capturing fifteen Russian merchant ships, of which the crews were sent as prisoners on board the fleet, whilst the vessels were despatched as prizes to the nearest port—Varna. On the morning of the 22nd, three British steam-frigates and one French took up their station in front of the military harbour. They opened fire at six a.m. on the Russian batteries, which immediately returned the compliment. At ten o'clock four other frigates took up a position to shell the batteries, and a general engagement ensued. The firing continued incessantly until five p.m., when Admiral Dundas and Vice-Admiral Hamelin hoisted the signal to cease. By this time the batteries on the moles of the Imperial harbour were on fire, the powder magazine had exploded, and all the ships inside had been either burnt or sunk by shells. It must be borne in mind that the arsenal and docks of Odessa are on one side of the remicircle formed by the town, and that these were attacked without any damage to the inhabitants. The commercial harbour, containing vessels of every nation, was respected by the Admirals, who forbore from inflicting on the Russians the punishment which they had not hesitated to give the Turks in the disastrous affair of Sinope. In the confusion consequent upon the bombardment, several of the traders in the harbour succeeded in slipping their cables, and making their way out. Amongst these were two French vessels. The prizes taken in front of Odessa were put up to public competition at Varna, and sold to the highest bidder. Two vessels were bought for the account of his Excellency Omer Pacha, who intends to have them manned by English crews. The loss in the fleets during the engagement has not reached me. They were still in the roads of Odessa on the 26th inst.

The accounts hastily sent two days since of the retreat of the Russians from Little Wallachia are confirmed. The enemy began to retire on the 22nd, the very day when our fleets arrived at Odessa, and the Turks advanced into the country from Kalafat on the 23rd. The villages had been in great part cleared of inhabitants; or rather, perhaps, the miserable people had been forced to fly, because the Russians carried with them every thing eatable, and burnt the remainder. Not a parcel of hay or straw, not a measure of corn was left behind. The Turks came up with the rearguard of the retiring Russians, near Baileschdi; but there was no engagement, as was at first reported. A sufficient force was left as outposts at Baileschdi, and the main body returned to Kalafat. For the Russians, the abandonment of Little Wallachia had become a matter of necessity, and they felt that they must concentrate themselves. I believe I am correctly informed when I say that they expect to be attacked in the neighbourhood of Bucharest, where they have commenced a series of regular works for the purpose of withstanding a siege. News from Silistria only three days old is that no further movement had been made by the enemy, and that everything was quiet. The Turks are extremely glad to hear of the arrival of a French division of 12,000 men at Adrianople. According to the latest letters, there were six regiments of British in Constantinople, and that is also pleasing intelligence. It would be much to be desired that the Allies should land a force on the coast of the Black Sea in such numbers as to cut off the supplies, and render untenable the position of Bucharest; but I fear we are not yet in sufficient number for such a plan.

With the exception of a fire which yesterday broke out in the hospital here, I know of nothing new. Three patients died of fright; and the fire was extinguished without any considerable damage.

Of the Russians there is no news. Nothing has stirred on either side. The Turks are not at Adrianople, as at first supposed, but still in Gallipoli, 22,000 strong. There are 5000 English there also, and 12,000 in Constantinople.

BOMBARDMENT OF SILISTRIA.

Notwithstanding the numerous reports of Silistria having fallen into the hands of the Russians, the latest intelligence informs us that it was still held by the Turks, and that so late as the 18th ult. Marshal Paskiewitsch had his head-quarters at Kalarasch, opposite Silistria. On the 14th he had crossed the Danube, with his staff, to reconnoitre. Next day terms of capitulation were offered to the Commander of the fortress, and the bombardment was suspended. On the 17th Mussa Pacha rejected the Russian terms, and the bombardment had been renewed. Since then, it is said that the sudden overflowing of the river, which is likely to last some time, as this is the season when it overflows, has caused the Russians to cease the fire of the batteries established in the island opposite Silistria. The *Wanderer* contains a letter from Schumla of the 8th inst., to the effect that Omer Pacha has sent to Constantinople to say that if the auxiliary troops were not at the Balkan by the end of May, he would be obliged to sacrifice Silistria.

The Turks still continue to show themselves superior to the Russians in the frequent engagements which take place between detachments from the two armies. One of the most important affairs of this kind was the one at Nicopolis, on the 29th ult., an account of which has been published by Omer Pacha. According to the Turkish bulletin, Said Pacha, after having passed the Danube, demolished the works of the *tête du pont* of the Russians, took two pieces of cannon, beat and pursued the enemy as far as Tournow, and occupied Islas. These accounts are confirmed by private letters, but nevertheless a bulletin was published at Bucharest on the 30th ult., in which it was announced that a victory had been gained over the Turks, and a "Te Deum" was even sung on the occasion of it. A letter from Orsova confirms the details of the affair which took place on the 16th, near Giurgevo. Said Pacha crossed the Danube at the head of 4000 men, attacked and destroyed the enemy's batteries, and drove back the Russians as far as Giurgevo. The Turks took two pieces of cannon from the batteries. Said Pacha, after having set fire to a quantity of timber and other materials, collected for the purpose of constructing a bridge, recrossed to the other side of the river.

Another sanguinary engagement took place on the 12th, in which the Turks took several pieces of cannon from the Russians.

Since the evacuation of the Russians from Little Wallachia, the inhabitants have ventured to show the real state of their feelings towards their oppressors. Continual attempts, we are told, are made by the Wallachians to destroy the artillery and ammunition depôts of the Russians at Roksehan. On the 4th a "laid fire was extinguished with great difficulty," and another again on the 6th. At Kalarasch, a magazine, containing 8000 pud of flour, was recently burnt down; and in the Talomnitza district all the hay which the Russians had collected has been burned. Nearly 1000 Wallachians, of the better class, are in prison on charges of sympathising with the Turks; and the Wallachian *Moniteur* publishes the announcement of the sale of property belonging to certain inhabitants of the county, and which has been confiscated in pursuance of sentences pronounced by the Russian military tribunals, for what they call rebellion.

LOSS OF THE "TIGER."—RENEWED BOMBARDMENT OF ODESSA.

The news from the Black Sea is of a very conflicting character. On Friday week a telegraphic despatch brought the news of the *Tiger*, "a screw-steamer of thirty-two guns," having run aground near Odessa, on the 12th inst., and, after some firing, having been obliged to surrender. As the *Tiger* was known to be a paddle-wheel steamer of only sixteen guns, it was thought that the story must be a fabrication; but it has been placed beyond doubt by later intelligence, although we are still left very much in the dark as to what the case really was. The *Wanderer*, on the authority of letters from Lemberg, of the 17th and 18th, says:—

The *Tiger*, with sixteen guns and 250 men on board stranded in the vicinity of Cortazzi (a few miles from Odessa), and was immediately fired upon from the battery erected at this point, and by several gun-boats. On the following day two English men of war arrived on the spot, and at once opened fire upon the said battery. The second letter speaks of seven English steamers having demanded the restitution of the ship and her imprisoned crew, which being refused, they proceeded to bombard

he town of Odessa. When this letter was posted the firing had already arted six hours, and still continued.

Another account, said to be from a reliable source, states that the *Tiger* got on a sand-bank when in pursuit of a Russian schooner, which an into the quarantine port. The Russians fired into her with red hot balls until she was completely helpless. The two steamers who came to her assistance were obliged to keep at a distance, as the Russians had some guns of the very largest calibre, which they fired with extreme precision." The *Tiger* was burned almost down to the water. The *Prince* affirms that the Russians fired on the steamer after she had hoisted a white flag, and made signals of distress. "In spite of a perfect shower of balls the crew went on shore, where they are treated as prisoners of war. Several ships of the line and smaller vessels have been set on fire by the inhabitants of Odessa are in great consternation. A flag of truce has just been sent in.

In an official report of the affair which had reached Vienna, it is said that great apprehension of a descent was from the allied fleets, in consequence of the capture of the *Tiger*, were entertained at Odessa; that the Commandant has caused the coals stored up there to be set on fire, and would do the same with the grain if the bombardment was renewed; and that the detained captains and crews of English merchantmen, together with the prisoners from the *Tiger*, had been sent off to Bessarabia.

The following is the account given by the *Journal d'Odesse*; but, as we know what monstrous falsehoods have been published there about former transactions, we can place little reliance on its statement:—

On the 12th of May the *Tiger*, of 1275 tons burden, and mounting sixteen guns, which stranded at seven versts from Odessa, was forced to surrender before the *Vesuvius* and *Niger* could come to her assistance. Her captain (Giffard) lost one leg, a midshipman both, and five men were wounded. Two hundred and twenty-six prisoners were taken. The Russians had two officers wounded, and two soldiers killed. As the vessel could not be removed, she was set on fire by us, and sank the same day. Some of her guns were taken as trophies to Odessa.

A private letter from Odessa, of the 13th, gives a somewhat different account, as will be seen:—

ODESSA, May 13.

To-day's news are that last night, during a heavy fog, the English steamer *Tiger* ran herself aground at Cortazzi's Hutor, so as to be almost under the dry. As soon as this was made sure as to have gone ashore, the artillery was sent there, and the steamer crippled. She struck, and her crew, I am told, of about 200 men, are just now being brought in as prisoners. The vessel is, I understand, on fire. Three other steamers are in sight, and have made communications, the nature of which we do not know. I have just seen the steamer; she is only fifty paces from the shore. The vessel is a powder hat had both his legs shot off.

The *Tiger* was a steam-frigate of 1220 tons, and 400-horse power. It was launched at Chatham in 1849, and its crew is understood to have mounted to 200 men. The following is the official list of officers on board:—

Captain Henry W. Giffard. Lieutenants Alfred Royer, Alexander Hamilton, and W. P. Stone. Master, Francis Edington. First Lieutenant Marine Artillery, F. L. Arnell. Surgeon, H. J. Domville. Paymaster, George A. Lance. Mate, C. H. Dickinson (acting). Assistant-surgeon, Edmund Lowless. Second Master, John C. Soltcet. Clerks, Charles Gi. Barnes and N. G. Simmonds.

THE FLEETS IN THE BLACK SEA.

The latest news relating to the Allied fleets in the Black Sea comes down no farther than the 8th inst., at which date Admiral Dundas was off Sebastopol, with the following vessels:—*Britannia*, 120; *Queen*, 118; *Rodney*, 120; *Albion*, 90; *Rodney*, 90; *London*, 90; *Agamemnon*, 91; *Sanspareil*, 84; *Bellerophon*, 78; *Sanspareil*, 71, screw; *Arethusa*, 50; with the steamers *Terrible*, 21; *Retribution*, 22; *Highflyer*, 21, screw; *Furious*, 16; *Tiger*, 16; *Niger*, 14, screw; *Samson*, 6; *Firebrand*, 6; *Inflexible*.

Another letter of the same date states that, on the 5th, Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons started from Sebastopol on his mission to the coasts of Georgia and Circassia, in the screw-ship *Agamemnon*, and French screw *Charlemagne*, 90, *Retribution*, *Highflyer*, *Niger*, *Samson*, *Firebrand*, and with a squadron of French steamers.

The *Tiger* was ordered to cruise between Sebastopol and Odessa. The loss of that vessel, to which we have elsewhere adverted, took place on the 12th.

The French Government has received two important despatches from Vice-Admiral Hamelin, Commander-in-Chief of the squadron of the Mediterranean, relating to the movements of the Combined Squadrons in the Black Sea since the bombardment of Odessa. The following are the principal passages:

Ville de Paris, before Sebastopol, May 1, 1854.

Monsieur le Ministre,—The fourth day after the bombardment of the town of Odessa, the wind having veered to the north, the two squadrons set sail on the morning of the 26th of April, and took the direction towards the western coast of the Crimea, as I had settled with Admiral Dundas. On the 28th, finding ourselves in sight of the port adjoining Eupatoria, I detached the steam-corvette the *Catan*, accompanied by the *Furious*, to explore the bay to the south of that town. The latter, after having shelled and destroyed three Russian vessels, one of which two were coasters. The *Furious* took a fourth. Somewhat earlier the *Descartes*, in cruising ahead of the squadrons, met with an English brig which had been captured on the previous evening by a Russian frigate; the latter, on perceiving the squadrons, had abandoned her prize, and started with her speed to gain the port of Sebastopol. Of these four prizes, two have been sent to the Bosphorus. As regards the two coasters, they were sunk.

We profited by the time while we were lying-to before Sebastopol to proceed to explore the neighbouring bays. This was done by the *Caton* and the *Furious*. Other steam-frigates presented themselves at the very mouth of the port, and have examined with the greatest attention of that the Russian fleet was composed. It appears to consist of twelve ships of the line, three sailing frigates, and a very considerable number of steamers, the most of them of small dimensions. The Russian prisoners interrogated, state that the ships of the line are to the number of 14, which two, in truth, are not in a very good state, and the steamers to the number of 30, of which three are large. What would appear to confirm the report of the Russian prisoners is the fact that two large vessels appeared from the top of our masts to be under repair in the basins of Sebastopol, and might, consequently, be the two ships of war in a missing state, of which the prisoners had spoken.

Ville de Paris, before Sebastopol, May 5.

Monsieur le Ministre,—Since the last letter which I had the honour of sending to your Excellency, dated May 1, the two French and English squadrons have not ceased to cruise at a little distance and within sight of the port of Sebastopol, where the Russian ships persist in remaining immovable at their anchors. The manœuvres which we are calculated, any degree to slacken the operations of war which Admiral Dundas and I have projected on the Russian coasts, an Anglo-French division starts this evening, under the command of Rear-Admiral Lyons, to attack Circassia. Its naval division is composed of the English steam-ship of the line the *Agamemnon*, carrying the flag of Rear-Admiral Lyons; of the French screw-ship of the line the *Charlemagne*, of five English steamers, and of two French steam-frigates, namely, the *Mogador* and the *Vauban*. The last-frigate and three of the English steamers will return to the squadron, when that naval division, having executed all that is projected to be done towards the Bay of Theodosia, will direct its course towards the coast of Circassia, where two ships of the line and three frigates will be transported.

While these operations are being executed the remaining seventeen ships of the two combined squadrons will cruise in sight of Sebastopol, in order to keep the Russian fleet in view.

Towards the 15th of May I have reason to think that we shall be able to begin our naval division thus detached, at the anchorage of Balschik, from which place I reckon upon sending a steamer to Constantinople to receive information with respect to the operations which may have been undertaken or executed.

Since the foregoing despatches were received, Admiral Hamelin is said to have written to the French Government, requesting that a body of troops should be sent to him as soon as possible, for operating by land. On Monday eighty pieces of artillery, of tremendous power, were embarked at Toulon and Marseilles. They are said to be for Sebastopol, against which a combined attack by sea and land will shortly take place.

THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

Letters from Constantinople of the 11th inst. state that the Duke of Cambridge was the great star of the day. Ministers, Ambassadors, merchants were all pressing to his levee. Everybody has some anecdote of his favour to relate; and the poor Turks, who, like all Orientals, are very impressionable, suppose that there is something supernatural about him. The day after his arrival several hundred Turks remained stationed in front of his palace all day to get a distant sight of the "Inglis Pasha," as they denominate the Duke.

On the 10th inst., at about three p.m., the Duke was received by the Sultan in grand ceremony. Lord Stratford de Redcliffe and Redschid Pasha, Minister for Foreign Affairs, were present. The conference was short, but cordial; the Sultan had no terms strong enough to express his gratitude for the aid given by the great British nation. The Duke, on his side, said the red-jackets would show what they could do. They had never turned their backs to an enemy; and as for yielding to the Muscovite, that would be incompatible with the national honour as long as there remained one Englishman. Next morning, at about eleven, the British merchants and residents at Constantinople presented an address to his Royal Highness. Both that and the reply were what everybody expected—compliments, and a due return of the same. The Sultan was to give a grand dinner in honour of the Duke on the 13th.

Prince Napoleon was about to proceed to Gallipoli to see that proper arrangements are made to march them forward to Adrianople. As soon as the French receive their artillery they were to go on. The Turks are greatly vexed that everything is managed so slowly. They say "England is a great nation, and her resources are immense; how is it possible to persuade us that they are not prepared for war? The nation that can build and man a fleet of 30 men of war in four months surely cannot allege pecuniary difficulties as an excuse."

THE GREEK INSURRECTION.—GREEK PIRATES.

Intelligence from Athens, dated the 13th inst., speaks of the insurrection having extended in Thessaly, and of the towns of Paramythea and Margharita having fallen into the hands of the insurgents. The Greek Chief, Tzanes Karatassos, had arrived within twelve leagues of the town of Salonica. Another despatch from Athens, of the same date, states that to the ultimatum, presented to the Greek Government on the part of France and England, four days were given for an answer; that if no answer be returned, or if it be unfavourable, Greece will be blockaded and occupied by Anglo-French troops; that the custom-houses are to be seized; and that a Provisional Government will be substituted for the Government of King Otho. The ultimatum requires the immediate recall of all officers that have joined the insurgents, and the dissolution of the volunteer corps. Five vessels of the combined English and French fleets were in the Piræus.

Private letters from the Piræus give some details of the piracy which had been organised through the whole extent of the Hellenic kingdom. The energy displayed by the ships of war of the European nations, attacking and sinking the corsairs wherever they meet them, has produced a salutary effect, and has evidently discouraged these brigands. The pirates had become, in consequence of the indifference of the Hellenic Government, so audacious as to have gone the length of the seizure of the military arsenal of Paros. The failure of the plan was only due to the presence of the ships of war in the Greek waters, and to the determination of the foreign Governments to destroy vessels known to be fitted out for piracy.

THE WAR PANIC AT ST. PETERSBURG.

On the authority of several Frenchmen, who have recently been obliged to leave St. Petersburg, the *Augsburg Gazette* of Saturday last states that a perfect paralysis is seizing trade and commerce in that city, rendered more grievous by the enormous price of provisions. Many bankruptcies are imminent. Paper money had fallen considerably below its nominal value, and gold was eagerly sought. Economy in every branch of the national expenditure was being attempted. Thus, the building of the Church of Isaac was suspended—a most ominous and momentous matter in Russia. The patriotism of the wealthy inhabitants was perpetually roused by the crying wants of private misery and distress.

An English gentleman, who left St. Petersburg a week or two ago, after a residence of five years in that city, gives a similar account. He says that many of the nobility and higher families were quitting their town residences and retiring to their country seats, carrying with them their plate, jewels, and portable property of value; and the English, French, and other foreign residents were, to a much greater number than he had to wait six weeks before he could get a place in the only steamer which runs twice a week from St. Petersburg to Tekun. As a proof of the apprehension felt touching an invasion of the capital, he noticed that the houses on the side of the Neva were being pulled down, and defences erected opposite the main part of St. Petersburg.

The Emperor Nicholas has just imposed on the central provinces of the empire an extraordinary tax, amounting to the fourth of the revenue. The ukase which orders this impost, declares that the produce of the tax will be exclusively employed towards the expenses of the war which Russia maintains for the defence of the orthodox faith against the Western Powers—the enemies of that faith and of Christianity. He does not appear, however, to place much reliance on the orthodoxy of the inhabitants, for, in order to enforce this oppressive measure, he declares that the property of those who, in fifteen days, shall not have paid the first half of the new tax, will be sequestrated and sold by the Crown. Great discontent prevails among the people, on account of the severity with which the conscriptions are enforced. The landed proprietors are also in a high state of dissatisfaction, on account of the extraordinary levies, as every recruit taken from their estates inflicts a loss of 100 silver roubles. The conscription recently ordered will amount to 220,000 men, and, consequently, the loss to the landed proprietors will amount to 22,000,000 of silver roubles.

The *Augsburg Gazette* of St. Petersburg states that Count Nesselrode has been recently insulted by the people of that capital. On passing through the streets in his carriage he was hissed, hooted, and menaced, and was forced to take refuge in the house of a friend. He was accused by the people of being the cause of the war, and of having taken sufficient care to provide against its casualties, and of having acted with difference and negligence. But, whatever be the cause, the symptoms of popular indignation were not to be mistaken. The letter which relates these facts is from a Russian lady of high rank, who recounted them to a friend, with the deepest sorrow, as indicative of future troubles. It is probable that the inhabitants of St. Petersburg have already begun to feel more severely than the peasants of the interior the evils which war brings with it.

In Finland a very bad feeling prevails among the population, and several arrests are said to have been recently made there. Several regiments, consisting of natives of Poland, which had been drafted into the *corps d'armée* in Finland, have, in consequence, been withdrawn. In Poland the concentration of Russian troops is uninterruptedly continued. Russian reports say that they will amount to at least 260,000 men. Preparations are being made everywhere for quartering and supplying them with provisions. The fortresses are also being placed on a war footing, General Suchosarnich having received orders to have all the fortresses of the kingdom in a complete state of defence.

RUSSIA, AUSTRIA, AND PRUSSIA.

The prevailing impression is that Austria and Prussia are gradually drawing off from Russia. The latest proof of this is that a new protocol, composed of the Austro-Prussian treaty and the Anglo-French treaty, has been signed at Vienna by the Ambassadors of Austria, Prussia, England, and France, by which they are pledged to a community of action, with a view to the re-establishment of peace. Those conventions, thus blended into one common protocol, are regarded as an additional guarantee of the adherence of the Germanic Confederation to the Anglo-French alliance. Impatient politicians desire some more positive act on the part of Austria and Prussia, but it is something to find that they have made a step in advance, and, at all events, that they do not recede.

Simultaneously with the signing of this new protocol, we learn that the mobilisation of the fourth corps of Austrian infantry has produced a great sensation at the Russian Embassy at Vienna, and that the measure is considered at the first act of open hostility on the part of Austria.

On the other hand, Russia seems to be preparing to defend herself against Austria. The *Wanderer* of the 20th says:—"The official news which has arrived this day announce that the movements and concentrations of Russian troops on the northern and eastern frontiers of Austria have recommenced. The division of carbineers, 40 squadrons, is marching towards Bucharest."

The King of Prussia is said to have issued invitations to all members of the British Legation at Berlin, and to two or three English officers at present there, to dine with their Majesties, at a banquet to be given at Sans Souci, upon and in honour of her Majesty Queen Victoria's birthday. It is understood that the King has expressly postponed his visit to Dessau, and through the Saxon provinces, on purpose to afford this proof of cordial good-will to England.

THE BALTIC FLEET.

Simultaneously from Stockholm, Berlin, and Copenhagen, a statement reached London in the beginning of the present week that Sir Charles Napier, after a bombardment of eight hours, had demolished the Castle of Gustaffvern, at the mouth of the Gulf of Finland, and taken 1500 prisoners. The news was generally credited, but it proves to be false. News has been received from the fleet to the 16th, and it appears that up to that date, Sir Charles Napier had made no attempt on Revel, the Island of Aland, or Gustaffvern, although it was reported that he had attacked and taken all those places. The Admiral is probably waiting for the junction of the French division, and there can hardly be a doubt that his first object will be to prevent the Russian ships of war, which have been confined by the ice at Helsingfors, from effecting their escape to Cronstadt; as it is of the utmost importance to prevent the junction of the two squadrons.

A letter from Copenhagen of May 20th states that the division under Admiral Napier has lately been cruising between Hango-head and Faro. The *Wellington* ran close into Hango, the forts of which fired upon her. The signal for action was made, but it was late in the evening, and the signal was countermanded, for what reason has not transpired. It had been ascertained that Hango-head has three forts of five guns each; and that Worms, a fort between Dago and the Main, has one battery of five guns; and it was generally believed that these two points would be attacked on Monday last; and that the fleet would advance up the Gulf, taking or destroying the military defences along the coast.

On the 18th, the *Amphion* frigate and the *Conflict* corvette, which had left Memel on the 13th, returned there with a retinue of eight Russian prizes—*Alexander*, of Libau; *Louise Amelie*, *Polka*, *Louise*, and *Johanna Cor.*, of Riga; *Leonida* and *Activ*, of Persu; and *Nicolai*, of Windau. The *Amphion* and the *Conflict* had made their appearance before Libau, had put in with nine gun-boats, and had summoned the authorities to surrender all the vessels in the harbour under pain of the town being bombarded, giving them just three hours for reflection. The garrison, which consisted of 400 dragoons, were given to understand that the first shot fired at them would be the signal for commencing the bombardment; they therefore withdrew, and the above-named eight vessels, together with five others, were surrendered. These last-mentioned five were left behind, as not being worth the trouble of sending home. The crews of the English vessels gave the natives of Memel to understand that the next place to be honoured with a visit would be Riga.

This last-mentioned town was reported at Memel, even as early as the 18th, to be in flames, in consequence of a bombardment. In Riga it is said that they are building and equipping gun-boats with great energy; Dunamunde and its immediate neighbourhood are being provided with batteries: not only soldiers, but also artisans and others are employed on the works.

The French fleet arrived at Kiel on Saturday morning. It numbers eight ships of the line, four frigates, and four steamers; and it was understood at first that it would lie at anchor there only till Monday. Later accounts, however, show that on Saturday afternoon the *Lucifer* ran into the harbour, and took on board the French Consul, as well as all letters and despatches lying there for the fleet. On Sunday the whole fleet was being towed in by steamers—and, according to some accounts, would remain in harbour for a few days, according to other accounts, for a fortnight.

A strict blockade of the Russian ports has been established, as will be seen from the following official notice:—

H.M.S. *Amphion*, Harbour of Memel, May 12.

Sir,—I have the honour to inform the Consuls of her Majesty's Ports, Libau, Windau, that those ports are at length in a state of rigorous blockade; and that all the ships which leave after the 15th of May, either wholly or partially laden, will be stopped, and sent to England or France, to be there declared good prizes. This communication is to be made public in those ports.—I have the honour, &c.,

(Signed) A. C. KEY, Captain.

N. M. J. Hertslet, Esq., H.B.M. Consul at Memel.

THE OVERLAND MAIL.

The steamer *Bombay* arrived at Trieste at half-past five on Tuesday morning, in 113 hours, from Alexandria. The India Mail has advices from Calcutta, April 20; Madras, 24; Shanghai, 1; Hong-Kong, 12; Singapore, 18; Bombay, 28; Sydney, March 20, Melbourne, 24; Adelaide, 28. The Ganges Canal was opened on the 8th of April. A new version of the old invention about Russian machinations in Khiva is given in the *Delhi Gazette*. Russia is said to have concluded treaties with Persia, Bokhara, and Khiva. The articles of the treaty between Russia and Khiva are—the friends and enemies of the one state are to be friends and enemies of the other. Russia will not interfere with the domestic affairs of Khiva. A Russian Ambassador is to reside at Khiva. A subsidiary force is to be kept at Khiva of 10,000 horsemen, officered and paid by Russia. Russian, Persian, Bokharan, and Afghan slaves, now in Khiva, to be released on payment of all their value. Russia to build cantonments, and to establish a force for twenty years. Dost Mahomed demands, as the price of his alliance, 5000 Russian troops, and the necessary funds to recover Peshawur and Pashmeen.

The Chinese Patriot army is advancing towards Pekin.

The Americans have established a friendly feeling with Japan.

In Australia, several large masses of gold have been dug up at Ballarat, Castlemary, and at the old gold diggings in Mersdesig. Business at Sydney dull, and market overstocked. Gold is in advance of standard price. Prices of wool in advance. Tallow has risen 4s. per cwt.

THE SMITH TESTIMONIAL FUND.—The application of screw propulsion to ships of war the size of the *Royal Albert* and the *Duke of Wellington*—and to upwards of sixty other vessels afloat, to be speedily fitted with the same—has very properly suggested the present as a favourable time for inducing a public recognition of the merit of the introduction of the screw, due to Mr. Francis Petit Smith, and urged in an early volume of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS. Accordingly, a provisional committee has been formed for raising a fund for the presentation of a suitable testimonial to Mr. Smith, for his eminent services in bringing into practice the above system of steam navigation for the public service, and for the commercial operations of almost all maritime nations. Mr. Smith may with justice urge the *sic vos non vobis* plea; but the public are not slow to recognise such claims when clearly stated. The provisional committee includes the names and liberal subscriptions of several leading engineers, whose examples will, doubtless, be followed by that very numerous class of Mr. Smith's countrymen who take pride in rewarding whatever contributes to our national pre-eminence in invention, as does that of screw propulsion.

ROYAL NAVAL FEMALE SCHOOL.—The committee of this noble institution have issued a strong appeal to the public, in order to raise the sum of £16,000, for the purchase of a freehold estate for their School. For this purpose the committee are in treaty with the Conservative Land Society for the purchase of St. Margaret's Mansion and four acres of ground, fronting Highmond; and the Directors have most considerately agreed to extend the terms of the offer until the 24th of June, to enable the committee, aided by the public, to carry out their benevolent object.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—*Deanery*: The Ven. C. B. Clough to St. Asaph Cathedral. *Honorary Prebendary*: The Rev. W. H. Cox to Hereford Cathedral. *Canon Residentiary*: The Rev. Robert Bickersteth to Ripon Cathedral. *Rural Deanery*: The Rev. W. Sandys to Cashel. *Rectories*: The Rev. W. R. Bacon to Ewhurst, Sussex; the Rev. F. Morris to Nunburnholme; the Rev. D. Thomas to St. George's, near Cardiff. *Vicarages*: The Rev. W. C. Bagshaw to Whitkirk, Yorkshire; the Rev. J. Middlesex; the Rev. A. Nettleship, to Minsterworth, Gloucestershire; the Rev. W. L. Newham, to Barrow-upon-Soar, Leicestershire. *Incumbencies*: The Rev. A. Dauncey to St. James's, Pendleton; the Rev. W. Davies, to Rhondda Valley, South Wales; the Rev. G. Galsford, to Wigginton, Hertfordshire. *Perpetual Curacies*: The Rev. R. D. Lagden to North Weston, Dorset; the Rev. J. Macnaught to St. Chrysostom, Everton; the Rev. W. Randolph to St. James, Aldershot, Dorset.

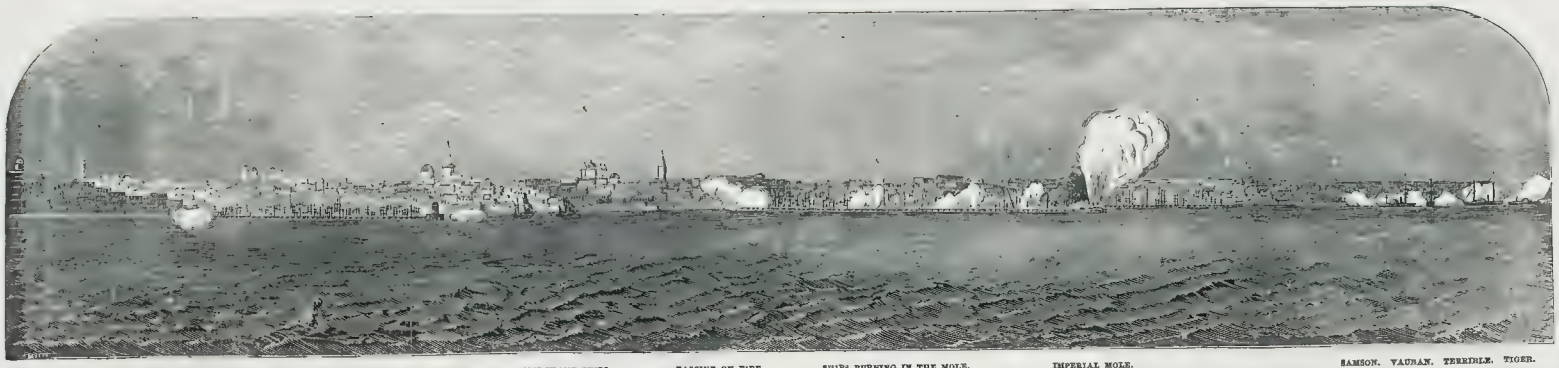
ARCHDEACON DENISON.—This reverend gentleman contradicts the report of his resignation. He writes:—"I have not resigned, and I do not mean to resign, either at the present or at any future time, the preferment and the office which I hold in the Church of England."

TESTIMONIALS.—The following gentlemen have recently received tokens of affection and esteem:—Rev. T. J. Brereton, from the parishioners of Framlingham; Rev. J. Stone, from the communicants of Billings; and the Rev. Dr. Elder, recently Head Master of Durham School, and now Master of the Charter-house School, London, by his late pupils.

THE BOMBARDMENT OF ODESSA.

WE have been favoured by a Correspondent who was present at this scene with the accompanying Sketch and descriptive details:—

"The combined fleets having anchored on the evening of Thursday the 20th ult., about three miles and a half from Odessa, on Friday the admirals sent in and demanded that all the Russian vessels in the place should be given up; allowing until sunset for an answer; and the demand not being complied with, several war-steamers were ordered to commence bombarding the military portion of the town on the following morning. Accordingly, at a quarter to eight on Saturday morning, the *Samson* and *Tiger* opened the attack in capital style, but from a long distance; and, in ten minutes, four batteries returned the fire from different points on shore, their shot falling short at first, whilst our shot and shells fell fast and thick on to and within the Mole. Meanwhile, a number



BOMBARDMENT OF ODESSA.

of French and English merchantmen, which had been detained by authority within another Mole, forced their way out, and were exposed to a cross fire from the steamers and the fort on the Mole head, apparently, however, without being much injured thereby

"At nine a.m. the *Vauban* French steamer, which had been engaged in the attack, was disabled by a red-hot shot, and hauled out of action. The *Terrible*, about this time, received some damage, resulting in the destruction of boats, the loss of a man, and the wounding of a few, which so aroused the spirit of the crew that the compliment of the Russians was soon repaid by return discharges of red-hot shot, which quickly set fire to many of their vessels. By eleven o'clock the roar of guns was tremendous; and at two, the fort on the Mole having taken fire, in about a quarter of hour blew up, with a fearful noise.

"At this moment the *Arethusa*, standing close in, was fired at from a masked battery; the shot, however passing over her, she tacked, and delivered herself of a broad-side with admirable precision, which told with great effect upon the hill battery—a part of the town low down now being on fire, from whence volumes of smoke rolled along the Mole. The boats of the steamers then got close in, in another direction; but a sharp and heavy fire suddenly opening upon them, they were compelled to retreat. The *Samson* and *Retribution* then poured in shell: at the third round the enemy's magazine blew up, and another immense building was set on fire The *Vauban* then bore down again, and played away with the rest at the Imperial Mole, destroying a great many ships whilst engaged in their destructive game. At three o'clock all the batteries were silenced, but evidently from finding their shots would not reach their assailants, and at six the steamers were signalled to retire, after a day's work almost as harmless to themselves as if they had been occupied in a pleasure trip, instead of at the awful work of war.

"During the night the whole of the Imperial Mole appeared to be in a blaze. Ships were blowing up at intervals, and there seemed to be a large fire raging in the town. Bells kept ringing until the morning, and the moment our steamers discontinued the action, the Russians commenced repairing their defences, and mounting new guns; and, on the Sunday morning, several batteries opening out on the steamers, the conflict for a time burst out afresh. The vessels, however, were recalled, a tremendous sea set in almost immediately, and thus ended the action."

We shall engrave a larger Illustration of the Bombardment next week.

H.M. SHIP "HECLA" AND "LEOPARD" RECONNOITRING.—HANGO HARBOUR, FINLAND.

THE BALTIC FLEET.—HANGO HARBOUR.

It will be recollected that an important operation previous to our Fleet entering the Baltic was a survey of that Sea. The service was undertaken by H.M.S. *Hecla*, Captain Hall; which in the accompanying Sketch is represented inshore of Rear-Admiral Plumridge, H.M.S. *Leopard*, Captain Giffard, reconnoitring the forts and entrance of Hango Harbour, in Finland: to the importance of which our Correspondent thus directs attention.

Hango Harbour and outer anchorage, which is situated at the entrance of the Gulf of Finland (north side), is a very good and safe roadstead, with sufficient depth of water for line-of-battle ships to moor inside the forts. The forts, three in number, appear strongly built of stone, or rock, and mount heavy guns, if you may judge from their appearance and the report they make: the largest is on the port, or left-hand side. Going in we counted twenty-five guns, facing to seaward, three or four of which were casemated. The fort on the starboard, or right hand, was not so large, but had more casemated guns. The third, which is situated at the bottom of the Harbour and opposite the entrance, did not appear so large as the others. A little inland there appears a sort of new battery, or breast work, thrown up.

The three batteries in the Harbour may be closely approached by large ships and once taken could be easily kept by those who command the sea, for they are surrounded by water.

The Russians, I was informed, by a Finland commander of a merchant ship, well acquainted with the place, consider it a key to that part of the country, and a most valuable and important harbour, for it is seldom or ever frozen over, on account of the strong currents, and all merchant vessels bound to Abo and other inland places, pass through the Harbour.

The Russian garrison consists of about five or six hundred troops, which they are now increasing.

The *Hecla* was fired at by the largest fort when in shore reconnoitring and sounding, and on the 18th of April. No doubt, from the favourable report of the anchorage, Sir Charles Napier will soon pay them a visit with the heavy ships, and make it an English port.

H.M.S "AMPHION" AND "CRUISER" CAPTURING TWO RUSSIAN VESSELS OFF RIGA.

CAPTURE OF A RUSSIAN PRIZE BEFORE RIGA.

A PROOF of the superiority of the screw, in a practical sense, has been shown in the recent proceedings of her Majesty's steamer *Amphion*, in the Gulf of Riga.

The *Amphion*, screw, 34 guns, Captain A. C. Key, in company with her Majesty's ship *Cruiser*, 16, screw, Commander the Hon. H. Douglas, entered the Gulf April 27, and steamed along the southern shore of the bay in search of Russian merchantmen. From information received from several Dutch and American ships boarded during the day, it was ascertained that there were several vessels blocked in the ice outside Riga Roads, waiting for the breaking up, in order to enter the Dwina.

At daylight of the 28th, ice was reported by the look-out at the mast-head. During the morning several detached masses floated by. In the afternoon the ships were nearly surrounded by ice. The whole extent of the bay skirting the horizon appeared to be an immense field of ice, varying in thickness from one to six inches, and covered by last winter's snow. Here and there it had broken, leaving open channels.

Several ships were seen in the distance, lying in the ice. One of them, which appeared to be a large barque, had hoisted Russian colours; and afterwards two tugs were seen steaming out to its assistance; but it seemed that the paddle-wheels

that which contained the body, they kept no regular position; but long ere they reached the shore they formed into two lines—that which contained the coffin being at the head of one line, and that containing the Captain and Chaplain of the *Royal George* at the head of the other; the other three of the foremost boats followed in order behind the remains of their officer. When landed, soldiers, men, and officers fell into funeral procession; the officers who attended being so numerous as to be compelled to walk five and six abreast. The distance from landing to the place of interment, Musko churchyard, Musko Island, was about two miles. When in sight of the church the bells commenced tolling, the band playing a solemn air. The church was crowded with officers and men. After the service the Chaplain gave a short eloquent address: spoke of the deceased as his beloved friend, whom he had accompanied on shore only two days previous to his death; that they had stood on the very spot where his remains were now lying, conversing about religion—the deceased commencing the subject. Many of the officers were much affected during the address. A tombstone was prepared to mark the grave, with the following inscription:—

LIEUT. FREELAND, R.M.,
Her Britannic Majesty's ship *Royal George*.

THE BALTIC FLEET.

FUNERAL OF LIEUT. FREELAND, R.M., OF H.M.S. "ROYAL GEORGE."

THE deceased, who was subject to occasional slight fits, died on the 24th ult., it is supposed either in a fit, or immediately after one. On the 25th a signal was hoisted from the Admiral's ship, the *Duke of Wellington*, ordering officers from every vessel in the fleet to attend the funeral, which took place on the 26th, and at one p.m. on that day the boats pushed off quietly, and pulled with a slow and solemn pace to the *Royal George*, where his remains were lying, and at the stern of which they collected as numerously as to extend for some great distance behind her. The four headmost boats contained the guard-band and marines, that were under his charge: the other boats contained blue-jackets, their officers, and marine officers. The solemn silence was broken by the tolling of the funeral bell, it is then that the lion-heart of the sailor quails: war or bloodshed he cares little for, but the loss of a messmate, suddenly cut off in his glory, causes the fibres of the heart to relax. During the tolling of the bell, the coffin was lowered through a port into the foremost boat, covered with the union jack, on which lay the hat and sword of the deceased; and at that moment the British ensign throughout the fleet was lowered half-mast, and kept so till the boats were seen returning from the shore. When the boats left the *Royal George*, and followed

CATCHING COLD IN THE BALTIC.—A private letter from one of the surgeons of the ships in Sir C. Napier's squadron, dated May 3, says that colds and influenza are prevalent, the whole proportion of sick being 1 in 14. Five per cent is considered to be the usual average sick list of ships on service.

THE AUSTRIAN FLAG ON THE LOWER DANUBE.—Lloyd's Company on the Danube sent to ask Sami Pacha, the Commandant of Widdin, if the passage of the river was free for steam transports. The Pacha replied that the Turkish troops would respect the Austrian flag so long as the Austrian steamers did not approach the Wallachian bank; if they did approach, he could promise nothing.

RAILWAYS IN INDIA.—A regiment would occupy six months, or the active season of a year, in marching from Calcutta to Peshawur (1446 miles), whilst by railway it could be carried in from 70 to 100 hours. With the capital at 3 per cent, 15,549 miles of railway might be constructed at £6000 per mile.

were unable to penetrate the ice, and, seeing our steamers bearing down upon them, steaming through all, they decamped, leaving behind the greater number of their floats.

The *Amphion* and *Cruiser* were at too great a distance to intercept them, and they escaped in shore into shallow water, where the steamers could not follow, and luckily for them out of range of their guns.

The *Amphion* and *Cruiser* then turned their attention to the barque, which lay embedded in a large field of thick ice, almost broadside on. They steamed full power direct for it, cutting and crushing the ice by the force of the screw. After a little manœuvring, they made a complete passage for the prize, which they towed out in triumph. It proved to be the Russian barque *Caroline*, from Portugal to Riga, laden with salt. They had already been four weeks in their late unpleasant position, drifting here and there with the ice. Their being made a prize of did not affect them much—in fact, they were rather pleased than otherwise, as their provisions and water were nearly expended, and most likely they would then have been starved; for such is the cupidity of the owners, that they would not have incurred the expense of steamers to cut the ice, but have forced them to wait in the bay until it broke up. After she was extricated, she was towed into open water.

At daylight next morning the *Amphion* and *Cruiser* weighed, and stood in towards the entrance of the Dwina to reconnoitre. The roads were pretty free from ice, but there was no shipping of any kind. In the river there were several small vessels, and some steamers with their steam up. The mouth of the Dwina is defended on the left bank by two forts; and on the right bank there is a large fort, newly built, with two tiers of guns. It was a beautiful morning, the sun shone brightly, gilding the towers of Riga, and reflecting millions of beautiful colours from the icy bay. The whole coast was lined with soldiers—three thousand of infantry and cavalry. Nothing broke the dead stillness except the splash of the lead or the boom of an occasional gun fired from the fort on the left bank. The steamer did not return their fire, being out of range. On their way back they took another Russian vessel, and sent both from Faro Sound on to England. It must have been very galling for the Russians to be forced to see two small English men-of-war doing as they pleased in the bay of their first commercial city.

FUNERAL IN THE BALTIC FLEET.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, MAY 28.—Sunday after Ascension Day. Wm. Pitt born, 1756.
MONDAY, 29. King Charles II. restored, 1660.
TUESDAY, 30.—Alexander Pope died, 1744. General Peace, 1814.
WEDNESDAY, 31.—Anna Boleyn crowned, 1533.
THURSDAY, June 1.—Action between *Chesapeake* and *Shannon*, 1813.
FRIDAY, 2.—Gordon Riots commenced, 1780.
SATURDAY, 3.—Oxford Term ends. William Harvey died, 1657.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE
FOR THE WEEK ENDING JUNE 3, 1854.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday	Friday.	Saturday.
M. h. m. 2 53	A. h. m. 3 10	M. h. m. 3 30	A. h. m. 3 45	M. h. m. 4 14	A. h. m. 4 30	M. h. m. 4 55	A. h. m. 5 10	M. h. m. 5 35	A. h. m. 5 55	M. h. m. 6 15	A. h. m. 6 40	M. h. m. 7 5

THE WAR WITH RUSSIA.

GRAND EXTRA NUMBER

NEXT WEEK, JUNE 3rd, 1854, OF THE

ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS,

In which the following Splendid Engravings will appear:—

A LARGE VIEW OF SEBASTOPOL,

With a DIAGRAM, and most accurate Sketch of all the FORTIFICATIONS in and near the Harbour (TWO-PAGE ENGRAVING). Also,

A PANORAMIC VIEW OF SEBASTOPOL

AND THE ADJACENT COAST (TWO-PAGE ENGRAVING).

Both Illustrations are copied (by permission of the Admiralty) from Drawings made by Lieut. MONTAGU O'REILLY, when H.M.S. *Retribution* boldly entered the Port of Sebastopol, in January last. Also,

ODESSA. THE LATE BOMBARDMENT.

Two Views of the Public Buildings.

ROYAL ARTILLERY FOR THE EAST.

(TWO-PAGE ENGRAVING).

Landing of the Royal Horse Artillery in the Bosphorus (A Page).
The Baltic Fleet in Elgsnabben Bay.
The Post-office on board the *Duke of Wellington* War-steamer.
Fortress of Revel.
Map of the Seat of War in Asia, and the countries between the Black Sea and the Caspian.
Circassians — Two Characteristic Groups.
Kustenjeh, on the Black Sea.
Brass Gun recovered at Sinope, and Fascine Battery. From Drawings by Lieut. M. O'Reilly; and copied by permission of the Admiralty.
A Coffee-house Politician at Copenhagen.

CRONSTADT:

Shipping and Fortifications. Church of the Saviour.
Statue of Peter the Great.

"FRANCE AND ENGLAND." Poetry by CHARLES MACKAY. With Original Music.

PICTURES FROM THE ROYAL ACADEMY EXHIBITION.

A Cabin in a Vineyard .. .. .. T. Uwins, R.A.
An English Homestead .. .. .. R. Redgrave, R.A.
French Lugger running into Calais .. .. E. W. Cooke.
Garibaldi at Rome, 1849 .. .. .. G. H. Thomas.
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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 27, 1854.

We suppose that the *Gazette de St. Petersburg* will speedily inform the barbarian world of Russia, and the civilised world of Europe, that solemn *Te Deums* have been sung in Moscow and St. Petersburg, to praise the Lord of Hosts for the brilliant victory achieved by the Russian navy over the British before Odessa. Whether the unfortunate *Tiger*, instead of being represented as one ship, will be multiplied into a whole fleet, remains to be seen; but Russian mendacity has no limits and no parallel; and we may therefore expect not only that the affair will be grossly exaggerated, but that the fact of the ship being stranded, and in that extremity alone falling an easy prey to her assailants, will be carefully concealed. A demand has been made for the surrender of the unfortunate prisoners taken on the occasion. As might have been expected from the heroes of Sinope, the demand has been refused, and we may, therefore, expect to hear that summary vengeance has been taken upon the city of Odessa, as a renewed attack, consequent upon that refusal, has already commenced.

A report was current during the week that Sir Charles Napier had attacked and captured the fort of Gustaffsvern, at the south-eastern extremity of the Gulf of Bothnia, and that he had made 1500 prisoners. Up to the date of the last authentic intelligence from the Baltic, no such event had occurred. Gustaffsvern and Revel will no doubt fall into our possession as soon as Sir Charles Napier deems it expedient to attack them, for neither of them is able to make an effectual resistance. But a more important object is to be achieved than the capture of fortresses, which only await Sir Charles's leisure to surrender to him. A large portion of the Russian fleet is ice-bound at Helsingfors and Sveaborg, and will, doubtless, make an attempt to escape to Cronstadt as soon as the state of the weather and the water will permit its captains to put to sea. To intercept and capture those ships will, in all probability, be the first great achievement which the Allied squadrons in the Baltic will attempt. In the meantime, the French fleet has been unaccountably retarded in its progress, and Sir Charles Napier remains without its aid. Should it not make its appearance, and if the ice in the Upper Baltic be sufficiently clear to permit the egress of the Russians from Helsingfors, the British Commander will, in all probability, be compelled to commence operations without waiting for the French reinforcement.

In the interval that must elapse before any decisive intelligence of the progress of the war can reach us, either from the Baltic or the Black Sea, or from the pestilential swamps of the Dobrudja, public attention occupies itself with the Austro-Prussian treaty, the stipulations of which have at length been made known. Much disappointment at it has been expressed by many, who, were, perhaps, too sanguine in their anticipations of the immediate alliance of Austria with Great Britain and France; but we think the document, if carefully studied, will be found to bind both Austria and Prussia to the Western Alliance. Its preamble expresses the regret of both Powers at the failure of their efforts for the maintenance of peace, and admits the obligations imposed upon them by the Vienna Protocol, which they signed in conjunction with France and England. The basis of this alliance is declared to be a mutual guarantee to resist any attack upon their respective territories, from whatever quarter it may come. This declaration admits of the interpretation of being as much directed against the Western Alliance as against Russia, and may refer to the contingency that France might, in the progress of the war, attack or invade the Rhenish provinces of Prussia, or that Great Britain and France might lend themselves to projects for the re-establishment of the kingdom of Poland, or for the independence of Hungary or Lombardy. But, notwithstanding the possibility of such an interpretation as regards this particular clause, there is no room for doubt that the treaty in its general bearing applies to Russia alone. On the 8th of April last, the King of Prussia, with a fond and foolish hope that the Czar was still amenable to reason, despatched propositions to St. Petersburg for the evacuation of the Danubian Principalities. In the new treaty between Prussia and Austria, it is stipulated that if an unfavourable answer be returned to this overture, the two Powers will bind themselves to take ulterior measures, to induce the Russian Government to suspend the advance of its armies into Turkey, and to give security for the evacuation of Moldavia and Wallachia. The Austrian and Prussian Governments also agree that the "incorporation" of those provinces with the Russian Empire, or an attempt of the Russian army to cross the Balkan, shall be considered by both of them as a *casus belli*. Exception has been taken to the phraseology in which this determination has been announced; but we think both Powers are sufficiently pledged by such an act, and that sooner or later they will severally adhere to the Anglo-French Alliance. If any doubt could have previously remained upon the subject, it would be removed by the announcement of the new Protocol which has been drawn up at Vienna subsequently to the ratification of the Austro-Prussian treaty, by which the Four Powers fully recognise the treaties concluded between Great Britain, France, and Turkey, and between Austria and Prussia respectively; so that by this document the German Powers express their approval of, and share the responsibility of, the warlike proceedings of the Maritime Powers, from which they had previously kept themselves aloof. Should this report be confirmed, we may anticipate that the war will be as "short and sharp" as the interests of humanity and civilisation can require; and that not all the mendacity of the Czar, and of his functionaries, will much longer be of use in concealing from the Russian people the great fact, that the Czar is friendless and helpless, and certain to be ignominiously as well as speedily defeated. The Count de Nesselrode has already, it appears, been exposed to the outrages of a mob in the streets of St. Petersburg. Possibly it will soon be the turn of the Czar himself to experience the mutability of popular favour, and to find that danger, if not vengeance, awaits him from his own subjects.

The proposition submitted to the House of Commons on Monday was, that the Government be authorised to issue Exchequer Bonds, bearing interest at not less than three-and-a-half per cent per annum, but virtually four, for £4,000,000, at any price and any terms determined upon by the Treasury. The object to be gained by this issue of Bonds is to put the Government immediately into possession of a sum of money equal to that amount, making with the £2,000,000 already raised by Bonds, £6,000,000, in addition to the new taxes. But a large portion of these—most of the increased Income-tax; the Malt and Spirit-duties—will not be received till the end of the present year or the beginning of the next, and the Government requires funds at once to meet the expenses of the war. On almost all occasions, when a large expenditure and new taxation have been voted, money required on the spur of the moment has been raised by loans, generally by Exchequer Bills. On the present occasion, Exchequer Bonds are preferred, which differ from Exchequer Bills, by being issued for a longer period. Exchequer Bills are issued for twelve months, and are then liable to be redeemed by the Government, or returned to it by the persons who have lent money on them, requiring payment—just as the market may make it the interest of one party to call them in, or of the other to pay them in. Practically, however, Exchequer Bills are such a convenient security for bankers and others, and the Government finds so many advantages in borrowing money on them, on lower terms than on any other security, that they are continually renewed, and rarely paid in or paid off. To meet the exigencies of the market, the interest on them is raised or lowered to keep them in circulation, and within the twelvemonth it has been lowered to 1d. per day and raised to 2d. On Wednesday the interest was further raised to 2½d. At present there are about £17,000,000 worth of Exchequer Bills afloat, at £3 7s. 5d. per cent, or 2d½. per day; and as the amount has not unfrequently been, even since the war, more than double this sum, the market would readily absorb £6,000,000 or £8,000,000 more. For many years past, however, it has been laid down as a fixed rule of finance—precisely because a large sum of money can always be readily raised on Exchequer Bills at a low rate of interest, and is, therefore, a great power available in the hands of the Government to meet any emergency—that the amount of them in circulation should, in ordinary times, be kept as low as possible. On this rule the Chancellor of the Exchequer has acted for more than a year. Observing that Railway and other Companies have issued debentures, or bonds, to be redeemed or renewed for a term of years, and the great inconvenience of Exchequer Bills being that the Government is liable, at a period when it is most in want of money, to have them returned to it, instead of money, in payment of taxes, he proposed to borrow money to the extent of £6,000,000 on Bonds, not redeemable in less than four years, and for the redemption of which Government could always prepare, instead of borrowing on an equal amount of Exchequer Bills. He hopes, we believe—and all the nation hopes—that the present war will be a short one; and while, therefore, he keeps in his hand the power of raising more money to meet an emergency by Exchequer Bills, he asked for a loan to be redeemed in not less than six years on Exchequer Bonds. Long before that period arrives he expects that the country will be at peace; and, again diminishing its expenditure and increasing its revenue, will be able to redeem the loan, throwing none of the burden of the war on remote posterity. To his proposition Mr. Baring proposed as an amendment, without suggesting any other mode of raising the money, which is indispensable till the taxes are received, "That it is not at present expedient to authorise any further issue of Exchequer Bonds, with the engagement of repayment within the next six years." The simple question whether it be expedient for the Government to borrow this money on Bonds or not, was made the peg for a very long debate. Mr. Baring, Mr. Malins, Mr. Disraeli, and others, wearied the House and the public by reiterating charges already refuted, and by taunting their adversaries with trifling errors already acknowledged. The House of Commons, sensible of the necessity of the loan, and seeing nothing inexpedient in the mode of borrowing proposed, supported the Government by the large majority of 104, in a House of 476 members, and thus gave its full sanction to the Chancellor's proposition.

Exchequer Bills, we must state, being like large bank notes, bearing interest, are chiefly used by merchants and bankers, who must keep large floating balances of money at their command, and they come very little into the possession of the middle classes. They are not used as a means of investing the savings of men of small capital. Exchequer Bonds being a more permanent security, it is supposed they will be better adapted for the investments of the middle classes, who have, to a large extent, purchased such securities from railways. Mr. Gladstone intended, by substituting Bonds for Bills, to interest a larger class of persons in floating Government Securities, and draw resources for the State from a wider surface. While we praise his intention, we are bound to explain that his failure in raising the first £2,000,000 at the beginning of the month is the consequence of his overlooking some facts. He limited the subscriptions to his Bonds to £1000. By that means he virtually offered the whole loan to large capitalists, and shut out all the little capitalists it was supposed he meant to invite to take a share in it. Only very few of these can have £1000 to put by at once for four or six years. At present, too, as may be known from the state of the Money-market, their resources are deeply engaged; money is much in demand; the Bank has recently again put up its rate of discount, the market is rising; and persons having the command of money will not, now, invest it at four per cent when they can get five-and-a-half, and may probably get six. Again, Railways have no Exchequer Bills; and they could only borrow on Bonds. For the large capitalists compelled to keep banking balances, to whom the Chancellor restricted the loan, Bills always convertible into cash at their full value are a more available security than Bonds; and thus, while the Chancellor can, without the smallest difficulty, borrow £17,000,000 or £20,000,000 on Bills at three per cent, he could not raise £2,000,000 on Bonds at four per cent, or a rate of interest equivalent to four. It is perfectly clear, from the experience of last year and the present year, that the moneyed classes prefer Exchequer Bills to Exchequer Bonds, and take them at a lower rate of interest. The railways have no Exchequer or similar bills, and the competition of Exchequer Bills with Exchequer Bonds, has prevented the success of the latter. If Mr. Baring had moved that it is not expedient to substitute Exchequer Bonds for Exchequer Bills, and that the Government be empowered to issue Exchequer Bills for the additional £4,000,000, and had abstained from all injudicious party attacks, he might have carried both moneyed men and the general public with him. All are ready to grant the Government whatever it may require. He failed, however, and the country have to pay a higher rate of interest for money borrowed on Exchequer Bonds than the Chancellor can borrow it for on Exchequer Bills.

THE COURT.

The Queen held a Drawingroom on Saturday last, at St. James's Palace, in celebration of her Majesty's birthday. The reception included the Royal Family, the whole of the Diplomatic Corps, and a very numerous circle of the nobility and gentry, numbering about 1400.

On Monday Viscount Drumlanrig, Comptroller of the Household, had an audience of the Queen, at Buckingham Palace, to present an address from the House of Commons relative to the embodiment of the militia. Her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert, accompanied by their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, the Princess Alice, Prince Alfred, the Princesses Helena and Louise, Prince Arthur and Prince Leopold, left town the same afternoon for their marine residence, Osborne, Isle of Wight, where the Court arrived shortly before six o'clock.

On Wednesday her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent arrived at Osborne, on a visit to the Queen and Prince Albert.

Her Majesty the Queen has signified her intention of honouring the Marchioness of Bredalbane with a visit, at a grand ball, to be given by her Ladyship, on the 7th of June.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, attended by Lady Anna Maria Dawson and Lord James Murray, left town at eleven o'clock on Wednesday morning, for Osborne, Isle of Wight, on a visit to her Majesty. Her Royal Highness travelled from London by the South Western Railway.

The marriage of the Earl of Durham with Lady Beatrice Hamilton, daughter of the Marquis and Marchioness of Abercorn, took place on Tuesday morning, at St. George's Church, Hanover-square.

We are sorry to announce the alarming illness of the Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor.

HER MAJESTY'S BIRTHDAY was celebrated at Cowes on the 24th. At noon, Royal salutes were fired from Cowes Castle, and the Royal Yacht Squadron-house battery, and the mercantile shipping hoisted their colours, and were dressed on the occasion. At Osborne House, the band of the Royal Marines, from Portsmouth, were present on the ground throughout the day, and performed several pieces. Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent arrived at Osborne on Tuesday afternoon. On Thursday, her Royal Highness the Princess Helena's birthday, the Marine band serenaded her Royal Highness at early morning.

HER MAJESTY'S BIRTHDAY IN DUBLIN.—On Saturday last his Excellency the Lord-Lieutenant entertained the following distinguished party at dinner:—The Archbishop of Dublin, the Lord Chancellor, Lieutenant-General the Right Hon. Sir Edward Blakeney, G.C.B.; the Lord Mayor, Right Hon. the Attorney-General, Captain the Hon. C. Lindsay, A.D.C.; Sir Henry Marsh, Bart.; Sir Duncan Macgregor, K.C.B.; Sir Bernard Burke, Ulster King of Arms; Colonel M'Lachlan, Lieut.-Colonel Larcom, the Provost of Trinity College, Major General Cochrane, the Hon and Very Rev. Dean of St. Patrick's, the Chaplain-General, the Very Rev. Dean of Leighlin, &c.

Criminal proceedings are to be instituted against the Archbishop of Fribourg for abuse of clerical authority in unlawfully disposing of Church property.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

RETREAT OF THE RUSSIANS FROM THE CIRCASSIAN COAST.

Accounts were received at Constantinople on the 15th that the Russians, unable to defend the sea-board of Circassia, had evacuated all their positions from Batoum to Anaps—an extent of 200 leagues. They burned all their own forts, and retired to Kutais, in the interi or

The Circassians came down from the mountains and took possession of all the posts, making prisoners 1500 men, whom they surprised at Sukkum-Kaleh. The Circassians had proclaimed a Provisional Government, under the presidency of a brother-in-law of Schamyl.

BOMBARDMENT OF SILISTRIA.

Accounts from Bucharest of the 21st state that Prince Paskiewitch had crossed the Danube near Kalarasch, and established his headquarters opposite Silistria, which had been closely invested for three days. This is the answer that the Czar gives to the request of Austria and Prussia to withdraw his armies.

Letters from Constantinople of the 15th, state that the Russians were advancing from the Dobrudja, and had cut off all communication between Silistria and Varna, as well as the sea-coast. The Allied armies were in motion, in order to co-operate with Omer Pacha, and form his reserve. One French force was on its way to Adrianople, and another on its march from Gallipoli to Constantinople. The English division of the corps of Light Infantry at Scutari received marching orders on the 14th. It was said the route was for Varna.

THE BLACK SEA.

The *Descartes* left the Sebastopol station on the 11th. The combined fleets were still cruising off that port. There was then so intense a fog that the flag-ships were continually firing guns to inform the rest of the fleet of their position from time to time. No news of the loss of the *Tiger* had reached Constantinople up to the 15th.

DEPARTURE OF THE CHEVALIER BUNSEN.—We are sorry to see that the departure of this diplomatist, who has been so much respected during his stay in England, and who has fallen a victim to the machinations of the Russian party at Berlin, must now be considered final. His Excellency only awaited the arrival of Count Bernstorff from Naples to leave England for Germany; and, on Monday and Tuesday next, the valuable collection of objects of art collected by Chevalier Bunsen at Rome and other cities by which his diplomatic life has been spent, will be disposed of by private sale at the Prussian Legation. No foreign Minister has more endeared himself to a large circle of English friends than Chevalier Bunsen; and this fact, coupled with the peculiar circumstances attendant on his recall, has caused his departure to be regarded with general regret.—*Times*, Friday.

PORTSMOUTH, Thursday Night.—The *Royalist*, 16, Commander Bate, has arrived from the China station. She reports having boarded the *Queen of the South* two degrees north of the Equator, with Sir Charles Hotham on board. She brings no news.

RUSSIAN MOVEMENTS AT GALATZ.—The ship *Cordelia* arrived at Southampton on Thursday, from Galatz, laden with grain. She left Galatz in February last, and the Russians were at that time working night and day in making preparations for blocking up the harbour, to prevent the ingress and egress of vessels. There were a number of merchant ships at Galatz when the *Cordelia* left, and she met a large fleet of merchantmen proceeding to that harbour.

THE "AUSTRALIA" SCREW-STEAMER.—H.M.S. *Meander*, from the Cape station, has arrived at Plymouth, with the *Australia*'s mails. The *Australia* got ashore at Green Point, Table Bay, Cape of Good Hope but got off, without assistance, on the 8th of April, and would sail for London on the 17th of that month. The gold was at the Cape Bank, all safe, and her cargo had been taken out. Little damage had been sustained by the vessel. The passengers remained on board.

DEATH OF ADMIRAL PARKER.—The First Senior Naval Lord of the Admiralty, Vice-Admiral Hyde Parker, died at his residence, Ham, Surrey, on Thursday evening. By this death Captain Michael Seymour (now serving as Captain of the Fleet with Sir Charles Napier) obtains his flag.

NATIONAL TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.—On Thursday night the annual meeting of the members of the society was held in Exeter-hall. A petition was adopted for presentation to Parliament, praying that public-houses should be closed on Sundays.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

COURT-MARTIAL ON THE OFFICERS OF THE "JASPER."—On Monday morning a court-martial was held on board the *Victory* in Portsmouth harbour, to try Lieutenant C. G. Crawley, late commanding her Majesty's steam-vessel *Jasper*, and Mr. Dyer, the acting master of the said vessel, for her loss. Several days were occupied in the inquiry, but the fire of the ship could be traced to no positive cause. She was not constructed for a man-of-war, but a packet, and her internal economy was not of a character to afford the cold deprivation so invariably hazardous to life, the court having heard all the testimony in support of the inquiry, and the opinions of the several officers sworn, came to the conclusion that there was no evidence to show that the *Jasper* took fire; therefore, both Lieutenant Crawley and Mr. Dyer exerted themselves to the utmost to endeavour to extinguish the flames, and did not leave the ship until they considered it dangerous to remain longer. They were, therefore, both fully acquitted of all blame in the loss. The other officers and ship's company were also acquitted.

DEPARTURE OF THE HORSE ARTILLERY.—The 2000-ton screw-ship *Jason*, with officers, men, and horses, of the Royal Artillery, with immense quantities of gunpowder, shot, shell, and heavy battering ord nance, and filled very deep with all descriptions of munitions of war, left Greenhithe, and passed Dover on Sunday morning at eleven o'clock for Constantinople.

STEAM-SHIPS FOR TURKEY.—The principal steam-packet companies connected with the port of Southampton have received an intimation from the Government, requesting them to hold at its disposal, from time to time, all the large steam-ships that can be made available for the conveyance of troops. Every vessel, therefore, not urgently required for the mail service will be offered to the Admiralty. The splendid, new, beautiful new paddle wheel steam-ship, of 1800 tons, and 400-horse power, built on the diagonal principle, arrived at Southampton, on Sunday, from the Thames. After an official trip, the *Tamar* will, it is believed, be despatched with the West India and Mexican mails of the 2nd of June, proceeding to Gibraltar for the transport service, if she should be required. The *Magdalena* is a sister-ship to the *Orinoco*, and capable of carrying 1200 to 1300 men to the East. The *Orinoco* left Southampton on Saturday with the 97th, consisting of 1000 men and 40 officers; she also took out 18 horses, 1000 quarter barrels of ammunition, and 60 tons of provisions. The *Orinoco* was bound for the Mediterranean. The old 97th Regiment was disbanded after the battle of Waterloo, the present one was raised about twenty years since. It was on foreign service thirteen years, and arrived in England from Canada a twelvemonth since.

EMBARKATION OF THE 42ND.—The embarkation of this gallant body of men at Portsmouth commenced soon after one o'clock on Saturday afternoon last. It was scarcely expected that they could embark until Monday, in consequence of a trifling accident to the machinery of the *Hydaspes*, which delayed her some hours at Southampton. She arrived at Spithead about nine on Friday evening, and came into harbour early on Saturday morning; and, having been placed alongside the jetty by her pilot, Mr. Richards, commenced the embarkation of the troops, which received on board the baggage. On Sunday morning at six o'clock the *Hydaspes* went out of harbour, and, without anchoring at Spithead, sailed for her destination. This fine regiment goes out about 800 strong, with 14 horses.

EXPERIMENTS IN WAR ROCKETS.—A new experiment is now being tried by Colonel Jones, R.E., with a view of using rockets as a means of defending field-works, and an experienced non-commissioned officer is in daily attendance on the Lines to fire them, and render any information required. Several modes have been tried, and, owing to the satisfactory results, it is understood that one will be adopted.—*Times*. The size used is 3-pounders, and it is stated that they will be more effective than infantry in clearing ditches of an enemy when fired from loop-holes and other available places.

TROOPS FOR GREECE.—The 46th (replacing the 97th, ordered to Canada), 63rd, 21st, 20th, and 34th Regiments, and 1st battalion of Rifles, now forming the reserved divisions, are under orders for Greece. The 63rd numbers 1030, and the 21st 1200 rank and file. The company of the 97th Regiment, moved from Armagh to Dublin, has been replaced by a company of the depôt of the 3rd Buffs, from Newry. The company of the former corps, stationed at Cavan, will be removed to Dublin on Monday next.

MINIE RIFLES.—It being determined to issue the Minié rifle not only to the Infantry regiments of the line, but also carbines on the same principle to the Cavalry, with the exception of the Lancers, the officers of Ordnance have been very actively engaged during the past week in issuing walnut-wood stocks in the rough to the manufacturer.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

A PRIVATE bereavement may become a public benefit. The late Lord Colborne, who lost his only son in 1846, has now, bequeathed his pictures to the nation. The collection was small, but choice—chiefly of the Dutch, Flemish, and English schools. We acquire, by this bequest, two more Rembrandts, in Rembrandt's happiest mood; an excellent Vandyck; and that last masterpiece of Wilkie before he took to Spain and the Holy Land, "The Parish Beadle." As it is essentially desirable in the formation of a *British* National Gallery, that our own school should be perfectly represented, we congratulate the country on its possessing the best Wilkie of his earliest period, "The Blind Fiddler," and the best Wilkie of his latest period, "The Parish Beadle."

Artists may shortly expect to see another accession of moment to the treasures of the National Gallery; the Trustees, with the consent of the Treasury, having purchased for £2800 certain pictures, of merit we are assured, from Kerr Krüger, of Minden, in Hanover. While on the subject of the National Gallery, we may mention that Government is about to appoint a salaried Director to the Gallery. The present head-officer under the Trustees is entitled Keeper, and his salary is only £300 a year; a very insufficient remuneration, as Lord Aberdeen observed, for the responsible duties attached to the office. Mr. Uwins, the present Keeper will, it is said, retire—not from inefficiency, but from age; and the salary of the Director (who has not yet been named) will be, we are told, £1000 a year.

That very able architect (in Gothic), Mr. Scott (late Scott and Moffatt), has just written what we will call in many respects an admirable letter to Sir William Molesworth, on the subject of the Royal Monuments in Westminster Abbey. Sir William has thought so well of the letter, that, in his capacity of First Commissioner of Works, he has not only printed Mr. Scott's letter, but has publicly undertaken to ask Parliament for £2500 to carry out Mr. Scott's views. There is much that Mr. Scott urges in which we entirely agree; but we would hesitate to entrust the restoration of such monuments to a mere architect. Sir William should nominate a Committee of Superintendence; and we would venture to suggest that, before Parliament accedes to the grant, a committee of architects, antiquaries, sculptors, and authors should be appointed, to decide what to touch, and what not to touch—where to begin, and where to leave off. We shall watch this matter.

The Talfourd Testimonial has been left (from no indifference, whatever, on the part of literary men) to the Oxford Circuit; and a bust of the author of "Ion" will be erected, during the present year, in the church of Stafford. Talfourd was born (it is said) at Stafford, received the first news of his elevation to the bench at Stafford, and died on the bench at Stafford.

It is a rare thing, indeed, to find an architect keep within his estimate. Mr. Pennethorne had this character, but he is about to lose it, for he requires, we observe, for the Public Record Office, £10,000 over and above his estimate of £45,280. This additional expense has been occasioned, we are told, by "the expensive character of the fittings, and the rise which has taken place in the value of labour and materials." Mr. Pennethorne must push on, for he has not only exceeded his money estimate, but the period of completion.

Government has printed, during the present week, the Report of Sir William Hooker, relative to the Royal Gardens, at Kew. The Report is dated the 5th of April, and we are told by Sir William that, during the past year, the principal additional features in the Gardens has been the formation of a fountain in the ornamental water, the completion of the new Victoria house, and of the medical department, and the accession to the museums (presents both—we English are, indeed, public-spirited) of the herbarium, or hortus siccus, of the late Dr. Bromfield, of East Mount, Isle of Wight, and of the herbarium and library of our late distinguished botanist, Mr. Bentham. The great want at the Gardens, Sir William assures us, is "more large green-houses for tall trees—confined especially—such are wanted for want of space."

Sir Charles Barry is to have made over to him (if Parliament consents) £141,294, for expenditure on the new Houses of Parliament during the year ending 31st March, 1855. He is to spend his money chiefly on what builders call carcase work; viz, on the Victoria Tower, the Peers' front towards Henry VII.'s Chapel, the Central-hall, and the Speaker's residence. The Queen's Robing-room is to be enlarged to eighty square feet; and Mr. Dyce is to have £800 additional for his legend of King Arthur—the enlargement of the room requiring certain alterations in his designs.

Mr. Panizzi, when he has his own way, can do with Chancellors of the Exchequer what no other librarians or keepers can accomplish. He is to have £61,000 for the erection of a building within the interior quadrangle of the British Museum, "for the purpose of affording increased accommodation;" and £25,000 "for cases and all other fittings." We have already alluded to Mr. Panizzi's ingenious design, and look forward, in common with the public, to the extinction of two public evils now existing in his rooms—the Museum flea, and the Museum headache.

The maps of the Royal Geographical Society are, as may be supposed, among the most important to be seen in this country. But who can see them? The Fellows of the Society are unable to see them with anything like ordinary comfort, for the Society has no decent apartment for either its meetings or its maps. Government has, at last, listened to the repeated memorials of the members, and Parliament is to be asked for £500 a year to enable the Society to exhibit to the public, free of charge, their valuable collection of maps. A condition is very properly attached to the grant—the Society is to report to Parliament from year to year the number of visitors that have inspected the maps, and to supply at the same time a general account of the expenditure of the grant.

The result of the spiriting away of the statue of George II. from Leicester-square has been that the Chief Commissioner of Works has taken (as we have already had occasion to chronicle) certain of the London statues under his particular care. He has begun with Charles I., at Charing-cross, and has laid an estimate before Parliament for "restoring the pedestal and repairing the statue." The amount of the estimate is £1000. Now, as this is more than sufficient for a pedestal new in every part, and for all that a bronze statue can require to have done to it, we would suggest (if the pedestal must be touched in our time) that the old pedestal be removed, in its integrity, to Hampton-court-gardens—there to moulder away, beautiful in its very decay. Mr. Scott's new masonry will never be surrounded with associations of the same nature as now surround that mouldering pedestal.

Martin's water-colour drawings sold, on the whole, well, considering that they were not in the style by which he acquired his reputation The highest sum was obtained for the "Manfred"—fifty-five guineas. As Turner's are now selling too high, so Martin's are now selling too low.

We have to correct an error into which we fell in our last week's notice of the late Mr. Clint. Mr. Alfred Clint assures us (and we have no doubt of the fact) that his father had not pursued his profession for the last three years, the rules of the Artists' Annuity Fund requiring superannuated members (and the late Mr. Clint was a member) to relinquish art as a profession. The "Falstaff" picture was the lengthened amusement of a veteran in art, no longer able to pursue the calling in which he had become distinguished.

It is not our fault that we have nothing to say about literature. New publications are almost wholly confined to books about Turkey and the Seat of War. Even old booksellers are raking up their old stock for books about Russia; and an adventurous publisher announces the travels into Russia of old Tradescant, who lived in Lambeth in the reign of Charles I.—was one of the earliest English collectors of things curious—and whose collections formed the original of the Ashmolean Museum at Oxford.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,

TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, MAY 25.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer: Highest Reading	Thermometer: Lowest Reading	Mean Temperature of the Day	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
	Inches.	°	°	°	°			Inches.
May 18	30.202	64.4	35.6	50.2	— 3.2	57	N.E.	0.00
„ 20	30.144	70.0	36.0	54.4	+ 1.0	60	S.W.	0.00
„ 21	29.836	65.9	43.9	54.0	0.0	75	S.W.	0.01
„ 22	29.434	63.2	43.0	51.0	— 0.3	78	S.W.	0.12
„ 23	29.486	63.1	47.1	51.9	— 2.6	80	W.	0.34
„ 24	29.648	66.3	41.4	51.1	— 3.7	74	S.W.	0.01
„ 25	29.776	61.8	40.0	51.7	— 3.3	89	W.S.W.	0.00

Note.—The sign — denotes below the average, and the sign + above the average.

The corrected reading of the barometer decreased from 30.20 inches at the beginning of the week to 29.45 inches by the 22nd, and increased to 29.78 inches by the end of the week. The mean for the week, at the height of 82 feet above the level of the sea, was 29.73 inches.

The mean temperature of the week was 52.5°, being 1.8° below the average of the corresponding week during thirty-eight years.

The range of temperature during the week was 34.4°, being the difference between the lowest reading of the thermometer on the 19th, and the highest on the 20th.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 23.1°. The greatest was 34°, on the 20th; and the least 14.2° on the 22nd.

Rain fell during the week to the depth of half an inch nearly.

The weather on the 19th, 22nd, 24th, and 25th was fine, and the sky tolerably free from cloud; during the rest of the week the sky was cloudy, and the weather dull.

Lewisham, May 26th, 1854. JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—Within the week ending May 20th, the births of 886 males, and of 803 females were registered. The averages of the same week in the nine preceding years were 719, and 696 severally. The deaths registered within the same period was 1183, showing a considerable increase, and exceeded the average of the same week, derived from the preceding ten years, corrected for increase of population, by 135. This increase chiefly arises from epidemic diseases, which number 301 deaths, while the corrected average is 212.

SANITARY CONDITION OF THE METROPOLIS.—A very numerous and influential deputation from the inhabitants of Lambeth waited upon Viscount Palmerston, Secretary of State for the Home Department, by appointment, at the Home-office, Whitehall, on Monday afternoon, for the purpose of soliciting his Lordship's interference with regard to the arrangements of the projected London Necropolis and National Mausoleum Company, who had obtained possession of nine of the arches of the London and South-Western Railway, between the Waterloo and Westminster-roads, for the purpose of depositing the corpses, prior to their removal by the company by railway to their cemetery at Woking-common; those arches being situated in the most thickly-populated part of Lambeth, and consequently having a great tendency to endanger the public health. Several members of the deputation—which consisted of Mr. William Williams, M.P. for Lambeth, Mr. Churchwarden Stratton, Mr. Churchwarden Plews, Mr. Churchwarden Gray, Mr. R. Taylor, Mr. Pursey, Mr. Bryon, Mr. King, and about twenty other highly respectable inhabitants—having stated their views, Lord Palmerston said he had no power to interfere in the matter. He promised, however, that he would confer with the authorities of the South-Western Railway Company, and see what could be done in the matter, after hearing what the railway company had to say.

NEWSVENDERS' BENEVOLENT AND PROVIDENT INSTITUTION.—The 15th annual general meeting of this excellent institution was held on Monday night, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street; Mr. Wild, of Cathedine-court, in the chair. The meeting was called to the lamented death of the late James Harmer, Esq., the late president, and to the circumstances attending the communications held by the committee with Mr. Charles Dickens, who had kindly consented to be put in nomination as president, in the room of the late Mr. Harmer. The accounts of receipts and expenditure showed an expenditure of £39 8s. 8d., leaving a balance against the society of £5 4s.; but since the balance had been made up a sum of £10 7s. net, arising from a benefit at Sadler's Wells Theatre, had been received; so that, instead of a balance due to the treasurer, the funds were thus benefited to the extent of some £5 3s. The report was agreed to, several resolutions were carried, a new pensioner admitted, and Mr. Charles Dickens was elected as president with acclamation.

ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.—This society held its annual meeting on Monday evening, at Exeter-hall, under the presidency of the Earl of Shaftesbury; who was supported by Sir Fowell Buxton, Mr. Joseph Sturge, Mr. G. W. Alexander, the Rev. Dr. Massie, the Rev. Dr. Hewlett, the Rev. Thomas Binds (of Jamaica), the Rev. R. Burgess, the Rev. William Owen, the Rev. S. R. Ward, &c. The noble chairman was labouring under indisposition, and, without making a preliminary address, called upon the secretary, Mr. Chanceuzy, to read the report. That document gave a detailed account of the efforts made in various countries during the past year for the suppression of slavery. The balance-sheet stated that at the commencement of the year there was a deficit of £178. The receipts for the year amounted to £800, and the expenditure to £766, leaving a present balance due to the treasurer of £321. The meeting was then addressed by Sir F. Buxton, the Rev. R. Burgess, the Rev. Dr. Hewlett, and other gentlemen; and resolutions were adopted condemnatory of slavery in all its forms, and pledging the meeting to oppose it by all the moral means in its power.

METROPOLITAN IMPROVEMENTS.—The following votes for metropolitan improvements appear in the Miscellaneous Estimates:—Battersea Park, £25,000; Chelsea Embankment, £35,000; Land at Kensington Gore, £37,500; Burlington House, Piccadilly, £140,000.

GLASS-PAINTING.—An elaborate and beautifully-designed stained-glass window is now on view on the premises of Messrs. Ballantine and Allen, at Edinburgh. It was designed by Mr. John Thomas, the well-known sculptor of the new Palace at Westminster. This magnificent work of decorative art will shortly be presented by Mr. Peto, M.P., to his Majesty the King of Denmark, and is intended for the altar window of the Chapel Royal at Frederickburg. The upper portion has fifteen upright compartments, in the centre of which is a figure of our Saviour as the Good Shepherd. In the upper central compartment the Dove is seen descending amid golden rays, surrounded by clouds; while the lower central and the dexter and sinister lights contain medallion heads of the Apostles, with deep blue backgrounds, surmounted by their emblems, and surrounded with richly dispersed and ornamental work in various colours. The other compartments contain groups of the Apostles, and Angels bearing scrolls, with quotations from the New Testament. The sinister portion of the window is filled with heraldic emblematic and national devices. The central light contains a likeness of the King of Denmark in white enamel on a ruby ground, surmounted with a laurel wreath. The Royal arms of Denmark, environed with the ensigns of the order of Danebrog and of the Elephant, are also introduced with excellent effect. The national motto Gud hjelpe Danes, with the State sword and sceptre, are also most effectively given.

THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.

WE have already given a copious notice of this Exhibition; and now present our readers with Engravings from two of the most attractive genre pieces contained in it. Carl Haag's "Tyrolese Composer," is an able and striking performance, full of character, and admirably complete in all matters of detail. The mountaineer is seated on a bench, in the open air, with his instrument upon his lap, upon which he is inditing some new strain; his upturned eye showing that he is deep buried in reverie. The proportions of the figure denote the presence of energy and health, and the face is full of manly character. The colouring is luminous.

"MEIN VÖGLEIN" ("MY LITTLE BIRD").

PAINTED BY H. WARREN.

EXHIBITED AT THE NEW SOCIETY IN WATER-COLOURS.

THIS charming little picture forms one of the most attractive features of the present Exhibition of the New Water-Colour Society, and does equal credit to Mr. Warren's fancy and delicate, graceful pencil. It represents a Rhenish peasant girl standing in the bright morning air, near the porch of the old paternal home, carrying a pet bird upon her finger, which she addresses affectionately, "Mein Vöglein." The figure is admirably simple and natural, and the face, a pretty one, full of innocent, happy expression. The landscape and all the various rustic objects introduced are well selected, and give life and reality to a very pleasing subject. The colouring is luminous, genuine in tone, and full of variety.

We take this opportunity to make honourable mention of the very meritorious landscape pieces by Fanny Steers, which we accidentally omitted doing in our former notice.

"A TYROLESE COMPOSER."—PAINTED BY CARL HAAG.—EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.
(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

"MEIN VOGLEIN" ("MY PRETTY LITTLE BIRD.")—PAINTED BY H. WARREN.—EXHIBITION OF THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS. (SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

"HOME REVISITED."—PAINTED BY A. HANKLEY.—EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

"SCENE FROM 'FAUST.'"—PAINTED BY H. O'NEIL.—EXHIBITION OF THE R...

THE ROYAL ACADEMY EXHIBITION.

THE Royal Academy consists of *forty* Royal Academicians, *twenty* Associates, and *six* Associate Engravers. Of the forty, *thirty* are painters, *six* are sculptors, and *four* are architects. Other subdivisions may be admitted—thus, of the thirty, *six* are professed portrait-painters, viz., Gordon, Grant, Pickersgill, Chalon, Knight, and Ross; *six* are professed landscape-painters, viz., Stanfield, Roberts, Lee, Creswick, Redgrave, and Witherington; *four*, whatever they once were, are now nonentities, viz., Cook, J. J. Chalon, Jones, and Ward. The remaining members it is easier to name than class; we shall, however, try to group them according to their estimation by the public—Sir E Landseer, Mulready, Leslie, Eastlake, Maclise, Frith, Webster, Herbert, Dyce, Cope, Uwins, Hart, C. Landseer, and Cooper.

All the portrait-painters and all the landscape painters are contributors to the present Exhibition; three of the four nonentities send—the exception being that continual exception, Mr Richard Cook (we wish we could change him for E W Cooke) Of the six sculptors four contribute—the absentees being Sir Richard Westmacott and Mr. Gibson, while of the fourteen we have enumerated, commencing with Landseer and ending with Cooper, all contribute—Mr. Herbert and Mr. Dyce, two of the very best, excepted.

Of the twenty Associates, eighteen are contributors. This is quite as miscellaneous a class as the general body of members. We have one architect, and an able one (Mr Sydney Smirke), two sculptors (Mr. Foley and Mr. Weekes), three portrait-painters (Hollins, Thorburn, and Boxall); and four out of doors: whom we shall enumerate much in the order [illegible] Cooper, Danby, Elmore, Frank Stone, Ward, Millais, E. W. Cooke, [illegible], Goodall, Hook, Patten, Poole, and Pickersgill. All the twenty, with two exceptions (Mr. Millais and Mr. Elmore) are exhibitors.

Of the six Associate Engravers it is almost needless for us to speak; the country is well aware that the narrow-spirited laws of the Academy [illegible] the very first excluded the best engravers from even contend[illegible] [illegible] The Exhibition is mainly supported by the sixty six we believe, with the public, that the nine hundred distinction as that of an A E R A.

It is said by the forty, the twenty, and entitled to disagree with the Academy that such is shown to the fifteen hundred and thirty-one works of art composing this present Exhibition, yield a lion's share to the shilling collection of June 1st at the end of the season It would be difficult to portion out the particular schools of art that contribute most to the treasury. Sir Edwin Landseer is, perhaps, the largest single [illegible] painters, we conceive—though portrait painting in England stands [illegible] encouraged—earn, as a class, the largest number of shillings; the landscape painters honourably serve to sell the funds, the pre-Raphaelites do their part more extensively than some suspect, while we may safely assert that the shilling received on account of the sculpture cell and the octagon dark chamber would hardly pay for the extra police attendance at the doors.

Our Engravings this week have been selected to represent two popular painters without the pale of the Academy Mr. O'Neil and Mr. Hankley. One deals in poetic and Scriptural subjects with no common hand, and the other catches every-day life with an eye like Wilkie or Webster.

Mr O'Neil has found his subject (No 249) in Goethe's great work—that noble volume of poetry which it has been the ambition of so many to render

[illegible] much as his style is what everybody under-

into English, and of which it is not too much to say that Mr. Charles Kean has just succeeded in robbing of every poetic beauty. Who does not know the story of Marguerite, and the incident which Mr. O'Neil has sought to embody?—

(MARGARET *gathers a star-flower, and plucks off the leaves one after another.*)

Faust.—A nosegay, may that be?
Margaret.—No; 'tis a game.
Faust. How?
Margaret.—No! You laugh at me.
(*She plucks off the leaves, and murmurs to herself.*)

What Mr. O'Neil has attempted to do he has done. He has entered into Goethe's meaning, and wrought with a graceful pencil and a most delicate conception of the poetry of the passage.

Mr. Rankley's "Home Revisited" (No. 62) reminds us, in subject at least, of Mr. Millais' "Release;" but never were two subjects, so like in earnest simplicity, executed on such different principles. Mr. Millais' was a prison scene; Mr. Rankley's is a garden scene. He professes to have found his subject in Shakspeare:—

As a long-parted mother with her child
Plays fondly with her tears, and smiles in meeting,
So weeping, smiling, greet I thee, my home.

This picture may be looked upon as a kind of supplement to the picture by Mr. Solomon—"Second-Class: the Parting"—where we see a boy leaving for the sea. Here we have his return; and what a touching bit of English life has Mr. Rankley painted. The Middy has returned—the coach that brought him to his home is seen, still deeply laden, winding its way along a pleasant English lane—the father sees after the luggage—he has already welcomed his son, and has left his boy to his mother and his sisters. This fine picture will recall a tear to many eyes.

We shall conclude our observations of this week with a few words on the miniatures, a branch of the fine arts in which the English excelled before they obtained distinction in any other style of painting. We had a Hilliard and an Oliver when we were borrowing Holbein and Vandyck, and a Hoskins and Cooper when we were borrowing Lely and Kneller.

The first place is due to Sir William Ross, not by age alone, but by merit. His group of the "Princesses Helena and Louisa, with Prince Arthur," is very happily arranged and very happily carried out, full of his delicate arrangement and refined touch of pencil. His female portraits are better than his male. We prefer his "Duchess of Sraabant" (791), and his "Miss Isabella Cresswell" (838), to his "Mr. Arkwright" (770). If it cannot be said this year of Sir William Ross that he has outdone his other doings, it may be safely asserted that he has maintained all his well-earned reputation.

After the Royal Academician we will place the Associate and rival, Mr. Thorburn, who is less ambitious of large treatment than heretofore. He is content for a time to view people as they appear, without throwing them into *Turnpike* backgrounds and Raffaelesque positions. What matronly beauty is observable in the "Countess of Carlisle" (787)—what female delicacy in "Lady Mary Labouchere" (804). Nor can we allow his "Lady Jane St. Maur Stanhope" (806), or his "Lady Sebright" (842), to pass without a word of approbation. His "Earl of Airlie" (805) is the best of his male portraits.

Mr. Carrick has long been favourably before the public as a miniature painter, and we are bound to commend his portraits of "Mr. Gambart" (876) and of "Joseph Ferguson, Esq., M.P." (726). He has caught the eager look of Mr. Gambart, and the intelligent expression of Mr. Ferguson.

We must repeat our renewed admiration of "Lady Mary Cholmondely" (768), by Mr. H. T. Wells. It is one of the most successful miniatures in the room.

Mr. Gullick is not a new name to us or to the public as a miniature painter, but we have seldom seen him to such advantage. His two "Ladies" (689 and 759) are well designed, and well painted; and 800 is carefully conceived and carried out. His two remaining miniatures—and they are among his best—represent a boy, "Master Green" (740) and an "Antiquary" (836). The boy is, of course, very differently employed from the F.S.A.: he is thinking of days to come; while the antiquary is creaming of old London, old London booksellers, and of Dorking as it appeared at least thirty-five years ago.

MUSIC.

The management of the Royal Opera at Drury-Lane continues to be carried on with much activity and great apparent success. The directors have put another iron in the fire. They have begun to give English operas on a large scale properly, operas in English, in addition to the alternation of operas in Italian and German with which they set out. For this purpose they are forming an English company, which already includes Mr. and Mrs. Sims Reeves, and is, we understand, to be further strengthened by the addition of other eminent performers. With the strength thy already possess they gave their first English performance on Monday last. It consisted of Auber's "Fra Diavolo," already familiar to the public in its lyrical dress. It has always been exceedingly popular in this country; and the bandit hero of the piece was one of Braham's favourite parts in the latter days of his theatrical career. It deserves its popularity, for the drama is a happy mixture of the romantic with the comic, and the music is not only gay and brilliant, but full of genius and masterly skill, entitling Auber to the praise of being, next to Rossini, the most delightful composer of comic operas now living. The performance on Monday evening was excellent. The captivating robber has always been one of Reeves's best parts; he acts it admirably, and the beautiful music is quite suited to his voice and style. Mrs. Reeves is an accomplished musician, and, in addition to her vocal attainments, is an intelligent actress. Her *Zerlina* was acting and pleasant, and she sang exceedingly well. Mr. Weiss is now acknowledged to be the first of our English basses, and is also an actor of merit. He gave the eccentricities of the English traveller, *Lord Allcash*, with much humour; and his voice and firmness conduced greatly to the effect of the fine concerted music. Mrs. Weiss looked and acted *Lady Allcash* to perfection; and her singing wanted only greater certainty of intonation to be quite satisfactory. The opera had the advantage of a stronger orchestra and chorus than it has ever had in this country; and the performance was carefully and ably conducted by Herr Lindpaintner. The house was crowded, and the piece was received with the warmest applause. On Tuesday, "Don Giovanni" (or, more properly, "Don Juan," such being the German title of the opera) was produced with great magnificence and unbounded success. The strength of the company had been greatly increased by the addition of Herr Pasque and Madame Rudersdorff, who appeared in the two principal characters; the others being sustained by performers whom we have already had occasion to mention. Herr Pasque, from the Darmstadt opera, is an artist of merit; and his representation of the character of *Don Juan*, though by no means faultless, was, upon the whole, worthy of praise. Madame Rudersdorff, who enjoys the highest reputation in Germany, both as an actress and singer, gave a beautiful representation of *Donna Anna*. She is, indeed, a singer of the highest class. Her voice, naturally powerful, as well as sweet, has received all the cultivation which art can bestow, and is capable of every variety of expression—from simple tenderness to the utmost intensity of passion. The part of *Elvira* seldom falls into competent hands; but it fell to that from the first violent state of feeling, he rushes into the boy's arms, and welcomes him home with enthusiastic fervour. *Blanche* and *Matilde* are soon made acquainted with the happy news; but such a sudden surprise to the mother would kill her with unexpected joy. They have accordingly to prepare her mind by a feigned story of a neighbour having recovered a son long supposed to be lost. The point is attained. *Adrien* comes from his hiding-place, and receives his mother's blessing and embraces. Throughout this affair, the most beautiful domestic sentiment prevails; and the diction is every where elegant; not without humour either, in *Noel's* description of the absent boy's infant tricks, which relieved the more melancholy tone with occasional provocations not only to smiles, but laughter. Acted as on Tuesday evening, it was, by four or five first-rate performers, the action was so fully and finely interpreted by each, that the utmost satisfaction was manifested by the house. The applause at the conclusion was extreme; and the objects of it were more than once summoned to receive the evening's ovation.

Philharmonic Rooms.—On Tuesday evening Captain Wilton read, in this new lecture-hall, the tragedy of "Virginius," in aid of the Fund for the Soldier's Wives and Children. His reading was gentlemanly and intelligent, nor unaccompanied with appropriate passion and gesture. During the evening, also, there were some occasional songs and music, by which the entertainment was varied and enlivened. We could have wished that a fuller room had rewarded these benevolent efforts.

THE THEATRES.

Haymarket.—A new drama, freely adapted by Mr. Planché from the French of MM. Granger and De Montessin, was produced on Saturday last. The title of the original is "Des Chevaliers de Lansquenet;" that of the English version, "The Knights of the Round Table." The knights in question are a band of ruffling, seeking adhans with the aristocracy for the purpose of directing its wealth into their own treasury. Their leader is one *Captain Cowus*, repres nted by Mr. G. Vandenhoff, whose remarkable coolness was very effective. His project is to entangle *Leonard D'Arcy* (Mr. Howe), who has come to London and spent his half-sister's property, and also furtively disposed of the claimant in her childhood—spreading the report of her death—by making him the confederate of his plans. The success in this design—for he knows that the lady in question still lives, under the name of *Perdita*; and, having escaped from the gipsies to whom she had been sacrificed, is in London seeking information of her parentage, to which her possession of a seal, with armorial bearings, furnishes a clue. She had been protected by a *Lady Boodle*, and won the heart of her son, *Ralph*; but, not wishing to degrade him by an alliance with a gipsy girl, honourably avoids his presence. *Sir Ralph Boodle* (Mr. W. Farren) comes up to London to see life, and seeks to be introduced into society by *D'Arcy*, who prepares to sacrifice him to the fraternity of "Knights," taking himself half the profits of the adventure. *Sir Ralph* is soon in the toils—arrested for his Jacobite principles, and involved in a quarrel with *General Grantley* (Mr. Chippendale), who, having met *Perdita* in the street, is struck with her resemblance to her mother, whom he had loved in his youth. A duel is concocted; and the sharpers and their victim await the General on Hampstead Heath—who comes, indeed, not to fight a duel, but to produce *Perdita*, and expose the plans of the sharpers. Such is the simple outline of the plot; but in the filling-up there is much complexity and ingenuity. First of all there is one *Tom Tittler* (Mr. Buckstone), who gets his living by horn-blowing and fencing, though born a gentleman and bred a soldier, who has love affairs on hand both with *Perdita*, and a neighbour, *Peggy Popplin* (Mrs. Fitzwilliam). The latter, *D'Arcy* wishes to substitute for his missing sister, in order to defeat the claims of *Perdita* and the efforts of *General Grantley*. This attempt brings *Tom Tittler* and *D'Arcy* acquainted, and leads on the part of the former to a fatal interference with the plans of the latter. He, for instance, gets admittance, by way of the chimney, into an apartment where *Perdita* is imprisoned, for the purpose of being forcibly married by a Fleet parson to a serviceable scoundrel, one *Snuffle* (acted by Mr. Compton), whom he disarms by means of a poker, and thus effects the liberation of the fair victim. This *Snuffle* has been selected for the purpose by *Cosens* on account of the clever manner in which he had cheated the landlord of Lockitt's coffee house out of a sumptuous dinner. The weight of it lies with Mr. Buckstone, Mr. Vandenhoff, and Mr. Howe; the levity of it with Mr. Compton; and the episode at Lockitt's, a short part, all essence, concentrated and irresistible. The female characters are not remarkably effective; but Miss Reynolds had one telling scene in the r om in which she was confined; and Mrs. Fitzwilliam, as a dressmaker apprenticed by the parish, regarding on her character, which, by the machinations of *D'Arcy*, is ruined, was sometimes interestingly situated. Some clever arrangement of the incidents is also deserving of praise. That of Mr. Buckstone's horn-blowing, used alike for the wooing of *Peggy*, and the warning of *Perdita*, may claim recognition as an artistic contrivance. Indeed, throughout, the playwright's skill is manifest; and to that the drama is indebted for its success, and which, in all probability, will include a considerable run.

Adelphi.—Mr. Charles Selby has contributed to this stage an adaptation of "Les Filles de Marbre," under the title of "The Marble Heart; or, The Sculptor's Dream." This melo-drama—such it is—consists of four acts, and an introduction: the latter is occupied with the dream, in which Phidias's studio at Athens is supposed to be intruded upon by the artist (Mr. Leigh Murray) and his friend *Gargius*, who claims three statues, representing *Aspasia*, *Lais*, and *Phryne*, which the former has just finished and been paid for, but which, such is his love for them, he would fain keep for his own contemplation. *Diogenes*, who is also present, proposes to refer the decision of the dispute to the statues themselves, who, marble-hearted as they are, turn their faces away from their creator to their purchaser. This vision is supposed to have happened to one *Rapinel*, a sculptor at Paris, whose destiny it prefigures. The artist (Mr. Leigh Murray) meets with a *Mdlle. Marco* (Madame Celeste) and two other ladies at Fontainbleau, in company with his friend *Volage* (Mr. B Webster), a journalist, and, though warned of the consequences by *Volage*, resolutely falls in love with the lady named. The progress of the passion, and regularly uses up the poor infatuated artist, affecting during six weeks the warmest affection, for the purpose of stimulating a wealthy admirer to make an offer. Successful at length, she, then, in the most heartless manner, casts off the astonished *Rapinel*, and returns to the forsaken but mother and an innocent true-hearted girl, one *Marie* (Miss Woolgar), who had loved him. Indignant and desperate, almost mad, a terrible scene of agony takes place between him and the marble-hearted woman of quality, from whom, at length, he tears himself. The latter, however, pursues *Mdlle. Marco* an unexpected sacrifice. Her equally unfeeling companions make her their sport, and affect to believe that it is she who has been rejected by the artist, not he by her; whereupon she wagers to win back his affections. In her first attempt she fails. *Raphael* returns to his studio, designing to work down the past; and is there rejoined by his friend *Volage*, and shortly after by *Marie*, when the terrible truth transpires that his mother, during his long absence, had died of grief. Poor *Raphael* still seeks relief in labour; but a mist swims before his eyes, and his mind wanders. The trial has been too hard for him, and, in a fit of frenzy, he dies. *Mdlle. Marco* comes to win her wager, and finds him a corse. Whereupon the three marble statues of the ladies reappear, and the curtain falls. To Mr. Webster, as the good-hearted journalist, and Mr. Murray, as the over-sensitive artist, too much praise cannot be rendered. They are admirable. Madame Celeste had a difficult part to play in all senses of the phrase, but played it with uncommon success even for her, and with a finish never excelled. In situation and dialogue, the play is diffuse and profuse; but there is significance in the expression and beauty in the sentiment and feeling alive, and interests us to the end in the development of passion and character.

St. James's.—Mdlle. Fix made her first appearance on Monday with M. Regnier, in "Valerie;" and both re-appeared on Wednesday, in the parts of *Mathilde de Percenal*, and the old domestic *Noel*, in the comedy of "La Jeie fait Peur," by Madame Emile de Girardin. This piece, though in one act only, is of extraordinary merit and interest. Mdme. Allen, too, made her début in the character of *Madame de Lussac*. *Blanche* was supported by Mdlle. Luther. No wonder, with so strong a cast, that the theatre was crowded with a brilliant audience. The whole effect of the piece depends upon the skill with which the subject is unfolded. The despondent mother, sunk to prostration, mourns for the supposed death of her son, *Adrien* (M. Leon); nor will be comforted, notwithstanding the sympathy of her daughter *Blanche*, and *Matilde*, her only betrothed. *Noel*, full of hope himself, would inspire hope in others When at length the young man suddenly appears, the excess of his surprise, however, produces a shock which only a good mother heart could sustain. M. Regnier's acting of this situation was superb: when recovered, she sinks into a beautiful state of feeling, he rushes into the boy's arms, and welcomes him home with enthusiastic fervour. *Blanche* and *Matilde* are soon made acquainted with the happy news; but such a sudden surprise to the mother would kill her with unexpected joy. They have accordingly to prepare her mind by a feigned story of a neighbour having recovered a son long supposed to be lost. The point is attained. *Adrien* comes from his hiding-place, and receives his mother's blessing and embraces. Throughout this affair, the most beautiful domestic sentiment prevails; and the diction is every where elegant; not without humour either, in *Noel's* description of the absent boy's infant tricks, which relieved the more melancholy tone with occasional provocations not only to smiles, but laughter. Acted as on Tuesday evening, it was, by four or five first-rate performers, the action was so fully and finely interpreted by each, that the utmost satisfaction was manifested by the house. The applause at the conclusion was extreme; and the objects of it were more than once summoned to receive the evening's ovation.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Monday.

SALARIES OF SCOTCH SCHOOLMASTERS.

The Earl of Aberdeen, in answer to the Duke of Buccleuch, stated that the salaries of schoolmasters in the Scotch parochial schools would now be reduced to a maximum of £27, the bill by which their incomes would have been increased having been rejected by the House of Commons. The Government would, however, at the earliest opportunity, take steps for restoring the schoolmasters' salaries to their former amounts. A bill was in preparation for that purpose.

The Navy Pay Bill and Manning the Navy Bill were respectively read a second time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Monday.

EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS.

Sir J. Graham stated that instructions had been transmitted to Admiral Dundas, enjoining him not to liberate any Russian subjects that might be captured, except under a proper understanding with the Russian authorities respecting the exchange of prisoners. Touching the reported successes obtained by the Count de Raspier, the Government were able to give no definite information, the last official despatches being dated on the 5th instant, when the Commander-in-Chief was only on the point of leaving the coast of Sweden.

COMMITTEE OF WAYS AND MEANS.—EXCHEQUER BONDS.

On the motion for going into Committee of Ways and Means,

Mr. T. Baring complained that the changes which the Chancellor of the Exchequer had introduced into the resolutions that were to be proposed to the committee had debarred him (Mr. T. Baring) from moving the amendment, of which he had given notice, upon the preliminary question.

The Speaker then left the chair, and the House resolved itself into committee.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer briefly explained the situation in which previous votes of the House had left the financial arrangements of the Government. Those arrangements were twofold—first, as existing to the permanent provision of revenue for the public service; secondly, (with regard to the supply of cash for immediate purposes. Decisive votes had been passed authorising the expenditure of money, and formal votes indicating the ways and means by which it was to be raised. He had now to take the opinion of the House on the single question how the ready money that was wanted should be obtained; and this question, he intimated, turned simply upon the narrower alternative whether it was most expedient to resort to an issue of Exchequer Bills, or authenticate the Ministerial project of Exchequer Bonds.

Mr. Disraeli charged the Chancellor with sharp practice. The had asked for certain votes on the plea of administrative convenience and under the pledge that the decision of the House was in no waycommitted upon the principle of the measure; and now these votes were accounted decisive, and the House barred from the possibility of rescinding or even of discussing them.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer explained. The resolutions in questions were wanted—as to the provision of ways and means; order to authorise the revenue officers to take steps for levying the enanced imposts; and, with regard to the floating debt, in order to validate the contracts already opened with subscribers to the new bonds. Ample opportunity, he added, would be afforded for discussing the principles involved in these resolutions when the bills into which they must be embodied came before the House.

Some further complaints were urged and explanations offered on this point. At length the resolution, empowering the Government to issue £2,000,000 of Exchequer Bonds, was put from the chair.

Mr. T. Baring moved his amendment declaring that "it was not at present expedient to authorise any further issue of Exchequr Bonds with the engagement of repayment within the next six years." The hon. member minutely reviewed the dealings of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, since he first took office, with the funded and unfunded debt of the country, and accused him of making many blunders which entangled the public revenue in repeated losses and embarrassments. Adverting to the resolution immediately before them, he remarked upon the danger of borrowing money at short dates, under pledge of repayment at given periods which it might be most inconvenient and expensive to redeem when the time came. The transaction as actually a loan, and should have been boldly announced as such, as contracted upon the most advantageous conditions.

Mr. Wilson vindicated the conduct of the Government with regard to their dealings with Exchequer Bills, the public balance the Bank of England, the Converted Stocks, and other points where blame had been assigned. Passing on to the immediate question, he urged that the choice now before them lay between paying for the war expenses out of revenue, or raising it by loan. He then examined the social characteristics of the proposed Exchequer Bonds, and pointed o many advantages and conveniences which they possessed as the medie for obtaining supplies of ready money.

Mr. Muntz denounced the financial schemes of the Government, exposing the errors they had committed, and enumerating a variety of losses and damages which, as he alleged, they had inicted upon the public.

Mr. Laing encouraged the House in anticipating ess to the new Exchequer Bonds, by setting forth the example of se railway companies. Sixty-four millions sterling were now under an to those companies, who obtained money on their bonds with peet ease, and on most advantageous terms.

Mr. M'Gregor considered that the Chancellor of the Exchequer had been unjustly and unreasonably attacked.

Mr. J. Hadley believed that the proposed pl for raising money was business-like and expedient.

Mr. Disraeli could not treat the question befo them as one merely of detail. It grew out of the general principles i which the present Chancellor of the Exchequer had managed he public finances. These principles he considered to be fallacious from the beginning erroneous. Briefly dwelling upon those earl transactions which had undergone so much discussion, he contend that the reduction of the interest on Exchequer Bills, the conversion of South Sea Annuities, the preparation of a large fund in the face of war, the continuance of the Income-t under a fallacious show of ultimate extinction, the system on which that impost was maintained, the absorption of the old balances, and the tampering with the funds of the Savings' Banks, constituted a series of faults and blunders which no wise or prudent minister would have committed. Out of these blunders our present difficulties had grown. The Chancellor had offered to borrow money at a cent for money, and yet could not get it. He had shown himself incompetent to deal with the *bulls* and *bears*, and had been forced appeal to the *stags* of the Stock Exchange. And now came a last fit for raising a loan in masquerade. The scheme was not sanctioned by precedent, was subject to many inconveniences and dangers, and called upon the committee to repudiate it.

Mr. Gladstone saw no reason for parking into any lengthened vindication of his by some policy. Reeing Mr. Disraeli catalogue of alleged errors, he declared that the duction in the Exchequer-bill interest had turned out profitably the country, and challenged a direct vote on the subject. To the allation that he had brought out a peace budget when war was probable replied by denying the doctrine that to tax should be removed so ng as any interruption of peace seemed possible; remarking, ber's, that the Opposition themselves had incessantly endeavd to accomplish further reductions of taxation, obliging n to engage in constant conflicts for the rescue of various ps of the public income. Declaring that he stood by that Budget, Gladstone acknowledged the loyal spirit in which the country responded to the calls now made on it for increased resources, and attributed the ability to answer those calls in great measure to the ease and sperity derived from judicious legislation in former years. The Chancellor of the Exchequer then detailed the character and the motives the scheme now proposed for obtaining money. Of the seven milli of new taxes lately voted, the greater proportion could not be realized for many months. The Malt-tax would produce little or nothing the winter, and the return from the double income-tax would come in until a yet later period. While the increased resources were so obtained, the outgoings were rapid in their incidence and necessarily certain in their amount. To provide for this interval, and supply a dent margin for that uncertainty, he had asked for leave to issue the Exchequer Bonds, and still insisted, in spite of all criticism, that the ress could not be called a loan, seeing that it would create no additio the permanent debt. With regard to the expediency of the partic description of stock, he admitted that it was novel in form, and ount of its novelty might encounter some difficulties in the City, he contended that the new bonds were likely to be very useful. convenient to all parties, and believed that they were appreciated ng the capitalist classes.

Mr. T. BARING briefly replied. He doubted that the money was really wanted; but if it were so, the market would supply the amount bearing only three per cent interest, and a loan was on many accounts preferable to the proposed bonds.

On a division there appeared—For the resolution, 200; for the amendment, 186: majority for the Government, 104.

The resolution was then agreed to.

The House having gone into committee on the Stamp Act, passed certain resolutions relating to the duty on duplicates of deeds and other documents.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

On the motion of the Bishop of OXFORD, the Episcopal and Capitular Estates Bill was referred to a select committee.

The Common Law Procedure Bill was passed through committee, after some discussion, in which Lord St. Leonards and the Lord Chancellor bore the principal parts.

The Church-building Acts Bill also went through committee.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

MIDDLESEX INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS BILL.

A good deal of time was taken up in the discussion of an amendment by Mr. Mullings to a clause in the Middlesex Industrial Schools Bill. The object of the amendment was to deprive the trustees of the power of directing pub.ic worship to be celebrated in the schools according to the religious persuasion of the prisoners, provided there be a sufficient number of each to justify a separate service. Upon a division, the amendment was rejected by 190 to 108; and the bill was ordered to be read a third time on a future day.

ABOLITION OF CHURCH-RATES.

Sir W. CLAY moved for leave to introduce a bill for the entire abolition of Church-rates. It was admitted on all hands, that the question could not remain in its present state. Upon the justice and the propriety of an adjustment, argument may be said to be exhausted. Since he last addressed the House on this subject two important circumstances had occurred—the decision of the House of Lords in the Braintree case, and the Census report on the subject of Religious Worship. The legal decision went thus far—that to make a Church-rate valid there must be the assent of a majority of the ratepayers present in vestry. Of fifty-eight contests which had taken place, sixteen had determined in favour of the rate, and 42 against it. With regard to a substitute, his conviction was that none was needed. Should the House be of a different opinion, a portion of the available Ecclesiastical funds might be applied to the purposes for which Church-rates have hitherto been demanded. Where Church-rates have been abolished, no want of funds has been felt for keeping the sacred edifices in repair. Christian liberality has been sufficient.

Mr. PETO, in seconding the motion, expressed his gratification at the circumstance of its mover being a member of the Church of England. On the part of the Nonconformists, he disclaimed all hostility to the Establishment. Nothing could afford that body greater pleasure than to witness her prosperity—meaning by the word her effectual reform, and the full development of her vast resources to further the advance of pure and undefiled religion throughout the land.

Mr. WIGRAM opposed the bill. There were places so poor that the churches could never be kept in repair except by means of a rate. The churches were built for the benefit of all, and open to their attendance. They appertained to the national establishment, and should be supported by the nation.

Mr. PACKE confessed that legislation was most desirable on the subject, but could not approve of the present measure.

Captain SCOBELL wished to abolish the Church-rate as such, but would not leave the churches unprovided with special funds for their maintenance. He enforced the expediency of re-distributing the property of the Ecclesiastical Establishment.

Lord STANLEY believed that the country had practically settled the question, and the House should accept it. There were difficulties attending every proposition for providing funds to keep the churches in repair. The system of voluntaryism might not be free from them, but it was the only principle that now could be adopted

Mr. R. PHILLIMORE suggested that all Dissenters should be exempted from the compulsory payment of the rate, upon their making a declaration that they did not attend the church.

Mr. DRUMMOND considered that the abolition of Church-rates was equivalent to robbing the Church. If rates and tithes were abstracted from the Church they should justly belong to the State.

Mr. J. RUSSELL admitted that the present system was attended with many lamentable and scandalous incidents; he dwelt upon the necessity of discovering some fair basis whereon the controversy could be settled before any attempt was made to settle it, then pointed out some of the perplexities that attended the search for such a foundation, and finally recommended that the question should be left unsolved for the present session. He could not consent to withdraw the Church-rate without first providing the fund that was to supply its place. He did not fear that the bill would leave the churches to fall into ruin, but apprehended that, if the present measure were entertained by Parliament, it would tend to diffuse throughout the country an impression that the bond of union between the Legislature and the Establishment was becoming weak.

The House divided—For leave to bring in the bill, 130; against it, 62; majority, 67.

Leave was then given, and the bill brought in.

The Industrial and Provident Societies Bill went through committee.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

PROPERTY DISPOSAL BILL.

The adjourned debate on this bill was resumed by Mr. MALINS, who supported the measure. The inmates of convents avowedly renounced all control over their temporal concerns, and the law could not be accused of going too far, even if it treated them as being civilly deceased with regard to the disposal of property. The bill before the House was simply short of this provision, as it merely cast upon the donees of property from nuns the burthen of proving that the donors had exercised free will in the matter.

Sir J. YORKE regretted to find the promoters proceeding with the bill after the proof they had received of the spirit in which the measure was received in Ireland, and of the animosities it was certain to excite among the Roman Catholic population. He denied that the Government opposed measures like this for the sake of obtaining Roman Catholic support. They resisted them because they were opposed to the fundamental spirit of the Reformation; and being animated by the same feeling, he was confident the House would negative the second reading of the bill.

Sir J. PAKINGTON protested against its being supposed that the supporters of this bill were actuated by a persecuting spirit, or that the provisions of the bill were at all opposed to the principles of toleration established by the Reformation. In the absence of a bill of this nature there was only one alternative for the House to adopt, and that was to revive the law which held nuns to be civilly dead.

Mr. FITZGERALD described the measure as discreditable to its author, being, as it was its present, insulting in its language, and oppressive in its enactments.

After a desultory discussion, in which Mr. George, Mr. Liddell, and Lord Bernard supported the bill, and Mr. Bowyer, Mr. F. Scully, and Mr. J. O'Connell opposed it,

Mr. Serjeant SHEE said the bill in its very nature would be destructive of the objects which the framers of the Emancipation Act desired to promote, for it would enact all the evil which resulted from the old law of civil death without enacting any of its good.

Mr. FREWEN remarked upon some proceedings at recent meetings in Ireland, which he considered a reverse of peaceable or loyal.

Sir J. FITZGERALD and Mr. NAGUIRE opposed the bill. The latter hon. member was still addressing the House, when the Speaker gave warning that the time allowed for discussion had expired. The debate accordingly stood once more adjourned.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

This being Ascension Day, their lordships did not meet.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

Mr. Smith took the oaths and his seat for Hertfordshire, in the place of the late Mr. Halsey, lost in the *Orpheus* steamer a few weeks ago.

THE OATH BILL.

The Sheriffs of London appeared in the bar clothed in their robes of office, and presented a petition from the Court of Common-council in favour of the Oaths Bill.

On the order of the day for the second reading of the Oaths Bill,

Sir R. THESIGER said, there were not doubts in his mind as to the expediency of bringing forward this measure; and the dilatory course pursued by Lord J. Russell in the matter seemed to indicate similar feelings upon the subject. The many were evidently opposed to public opinion: for, looking at the returns of petitions upon the subject, it appeared that the petitions against the bill preponderated greatly over those presented in favour of it. The hon. and learned gentleman proceeded to contrast the speeches of the noble Lord upon, and to question his political consistency, in the matter. The memorable letter of the noble Lord to the Bishop of Durham was chiefly remarkable for a vigorous condemnation of those who Jesuitically attempted to touch the prerogative of the Crown in religious matters. The Ecclesiastical Titles Bill was introduced into the House upon the same principle; and now the noble Lord wished that House to pass the bill, the chief effect of which must be to strike at the supremacy of the Crown, and thus to undermine the fundamental principles of the Constitution. Lord Lyndhurst and other high authorities had truly asserted that the supremacy of the Crown in religious matters was part of the Common Law of the land. Lord John Russell had endorsed that maxim on previous occasions; but he had been compelled to sacrifice those opinions he had professed on the prerogative of the Crown. The Supremacy Oath was the key-stone of the arch of the English Reformation; and all Protestants ought to look with jealousy and suspicion at any attempt to overthrow it, for the purpose of erecting Judaism and Roman Catholicism upon its ruins. The bill now before the House was nothing more than a mutilated and mutilated recognition of the Oath of Supremacy. Under what influence was it that the noble Lord had come forward unsolicited to assist those Roman Catholics, whom he had, on previous occasions, so strenuously opposed? The Roman Catholics had never asked for the proposed change, and the present bill was an unworthy attack of the leader of that House on the religious bulwarks of the country. The hon. and learned gentleman concluded by moving, as an amendment, that the bill be read a second time that day six months.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER defended Lord John Russell from the charge of inconsistency in this matter. The noble Lord had given his pledge in 1846 to introduce a measure for the alteration of the oaths in that House; and it was not until 1847 that Baron Rothschild became connected as a representative with the City of London. He (the Chancellor of the Exchequer) thought that the honourable and learned gentleman had conceded too much to the noble Lord when he said that this bill contained a maimed and mutilated acknowledgment of the oath of supremacy. The bill contained nothing whatever about the Oath of Supremacy. His noble friend had made no attempt to make good one part of his case by founding his bill upon its acknowledgment of the Oath of Supremacy. What was the fact? That which was called the Oath of Supremacy does not really declare the supremacy of the Crown. It contains two propositions—the first was an abjuration of what is called the deposing doctrine; and the second was an abjuration of the power and jurisdiction of the Pope within this realm. The assertion of the authority of the Crown must be sought for from other sources. He would remind the hon. and learned gentleman that there were other classes in that House, besides the members of the Roman Catholic Church that refused to concur in the religious supremacy of the Crown. He alluded to the Dissenters, and to the members of the Presbyterian Church Establishment of Scotland. He thought it was greatly to be regretted that the House should attach any weight and value to declarations of this kind, which they do not carry out themselves. Our strength lies in the attachment of the people to the constitution of the country. That attachment was best promoted by encouraging everything that tends to unite class to class, and man to man. He was convinced that the harmony and usefulness of our institutions were best promoted by the exclusion of everything that keeps alive unhappy topics of religious discord, and the more we can reduce our enactments to a state that will correspond with the various religious opinions of our fellow-subjects, the better we can discharge that duty that is entrusted to us on behalf of the Crown and of the people. In his opinion, it was most desirable to get rid of words, which encumbered the body of the oath; which were utterly useless for good, and but pitfalls to tender consciences; which tended to weaken, rather than to strengthen, the general application of the oath itself, and which kept up a constant source of heartburning in that House.

Mr. NAPIER strongly condemned the bill, and contended that it was their duty to their country, their Sovereign, and themselves, to hold by those securities which the wisdom of their ancestors had set up from time to time. Those securities were found necessary against foreign aggression, like those safeguards embodied in the Bill of Rights, and were ever recognised as the very basis and foundation of our Protestant Constitution.

Mr. J. G. PHILLIMORE objected to the clause which exempted benefited clergymen from taking the oath of supremacy.

Mr. LIDDELL, Mr. NEWDEGATE, and Mr. WHITESIDE, severally opposed the bill.

Sir J. WALMSLEY and Mr MIALL supported the measure.

Lord J. RUSSELL said that the House of Lords having several times rejected the new Bill, he thought it would be right to propose that persons returned by the electors of this country should be allowed to take their seats without a test of any kind, upon taking an oath to which no religious objection could be made. The noble Lord then proceeded to combat the arguments brought forward by the opponents of the present measure, and contended that it was calculated to promote the greatest harmony amongst all classes, and to confer much moral advantage upon that House and the country.

Mr. DISRAELI said, although he had always voted in favour of the admission of Jews, he was sorry the noble Lord, by his present mode of dealing with the subject, compelled him to vote against the present measure. The noble Lord had empanelled the success of the Jew's cause in that House by mixing up that question with other matters upon which very strong feelings existed in the country. Up to this moment the Jews had no reason to complain of their cause. The agitation in their favour only commenced about seven years ago, and the measures for their admission to Parliament were supported by large majorities in that House, and by respectable minorities in the other House. He, however, considered that the noble Lord had greatly damaged their cause by pressing forward so objectionable a measure as the present.

Upon a division, the numbers were—

For the second reading	.. .. ..	247
Against it	.. .. ..	251
Majority against the second reading		4

The bill was therefore lost, and the Government defeated!

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

The Earl of CLARENDON, in reply to the Marquis of Clanricarde, was understood to say that the negotiations connected with the treaty recently entered into between Austria and Prussia were carried on most secretly, and the convention itself was only made public after it was signed. The papers in relation to Greece were very voluminous, and would be laid before Parliament in the ensuing week. Her Majesty's Government had no reason to suppose that any treaty had been recently entered into between Russia and Persia. By the last information received, it appeared that Persia had bound herself to observe a strict neutrality during the war between Russia and Turkey and the Western Powers. He believed that no treaty had been entered into between Russia and Bokhara or Khiva.

On the motion for the third reading of the LAW of Landlord and Tenant (Ireland) Bill,

The Earl of CLANCARTY moved the omission of the 37th clause, providing compensation for tenants in certain cases. He though that the provision was a direct infringement upon the rights of private property.

The Earl of DONOUGHMORE and the Earl of DESART supported the clause.

Upon a division the amendment was negatived by a majority of 41 against 10.

The bill was then read a third time and passed.

The Powers of Leasing (Ireland) Bill was also read a third time and passed.

The Navy Pay Bill and the Manning of the Navy Bill severally passed through committee.

The Church Buildings Act Amendment Bill was read a third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

THE "TIGER" STEAMER.

Sir J. GRAHAM, in reply to Admiral Walcott, stated that the Government had received no official information respecting the alleged loss of the *Tiger*; but from indirect reports which had transpired, no reasonable doubt could be entertained of the loss of the vessel.

THE "SIMOOM" STEAM-SHIP.

The same right honourable Baronet, in reply to a question from Mr. Macartney, stated that slight delays had arisen in the transport of troops from England by the *Simoom*, owing to the defects in the construction of her engines. The vessel had, however, arrived safely at Gibraltar.

THE WAR.

In reply to questions from Mr. Headlam and Mr. M. Gibson, Sir J. GRAHAM said that the ports on the Russian coast in the Baltic were in a state of effective blockade, but that he had so such information as to the ports in the Black Sea. It was not intended to commence a blockade of Archangel in the White Sea.

Lord J. RUSSELL, in reply to Lord D. Stuart, stated that a copy of the Protocol of the Four Powers would be shortly laid before Parliament. The Allied treaty was included in the Protocol.

EXCISE-DUTIES BILL.

The House then went into committee with the view to the consideration of the Excise-duties Bill.

Mr. WILSON proceeded to explain the new scale of duties as regarded Scotch and Irish distillers, and stated that the increased duties of last year had not tended to augment illicit distillation.

Mr. HUME was in favour of raising the duty to the highest point consistent with the non-encouragement of smuggling.

Mr. J. FITZGERALD moved an amendment to one of the clauses, to the effect that the increased duty upon Irish spirits should take effect from midnight of the 8th of May, so as to exclude all transactions which took place during the day, and which must have been gone into in total ignorance of any increase being intended

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER resisted the amendment on the ground of precedent, and the necessity of protecting the revenue.

The amendment was negatived by 136 to 40. The bill then passed through committee.

The Income-tax (No. 2) Bill also passed through committee.

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY BILL.

The House then went into committee upon the Oxford University Bill.

Clauses up to 25 having been agreed to, the House resumed, the Chairman reported progress, and asked leave to sit again.

THE BUILDERS' BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.—A special general meeting of the friends and subscribers to this useful institution was held at the London Tavern, for the purpose of electing three pensioners from a long list of candidates: Mr. G. Bird, the treasurer, presided. The report congratulated the supporters of the institution on its increasing prosperity, and the corresponding benefits the directors have been enabled to confer by adding to the number of pensioners. The subscriptions and donations received during the past year amounted to £1404 8s. 6d., and the amount now invested is £4050. After all doings to the great success which had attended the late ball held at Willis's Rooms, under the able superintendence of Mr. Joseph Bird, the hon. secretary, the report concluded by stating that the total number of pensioners now upon the fund is thirteen males and eight females. The election of one male and two females from a list of twelve candidates having been proceeded with, the meeting separated.

REPORT ON SMALL-ARMS.—The select committee appointed to consider "the cheapest, most expeditious, and most efficient mode" of providing small-arms for the public service, have not sanctioned the view that the Ordnance Department should take the manufacture into its own hands. They recommend a continuance of the contract system, with such modifications as will give the contractor greater confidence in the continuity of orders, and by this means men of skill and capital will be induced to apply themselves heartily to the manufacture. As a check upon extravagance in price, and for testing the applicability of machinery to the construction of the musket, it is recommended that the manufactory at Enfield be continued, and that separate accounts be kept so as to ascertain distinctly the matter of cost.

EMBARKATION OF THE 11TH HUSSARS, AT KINGSTOWN.

THE busy scene engraved upon the next page is one of the many illustrations which the Services now present of the movements towards the seat of the War. Here we have the Embarkation, on the 15th ult., of a portion of the 11th Hussars, on board the troop-ship *Tyrone*, in Kingstown harbour. This splendid vessel, which was built last autumn, at Bathurst, is 1197 tons register, and carries the pennant of Captain Randall, R.N. It has been chartered by Government for four months certain, and eight or twelve, if required to convey troops to the East. This fine vessel is fitted up for 60 horses in the lower hold, 70 men between decks, and 6 officers in the poop cabin. She had on board 54 horses, 62 men, and 5 officers. Of infantry, she accommodates 600 troops and 25 officers. The men were in high spirits, and fraternised with the sailors admirably; all joining at the evening twilight in singing, in very good style, "Auld Lang Syne," "Auld Lang Syne," and other favourite songs. There are on the main-deck four 18-pound guns; each of the crew, fifty in number, is furnished with a musket and bayonet; and there is also on board an ample supply of cutlasses, pikes, pistols, and ammunition. Considering and taking into consideration the number of soldiers also on board, there was little fear of anything untoward occurring to the noble ship or her gallant freight from attacks. Her great speed is another security. On her passage from Liverpool to Dublin, with but a light wind, she sailed at the rate of 10½ knots per hour, close hauled; and she has attained the rate of 15 knots, or nautical miles, per hour, running free. This gives us hope that it will not be long before we hear of the gallant 11th being safely landed in the East.

YACHTING.

ROYAL LONDON YACHT-CLUB.

THE first match of the season came off on Saturday, the 20th inst., for a purse of twenty sovereigns, and five sovereigns for the second yacht. The day was too veritable a Queen's day to be otherwise than a very fine yachting one. Indeed, it appeared at first as though there would not be wind enough to make any progress at all; but in the return, wind and tide were both favourable. The members of the club and a numerous company of ladies were conveyed to the starting manner, which left London-bridge about nine o'clock, and called at Blackwall pier about ten. On arriving at Erith, they found the following yachts ready to start:—*Romp*, nine tons, Mr. S. P. Mumford; *Cormorant*, twelve tons, Mr. J. Funcourt; *Mischief*, thirteen tons, Mr. J. R. Kirby; *Kitten*, thirteen tons, Mr. T. Harvey, jun. One minute per ton was allowed by the larger to the smaller yachts. The intended course was from Erith, round a flag boat moored off Coal-house Point, about three miles below Gravesend, and back to another flag boat moored off North Woolwich. The start took place at 11h. 34m.; and, after divers changes in the positions of the yachts, they arrived at Northfleet Hope. At this period it was evidently impossible to accomplish the projected course, and they accordingly re-canted time, the tide coming up very fast, and there being scarcely any wind. Accordingly, at Gravesend, the steamer dropped her anchor for the boats to round there, instead of making a dreary attempt to reach Coal-house Point. *Mischief* rounded at one minute past three, *Kitten* at fifty-six minutes past three, *Cormorant* at fifty-eight minutes past three, and *Romp* at five minutes past 4. Meantime the wind had freshened a little, and in the above order the yachts, aided by the tide, soon reached the goal at North Woolwich: *Mischief* rounding the flag-boat at 5h. 30m.; *Kitten*, at 5h. 55m.; *Cormorant*, at 6h. 0m. 30s.; *Romp*, at 6h. 16m. In spite of the scarcity of wind, the day was, on the whole, spent very pleasantly. Both in going and in returning the steamer passed the *Vason*, a large troop ship, with a detachment of the Royal Artillery on board destined for the East; and the company saluted their countrymen with several rounds of hearty cheers, and other demonstrations of good will, which were as cordially responded to by the soldiers. The occasion was also honoured by the presence and performances of a portion of the Artillery band.

ROYAL THAMES YACHT-CLUB.

A beautiful and exciting race took place, on Monday last, with some of the fastest vessels of this distinguished club for two valuable pieces of plate. The distance contested was from Erith, round the Nore Light, and back, for second-class boats; and from Erith round a boat moored at Southend, for the third-class vessels. The following entered and contended:—

SECOND CLASS.

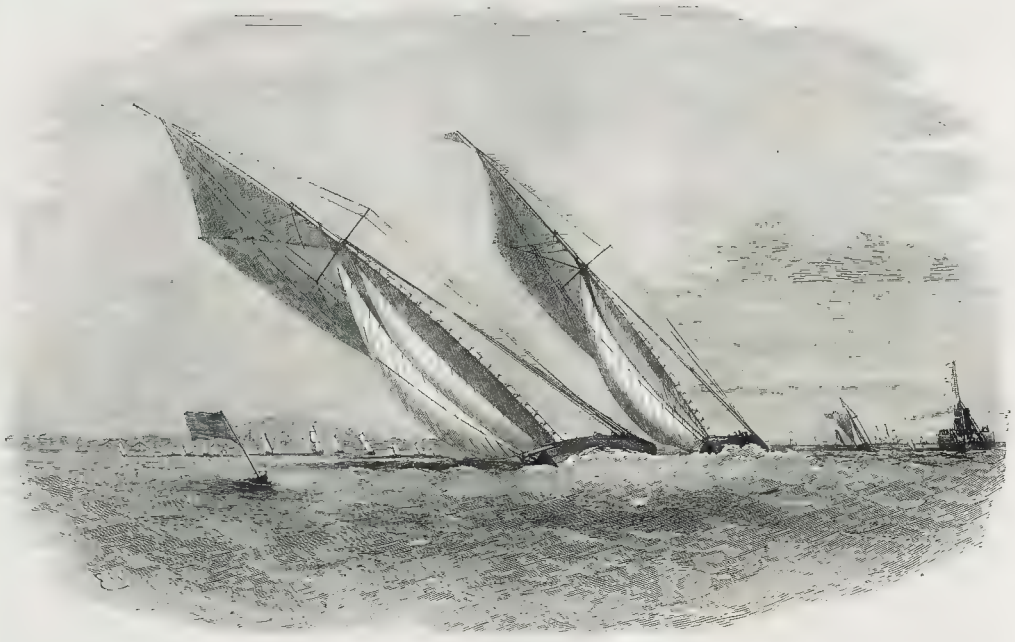
Yachts.	Tons.	Owners.
Phantom	19	Mr. S. Lane.
Thought	25	Mr. George Coope.

THIRD CLASS.

Vesper	16	Mr. F. Roberts.
Vampire	15	Mr. C. Wheeler, jun.

Although there were but two boats of each class, they had attained much celebrity, and were so evenly matched, that the interest created throughout was much greater than on many occasions when there has been a larger number.

The *Prince of Wales*, belonging to the General Steam Navigation Com-



"PHANTOM." "THOUGHT."

ROYAL THAMES YACHT-CLUB MATCH.—THE "PHANTOM" WINNING AT KEITH.

pany, capitally provisioned by Mr. Crawford, had been chartered for the club; and, considering the very unfavourable and threatening aspect of the weather early in the morning, was extremely well attended by visitors. The *Merry Andrew*, *Gemini*, and *Petrel* steamers, with visitors, and a vast number of gentlemen's yachts, accompanied the match. The start took place at 11h. 37m. The *Thought* made a better start than the *Phantom*, and, at Greenhithe, was a quarter of a mile a-head; but her lead throughout was ever and anon jeoparded by the *Phantom*, which sometimes was a less, sometimes a greater, distance astern, all the way down to the Nore. While this was going on with the larger craft, a most animated struggle was ensuing between the smaller, who never left each other, made the closest run conceivable, and rounded the boat at Southend—the *Vampire* at 1h. 47m., and the *Vesper* at 1h. 47m. 30s. The *Thought* and *Phantom*, in the same positions as before, arrived at the Nore Light in the following time:—

	Hrs.	Min.	Sec.
Thought	1	59	0
Phantom	2	0	30

It wanted something like two hours to low water but the wind, with the exception of six or seven boards, was favourable all the way up, and taking the Kent side, they reached the Lower Hope, where beating commenced. Here and afterwards the vicinage of the *Phantom* to the *Thought* became unpleasant. She waited upon her very closely, continued to gain as they neared Gravesend, and off Rosherville reached by her to windward. In the way up from there they were close by the side of each other, and the greatest excitement continued throughout the remainder of the distance, as the slightest defect in nautical skill on the part of the one must have given to the other the victory. The *Phantom* just contrived to keep a length or so ahead; and the four boats ultimately came in as follows:—

THIRD CLASS.

	Hrs.	Min.	sc.
Vampire (winner)	5	15	3
Vesper	5	20	0

SECOND CLASS.

	Hrs.	Min.	Sec.
Phantom winner	5	37	0
Thought	5	37	10

The winners were favoured with loud cheers, and Mr. Gren, in very appropriate speeches, presented the prizes to the owners of te winning boats, who replied in becoming terms.

We have Engraved the close of this most interesting mtch. Both vessels were sailed to perfection, but the sequel still mainins for the *Phantom* her proud position of the fastest vessl of hoclass afloat. The company returned to London after the match, higly delighted with the day's amusement, to which the excellent banof the Blues greatly contributed.

EMBARKATION OF THE 11TH HUSSARS AT KINGSTOWN, ON BOARD THE "TYRONE" TROOP-SHIP, FOR THE EAST.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL BOTANIC SOCIETY, REGENT'S PARK.

CONSECRATION OF ST. MARK'S NEW CHURCH,
TOLLINGTON PARK, HOLLOWAY.

On Monday was consecrated this Church, the first stone of which was laid by Lord Robert Grosvenor, M.P., on the 12th of May, 1853. The edifice is, in plan, cruciform, consisting of nave, transepts, choir, and chancel; with small side aisles to the choir, and an octangular vestry as an adjunct to the chancel. The tower is placed near the south-west angle of the structure; and stair-turrets at the intersection of the nave and transepts give access to the galleries. There is also a western gallery, in the rear of which are placed the organ and childrens' seats. The accommodation provided is for 1075 persons.

The roof timbers, pulpit, and desk are stained and varnished. The chancel is paved with Minton's encaustic tiles; and the windows of the choir and chancel are filled with stained glass.

The Church is built of Kentish rag stone, and Bath stone dressings, and is enclosed with a dwarf rag-stone wall and iron railing. The edifice has been designed to suit a limited site presented to the Church Commissioners, in 1846, by Mr. William Bainbridge, as leaseholder, in conjunction with Messrs. Gwilt, freeholders. The cost (£5,000) has been defrayed by voluntary subscriptions, aided by a grant of £210 from her Majesty's Commissioners, and £500 from the Metropolis Churches Fund.

NEW CHURCH OF ST. MARK, TOLLINGTON PARK, CONSECRATED ON MONDAY.

The architect is Mr. A. D. Gough, of Lancaster-place; the builders being Messrs. Dove Brothers, of Islington.

One of the stained glass windows was presented to the Church by Thomas Chauntler, Esq.; the other by separate subscription.

At the commencement of the Consecration, on Monday, a full choral service was ably led by a few ladies and gentlemen of the neighbourhood, and well sustained in a devotional manner by the entire congregation. The prayers were read by the Rev. John Lees, M.A., the Incumbent; and an eloquent and impressive sermon was preached by the Bishop of London. The collection at the offertory amounted to £220.

The evening services of the day were conducted by the Rev. C. W. Edmonstone, M.A., Incumbent of St. John's, Patron; and the Rev. Henry Venn, B.D., Prebendary of St. Paul's, formerly Incumbent of St. John's Church, of which the new Church is a district chapelry.

THE ROYAL BOTANIC SOCIETY OF LONDON.

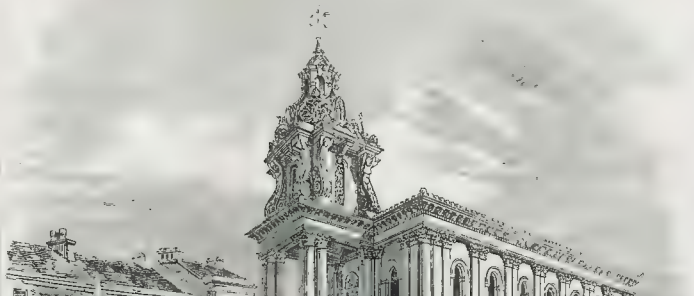
The first Exhibition of Plants and Flowers by this Society, for the present season, was held on Wednesday last. The weather, which appeared in a very unsettled state in the early part of the day, cleared up before two o'clock, and an immense number of persons visited the Gardens. Nothing could exceed the beauty and vigour of the plants and flowers, except, perhaps, the elegant and picturesque arrangement under which they were exhibited. On former occasions the flowers have been divided and shown in separate compartments, but on Wednesday the whole, with the exception of the American plants, were exhibited under one awning. The tasteful arrangement of the grouping, and the skilful manner in which an undulating surface, profusely covered with the most gorgeous products of nature, had been substituted for the former system, reflected much credit upon Mr. Marnock, under whose superintendence the landscape department of the Gardens is placed.

The bands of the 1st and 2nd Life Guards and the Royal Horse Guards (Blue) assembled at two o'clock in front of the Conservatory, and performed the National Anthem, in commemoration of her Majesty's birthday. The selection of music was appropriate. At six o'clock the three bands again assembled at the south end of the Broad-walk, and marched to the orchestra, playing the War-March of the Priests (Mendelssohn), and the National Anthem.

The tickets sold up to the preceding evening amounted to the extraordinary number of 29,418.

LIST OF PRIZES.

Stove and Green-house Collections (sixteen Plants)—1st, Mr. Collyer, of Dartford; 2nd, Sir E. Antrobus.
Ditto, of Twelve Plants—1st, Mr. Frazer, of Leyton; 2nd, Messrs. Rowlandson, of Tooting.
Ditto, of Ten Plants—1st, Mr. Laurence, of Bath; 2nd, Mr. Farmer, of Cheam.
Ditto, of Six Plants—1st, Mr. Coster, of Streatham; 2nd, Mr. Bradbury of Streatham.
Cactæ—1st, Sir E. Antrobus; 2nd, Mr. Scott, of Leyton.
Cape Heaths, ten species—1st, Messrs. Rowlandson, of Tooting; 2nd Messrs. Frazer.
Ditto of eight species—1st, Mr. Collyer; 2nd, Miss Trail.
Ditto of six species—1st, Mr. Bradbury; 2nd, Mr. McMullen, of Clapham.
Orchids—1st Prize, Mr. Laurence, Farnham Castle; 2nd, Mr. Kerr, of Chesbunt; 3rd, Ditto.
New and Rare Plants 1st, Messrs. Veitch, of Exeter; 2nd, Messrs. Henderson, Wellington-road.
Greenhouse Azaleas of Eight Plants—1st, Messrs. Lane and Son, Berkhampstead; 2nd, Messrs. Frazer, Leyton.
Ditto of Six—1st, Mr. Farmer, Cheam; 2nd, Mr. Bassett, Stamford-hill.
Ditto of Six—1st, Mr. Bradbury, of Streatham; 2nd, Messrs. Frazer.
Rhododendrons—2nd, Messrs. Lane and Son.
Orchidaceæ, twenty species—1st prize, Mr. Warner, Hodesden; 2nd, Mr Kerr.
Ditto, sixteen species—Messrs. Rowlandson, of Tooting.
Ditto, twelve species—1st, Mr. Farmer; 2nd, Mrs. Webb, of Hodesden.
Ditto, six species—1st, Sir E. Antrobus; 2nd, Mr. Rack, Croydon-lodge.
Roses of ten varieties—1st, Messrs. Lane; 2nd, Mr. Frazer, of Hertford



NEW TOWN-HALL AT BURSLEM, FOUNDED ON WEDNESDAY.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

Ditto, six varieties 1st, Mr. Rowland, of Lewisham; 2nd, Mr. Crawley, Luton, Beds.
Calceolarias, six plants—1st, Mr. Tregwell, of Bath; 2nd, Mr. Miles, Uxbridge.
Cinerarias—1st, Messrs. Henderson, Pine apple-place.
Ditto—1st, Mr. Bishop, Regent's-park.
Pelargoniums, twelve plants—1st, Mr. Turner, of Slough; 2nd, Mr. Dobson, of Isleworth.
Ditto, six plants—1st, Mr. Foster, of Windsor; 2nd, Mr. Steel, of Hampstead.
Ditto (Fancy), six plants—1st, Mr. Turner; 2nd, Mr. Gaines, of Battersea.
Ditto, ditto, six plants—1st, Mr. Steele; 2nd, Mr. Newdegate, Blackheath.

NEW TOWN-HALL, BURSLEM.

THE foundat on-stone of this handsome edifice was laid with great ceremony on Wednesday, the natal day of her Majesty. The design is in the Italian style of architecture, and occupies a regular parallelogram, 100 feet long by 60 feet wide. The principal features of its elevation consist of a rusticated basement, relieved by large windows, the jambs and arches of which are deeply coved. Surmounting this is a coupled pilastered façade of the Corinthian order, in the intercolumniations of which are placed circle arched windows, to light the main hall. At the west end projects a large portico, rusticated at the basement, and having an arched entrance sufficiently wide to admit carriages to drive to the door, and thus allowing their inmates to alight protected from the weather; while the upper portion forms a portico, from whence public speakers may address large audiences in the Market-place below. The whole is surmounted by the bell-chamber and clock-turret.

The building internally will consist of three stories, the lower one of which is occupied by cells for police purposes, heating apparatus, and a kitchen. The ground-floor will contain a police-court, magistrates' room, a board-room, a news-room, offices of the Local Board of Health, and a residence for the hall-keeper. These are approached and divided by a corridor, commencing in an entrance at the east end of the building, and terminating in the entrance-hall approached by the main DETAILS of letter mentioned, and from which two handsome flights of stone stairs lead to the principal floor, which is entirely occupied by the main hall, having at its opposite end a permanent orchestra, and beneath it lecturers' and perfor mers' rooms

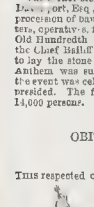
The Architect is Mr. G. T. Robinson, now of Leamington, formerly of Wolverhampton; and the contract has been taken by Mr. Young, of Lincoln. The illustration is from a lithograph published by the Surveyor to the Local Board of Health, Mr. Ralph Hales, who is also Surveyor of the Works for the Building.

The foundat one-stone of the New Hall was laid on Wednesday, by William Lowndes, Esq., who was escorted from Longport Hall to the site by a procession of bands of music, Lod es of Odd Fellows, Courts of Foresters, operative s, flags and banners; and having arrived at the site, the Old Hundredth Psalm was sung, and a prayer offered by the Rector, the Chief Bailiff presented the trowel to Mr. Davenport, who proceeded to lay the stone; a salute of thirty-five guns was fired, the National Anthem was sung, and the proceedings terminated. In the evening, the event was celebrated by a public dinner, at which Mr. Davenport presided. The foundation ceremony was witnessed by from 12,000 to 14,000 persons.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

THE REV. ELIAS THACKERAY.

THIS respected clergyman died on the 20th ult, at the Vicarage, Dundalk, aged eighty-three, having been upwards of half a century Vicar of that town, and for thirty-seven Rector of Louth.



Mr. Thackeray was a scion of the well-known Cumberland family of Thackeray. After being educated at ETON, he became a Fellow of Queens' College, Cambridge, and studied for orders. But a regiment of Fencible Dragoons being raised in Cambridge, he accepted a troop, and proceeded with his regiment to Ireland, early in 1797; and during the insurrection that occurred in that and the subsequent year, he saw some service, being on duty on the landing of the French prisoners at Buncrana, on Lough Swilly, county Donegal. After Sir Charles Morlaise Warren's action, he was the officer selected by the Commander-in-Chief, the Earl of Cavan, to convey the celebrated Wolfe Tone as a prisoner to Dublin.

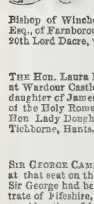
While stationed at Londonderry, Mr. Thackeray married Rebecca, daughter of Sir Hugh Hill, Bart., and M.P. for that city, and sister of the Right Hon. Sir George Hill, Bart., who died Governor of Trinidad: by this lady he has no issue.

After having resigned for some time the superintendence of the Fencible corps, in which he had successively attained the rank of Major, Mr. Thackeray followed up his original intention of entering the Church. He was ordained by the late Archbishop Lord Hardwicke, then Lord Lieutenant of Ireland; and, after having held for some time the incumbent of Limavady and Ardee, he was appointed to the living of Louth.

Mr. Thackeray took great part in re-modelling and re-organising the Protestant Charter Schools of Ireland.

The popular author, W. M. Thackeray, is a cousin of the deceased, and has illustrated him in his tour through Ireland. In another, and a somewhat sarcastic, work of Mr. W. M. Thackeray, the satirist's pen appears checked, and a very graceful and becoming compliment is paid to the profession to which belonged "the gentle Elias"—no doubt meaning his relative.

BARBARINA, DOWAGER LADY DACRE.



THE Dowager Baroness Dacre died at her residence in Chesterfield-street, Mayfair, on the 17th instant, in her 82nd year. This lady was almost the last of that brilliant and intellectual *coterie* of which Miss Burney, once Madame D'Arblay, was the chief ornament.

Lady Dacre was third daughter of the late gallant Admiral Sir Chaloner Ogle, Bart., by Hester Lady Ogle, youngest daughter and co-heir of Dr. Thomas, Bishop of Winchester. She married first, Valentine Henry Wilmot, Esq., of Farnbrough, Hants; and secondly, December 4, 1819, Thomas, 20th Lord Dacre, who died, without issue, March 21, 1831.

THE HON. MRS. MACDONELL.

THE Hon. Laura Macdonell, wife of Lieut.-Col. Macdonell, C.B., died at Wardour Castle, Wilts, on the 19th inst. Her Ladyship was the third daughter of James Everard, ninth Lord Arundell, of Wardour, a Count of the Holy Roman Empire. She leaves an only surviving sister, the Hon. Lady Doughty, relict of the late Sir Edward Doughty, Bart., of Tichborne, Hants.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL, of Edenwood, near Cupar, in Fifeshire, expired at that seat on the 20th instant, aged 76. For upwards of fifty years Sir George had been a Deputy-Lieutenant and zealous efficient Magistrate of Fifeshire, and he was respected throughout the county. In consideration of his active services in preserving the peace during the agitating period of the passing of the Reform Bill, he received the honour of Knighthood in 1833.

Sir George Campbell was the elder son of the Rev. George Campbell, D.D., the learned and eloquent Minister of Cupar, by his wife Margaret, only daughter of John Hallyburton, Esq., of the Fodderance. Sir George's younger brother is the present distinguished Chief Justice of England, Lord Campbell. Sir George married, in 1824, Margaret, daughter of A Christie, Esq., of Ferrybank, and had issue, three sons and two daughters. The latter are Margaret Charlotte, wife of David Jones, Esq., of Pantglas, M.P., and Frances, wife of the Hon. Fitzgerald Algernon C. Capel, R.N.

HEALTHY STATE OF ENGLAND.—In France the annual mortality is as 1 in 42 individuals: in Prussia, it is 1 in 36; in Austria, it is 1 in 33; in Russia, as 1 in 29; whereas in England it is as only 1 in 56.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

BATH RACES.—TUESDAY.

Lansdowne Trial Stakes.—Nathan, 1. Octavia, 2.
Second Year of the Biennial Stakes.—Caliph, 1. Mishap, 2.
Biennial Stakes.—Quieton, 1. Bessie, 2.
Somersetshire Stakes.—Hataplan, 1. Aribbas, 2.
The Members' Stakes. Postulant, 1. Cabie, 2.

WEDNESDAY.

City Cup.—Kataplan, 1. Jephson, 2.
Weston Stakes.—B. f. by Hercules, 1. Bessie, 2.
Dyrcham Stakes.—Nolsette, 1. Postulent, 2.
Aristocratic Handicap.—Defiance, 1. Garforth, 2.
Sailing Sweepstakes.—The Hero, 1. Rally, 2.

LATEST BETTING AT TATTERSALL'S.—FRIDAY EVENING.

DERBY.—5 to 1 agst Daviot (3 yrs 8 st) 9 to 1 agst Andover (colt) 12 to 1 agst Result, 15 to 1 agst Neville (6); 14 to 1 agst Hospodar (3); 100 to 8 agst Wild Huntsman (3); 20 to 1 agst Knight of St. George. (3); 6 to 1 (t) 20 to 1 agst King Tom; 40 to 1 agst Marpeau (3); 40 to 1 agst Rueben; 50 to 1 agst Ascarat (4 and 5); 1000 to 12 agst Ile de Paris (3); 1000 to 10 agst Prince Arthur (3); 1000 to 10 agst Champagne (3); 1000 to 10 agst the Duke of Lancaster and Wickford coupled.

THE GREAT ANNUAL GATHERING AT EPSOM takes place on Tuesday the 30th, continuing the three following days—being the only meeting for the week. The principal events will be, on the first day, the "Woodcote Stakes, the "Manor Plate," and the "Epsom Summer Handicap." On Wednesday, the great "Derby Stakes" and the "Epsom Cup," will be contested for. Thursday will bring decisions on the "Epsom Four-year-old Stakes," the "Two-year-old Stakes," and the "Grand Stand Plate." On Friday this great national holiday will close with "The Oaks," the "Great Surrey Foal Stakes," &c., &c.

HEROIC CONDUCT OF A YOUNG LADY.

—One night last week the house of John Colpoys, Esq., Spring-lodge, Kilmeaden, was forcibly entered being plundered by a gang of robbers; one of whom, a young fellow, got into the parlour chimney from the top of the house. Mr. Colpoys' niece slept in the room next to the chimney, and on hearing some noise in the chimney, awoke her uncle, and handing him a gun, posted him outside the house to watch the top of the shaft. She then returned to the parlour, and caused a great blaze to ascend from the grate, which obliged the robber to jump from the top, when Mr. Colpoys fired with small shot. The young lady having brought her uncle another gun, he kept the robber at bay, while she went and got assistance. The robber was then secured, and sent to Ennis gaol.

BROMPTON HOSPITAL.—The Commissioners of the Exhibition of 1851 have granted the use of Gore-house for the purpose of holding a grand fancy-fair and bazaar, in aid of the funds of the Hospital for Consumption at Brompton. Her Majesty has graciously accorded her patronage to the undertaking, which is appointed for the end of June—and it is intended to celebrate the completion of the eastern wing of the institution. By the erection of this wing, the original design of the hospital is carried out, and additional beds are afforded for 140 patients. The wards will now accommodate 230.

LOCAL RATES.—From a return issued on Saturday last, it appears that that £10,374 286 was raised in the counties of England, for the year ending Lady-day, 1852, for local rates. In Wales, the amount was £500,676. For England, the items are—Poor rate, £6,172,101; highway rate, £1,624,083; county rate and county police, £768,913; borough rate, £505,934; land tax, £1,602,759.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

Notwithstanding that the supply of Stock has been tolerably good, there has been a full average Money business do.ng in the Consol Market this week, and prices have been well supported. In some instances they have steadily advanced; and, altogether, matters in the City have worn a favourable appearance. An official notice has been issued to the effect that, on and after the 21st inst., the interest on Exchequer Bills now in circulation will be reduced from its present rate of 2½d. to 2d. per diem, being equal to 7s. 7d. per annum; consequently, the future rate will be £3 8s. 5d. This notice has produced a steady rise in the quotations. In addition to the above, the Directors of the India Board have intimated that the rate of interest on India Bonds has been advanced from £3 5s. to £4 per cent. These alterations have unquestionably been rendered necessary from the insurrection at the Money Market, which, since we last wrote, has been extensive fully. First-class Bills, having three months to run, have been done at 6 per cent; whilst the discount houses are now allowing 4½ per cent upon money on call, and 5 per cent with three months' notice.

On Monday the English Stock Market was rather inactive, owing to the undecided character of the new Austrian official documents bearing upon the War in the East. The Three per Cents opened at 88½ to 89¼, and closed at 88¾. The Three per Cents Reduced were 88 to 87¾; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 88¾ to 89 and 88¾. India Stock marked 223; Bank Stock, 202½ to 205. Exchequer Bills were 2s. dis. to 2s. prem.; and India Bonds, 10s. to 6s. dis. There was an improved business done on Tuesday, and the quotations for the Three per Cents Reduced were 87¾ to 88¼; the Three per Cent Consols, 88¾ to 89¼, the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 88¾ to 89; and Consols for Account, 88¾. 89. Bank Stock Bonds were quoted at 2s. 3 prem.; Exchequer Bills sold at 2s. to 2s. 3 pm. On Thursday Consols were very firm. The Three per Cents were 89¼ ⅛ ¼ for Money, and 89¼ ⅛ ¼ for the Account; the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents marked 88¾ to 89¼; and the Three per Cents Reduced, 88¼; Exchequer Bills advanced to 1s. and 4s. prem.

Most Foreign Bonds have been steady, but the amount of business doing in them has been very moderate. The following are the leading prices:—Brazilian New Five per Cents, 97¾; Danish Five per Cents, 100¾; Mexican Three per Cents, 24¾; Peruvian Five per Cents, 84¾; Portuguese Four per Cents 39¾; Russian Five per Cents, 95¾; Russian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 89¾; Spanish Three per Cents, 39; Ditto, Passive, 4¼; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 59¾; Dutch New Four per Cents, 97¾; Ardinian Five per Cents, 86¾.

The business doing in the Joint-Stock Bank Shares has been steady. Australasia have marked 79; Commercial of London, 31½; English, Scottish, and Australian Chartered, 8; London Chartered of Australia, 20¾; Oriental, 47; Provincial of Ireland, 10; Union of Australia, 29¾. Miscellaneous Securities have realised the following rates:—Australian Agricultural, 45¾; British American Land, 7⅞; Canada Six per Cent Bonds, 103¾; Crystal Palace, 9; Ditto, New B Shares, 3¾; London Docks, 102; East and West India, 106; St. Katharine, 80; Peel River Land and Mineral, 4¾; Peninsula and Oriental Steam, 56¾; Ditto, New, 39¾; Scottish Australian Investment, 2¾; Van Diemen's Land, 2¾; Hungerford-bridge 8s ares have marked 13; Waterloo, 6; Waterloo Old Annuities, of £8, 28; Vauxhall, 21. Waterworks Shares have been tolerably firm. Berlin, 11¾; East London, 129¾; Grand Junction, 70; Ditto, New, 47; Kent, 80; Lambeth, 57; Southwark and Vauxhall, 89¾; West Middlesex, 167; Ditto, New, 164. In Insurance Companies Shares we have very few transactions to notice. We annexed are the leading quotations:—Albion, 92; Atlas, 19¾; Argus, 23; County, 125; European, 15¾; Globe, 126; Guardian, 65¾; London, 29; Pelican, 45; Phœnix, 120 ex div., and bonus; Provident, 4¾; Royal Exchange, 235; Sun Fire, 250; Ditto, Life, 85; United Kingdom, 6¾.

The imports of the precious metals have been extensive, viz., about £450,000, chiefly from Australia and the United States. The demand for gold on Continental account has been rather limited.

The Railway Market has presented no feature of novelty. It may be called steady, whilst business is estimated to any extent. The following are the official closing prices on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Aberdeen, 23¾; Caledonian, 55¾; Chester and Holyhead, 12¾; Eastern Counties, 6¾; Great Northern, A Stock, 73; Ditto, A Stock, 73; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 80¾; Great Western, 74¾; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 61; Leeds Northern, 19¾; London and Blackwall, 6¾; London and Brighton, 101; London and North-Western, 97½; London and South Western, 78¾; Midland, 59¾; Norfolk, 46¾; North British, 31¾; North Staffordshire, 13¾; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 25¾; South Eastern and Dover, 14; Ditto, Oswestry, 10¾; South Eastern, 62¾; Thames Haven Dock and Railway, 2¾; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, 65¾; Ditto, Extension, 11¾ York and North Midland, 40¾.

LINES LEASED AT FIXED RENTALS.—Buckinghamshire, 94; Hull and Selby, 102¾; Midland Bradford, 89¾.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Caledonian, 93; Eastern Counties New Six per Cent Stock, 12¾; Great Northern Five per Cent, 114; Ditto, Five per Cent, redeemable at 10 per cent premium, 107; Ditto, Four-and-a-half per Cent, 98; Great Western Three per Cent Guaranteed, 85¾; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, £6, 4¾; North British, 99¾; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 90; South-Eastern, 93; Waterford and Kilkenny, 1¾; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, 88.

FOREIGN.—Great Western of Canada Bonds, 73, without option, 89¾; Luxembourg, Guaranteed, 3¾; Ditto, Constituted Shares, 2¾; Northern of France, 33¾; Paris and Lyons, 57; Paris and Strasbourg, 30¾ ex div.; Rouen and Havre, 19; Sambre and Meuse, 6¾.

Mining Shares have been rather flat. On Thursday Agua Fria were 13; Australian, 2¾; Imperial Brazilian, 42; New Granada, ¾ to ⅞; Port Phillip, ¼; Quartz Rock, ⅝; and West Marpesa, ¾.

Friday Evening.

We have had a very firm market for Consols to-day, and prices have had an upward tendency. At one time they were done at 89, for Money; but the leading quotation has been 89¾. The Three per Cents Reduced have marked 88¾; and the New Three-and-a Quarter per Cents, 89¾. India Bonds and Exchequer Bills, 4s. prem. Foreign Bonds and Railway Shares have been very firm.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE, Friday.—Since Monday there has been a decided increase in the supply of English wheat up to this morning, when the arrivals of that article fresh up supply was moderate. [illegible] of wheat of home growth realised fully the currency of Monday. We were well supplied with foreign wheat [illegible] prices rather. Low and middling qua ities were considered 1s per quarter lower, without much inquiry. The show of barley was but moderate; yet the demand was heavy, at barely stationary prices. In malt very little was doing, on former terms. With oats we were well supplied. Sales progressed slowly, and the quotations were rather easier. Beans, peas, and flour were unaltered.

ARRIVALS.—English: wheat, 1430; barley, 120; malt, 3700; oats, 810; flour, 1071. Irish: oats, 10,170. Foreign: wheat, 49,850; barley, 3350; oats, 19,010; flour, [illegible] sacks, 11,670 barrels.

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 72s. to 82s.; ditto, white, 75s. to 90s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 71s. to 81s.; ditto, white, 74s. to —s. per qr. Barley, 34s. to 36s. per qr. Malt, grinding, 56s. to 58s.; distilling ditto, 57s. to 59s.; malting ditto, 60s. to 64s. Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 57s. to 59s., brewers' ditto, 60s. to 62s. Rhenish and Westphalian, 57s. to 59s. Oats, Essex and Suffolk, 31s. to 35s.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire ditto, 27s. to 29s.; potato ditto, 30s. to 33s.; Youghal and Cork, black, 24s. to 26s.; ditto, white, 28s. to 32s.; Dutch beans, new, 44s. to 46s.; ditto old, 48s. to 50s.; grey peas, 44s. to 46s.; maple, 47s. to 49s.; white, 47s. to 49s. Flour, best marks, 42s. to 44s. per quarter Town-made flour, 40s. to 42s.; Suffolk, 35s. to 38s.; Stockton and Yorkshire, 37s. to 39s. per 280 lbs. *Foreign.*—Arrivals: Wheat, —.

Seeds.—For most kinds of seeds the demand is rather inactive, but we have no change to notice in prices. Cake supports former rates.

Linseed, English, sowing, 74s. to 76s.; Baltic crushing, 64s. to 68s.; Mediterranean and Odessa, 62s. to 70s.; Hamburgh, —s. to —s. per quarter. Coriander, 12s to 13s. per cwt. Brown mustard-seed, 10s. to 12s.; white ditto, 9s. to 14s.; and tares, 7s. 6d. to 8s. per bushel. Carraway-seed, 24s. to 26s. per cwt. Coarse and fine linseed cakes, English, £10 10s. to £12 0s.; ditto, foreign, £10 to £11 10s. per ton. Rapeseed cakes, £9 10s. to £9 15s. per ton. Canary, 44s. to 46s. per quarter. English fine-crossed, white, 68s. to 80s.; ditto, red, 44s. to 56s. per cwt.

Potatoes.—The arrivals of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 10d. to 11d.; of household ditto, 8d. to 9½d. per 4lb. loaf.

Imperial Weekly Average.—Wheat, 78s. 9d.; barley, 37s. 2d.; oats, 25s. 6d.; rye, 46s. 6d.; beans, 39s.; peas, 41s. 7d.

The Six Weeks' Average.—Wheat, 79s. 1d.; barley, 37s. 1d.; oats, 25s. 8d.; rye, 50s. 6d.; beans, 39s.; peas, 41s.

Duties on Foreign Corn.—Wheat, 1s.; barley, 1s.; oats, 1s.; rye, 1s.; beans, 1s.; peas, 1s.

Liquorice.—The sale for all kinds of rum is rather inactive. Prout Lanzarotte, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 6½.; East India, 2s. 2d. to 4s. 6d per gallon. The demand for Sicily is dull, and late rates are barely supported. Genuine Spanish liquorice terms

Coals (Friday).—Buddle's West Hartley, 20s. 6d Old Adair's, 21s. 0d.; Stewart's, 19s.; South Kelloe, 18s.; Whitworth, 7s 3d.; Cowpen, 22s. 6d per ton.

Hops (Friday).—The plantation accounts are not below very favourable, there is rather more business doing in our market, and the quotations have an upward tendency. Some parcels of the duty are 100,000. This week's imports are 95 bales from Antwerp, and 50 from New York. Mid and East Kent pockets, £5 15s to £8 10s.; Weald of [illegible] £4 15s to £5 5s; *Smallfield* (Friday).—The supply of beasts here to-day being very moderate, [illegible] attendance of buyers on the morning, the demand for that description of stock ruled [illegible] at a further advance in the quotations of 2d per 8lbs. The top [illegible] were [illegible] the primest Scots, and the inferior [illegible] were [illegible] off steadily, at full prices. Otherwise, the demand was [illegible] at late rates. The primest Downs realised 4s 10d per 8lbs; but [illegible] terms. Mitch cows were firm at from £15 to £20 each.

Per 8 lbs. to stink the offals.—Coarse and inferior beasts [illegible] coarse-woolled ditto, 4s. 6d.; prime ditto, 4s. 8d.; prime Scots, 5s.; coarse-woolled ditto, 4s. 6d.; prime ditto, 4s. 8d.; prime South Down ditto, 4s. 10d. to 5s. 0d.; large [illegible] oxen, 4s. 0d. to 4s. 6d.; prime small ditto, 4s. 10d. to 5s. 0d.; large hogs, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.; small ditto, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 0d. Calves, 4s. to 4s. 8d. Pigs, 3s. 8d.

Head of cattle at market:—Beasts, 2,000; sheep, 20,000; calves, 300; pigs, 300.

Newgate and Leadenhall (Friday).—Generally speaking, the trade ruled steady, as follows:—

Per 8 lbs. by the carcase. Inferior beef, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.; middling ditto, 3s. 8d. to 4s.; prime large ditto, 4s. 0d. to 4s. 2d.; prime small ditto, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; large coarse woolled mutton, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 0d.; middling ditto, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; prime ditto, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; large lambs, 5s. 0d. to 5s. 6d.; small pork, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 10d.; lamb, 5s. 8d.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, MAY 23.

OFFICE OF ORDNANCE, MAY 11.

Royal Artillery: Second Lieutenant [illegible] to be First Lieutenant, vice Wade.

BANKRUPTS.

H. ELDRID, Witney, Oxfordshire, grocer. G. SAUNDERS Seymour-street Euston-square, gas-fitter. K. BOND, Brighton, Sussex, builder. T. B. [illegible] Wimbledon, Surrey, builder. R. BURR, Gosport, Hants, victualler. W. [illegible] LAND, Milner-street, Islington, tobacco broker. W. WARD, Kidderminster, W [illegible] Worcester, scrivener. W. JOHNSON, Bradford, Yorkshire, butcher. [illegible] Wm. Hall, Gateshead, builder. J. HOLT, Manchester, Manchester. [illegible] and W. HINCHETT, Chorlton-upon-Medlock, Manchester, brewer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATION.

J. GRAY, Perth, grocer. Last Deliv. [illegible]

FRIDAY, MAY 26.

WAR-OFFICE, MAY 23.

Coldstream Guards: W. Trevelyan, Assistant Surgeon [illegible] 3rd Foot: Ensign Anderson, Lieutenant, vice Anderson [illegible] Marines: Lieutenant [illegible] J.P. Powell to be Captain, vice Wilson [illegible] Captain and Lieutenant Hardy, C. Warren, and [illegible] Wm. Hall, Gateshead, builder. R. CAVE, Bristol (late of Manchester), Manchester warehouseman. J. VAN DIEMEN'S LAND, Long Hungerford-bridge, St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, Middlesex, Esq. J. BUTLAND, J. YATES, and C. KUTTALL, Rotherham, Lancashire, cotton manufacturers.

BIRTHS.

On the 24th inst., at Pembridge-place, Bayswater, the wife of James T. White, Esq., of Dunraven, a daughter.

On the 20th inst., at Knowle-lodge, Lichfield, the wife of John Philip Dyott, Esq., of a daughter.

On the 19th inst., at Lewndes-street, the Hon. Mrs. Henry Bulwer, of a daughter.

On the 21st inst., at Belgrave-square, the wife of the Right Hon. Sidney Herbert, of a son.

On the 18th inst., at Bramford-hall, Suffolk, the wife of the Rev. George Warburton, of a daughter.

On the 21st inst., at Grosvenor-square, the Countess Dartmouth, of a daughter.

On the 20th inst., at Holdre, Hants, the wife of the Rev. Charles Mead Hawkins, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 23rd inst., at Christchurch, St. Pancras, by the Rev. D. P. Hulbert, M.A., assisted by the Rev. E. Bo rows, B.D., Frank William, youngest son of the late Rev. Godfrey, of Pelsall, Esq., to Leonora Elizabeth, only child of the late George Hawkins, Esq., Bengal Army.

On the 18th inst., at Sandgate, Kent, G. Gunning, Esq., of Hyde, Hertfordshire, to Miss Mary, second daughter of the Rev. B. V. Layard, Rector of [illegible] and Vicar of Tall [illegible] Dorsetshire.

On the 18th inst., at Wars, George, son of the late Rear-Admiral R. G. Middleton, of Shoe House, Northumberland, Baronet, to Mary Wyndham, youngest daughter of the Rear-Admiral Sir J. W. F. Marshall, C.B., K.C.H., of Pear-y-Garnden, Denbighshire.

On the 20th inst., at St. George's, Hanover-square, by his brother, the Lord Bishop of London, the Rev. G. B. Blomfield, Canon of Chester, and Rector of St. werge, Herts, to Elizabeth Ellen, second daughter of J. Pelham, Esq., of Mottingham-hall, Kent.

On the 20th inst., at Saltmarsh, E. A. Pye, Esq., of Lough, to the Lady Adelaide Frances Hobart, eldest daughter of the Earl of Buckinghamshire.

DEATHS.

The Hon. Laura, third daughter of James Everard, ninth Lord Arundell, by his first wife Ann cousin Charlotte Maria, daughter of the eighth Lord). She married, in 1830, Lieut.-Col. Macdonell, C.B. (Glengarry), by whom she has left an only son, Lieutenant in the 71st Highlanders, who is now on service in the present Lord Arundell, and the Hon. Lady Doughty. Her death occurred on the 19th inst., at Wardour Castle.

On the 21st inst., at Kurnaul, of jungle fever, deeply regretted by all at the Station, John Edwin Cuthbert, M.D., Assistant Surgeon, 4th Punjaub Cavalry, aged 23, youngest son of Silas Cuthbert, Esq., of Acklandsrae, Ayrshire.

On the 19th inst., at Brompton, from the effects of exposure and privation encountered during four years Arctic service in search of Sir John Franklin, Lieutenant William Hamilton Hooper, R.N., aged 27, author of "Two Months amongst the Tents of the Tuski," and "Incidents of a Boat Expedition to the Mackenzie River."

On the 18th inst., at Drayton House, in the county of Norfolk, Mary Anne, the beloved wife of Francis Green Bradshaw, Esq., in the 74th year of her age.

On the 9th inst., suddenly, at Edenwood, Fifeshire, Sir G. Campbell, the eldest and only brother of Lord Campbell, in his 76th year

On the 22nd inst., at Blackheath, Mrs. G. Brookbank.

On the 2nd inst., at Madeira, John Wintle, Esq., eldest son of the late Rev. H. Win le, Rector of Mauon, Gloucestershire.

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

THE ROYAL OPERA, DRURY-LANE, OPEN EVERY NIGHT for the Performance of GRAND OPERA, with BALLET, on a similar scale of magnificence and completeness as the principal Continental Opera-houses, and at ordinary Pay-house Prices.—For Bill of the Evening, see the Daily Papers.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.—Every Evening, commencing at Seven o'Clock, practically, the new musical Drama of the ENCHANTRESS of the ROUND TABLE; and MR. BUCKSTONE'S VOYAGE ROUND THE GLOBE. Box-office open from 10 till 5

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE, Oxford-street.—This EVENING, and during the Week will be performed MARRIED UN-MARRIED, and the new musical Drama of FAUST AND MARGUERITE; with other Entertainments.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.—OPERA BOXES and STALLS in the best situations, and on the most moderate terms, may always be secured at HAMMOND'S MUSICAL LIBRARY, 9, New Bond-street, opposite the Clarendon, Hotel. Opera Pit Tickets and Private Boxes at all the Theatres.

ROYAL GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street.—GERSEA is now added to the DIORAMA of the DANUBE and BLACK SEA; with Home of the Troops to the Seat of War, &c. Daily, at Three and Eight. Admission, 1s., 2s., and 3s.

CONSTANTINOPLE and the WAR.—The LECTURE, illustrating the MOVING PANORAMA of the EAST, is Delivered on WEDNESDAYS and SATURDAYS, at Three o'Clock, and on other days by Mr. G. BANNISTER. Daily, at half-past Two and Eight. Admission, 1s.

MR. W. S. WOODIN'S CARPET-BAG and SKETCH-BOOK, in the UPPER HALL, REGENT GALLERY, 60, Quadrant, EVERY EVENING at Eight o'clock. A Morning Performance every Saturday, at Two o'clock. Stalls 3s., Area 2s., Gallery 1s. Stalls may be secured, without extra charge, at the Gallery, and at Messrs. Keith, Prowse, and Co.'s Music Library, 48, Cheapside.

MR. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC, including the Remains Quotidian and the Simplon, EVERY EVENING, at Eight o'clock, except Saturday, and every Thursday, and Saturday morning, at Three.—Stalls, 3s.; which can be taken at the Box-office every day from Eleven till Four; area, 2s.; gallery, 1s.—EGYPTIAN HALL, Piccadilly.

MR FRIEND'S GRAND MOVING DIORAMA of CANADA, the UNITED STATES, NIAGARA and the ST. LAWRENCE, with DESCRIPTIVE SONGS and Choruses, forms one the most beautiful Entertainment in existence. DAILY, at Three and Eight. Saturday evening excepted. Open at the Polytechnic, Regent-street. Admission, 1s., and 2s. Reserved Seats 3s. Boxes, 5s.

SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER-COLOURS.—The FIFTIETH ANNUAL EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN, at their Gallery, 5, PALL MALL EAST. Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 6d.

FRENCH EXHIBITION of PICTURES.—The First Annual Exhibition of the FRENCH SCHOOL of the FINE ARTS, is now open at the GALLERY, 121, Pall-Mall, opposite the Opera Colonnade, from 10 to 6, Daily. Admission One Shilling. Catalogue Sixpence

GALLERY of GERMAN PAINTINGS.—The SECOND ANNUAL EXHIBITION of the WORKS of MODERN GERMAN MASTERS is NOW OPEN DAILY, from Nine a.m. till Dusk. Admission, 1s.—Gallery, 168, New Bond-street, next door to the Clarendon.

AN EXHIBITION of PICTURES, by MODERN MASTERS, is NOW OPEN GRATIS (by kind permission of Mr. GIBSON, Esq.), at the BRITISH SCHOOL, 30, LOWTHER ARCADE, from 11 to 5 daily. This collection has been formed, and continental, to the late J. W. ALLEN, for the benefit of his surviving family. The Exhibition will be open until the 7th of June, on which day the Lithographs, &c., will be distributed.

DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM, SALLE ROBIN, 20a, Piccadilly.—Open for Gentlemen Only, from 11 till 5, and from 7 till 10. New Lectures at 13, 2, 4, and 7p, by Dr. KAHN. On Wednesday and Friday Ladies only are admitted, from 2 till 5. Lecture at 3, by Mrs. Sexton. Admission, 1s

MR. ANDERSON (Pianiste to her Majesty the Queen) has the honour to announce that her ANNUAL MORNING CONCERT will take place at the ROYAL SQUARE ROOMS, on MONDAY, JUNE 19, to commence at Half-past Two precisely. The programme will comprise the most celebrated Vocalists and Instrumentalists in London. The Orchestra will be complete in every department. Reserved Seats, Half-a-Guinea each. Tickets to be had of Mr. Anderson, 2, Cambridge-terrace, Hyde-park.

MISS DOLBY and MR. LINDSAY SLOPER'S MORNING CONCERT will take place at ST. MARTIN'S HALL, on MONDAY, JUNE 19, at Half-past Three o'clock. Miss Anne Bailey's first appearance after her return from Italy. Signor Bellotti and Herr Ernst. The Orchestra, complete in every department, will consist of the members of the Orchestra Union, Conductors, Messrs. Benedict and Alfred Mellon. Tickets, Half-a-Guinea each; Reserved Stalls, One Guinea; Tickets and Reserved Seats, the each, or three for two guineas, to be had of Messrs. Cramer Beale, and Wood, Regent-street; of Mr. Dolby, 9, Hanover-square; and of Mr. Lindsay Sloper, 7, Southwick-place, Hyde-park-square.

LONDON DISTINGUISHED PATRON ASSOCIATION.—DR. AETSCHUL will deliver, on FRIDAY EVENING, JUNE 9, at Eight o'Clock, a LECTURE (in English) on Cancer, Tumours, Ulcers, Diseases of the Breast, Tract, and Milk. Admission, Sixpence. Subscribers, Gratis. Artists' Resorts of Seats, 5s. Tickets to be had at Cramer, Beale, and Wood's, 201, Regent-street; Lee and Co.'s, 67, Oxford-street; and at the Mary-le-bone Institution, 17, Seymour-street, Portman-square, where Tickets will be delivered.

WHITSUNTIDE HOLIDAYS.—The ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, Regent's-park, will be open to Visitors from MONDAY to FRIDAY in Whit-Week, on payment of SIXPENCE each person. The Menagerie is the Largest in the World, and has lately been enriched by the addition of a pair of Giant Anteaters, an adult pair of Indian Lions, and a pair of Sclater's Deer. The Band of the 1st Life Guards will perform, by permission of Colonel Hall, every Saturday, at four o'clock.

SINGING.—Signor RE, from the Conservatorio of Milan, gives LESSONS in Private Families and Schools. Signor RE's Method for Forming the Voice has proved most successful at Ackers, 47, Mount-street, Grosvenor-square.

INSTITUTE of PHOTOGRAPHY, 179, REGENT-STREET.—Messrs. COOKE and CO. respectfully solicit the attention of Amateurs to the COLLODION prepared only at their Establishment for the Manufacture of Photographic Chemicals of every kind from their own Laboratory.

PHOTOGRAPHY, 236, Regent-street (opposite Hanover-street).—Mr. J. E. WILLIAMS begs to inform his Friends and the Public that he has REMOVED to the above address, where Portraits, Views, Copies of Paintings, Instruments, Chemicals, Trials and Groups for the Stereoscope taken daily.

PHOTOGRAPHIC NOTICE.—The following Articles can only be obtained at C. R. POTTINGER'S, 61, Ludgate-hill where Parties can look for 1854 combine a price-list of all articles (French, English, and American), used in Photography only, and by him at the lowest possible remunerative rate.

Post-office orders to Charles H. Pottinger, Chief Office, London-house, Ludgate-hill, corner of St. Martin's-le-Grand. The undersigned are all American, for which C. R. P. is Sole Agent.

Sensitive, Sensitive Papers, Cameras Bellows Pattern, Brass-stops, Dutto. Stands, Preservers Camera Stands, Chemical Iron Head Rests, Stereoscopic Cases—and the Dutto. Dutto. Sensitive Boards, Finest Assortment of fancy Ball Inches, ditto in England. Collodion Introduced.

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NEW GAME.—CANNONADE. Registered 5 and 6 Vict. One of the best Games ever brought out.—Price of Boxed complete, with Dice, 3s., 5s., 7s. 6d. Sold at most Fancy Repositories; Wholesale, JAQUES, Hatton-garden.

ENDLESS AMUSEMENTS.—By purchasing MERRY'S GAME of the RACE, or STEEPLE-CHASE, from 2s. to £10 10s., you will [illegible] Almost daily [illegible] Orders instantly attended to, containing a remittance, at MERRY'S, 390, Oxford-street. Sample Race Game, for Seven Stamps; Hunter, for One Stamp.

New ready, price 2s.,

NEW READING CASES for PROTECTING the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS during perusal. PORTFOLIOS to contain Six Months' Numbers, 4s. each CASES for BINDING the Volumes, 2s. 6d. each. May be obtained at the Office, 198, Strand; and of all Booksellers.

OPENING of the CRYSTAL PALACE.—The OPENING of the CRYSTAL PALACE is definitely fixed to take place on SATURDAY, the 10th of JUNE, on which occasion her Majesty has graciously signified her intention of honouring the Inauguration with her presence.

SEASON TICKETS.

Season Tickets may now be had at the Palace; at the Offices, 3, Adelaide-place, London-bridge, and 14, Regent-street, at the Brighton Railway Terminus, London-bridge, at Sams', 1, St. James's-street; Mitchell's, Bond-street; Gunter's, Berkeley-square; Hookham's, Knightsbridge; Kelch, Prowse, and Co., Cheapside; Hill's Royal Exchange Library; W. Brooks's Offices, 9, High-street, Southampton; and at Messrs Smith and Sons' Bookstalls on the Rail ways. Tickets to be delivered on the Admission of 1851, though scarcely any of them now remain, but to exchange them for Tickets of 1854, on the application to the Secretary to the Brighton Railway, London-bridge, and at 14, Regent-street.

HOLDERS of SEASON TICKETS ONLY will be admitted to the OPENING of the PALACE.

OPENING of the CRYSTAL PALACE.—CALLAGHAN'S CRYSTAL PALACE PERSPECTIVE GLASSES, indispensable to all visitors. These extraordinary little glasses (introduced at the Exhibition of 1851), though scarcely larger than your thumb, yet possess such wonderful power and clearness as to move objects distinctly at the distance of a mile. Not only will they be found invaluable for viewing the interior of the Crystal Palace, but for the magnificent views of the surrounding country. Price 12s. 6d. each. To be had of the appointed Agents, Hawes Library, 8a, James's-street; Mitchell's, 33, Old Bond-street; Westerton's, Hyde-park-corner Keith, Prowse, and Co., 48, Cheapside; and at the Book-stall in the London-bridge Station; or will be sent, post free, on receipt of stamps or money order, payable to William Callaghan, Optician, 45, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury, London.

SYDENHAM PALACE.—PERFUMERY.—TURROCK and SON'S Counter, No. 6, South-west Gallery (immediately above the Pompeian Court).—S. and Son's celebrated Perfumes are Her Majesty's Purfumers for Scotland. 173 Buchanan-street, Glasgow; 33, Princes-a-reet, Edinburgh; and at Upchurch-place, London.

CRYSTAL PALACE is OPEN to BEES.—MARRIOTT'S newly-illustrated CATALOGUE of HUMAN-COTTAGE BEE-HIVES forwarded for penny stamp. Marriott's Apiarian Depot and Patent Bee-hive Manufactory, Old Dairy Warehouse, 24, Pall-street-hill, London-bridge.

PARIS EXHIBITION OF 1855.—NOTICE is hereby given that the DEPARTMENT of SCIENCE and ART of the BOARD of TRADE has been instructed to institute preliminary inquiries, with a view of ascertaining the probable number of Exhibitors from the United Kingdom, and the amount of space it may be necessary to demand from the French Imperial Commission

[illegible] Houses, Pall-mall, London

NATIONAL FREEHOLD LAND SOCIETY, 14, Moorgate-street.

The Estates at Charlton, Norwich, Anglesey, near Gosport; and West Cowes, Isle of Wight, will be ready for SALE on MONDAY, the 29th inst.

Members desirous of [illegible] to priority of choice will have the option of choosing Lots on the Estates on the 26th, 27th, 28th, and 29th inst. Should any Lots be left after that time, they may be taken at any period by paying the price, or principal and interest, with the right to borrow money, and, if the whole should not be sold during the first week, the remaining Lots may be taken at any period by paying the price, or principal and interest, and interest on the unpaid balance at 5p cent. Persons not having shares of their own, but wishing to obtain early choices can do so by purchasing the rights of others, and a register of rights offered for sale, with prices, is kept at the office. Plans and conditions of sale may be had on application. W. E. WILTSHIRE, Secretary.

May 27th, 1854.

ST. MARGARET'S, near RICHMOND.—COMMODIOUS LAND SOCIETY. RIGHTS of CHOICE on [illegible] Estate are now on SALE at the Offices, 33, Norfolk-street, Strand. Plots of land to be had on the Estate for Allotments. The Estate is fixed for WEDNESDAY the 7th inst.

CHARLES LEWIS GRUNEISEN, Secretary.

BROCKLEY-HALL, near Yatton, Somerset-shire, to be LET for a Term, with immediate possession, DESIRABLE RESIDENCE, delightfully situated, BROCKLEY HALL, MANSION, with shrubbery and pleasure grounds, walled kitchen gardens well clothed, and in full bearing, not-houses and greenhouses, coach-house and stabling, and manager's house, and the whole containing about twenty-five acres. The mansion-house is well placed on the grounds, is very commodious, and replete with every comfort and accommodation requisite [illegible] The pleasure grounds are in most excellent order and condition. Any quantity of land that might be required can be had extra. Broadcloth is immediately opposite the well-known Brockley Deer Park, and there is a retriever kennel in the neighbourhood. The parish church, a neighbourhood of the most romantic and enchanting scenery. It is conveniently contiguous to the far famed Brockley Coombs, and within a few minutes' walk of the Yatton station on the Great Western railway of the British and Exeter Railway, and this within 24 hours' access to the Metropolis. The premises will be shown by Mr. Bowers, the reserved Seats, the each, or three for two guineas, to be had of Messrs. Cramer Beale, and Wood, Regent-street; of Mr. Dolby, 9, Hanover-square; and of Mr. Lindsay Sloper, 7, Southwick-place, Hyde-park-square.

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THE NATIONAL PROVIDENT FREEHOLD LAND SOCIETY

Offices, 473, New Oxford-street, and 30, Cheapside, London.

Patron, The Right Hon. the Earl of Lovelace. Vice-Admiral Chevalier.

GREAT HARBOUR HILL ESTATE, ST. JOHN, SUSSEX

The very desirable Estate is close to the Borough Station, with a frontage to the 5th road from Slough to Windsor. It commands extensive and beautiful views of Windsor Castle and the surrounding country, and adjoins the grounds of the late Sir John Ilicesbell and Upton Park, and is in close proximity to the parish church. At a Public Meeting of the Members of the Society, held on this and other estates purchased by the Society, the Rev. [illegible] Chairman, it was resolved that the Numbers of the Allotments, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 704, 630, 707, 148, 23, 867, 844, 735, 256, 772, 1020, 132, 1010, 538, 903, 971, 865, 230, 405, 205, 366, 1038, 1041 were forthwith drawn, and in consequence of the applications being increased they have also been drawn for Nos. 1042, 1043, 1044, 1045, the selected Seats at Staines, Middlesex, is now in course of allotment. The Society's building plots, with frontages of 40 feet by a depth of 70, are for £10, frontage of 30 feet, £25. Rights of choice on the above estates are now on sale, at the Offices of the Society, where plans may be seen, a register is kept for public inspection, with prices affixed. For lists, prospectuses, rules, and conditions of sale, apply to Mr. Watkin, Solicitor; Mr. John Cleave [illegible] Chapter-house Court, Shoe-lane, 80, Cheapside; or to the Secretary, Sharon, £50; monies, shares, or deposits may be sent (interest allowed upon all deposits, paid-up shares, and subscriptions six months in advance.

JOHN T. COX, Secretary.

EASTERN COUNTIES RAILWAY.—MARGATE and HERNE BAY, with TILBURY.—On and after 1st JUNE, the Steam-packet ORION will leave Tilbury Pier for Margate and Herne Bay every TUESDAY, THURSDAY, and SATURDAY, on arrival of the Train leaving Fenchurch Station at 10.25 a.m. Fenchurch-street, at 9.30 a.m. Fare on the 12 Rail Steamer 10.27 a.m.; and will leave Margate and Herne Bay, Wednesday, and Friday, at Half-past Nine a.m. in connection with a Train direct from Tilbury to London

Passengers may book through to Herne Bay, either of the undermentioned Stations. Fares. First-class, and Saloon, 5s. 6d. Second and Fore cabin, 4s. 6d: Children, 3s. 6d. A Fast Packet will be placed on the Station in the Pier at Tilbury. For further particulars, apply to the Coasting Superintendent, Bishopsgate Station; or the Superintendent's Office, Fenchurch-street Station, E.C.

By Order,

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY of CANADA. —Notice is hereby given, that a Call of £2 10s. per Share on each and every Share of the A Series of the Shares of this Company has been made, and will be due and payable on WEDNESDAY, the 7th of JUNE, 1854. A Call of £20 will also be due and payable on each of the certificates exchangeable for the Debentures of the sixteen of £100 each.

Six per cent interest will be charged on the Calls as long as they are in arrear. A List letter will be sent to each Shareholder for the payment of the Call on his Shares. The Debenture Certificates must be presented at the Bankers', in order that the payment of the Call may be marked upon them.

Holders have the option of paying up in full on their Shares and Debentures, and will be fine and payable on WEDNESDAY, the 7th of JUNE, 1854. A Call of £20 will also be due and payable on each of the certificates exchangeable for the Debentures of the sixteen of £100

NEW BOOKS, &c.

This day, price 1s., sewed,

DR. CUMMING'S FAST-DAY SERMON, THE WAR AND ITS ISSUES. Dedicated with "Signs of the Times"

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Just published, price 1s.; or 4s. 6d., postage free,

LONDON: the Subject of Fearful Predictions contained in the Revelation of St. John.

London: HOULSTON and STONEMAN, 65, Paternoster-row.

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THE DIVINE DRAMA of History and Civilisation. By the Rev. JAMES SMITH, M.A.

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MANNA in the HOUSE; or, Daily Expositions of the Gospels: especially adapted for reading at Family Worship. By the Rev. BARTON POUCHER, M.A. St. Matthew and St. Mark, 6s.; St. Luke, 6s.; St. John, 6s.

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In a few days,

ANNA; or, Passages from a Home Life. being a New and Enlarged Edition of "Passages from the Life of a Daughter at Home." Fifth Edition. Foolscap 8vo. Price 5s. 6d. cloth.

"As a picture of the power of religion is gradually subduing the asperities of a gloomy disposition and a stern temper, this story is exceedingly beautiful."—Edinburgh Review

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THE LIFE of the Rev. H. W. FOX, B.A., Missionary in South India. By the Rev. G. T. FOX, M.A. With a Preface by Bishop MILVAINE and Rev. H. V. ELLIOTT, M.A. "An instructive, impressive, and very lovely view of real and elevated piety."—Bishop M'Ilvaine

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A MEMOIR of the Rev. W. A. B. JOHNSON, Missionary at Regent's Town, Sierra Leone. With a Preface. By the Rev. WILLIAM JOWETT, M.A.

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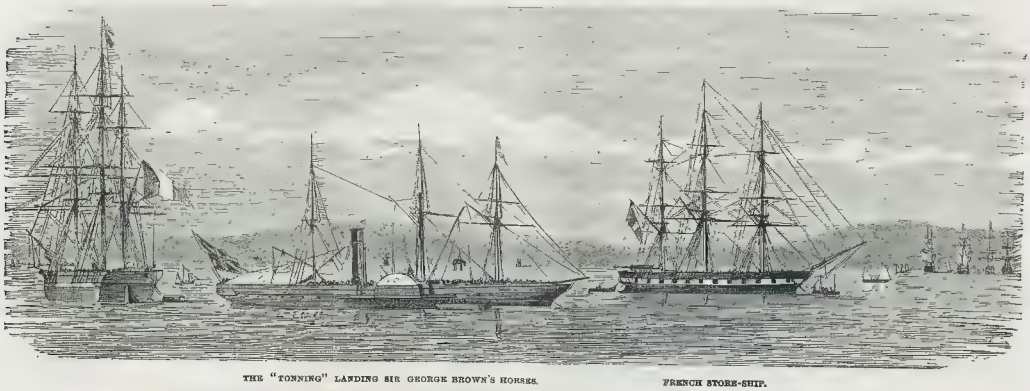
PANORAMIC VIEW OF GALLIPOLI.



THE "TONNING" LANDING SIR GEORGE BROWN'S HORSES. FRENCH STORE-SHIP.

"JEAN BART." "MONTEBELLO" FLAG-SHIP. "NAPOLEON." "ALGHE." FRENCH CAMP. TURKISH STEAMER, WITH RECRUITS FROM SMYRNA.

ENGLISH TRANSPORT. THE "TRENT" STEAMER, WITH WELSH FUSILIERS ON BOARD.

GALLIPOLI.—LANDING-PLACE.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.) FRENCH CONSUL'S HOUSE.

THE ALLIED FORCES AT GALLIPOLI.

THE Duke of Cambridge and suite arrived at Gallipoli on the 8th, at three o'clock p.m., on the arrival of the *Caradoc*, with the Royal standard at the main, and a French line-of-battle ship hoisted the union jack at the main, and thundered out a salute of 101 guns each, which shook the crazy old town to its foundation. Generals, Aides-de-camp, Consuls, Attachés rushed off to dress themselves in full uniform; guards of honour were sent for; and the French authorities set about to make preparation for the reception of his Royal Highness. But while all this commotion was going on, the Duke, dressed in a plain shooting coat and round hat, stepped on shore, attended by Lord J. Macdonald, and, having picked up an intelligent emigrant of a marching regiment who happened to be lounging about, proceeded to pick out his way through the corkscrew lanes of Gallipoli towards the General's. Mr. Brodie, the Attaché, who had arrived at Gallipoli a week previously from Constantinople to represent Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, met his Royal Highness; and all who were aware of his arrival, hastened to pay their respects to him. The contrast between the landing of the Duke of Cambridge and of Prince Napoleon was most striking; but it may be doubtful whether the show and display of the latter's reception was not more calculated to produce a proper impression on the minds of the Orientals. In fact, the absence of our fleets from these waters, the preponderance of the French, their vigorous behaviour, and the dependence of our forces on the boats of their fleet, has produced an effect which it will require some time and [illegible] to counteract. It is very hard [illegible] that Turk or Greek that a [illegible] gentleman in a tweed jacket can command and disband an army, or represent as much power as a courtier [illegible] bullet-headed Arabian, with glittering sabre, plumes, and gold lace, in rich uniform.

After a short conference, his Royal Highness, accompanied by Sir R. England, Brigadier-General Eyre, and Sir Colin Campbell, and followed by the staff, went to the camp of the 50th Regiment at Soulari, about four miles from the town. Here the excitement was, if anything, greater than before; guards of honour were thought of, and immediate preparations were made for having the regiment under arms; when the Duke intimated that he wished merely to look at the soldiers as they were. He was accordingly conducted round the tents by Lieut.-Colonel Waddy, and was apparently much pleased with the manner in which the encampment was laid out. After tasting the soldiers' rations, his Royal Highness continued his ride a short distance into the country. He returned to Gallipoli, and immediately embarked under hearty cheering from the French vessels; to which the *Vulcan*, which had just arrived from Constantinople, lent her aid.

Sir George Brown left Gallipoli on the 7th for Soutari; but previously to his departure he inspected the regiments under his command.

Soon after daybreak the tents of the Rifle Brigade, of the 50th Regiment, and of the 93rd Regiment, forming the working brigade at the camp of Bulair, were struck, and the whole encampment was broken up. At the same time the 4th Regiment, 28th Regiment, and 44th Regiment struck their tents at the Soulari encampment, about two miles from the town of Gallipoli, and proceeded on their march towards Bulair—there to take up the quarters vacated by the other brigade. The mass of baggage belonging to these regiments was enormous. The trains of bullock and buffalo carts, of pack horses and mules, and of led horses, which filed along the road to Gallipoli, seemed sufficient for the army of Xerxes. For seven or eight miles the teams of country carts, piled up with beds and trunks, and soldiers' wives and tents, were almost unbroken. And now and then an overladen mule tumbled down, or a wheel came off, and the whole line of march became a confused struggle of angry men and goaded cattle. It so happened that two French battalions were moving out to fresh quarters (for, in the excellent line of their sanitary arrangements, they change their camps nearly once a fortnight) and to a less perceptible degree at a glance than ours, they carried much less impedimenta than our regiments. There is considerable difficulty in accounting for this, because, without a complete knowledge of the internal economy of both armies, comparison is difficult; but it may be fairly supposed that the absence of wives, and the small kit of the French officers, as well as the inferior size of the tents, go far to account for it. Another matter to be taken into consideration in the officers' baggage is, that Frenchmen live in their uniform; while we all know how much a soldier is quite happy without his mufti: he must have his wide-awake, and shooting jacket, and dressing-gown, and evening-dress, and a tub of some sort or other, and a variety of gay shirting, pictorial and figurative—while the Gaul does very well without them.

After a brief inspection by Sir George Brown and staff, accompanied by the French General, and a number of officers, the Rifles and 93rd Regiment continued their march to the shore, where they were to embark for Soutari, while both the 50th and 4th their new camp at Soulari. The French Admiral had, with the greatest promptitude, sent the launches and boats of the fleet to the piers, and in about one hour the whole of the two regiments, consisting of nearly 2000 men, were shipped on board the *Arabian* and the *Golden Fleece*; their baggage took a longer time, and there was considerable difficulty in getting the horses on board. The *Orient* and *Sir George Pollock* transports conveyed the horses and baggage; and, under the superintendence of Lieutenant Rendell, R.N., the officers shipped them, in spite of many inconveniences, was effectively accomplished. Sir George Brown and his staff went on board the *Golden Fleece*, in which Colonel Lawrence, Major Marcott, Captain Ebrington, and the officers and men of the Rifle Brigade were embarked. The 93rd were stowed away comfortably in the *Andes*; and the *City of London* having taken the two transports in tow, the little flotilla left their anchorage unostentatiously, and moved on at dusk to Constantinople.

Drunkenness continues to be the great evil of the Allied army at Gallipoli. In one company of the 93rd Regiment, upwards of twenty men were brought up one morning at the camp to answer for this offence. A huge gaunt Highlander, who had been fraternising with some Zouaves, presented a ludicrous appearance on coming up before his officers. He had, in the height of his convivial good-fellowship, exchanged the greater portion of his dress with an African soldier, and when morning brought reaction he must have been rather horrified to find himself in a fez cap, a blue jacket embroidered with red worsted, a bright blue sash round his waist, and enormous Dutch-built scarlet pantaloons flapping about his legs. He had forgotten the yellow facings and lace he was ordered up he displayed the plaid hose of his regiment beneath the gay nether garment of the French soldier. What became of the corresponding Zouave, who must have made rather a sensation among his comrades when he appeared before them in kilt and coiffure, has not been satisfactorily ascertained; but the woebegone, sheepish, and utterly prostrate look of the Highlander, as he presented himself in his borrowed wardrobe, can never be forgotten by those who witnessed it. The "fraternising" is so vigorous and cordial as to have become rather a nuisance to commanding officers of regiments.

The Turks are much pleased with political caricatures, and a number of *Punch* affords them infinite delight. Lately, a representation of the Sultan as a bottomless sedan-chair, seemingly supported, but really hampered, by the allegorical representatives of France and England, gave great amusement to the population of Gallipoli. They quite understood the force of the satire, and exclaimed, "Pekli pekli" (very good).

THE ILLUSTRATION upon the preceding page, sketched by a Correspondent at Gallipoli, represents the active life of the head-quarters, commencing with the landing of Sir George Brown's horses from the *Tonning*, on the 23rd ult. Passing several French ships, we reach a Turkish steamer, with recruits and colours, hailed from Smyrna. The large steamer below is the *Trent*, with the 23rd Royal Welsh Fusiliers (Major Lysons) on board, and waiting to tow the *Tonning*, which had become disabled, to Constantinople. In the lowermost portion of the view is the town of Gallipoli, and its fortifications, and the busy landing-place; the extreme point of the view being the French Consul's house, behind which lies the Turkish Camp, looking towards the Sea of Marmora.

THE QUAIL.

AT Christmas last we introduced to our readers a history of the Turkey—as a subject not inappropriate to the season, and at all times inviting. A few months have passed by and spring has returned, bringing with it our summer migratory birds—those, namely, that leave our latitudes in autumn, and pass the winter in more genial climes, to revisit us when "the winter is over and gone," and the flowers of the earth burst forth in all their beauty and fragrance. The swallow now makes its appearance, and "the voice of the turtle is heard in our land."

It is not, however, to these birds—of which so much has been said and sung—that we now call our readers' notice, but to another, generally little considered, yet of which the history cannot fail to prove acceptable, the more so as we introduce it at an apt and fitting Conjuncture. The bird to which we allude is the Quail, a migratory visitant to Europe, and decidedly one of the most interesting of those which sojourn in our island.

Few are well acquainted with the habits and manners of the Quail. Its local distribution in our island, and that only during a few months of the year, is one great reason of this popular ignorance; to which may be added its comparative scantiness even in the districts it frequents, save in a few very congenial localities. In the northern counties the Quail rarely makes its appearance, nor is it much more abundant in our central districts.

The Quail is a migratory bird of the Gallinaceous Order—a circumstance in itself sufficient to give it interest in the eyes of a naturalist, moreover, it is connected with historical events of remote ages, and is therefore peculiarly interesting to the Biblical critic; it is so, for other reasons, to the sportsman; it is one of the most delicious of the feathered tribe which is brought to the table of the epicure; its spirit renders it a favourite with many, and its beauty with all. No excuse, therefore, is needed for introducing such a bird to the notice of our readers.

THE EUROPEAN QUAIL (*Coturnix dactylisonans*) is doubtless the *ορτυξ* (*ortyx*) of Aristotle. It is *la Caille* of Buffon; *le Crobiel* of the same author; *Quaglia* of the Italians; *da Wachtel*, and *Wachtel Feldhuhn*, of the Germans. It is called *Soflar* and *Rikine* in the ancient British tongue. According to Col. Sykes, it is the *Lohak* of the Mahrattas. It appears to be the *Selav* of the ancient Israelites; *Selavi* or *Selwee* of the Arabs; but on this point we shall have occasion to make some observations.

The Quail enjoys a very extensive range; it is found throughout the whole extent of Northern Africa, and probably much farther to south of that continent than has been supposed. From Africa it is spread over all the countries north of the Mediterranean, and thence eastward to India: whether the ordinary Quail of China is specifically identical with our own, has yet to be ascertained. The exact limits of the northward range of the Quail, whether in Asia or Europe, do not appear to be very precisely ascertained; but these, as is ever the case, are doubtless, regulated by the supply of food and the features of the country. We shall look for the Quail in vain along the borders of the boreal latitudes, or among snow clad mountain ranges.

The general resemblance in form (of course not in size) between the comparatively small Quail and the partridge is very striking; and as the latter, with its short, rounded, concave wing, is not remarkable for great powers of flight, the extent of the migratory journeys of the former have appeared surprising, and, indeed have sometimes been received with incredulity. Now, although the partridge cannot be called a migratory bird, yet in some of the more southern regions it is said to shift its quarters. We suspect, however, that the observation, if correct, applies to a very distinct bird, namely, the Greek partridge (*Perdix Graeca* of Brisson and other writers); for our partridge is very rare in Southern Europe. Be this as it may, the Quail is far better fitted for flight than the partridge: for example—the first quill feather of the wings is of equal length with the succeeding ones—giving to the wing a sharpness of outline which does not see in the wing of the partridge, in which the three anterior quill feathers are exceeded by the fourth and fifth; hence it is less concave, and more pointed, a circumstance which makes great difference as to the comparative capabilities of aerial locomotion. Let it not, however, be supposed that we consider the Quail as a bird remarkable for its powers of flight—rather the contrary: all we mean is that it is capable of accomplishing journeys of a considerable extent, at a stretch, and after resting, in order to recover strength, of continuing such journeys—annually, having left Northern Africa, it at last settles for a time in France, Germany, or even in the British Islands—to return thither again when the appointed time arrives. Probably, however, our island-bred birds do not pass beyond the borders of Southern Europe.

We dwell thus upon the migratory powers of the Quail, because we have been led, from childhood upwards, to consider it as a bird of passage. It is introduced to us as such, in the Book of Exodus. We there read of flights of Quails extraordinarily strong to afford a supply of food to the distressed Israelites in the wilderness; and hence we involuntarily regard this bird with more than ordinary interest. Its name is associated, in our minds, with an event important in itself, but conducive to others, which have changed the very framework of social life throughout the whole of the civilised world.

It must not, however, be concealed that the claim of the Quail to this historical position is contested. It has, in fact, more than one rival in the pages of Biblical criticism. Of these, strange to say, one is not a bird, but the locust; this was the opinion of Ludolph. On the other hand, Rudbeck supposed that the supply of food which "at even came up and covered the camp," was presented by shoals of some species of flying-fish. The former opinion is untenable; the latter is astonishingly absurd. All the most able commentators agree that it was a bird. But here starts up the difficulty. The following species suggest themselves as worthy of coming under review:—the European Francolin—locality, Southern Europe, North Africa, and Asia (See Gould's "Birds of Europe"); the Greek and the Barbary Partridge—both appertaining to the red-legged group, and of which the latter is probably the "Partridge of the Mountains" (Sam. xxvi. 20); the Katta or Sand-Grouse (*resolvable into three or four species—Petrocles alchata, Pt. alchata, Pt Guttatus*, and *Pt. exustus*), excluding others belonging to more distant regions; and, lastly, the Quail. Now, by common consent, the choice lies between the Katta or Sand-Grouse, and the Quail.

By able pleaders, much might be said on both sides. Let us look first to the claims of the Katta (we leave the precise species for the determination of our great ornithologist, Mr. Gould, in whose magnificent and elaborate work on the "Birds of Europe," in course of publication, the Arabian and other Asiatic Sand-Grouse are figured and described at large. It is known that in Palestine and around its borders, the Katta is astonishingly abundant. Whatever may be its habits during the breeding season, it certainly associates in vast flocks during the greater portion of the year; and, in the stony districts of the country beyond Jordan, it swarms in such multitudes, that phalanx after phalanx arise, like dense clouds passing through the sky, and vanishing in the distance. Burckhardt was astounded by their numbers around the precincts of Bogra. He thus graphically writes:—"The quantity of Kattas here are beyond description; *the whole plain seemed sometimes to rise*; and, far off in the air, they are seen like *large moving clouds*." In the country to the east of the Dead Sea, and among the hilly districts of Edom, their numbers are incredibly excessive: they arise *en masse* from the ground in such dense array, that the Arabs (and especially the boys and young men, who delight in the sport) often bring down three or four at a time, by hurling a heavy jereed among them. In Syria, according to Russell, this bird is to be found the whole year round, but in vast flocks chiefly during the months of May and June; when, even in Northern Syria, the sweep of a cimeter has been known to enclose six entire and well-loaded dishes of the spirited little asses of that region. The Turks are remarkably partial to the flesh of this bird; but it is rejected by the Franks of Syria, who consider it dark-coloured and dry. Burckhardt is strongly of opinion that the Katta and the Selav of the Israelites are identical.

Let us now, passing over much ground, turn to Hasselquist, the pupil and friend of Linnæus. Hasselquist travelled in the East. He was a man of no ordinary talent, and had been educated in the school of rigid accuracy. Now, this able observer, carefully distinguishing between the Katta and the Quail, sent an account of the former to Linnæus, under the title of *Tetrao Israelitarum*. Giving a separate account of the latter bird, he says, "I think it alone worth a journey from Jerusalem to the Red Sea to meet with the partridge of Arabia or the Holy Land, *which has never been before described*. These birds are, without a doubt, the *Quails* of the Israelites:" remarks which will not apply to our Quail, nor to the Continental Red-legged Partridge.

We extract the following passage from a letter to Linnæus, relative to the Katta:—

If natural history can give any information in the interpretation of the Bible, this bird is certainly the same with the Quails of the Israelites; and they alone (the Quails) would reward the toil of a journey to the banks of the Jordan. So great was my own personal delight in this discovery, that, forgetting myself, I almost lost my life before I could obtain possession of a specimen.

Subsequently he observes that, about Whitsuntide, the Arabs carry many thousands of them to Jerusalem for sale. This, we are informed, is still true, with respect to the Katta, but not so with respect to the Quail. Unfortunately, Linnæus knew little or nothing about the Sand-Grouse; and Hasselquist does not give its native name of Katta. Hence Linnæus to whom we are not assured that specimens were ever sent—or, if sent, received by him makes Hasselquist's *Tetrao Israelitarum* a synonym of his *Tetrao Coturnix*—that is, our common Quail. Here lies the difficulty; but, when Linnæus called the American turkey *Meleagris* (adverting to Ovid's fable), we cease to wonder at the mistakes of uncertainty in the dawn of zoological science. That Linnæus should be followed by Gmelin and other compilers, as regards this point, need not surprise us, and is scarcely worthy of notice.

So far with regard to the claims of the Katta, a desert-bird. Now, let us turn to the Quail. A well-known writer says, that both the Katta and the Quail are *migratory* birds, and that, as is evident, "the birds which fed the Israelites were in the act of migration." That the Katta is partially migratory we by no means deny; but it is far from being so extensively migratory, or so regularly so, as is the Quail. Thus far we gain nothing on either side. Egypt and Syria, during the month of March, when the wheat is ripening, the Quails (as Hasselquist states) spread themselves over the country in vast flocks; and multitudes, in ancient days, are caught by means of nets, for the purpose of food: to say nothing of the necessity of destroying them by wholesale for the sake of preserving the grain. They then pass northwards, returning in the autumn, but not in such numbers as before. They have twice crossed the Mediterranean—first into Asia Minor, thence spreading through Southern Europe, and so onwards: secondly, on their return, and in each journey not without great slaughter. Here we might cite authorities from ancient times to the present, proving that the migratory movements of the Quail have remained unchanged throughout the change of empires.

Something has been said of the wind which brought the Quails to the camp of the Israelites. It was a south-east wind, drifting over Arabia from the Arabian Sea, and far more likely to hurry forward flocks of the desert-loving Katta than the meadow and cornland-haunting Quail. Yet the wind might have had a bearing from Southern Persia, sweeping across the Persian Gulf. Now, from Southern Arabia—the *Arabia Felix* of Strabo—and from Southern Persia, multitudes of Quails, "thick as autumnal leaves in Vallombrosa," might have been carried onwards to the Desert of Sin, east of the Red Sea. The same observations apply, it may be said, with equal if not more force to the Katta; but we must not forget (such is our answer) that 3300 years have passed, altering the whole superfices of Southern Persia, Arabia, and Egypt; rendering vast tracts, once the granaries of mighty nations, now sandy wastes, where the foot of the camel may disturb the Katta and the Stone Curlew, or Thick-knee (*Œdicnemus crepitans*), as it wends its way across the still lion-haunted desert, but where the Quail will hardly find itself in comfortable quarters. What, then, is our opinion? We answer with Sir Roger de Coverley—"Much may be said on both sides." While we admit the fact that the Quail migrates in overwhelming multitudes, we are not without a lurking suspicion that the Israelitish bird was the Katta. Nay, might not flocks of both species have been Providence-directed to supply a rude wandering people, who knew little about the specific distinctions of scientific zoology? Thus then we leave this part of our subject.

Although the Quail is certainly a migratory bird, it is not so altogether—no not even in our own island, where, in favourable spots some few appear to be stationary, if not always, nurse in the spring by visitors from the South, which rear their progeny and depart on the approach of autumn. In India we believe that the Quail is truly stationary, it is more than partially so in Portugal, Spain, Italy, and South-eastern Europe (Greece excepted); although, in winter it is joined by arrivals from the North, and in spring by accessions from the deserts of Northern Africa, seeking a congenial breeding-place.

The same observations apply to Candia, Greece, the Greek Islands, to the great peninsular projection of Asia Minor, from the Isle of Cyprus on the south to the long line of northern coast thence over the Black Sea from Schumla to Odessa, and eastward to the Crimea, and beyond. This is a vast extent of country; to which Spain, France, Germany, the Austrian States, and Poland—in fact, the whole range of the south of Russia in Europe—may be added. Throughout this range the Quail is both migratory and resident, more resident, perchance, than we imagine, could we ascertain the numbers of permanent settlers—an unobserved remnant, in wilds thinly tenanted by man, and but a little previously covered by myriads. We might here enter into the accounts of the migratory movements of the Quail as recorded in the works of the ancients—of the multitudes condensed into vast clouds, which, scattering themselves, exhausted their journey easy prey to the inhabitants of the numerous isles of Greece. To refer again to the Scriptures is, perhaps, out of place; but, if anything proves the Quail to have been the Selav of the Israelites, it is the recorded fact that for a whole month six hundred thousand men, with women and children in proportion, were supplied with food by these birds, which lighted in numbers beyond the powers of calculation, for some miles, in and around their encampment. "He rained flesh also upon them as dust, and feathered fowls like as the sand of the Sea."—Psalm lxxviii., 27. Refer also to Exodus.

This narrative prepares us for the accounts given by the Classic writers from Aristotle to Pliny, which have been sometimes deemed exaggerations. The former, after stating that immense flocks, driven out of their course (across the Mediterranean) by adverse winds, are often swept into the sea, proceeds to state that they sometimes settle on vessels in such numbers as to cause their sinking from the overloading of the masts and rigging; and that, by a rare chance, they alight on the ship by night. Looking at the vessels as light craft resembling our fishing-smacks, plying along the coast, and considering Pliny's acquaintance with the shores of the Mediterranean, we cannot refuse credence to this positive statement. Even in modern times, when the Quail is perhaps less multitudinous than it was formerly, before the destructive gun was known, the authentic accounts on record are sufficiently startling. During the periodical flights of these birds between Europe and Africa, and *vice versâ*, the shores and islands of the Mediterranean are replete with myriads—Sicily swarms with them. Their autumnal visit is looked forward to with great anxiety, and they there encounter wholesale destruction, the gun, the net, and the simplest missiles being all in requisition. On the coast of Naples, according to Montagu, and within a comparatively limited space, 100,000 have been counted as the produce of a single day's work. In this manner we might pass along the European shores of the Mediterranean; but, were we to do so, we should be too long delayed by the "Isles of Greece:" everywhere a repetition of the same wholesale destruction of the Quail is as vigorously carried on. According to Baron de Tott, no country abounds in Quails more than the Crimea. During the summer, these birds are dispersed over the country; but, at the approach of autumn, they assemble together, and cross the Black Sea, to the southern coasts, whence they afterwards transport themselves to a warmer climate:—"The order of the migration is inexplicable. Towards the end of August, on a serene day, when the wind blows from the north at sunset, and promises a fine night, they repair to the strand, and take their departure at six or seven in the evening, and have finished a journey of fifty leagues by break of day." They are plentifully haunted, and meet with the usual reception, thousands being taken alive, in addition to those killed on the spot.

But we have said enough, so far, and must draw nearer home.

All who are acquainted with the poultry-markets of London and the provincial towns of England, have seen, during April and May, numbers of Quails pent up in low cages, waiting—like the friends of Ulysses, or the companions of "Eu-Sindbad of the Sea" for their coming destiny. Pretty creatures! who can gloat at them, thus confined and confined, without a feeling of pity? [illegible] and the sportsman, with his gun and dogs, [illegible] and these captives to durance and death [illegible] ure and the net; and are obtained principally in France and the Netherlands. These are all, generally speaking, hens: hence it is well known the predominance of the species that the Quail [illegible] is preponderous. Now, the reason why these prisoners are [illegible] simply this: the males, in flocks, precede by several days the arrival of the females; and, like sailors from a long voyage spend their earnings in the neighbourhood of the place of debarkation. The quail-pipe imitating the low note of the female, is heard, the male utters his clear whistling trisyllable pee-vor-ree, by way of answering, and in this manner scores of time are drawn into the trap. The story has a moral, so it be read aright.

Now for the Quail as a British bird. It is seldom that the Quail visits our island before the middle of May: but here we must except some permanent residents, more numerous in our southern counties, than has yet been suspected. In our midland districts the Quail is rare, and still more so as we advance northwards. It is the bird of the lowlands, tenanting plains and undulating tracts under rich cultivation, or chalk hills of moderate elevation, where barley grows abundantly. It is decidedly terrestrial—we have never heard of its taking refuge in a tree. It loves the scrubby borders of cornlands, which afford it sheiter; rough stony fields; or the very centre of wide lands, where wheat, canary-seed, mustard-seed, and the like, grow in acres. As a proof of the continuance of the Quail during the winter in some of the congenial counties of our island we may here appropriately introduce the following note, kindly communicated to the writer by Mr. Gould. It runs as follows:—

January 2nd, 1854.

Weather very severe—hard frost, with much snow. Visited Leadenhall-market. Quails at four different stalls—all British killed. One dealer had twelve fresh up from Cambridgeshire; from which county, he informed me, he had Quails every week during the autumn and winter. Another dealer had Quails from Suffolk, and said they frequently had them at this season from Ireland. It is clear, therefore, that this bird far more commonly remains in the British Islands during winter than is generally supposed. The twelve alluded to above had all been shot, apparently, on the same day, as was inferred from their uniform freshness and similarity. The legs of both sexes at this season are pale straw-

yellow on the toes; nails horny; bills greenish olive white; the covering of the nostrils a little darker, that is more olive; eyes hazel brown. As regards weight and fatness, the whole were in fair condition; in one specimen the flank feathers were chestnut, except the longitudinal stripe of greyish white down the centre of each; the stem of these feathers quite white; and between this stem and the chestnut a longitudinal line of black. This specimen (probably a young but adult male) had the shoulders, wing coverts, and secondary quill feathers minutely freckled and barred with brown, a fawn stripe running down the centre of each.

Mr. Gould adds a comparison of the Quail from Madras, and of a specimen killed on the borders of the Mediterranean with the birds bred in our island. The Madras bird differs in several particulars, into which we need not here enter, and appears to be distinct from its European congener.

The Quail, as we have said, is polygamous; and, probably, as in the case of the ruff (*Machetes*) and the wild turkey, some battles take place among the males for the maintenance of territorial right, and the sole supremacy of an Oriental *harâem*. The breeding place is chosen either in the centre of fields of grain, or amidst the covert of bordering scrubs or rough spots of ground. The young bevy varies from eight or ten to eighteen in number. The nest is a slight depression in the ground, either natural or scratched, for the reception of the eggs.

A flock of Quails, consisting of one brood, or perhaps two broods united, varying from ten to twenty, or even more, is called, in sportsmen's language, a "bevy." When flushed, they rise with startling suddenness, and, without attempting to soar, sweep along in a straight line with arrow-like velocity. Sometimes the whole bevy rises simultaneously, sometimes only two or three individuals from the same spot at the same instant, but always with a suddenness almost startling to the unpractised gunner—a circumstance which renders Quail shooting by no means so easy as might be supposed.

The food of the Quail consists of grain, and seeds of various plants, not to the exclusion of insects and their *larvæ*. The feeding time commences with the earliest peep of dawn, or an hour or two before, and continues till daybreak. As the evening twilight draws on it again takes its food. During the middle portion of the day it lies perdue in its covert; basks in the sun; and dusts and preens its plumage. Should rain set in, it retires to a sufficient shelter, under brushwood, rough stones, or on old hedgerow banks, to which the young coveys often resort. When scattered over a field they lie very close.

Among the ancients the Quail was not generally served at table. It was supposed to feed on hellebore and poisonous seeds; and, moreover, to be subject to fits of epilepsy (see Pliny); hence it was regarded, not as a *dainty*, but a *dangerous*, dish—except, perhaps, by the knowing epicure.

The high spirit, ardour, and pugnacity of the Quail, have been celebrated from ancient times to the present. "As quarrelsome as Quails in a cage" was a Greek proverb. Quail-fighting, as might be expected, was a favourite amusement with the Greeks and Romans, who kept it in numbers for this purpose, as our forefathers did game-cocks. In India and China, Quail-fighting (as well as cock-fighting) is a popular amusement. We do not know what the Chinese *Game Quail* is; but in India, according to Colonel Sykes, it is not our species, but the Argoondah Quail (*Coturnix Argoondah*), which is in repute.

From a brief notice of the Quail as a fighting bird, we pass on to a consideration of it as a singing bird. Forbear to laugh, courteous reader, for the Quail is, and has been time immemorial, celebrated for its "sweet voice." Athenæus notices the "song of the Quail." Now, the fact is that all piping sounds were agreeable to the ancients—the Gryllus and Cicada made music to their ears; and in Spain, at the present day, grass-hoppers are kept in little rush cages for the sake of their song. Cervantes, in his "Don Quixote," expressly alludes to this custom. In the east, the Stone Curlew (*Edicnemus crepitans*) is highly esteemed for its music. Mr Lane (see "Arabian Nights," Vol. III., p. 82), especially alludes to it, and quotes Hasselquist in corroboration of his own personal testimony. This bird is the *Keerawan*; or, more correctly, *Kárdwan* of the Arabs. The Turks and Egyptians value it much if they can get it alive, and keep it in a cage for its singing.

Bechstein dilates largely upon the song of the Quail. Unfortunately, he puts its voice into words, without meaning, failing therefore to convey his ideas to his readers. A few notes for the piano, or flute, would have been better both for writer and reader; but Bechstein, throughout his book on song-birds, errs egregiously on this very point.

EUROPEAN QUAILS.

Who can attach the same sound as rung in his ears to *made* words? However, we will give the substance of what he says, as a finale:—In the breeding season, the male commences by softly repeating tones resembling *verra-verra*, followed by *pievorie*, uttered in a bold tone (the last we have heard, not the *verra*). This tone is given while the neck is raised, the eyes shut, and the head inclined to one side, as if in the attitude of listening. Among the *fanciers*, the birds that repeat the last syllables ten or twelve times consecutively are the most esteemed. The song of the female only consists of *verra verra, papa-papa*—the two last being those by which the male and female attract each other's attention. The angry cry of the male is *quillah* (now pronounced we know not); but the note of simple complacency is a purring murmur.

The accompanying Engraving is copied, by the express permission of Mr. Gould, from his work, the "Birds of Europe"—a noble monument of zoological industry and acumen, as well as of the highest artistic excellence. So great and so unexpected was the sale of this work, that, within a few years after its completion, every copy was disposed of; and as the lithographic drawings were erased, when the promised number of copies was struck off, we fear that no subsequent edition will ever take place; which, indeed, cannot, unless by the re-drawing of the whole of the plates, at an enormous expense. The transition from the birds of Europe to those of Asia is so natural, and so necessary in the sequence, that we can scarcely be surprised that the "Birds of Asia" should be now in progress.

W. C. L. M.

PARIS FASHIONS FOR JUNE.

YOUR readers (says our Correspondent) will scarcely be surprised to learn that the war in the East bids fair to exercise a great influence on the Fashions. Ladies already adopt for their dresses, Turkish patterns and designs; Arabian crescents; Persian figures, or hieroglyphics (*chiffres Persanes*): everything will in some degree have reference to the war. Ribbons will represent the Bosphorus, in the same manner as we already see silk handkerchiefs printed with the map of the Black Sea, or the Baltic. This fashion may be open to ridicule; but the Eastern patterns and designs are very rich and ingenious, and such of our designers as possess good taste, may produce patterns in the styles of the East, which may become popular. Notwithstanding all that has been invented during the last half-century, the shawls of Cashmere are still unrivalled, and at this season they are exceedingly fashionable. Within the last two years we have seen many Cashmere shawls with a plain ground, and the corners and middle, or pattern in the centre embroidered with gold, mixed with the silk: these shawls are very magnificent; few are seen worn by promenaders in the streets; but for ladies in carriages,

PARIS FASHIONS FOR JUNE.

BONNETS.

they are a highly approved accompaniment to a handsome morning visiting costume, or for the theatre. Bracelets and brooches in the shape of crescents, have already appeared. We should also mention puffed ribbons (*rubans bouffants*) for the trimmings of dresses; they are placed on the volants, and ornament also the bodies, the basques, and the sleeves: they have a charming effect, are of very varied shades of colour, and are ornamented with designs or patterns, which they help to bring out in relief. Mantelets this year are worn very short behind, and in front also; they are indeed, rather very short scarfs, than mantelets. They are made in taffetas, with ornaments of velvet and lace, for spring and autumn; for the summer, they are of tulle and ribbons of velvet, alternately, and trimmed with lace. Some trimmings of feathers are still seen worn: this style should be reserved for winter; at present, fringes, puffed ribbons, and ruches, are alone used. The Canezou is not much worn: it is in black lace and velvet alternately; the bands of velvet laid on the sleeves lengthwise, and disposed also in the same manner from the top to the waist on the front of the body; two bands in front descending as far and down upon the basque, and behind disposed as a trimming in the style of braces. For summer these garments are made still more cool and graceful, in white lace, ornamented with ribbons to match the colours of the petticoats, or made to accompany petticoats of white muslin, with coloured ribbons at the waist of about seven inches width. Volants are very much in fashion, and are worn with plain petticoats, full of pattern, and ornamented with trimming on the front of the petticoat, so as to resemble an apron.

THE ENGRAVINGS.

Ball Dress for Young Lady.—Ribbons passed through the bands of hair, and bunches or tufts of flowers. Body of dress completely covered with Valenciennes lace. A bow of coloured ribbon on the body. Triple petticoat of white muslin, having patterns designed in colours.

Morning Visiting Dress.—Bonnet of crape. Mantelet of embroidered taffetas, trimmed with lace. Dress: plain petticoat, without volants, barred or striped; the intermediate space embroidered in coloured silk.

1.—*Bonnet* of worked straw, mixed with imitation tulle, trimmed with flowers surrounding the back part of the head above the curtain, which is edged with a small pattern in ruche straw, bordered with tulle and narrow blonde. Inside, the bonnet are blue flowers mixed with white blonde, and white bands.

2.—*Bonnet* of pink taffetas, having three ruches on the edge, in the middle; the crown and curtain are ornamented with a ribbon *froncé*, the interior trimmed with crape and roses.

3.—*Bonnet* of white crape, with three rows of blonde falling backwards: the first row, on the edge of the bonnet, is pretty long towards the lower part, and has trimming of Heart's-ease flowers on the inside.

4.—*Bonnet* with crown trimmed with a wide ribbon, which is *froncé* at the corner of the bonnet, and continues to form the bands; a similar ribbon, scolloped, forms the trimming of the edge, together with a pang, in blonde.

For ladies who wear curls of hair, the inside trimming is put on higher up, and is much less in quantity, the curls of hair filling up the space around the cheeks.

PARIS FASHIONS FOR JUNE.

THE BALL AT THE FRENCH EMBASSY.

COSTUMES.

SOUBRETTE (LOUIS XV.), LADY ADELAIDE CURZON. ELIZABETH OF AUSTRIA (CHARLES IX.), LADY PALMERSTON. COURT OF LOUIS XI., LADY MOLESWORTH. COURT OF LOUIS XV., LADY BEAUMONT.

PUBLIC interest was excited in so unusual a degree by the late *Bal Costumé* at the French Embassy, and there were so many peculiar accompanying circumstances distinguishing it from ordinary fashionable *réunions*, that a few Illustrations, conveying some idea of the brilliancy and rarity of the costumes worn, will, doubtless, be acceptable to our readers.

LADY ADELAIDE CURZON

Wore a dress modeled from the era of Louis XV. It was white silk, looped over a skirt of blue taffetas; corsage to correspond, with guipure lace; bouquet of roses, fastened with an aigrette of diamonds. Coiffure poudrée, with hat of black velvet, bordered with pearls and diamonds, aigrette of diamond fastenings, and blue feathers.

VISCOUNTESS PALMERSTON

Appeared as Elizabeth d'Autriche, wife of Charles IX. The over dress was of rich black velvet embroidered in gold; the body embroidered in gold, and fastened with jewels, diamonds, and chains of diamonds; long sleeves of velvet, under-sleeves of grey satin and gold braid, striped with pearls; under-skirt of grey satin, richly embroidered in gold with pearls and precious stones. Black velvet hat covered with diamonds and precious stones; veil, spangled with gold

LADY MOLESWORTH

Appeared in the character of the Queen of Louis XI. of France. Her dress was composed of a jacket of scarlet velvet slit, with deep border trimmings of ermine, fastened in the front with a band of velvet, the slit being entirely covered with magnificent diamonds and emeralds; skirt of scarlet velvet and gold cloth embroidered with bands of massive fleurs-de-lis. Royal coiffure of the period, composed of a tiara crown of diamonds, emeralds, and long gold veil. The splendour of this costume, and its adaptation to the stately physique of the fair wearer were much admired.

LADY BEAUMONT.

This lady's costume illustrated the luxurious epoch of Louis XV. It was composed of a dress of blue satin embossed with gold bouquets, trimmed with point lace, ruches, and roses; corsage to correspond, with lace; stomacher of diamonds and precious stones; under dress of pink moire, covered with costly lace, and trimmings. Coiffure of roses, enriched with diamonds.

HER EXCELLENCY MADAME DE MOSKOUS

Wore a Greek costume. Jacket of rich velvet, ornamented with gold; petticoat of fine damask and brocade, embroidered with gold and pearls; vest, white satin, embroidered with gold.

COUNTESS OF GLENGALL.

Costume of Louis XIV., composed of a rich black tunic, lined with yellow silk, trimmed all round with two flounces of Brussels point, and coloured brocaded ribbon; body and sleeves ornamented with diamonds and pearls; a white silk petticoat, brocaded with coloured flowers, trimmed en tablier with point lace, diamonds, and real pearls. Head-dress, powdered; diamonds, pearls, and gold.

MARCHIONESS OF AILESBURY.

The costume of the noble Marchioness evinced the tasteful and skilful adaptation which were to be expected in so distinguished a leader of fashion. Her Ladyship adopted the character of Blanche of Castile, and wore a chasuble of cloth of gold, with a petticoat and mantle of velvet, sown with fleurs-de-lis in gold. Her coiffure was magnificent, and resplendent with costly diamonds.

DUCHESS OF WELLINGTON.

The costume chosen by her Grace was that of the lovely and ill-fated Marie Antoinette and was copied, we understand, from a drawing by Lebrun. The robe was of crimson velvet with bouffe, fastened by diamond clasps, bordered with white satin, with gold, and with lappets of lace; the corsage ornamented with diamonds and lace. Hat of crimson velvet, with feathers, and a coronet of diamonds, and veil falling over the shoulders; coiffure, powdered and ornamented with diamonds.

MADAME VAN DE WEYER.

This lady, the daughter of one of our British merchant princes, appeared (*apropos* of her husband's country) in a rich characteristic costume of the kind worn in Flanders, at the Court of Marie de Bourgogne.

THE DUCHESS OF MONTROSE

Appeared as a lady of the Court of Louis Quinze, composed of a white dress, looped up with pink roses, over a petticoat of white. Hair powdered, and a profusion of emeralds.

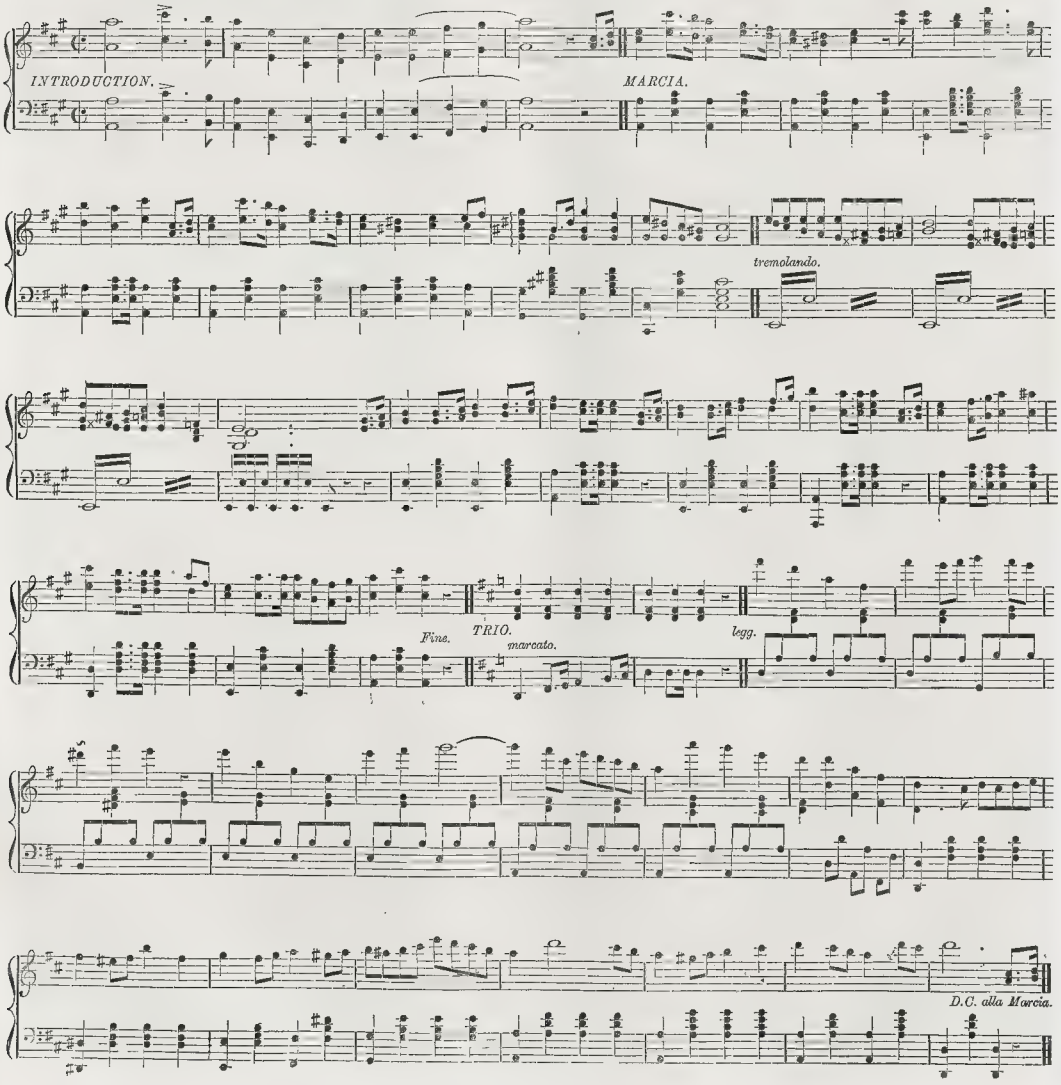
COUNTESS WALEWSKA.

We have already taken special notice of the appearance of the amiable and beautiful lady of the French Ambassador, and need therefore only observe, whilst giving the details of her dress, that in person as well as attire, her Excellency was a graceful and effective impersonation of the character represented by her. The costume was of the seventeenth century, the Duchess de Nevers. It be pointante, with sleeves of green velvet adorned with passementerie in gold, and with bunches of fine pearls, collar of fine lace, petticoat elevated on both sides, under petticoat of spangled velvet, embroidered with silver, shoes of white satin, embroidered with silver. Head-dress of green velvet, ornamented with precious stones, and with a plume of white feathers, veil covered with stars in gold. Her Excellency's youthful son accompanied her in the character of page.

COSTUMES.

GREEK, MADAME DE MOSKOUS. COURT OF LOUIS XIV., COUNTESS OF GLENGALL. BLANCHE DE CASTILE, MARCHIONESS OF AILESBURY. MARIE ANTOINETTE, DUCHESS OF WELLINGTON. MARIE OF BOURGOGNE, MADAME VAN DE WEYER. COURT OF LOUIS XV., DUCHESS OF MONTROSE. DUCHESS DE NEVERS, COUNTESS WALEWSKA

MARCH COMPOSED BY HER EXCELLENCY THE WIFE OF OMER PACHA.



FINE ARTS.

EXHIBITION OF WORKS OF THE SCHOOLS OF ART, GORE-HOUSE.

THE Exhibition of the "advanced works" of the Students of the various Schools of Art was opened to the public on Monday, at Gore-house The productions exhibited comprise specimens of almost every variety of decoration applicable to manufacturing processes, as well as studies from anatomical models, flowers, and other objects of still life.

The Schools so represented are those of Aberdeen, Belfast, Birmingham, Chester, Cork, Coventry, Dublin, Dudley, Durham, Finsbury, Glasgow, Limerick, Macclesfield, Manchester, Metropolis (Normal training and Female Schools), Newcastle-on-Tyne, Paisley, Potteries, Sheffield, Stourbridge, Warrington, Worcester, and York. There are eighteen other schools, including Bath, Bristol, Hereford, Leeds, Nottingham, and Wolverhampton, which do not send any contribution; but it is explained that the majority of these schools have only been opened within the present year.

The works exhibited are classed under certain specified stages of instruction, as stage 2—anatomical studies, chiefly based upon some well-known antique statue; 14, painting (general) direct from nature; 15, painting groups of natural objects, as specimens of composition of colours; 16, painting the human figure, or animals, in monochrome, from casts; 17a, painting the human figure, or animals, in colour, from the flat; 17b, painting the human figure, &c., from nature; 18, modelling ornament; 18a, modelling the human figure, &c., from casts; 18c, modelling the human figure, &c., from nature; 20, modelling flowers, fruits, foliage, and objects of natural history, from nature; —the above being merely imitative processes, intended to give the student executive power: and, considering the age of the students exhibiting, and the periods they have been under tuition, many of the specimens are extremely creditable. Stage 22a takes a higher aim, namely, elementary design; and the process adopted in it is to give out a natural object as a type, to be ornamentally displayed and arranged to fill a given form agreeably as to quantity and contrast, and in accordance with the laws of colour; each school being required to send four specimens in the present instance the object so given was the wood-anemone—a flower well a fapted for ornamental application, and capable of great variety of treatment, as the numerous studies seat in—some hundred in number—sufficiently prove. This, by the way, is one of the most gratifying portions of the Exhibition; the students of the several schools having been left to the exercise of their own discretion and taste in the application of the natural "type," both as respects composition and colouring and the result, in many instances, being extremely successful. Stage 22d holds a somewhat analogous position to the last, only that, in place of treating natural objects as the type, historic styles of ornament are resorted to, the object being, by copying and re-combining characteristic examples, as types of styles, to impress upon the mind of the student their leading peculiarities. As we have no doubt of the useful and wholesome effect of studies in stage 22a, we have our misgivings touching those in 22d; considering that the imitation, or re-adjustment of the conventional features of by-gone styles can only impede the growth of the inventive faculty, and promote a fatal mannerism which is too prevalent amongst us already.

In stage 23, (Technical Studies), the student makes his first essays to apply his knowledge to practical use—in other words, to produce designs for the ornamentation of cutlery, plate, and other articles of manufacture. In the words of the Report, "it must be observed, that such essays should as yet be received with much allowance;" but, at the same time, when errors in principle in the application of ornamentation are obvious (as is the case in some instances before us, including some very uncomfortable handle knives), the heads of the department may have done useful service by pointing them out. We remark in these examples, and in those in stage 23c (Special Class for Surface Decoration), too much disposition to resort to the bankneyed models of by gone times, without, in many instances, any apparent guiding principle in their selection as regards fitness.

In Porcelain and Miniature Painting are some very creditable specimens, as far as the execution goes; but they are, with few exceptions, copies from originals more or less known. In short, the inventive has not yet been combined to a equal degree with the technical faculty among the students of these schools: and it was hardly to be expected it should, perhaps; but, until it is, we should rather keep back than press forward the powers of production. We single out this branch of study, ascertained the attractive medium in question, should be preferable as an evidence of real progress than the most elaborate effort of copyism.

Upon the whole—qualified only to the extent we have stated—the present Exhibition of students'-work is gratifying and encouraging; and, we doubt not, will in time be followed by others fraught with still deeper import to our art-industrial progress.

Eleven money prizes, ranging from £10 to £2 each, and amounting in the aggregate to the goodly sum of £48, have been awarded during the present Exhibition contributing to the present Exhibition. These rewards are very properly given, by way of encouragement to continued application on the part of the students; but they should not even tacitly be construed into a recommendation, in a commercial sense, of the particular objects for which they have been awarded. This would be a great mistake; which would infallibly place the schools in a very false position with regard to the manufacturing interests. We make this remark in no unfriendly spirit, but purely with the view of preventing disappointment.

THE NORWICH WELLINGTON MEMORIAL.

Mr. G G. Adams has completed the model for his colossal statue of the Duke of Wellington, executed for the city of Norwich; and has exhibited it at his studio in Lisson-street, during some days past, previously to being cast in bronze. It is a pedestrian statue, measuring 8 feet 6 inches high: the attitude simple and manly. The Great Commander is represented as of about the age when he was in the zenith of his military fame—just after the crowning victory of Waterloo: and the face, which is very like, is studied much after the portraits painted by Lawrence about that period. He is at irad in an undress frock-coat, with a sash round the waist, and a military cloak over the shoulders; his right hand rests upon the sword, whilst the left slightly grasps the cloak, which hangs in easy folds. Behind, at the Duke's feet, is a howitzer, which is the only accessorial object introduced. The statue is intended to be placed upon a pedestal of red granite of the height of eight feet six inches; upon which will be affixed a bronze tablet, exhibiting the numerous decorations of the Duke, skilfully grouped, surrounded with a trophy of arms and flags, upon which the names of his principal victories are inscribed; beneath will be the simple inscription "Wellington." Altogether, this will be a memorial well worthy of the Great Commander, and the wealthy city of Norwich for which it has been executed.

On the occasion of our visiting Mr. Adams's studio to inspect the above, we also saw busts of the Duke of Beaufort and the Marquis of Anglesey—both in progress—both promising to turn out excellent likenesses. We also caught a glimpse of the medal intended for the commemoration of the approaching inauguration of the Crystal Palace, and which is nearly completed. On the obverse, of course, are profiles of the Queen and Prince Consort; and on the reverse a group of Britannia in the centre, with, on one side, Industry, with the usual emblems of the Arts and of Plenty, which is their proper attribute; History, inscribing the decorative features gathered or imitated from all parts and all ages of the world—alluding, probably, to the various Courts. Above is Fame; and in the background, in low relief, a distant view of the Crystal Palace, in its present form.

KEW GARDENS.—It appears that the number of visitors to Kew Gardens has increased, in the last ten years, from 16,114, the number in 1843, to 51,518, which was the number in 1853, and the largest ever recorded.

THE COLLAPSING BOAT.—The Rev. Mr. Berthon, of Fareham, has invented a "collapsing boat." He proposes to construct immense life-boats, to carry sixty or eighteen feet wide, which, when stowed away, would only occupy as many inches. Their draught of water, with 3-0 men on board, will not exceed twelve feet; and they will carry and work in the heaviest gales on board our ships.

MILITIA RENDERS TO GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.—The Board of Customs discovers that letter-writing and idleness have been adjuncts to clerkship in the Customs House for a long time past. Many of the officers, it appears, have been in the habit of writing private letters, and transacting their own business, during the hours when they were supposed to be attending to the duties of their offices. Lord Palmerston, it is said, has directed that the practice is to be discontinued in London, and the collectors and comptrollers at the several ports throughout the kingdom, have been furnished with the order for the immediate dismissal of the clerks, officers and others under their supervision.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

SYDNEY H.—It is quite of two solutions, and is in other respects unsuitable.
NED LOCK, New York. They are, though too easy for publication, by no means without promise.
A SPECTATOR. Try the effect of recording the result of each evening's play in your Club, or, better still, though it will add very much to your secretarial duties, try what taking down the best games, and sending them for criticism to one of the Chess organs will do. We believe if this latter plan were adopted in the provinces, clubs, there would soon be a marked improvement in play.
G C—The position of the celebrated "Indian Problem" is—1. B to Q B sq; 2 K moves; 3. R to Q 2nd, 4. R to Q 1 h, double check, and mate. Black's moves are forced, and therefore we do not print them.
J. T. C., of Ayde. It admits of another, and a very obvious solution; beginning with B to K 8th.
J. W., Brighton.—There is no difficulty in obtaining a copy of "Walker's Treatise," though the work is now quite superseded. With respect to the Chess-men modeled by the late Staunton, we also, if requested, will send you to address a note to the Messrs. Wedgwood, "Etruria" Potteries, Staffordshire.
F. W. A., of Brixton, is thanked for his obliging attention.
J. G. C.—It shall be reported on in our next Number.
T. S.—The St. George's Cross Club is a rival name to Chess amateurs who are only occasional visitors to London. The subscription of a country member is only One Guinea per annum, for which he receives all the current Nos. of a spacious, well-appointed Club-house, and the practice of good Chess play to the society of gentlemen.
RUM, Cardiff.—In the Solution of No. 532, White's first moves should be *R to K R sq*; Black's, *K to K 6th*. It is impossible to effect mate in three moves by the method you propose.
PERSEUS.—Of the beautiful Problem No 533, we have not yet received the correct Solution from more than half-a-dozen correspondents. Try it once more.
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No 533, by P. T. W.; Frank, Mermaid, Sab, Ernest, Fitz-Grub, True Blue, D. D., Chas, Mordecai, Potcaster, Willy, Gidipus, Crib, are correct.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 533.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. K to Q 7th	R to K R 4th (dis. ch)	3. Kt to K 6th	K to K 8th
2. P to K B 8th	B takes P (ch), or (a)	4. R to K 5th—Mate.	

(a) 2. Q takes P (ch), or 3 Kt to K 6th (dis. ch) K to K 8th
4. Kt takes Q P—Mate.

2. P to Q 8th (becoming a Queen) or 3 P to K 4th (ch) Q takes P
4. Kt to K 6th (dis. checkmate)

2. P to K 4th (ch) R to Q R 8th Q takes P 4. Kt to Q Kt 3rd (dis. checkmate)

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 534.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. Kt to Q B 2nd	K to Q Kt 4th (a)	4. R to Q Kt 7th	K to Q 4th, or
2. Kt to Q 4th (ch)	K to Q Kt 5th		anything.
3. B to Q B 8th (ch)	K takes B (best)	5. R. to Q Kt 5th—Mate.	

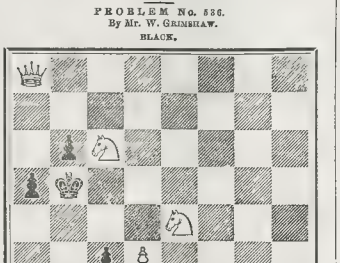
(a) Black has the choice of many moves, but none which will prevent Mate, according to the conditions of the Problem.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 535.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. P takes Kt, becoming a Bishop	K to B 7th (best)	2. B to K 6th 3. B to K Kt 3rd—Mate	K takes R

PROBLEM No. 536.
By Mr. W. GRIMSHAW.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in three moves.

A spirited little Gambit played between MR. DE J—H and Mr. STERN.
(*King's Bishop's Gambit.*)

BLACK (Mr. S.)	WHITE (Mr. DE J.)	BLACK (Mr. S.)	WHITE (Mr. DE J.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	13. K to Kt sq	Q to K Kt 3rd
2. P to K B 4th	P takes P	13. K B to Q 3rd (*b*)	Kt takes Kt
3. B to Q B 4th	Q to K R 5th (ch)	14. P takes Kt	Q takes B
4. K to B sq	P to K Kt 4th	15. P takes Kt	P to K Kt 8th(*c*)
5. P to Q 4th	P to Q 3rd	16. P takes P	Q B takes P
6. Q Kt to Q B 3rd	B to K Kt 2nd	17. B takes P (*d*)	Q B takes Kt
7. Q Kt to Q 5th	K to Q sq	18. P takes B	P takes P
8. P to Q B 3rd(*a*)	K Kt to K 2nd	19. Q takes K B P	B takes Q P (ch)
9. Q to her Kt 3rd	Q to K R 4th	(*e*)	(*f*)
10. K to K B 3rd	Q B to Q 2nd	20. P takes B	Q takes P (ch)
11. P to K R 4th	P to K R 3rd	21. K to B sq	Q takes Q Kt P
		And Black struck his flag.	

(a) Not nearly so attractive as the customary move of P to 5th.
(b) Mr. Stern might have cramped his opponent's game considerably, and have won a Pawn besides, we believe, if he had played P to K B 5th at this moment.
(c) White plays the termination with his usual soundness and ability.
(d) Taking the Bishop with his Queen would have been still more disastrous to him.
(e) He has evidently no good move left.
(f) The best and most expeditious mode of giving the *coup de grâce*.

Brilliant *partie* between Mr. B. GREVILLE, one of the leading English amateurs, and M. DE RIVIERE.
(*Scotch Gambit.*)

WHITE (Mr. G.)	BLACK (M. de R.)	WHITE (Mr. G.)	BLACK (M. de R.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	16. Kt takes B	Q to Q Kt 3rd
2. K Kt to K B 3rd	K Kt to Q B 3rd	17. Q to her 6th	P to K 7th
3. P to Q 4th	Kt takes P	18. Kt to K B 2nd	B takes P (*e*)
4. Kt takes P	Q Kt to K 2nd	19. P to Q B 3rd	Q R to Q sq
5. B to Q B 4th	P to Q 3rd	20. Q to K B 4th	K R to K sq
6. K Kt to Q 2nd(*a*)	K Kt to K B 3rd	21. Q R to K sq	Q takes Kt
7. Q Kt to Q B 3rd	P to Q B 3rd	22. Q takes B	R to K 4th
8. Castles	K B to K 2nd	23. Q to K B 3rd	Kt to K 5th (*f*)
9. P to K B 4th	Castles	24. B takes K B P (ch)	K to R sq
10. Q B to K 3rd (*b*)	P to Q 4th	25. Q takes K P	Kt takes R
11. P takes P (*c*)	P takes P	26. Q takes K	Kt to K B 6th (double ch)
12. B to Q Kt 3rd	P to Q 5th		
13. P to K 5 6th	Q Kt to Q B 4th	27. K to R sq	Q to K 8th (ch)
14. Kt takes Kt	B takes Kt		
15. Kt to Q R 4th (*d*)	P takes B	28. R takes Q	Kt to K B 7th
		Checkmate (*g*)	

(a) A smart attack may be got by taking the K B Pawn, instead of retreating the Kt, but the defence, if carefully managed, has the best of the battle in the long run.
(b) Better to have pushed on bold y with the K B Pawn. This affords Black too much time.
(c) He appears to have no better move. If he play P to K 5th, Black retreats the attacked Kt to K sq, &c.
(d) We should have preferred R to K 2nd, since White was almost certain of winning a Pawn eventually for the one we moved.
(e) From this point M. de RIVIERE plays with great spirit and elegance.
(f) Cleverly done vol
(g) It is not often that a player has the good fortune to be enabled to give Domino's classical and beautiful mate. In the present instance it occurs very happily, and seems an appropriate finale for so pretty a game

CHESS ENIGMAS.

No. 871.—By Signor ASPA.

White: K at Q B 4th, R at K B 4th, B at K Kt sq, Kts at Q 3rd and Q B 3rd, Ps at K Kt 2nd, K B 2nd, K 2nd and 4th, Q R 2nd, 3rd, and 6th.
Black: K at Q B 3rd, Ps at K 3rd and 4th, Q B 2nd, Q R 3rd and 5th.
White to play and mate in five moves.

No. 872.—By Herr F. CAPPAZ.

White: K at K Kt sq, R at Q Kt sq, Kts at K R 8th and Q 4th; Ps at K R 2nd, K B 4th, K 2nd, Q Kt 7th, and Q R 3rd.
Black: K at Q B 6th, Q at Q B sq, R at Q B 7th, B at K B 8th; Ps at K Kt 7th, K 6th, and Q 4th.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC

The Prince Regent of Baden is about to visit Baden-Baden. A marriage is spoken of between him and the Princess Louisa, daughter of the Prince of Prussia, who is at present at Baden: she is only sixteen years old.

The eleventh annual meeting of the archers of the United Kingdom will be held on the race-course, Shrewsbury, on Wednesday and Thursday, the 5th and 6th of July.

The Rev. Dr. Raffles, of Liverpool, one of a party travelling in Italy, was recently arrested there, and imprisoned three days, for wearing a white hat, and having in his writing-desk a pen-wiper of the shape and colour of a cockade.

The high price of coal and freights costs the Peninsular and Oriental Company an additional £300,000 a year at the present time.

The deficit in Austria for the year 1853 amounts to above 56,000,000 florins. It is rumoured that the direct taxes will be increased 25 per cent.

Upon the occasion of the recent announcement of a free discharge to the convicts in Newgate prison, Dublin, under sentence of penal servitude, so overjoyed were four of them at the sudden intelligence that they dropped dead.

The Chamber of Deputies of Luxemburg has been dissolved, and the Electoral Colleges convoked for the 14th of June.

James Clack, one of the Bristol and Exeter Railway Company's servants, has been in that company's employ twenty years and nine months, and during that period has travelled a million of miles—a distance equal to forty times round the globe.

The *Corriere Mercantile* of Genoa, states that fresh corn-riots have occurred at Pisa, Lucca, and Siena, but that they had been successfully quelled.

The European and American Electric Printing Telegraph Company have contracted with the Admiralty to lay down a subterranean line of telegraph from Whitehall and Somerset-house to the naval establishments at Deptford, Woolwich, Chatham, Sheerness, Deal, and Dover.

The *Madrid Gazette* contains a Royal decree, authorising Messrs. Zaanronis and Co., of Cuba, to establish a regular steam service between Cuba and France and England. Eight steamers, of 220-horse power each, are to be employed.

Two tug steamers and a sloop, with divers, have been for some time at work at the wreck of the *Tayleur*, and have succeeded in recovering a portion of her valuable cargo, consisting chiefly of bale goods

A lump of pure gold, weighing 27 lbs, was lately found at Yankee hill, Columbia, by a poor Italian, who, the day before, begged a dollar to purchase a breakfast

While the proportion of police to population is in metropolitan districts one in 462; city of London, one in 244; Liverpool, one in 466; in Stockport it is only one in 3585.

The Bible presented by George Fox, the founder of the Society of Friends, to the meeting-house at Swarthmoor, near Ulverstone, and which for some time has been lodged in private hands, is about to be restored to its original place.

Two emissaries of Kossuth were hanged on the 29th ult., at St. George, in Transylvania. Their names were Joseph Varady and Franz Barfalis

Fifty out of the 53 Scotch members were present at the division on the Scotch Education Bill; and of these 36 voted for, and 14 against it.

A smart shock of earthquake was felt at Messina on the 23rd ult. It lasted about four seconds. No damage was done.

The London and North-Western Companies have agreed with Professor Gluckman for the purchase of the right to use his invention on their lines for communicating between the guards and drivers of railway trains.

M. Kossuth is expected at Sheffield on Whit-Monday, at a public demonstration in favour of the independence of Poland.

A Temperance missionary has been appointed for the town of Derby. He attends the police court every morning to hear what drunken cases are brought forward, and afterwards endeavours to reform the parties who get convicted of the offence.

The symptoms of blight, which had manifested themselves on the stems of the vines in Sicily, in the course of last month, have since disappeared, and all the plants look healthy and promising.

Mr. T. B. Macaulay, M.P., who has been unanimously elected president of the Edinburgh Philosophical Institution, in the room of Professor Wilson, deceased, has accepted "with pride and gratitude the honourable office."

Louis Napoleon's cousin, young Prince Lucien Bonaparte, the second son of the Prince de Canino, has taken holy orders.

The courts of justice in Edinburgh are now connected with the telegraph office, so that there will be means for transmitting messages to any part of the kingdom.

The ex-Queen of the French was to leave Seville for England on the 16th inst

Intelligence has been received of Dr. Livingston, the South African missionary traveller. He had penetrated as far northward as 14° south latitude, where the climate began to be very unhealthy, both he and his people having frequently suffered from fever.

Albert, *ourrier*, member of the Provisional Government of the Republic in France, who had been detained since 1848 as a prisoner of state at Belleisle, has been removed to Tours, on account of ill health.

Professor Waagen, the Director of the Picture Gallery at the Royal Museum, Hamburg, will shortly leave for London, at the invitation of Prince Albert. He stay is likely to be a long by one.

The Court of Policy of British Guiana offers to furnish £3000 for the purpose of encouraging direct steam communication between the colony and Great Britain.

It is said that three Marshals of France will shortly be created. General d'Hautpoul is named as one, and it is considered not unlikely that General Baraguay d'Hilliers may be another.

Mr. Wakley, at an inquest held a few days since, said he had, during the time he held office as coroner for M dlesex, holden inquests on two children, under seven years of age, who had committed suicide.

The Prince of Prussia has been prevailed on, at the especial request of the King, to return to Berlin on the 7th June, the anniversary of the death of their father, a day always observed by the Royal Family.

The *Africain*, of Constantina, states that an immense caravan is being at present organised to go to Timbuctoo, for the purpose of inducing the natives to commence trading with Algeria.

The foreign Princes who are Knights of the Garter are the King of Hanover, the King of the Belgians, the *Emperor of Russia*, the King of Wurtemberg, the King of Prussia, the King of Saxony, the reigning Duke of Saxe Meiningen, the reigning Duke of Brunswick, the reigning Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, and the Prince of Leiningen.

The young men employed in the City warehouses have commenced a movement to induce their employers to close their warehouses at two o'clock on Saturday.

The leprosy is spreading so rapidly in Norway that fears are entertained of its becoming a general sickness, as in the Middle Ages.

In an old house in the Rue de Klingsher, Lubeck, some workmen recently discovered a tin box, containing small silver coins worth about 58,000 francs, and all belonging to the old Hanse towns.

There has been a heavier fall of snow this cold season at Cabool than ever. In the city it fell to the depth of two yards, and in the suburbs more than that. Many houses fell, and buried several persons under heaps of mud and snow.

For Agricultural Statistics, to be collected in the three kingdoms, the sum of £18,000 is required in the Miscellaneous Estimates for the present year.

The sea is a shop for the sale of *samshoo*, or rice-whisky, in Hong-Kong, which bears over its door the following inscription: "The joys of Paradise are nothing compared to a perpetual *drunk!*"

All possible exertions are being made for completing St. George's hall, Liverpool, so as to be ready for opening at the beginning of September.

The King of Holland incurred some danger last week in consequence of the horses running away with his carriage, and galloping at a fearful rate through several streets, before the coachman could pull them in. His Majesty remained quietly seated in the carriage, and in that way escaped all injury.

The passengers on board the steam-packet *Cracens*, which left England a few months since for Australia, amused themselves by publishing a newspaper on board, called the *Southern Cross*, or *Antarctic Gazette*. Seven copies of this journal were printed and published at the Cape of Good Hope, and have reached England.

Three writers in the *Figaro* were fined 500 francs each on Saturday last, for having asserted that M. Jules Janin, at the commencement of his literary career, had written both in the *Quotidienne* and the *Figaro* two journals differing in politics.

The French Government, instead of resorting to a loan, will, it is said, obtain four millions sterling of the Credit Mobilier Bank, on the security of Treasury Bonds.

It is generally understood in military circles that on the occasion of the ensuing Brevet, a Field Marshal's baton will be conferred upon General Viscount Combermere, the oldest survivor of Wellington's compeers.

FUTVOYE'S £4 4s. GOLD WATCHES, four-hole jewelled, horizontal escapement, warranted—Silver Watches, £3 10s. Solid gold Chains, of the very newest patterns sold at per ounce; and the fashion only charged. Every description of Jewellery taken in exchange, or purchased for cash.—154, Regent-street, corner of Bank-street.

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FUTVOYE'S PAPIER MACHÉ ARTICLES in every variety, consist of tea trays and Hand Screens, Chess and Work Tables, tea Trays and Caddies, sloping and Cigar Cases, &c., &c. Mr Futvoye, to be the son of the original inventor of the work, has the largest choice specimens far surpassing those of any other Manufacturer. All description of Japan Work repaired to equal new.—154, Regent-street, corner of Bank-street.

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JONES'S £4 4s. SILVER LEVER WATCHES are 4l0 to GOLD LEVERS at the Manufactory 33, Strand, opposite Somerset House, are guaranteed for very many years, and if not found correct may be returned within any period, and the price exchanged, or a change will be given, opposite the Royal Exchange. Established upwards of fifty years.

MR. E. D. SMITH'S GOLD AMALGAMATED GOLD (or "Comet") Pens (in October last) may now be seen at the office 141, Strand (Royal Hotel Gaiety Old Stand), where a prospectus may be obtained on application; the results of experiments, for a year, submitted to the Patentee, will meet with immediate attention.

C. F. HANCOCK, JEWELLER and SILVERSMITH, begs respectfully to inform the Nobility and Gentry that he has REMOVED from No. 39, BRITON-STREET, (which has been extensively enlarged to meet the demands of the increase of business), where an entirely New and Splendid Stock of Jewelry, Silver and Plated Articles, and he takes this opportunity of returning his most grateful thanks for their past favours, and respectfully solicits a continuance of the same.—39, Briton street, Bond-street.

HAWLEYS, Watchmakers and Goldsmiths, 182, Fleet-street, opposite Bolt-court, and 3, Strand, and Cowen-ny-street), established upwards of half a century. GOLD GRATIS, issued in four miles, horizontal movement, 25 lis.; ditto, Lever, 3l. 3s. Silver Watches, highly finished three Twelve Guinea Lever Watches, in silver Watches, best quality, 2l. 2s. Silver Lever Watches, in engraving or plain cases, 4l. 4s. Silver Lever Watches, in engraving or plain cases, 4l. 4s. Silver Lever Watches, in engraving or plain cases, 4l. 4

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FLEURS et COIFFURES de PARIS.—G. W. JONES, 101, Oxford-street, corner of John-street, is constantly receiving a succession of NOVELTIES in ARTIFICIAL FLOWERS, FEATHERS, and HEAD-DRESSES, expressly suited to Court, Dinner, and Evening Dress, to an inspection of which all Ladies are respectfully invited.—N B. 101, Oxford-street.

THE LADIES' BROWN SILK UMBRELLA, 7s.: the French myrtle green and Napoleon blue, 13s.; and the London smoke, of pure Italian silk, 12s., are worthy inspection; and, being manufactured on the premises, are warranted. Gingham umbrellas, 2s.; alpaca, 7s.—JOHN CHEEK, 120, Oxford-street.

LADIES' WATERPROOF TWEED CLOAKS This Garment, so much used and so highly approved of for Home and Continental Travelling, may be had of the Maker, J PHILLIPS, 37, High-street, Shrewsbury
P.S.—Directions for measuring, patterns of material, and list of prices, sent post-free, on application.

A SINGLE STAY
Carriage Free
To any part of the Country,
On receipt of a Post-Office Order.
Wait measure only required.
Drawings sent on receipt of a postage stamp.
The Paris Wove Stay (white or grey) .. .. 10s. 6d. per pair.
The Elastic Bodice .. .. 12s. 6d.
C. and H. S ELASTIC BODICE, with simple fastening in front, is strongly recommended by the Faculty.
Families wasted upon by experienced persons, within ten miles of London, free of expense.
CARTER and HOUSTON, Stay Manufacturers and Importers, 90, Regent-street, South Gallery, Crystal Palace, Sydenham, S. Blackfriars-road (near the Bridge); and 5, Stockwell-street, Greenwich Established 1812.

LADIES' READY-MADE LINEN.—A large stock, in every variety of quality and fashion, constantly on hand, at WHITELOCK and SON'S, Ladies' and Gentlemen's Outfitting Warehouse, Strand, opposite the Church, near Somerset House. The following are recommended as rare Bargains, made from Horrocks' patent long-cloth:—Chemises, 2s. 9d.; ditto, trimmed, rich work, 3s. 9d.; ditto, with tucks, 3s.; ditto, with rich work, 3s. 11d. and 4s. 6d.; night dresses, frilled, 3s. 6d.; French pattern, 4s. 6d. and 4s. 9d.; with rich work, 5s. 6d. and 6s. 9d.; night-shirts, 3s. 6d., 3s., and 2s. 6d.; dressing gowns, 5s. 6d. to 18s. 6d. Any article made to order at the same prices. Outfits on the most economical scale.

LADIES' and CHILDREN'S CHOICE
READY MADE LINEN, Invalid Union Under-Clothing, Hosiery, and Economical Family Hose and Socks. Outfitting Establishment.—T. HUGHES and CO., 203, Regent-street. Six Chemises, 11s.; Nightdresses, 11s.; Petticoats, 10s.; Night Dresses, 7s., if prepaid, sent with priced lists, call free; or, if desired, experienced assistants despatched throughout the country with samples of real calico, plain, moderately, or richly trimmed, for Trousseaux, India Greenland, and Family Colonial Outfits; including ready-printed Flannel and Foulard Silk Robes à Déjeuner, Riding Habits, Jewish and Infant's Clothing, and trimmed Model Bassinettes. Specialité for Shirts, Collars, Cuffs, and their unique "Douzelle Marseque Equestrian Trousers"

FASHIONABLE PARISIAN MILLINERY.—The CASPIATO, or Folding Bonnet, a new invention, for which J and E SMITH have her Majesty's Royal Letters Patent, combines convenience with elegance—it is packed in a case 11 inches deep, thus dispensing with a bonnet-box; it is plain or Strimmed in the most elegant fashion; prices moderate; also every kind of Bonnet in the best Paris taste. Light Bonnets, with flowers, at 10s 6d.; Dress Bonnets, with flowers, at 15s 6d.; Mourning Bonnets, at 12s. 6d.—At J. and E. SMITH'S elegant Show-rooms, 131, Regentstreet, opposite Beak-street, London.

COMPLETION of the EXTENSIVE ALTERATIONS and IMPROVEMENTS on the Premises of MESSRS. BEECH and BERRALL the BEE HIVE, 53 and 54, HOLYWARE ROAD
Unrivalled and extensive display of an entirely new and fashionable Stock of
Spring Silks, Fancy Dresses Mantles, Shawls, &c., &c
All purchased under the greatest advantages during the late flat season, and will be offered to the public at prices considerably less than last year,
Notwithstanding the great advance that has since taken place on all of the above goods.
For instance
Upwards of 25,000 yards of Striped, Checked, and Glacé Silks
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Elegant and useful Silks in Brocades Damasks, Chameilon, and other new designs,
From 31s. 6d. to 2½ Guineas the full dress.
Moire Antiques, Broche Damas, Silks, &c., from the Looms of Spitalfields, Lyons, and the Manufactories of Switzerland,
£2 12s. 6d. to £5 the full dress.
Rich Black Gurgeon Silks,
Dacapes, Gros Royals, Mourning Silks, Gros de Naps, Watered Silks, Satinettes, &c., worthy the attention of all purchasers
N.B. For the convenience of Ladies in the country, patterns forwarded postage free to all parts
Observe the address,
Messrs. Beech and Berrall,
The Beehive,
53 and 54, Holyware-road.

ESTABLISHED IN 1841.—
By Appointment,
THE LONDON
GENERAL MOURNING WAREHOUSE.
Nos. 247, 248, and 249, Regent-street.
The Proprietors of this Establishment desire most respectfully to state that, from their having been so many years engaged in the exclusive
SALE of MOURNING ATTIRE,
and from the immense business transacted in their warehouse, and from the numerous commands they receive to attend in various parts of the country
they are enabled to sell their goods on more advantageous terms
Messrs. JAY have ever deemed it unnecessary to quote prices, from a conviction that in only terms to mislead the public; but they beg to offer the strongest assurance that whatever may be purchased at their Establishment will possess the value that is paid for it; and that, in addition to their
COURT,
FAMILY, and
COMPLIMENTARY MOURNING,
they have every variety of quality and price, and suited to any grade or condition of the community.
Widows' and Family Mourning
is always kept made up, also,
Mantlery, &c., &c
The London General Mourning Warehouse,
247, 248, and 249, Regent-street.

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MESSRS. HARDING and COMPANY, Schomberg House, Pall-Mall, have the honour to announce that their STOCK now presents an extensive assortment of NEW GOODS, in every variety
Messrs. Harding and Company are enabled by their new arrangements, to ensure a SUCCESSION of NOVELTIES during the SEASON, on the most moderate terms, and in every range of price.

CRYSTAL and BROCHE BAREGES, at
SHEATH'S, 264, Regent-street
5700 yards Crystal Barèges, at 12½d. per yard
3500 yards Broché ditto 14½d. „
Patterns sent free on application. Address W. W. SHEATH, 264, Regent-street.
Flounced, Grenadine Muslin de Soie and Barège Dresses to great variety, from 25s. 6d the Dress.

SILKS, SILKS, SILKS.—The largest Stock, the best selection of Colours, and the greatest variety, ON SALE at HOWITT and CO S, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, High Holborn, the cheapest Silk House in the metropolis. Patterns sent post-free to any part of the kingdom.

SILK DRESSES from 27s. 6d. the Full Dress.
RIBBONS, a Manufacturer's Stock, at 4½d. and 6½d.
Previous prices 1s. 6d. and 1s. 8d.
VALENCIENNES LACE from 5½d.
Patterns sent free by WHITE and COMPANY, 192, Regent-street.

DRESSES, DRESSES.—The best house in London for Dresses is HOWITT and CO S, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, High Holborn. 41, and Co have now a large assortment of the newest designs in Fancy Dresses, Barèges, Balzarines, and Printed Muslins of the best quality, at extraordinarily low prices

MADAME PAULINE a l'honneur d'informer les dames de la noblesse et de la haute bourgeoisie qu'elle vient d'arriver de Paris avec un grand choix des MODES les plus nouvelles pour la saison. 3, RINGSTEAD, &c., ainsi qu'une grande variété de nouveaux modèles pour Broderies
3, rue Vivienne, Passage Choiseul.

THE DRAWING-ROOM.—SPARKES HALL'S SATIN KID and WHITE SATIN SHOES are now REDUCED to 4s. 6d. per pair, and he begs to assure ladies that the quality is fully up to it. It is his intention, this season to offer his best French morocco, kid, bronze, and satin shoes, at one uniform price, viz., 6s. 6d. per pair, and for the half-dozen. Every size kept ready made, in boots, shoes, and overshoes for ladies and children.
N.B.—An Illustrated Price List sent free to any part of the United Kingdom on receipt of Two Penny Postage Stamps.
SPARKES HALL, Elastic Bo-tmaker to the Queen and the Royal Family, 198, Regent-street, opposite the Polytechnic Institution.

THE REGENT-CIRCUS ESTABLISHMENT.—SOWERBY, DRAYSON, and TATTON (272 and 274, Regent-circus, Oxford-street), importers of Foreign and British Manufactures, Silk mercers, Lace and General Warehousemen,
Messrs. Sowerby and Co. have determined to share with their patrons the full benefit resulting from their long experience and unlimited capital, which enable them at all seasons and particularly the present, to hold out such inducements as to merit from them an extensive and full Fabrics of the highest character in perpetual succession. Such as of the finest texture and variety, furnishing the choicest spot for Morning Dress Circles, Court and Evening Dresses, Mantles, Shawls, ready-made ballets, and fancy Fabrics of every novel material, with a combination of Bonnets, Trimmings, French Flowers, decorative Appendages, altogether unexampled in extent, variety, or price

MANTLES and SHAWLS.—The best house in London for Mantles and Shawls is HOWITT and CO S, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, High Holborn. The public have the advantage of selecting from a Stock unrivalled in extent and elegance.

TO WIDOWS.—Mrs. CREATON, WIDOWS' MILLINER, late of Regent-street, begs to inform her patrons and widow ladies of the nobility and gentry, that she has REMOVED TO 28, BLOOMSBURY-SQUARE, Bedford-square.

REMOVAL of W. G. TAYLOR'S (late Halliday's) ORIENTAL CUTTING WAREHOUSE to 10, BAKER-STREET, near Madame Tussaud's Exhibition. W. G TAYLOR has the honour to announce that the BUSINESS is REMOVED in the larger and more convenient Premises above mentioned, where he trusts to be favoured with a continuation of the distinguished patronage the house has always enjoyed

GLOVES!!
REAL PARIS KID,
Cut and Sewed by
Anatomical Measurement,
All at 1s. 9d. per pair.
And every description at
BAKER and CRISP'S, 221 and 225, REGENT STREET, LONDON.
Sample pair sent for the extra stamp.

MOURNING
THE FRENCH MUSLIN COMPANY
have
AN EXCELLENT VARIETY
of
MOURNING MUSLINS and BAREGES,
3s. 6d. to 15s. the Dress.
Patterns sent free.
16, OXFORD-STREET, NEAR SOHO-BAZAAR.

VARTY'S LINENS, from 47, Bishopsgate-street.—This entire and valuable Stock, as purchased of the Trustees, is now on sale, regardless of last half-price. A rare opportunity offers of selecting all the first-class goods (warranted for durability) in IRISH LINENS, Damask Tablecloths, Napkins, and Doyleys, Huckaback Linens, Diapers, Dowlas, Sheeting, SHAWLS, MANTLES, &c., all at startling prices. The late proprietors, Messrs Varty and Co., hold a high reputation for nearly seventy years for the excellence of their linens The whole will now be cleared off. Private families and large consumers should respond early to this announcement.—HARVEY and CO., Lambeth House (next the railway arch), Westminster-bridge-road.

DO YOU KEEP LIVERY SERVANTS.—The best BUTTONS for Footmen, Coachmen, and Gentleman's Suit, best quality, £3 2s. DOUDNEY'S, 17, Old Bond-street; 24, Burlington-arcade, and 49, Lombard-street. Established 1784.

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GUINEA HATS!—The richest first-class HATS, produced from the most costly French Velvet imported, for Fineness and Beauty of finish and ventilating.—JOYCE, Manufacturer, 199, Strand, near Temple-bar

CABINET and UPHOLSTERY FURNITURE. Bedsteads Bedding. Easy Chairs, &c. JAS HULBERT has always on HAND, at his own manufactory, one of the largest, cheapest, and best-assorted STOCKS in London, at 194, 195, 196, Somerset House.—N.B. No charge for packing country orders.

CARPETS, CURTAINS, CABINET and UPHOLSTERY FURNITURE, Portfolio Bedding, &c., may be obtained with perfect confidence of the most reasonable purchases at HOWITT and COMPANY'S Galleries and Warerooms, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, High Holborn.

CARPETS.—LUCK, KENT, and CUMBERLAND, No. 1, Regent-street, Waterloo-place, having purchased largely before the great advance, are enabled to offer a large portion of their STOCK at the OLD PRICES French Silk and Worsted Damasks, Tabouretts, &c., at very great reductions, Turkey Carpets, Floor-cloth, &c.

THE IMPROVED INFANT PERAMBULATOR, and all other kinds of CARRIAGES for CHILDREN, manufactured by A. THIER, 59, Old-street, St. Luke's, at reduced prices

BURTON'S Patent PERAMBULATORS.—The distinguished patronage, the fastering concessions, and the numerous testimonials in favour of this invention, its utility and accordance of these fashionable safe, and elegant carriages, for adults, children, and invalids, have procured for them the highest pressure. Illustrated Circulars. Shipping Orders.—Offices, 487, New Oxford-street.

Established in 1778
CAPPER, SON, and CO., 68, ORACECHURCH-STREET, CITY,
LINENDRAPERS to the QUEEN,
and Manufacturers of
INFANTS' BASSINETTES,
Baby Linen, Children's Dresses, and Under Clothing,
for Home, India, and the Colonies
All parcels sent carriage-free within the range of the London Parcels Delivery Company.
Parcels of £3 value free of railway carriage throughout the Kingdom
LISTS, with PRICES, sent POST-PAID,
by application, as above; or to
CAPPER, SON, and SOON, 164, REGENT-STREET, LONDON.
(nearly opposite New Burlington-street.)

INFANTS' NEW FEEDING BOTTLES.
"We have seldom seen anything so beautiful as the nursing-bottles introduced by Mr Benjamin Dixon, of 9a, Oxford-street, London."—From The Lancet. 7s 6d each. The bottle and mouthpiece are stamped with my name and address

TO BRUSH-MAKERS, TURNERS, and COOPERS. To be DISPOSED OF, a HOUSE and SHOP in the Market Place, Established 30 years. Inq.—e of the Proprietor, 66 Liquorpond street, Gray's-inn-lane

TO ANGLERS.—CHARLES FARLOW, Manufacturer, 191, STRAND, invites anglers to inspect his large and varied STOCK of superior FISHING TACK..E at moderate prices. Trout flies, 2s. per dozen. Catalogues forwarded gratis.

IMPROVED AIR CANES, for Shooting Rabbits, Rooks, Sea-Fowls, with ball, small birds, with shot; fish, with harpoons and lines.—Prices of these portable and silently-destructive weapons, from 45s.; including pumps and apparatus.—REILLY, Gun Maker, New Oxford-street, London.

NUMBER ONE, ST. PAUL'S CHURCH-YARD.—EIGHTPENCE PER POUND REDUCTION in the PRICE of TEA.—Further Reduction of the Duty, 4d.; and Fall in the Market Value, 4d.

TEA.—The public will obtain the full benefit of the SECOND REDUCTION of DUTY at WILLIAM and GEORGE LAWS'S COFFEE WAREHOUSE, 264, New Oxford-street, London; and 3½, St. Andrew-square, Edinburgh. Goods delivered in the suburbs.

THE EMPRESS of CHINA'S TEA.—Unrivalled, universally admired for its purity, strength, rich, full, and delicious flavour, and moderate price. MOORE and CO., 31, Little Tower-street, London. Sold only in air-tight tins of all sizes, by their Agents, throughout the country.

ICE and REFRIGERATORS, for cooling wine, butter, fruit, jellies, water, and all kind of provisions—the greatest and most economical luxury of the day.—WENHAM LAKE ICE COMPANY, 164, Strand, London

FLOUR, WARRANTED FREE from ADULTERATION.—Whites, for pastry, 12s 8d.; Households, 12s.; Seconds, 12s. 4d.; Meal, for brown bread, 12s 4d per bushel S. Delivered in quantities of not less than one pack to any part of London carriage free. Address HORSNAILL and CO., Bulford Mills, Witham, Essex; or, Blackfriars-road, London. Terms—Cash.

GERARD'S Celebrated POMADE for the HAIR.—The Inventor does not assert that it will reproduce Hair lost through sickness or age, but guarantees that it will speedily prevent it. To be procured at 320, Strand, London, in pots, 2s. each.

FOR the HAIR.—GRAFFTEY'S BALMA POMPEIANA, after the lapse of sixteen years, retains its superiority as the most useful and elegant compound for renewing, invigorating, and beautifying the Hair, however harsh or impaired by illness, residence in hot climates, or any other cause. Sold by all Perfumers, at 24, Wellington-st. nor. of the proprietors, GRAFFTEY and PATTERSON, 59, Redlion square, Holborn.

FOR LADIES ONLY.—GRAFFTEY'S DEPILATORY, price 4s. 6d., removes superfluous hair on the face, neck, and arms, with safety, quickness, and dispatch. For the convenience of parties at a distance from their agents, a proportion on receipt of thirty-two postage stamps, will forward a packet, postage free, by addressing direct to Grafftey and Patterson, 59, Red Lion-square Holborn.

LOSS of HAIR.—Mr. PURKESS begs to inform the Nobility and Gentry he may be consulted upon the HAIR from Eleven till Five o'clock, and will guarantee its reproduction and preservation by his treatment.—12, Maddox-street, seven doors from Bond-street

HAIR JEWELLERY.—Artist in Hair.—DEWDNEY begs to inform ladies or gentlemen resident in town, or any part of the kingdom, that he beautifully makes, and elegantly MOUNTS in GOLD, HAIR BRACELETS, Chains, Brooches, Rings, Pins, Studs, &c., and forwards the same, carefully packed in boxes, at one-half the usual charge. A beautiful selection of specimens, handsomely mounted, kept for inspection. An illustrated Price List sent on receipt of two postage stamps.—Dewdney, 172, Fenchurch-street.

SMART'S WRITING INSTITUTION, 5, Piccadilly, between the Haymarket and Regent-circus.—Open from Ten till Nine daily. Persons of all ages received, (privately) and taught at one of the Establishing their own convenience Lessons one hour each. No classes no extra. Improvements guaranteed in eight or twelve easy lessons. Separate rooms for Ladies to which department (if preferred) Mrs. Smart will attend.—For terms, &c., apply to Mr. Smart, as above.

PLEASURE in WRITING.—PARKINS and GOTTO'S NEW ELASTIC PORT-OFFICE PEN combines the flexibility of the quill with the durability of the hardest tempered steel, and will write 20,000 words without mending, more than double as many as all other metal pens. 6d. per dozen, per post; or, 4s. the gross Each pen stamped PARKINS and GOTTO'S, Oxford-street. Filtered Ink, 1s. per bottle.

FORDAN'S GOLD PENS, in great variety of patterns, suitable for presents, may be obtained at most Jewellers and Stationers. As there are many spurious imitations of this invaluable Article, purchasers should be careful to observe that each Pen is stamped "F. Mordan," and numbered, none other is genuine. Manufactory, 37, Sowell-road.

NO CHARGE MADE FOR STAMPING PAPER and ENVELOPES with Arms, Crests, or Initials; and Stationery of every description at manufacturers' prices. RODRIGUE'S Patent-laid Adhesive Envelopes, 6d. per 100; cream-laid Note, full size, five quires for 6d.; thick ditto, five quires for 1s.; Foolscap, 8s per ream. Observe, at HENRY RODRIGUE'S, 31, Piccadilly, London.

WEDDING CARDS.—An assortment of STEPHENSON'S beautifully engraved WEDDING CARDS, ENVELOPES, &c., can be had on application, or sent post free, on receipt of two dozen Postage Stamps.—Address to Stephenson's General Stationery Warehouse, 38, Oxford street.

SCHWEPPE'S SODA, POTASS, and MAGNESIA WATERS, and AERATED LEMONADE, continue to be manufactured upon the largest scale at their several Retail Establishments in London, Brighton, Bristol, and Dublin. The celebrity of these well-known waters, and the profuseness they unbrokenly command, are sufficient to attest their original superior quality ever all others in well sustained. Every bottle is protected by a label with the name of their firm, without which none is genuine and to be had of nearly all respectable Chemists throughout the Kingdom. Improved Apparatus for Aerating Liquor Wholesale direct from the Springs, as for the last twenty years —51, Berners-street, London.

GAS CHANDELIERS, HALL LANTERNS, &c. To Gas-fitters, Ironmongers, &c.—The most complete assortment in London of every description of Gas-fittings, suitable for drawing rooms, dining-rooms, libraries, Halls, &c. Every article manufactured on the premises, and marked with the wholesale price. Patent Gas Regulators, for the improved Ventilation of Rooms. J. D. HULETT, and Co.'s, 55 and 56, High Holborn. Large Pattern Book of Engravings, with price list, 12s. Patent Argandan and Hinks Coffee Urns.

MODERATOR LAMPS, TABLE GLASS, and GAS CHANDELIERS.—The collection of MODERATOR and other LAMPS in the new Show Rooms of T. S. CUMMINS and CO. combine variety, elegance, with excellence of manufacture, and proportionate lowness of price. Rich Bronze Moderator Lamps, 5s., 55s., 63s., and upwards; Foreign ditto, 30s. 35s., &c. Table glass forming vases for flowers, 28s. 6d to 12 guineas. Bronze Lamps in fully guaranteed and fresh before delivery. Importers of the finest Colza Oil Show-rooms, 33, New Bond-street, three doors from Oxford-street. Oil Lamps taken in exchange.

THE NEW LIGHT UMBRELLA, so light and strong it excels every other kind.—Ladies' size, 11s. to 21s., according to quality of silk and style of handle; Gentlemen's, 18s. to 30s. Silk Umbrellas, in the usual description, 7s. to 21s.; Alpaca, 7s. to 12s.; Gingham, 2s. to 3s.; Carriage Umbrellas, 2s. 6d. to 15s. Manufactory, on the premises, and warranted, by JOHN CHEEK, 120, Oxford-street.

THE HOUSEWIFE'S FRIEND.—CREW'S RINSING LIQUID, used in all laundries effectually restores the most delicate colours, and will secure new destroyed in washing. Two drops of the liquid are sufficient for one gallon of rinsing water. Sold in bottles, at 6d. and 9d. each, by all chemists and dealers in the United Kingdom. Manufactory, Commercial Wharf, Mile-end, London.

PAPERHANGINGS and PANEL DECORATIONS, in Elegant New Designs.—White and gold panel drawing-room paper, 16d. per yard; ditto, with gold and green flock diamonds, 16d per yard; ditto, with crimson flock and gold, 1s. per yard; crimson and scarlet flock dining-room papers, 9d. to 45d per yard. Patterns sent to any parts of the kingdom for approval.—W. HEDKISON'S old established manufactory, 43, Fenchurch street.

BIJOU NEEDLE-CASE, containing 100 of Deane's Drilled-Eyed NEEDLES, post free, for 1s. Any Lady, enclosing Twelve Postage Stamps to DEANE, DRAY, and Co., may have this neat and valuable appendage to her work-table forwarded free by return of post.—Deane, Dray, and Co. (opening to the Monument), London-bridge. Established A. D. 1700

London: Printed and Published at the Office, 198, Strand, in the Parish of St. Clement Danes, in the County of Middlesex, by WILLIAM LITTLER, 198, Strand, aforesaid.—SATURDAY, MAY 27, 1854.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

No. 685.—VOL. XXIV.] SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 1854. [WITH TWO SUPPLEMENTS, 1s.

THE WAR:

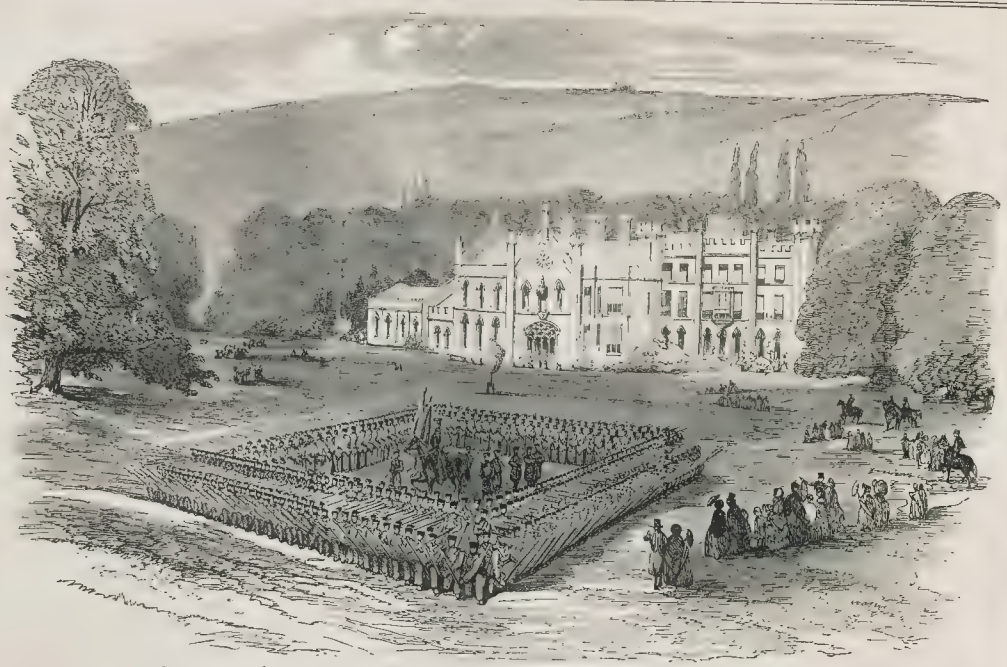
AS AFFECTING INDIA, AUSTRALIA, AND AMERICA.

THE European interests of the War are numerous and complicated; but the perils and difficulties which it will create are by no means confined to one portion or one hemisphere of the globe. The presence and power of Great Britain are felt in every quarter of the world. Our possessions are so large, and our political and commercial relations with other States so varied and so extensive, that it is impossible for us to wage war against any first-rate Power without creating a concussion whose effects may be felt in the remotest regions. Already the War embraces Europe and Asia; and circumstances may occur by which not only America, but even Australia, may be drawn within its vortex.

As regards India, the Czar is quite aware how sensitive the British people are on everything that appertains to the stability and splendour of their power in that great dependency. With dominions which have Prussia and Austria upon one line of frontier, and China and Tartary upon another, the Czar is in one sense as much our neighbour in the East as he is in the West. There can be no doubt, if he do not in the present stage of the conflict attack us on the side of our Indian possessions, that it is for want of the power, and not of the will. It is certain that intrigues and manœuvres of every kind are employed in his behalf in all the countries that lie between Egypt and India; and that he has more especially directed his efforts to embroil us with our old enemy, Dost Mahomed, and to induce the Shah of Persia to take up arms against Turkey. That he has not made similar efforts in China is, perhaps, only attributable to the fact that China is at this moment in the throes of a sanguinary revolution, and utterly unable to be operated upon, for want of a Government having power to negotiate. In estimating the future complexities of the War, those which may be evolved in Central Asia should not be lost sight of. They have, we may be sure, attracted the attention not only of the Home, but of the Indian Government. The rumour brought by the last Overland Mail, that the Czar had actually concluded treaties of alliance with Khiva and Bokhara; and that he had prevailed upon the Shah of Persia to declare war against the Ottoman Porte, is no doubt a *canard*, invented by Russian agents, with the view of distracting the public mind in England and France, and filling it with exaggerated ideas of the vast powers and resources of Russian diplomacy. But it is likely to fail of its effect—however much it may suit the temper and pursuits of Englishmen, in India, to give it credence. The Czar has chosen to give the war a religious character; and such Mahomedan allies as Dost Mahomed, the Shah of Persia, and the Khans of Khiva and Bokhara, whom he would be delighted to attach to his cause, are far more likely to be repelled than to be attracted, by his onslaught against the territory of an unoffending Mahomedan Sovereign. These Powers can have no sympathy, either with his political or his religious objects. The hostility of the Khans of Khiva and Bokhara counts for as little as their friendship—and would be a matter of small moment either to Turkey or her Allies. The hostility of Persia might be more embarrassing; and it is not unlikely that its corrupt and effete Court may, by means of Russian bribery—present or prospective—take the suicidal course of lending itself to the enemy of its power and its faith. It is certain that the Czar is endeavouring to accomplish this end. It will be unfortunate for Persia if he succeed; but it is scarcely to be anticipated that it will very greatly derange the plans of the Allies. Dost Mahomed would be a more formidable foe; but our Indian Government and its gallant army would be quite sufficient to deal with him, in case of emergency, without causing any drain of men or money from Great Britain. Our Indian Empire can defend itself; and the Czar will have too much to do on the Danube and in Circassia, to spare either a rouble or a Cossack for a war on our Indian frontier He has, it appears, two or three, if not a greater number of ships of war in the Chinese and Japanese waters; and we may expect to hear, as one result of the War, which he has forced England to declare against him, that these vessels, whatever their number will be forthwith captured. Our naval squadron in the East is reported to have been long on the look-out, and to have only awaited the arrival of the official declaration of war, to pounce upon and seize them.

Some alarm has been expressed with reference to the defenceless state of Australia. The Czar has two ships of war in the Pacific; and their commanders might as easily destroy Sydney or Melbourne, as Admirals Hamelin and Dundas could have de-

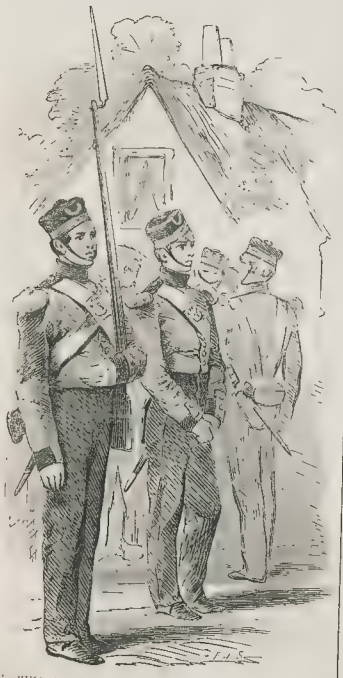
THE BALTIC FLEET POST-OFFICE, ON BOARD H.M.S. "THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON." (SEE NEXT PAGE.)



THE ROYAL BUCKS (KING'S OWN) MILITIA FIELD-DAY, IN THE PARK OF WYCOMBE ABBEY.—THE REGIMENT FORMING A SQUARE.

INSPECTION AND GALA-DAY OF THE ROYAL BUCKS (KING'S OWN) REGIMENT OF MILITIA, AT WYCOMBE ABBEY.

AMONGST the stalwart and trustworthy host of reserve who hold themselves in readiness, "when wanted," to serve their country wherever and however the national interests may require it, no corps has signalised itself more by the cheerful alacrity of its patriotism than the subject of our Engravings.



PRIVATE OF HER ROYAL BUCKS (KING'S OWN) MILITIA.

The Royal Bucks (of which Lord Carrington is Colonel in-Chief) was the first regiment enrolled under the Militia Act of 1852, and one of the first embodied for actual service. It musters 749 strong; and volunteers were so numerous, that no less than 600 refusals took place. The fervent loyal feeling amongst the men is practically manifested in the fact that, out of a total of 749, only five were absent when the regiment was called out in the beginning of May; since which, until Friday, the 26th, it was exercised in the grounds of Lord Carrington's beautiful seat—Wycombe Abbey—preparatory to proceeding to Weedon Barracks.

In October last, when the Regiment was inspected by Colonel Burke, K.C.H., Superintendent-General of the Recruiting Department for the Army, that experienced officer expressed himself in terms of warm admiration respecting its discipline and general efficiency; and the manner in which the men acquitted themselves during the May exercises elicited an equally gratifying amount of eulogium from several distinguished military officers who were from time to time present.

At the inspection which took place on the 26th ult., the usual evolutions of a field-day were gone through under the direction of the noble Colonel (Lord Carrington), in the absence of Lieut.-Colonel Fitzroy, who, not having quite recovered from the effects of the accident with which he met some time since, whilst hunting, was unable to attend. The regiment passed in slow and quick time, advanced in line, formed squares to resist cavalry, went through the manual exercise, re-formed in column, deployed and saluted. All the movements were executed with a precision and completeness that would have done honour to a force of regulars. This is the less to be wondered at, as the corps has the advantage of being officered in considerable proportions by gentlemen who have seen service in the regular army. Amongst them may be enumerated Lieut.-Col Fitzroy, Major Wm. Cavendish, son of the respected member for the county, and who formerly served in the 10th Hussars; the Captains, Grove (Adjutant since 1825), Young, Pratt, Hodgard, Creston, &c. The men have been drilled by sergeants attached to the regimental staff, who have been selected from old soldiers of the Grenadier Guards.

Altogether, it may be fairly stated, that nothing whatever has been omitted which the exertions and liberality of the Colonel, seconded by his officers, could accomplish towards securing the highest efficiency.

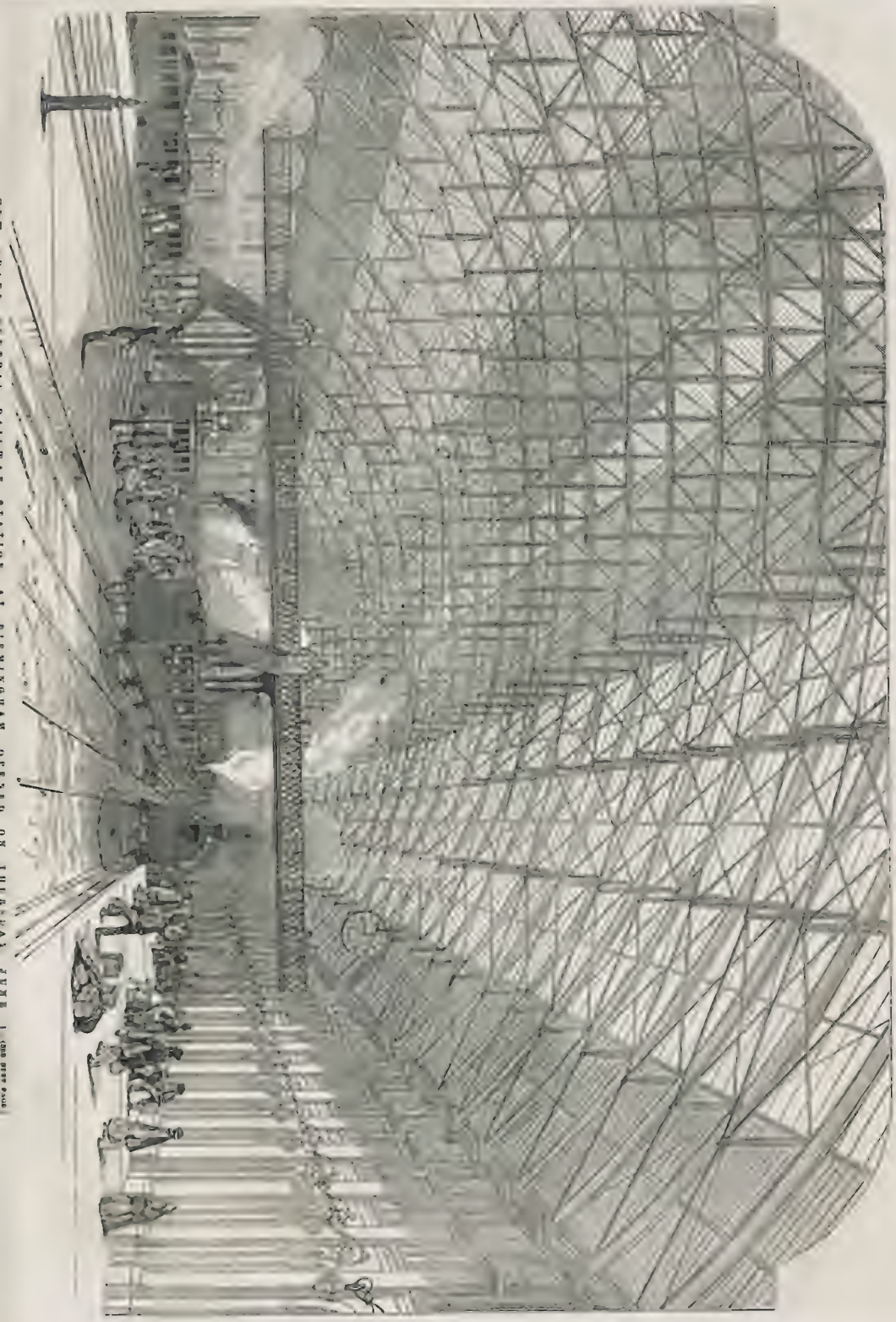
On Thursday, the 25th (the day preceding the "inspection"), there was a grand gala-day in the Abbey park. A display of Old English sports took place. The several prizes were gifts from the noble Colonel, Lord and Lady Carrington and their youthful and beautiful family, accompanied by numerous friends, were present. On the "gala-day" an admission charge of one shilling was made to the general public, who assembled in such goodly numbers that a considerable sum was realised, and is to be appropriated to the Fund for the Benefit of Soldiers' Families.

Some interesting historical recollections are connected with the antecedents of this corps. It is the only militia regiment in Great Britain bearing the double designation of "Royal" and "King's Own." Both titles were bestowed by George III.: the first when the regiment acted as the Royal Body guard at Weymouth, in 1794; the second, in 1808, when men and officers volunteered for military service in the Peninsula. It was likewise the first militia corps which volunteered to go to Ireland during the "troubles" of 1798; and, on its return, in 1799, volunteered into the regulars, and furnished 400 men, with a due proportion of officers, to the 4th, or "King's Own" Infantry—the staff of the militia regiment being still retained at home, and the ranks quickly filled. The offer to proceed to Spain in 1808 was declined, but in most complimentary terms, by the Ministry of the day; and, in 1813, the Royal Bucks once more went to Ireland, whence, on the formation of "provisional battalions" of Militia, it joined the 1st Provisional Battalion, and embarked for France, where it remained whilst the Allied armies held possession of that country. One of the officers, now on the staff, Captain Grove, is a veteran of forty-seven years standing. He joined in 1807, and in 1812 volunteered into the 14th Foot, with which regiment he served in Sicily, Malta, and Genoa, and afterwards with his battalion in France.

It will thus be perceived that the Royal Bucks King's Own is a corps of historical distinction, whose loyalty and patriotism are hereditary. The majority of its present members are fine young fellows in the early prime of manhood.

Officers and men have volunteered for any service whatever that may be required; and their being selected so soon for duty at Weedon is a marked compliment to the praiseworthy spirit evinced by them. Rumour whispers that it is not improbable that, at no distant day, the regiment may have the honour of doing duty at Windsor.

NEWS STORE IN THE BALLARAT GOLD-FIELDS.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)



NEW GRAND CENTRAL RAILWAY STATION AT BIRMINGHAM.

THE progressive extension of the railway system has led to the erection of several buildings for its general purposes; and these structures are entitled to rank amongst the most stupendous architectural works of the age. It is true that a certain critic of the day has sneered at the general taste displayed in our railway edifices, and the designs of engineers may not be sufficiently ornate for the architect's standard; nevertheless, the combined genius of both professions to meet our railway requirements have produced some striking results; and the London and North-Western Company, as the proprietors of the largest railway in the kingdom, have just added to their buildings a station of corresponding magnitude; erected for the accommodation of their own immense traffic and that of the Midland, Stour Valley, and North Staffordshire lines. This grand Central Station, which was opened on Thursday last June 1st, is situated in New-street, Birmingham. The entrance is at the bottom of Stephenson-place, where is a plain gateway leading to the main front of the station and hotel, which we shall describe more fully and illustrate next week. Entering the Station by an arcade, we arrive at the booking-offices for the respective railways; and, passing through these, emerge on a magnificent corridor or gallery, guarded by a light railing, and open to the Station (but enclosed by the immense glass and iron roof), from whence broad stone staircases, with bronze rails, afford access to the departure platform. We then stand on a level with a long series of offices, appropriated to the officials of the Companies; and a superb refreshment-room, about eighty feet long by forty broad, divided into three portions by rows of massive pil ars.

We have now reached the interior of the Station, which our Artist (Mr. J. M. Williams) has so accurately and effectively represented upon the preceding page; and the details of which we abridge from *Aris's Birmingham Gazette*:—

We must ask the reader to imagine that he stands on a stone platform, a quarter of a mile long; that behind him is a range of forty five massive pillars projecting from the Station wall; that in front of him are ten lines of rails, four platforms, and a broad carriage-way, bounded by another range of forty-five massive iron pi lars; and that, above all this there stretch a, from pillar to pillar, a semicircular roof, 1100 feet long, 205 feet wide, and 80 feet high, composed of iron and glass, without the slightest support except that afforded by the pillars on either side. Let him add to this, that he stands on a stone platfor a quarter of a mi e long, amidst the noise of h f a dozen trains arriving or departing, the trampling of crowds of passengers, the transport of luggage the raising of veils, and the noise of two or three hundred porters and workmen, and he will have a faint pic n of the scene witnessed daily at the Birmingham Central Railway Station.

The roof merits more particular description. It consists of 36 principals or arches of iron, strongly framed together. The upper bar, which is called a rib, is curved in the segment of a circle; and each end rests upon a pillar, but between the rib and the pi lar an ingenious system of rollers is introduced, so as to allow of either expansion or contraction by atmospheric changes. From each rib depend, at regular intervals, twelve "suspenders," which are laced together by diagonal bars. The lower ends of the struts are attached to a bar of iron, called the tie-rod; and which corresponds in curvature with the rib. Each of these principals weighs about 25 tons. They are placed at intervals of 24 feet from each other. Each rib is composed of five distinct pieces, riveted together. These pieces, or metal bars were raised by means of a travelling stage; and the last rib was fixed on the anniversary of the day when the first pillar was set up. The pillars weigh 3 tons 12 cwt. each. From rib to rib numerous "purlins" are stretched; and these serve to support the smaller divisions of the glazed roof. The roof is composed of glass and corrugated iron—the former bearing a proportion of three-fourths to the latter, which runs along in a broad strip on each side, and in two bands on the crown of the arches.

The ends of the station, both at Worcester-street and Navigation-street, are screened off down to the tie rods with glass. It is prop sed, we understand, to continue the roof to Navigation-street-bridge, but the continuation will be ridge-and-furow, like the Great Exhibition of 1851. We must not omit to notice that ample provision is made for ventilat on, by raising a lantern over the centre bay of the principals, and continuing it down the whole length of the roof. An elegant iron bridge crosses the station from the booking-offices' corridor, and affords passengers a safe and efficient means of reaching the further platforms by flights of steps descending from the bridge.

The Station-roof has been constructed by Messrs. Fox and Henderson; and the building contracted for by Messrs. Bremner and Gwyther. The engineer is Mr. Baker, who has been assisted by Messrs. Livock and Son.

We shall complete our description and illustration of this fine Railway structure next week.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, June 4.—Whit Sunday.
MONDAY, 5.—Whit Monday.
TUESDAY, 6.—Census taken, 1841. Jeremy Bentham died, 1832.
WEDNESDAY, 7.—Barber Week. Oxford Term begins.
THURSDAY, 8.—Dr. Chandler died, 1766.
FRIDAY 9.—St. Anthony. Lilly, the astrologer, died, 1681.
SATURDAY, 10.—Oxford fired at the Queen, 1840.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING JUNE 10.

Sunday	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
M. A.	M. A.	M. A.	M. A.	M. A.	M. A.	M. A.
h m | h m	h m | h m	h m | h m	h m | h m	h m | h m	h m | h m	h m | h m
7 25 | 8 0	8 40 | 9 15	9 56 | 10 30	10 50 | 11 15	11 45 | Tide	0 10 | 0 33	1 0 | 1 25

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

SAXONENSIS.—*Arms* of Praed, of Tre vethow: Az. six mullets arg.—three, two, and one. Crest: Out of a five-leaved ducal coronet or, a unicorn's head arg., maned and horned gold. Arms of Rosearrock, of Cornwall: Or, a chev. gu. in chief, two roses of the last; in base a fleur-de-lis az. Crest: A lion ramp. ppr. ducally gorged arg. We cannot find the Coats of Hammond, or Sise, of St. Ives.

AN OLD SUBSCRIBER.—Mr. Benyon de Beauvoir is dead.

ARTHUR.—There do not appear to be any Arms registered to the name of Merchave.

A SUBSCRIBER.—In the absence of a paternal Coat of Arms, a mother's family Arms cannot be adopted.

NEPTUNE.—There is no purchasing in the Royal Navy.

A SUBSCRIBER, Woodford.—The children of English parents, born abroad, are, to all intents and purposes, English.

UN HOMME MILITAIRE is desirous of knowing why, in the British army, there is no 5th Dragoons.

G. H.—Nec prece nec pretio.

W. T.—There are not, we believe, any registered Arms to the name of Tomes. The "authority" from which our Correspondent derives his information as to the "Windsor" bearings, is no authority at all.

A. Z., Abingdon.—From your description, we should suppose your coin to belong to a numerous class termed "reading counters," made at Nuremberg in the sixteenth century. It is of no value.

J. S., Lancing, Sussex.—Count Alexander Walewski, Ambassador of France at the Court of St. James's, married, first, in 1831, Catherine Caroline, youngest sister of the present Earl of Sandwich. Her lady-ship died in 1834, leaving two children, since deceased. The present Countess Walewska was correctly described in the brief biographical memoir appended to her portrait in our last Number. The Count has two children, one son and one daughter, by his second wife.

E. W. D., Ireland.—We cannot inform you.

E. A. M.—A mercurial barometer is much better than an aneroid. A standard barometer of Barrow is the best.

A CORRESPONDENT.—The hours of attendance for the allowance of spoiled stamps are from Twelve till Two o'clock, on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, during which time affidavits sworn in the country cannot be received.

R. H.—The proportion in the human family, in which males and females are born, is as 106 to 100.

C. T. A.—Our statement is correct. The "*Royal Albert* steam-ship was named by her Majesty, and not by the Princess Royal, as stated by some journals.

R. S.—Invariably; but always kept in the rear for the purpose of affording aid to the wounded, and their services are made available wherever required. In cavalry the trumpeters remain with their troops; and in the infantry the drummers march with their companies.

*** THE CENSUS.—The Two Supplementary Pages, with Corrections, are given in the Supplement published with the present Number. In binding, they form pages 33 and 34 of the Census, published April 22.

THE SEAT OF WAR.

In preparation, several Large and Important

ILLUSTRATIONS OF THE WAR;

INCLUDING

A PANORAMA OF VARNA,

And the Adjacent Coast, from a Drawing by Lieutenant MONTAGU O'REILLY. Also a Large Engraving of

THE ALLIED COMMANDERS IN THE EAST.

The Fort of Chaneh Kaleh (Dardanelles); the *Magicienne* in Hango Bay; Views in Finland; Sketches at Schumla, &c., &c.

Next Week,

A SPLENDID VIEW OF THE CRYSTAL PALACE AT SYDENHAM.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 1854.

EIGHT thousand French troops have landed in the PIRÆUS, and a detachment of the British fleet is cruising off the shores of Greece. The occupation of that kingdom is complete; and the King and Queen of Greece have received a very significant warning that if they do not cease their intrigues in favour of Russia, and their attempts to stir up rebellion in Turkey, they will be dethroned without further parley. The Austrian Government has been officially informed by Great Britain and France of the step thus taken, and has expressed its entire satisfaction and full concurrence; from which the Czar may learn, if he were previously unaware of the fact, that he need reckon no longer upon any aid or comfort from the Austrian Sovereign. Though to the impatient mind of people at home, who long to hear of victories, such as the capture of Sebastopol, Revel, Helsingfors, Cronstadt, and St. Petersburg, the war may seem to march but slowly, events are visibly converging to the point which will convince the Czar that he stands alone—that Greece cannot, that Prussia dare not, and that Austria will not, give him the slightest assistance; and that he will have to bear, ere many weeks elapse, the hostility not only of the great Maritime Powers, but of Germany and Scandinavia. All that his relatives and friends appear anxious to achieve in his behalf, is the restoration of the *status quo ante*. But the day has gone by for such a compromise. Such terms might have been granted him six months ago, but cannot now be entertained. To allow the Czar to withdraw from the Principalities without punishment, would be neither just nor politic. His word is not to be trusted. He has broken his faith. He has proved—and proves every day—that falsehood is a part of his system; and "he lies," as the Great Napoleon said of his brother and predecessor, "both to God and to man." He must, therefore, make restitution for the past, and give security for the future. Turkey requires a "material guarantee;" and Europe requires one in a still greater degree, not only on the shores of the Black Sea, but on those of the Baltic.

While Sir Charles Napier has been acting in the Baltic so as to give warranty for the belief that the rumoured seizure of the Fort of Gustaffsvern, which was extensively circulated, was premature only, and destined to be verified on a future day, the Turks, even without Anglo-French assistance, have been able to repulse the Russians from before Silistria. At the date of the last accounts, the fortress still held out; and if ultimately it be obliged to surrender, the first business of the Allies, now rapidly arriving on the scene of action, will be to re-capture it, provided that it be deemed advisable to molest Prince Paskiewitsch in a position of which he will not be able to take the slightest advantage. If the way to the Balkan were clear before the Russians, the possession of Silistria would be absolutely necessary to them; but, with the Turks at Schumla, the British and French fleets in the Black Sea, and large detachments of the British and French armies at Varna, Prince Paskiewitsch will be unable to turn the possession of Silistria to any ultimate benefit, even should he succeed in capturing it—a matter which, to say the least, is extremely doubtful, and which will cost him much time and loss to accomplish. On the 18th ult. Lord Raglan and Marshal St. Arnaud, left Constantinople, in separate steam-vessels, for Varna, whither they were followed by the Seraskier, or War Minister of the Sultan. On their arrival a Council of War was held, on which the future plan of the campaign was decided upon. Subsequently the British and French Generals had an interview with Omer Pacha, so that all the doubt and uncertainty which may have previously existed in the mind of the Ottoman Commander, as to the arrival and plans of the Allies, have been removed.

Of course no information of the plan of the campaign has been permitted to transpire; but it is known that the Allied troops at Constantinople will be forthwith conveyed to Varna, and that another portion, from Gallipoli, will be stationed in the rear of the Balkan, at Adrianople. A combined military and naval attack will in all probability be made upon Sebastopol as soon as the necessary arrangements are completed for that purpose. We shall not indulge in the habit of some of our contemporaries, of criticising the operations, present or prospective, either of fleets or of armies. The British public has confidence in the Commanders of both services; and, if apt, at times, to be impatient that so little has yet been done, relies upon their judgment and sagacity as much as upon their valour; and anticipates, from the union of those qualities, and the excellent spirit both of soldiers and sailors, a certain and complete, though it may be a tardy, victory of our arms, and of the rightful cause for which we struggle.

WE regret to learn that Lord Raglan and Marshal de St. Arnaud have come to the resolution of preventing, as far as they can, the transmission of news from the seat of war. It is understood that several of the Correspondents of the London daily journals, at Constantinople and elsewhere, are connected with the army. These gentlemen have received intimation that they cannot be allowed to proceed with the army on active service, unless they renounce their connection with the press; and as military regulations are necessarily paramount to all others in the minds of military men, they must, of course, submit. We think the result will prove unfortunate. The dislike of Marshal de St. Arnaud to the press is intelligible; but Lord Raglan ought to know sufficient of the temper and habits of his countrymen, to be aware that any censorship or silence of the newspaper press, which may be tolerated in France, will not be tolerated in England. The people of this country must and will have news from the seat of war; and if the military authorities will not assist the indefatigable Correspondents of the London press in procuring accurate intelligence, he need not be surprised if reports not quite so trustworthy as might be wished should find their way into the journals. He may control military men, and prevent them from sending reports of the operations of the war in every respect to be depended upon; but he cannot prevent civilians from gathering and transmitting news and opinions. The public is too earnest in the war to wait without murmurs until it may suit the convenience of General Officers to write their dry official despatches, and until the *London Gazette* comes lumbering into daylight with its small modicum of intelligence, a month or six weeks after date. The commanding officers of the Anglo-French expedition will, with all their power and despotic authority, find the Correspondents of the daily and weekly press too strong for them. They may shut up one source of information, but the stream will percolate into new channels; and the *quasi* ubiquitous gentlemen who rejoice in the title of "Own Correspondents" will establish agencies undreamed of by military martinets; and collect news in spite of difficulties and obstructions of every kind. As it will be utterly impossible to silence them, and as the value of authentic information is not to be denied, might not the Generals in command discover a method of utilising what they cannot prevent? We are quite aware that a Newspaper Correspondent may inadvertently publish a fact which it might be for the interest of the army, and the convenience of the General, to conceal; but we are quite certain that there is no gentleman, whether a soldier or a civilian, in the employment of the London press, who would give currency either to a fact or to an opinion if he knew it would prove detrimental to the public service. If the military authorities could so far conform to the spirit of the times, and to the natural wishes of the people, as to put themselves in friendly communication with the Correspondents of the newspapers, and to inform them in confidence of any facts or rumours, which they might deem it advisable, for any reason whatsoever, to abstain from publishing, we are quite certain that those gentlemen would make it a point of honour and of duty to obey. But if military men set the press at defiance; if they put obstructions in the way of those who seek for accurate information, and for no other; and if they look upon them as spies, and interlopers, and public enemies, it is to be expected that evil consequences will result. News will be transmitted from the seat of war, however much the Generals may object; and they will only have themselves to blame if that news should not in every instance be quite correct, and if it should now and then be tinctured with a spirit of hostile criticism. The people of England do not like their brave soldiers to fight in the dark. Publicity is the rule of life in all our national affairs; and we should as soon tolerate a Parliament sitting with closed doors, as an army fighting our battles without a record of its doings in the public journals. Omer Pacha is reported to have followed the example of Lord Raglan and Marshal de St. Arnaud, if he have not been directly instigated by them to ostracise the public press. We earnestly hope that the three Generals may be induced to reconsider the matter. With a fortunate unanimity, the British press and its Correspondents are agreed with the people, that the war is just and necessary. They have no wish but to report facts correctly, and to supply that daily and weekly history which is the life-blood of a free people. The Generals might make useful allies of the Newspaper Correspondents. If they choose to transform them into unrecognised hangers-on of the army, or as bitter critics of its operations, we think, with all due deference, that they will be ill-advised.

A CASE occurred in the Court of Common Pleas, a few days ago, which, although originating out of circumstances in themselves trivial, involves some curious and delicate questions of constitutional freedom. Our boasted Liberty of the Press, and our noble Jury system are, as it seems to us, to some extent imperilled by a decision which has been come to in the case of Hakewill, *v.* Ingram, on Saturday last. The circumstances of the case are simply these:—About the time when Mr. Fitzroy's Bill for the Protection of Women was passing through Parliament, the *Lady's Newspaper*, in the course of advocacy of a measure so important to the peculiar interests of its readers, published an article entitled "Woman and her Master," in which the insufficiency of the then existing law for the protection of women from wrong was insisted upon, and illustrated by two cases which had recently appeared in the Law and Police Reports. One of these cases was that of Mrs. Hakewill, of whom it was stated by the writer in the *Lady's Newspaper*, that, after having obtained against her husband a judgment in the Ecclesiastical Court, for the restitution of conjugal rights, she "found her miseries so aggravated on her return to her husband, that she was compelled to resort to a police-court for the little help which our glorious English Constitution gives to the English wife and mother."

Upon the appearance of this publication, Mr. Hakewill, the husband in question, brought an action against the proprietor of the *Lady's Newspaper* for libel, and the case was tried before Mr. Justice Crowder, the question turning simply upon whether the matter complained of was libellous or not. The Judge held that it was, and directed the Jury accordingly; but the Jury held that it was not, and insisted upon their view of the case, by returning a verdict for the defendant. Against this verdict the plaintiff now appeals; moves for a new trial, upon the ground that the verdict was contrary to the ruling of the Judge; and this motion, after argument by counsel on both sides, the Court affirms—three Judges (Chief Justice Jervis, Mr. Justice Cresswell, and Mr. Justice Crowder) being in favour of the rule, and Mr. Justice Maule, alone, against it.

Now, as we observed at the outset, constitutional questions of very great importance are placed at issue in this in itself really trumpery case. There is first the grave question as to whether

a JURY, in civil actions for libel, is bound to submit to the laying down of the Judge as to the libellous nature of the matter complained of; and to give a verdict for damages, in a case where in their consciences they are unanimously of opinion that no damages has been done. In criminal suits for libel, the contrary principle was boldly and triumphantly asserted by Erskine half a century ago, and has since been confirmed by Act of Parliament; the Jury alone having to decide both upon the fact of publication, and as to whether the matter published be a libel or not. In civil cases the principle has not been established upon quite so broad a basis, nor upon the same authority, but still is pretty well defined. According to the judgment of the Court of Common Pleas, on Saturday last; "the Jury, no doubt, have the power of deciding whether a publication is libellous or not; but they are also bound to take from the Judge what is the legal definition of a libel." We do not dispute the position as here set forth by the learned Judges, from whose application of the principle we feel bound to dissent; but we aver that, in the case of Hakewill v. Ingram, all was done that is above prescribed;—the Judge explained to the Jury "the legal definition of a libel;" and the Jury, taking that definition into account, decided that the publication complained of was not libellous; or, in the words of Justice Maule—"In this case the Jury, having been properly directed as to what a libel was, had found that this publication was not libellous." Now, we submit that a verdict arrived at in this manner ought not lightly to be disturbed; and that, if the Judges were to pretend to go further than is above prescribed to them, and—instead of confining themselves to defining what a libel is—were to insist upon deciding whether every particular publication, the subject matter of an action, be a libel or not, they would entirely supersede the higher and more responsible province of a Jury, leaving them only to decide upon the bare fact of publication, and, supposing the Judge to have found for the libel, the amount of damages to be awarded;—the last part of the question being a somewhat difficult one in cases (such as that of Hakewill v. Ingram) where, contrary to the view of the Judge, they might consider that no libel had been published, and, consequently, no damages at all ought to be given.

With respect to the case, as it affects the liberty of the press, and particularly in what respects the exercise of some of its most important and useful functions, we are diffident of saying anything at present, as our doing so might savour of pretending to prejudice the merits of an issue yet pending before a court of law. We will content ourselves with observing that, as the question first discussed is one which affects the relative rights and authority of Judges and Juries, this second question is one which affects the rights of public opinion generally, and one therefore entitled to most serious and dispassionate consideration.

THE COURT.

The Queen and Prince Albert, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred, the Princess Royal, the Princesses Alice, Helena and Louise, Prince Arthur and Prince Leopold, arrived in town at two o'clock, on Tuesday, from Osborne. In the evening, her Majesty honoured the Royal Italian Opera with her presence. His Royal Highness Prince Albert, attended by the Marquis of Abercorn, Viscount Torrington, and Captain Du Plat, honoured the Archbishop of Canterbury with his company at Lambeth Palace.

On Wednesday the Queen held a Court at Buckingham Palace. His Excellency the Chevalier Bunsen had an audience of her Majesty, and presented his letters of recal as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from the King of Prussia. In the evening the Queen and the Prince Consort, with the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, and Princess Alice, honoured the performance of the French Plays with their presence.

The Marquis of Ormonde and Mr. Frederick Cavendish have relieved of their duties as the Lord and Groom in Waiting.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, attended by Lady AREA Maria Dawson and Lord James Murray, arrived at her residence, Clarence-house, St. James's, on Saturday afternoon, from Osborne, Isle of Wight.

The Marquis of Lansdowne opened the magnificent saloons of his fine mansion on Tuesday night for the reception of company. A brilliant circle of the aristocracy and fashionable world responded to his Lordship's invitation.

The Earl of Carlisle returned to England, from his Eastern tour, on Tuesday last.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

ON the 6th June the Admiralty wish to receive tenders for the conveyance to Constantinople of 100 tons of guns, the heaviest of which weighs six tons. On Monday tenders were to be sent in for the hire of one or two ships of from 500 to 600 tons, to convey drafts of regiments, consisting of about 436 men, from the river Thames, Portsmouth, and Cork, to Quebec.

THE BREVET.—There is no longer a doubt on the subject of the issue of a Brevet, but as to the number in which each grade it may reach is not fixed. The belief is that the following will be pretty near the limits:—All the Lieutenant-Generals of 1846 to be Generals. All the Major-Generals of 1846 to be Lieutenant-Generals. All the Colonels of 1846 to be Major-Generals. The Lieutenant-Colonels, down to Brevet of 1846, to be Colonels. The Majors, down to Brevet of 1846, to be Lieutenant-Colonels. All Captains down to end of 1843, to be Majors. So it we understand to be the extent to which promotion is to be immediately given, and we hope that before the next month (June) is a week old we may have the satisfaction of announcing a large Brevet, so long expected and so much needed.—*Naval and Military Gazette.*

ARMAMENT OF THE "ROYAL ALBERT."—Mr. Hall, from the Ordnance Department has been at Sheerness, this week, taking the necessary admeasurements on board the *Royal Albert* screw steam-ship for her armament, gun-carriages, &c. She is not to carry 121 guns, as has been currently reported. The true armament she is to carry is as follows:—Gun-deck, 32 32 pounders, 68 cwt., 9 feet; middle deck, 32 32-pounders, 58 cwt., 9 feet 6 inches; main deck, 32 32-pounders, 42 cwt., 8 feet; upper deck, 12 68-pounder, 95 cwt., 10-inch shot or shell, on a traversing pivot, and 24 32-pounders, 42 cwt., 8-feet guns. She is also pierced for 3 waist-guns on each side on her upper deck, which can at any time be put into her if necessary. A strong staff of the riggers and labourers are engaged getting in her machinery by the masting sheers.

THE *Stromboli*, 6, steam-sloop, Commander Hall, sailed from Portsmouth on Sunday morning, with shot and shell, for the Black Sea fleet. The *Tribune*, 36, steam-frigate, the Hon. Captain Carnegie, sailed on the same evening for the Mediterranean and Black Sea.

MR. E. J. SMITH, a senior clerk in the Inland Department of the General Post-office, has been selected by Lord Canning to act as postmaster to the British expeditionary force in Turkey. He is to be stationed at Constantinople, and will be placed under the immediate orders of the Commander-in-Chief.

ESSEX RIFLE MILITIA.—The Essex Rifle Regiment of Militia were marched from the Tower on Wednesday, under the command of their Colonel, Lord Jocelyn, to Hyde-park, where the men went through a number of field evolutions, in the presence of several distinguished military officers—who were pleased to express their satisfaction at the precision and soldier-like way in which the men accomplished several most intricate manœuvres. Whilst the men were on the ground, her Majesty accompanied by some of the Royal children, drove through the Park, and the regiment, forming line, saluted the Queen.

ENGLAND AND FRANCE.

[We regret that we are unable to publish, this week, the Music of the following SONG. It will appear in an early Number of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS].

I.

Who dare disturb the lands,
Arming their felon bands,
Lifting their blood-red hands?
Let them advance!
Two mighty States combined,
Both of one heart and mind,
Combat for humankind,—
England and France!

II.

Friends of the rightful cause,
Guardians of Europe's laws;—
Guilt in its schemes shall pause,
Awed by their glance!
Where their twin banners wave
Freedom shall bless the slave;—
Glory attend the brave
England and France!

III.

Foes of our Peace and Right,
Tempt not the useless fight;—
Vain is your arm of might,—
Vain, sword and lance!
True hearts repeat the cry,
"England, and Liberty!
England, and Victory!
England and France!"

CHARLES MACKAY.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,

TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, JUNE 1.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading.	Thermometer. Lowest Reading.	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
	Inches.	°	°	°	°			Inches.
May 26	29.634	64.8	43.8	52.4	— 2.8	63	S.W. & S.	0.15
" 27	29.591	59.7	44.2	50.4	— 5.1	85	S.W.	0.41
" 28	29.698	62.8	43.0	52.5	— 3.2	72	S.W.	0.55
" 29	29.502	60.6	41.5	49.7	— 6.2	85	S.W.	0.21
" 30	29.742	64.6	46.0	53.3	— 2.7	74	S.W.	0.04
" 31	29.319	68.1	42.8	56.0	— 0.4	63	S.W.	0.09
June 1	29.163	69.7	42.9	56.8	+ 0.3	65	N.E.	0.06

Note.—The sign — denotes below the average, and the sign + above the average. The numbers in the seventh column are calculated on the supposition that the saturation of the air is represented by 100.

The corrected reading of the barometer decreased from 29.83 inches at the beginning of the week, to 29.59 inches by the 27th; increased to 29.69 inches by the 28th; decreased to 29.51 inches by the 29th; increased to 29.82 inches by the 31st; and decreased to 29.78 inches by the end of the week. The mean for the week, at the height of eighty-two feet above the level of the sea, was 29.714 inches.

The mean temperature of the week was 5.7°, being 2.9° below the average of the corresponding week during 38 years.

The range of temperature during the week was 28.2°, being the difference between the lowest reading on May 29, and the highest on June 1.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 21.2°.

Hail fell on the first five days of the week; the fall on the 27th being very heavy: on the 28th a thunder-storm occurred, and on the 30th thunder was heard; but lightning was not seen. With the exception of the last two days, when it was fine and dry, the week has been unsettled and showery, the air being in gentle motion only.

Rain fell during the week to the depth of rather more than one inch and four-tenths

For the month of May the mean reading of the barometer, at the level of the sea, was 29.869 inches. The highest temperature during the month was 70°, on the 17th and 20th; and the lowest was 34.8°, on the 30th. The range of temperature during the month was, therefore, 35.2°. The mean of all the highest temperatures by day was 61.9°, and of all the lowest by night was 43°. The mean daily range of temperature during the month was, therefore, 21.2°. The mean temperature of the month was 51.6°, being 1.7° below the average of the corresponding month during 38 years. The mean temperature of evaporation for the month was 47.9°. The mean temperature of the dew point was 43.5°. The mean degree of humidity was 76 (complete saturation being represented by 100). The fall of rain during the month was 3.6 inches.

Lewisham, June 2, 1854. JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—Within the week ending May 27, the births of 860 boys, and of 787 girls, were registered. The numbers for the same week in the preceding nine years were 701, and 671 respectively. The number of deaths registered within the same week was 1143, exceeding the average of ten years, corrected for the increase of population, by 127.

CONVERSAZIONES OF THE INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—On Tuesday evening the President, James Simpson, Esq., gave the annual conversazione, which was attended by the leading men of science, artists, and their patrons. The fine theatre and the drawing-rooms, in the house of the institution in Great George-street, Westminster, were prepared with great taste for the occasion. The walls were hung with some choice pictures by Etty and Landseer, and other distinguished painters; and upon the tables were some exquisite productions in metal-work, and the ceramic arts. In the theatre, the exhibition of working models was very attractive, including those of the *Tyne* steam-ship, and Parratt's life-raft. Upon the central table, the display of war inventions excited much interest; and rifles and pistols were numerous among the latter was Jones's patent revolving pistol, with from four to twelve barrels, in which the revolving motion is entirely superseded, and the operation of cocking for the whole number of discharges is performed at the time of loading. The lighting and ventilation of the theatre was most efficient; and the entire arrangement, under the superintendence of Mr C. Manby, F.R.S., the able Secretary of the Institution, received high commendation. The rooms were crowded throughout the evening.

THE NATIONAL SOCIETY.—The annual general meeting of the members of the National Society for Promoting the Education of the Poor in the Principles of the Established Church, was held at the Central School-room, Westminster, on Wednesday, at twelve o'clock; his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury in the chair. The attendance was exceedingly small. The total number of schools now in union with the society amounts to 10,202. Of these 182 have been added during the last year. From the training institutions in Manchester-buildings, and in Smith's-square, 63 masters and 68 mistresses have been sent out since the date of the last report to take charge of schools.

CONSECRATION OF THE LAMBETH NEW BURIAL-GROUND.—The solemn and imposing ceremony of consecrating the new burial-ground for the extensive parish of Lambeth was performed on Tuesday afternoon, by the Lord Bishop of Winchester, in the presence of most of the parochial officers and a great number of influential parishioners. The spot selected for burying the dead of this parish is situated in Garrett-lane, between Tooting and the Wandsworth road, and comprises thirty acres of land—twenty acres to be appropriated for the interment of members of the Church of England, and the remaining ten acres for the burying of Dissenters. The whole is undergoing a thorough drainage, and in the course of a year or two, when properly laid out with trees and shrubs, will present anything but an unpleasant appearance. The Legislature having wisely ordered that every burial-ground in the parish of Lambeth should be closed from this day, in future the interments must take place in this ground.

FARRINGDON-STREET EXTENSION.—The demolition of a considerable number of houses is in progress in Silver-street, Turnmill-street, Charles-street, Castle-street, and Peter-street, Great Saffron-hill, to clear the ground for the formation of this important thoroughfare. In addition to the above, the Commissioners appointed by the City to carry out this improvement have obtained possession of the houses required to be pulled down in Coppice row, Falcon place, Ray-street, Hatte-place, Mutton hill, Vine-street, Onslow-street, and Round-court, and in a few days their demolition will commence.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

THE BOMBARDMENT OF HANGO.

In the afternoon of the 22nd ult., the *Dragon*, Captain Wilcox, was ordered to take up a position close by an island, where a buoy had been previously laid down. This position flanked the principal fort, Gustavus Svard, and only two guns evidently, out of the many that mounted the walls, could be trained to bear upon her. The vessel was now ordered, by signal from the flag-ship, to try range of guns. She immediately opened fire. After the second or third shot the fort replied. The ship and fort thus continued the engagement for about three hours and a half, during which several of the *Dragon's* shells burst right over the centre of the fort, and must have caused severe loss. Two of the shells which struck the walls did considerable mischief, smashing up one of the embrasures. The engagement was not a rapid one; on the contrary, a slow and steady fire was maintained on both sides. The *Magicienne* was ordered, somewhat later in the day, to a corresponding position on the opposite side of the small, narrow, rocky island in question, and opened an effective fire upon one of the masked batteries on the land side, into which she threw several shells. The battery replied with shell, and, it is thought, with red-hot shot, but the *Magicienne* was evidently out of range. The *Basilisk* next joined the group. Meanwhile, the *Hecla*, Captain Hall, was engaging the fort Gustavus Adolphus. Several of her shot and shell told with great effect. All the shots from the fort against the *Hecla* fell short. The *Hecla* remained at her anchorage for the night. The other steamers were recalled about half-past four. The guns of the forts must have been worked at extreme elevation. The fire was, therefore, a plunging one, and but little ricochet in consequence. The *Dragon* alone had any casualties—one man killed, and another wounded. She was struck three or four times.

GALLANT EXPLOIT OF THE "ARROGANT" AND "HECLA."

The *Arrogant* has been detached from the fleet for a considerable time, employed in reconnoitring the enemy's posts and shores about Hango Bay. While so employed, the *Hecla*, commanded by Captain Hall, whose services in the China war are so well known, joined her. Both ships planned a little expedition of their own, which has turned out quite a gallant manœuvre.

The two ships proceeded up a narrow river, and on anchoring on the evening of the 19th ult., the enemy, from behind a high sand-bank, in a thickly-wooded place, fired upon one of the boats, which was at that time pulling at a distance of from six to eight hundred yards from the shore, round-shot also striking the *Hecla*. Both ships beat to quarters, cast loose their guns, loaded with shot and shell, which they poured into the wood and against the sand barricade, whence the enemy was quickly dislodged. The vessels were not further molested that evening—the anchorage was shifted for the night, and all made snug, with watches posted.

At two in the morning both ships again weighed, the *Hecla* leading, both ships' companies standing by their guns. After about three hours quietly feeling their way along the intricate navigation of the river, both ships came suddenly within range of an enemy's battery. The *Hecla* opened fire, which was quickly answered from the forts; the proximity upon which stood the battery was crowded with soldiers, fine stalwart-looking fellows, with long grey coats, and spiked steel helmets glittering in the sun. While the battery was firing upon the *Hecla*, the *Arrogant* let fly a whole broadside amongst the soldiery. A troop of horse artillery, when the smoke cleared off, was observed scampering away. A prolonged and heavy fire of musketry now ensued from the wood, and Minié balls fell thick on board both ships. The *Arrogant* now got aground within twenty yards of the battery. However, before attempting to haul the ship off, the enemy's guns were dismounted by a broadside, and the ship was then got off in safety. On passing the fort where the guns had been dismounted, a terrible sight was witnessed—a gun during its blown to fragments, guns dismounted, helmets and knapsacks strewed about without owners.

The town of Kokness now opened, and there lay the ships, the objects of the expedition. The *Arrogant* was obliged to anchor here, as the water was shallow; the *Hecla* proceeded on, but another battery now opened fire upon her. The *Arrogant*, swung broadside on, kept up a cannonade, while the *Hecla* passed, firing shells on the enemy as she did so, and, on completion of a barges, took her in tow, and steamed away with her, to the horror of the inhabitants. When this little expeditionary force was returning, they were joined by the *Dauntless*, she having been sent on by the Commander-in-Chief to ascertain the cause and source of the firing, which was distinctly audible as the squadron steamed into Hango Roads. The *Hecla* had several shot through her funnel, steam-pipe, and hull, one shot passing right through the ship's side. The round-shot and shell went over the *Arrogant*. Both ships were studded with Minié balls. The *Arrogant* had two men killed, and four wounded; and the *Hecla* had one man shot, and four wounded.

Captain Hall was resolved not to leave without carrying back some military trophy. He gallantly landed with his marines, threw them out as skirmishers, while himself and a party of men hoisted one gun (an iron one) into his boat, and placed it on board the *Hecla*.

The *Arrogant* and *Hecla*, with their prize in tow, joined the fleet on the 21st. The Commander-in-Chief hoisted the signal, "Well done, *Arrogant* and *Hecla*." The flag-ship manned the rigging; her example was followed by several other ships—all of whom gave the heroes three hearty cheers.

[We have received a plan of the attack, and shall give an Engraving of it next week.]

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

OMER PACHA, Marshal St. Arnaud, and Lord Raglan have reviewed the Turkish army. Marshal St. Arnaud made a flattering speech, to the effect that he was happy to serve with such troops against the Russians. At Silistria, affairs remained without alteration on the 28th ult. The Danube continued to rise. Skender Bey had beaten the Russians near Kalafat, and had taken a position on the Lesser Balkan. The regiments organising in the Caucasus are to join the Turkish Danubian army. It is said that Schamyl has gained an important victory over the Russians in the Caucasus.

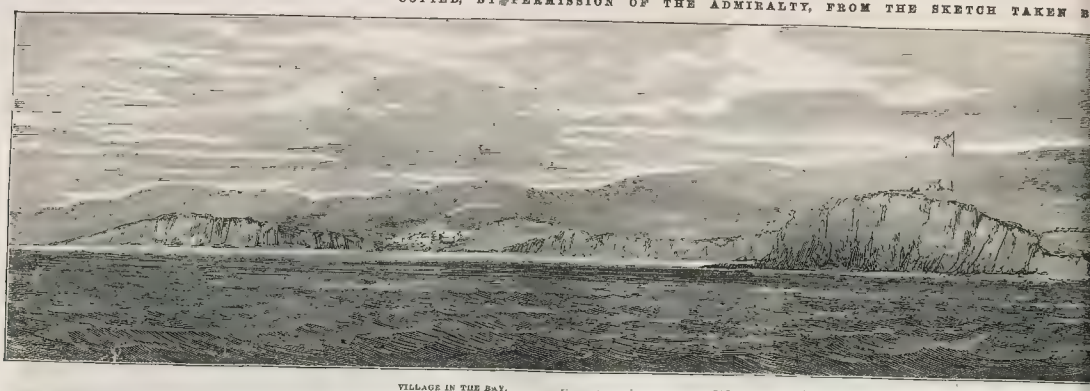
ANNIVERSARY GATHERING OF THE METROPOLITAN CHARITY CHILDREN.—The anniversary meeting of the charity children of the different parochial schools of the metropolis, in St. Paul's Cathedral, took place on Thursday. It was evident that the attraction of this very interesting ceremonial has not at all diminished; but, on the contrary, increased; for the numbers that flocked to the metropolitan cathedral this year were beyond the precedents of former anniversaries. Long before ten o'clock, at which hour the doors of the cathedral were opened, a great crowd had assembled in the churchyard, and the number was again sensibly undiminished until the time for the commencement of the service. There was, as usual, the full choral service; and the sermon was preached by Dr. Prince Lee, the Bishop of Manchester. The effect of the scene was magnificent in the extreme. The charity children—many of them in their quaint costumes—were present to the number of about 4000, and the congregation fully occupied every place set apart for their accommodation.

SHIPWRECKED FISHERMEN AND MARINERS' ROYAL BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.—The fifteenth annual meeting of the above philanthropic institution was held at Willis's Rooms, on Tuesday, May 23rd, Vice-President Admiral William Bowles, C.B., in the chair; supported by the Right Hon. Earl Manvers, Admiral Vernon Harcourt, Vice Admiral Sir George F. Seymour, G.C.H., C.B.; Rear-Admiral Sir George A. Westphal; Captains Sir George Back, R.N.; Hon. Francis Maude, R.N.; W. J. Cole, R.N., K.H.; M. H. Sweny, R.N.; Charles A. Barlow, R.N., C.B.; Duncombe, R.N.; Howes, R.N.; Schomberg, R.N.; Woodford, R.N.; Lowe, R.N.; Campbell, R.N.; Pierce, R.N.; —Cressinghame, Esq.; Lieut. H. Colquhoun, R.N.; Montagu Gore, Esq.; Major Montagu, Rev. Dr. Sinclair, Richard Lewis, Esq.; — Forster, Esq. From the annual report, it appeared that the income for last year was between £8000 and £9000. The disbursements for relief amounted to £5812.

KOSSUTH AT SHEFFIELD.—Arrangements have been concluded for holding a demonstration at Sheffield on Whit-Monday, in favour of Hungarian nationality. The ex-Governor of Hungary has promised to be present, and it is expected that Sir Joshua Walmsley will accompany him. Mazzini who was to have been one of the party, is not at present in England. There are to be two meetings—one an open-air meeting, about noon.

SEBASTOPOL AND

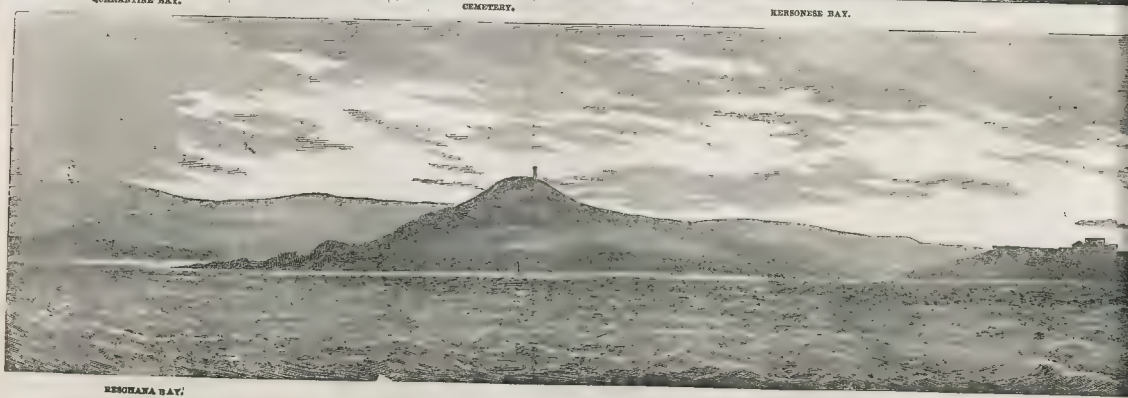
COPIED, BY PERMISSION OF THE ADMIRALTY, FROM THE SKETCH TAKEN B



VILLAGE IN THE BAY. CAPE CONSTANTINE. FLAG STAFF, E. BY N. BATTERY

3-DECKER FLAG-SHIP. 124 GUNS. 2-DECKER, 84 GUNS. 2-DECKER, 84 GUNS. 16-GUN BRIG. 16-GUN BRIG. 50-GUN FRIGATE. 84 GUNS. 50 GUNS. 120 GUNS. 20 GUN CORVETTE. STEAMER, 120-HORSE WHICH COMMUNICATE "THE RETRIBUTIO

QUARANTINE BAY. CEMETERY. KERSONESE BAY.

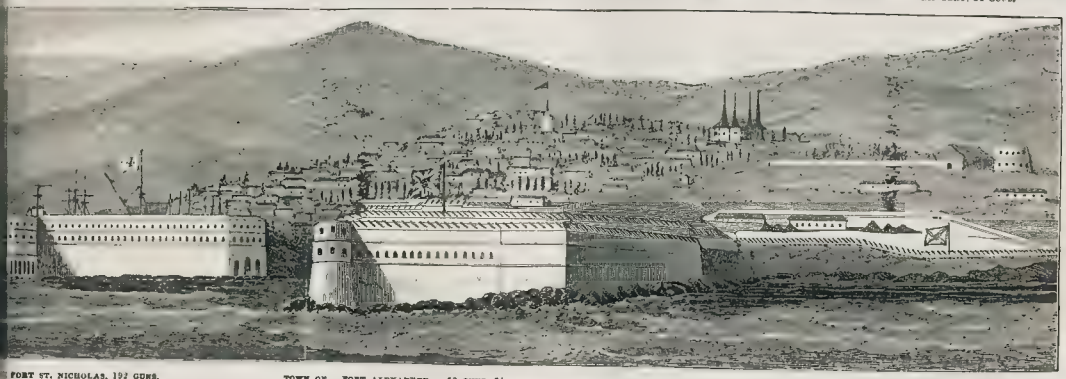


KESCHANA BAY. KAMUSCH BAY.

ADJACENT COAST.

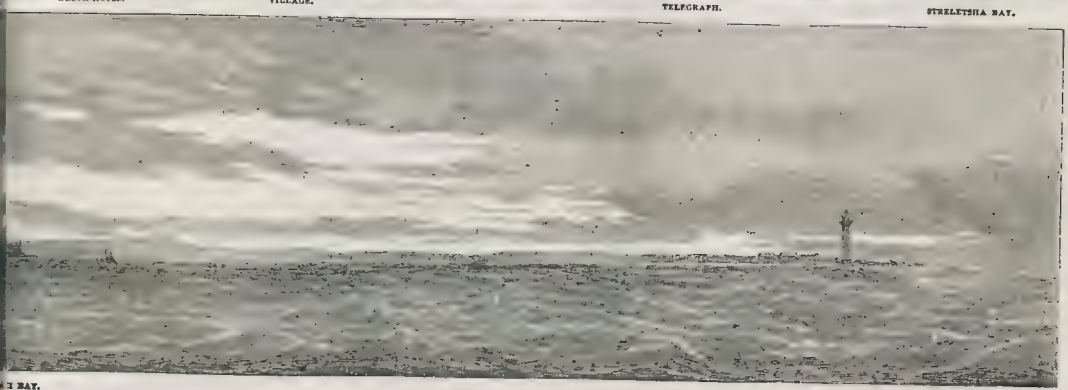
NTAGU O'REILLY, ON BOARD H.M.S. "RETRIBUTION."—(SEE SUPPLEMENT, PAGE 533.)

TE. FORT CONSTANTINE, 104 GUNS. BRIG, 16 GUNS. STONE BATTERY, 75 GUNS. STONE BATTERY, 34 GUNS.



FORT ST. NICHOLAS, 192 GUNS. TOWN OF SEBASTAPOL. FORT ALEXANDER, 84 GUNS. 80 GUNS, 84 EN BARBETTE. WALL ROUND THE TOWN. QUARANTINE BATTERY—EN BARBETTE, 51 GUNS.

BLOCK HOUSE. VILLAGE. TELEGRAPH. STRELETSHA BAY.



I BAY. W. S. W. CAPE KERSONESE, REVOLVING LIGHT, 116 FEET HIGH.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

A WAR MINISTER.

Lord J. RUSSELL, in reply to Mr. Drummond, said the question as to the appointment of a responsible Minister of War had been under the consideration of the Government, but no positive decision had yet been come to. As soon as a decision was arrived at he would inform the House.

OCCUPATION OF GREECE.

In reply to Mr. Milnes, the same noble Lord explained the transactions which were now proceeding with regard to Greece. The complicity of the Greek Government with the insurrectionary movements in Turkey having been effectually proved, a French regiment had been sent to Greece, and would be joined by a British force, with instructions to occupy the Pirœus; but the commanders were armed with discretionary power, which the noble Lord supposed they would gladly exercise, under certain contingencies, to extend their occupation to Athens itself.

Sir J. GRAHAM detailed the arrangements made for the transmission of letters to and from the fleets in the Baltic and the Black Sea.

THE BRIBERY PREVENTION BILLS.

The second reading of the Canterbury Bribery Prevention Bill having been moved, the ATTORNEY-GENERAL announced the intention of the Government to withdraw the bill, as well as the four measures with reference to the boroughs of Cambridge, Kingston, Maldon, and Barnstaple.

In the course of a brief debate which followed this announcement, Lord J. RUSSELL stated that he intended to propose the continued suspension of the writs for the five boroughs in question until the two general bills for preventing bribery and corruption, which now lay before a Select Committee up-stairs, had been fairly discussed in the House.

Mr. DISRAELI made an elaborate attack upon the Government in the course of which he remarked that seven important bills had been introduced by them during the session. Three of them had been defeated—those for remodelling the Law of Settlement, for changing the Educational System in Scotland, and for re-constructing the Parliamentary Oaths. Three more had been withdrawn—the bill now under discussion, the Civil Service Bill, and the Reform Bill. One remained still in suspense for reforming the University of Oxford, having already suffered much damage, with a probability of ultimate discomfiture. Remarking upon the weakness of the Ministry as shown by their inability to carry their measures, and on their rashness in bringing important questions before the Legislature without the ability to settle them, the right hon. member adverted to the personal position occupied by Lord J. Russell, whom he taunted with having deserted his party, and taken a subordinate place among his most virulent opponents.

The motion that the order for the second reading of the Canterbury Bribery Prevention Bill should be discharged, was then agreed to

A similar motion having been made with regard to the next bill, respecting the borough of Cambridge,

Lord J. RUSSELL took the opportunity of replying to Mr. Disraeli. Since the reform of the House of Commons, Ministers, he remarked, no longer employed their old and pleasant security of commanding majorities. The right hon. gentleman himself, when he was a Minister, brought forward a plan of finance on which he had bestowed considerable labour, but was not so fortunate as to obtain the sanction of the House for it. But though (Lord J. Russell) regretted the failure of several measures, the Government had obtained the sanction of the House on other points of yet greater consequence. Their negotiations before the war, their measures for carrying it on, and their financial policy, had all received authentication by the Legislature. Upon some of these questions the Opposition had not ventured to challenge a vote, on others they had been defeated by considerable majorities—a result which warranted the inference that whatever confidence the Government could obtain in the House Mr. Disraeli could boast of none.

Mr. DISRAELI returned to the personal charge, and accused Ministers of having obtained the sanction of the House to their foreign policy, by keeping back the most important of the papers relating to the negotiations. He went on to charge the noble Lord with unfair and factious opposition to the Derby Administration. Scarcely had he retired from office, from which, let it be remembered, he had been driven, not by any efforts of the Opposition, but by discreditable quarrels with his own colleagues, when he united into factious opposition, thus using every combination of faction in order to defeat the establishment of the militia force upon the voluntary system. With reference to a charge made by the noble Lord (Mr. Disraeli) had made the Jewish Disabilities Bill a mere political convenience, voting or not voting against it, as best suited him. he gave it the most unequivocal and unqualified denial.

Sir G. GREY, deprecating the tone which the debate had taken, declared that the friends and colleagues of Lord J. Russell still retained their old confidence in him unshaken

Colonel PEEL (who spoke from the Opposition benches) disclaimed all sympathy with the personal assault which Mr. Disraeli had directed against the noble member for London.

The order of the day for the second reading of the bill was then discharged.

Upon the motion for the discharge of the order of the day for the second reading of the Kingston Hall Bribery Prevention Bill,

Lord J. RUSSELL again rose and defended himself from the personal attacks of Mr. Disraeli. As regarded the present Cabinet, he was happy to say that they were agreed upon all general principles of domestic policy. As to the conduct of the war, if he should be of opinion that the Government was not carrying it on with that degree of vigour which makes war successful, and with a view to a peace which alone could be safe and honourable, from that moment he should cease to be a member of it.

Mr. OSBORNE charged Mr. Disraeli with having erroneously contradicted the statement made by Lord J. Russell, to the effect that he (Mr. Disraeli) had absented himself from debates and divisions on behalf of Jewish emancipation. Mr. Osborne referred to "Hansard," for the purpose of showing that he had been absent from at least one division, and on another had voted in the negative

The personal interchanges were continued by Mr. Disraeli, Sir J. Pakington, and other members; among whom was Mr. Bright, who protested against the precedent set by the present Government, in first involving the country in a war, and then claiming exemption from the ordinary casualties that could befall a Ministry, on the plea that they had not had the means while carrying it on.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, after touching upon a personal charge addressed against himself by Mr. Disraeli—that he had assailed Lord Derby with "sanctimonious eloquence"—corrected Mr. Bright's misapprehension as to the rights and privileges of a Ministry during the progress of a war. He then sketched the career of the existing Administration, and enumerated their performances during the last session, pleading that pending circumstances rendered the present session altogether exceptional, and contending that the charge brought against them, of legislative impotence, was altogether unwarrantable.

The discussion then terminated; and the orders for second readings of the three remaining bills (Kingston, Maldon, and Barnstaple) were discharged.

The Exchequer-bonds Bill, the Stamp-duties Bill, and the Ecclesiastical Courts Bill were severally read a second time. The Excise duties Bill passed through Committee, and the Consolidated Fund Bill was read a third time and passed.

PAROCHIAL SCHOOLMASTERS OF SCOTLAND

The LORD-ADVOCATE of Scotland moved for leave to bring in a bill to regulate the salaries of the parochial schoolmasters of Scotland—a temporary measure—the provisions of which he briefly explained. He likewise vindicated his motives in introducing the Education Bill. After a short discussion, leave was given.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

The Railway and Canal Traffic Regulation Bill passed through Committee.

The Manning the Navy Bill, the Navy Pay Bill, and the second Common Law Procedure Bill, were severally read a third time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

There being only thirty-six members present at four o'clock, the House immediately adjourned to Thursday.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE, in answer to a question from the Earl of Ellenborough, repeated his former statement, namely, that her Majesty's troops serving in the East, had been provided most amply with means of transport as far as the sea was concerned.

The Consolidated Fund (£8,000,000) (No. 2) Bill was read a second time.

The Bills of Exchange Bill was read a third time and passed.

The Railway and Canal Traffic Regulation Bill, as amended, was reported.

The Prisoners' Removal Bill passed through Committee.

Lord CANNING, in reply to Lord Beaumont, said that two officers were to be sent out to the East as Postmasters to the Army and Navy.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

Mr. HUME gave notice of his intention, after the recess, to move a resolution to the effect that it would promote the moral and intellectual improvement of the working classes, if facilities be given for opening the Museums, Marlborough House, and other similar institutions to the public on Sundays, after the hours of Divine Worship.

Sir J. GRAHAM, in reply to Mr. MASTERMAN, stated that orders had been sent to the Admirals of the Allied fleets in the Baltic and the Black Sea to institute a blockade of the principal Russian ports.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.

Sir J. PAKINGTON moved the adoption of the resolutions arrived to by the Committee which sat on the business of the House, and of which he was the Chairman. The first resolution was—"That it be an instruction to all Committees of the whole House to which Bills may be committed, that they have power to make such amendments therein as they shall think fit, provided they be relevant to the subject matter of the Bill, but that, if any such amendments shall not be within the title of the Bill, they do amend the title accordingly, and do report the same specially to the House."

After some discussion, the resolution was agreed to.

Several other resolutions of a technical character having been agreed to, the last resolution proposed was as follows:—"That the House at its rising on Friday do stand adjourned till the following Monday."

Mr. Bright, Mr. F. French, Lord D Stuart, and Mr. Hume, severally addressed the House against the resolution.

Mr. DISRAELI thought that the existing system afforded a popular privilege to independent members.

Lord J. RUSSELL thought it would be inexpedient to propose a resolution of this kind—restricting the powers of debate without the general concurrence of the House. He recommended the withdrawal of the resolution.

Sir J. PAKINGTON having assented, the resolution was withdrawn.

The Income-tax (No. 2) Bill was read a third time and passed.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY BILL.

The House went into Committee upon the Oxford University Bill, resuming the consideration of the clauses from the twenty-sixth clause which related to private halls.

Amendments were moved by Mr. Ewart, Mr. Mowbray, and Mr. Goulburn; some with a view of extending those halls, and others of rejecting the clause altogether.

The Government, however, after considerable discussion, succeeded in carrying their clause.

There was very little progress made in the measure throughout the night.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

ROYAL COMMISSION.

The Royal Assent was given by Commission to the County Courts Extension Acts; the Boundary Survey (Ireland); the Navy Pay, &c.; the Manning the Navy; the Great India Peninsula Railway; the Guild of Literature and Art; and to nearly forty other Bills of a local character

The Lords Commissioners were the Lord Chancellor, Earl Granville, and the Duke of Argyll.

Lord MONTEAGLE, in moving for copies of a correspondence which passed between the Right Hon. H. Goulburn, when Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Governor of the Bank of England, with respect to allowances made to the Bank for public services, and with respect to the advances upon deficiency bills, contrasted the financial policy of former Governments with that recently adopted. He contended that it was a most dangerous practice for the Government to allow the Bank to exercise unlimited control over the circulating medium of the country.

Earl GRANVILLE resisted the motion, upon the ground that the correspondence was a private character. He assured the House that there was no intention whatever to issue paper money beyond the limit already provided for by Act of Parliament.

Lord MONTEAGLE was satisfied with the explanation given, and would not press his motion.

THE WAR.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE, having alluded to the progress of the war, expressed an opinion that attention should be directed towards Archangel, which timber traffic of a large kind with the district of Russia. The trade of Archangel would be impeded chiefly by our ships of war, and they would prove far more damaging to Russian commerce than any blockade of the Baltic or the Black Sea.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE replied that the port had not been overlooked by the Government of England or France. If Archangel had not been blockaded, the House might rest satisfied that there were good grounds for not having taken that course—whatever blockade was undertaken would be an efficient one.

Lord BEAUMONT regretted to hear that Archangel was not to be blockaded, for it was highly essential that the war should be prosecuted with vigour.

The Earl of ABERDEEN assured the House that the war would be carried on with all the vigour and effect which the Governments of France and England could bring to bear upon it.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE observed that the blockade of Archangel would depend upon the decision which might be come to, by the British and French Governments conjointly.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH suggested the advisability of appointing a War Secretary, who should be responsible for the operations of the war.

The Earl of ABERDEEN said, the matter had received the serious attention of the Government, and at the proper time their opinion on the subject would be stated to Parliament.

Their Lordships then adjourned till Friday the 9th of June.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

On the motion of Lord J. RUSSELL, it was agreed that the House, at its rising, do adjourn till Thursday next.

The noble Lord also moved "That in the cases of the city of Canterbury, and the boroughs of Cambridge, Kingston upon-Hull, Maldon, and Barnstaple, where the seats of the members have been declared void by Election Committees, on the grounds of bribery or treating, no motions for the issuing of new writs shall be made without seven days' previous notice being given in the votes."

Mr. O. STANLEY considered that the course proposed was utterly inadequate to meet the gravity of the evil. At the very least, no writ should be issued till the Select Committee on the Bribery Bills had reported.

Mr. BUCK was of opinion that it would be better to allow the past to be forgotten, and to withdraw the Bribery Bills.

Mr. DISRAELI concurred in the course proposed by the noble lord.

Mr. L. KING moved that the writs be not issued until December 30.

Mr. T. DUNCOMBE characterised the course proposed as a pusillanimous proceeding on the part of the Government, and called upon Lord J. Russell to introduce another bill for the effectual punishment of those guilty boroughs.

Lord J. RUSSELL explained that his intention was that the writs should not issue till the Bribery Bills were disposed of. Should these bills not pass into law, it would still remain with the House to say what course it should take with regard to these boroughs.

Mr. L. KING having withdrawn his amendment, the noble Lord's motion was agreed to.

Sir C. WOOD, in reply to Sir J. Pakington, stated that the Indian Government had instituted a special inquiry into the practicability of substituting an Excise-duty in respect to salt, in place of the present mode of contract.

THE IONIAN ISLANDS.

Lord J. RUSSELL, in reply to Mr. Hume, stated that the question of the neutrality of the Ionian flag had been referred to the law officers of the Crown, and their opinion was that the Ionian Islands could not be deemed a neutral state, and must take part in any war that may be waged by Great Britain.

THE BALTIC FLEET.

Sir J. GRAHAM informed the House that a despatch, dated May 23rd, Bay of Hango, had been received from Sir Charles Napier, describing a gallant feat of arms performed by the steam-frigate *Arrogant* and a smaller steamer, the *Hecla*, under Captains Yelverton and Hall, in cutting out some Russian merchantmen anchored within an inlet, at ten miles distance from the sea, under the guns of a fortification. Sir C. Napier characterised the exploit as worthy of the best days of the British Navy. The English and French fleets had by this time joined in the Gulf of Finland, numbering twenty-eight sail of the line, and frigates and steamers in proportion

THE CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, in reply to Mr. Headlam, stated that it was not his intention to bring in a bill this session to impose a tax upon corporate property. He thought it would be preferable to delay taking that step till he had seen how the machinery employed in levying the Succession-duty performed its functions.

THE CLOTHING OF OUR ARMY.

Mr S. HERBERT, in reply to Mr. G. Heathcote, stated that it was the intention of the Government to take steps to make the dress and accoutrements of the army more convenient. The Commander-in-Chief had caused patterns of the dress and accoutrements of soldiers in all the European regiments to be obtained, with the view of ascertaining what improvements could be adopted. Lord Raglan was also engaged in effecting improvements in the dress of the army under his command. The soldiers had already been supplied with linen coverings for helmets and shakos, similar to those used in India.

The Customs-duties (Sugar) Bill passed through Committee.

The Excise Duties Bill was read a third time and passed, notwithstanding the opposition of some of the Irish members, who divided the House twice upon amendments for the postponement of the measure.

The Excise Duties (Sugar) Bill was read a second time.

The Merchant Shipping Bill passed through Committee

The Jurors and Juries (Ireland) Bill was read a second time.

Several other bills upon the paper, were forwarded a stage.

Lord PALMERSTON obtained leave to bring in a bill to render more effectual the police in counties and boroughs in England and Wales; also a bill to amend the law relating to youthful offenders.

Adjourned until Thursday next

MUSIC.

THE musical event of the week has been the re-appearance of Grisi at the ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA. It is now certain that her brilliant career is almost run. She is to appear only for a few nights, and then take leave of the stage for ever. It is announced that her farewell performances will include only a few of her principal parts, the foremost of which is *Norma*, in which character she appeared on Thursday night. As might be expected, the greatest interest was excited, and every part of the house was crowded. On her entrance she was received with a burst of applause, which continued for several minutes. She looked as noble and beautiful as ever. Her voice, though a little (and a very little) diminished in power, seemed to have even more than its former sweetness. She never sang the charming "Casta Diva" more expressively; and her action, throughout the whole piece, retained all its undivalled grace, energy, and passion. At the end of the famous trio which closes the first act (the finest passage of the opera), she was twice recalled with acclamations. and similar enthusiasm attended the final fall of the curtain. The part of *Adalgisa* was performed, for the first time, by Mdlle. Marai, whose reception was very favourable. Tamberlik was the *Pollione*; and Lablache, for the first time at this theatre, appeared in his old part of *Oroveso*.

The ROYAL OPERA at Drury-lane has produced nothing new, unless the appearance of Sims Reeves in the character of *Edgardo*, in "Lucia di Lammermoor," be considered a novelty. It is, indeed, his first appearance in that part at the Royal Opera; but that is all, for his performance of it, both in Italian and English, is quite familiar to the public. It is marked with his usual merits and faults: on the one hand, much dramatic energy and passion, especially in the final scene, combined with great power and beauty of voice; on the other, those mannerisms which seem to be growing upon him and detract from the charm of his singing—the worst of which are, his drawling die-away closes, and his habit of alternating between shouts at the full stretch of his voice and whispers almost inaudible, without anything in the sense to justify such violent transitions. Pity that a singer so great in many respects should injure his own reputation by indulging in habits which, if persisted in, will become inveterate and incurable. The character of *Lucia* has been very respectably sustained by Miss Birch. The only English opera yet performed has been "Fra Diavolo," which is no English opera at all, but only a French opera with English words. The brigand has long been one of Reeves's most popular parts. Neither has anything new been done in the German department. "Don Giovanni" has been repeated; and Madame Rudersdorff has established herself in the favour of the public by her fine performance of *Donna Anna*. But the "Zauberflöte," last week announced for this evening, with this lady in the character of *Pamina*, appears to be ailjourned from week to week. The truth seems to be that the managers of this establishment have too many irons in the fire. By adding English opera (which, after all, is not genuine English opera) to the German and Italian branches with which they set out, they are, we fear, involving themselves in expense, difficulties, and embarrassment—preventing themselves from bringing out the standard works they have promised, and from doing justice to those which they are performing. There are already grounds of complaint as to the quality and completeness of the German chorus. The orchestra has also considerably degenerated: it now wants many incompetent hands not in it at first Those who attempt too many things are unable to do any of them well. Had the Drury lane managers confined themselves to German opera, by far the most successful branch of their concern, they would have been able to give performances such as have never yet been heard in England—performances, too, in which they have no competitors. In Italian opera they have to contend, on unequal terms, with their powerful rival in Covent garden; and, as to English opera, it is obvious that, by tacking it to their scheme, they will neither do good to English opera nor to themselves. English opera, to raise its head and flourish, must stand on its own foundation, independent and alone.

AMONG the benefit Concerts of the week, the most remarkable have been those of Mr. Kiallmark, Herr Oberthür, and Mr. Neate. Mr. Kiallmark's Concert, on Monday morning, at the Hanover-square Rooms, was of a high class. He had provided a complete and select orchestra—a thing seldom done at benefit concerts—which enabled him to give some of the classical works of the great masters, particularly Mozart's Symphony in G Minor, Weber's Overture to "Oberon," and Mendelssohn's "Wedding March," in the "Midsummer Night's Dream." Mr. Kiallmark displayed his powers as a pianist by a very fine performance of Hummel's Concerto in B Minor, and Moscheles's "Recollections of Ireland." There were vocal pieces by Miss Louisa Pyne, Madame Amedie, Miss Barclay, Mr. Lefort and Signor Belletti. Herr Oberthür's concert, on Tuesday, was very interesting to the amateurs of the harp, on which instrument he is a masterly performer. He played a fantasia, in which several fine Scottish airs were introduced; a duet, with Miss Arabella Goddard, on the harp and piano; and another duet with Signor Regondi, the latter gentleman playing the concertina. There were songs and duets by Madame Clara Novello, Mdlle. Sedlatzek, M. Lefort, and other favourite performers.—Mr. Neate concluded, on Thursday morning, his series of performances of classical pianoforte music. These performances have been admirable, and worthy of Mr. Neate's high reputation. They have consisted of the finest sonatas and concerted pieces of Mozart, Beethoven, Mendelssohn, and other great masters, intermixed with several of his own compositions—works of high merit. All these concerts attracted crowded and fashionable audiences.

THE committee for conducting the next FESTIVAL OF THE THREE CHOIRS—to be held this season at Worcester—are making preparations for performances on a greater scale than usual. They have already engaged the following vocal performers:—Madame Viardot Garcia, Madame Castellan, Mrs. Weiss, Madame Clara Novello, Miss Dolby, Signor Gardoni, Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Lockey, Herr Formes, and Mr. Weiss. They endeavoured to obtain the services of Madame Goldschmidt (Jenny Lind), but have received an answer from her in which she says that "her plans for the season are of such a nature as not to allow her to accept the flattering offer made by them." The Festival takes place in September.

VISIT OF THE JUDGES TO ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL.—Sunday last, being the first Sunday in Trinity Term, the Judges, attended by the Lord Mayor, the Sheriffs, and other civic functionaries, attended Divine Service in the afternoon at St. Paul's Cathedral, in accordance with ancient custom. Of the Judges the following were present, namely:—Barons Parke, Alderson, and Platt; Justices Cresswell and Compton; and Serjeants Manning, Thompson, Miller, and Atkinson. The sermon was preached by the Hon. Montagu Villiers, under the spacious dome of the cathedral. Every accommodation was given to the public by the officers of the cathedral; and the police rendered quiet, but most effective, assistance in preventing any undue intrusion. The service lasted exactly two hours.

"ANDOVER," THE WINNER OF THE DERBY, 1854

TOWN AND TABLE-TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

We wish we could tell in what way our leading authors are employed at the present moment. Let us try. The Nestor of our poets is still adding new notes to his pleasing collection of poems; Mr. Hallam is adding and dating new notes to his great historical works; Lord Mahon is completing his "History of England;" Mr. Macaulay is busy with Sacheverell and the Bedchamber Intrigue; Mr. Carlyle is making Frederick the Great to live, as he has made Oliver Cromwell, Samuel Johnson, and Robert Burns; Milman meditates Scriptural epics, but is chiefly intent in maintaining the new opening to St. Paul's—that epic in stone and lime; Mr. Lockhart has just retired, like Milton, to a "garden house;" Mr. Wilson Croker is still on Pope; and Mr. Ruskin is indulging in paradoxes as wild as any to be found in Warburton.

The statue of Professor Wilson is to be an out-door statue, and in bronze. The committee are busy, and a London committee is talked about. No sculptor has yet been named. Wherever Ebony is read, Wilson is admired. The statue is due equally to the poet and the man.

The great war in which we are now engaged is connected with a little artistic episode, on which artists whose reading extends beyond the annual Academy catalogue, frequently and fondly enlarge. Our Civil Wars scattered the collection of Charles I.; the first French Revolution gave us the Orleans Gallery; our own ignorance of art, and in a comparatively peaceful period, allowed the far-famed Houghton Gallery to be sold to the Empress Catherine. When this war is over, and Peace hath her victory, we should claim—so artists and amateurs allege—the Houghton Gallery as one of the *minor* conditions of peace.

Among the art exhibitions at Messrs. Christie and Manson's, during the present week, the attractions have been the water-colour drawings of the late William Oliver, and a choice Clarkson Stanfield, "Tilbury Fort" Mr. Oliver possessed a fatal facility in art, yet he was clever. The Stanfield (to be sold on Monday) is a capital example of a thoroughly English artist. Let us add that the subject, Tilbury Fort, is essentially an English subject—smacking of the Thames, the Spanish Armada, and Queen Elizabeth.

Mr. Cockerell, R.A., has retired from the office of Architect to the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's, and Mr. Penrose has been appointed his successor. A better appointment could not have been made. This mention of St. Paul's and Mr. Cockerell reminds us of a strange anachronism, and a strange description, in an otherwise excellent drawing by an architect of the same name, in the present Royal Academy Exhibition. We allude to the "Thanksgiving in St. Paul's after the Victory over the Spanish Fleet, 1718," in which we find costumes of the year 1718; and, strange to say, the recently-erected warehouses in St. Paul's Churchyard are shown, as if they existed in the reign of George I. The error of description is, that the view is an exterior, and not an interior—it is a procession to St. Paul's: the Thanksgiving was inside St. Paul's.

The Guildhall Wellington monument has been entrusted to Mr. Bell the sculptor of Dorothea, and other works of poetic beauty and portrait character. The selection will not be unpopular with the public, for Mr. Bell, if he does not command approbation, will assuredly not offend against artistic rules and military etiquette. To allow the monument to appear as a companion to the Nelson, Alderman Beckford's monument will be removed to another compartment. Mr. Bell has an ample field, and a good subject before him—for the City is sadly deficient in good sculpture, and the man he has to honour is European and enduring in his reputation.

The last example of Mr. Cousins's skill in the art of engraving fully confirms his high reputation as an engraver, and most deservedly places him with the great mezzotinto artists he is known to admire—Fisher, M'Ardell, and Raphael Smith. We allude to Mr. Sant's much-commended picture of the "Infant Samuel"—one of the leading attractions of recent Royal Academy Exhibitions. Sir Joshua did not catch the inspired look of the boy—he has copied a mere good-looking child—a common type of boy to be met with in every studio; but Mr. Sant has caught the Scriptural Samuel; and Mr. Cousins has translated Mr. Sant's picture with the feeling of a painter, and the fidelity of an accomplished engraver.

Three fresh Exhibitions of Art in London are about to open. The British Institution is nearly ready with its annual Exhibition of the Works of Ancient Masters (of which we hear favourable accounts); Mr. Gambart is engaged in getting up an exhibition of Turner's pictures (the management could not be in better hands); and Mr. Graves is busy arranging the choice examples of modern Belgian art which the King of the Belgians entrusted to the Great Irish Exhibition of last year. The British Institution will charge its customary shilling for admission; Mr. Gambart will, most properly, charge the same sum for the Turner Exhibition; but the Belgian pictures will, under Mr. Graves's care, be a free exhibition—though necessarily restricted to artists, and amateurs of art.

A very old and esteemed friend of the late Mr. Justice Talfourd has written to us on the subject of Talfourd's birthplace. He is said, as we observed last week, to have been born at Stafford; but this, it appears, is not the case. The town of Reading, which claimed him for her son, and returned him to Parliament as her member, on more than one occasion, was the birthplace of Talfourd. "Talfourd," our Correspondent writes, "pointed out to me the *very house*, in the parish of St. Lawrence, in the town of Reading, in which he was born; and the fact of his birth there has been lately corroborated by his venerable mother, who is still living." The historian of Berkshire will do well by noting the circumstance, and marking the particular locality. The bust for Stafford has been confided to Mr. Lough.

The literary effects of the late Sir William Betham, sold at Sotheby and Wilkinson's, on Thursday last, included an autograph letter from Oliver Cromwell to his son Henry, dated April the 21st, 1656, and printed in Carlyle's "Cromwell." This most characteristic letter fills three sides of a sheet of yellow foolscap; is wholly in Cromwell's hand; has his signature, "Oliver, P.," with his seal in wax, and the address. The price was not too great—seventeen pounds ten shillings. Curiosities rife with associations such as this letter unquestionably contains are now eagerly coveted by all who care to live in the past, and to be taken, as it were, into the very presence of a great man who conceived and accomplished changes of which we still feel most sensibly the good rather than the evil effects.

THE THEATRES.

St. James's.—A kind of dramatic idyl, under the title of "Au Printemps," was produced on Wednesday, when M. Lafont took his benefit at this theatre. It is in verse, and written by M. Léopold Laluyé. The stage, as usual with many dramas of its class, is divided into two scenes, but with a more natural disposition than ordinary, for they represent two different sections of a wood, in which an old and a young couple are severally engaged in courtship. The young are exceedingly romantic, and the old exceedingly utilitarian; and the contrast of the two styles of wooing constitutes the piquancy and point of the action. With a fabric so slight, almost all depends on the performers. Mdlles. Luther and St. Georges, with MM. Leon and Tourillon, gave both animation and distinctness to their several parts; but an example of reality in which the two extremes of character are reconciled, as in the actual world. Her Majesty and Prince Albert were present, the audience being numerous.

Marylebone.—The "Love Chase" was performed on Monday, *Neighbour Constance* being supported by Mrs. Wallack, with remarkable vivacity and force. The management close this theatre to-day till September, when it will re-open for the performance of the legitimate drama, including some new and original productions, for which preparations on an extensive scale are understood to be making.

Olympic.—Mr. Wigan, after a long absence, returned to the stage on Monday. The play was "The First Night," and attracted a large audience.

Lyceum.—This theatre, it is announced, will be re-opened on Whit-Monday.

Willis's Rooms.—A dramatic reading of the Second Part of Shakespeare's "Henry IV." was delivered on Thursday evening, by Mr. Wightwick, author of "The Palace of Architecture." Most performances of the sort have lately been rather actings than readings. Mr. Wightwick does not err in that direction; indeed, he does not aim at a stage-interpretation, but an intelligent distribution of emphasis fitted for the drawing-room. Not that he is deficient in a talent for impersonation; for his *Sir John Falstaff* was clear; and even forcibly delineated; but he is guilty of no exaggeration, and affects no broad distinctions. He is much to be commended for his taste and judgment.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

EPSOM RACES.

Tuesday.—A dreary morning was this, to begin the great metropolitan racing holidays! Rain fell heavily during Monday night, and a dull morning, with strong showers met the assemblage on Epsom Downs. At noon, however, the weather cleared up, and a pleasant afternoon made amends for the earlier disappointment. The following were the events of the day:—

Craven Stakes.—Defiance, 1. Lascelles, 2.
Woodcote Stakes.—Flatterer, 1. Mary, 2.
Epsom Summer Handicap.—Axwell, 1. Hazelnut, 2.
Horton Stakes.—Remnant, 1. New Brighton, 2.
Manor Plate.—Roebuck, 1. Hazelnut, 2.
Heathcote Plate.—Ephesus, 1. Austrey 2.

Wednesday.—To make amends for the forenoon of Tuesday, nothing could be finer than the weather this morning, and, indeed, the whole of the day. The various railway trains brought detachments of visitors from London, Brighton, Portsmouth, and the towns on the south coast. Nor was the old road neglected, and vehicles of all grades brought their freights to swell the assemblage on the "Derby Day;" but at no time did the pleasure-seekers and business-men average the number on the Downs of recent years. A capital day's sport, however, satisfied, or ought to do, the concourse met for that purpose. The following is a list of the day's sport:—

Carew Stakes.—Ephesus, 1. Defiance 2.

THE DERBY.

Andover	..	..	..	..	(A. Day)	1
King Tom	..	..	..	..	(Charlton)	2
Hermit	..	..	..	..	(Wells)	3
Early Bird	..	..	..	..	(Aldcroft)	4

The following also ran:—Dervish, Autocrat, Woodcote, Hospodar, Welham, The First Lord, Mare Antony, Middlesex, Canute, Winkfield, Punchbox, Grey Plover, Neville, Bracken, New Warrior, Papageno, Knight of St. George, Alembic, Rodomel, Coup d'Etat, Wild Huntsman, Champagne, Maryas.

Betting at starting: 7 to 2 agst Andover, 10 to 1 agst King Tom 20 to 1 each agst the Hermit and Early Bird.

After the usual preparatory canter, the horses returned to the paddock, and were soon afterwards called to the post by the starter. The *coup d'œil* at this moment was extremely picturesque: the thousands of spectators surging up against the rails the vast masses on the hill-side—the multitude crowding the inclosures and the Grand Stand—had their eyes immediately riveted, as it were, on one point—the starting place. Sawdy, and in a compact form, the horses proceeded towards it from the paddock, the colours of the riders having a gorgeous effect in the broad sunshine. At the very first signal a beautiful start was effected. Hospodar immediately went to the front with Mare Antony, Canute and Wild Huntsman pedar, and Dervish lay about sixth. Mare Antony and Canute then dropping off. At the road, both Hospodar and Wild Huntsman were beaten. Hermit now took the lead, followed in close order by Andover, King Tom, Dervish, Knight of St. George, Maryas, Early Bird, and New Warrior. Andover waited to the half-distance, when he went ahead, followed by King Tom, who made a very resolute effort, but was beaten easily by a length. Half a length between the second and third, and a neck between the third and fourth. Dervish, Maryas, New Warrior, and Wild Huntsman were the next four. Value of the stakes, £5050.

Epsom Town Plate.—Mishap, 1. Roebuck, 2.
Epsom Cup.—Kingston, 1. Hatchplan, 2.
Durdans Stakes.—Vaultress, 1. Glenstrae, 2.
Great Exhibition Plate.—Assayer, 1. Noisette, 2.

THURSDAY.

Four-Year-old Stakes.—Dabchick, 1. Tobolski, 2.
Two-Year-old Stakes.—Bessie, 1. Fara, 2.
Grand Stand Plate.—Miss Bolton, 1. Axwell, 2.
Selling Stakes.—Pebble, 1. Emperor, 2.
Coldham Plate.—Eliza, 1. Orinoco, 2.
Queen's Guineas.—Advice, 1. Comet, 2.

FRIDAY.

Members' Plate.—Defiance, 1. Noisette, 2.

THE OAKS.

Mincemeat	..	..	..	..	..	1
Meteora	..	..	..	..	..	2
Bribery	..	..	..	..	..	3

Railway Plate.—Glenstrae, 1. Monze, 2.
Foal Stakes.—Champagne, 1. Middlesex, 2.
Derby and Oaks.—Child of the Mist (objected to), 1. Vaultress, 2.
Visitors' Plate.—Assayer 1. Roebuck, 2.

Races for next Week.—On Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, the Manchester meeting takes place: Lenham Races, also, will be held on Wednesday; and on Thursday and Friday the Southwell meeting comes off.

Cricket.—The United All England Eleven v. Thirteen of the University of Cambridge and Two Professionals.—This match was commenced at Cambridge on Monday last, and, after two days' contest, ended in favour of the United Eleven. The score stood:—The University, two innings, 167; the United Eleven, first innings, 38; second ditto, 80, and eight wickets to go down.

LEAVING RACES—THE RETURN FROM THE DERBY.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

"FRENCH LUGGER RUNNING INTO CALAIS."—PAINTED BY E. W. COOKE.

We resume this week our critical notices of the Royal Academy Exhibition; and call in, as is our custom, the aid of the graver, to do what the pen cannot do. We should be glad to carry this kind of joint illustration still further than hitherto we have enabled to effect; but the arts of war demand so many of our columns, that we are obliged to render less justice to the Academy and the arts of peace than it is our wish to have done. Still we shall give our readers a fair taste of the Academy; and, in addition to our illustrations of last week (favourable examples of excellence in their way), we now supply two other illustrations.

"A CABIN IN A VINEYARD."—PAINTED BY T. UWINS, R.A.

First is Mr. Cooke's "French Lugger running into Calais," in which the painter makes us feel the breeze from off his canvas. With what accuracy is everything painted: How true a sky is above our heads (we feel that we are in that lugger)—how those waves lash against the boat and the pier! Those sea-gulls that follow in its rear are having ample pickings from the living stores that, heeling to the sides of that well coated craft. Mr. Cooke is never happier than in pictures like these. You hear the vessel snorting through the waters as she nears the pier: surely those sailors, the men are crying aloud to their companions in the lugger. Stanfield, Vanderelde, and Turner, were never finer.

We have also engraved Mr Uwins's "A Cabin in a Vineyard," which, in the Catalogue, has the following epigraph:—

A mother having laid her children to sleep in the rudely constructed *cabons* of the Garde de Vignes returns, with natural anxiety, to stand a moment's look at them, whenever her course of labour brings her to the spot. The man's dog, left in care of his master's things, assumes the guardship of the children, and seems to say—" all is well."—*Notes in the South of France.*

The picture has the characteristics of Mr. Uwins's best manner, and is altogether a very interesting scene of peasant life.

FINE ARTS.

"NELSON BEFORE THE BATTLE OF TRAFALGAR." BY J. T. BARKER.

At a moment when, after a peace of unusual duration, we are again entering upon a war, stupendous in magnitude and import (a "little war" we never can have), the mind naturally reverts to the great captains of a past age, whose lives gave lustre to Britis h arms Nelson, the darling hero of Englishmen, was not more distinguished by his brilliant successes than by his entire—his absolutely religious—devotion to his country's cause, and his strong conviction of its righteou ness. There is also a painful, and almost romantic, interest attached to the manner of his last great achievement, and the fateful death in the very moment of victory. Having for months chased the combined fleets of the enemy over half the world, he at length caught them at Trafalgar, where he destroyed them utterly. During all the intervening operations, which led to this great event, Nelson foresaw in the consummation of his own glory a service to his nation and to humanity; and he almost favoured the conviction which had long been upon his mind, that, in gaining it, he should lose his life. He discoursed freely in this strain with Captain Hardy before the event; and, when Captain Blackwood, taking leave of him on the morning on his own ship, the *Euryalus*, said—" I trust, my Lord, that, on my return to the *Victory*, I shall find your Lordship well, and in possession of twenty prizes," Nelson replied—" God bless you, Blackwood; I shall never see you again!" The prediction was verified in a few short hours.

At early dawn on the 21st of October, 1805, the day of the victory of Trafalgar, Nelson, having made all the necessary preliminary dispositions, repaired to his cabin (that little plain stern cabin, which is still to be seen, just in the state it was, in the *Victory*, as she lies in Portsmouth harbour); and, after writing to Lady Hamilton, and bequeathing his child to the nation in whose cause he had sacrificed his whole life, addressed himself humbly to the God of Battles in a prayer, the words of which he had previously committed to writing:—

May the great God, whom I worship, grant to my country, and for the benefit of Europe in general, a great and glorious victory; and may no misconduct in any one tarnish it; and may humanity, after victory, be the predominant feature in the British fleet. For myself, individ ually, I commit my life to Him who made me; and may His blessing light upon my endeavours for serving my country faithfully. To him I resign myself, and the just cause which is entrusted to me to defend. Amen, amen, amen.

A more sublime and touching incident than the one so presented to the mind, could scarcely be found in the whole of the annals of arms; and Mr. Barker has done well in selecting it for the subject of a grand historical picture, which we lately in spected at Messrs. Leggatt's, Cornhill, and which is at present on view at M'Lean's, in the Haymarket. In this work the likeness has been carefully studied from the best printed materials, for, although Mr. Beechey and Mr. Braxman, from Nelson's face, a short time before he sailed on his last memorable expedition, and which is in the possession of his Lordship's family. The character inf used into it is one of dignity, high purpose, and sublime resignation. The careful manipulation has been employed in the execution of this, as of all other parts of the picture—the partial defect in the right eye being sufficiently indicated; though not to an extent to become disagreeable. On the rude table at which the hero kneels is the prayer which he has just penned; and many minor details in troduced in other parts of the picture, are his sword and cocked-hat, a chart of the Mediterranean, a telescope, and a bucket of water, with a swab in it—all admirably real in effect. The otherwise monotonous aspect of the cabin is cleared for action, is charmingly relieved by the introduction of the warm rays of the morning sun peering in round the edges of the yet closed green serge curtain; and a glimpse of the sea, and of one of the ships of the fleet, with the union jack just rising, through the open port.

Altogether, this is a very gratifying and effective picture; and, we doubt not, will receive all justice at the hands of M. F. Joubart, who has undertaken the engraving of it in the pure line manner.

"THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON AT APSLEY HOUSE," BY J. T. BARKER

This picture, though executed previously to the preceding one, comes later in historical order. They are both by one artist, similar in size, and will make admirable companion pieces illustra ive of our two most memorable heroes. The Duke is represented seated in his private cabinet at Apsley House, in the chair made of the wood of the elm tree under which he stood at Waterloo, with his old-fashioned escritoire before him, intently engrossed in the perusal of the despatches describing the great, but murderous, victories gained by British arms at Peroszepore. He has just come to the passage where something like a "pause" is made of his consideration for the two most distinguished regiments; and at the unacou-tomed and unwelcome suggestion he grasps the elbow of the chair with involuntary impulse, not altogether pleasing;—and very nobly, by the way, did Wellington, in the House of Lords, defend the brave fellows, whose deeds and long services he will knew and appreciated, from the charge thus, perhaps unthinkingly, made against them. As will appear by the date, above mentioned, this portrait was taken when the Duke was in his seventy-eighth year, and still actively engaged in his important official duties. The face is marked with an intelligence and purpose which seem to defy age; and may be taken as the best type of Wellington in the closing years of his ever active career, and just before the manifestation of the last symptoms of physical decrepitude, which only shortly preceded his death.

This picture, which has been most elaborately and successfully finished in every point, has been engraved in Mr. Lupton's best manner, by F. Bacon, whose name is in itself a sufficient guarantee for the satisfactory character of the result.

"THE 'VICTORY' TOWED INTO GIBRALTAR." BY C. STANFIELD, R.A.

Stanfield's fine picture of the *Victory*, with the body of Nelson on board, towed into Gibraltar, Oct. 28, 1805, the property of Mr. Fete, M.P., is at present on view at 23, Cockspur-street, previous to being engraved in his finest line manner by Cousens. This fine work was one of the gems of last year's Exhibition at the Royal Academy, and is equally fine in its fine artistic execution, and the poetic sentiment so full of melancholy and of grandeur, which pervades it. It forms a noble tailpiece to the grand history of England's greatest commander; and will be viewed with veneration by all who prize their country's fame.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL DISCOVERIES AT FOUNTAINS ABBEY.—On Wednesday last a most interesting collection of objects, lately found during excavations at Fountains Abbey, was exhibited at the soirée given by the Earl de Grey to the Institute of British Architects, in St. James's-square. We shall engrave a few of the above archæological rarities shortly.

ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL.—The annual apposition of the scholars of St Paul's School took place in the presence of a large assemblage of the friends of the pupils, on Wednesday. At two o'clock Dr. Kynaston, the High Master, the other masters, and several members of the Mercers' Company, entered the school-room, and were heartily cheered by the boys. The several speeches were delivered with the facility and correctness which usually accompany a careful and precise training.

CHURCH RATES IN KENSINGTON.—The following is the result of the two days' poll of the parish of Kensington:—For the 3d. rate, 836; for the 1½d. rate, 318; majority for the 3d. rate, 63.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—*Bishopric:* The Queen has selected the Most Reverend the Lord Archbishop of Dublin for the see of Meath, to be Lord Bishop of Bath and Wells. *Archdeaconries:* Rev. C. Dodyson, to Richmond. Rev. R. Wickham, to St. Asaph. *Rectories:* Rev W. Carus, to St. Maurice, Winchester; Rev. E. R. Hampden, Alton Bishop, near Hereford; Rev J. Murray, to North Walsham; Rev G R. Turner, to New Windsor. *Vicarages:* Rev. R. Eden, to Wymondham, Norfolk; Rev J. K. Owen, to Lydiard Tregoze, Wiltshire; Rev. C. Thorn hill, to Burwell, near Newmarket; Rev. T Williams, to St. George's, St. Asaph; Rev. T. Woodruff, Alton Hants. *Incumbencies:* Rev. E. W. Burton, to All Saints Church, Gordon-square; Rev. W. Cooke, to St. Andrew's, Sale Moor, Cheshire; Rev. C. B. Dalton, to St. Michael, Highgate; Rev. T. G. Jones, to Quarry-bank parish, Kingswinford, Staffordshire. *Perpetual Curacy:* Rev. J. M. Hobson, Norfolk; the Rev. F.

ENTHRONEMENT OF THE BISHOP OF SALISBURY.—The Right Rev. Dr. Walter Kerr Hamilton, who has recently been con-ecrated to the Bishopric of Salisbury, was enthroned in the Cathedral Church of his diocese on Wednesday last, the 31st inst.

TESTIMONIALS.—The following clergymen have recently received tokens of affectionate esteem:—The Rev. J. Boultbee, late curate of Holy Trinity Church, Nottingham, by his congregation; the Rev. W. Campbell, from the parishioners of Hillesdon, Norfolk; the Rev. H. Sanderson, D.D., Head Master of the Well ngborough Grammar school, by the pupils.

ILLNESS OF THE DEAN OF WINDSOR.—The Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor is very dangerously ill at his residence, Buckingham, near Glastonbury.

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CLERGY.—POLITICAL MEETINGS.—According to the Irish Catholic papers, the synods which met within the last fortnight have taken decided steps in reference to the interference of priests in politics. They do not state precisely the nature of the new statutes; but so far as can be gathered they are mainly directed to prevent the occurrence in future of the appearance of a voice dissonant in the clerical body. It is said that there is a statute forbidding any priest to canvass or others in conduct political agitation in the parish of another without his express consent. The same principle of course extends to dioceses. It is also said that there is a rather stringent statute with reference to the appearance of the clergy at political banquets.

SOUTHWARK BRIDGE.—On Monday, the first stone of this structure, to be erected near the south end of London-bridge, by the Commissioners of the Western Division of the Borough Pavements, was laid with the customary formalities after which the event was commemorated by a public dinner, at the Bridge-house Hotel, at which Mr. B. Sir pson, Esq., the treasurer, presided. Of the l ower, which is of Gothic design, we shall present our readers with an Engrav ing next week.

CANDLEWICK WARD.—On Tuesday last, the inhabitants of the Ward of Candlewick entertained their respected ex-deputy, Mr. Jeremiah Evans, at a public dinner; on which occasion Sir George Carroll, in their name, presented him with a handsome silver centre-piece, as an acknowledgment f his va uable services in the Court of Common Council for thirty-two years. The plate, of excellent design and workmanship, was executed by Mr. Clarke, King William-street, City.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

The late inactivity in the Consol Market has been followed th's week by a decided reaction. A large amount of business, chiefly for Money, has been transacted in Consols, the prices of which have advanced to some extent. The improved prices have, however, led to some rather heavy sales of stock, amongst which the Bank of England has figured largely. This must be attributed to the anxiety on the part of some influential parties to realise after making good profits. The Bank has sold S ock evidently for the purpose of increasing the amount of acco nmodation to the mercantile classes. In the early part of the week, money in the Stock Exchange was obtainable on Government security at 2 per cent; but, subsequently, the rate has advanced to 4. The supply of capital in Lombard-street still continues large; yet the lowest rate of discount for first-class paper, having two months to run, is 5 per cent; in some instances, 5 per cent has been given for money on call, at some of the discount houses.

During the past week, the range in the price of Consols was 4⅛ in April, 3½; and in March, 6¼ per cent. The fluctuations last month established a rise in the quotations of ⅜ per cent. The Scrip of the New Exchequer Bonds has been delivered. The transactions in it have been trifling, at from ¾ to ¼ prem.

On Monday, Bank stock was done at 204 to 206. The Three per Cents Reduced were 90½; the Three per Cent Consols, 91¼ to 91⅜; the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 90⅞ to 91½; and Consols for Account, 91⅛ to 91⅜. Exchequer Bills, par to 1 prem.; India, advertised, 2s. discount. There was less activ i y in the Market on Tuesday, and the quotations were drooping. The Three per Cents Reduced varied from 89⅞ to 89⅜; the Three per Cent Consols, 90 to 90⅛; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 90½ to 90⅝; Long Annuities, 1860, were 4 9-16ths; Ditto, 1859, 4 4-16ths; India Stock sold at 203 to 205; India Bonds, 1s. dis. to 4s. prem.; Exchequer Bills, 2s. to 6s. prem. Very little doing on Wednesday, owing to the running for the Derby having drawn almost all the frequenters of the Exchange to Epsom. Bank Stock was 204 to 206; the Three per Cent Reduced were 89⅝; the Three per Cent Consols, 89⅞; and the New Three-and-a Quarter per Cents, 90⅝ to 91; India Stock marked 203; Exchequer Bills were 1s. to 3s. prem.; Ditto, Advertised, 1s. to 4s. prem.

On Thursday Consols ranged from 91⅜ ⅝ to 91 ¼ up to 91⅝, both for Money and the Account. The Three per Cents Reduced were 90⅜; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 90⅝ 91. Exchequer Bills, 1s. dis to 2s. prem.

All Foreign Bonds have been in good request. In some instances, rather an important rise has taken place in their value. The following are the leading prices during the week:—Ecuador Bonds, 3½; Mexican Three per C nts, 24½; Portuguese Four per Cents, 40; Russian Five per Cents, 99¾; Russian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 84; Sardin ia Five per Cents, 84½; Spanish Three per Cents, 40; Spanish New Deferred, 19½; Ditto, Certificate of Coupon, 4⅝ per cent.; Venezuela Three-and-a-Half per Cent, 20¾; Brazilian Five per Cents, 99½; Chilian Six per Cents, 103; Granada Deferred, 6¼; Peruvian Three per Cents, 47; Dutch Two-and-a Half per Cents, 61; Dutch Four per Cents, 83½.

The imports of bullion have shown a falling off, when compared with the previous week: but we learn that about £700,000 in gold is on passage from Australia, exclusive of £330,000 in the steamer. The exports have been very moderate, and the exchanges are still unfavourable, a resumption is by no means improbable.

There has been rather a firm market for Joint-stock Bank Shares. Australians has been done at 72¾; English, Scottish, and Aust ra lian Chartered, 8⅝; London Chartered of Australia, 20⅛; London and Westminster, 58⅝; Oriental, 4⅝ ex bonus; Provincial of Ireland, 51; Union of Australia, 71. Miscellaneous shares have ruled firm, as follows:—Australian Agricultural, 46½; Australian Royal Mail Steam, 3⅝; Canada Six per Cent Bonds, 108; Crystal Palace, 6⅝; Ditto B Shares, 2½; General Steam Navigation Company, 3½; Hudson's Bay, 14; Peel River Land and Mineral, 5⅛; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, 52½; Ditto New, 35½; Van Diemen's Land, 14½; Hungerford-bridge Shares have been dealt in at 12; Waterloo, 1½; Vauxhall, 2⅜. Berlin Waterworks, 1⅞; East London, 129½; Grand Junction, 70; Kent, 80; Lambeth, 97; West Middlesex, 107. Insurance Companies Shares have been rather flat. Albion, 9½; Atlas, 18½; London, 29; Pelican, 7; Provident, 42; Royal Exchange, 235; Sun Fire, 260; Ditto, Life, 65; United Kingdom, 5½.

The market for Railway Shares has been in a healthy state. Prices almost generally have improved. The "calls" for the present month are only about £200,000. The total for the first half of the present year has reached £7,224,220, against £6,606,000 in the same period in 1853. The following are the official closing prices on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Aberdeen, 20⅞; Caledonian, 87; Dublin and Belfast Junction, 43; Eastern Counties, 14⅞; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 58; Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, 74; Great Northern, 88½; Ditto, A Stock, 73; Ditto, B Stock, 123; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 84¾; Great Western, 75½; Lancaster and Carlisle, Thirds, 11 prem.; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 61⅛; Leeds Northern, 13; London and Blackwal, 8½; London, Tilbury, and Southend, 6⅞; London and North Western, 89½; London and South-Western, 79⅜; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 30; Midland, 69⅛; Midland Great Western (Ireland), 44¾; North British 32⅜; North Staffordshire, 9⅜; Scottish Midland, 8½; Shrewsbury and Birmingham, 58; South-Eastern, 69½; South Wales, 34½; Vale of Neath, 18; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, 67½; York and North-Midland, 49.

LINES LEASED AT FIXED RENTALS.—Hull and Selby, Half Shares, 61; Midland Bradford, 24.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Eastern Counties, New Six per Cent Stock, 12⅜; Great Northern Five per Cent. 114; Ditto, Redeemable at Ten per Cent prem., 107; Ditto, Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 10; Great Western, Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 97; London and South Western Thirds, 74; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, New £10 Shares, 8⅜; Ditto, £5, 4½; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, Six per Cent, 98; South-Eastern, Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 100; York and North-Midland, New Purchase, 9½.

FOREIGN.—East Indian, 22; Ditto, Extension, 1¼; Grand Trunk of Canada, 4⅞; Great Western of Canada Shares, 19½; Northern of France, 35½; Paris and Strasbourg, 30½; Royal Danish, 40.

MINING Shares have been tolerably firm, but the business doing in them has been very moderate. On Thursday Cobre Copper were 45⅞; Colonial Gold, 1; Santiago de Cuba, 4¼.

Friday Evening.

The Market for Consols has been very steady to-day, and prices have had an upward tendency. The Three per Cents Reduced were 90⅝ ⅞; the Three per Cents Reduced, 91⅜; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 91⅝. Foreign Bonds and Railway Shares are rem

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE (Friday).—The show of English wheat in to-day's market was very limited; and, as the attendance of buyers was small, the demand for all kinds called inactive, at Monday's decline in the quotations. Foreign wh eat—the imports of which are but moderate—moved very ll y at late rates. We were but indifferently supplied with barley, in wel h p ly we were in fair request, at late rates. Of malt we had a full supply for beans and peas, on former terms. There was a moderate business done in flour, at steady q uotations.

ARRIVALS.—English wheat, 3151 barls.; barley, 3230; malt, 2050; oats, 490; flour, 690 sacks; Irish oats, 3120. Foreign: wheat, 11,120 barls.; barley, 3,800; oats, 15,230; flour, 2150 sacks, 4190 barrels.

Mark Lane.—Wheat: Essex and Kent, red, 72s. to 80s; ditto, white, 75s. to 80s. Norfolk and Suffolk red 71s to 81s ditto, white, —s. to —s. rye, 45s. to 50s.; grinding barley, 34s. to 40s.; fine ditto, 42s. to 44s.; malting ditto, 44s. to 46s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 62s. to 65s.; brown ditto, 56s. to 60s.; Scotch and Ware ditto, 60s. to 65s.; chevalier ditto, 70s. to 74s.; Yorkshire feed oats, 23s. to 26s.; potato ditto, 24s. to 28s.; Dongal and Cork, black, 24s. to 26s.; ditto, white, 26s. to 28s.; cock beans, new, 40s. to 42s.; tick ditto, old, 44s. to 46s.; maple, 42s. to 43s.; white, 42s. to 43s.; grey peas, 40s. to 42s.; marrowfat, 46s. to 48s.; flour, 37s. 2d.; cake, 28s. 11d.; rape, 32s. 3d.; linseed, 38s. 2d.; peas, 41s. 3d.

Liverpool.—Wheat, 1s.; barley, 1s.; oats, 1s.; rye, 1s.; beans, 1s.; peas, 1s.

Tea.—Fine green qualities are in request, and 1d. per lb. dearer. Other sorts low, the demand is in a sluggish state. Common round congou, 11d. per lb.

Sugar.—Our market has ruled dull this week, and the quotations have given way from 6d. to ½s per cwt. Mid. to fine yellow Barbadoes has changed hands at 42s. to 43s.; brown ditto, 40s. to 42s. 6d.; brown Mauritius, 40s. to 42s.; low to fine yellow Mauritius, 42s. 6d. to 44s.; fine grocery yellow 43s. 6d. per cwt. Refined goods have been in limited request, at 1s. per cwt. lower. Lump, 52s. to 54s. per cwt. Up to Saturday last, duty was paid on 2,515,759 cwts., against 2 431 7 6 dit to, in 1853.

Coffee.—All kinds move off slowly and the quotations have a downward tendency. Good and native, 45s. per cwt.

Rice.—This article is very dull, and to effect sales lower prices must be submitted to.

Provisions.—The better market is in a depressed state, and pr ices have fallen from 4s to 6s. per cwt. We have a very tolerably fair demand for bacon, the value of which has an upward tendency. Other kinds of provisions are unaltered in value.

Butter.—The business doing in our market is confined to small parcels. P.Y.C. on the spot is quoted at 114s.; and for August delivery, 108s. per cwt.

Oils.—Linseed is very dull, at 37s. on the spot and 41s. for September. All other oils, as well as turpentine, command very little attention.

Spirits.—The rate left for rum is in a depressed state, on lower terms. Proof Leewards, 1s. 6d to 1s. 6½d.; East India, 2s. 2d. to 2s. 2½d. per gal. In brandy next to nothing is doing, and prices are still drooping. Genevs seadons spirits command previous rates.

Hay and Straw.—Monday's day, £3 10s. to £4 5s.; clover ditto, £3 15s. to £5 5s.; and straw £1 15s. to £2 2s. per load

Wool.—The public sales have been brought to a close. Prices have declined, compared with the previous auctions, from 6d to 1d per lb.

Potatoes.—New English are selling at from 5 s. to 23s ; and foreign, 15s. to 18s. per cwt. The supply is increasing

Hops (Friday).—The unfavourable accounts from the plantations have produced considerable firmness in our markets, and prices are on the advance. This week's imports are 6 bales from Rotterdam, and 105 ditto from Ostend Mid and East Kent mockets, 4l 4s. to 5l 5s.; Weald of Kent, £7 10s. to £9 0s.; Sussex, £6 10s. to £8 0s.; Farnham, £8 8s. to £9 9s. per cwt.

Coals (Friday). Baring's Hartley, 20s ; Hetton, 21s ; Lambton, 21s ; Eden, 21s ; Wylam, 21s ; Hartley, 21s ; Adelaide, 21s ; Tanfield Moor, 21s ; Tees, 21s ; Tyne, 21s ; Wear, 21

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

THE ROYAL OPERA, DRURY-LANE, OPEN EVERY NIGHT for the Performances of GRAND OPERA, with BALLET, on a similar scale of magnificence and completeness as the principal Continental Operas, and at reduced Pay-house Prices. For Bill of the Evening, see the Daily Papers.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.—Every Evening, commencing at Seven o'Clock precisely, the new successful Drama of the KNIGHT of the SEPULCHRE; or, the SOUND TABLE and MR. BUCKSTONE'S VOYAGE ROUND THE GLOBE.—Box-office open from 10 till 5.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE, Oxford-street.—On MONDAY, and under agreement during the Week, will be presented a new Comic Drama, entitled FROM VILLAGE TO COURT; and the new magical Drama of FAUST AND MARGUERITE; with other Entertainments.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE, Oxford-street.—Mr CHARLES KEAN respectfully informs the Public that his BENEFIT will take place on MONDAY, JUNE 26th

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.—OPERA BOXES and STALLS in the best situations, and on the most moderate terms, can always be secured at SAMUEL HAMMOND'S MUSICAL LIBRARY, 9, New Bond-street, opposite the Clarendon Hotel Open Pit Tickets and Private Boxes at all the Theatres.

CONSTANTINOPLE and the WAR.—The GRAND MOVING DIORAMA of CONSTANTINOPLE is Exhibited Daily, at half-past Two and Eight The LECTURE is delivered by Mr. C. KENNY. Admission, 1s.—EGYPTIAN HALL, Piccadilly

MR. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC, including the Barrean Oberland and the Simplon, EVERY EVENING, at Eight o'clock, except Saturday; and every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday morning, at Three.—Stalls, 3s.; which can be taken at the Box-office every day from Eleven till Four, area, 2s.; gallery, 1s.—EGYPTIAN HALL, Piccadilly.

MR FRIEND'S GRAND MOVING DIORAMA of CANADA, the UNITED STATES NIAGARA, and the ST. LAWRENCE, with Original Songs, Glees, and Choruses. Sunday at the Usual Festival Entertainment is at eleven. DAILY, at Three and Eight Saturday evening excepted. Next the Pyramids, Regent-street. Admission, by the appointed Seats, 3s.; Stores, 1s.

MR. W. S. WOODIN'S CARPET-BAG and SKETCH-BOOK, in the UPPER HALL REGENT GALLERY, 6b, Quadrant EVERY EVENING at Eight o'clock During WHITSUN WEEK THREE MORNING PERFORMANCES—Monday, 5th Wednesday, 7th; and Saturday, 10th June. Doors open at 11, and 3; area, 3s.; gallery, 1s.

MADAME TUSSAUD and SONS' EXHIBITION of HISTORICAL RELICS, recently purchased in Paris in 1850, in Exchange of Napoleon Relics and celebrated Personages in appropriate Costumes. Open from 11 till 10 at night. Bazaar, Baker-street.

GALLERY of GERMAN PAINTINGS.—The SECOND ANNUAL EXHIBITION of the WORKS of MODERN GERMAN MASTERS is NOW OPEN DAILY, from Nine a.m till Dusk. Admission, 1s.—Gallery, 168, New Bond-street, next door to the Clarendon.

SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER-COLOURS.—The FIFTIETH ANNUAL EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN, at their Gallery, 5, PALL-MALL East.—Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d. JOSEPH J. JENKINS, Secretary.

THE NEW SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER-COLOURS.—Their Twentieth Annual EXHIBITION is now OPEN. Gallery, 53, Pall-Mall. From 9 till Dusk. Admission, 1s. JAMES FAHEY, Secretary.

MR. T. H. WRIGHT respectfully announces that his MORNING CONCERT will take place at WILLIS'S ROOMS, on THURSDAY, JUNE 8, at Three o'Clock; when he will be assisted by several eminent Artists. Tickets to be had of Mr Wright 14, Norton-street; and the principal music-shops.

ROYAL ACADEMY of MUSIC.—In consequence of the Opening of the Crystal Palace, on Saturday, June 10, the THIRD ACADEMY CONCERT, announced to take place on that day, is POSTPONED to TUESDAY, JUNE 13th.

W. H. HOLMES'S THIRD PIANOFORTE CONCERT, HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, WEDNESDAY EVENING, JUNE 14th, at Eight o'Clock (by permission) 10s 6d., of W. H. Holmes, 36, Beaumont-street, Marylebone.

NEW PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.—On WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7th, will be performed Beethoven's Symphony in C Major Mrs Alexander Cormick in the Minor Mendelssohn's Overture to Midsummer Night's Dream, Beethoven's Concerto in E flat and Oberon's Overture, with Chorus of 200 Voices. Conductor, Dr. Wylde. Doors open, 10s 6d., 5s., and 2s. 6d. To be had of Messrs. Cramer, Beale, and Co.

MUSICAL UNION.—FOURTH MATINEE' JUNE 6th.—WILLIS'S ROOMS.—Quintet in G, Op 33—Beeder viola, Cooper; 1st and Romz. Trio, B flat, Op 11, Mr. Blagrove clarionet, and violoncello—Beethoven. Quintanin C Op 29—Seventeen violins, Ernst and Blagrove; tenors, Hill and Casimir; violoncello, Vaudeler, clarionet, Lazarus. Pianoforte So ce, Mrs.. Arthur Mashiem, the Fortepiano Sunday. Tickets, Half-a-Guinea each, to be had of Cramer and Co.; Ollivier, and Chappell, Bond-street. Doors open at Three. Director, J. Ella.

MR. G. A. OSBORNE has the honour to announce that his MORNING CONCERT will take place at the HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, on MONDAY NEXT JUNE 5 at Three o'Clock. Vocalists—Mdlle. Marie Pettarelli, Miss Dolby Mr G Benson, and Herr Reichardt. Instrumentalists—Pianoforte, Mr. G. A. Osborne; Violin, M. Sainton; Violin cello M Piatti; Oboe, Mr. Nicholson; Flauti (accompagnateur, Mr. Richardson. Reserved seats, Half a Guinea; tickets, 7s 6d each, to be had at all the principal music warehouses; and of Mr. G. A. Osborne, 30, Devonshire-street, Portland-place.

MRS. ANDERSON (Pianiste to her Majesty the Queen) has the honour to announce that her ANNUAL GRAND MORNING CONCERT will take place at the HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, on MONDAY, JUNE 12, to commence at Half past One o'Clock precisely. Vocalists: Mesdames Castelli, Miss Lyon, Agnes Bury, Rudersdorff Misses Solomon and Cara Novello, Signori Gardoni and Ferdinando Giuglini. Instrumentalists: Pianoforte, Mrs. F. B Jewson and Mr W. G Cusins; Violin Mr. Sainton; Violoncello, Signor Piatti; Flauto, Mr. Richardson. The Orchestra will be complete in every department. Reserved seats, Half a Guinea; and at the principal Music Warehouses; and of Mrs Anderson, 34 Nottingham-place.

WHITSUNTIDE HOLIDAYS.—The ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS Regent's-park, will be open to Visitors from MONDAY to FRIDAY, in Whitsun Week, on payment of SIXPENCE each person. The Menagerie is the Largest in the World, and has lately been enriched by the addition of a pair of Giant Anteaters, an adult pair of Indian Lions, and a pair of Leopras The Band of the 1st Life Guards will perform, by permission of Colonel Dalt, every Saturday, at Four o'clock.

WHITSUNTIDE HOLIDAYS.—GROVE HOUSE, EARL'S COURT, KENSINGTON.—The Museum, built of Birds and Animals in England, containing upwards of 7000 specimens, has been recently much improved. Also the Gigantic Statue, the largest Polar Bear in England, beautiful Leopards, Cinnamon Monkey, Kangaroos, Otter, &c. &c. &c. Admission reduced to Sixpence each during the Holidays.—This highly instructive and entertaining Exhibition ought to be seen by every one.

THE VICTORY (NELSON'S SHIP) TOWED into GIBRALTAR SEVEN DAYS after TRAFALGAR. Battle raging and tempest tossed, a most interesting picture. No shoal of triumph welcome her for the g rious victory won; For the carries her dead Admiral. KILLED in Victory's Arms, And Nelson's flag hangs droopingly on that triumphant day. Full particulars given daily by haltorel's old pensioner, who was in the fight at Trafalgar "—Old Song. The celebrated PICTURE, by CLARKSON STANFIELD, R.A., Esq., is ON VIEW DAILY from Ten to Six, at the Gallery, 23, Cockspur-street. Admission on presenting cards of address.

THE SECOND WEST KENT ANNUAL FLOWER and FLORE-SHOW will take place in the MARKET FIELD, FARNINGHAM, on TUESDAY (Private View) and WEDNESDAY, the 20th and 21st of JUNE, 1854. Entries close on the 15th. For Its a and certificates of entry, apply to Baptiste Thomas, Secretary, Lion Inn, Farningham.

CHOIR BENEVOLENT FUND, for the Relief of Widows and Orphans of Organ ts and Lay Clerks of Cathedral and Collegiate Choirs. Under the Patronage of
Her most Gracious Majesty the QUEEN, and
His Royal Highness the Prince ALBERT.
THE ANNUAL DINNER of the Society will be held at he Freemasons' Tavern, on WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14
The Right Hon. Lord MONTEAGLE F.R.S., F.S.A., in the chair.
A select choir of Choirly voices will attend.
Dinner on table at six o'clock precisely.
Tickets, £1 1s. each, may be had of Messrs. Addison and Hollier, 210, Regent-street; at the Freemasons' Tavern; and of the Secretary, 13, Denbigh-place, Pimlico. Ladies' tickets to the ca. ery, 5s. each.
GEORGE GERT, Sec.

Now ready, price 8s.,
NEW READING CASES for PROTECTING the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS during perusal.
PORTFOLIOS to contain Six Months' Numbers, 4s. each.
CASES for BINDING in Volumes, 8s. 6d. each.
May be obtained at the Office, 198, Strand; and of all Booksellers.

HER MAJESTY having graciously intimated her intention of honouring with her presence the OPENING of the CRYSTAL PALACE on SATURDAY, the 10th of JUNE, the Directors beg to announce that, with the exception of those specially invited to be present at the ceremony, none but Season Ticket Holders will be admitted. G GROVE, Secretary.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—SEASON TICKETS, the holders of which will alone be admitted to the Opening Ceremony, on the 10th of June next, may be obtained on the following terms:—
Single Season Tickets ... ... £2 2 0 each.
Do. do., including railway convey-
ance from London-bridge to the Palace and back £1 4 0 each.
Family Tickets, by which, without railway conveyance, as a reduce 1 sum on the above rates, in proportion to the number of tickets taken. The tickets will be admissible on all occasions when the Palace and Park are open to the public, until the 30 h of April, 1855. Tickets to be had at the Railway stalls at the bridges of the Stations of the Sect tary to the Brighton Railway Company, London-bridge, and at 14, Regent-street. Tickets for the Palace and Park, without railway conveyance, may now be had at the Palace; at the Offices, 3, Adelaide-place, London-bridge; and 14, Regent-street; at the 9 lighton Railway Terminus, London-bridge; at Sams', 1, St. James's-street; Rimmell's, Bond-street; Gunter's, Lowndes-street; Jennings's Knightsbridge; Keith, Prowse, and Co.'s, Cheapside, Lents Son, and Nephew, Royal Exchange; Lawson and Son's, Cornhill; Hammond's, Ave Maria-lane, Office, 37, Gracechurch-street. London; Bridges's Bank, Brighton; W. Brooks's Office, 1, High-street, Southampton; and at Messrs. Smith and Sons' Book-stalls on the Railways.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Admission from 12th to 17th June.—During the Week immediately following the Opening of the PALACE—that is from the 12th to the 17th June, both inclusive, the PALACE and PARK will be OPEN only to the HOLDERS of SEASON TICKETS.—Any such Ticket may be obtained by the latter of 5s. each, exclusive of conveyance by railway.—By order,
May 26, 1854. G. GROVE, Sec.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—On the OPENING DAY, 10th June, and throughout the following week, PASS-IN TICKETS ONLY WILL be ADMITTED sold at 7s. Cheapside, City, and at the Railway stalls at the bridges of Stations, London-bridge, Peterborough, &c.; and must not be on the outside of a vehicle. Admission by the appointed Seats, 5s. CLARK and SONS', 1, Abchurch-yard, and 74 Cannon street, City, London.
Information as to Family and Railway Tickets sent gratis on application.

SYDENHAM PALACE.—PERFUMERY.—STURBOCK and SON'S Country, No. 6 South-west Gallery (immediately above the Pompeian Court).—S. and Son's celebrated Attic as for the Toilet. Sir Gardner's Perfumery for Scented 12, Buchanan-street, Glasgow; 33, Princes-street, Edinburgh; and at Sydenham Palace.

CRYSTAL PALACE is OPEN to BEES.—MARRIOTT'S newly-invented CATALOGUE of HIVE and COTTAGE BEE-HIVES forwarded for penny stamp. Marriott's Apiaries, Great Russell Road Surrey Zoological Gardens; City Warehouse, 34, Fish-street-hill, London-bridge.

OPENING of the CRYSTAL PALACE.—CALLAGHAN'S CRYSTAL PALACE PERSPECTIVE-GLASSES, indispensable to all visitors. These extraordinary little Glasses (introduced at the Exhibition of 1851), though scarcely larger than your thumb, yet possess such wonderful power and compass as to show objects distinctly at the distance of a mile. Not only will they be found invaluable for viewing the interior of the Crystal Palace, but also for the magnificent scenery of the surrounding country. Price 10s. 6d. each. To be had of the appointed agents, Mr. Sandell, 3, St. James's-street; Mitchell's, 33, Old Bond-street; Westcron's, Hyde-park-corner; Keith, Prowse, and Co., 48, Cheapside; and at the Exhibition, 1851,

FUTVOYE'S £4 4s. GOLD WATCHES, four holes jewelled, horizontal escapement, warranted.—Silver Watches, £2 10s. Solid Gold Chains, of their own manufacture sold at per ounce; and the fashion only charged. Every description of Jewellery taken in exchange, or purchased for cash.—154, Regent-street corner of Beak-street.

FUTVOYE'S WEDDING and BIRTHDAY PRESENTS, comprising every description of Scottish and Foreign Fan y Goods, dressing and writing-cases, workboxes, jewellery, cooks, screens, tables, china, glass, alabaster, papier maché, and French stationery at Paris prices; Bibles, Prayer-books, and thousands of articles in Morocco and vorth. FUTVOYE and CO., 154, Regent-street, corner of Beak street.

FUTVOYE'S EIGHT-DAY BOUND BRASS DIALS, warranted; also an immense variety of 8-day Clocks, under the Duke, at £3 3s. each, of the newest and most tasteful designs.—FUTVOYE and CO., 154, Regent-street, corner of Beak-street, and 54, Rue du Rivoli, Paris.

FUTVOYE'S £3 3s. LADIES' ROSEWOOD DRESSING-CASES, with Lever Watches and Silver Top Bottles.—An immense variety of writing and dressing cases, despatch boxes, escritoires, work-boxes, inlaid cabinets, and every description of fancy cabinet and leather goods.—154, Regent-street, corner of Beak-street.

FUTVOYE'S PAPIER MACHE ARTICLES in every variety, consisting of Pole and Hand Screens, Chess and Work Tables, Tea Trays and Caddies, DRESSING and Card Cases, &c., &c. Mr. Futvoye, being the son of the original inventor of this work, is enabled to produce specimens far surpassing those of any other Manufacturer. All description of Japan Work repaired to equal new.—154, Regent-street, corner of Beak-street.

AMERICAN CLOCK WAREHOUSE, embracing every variety of these superior Time-pieces, imported directly from our old-established Factory, all brass works, and warranted to keep correct time. They are sold one-third less than the usual price. Day Clocks from 10s. to 18s.; eight-day, 30s. to 35s.; also, every variety of American Goods, by LEFAVOUR and CO. (formerly Rogers and Co.), 346, New Oxford-street.

JONES'S £4 4s. SILVER LEVER WATCHES, and £10 10s. GOLD LEVERS, at the Manufactory, 226, Strand, opposite Somerset House, are warranted not to vary more than half a minute per week. Barometers, Thermometers, Opera Glasses, Achromatic Telescopes, Compasses, Time-balls, Clocks, &c., supplied to JOHN JONES, for £4 4s., one will be sent free. Jones's Sketch of Watchwork, free, for 8d.

LEPINE, ancien HORLOGER du ROI à PARIS, having obtained judicial redress for the infringement of his patent, by a certain house, begs to inform the nobility and gentry, that WATCHES bearing his name are only genuine, if sold at his sole establishment, PLACE des VICTOIRES à PARIS

WATCHES, PLATE, JEWELLERY.—HENRY MILLS, 171, 172a, Oxford-street, London, recommends his highly finished Horizontal GOLD WATCHES, Gold Dials, Jewelled, 4s. Five Guinea Watches; Silver Cases, Two Guinea Ditto; Guineas An extensive assortment of New and Second-hand Plate, Electro and other plated goods at reduced prices. Plate Gold jewellery in endless variety. A Pamphlet, containing Prices, sent free on application by letter.

PARKINSON and FRODSHAM, Chronometer Makers to the Queen, beg to call the attention of parties to their improved manufacture of WATCHES, CHRONOMETERS, and CLOCKS, to which much greater accuracy is attained, and the price considerably reduced. 4, Change-alley, Cornhill, opposite the Royal Exchange Established upwards of fifty years

C. F. HANCOCK, JEWELLER and SILVERSMITH, buys respectfully to inform the Nobility and Gentry that he has RE OPENED his premises, 2, BRUTON-STREET (which have been extensively enlarged to meet the demands of its increasing business), with an entirely New and Splendid Stock of Jewellery, Silver and Plated Articles, and begs a call to this opportunity of returning his most grateful thanks for the favours of past years, and earnestly so soli a continuance of the same. 2, Bruton street, Bond-street.

SARL'S ARGENTINE SILVER PLATE.—17 and 18, Cornhill.—This beautiful metal continues to stand unrivalled amongst all the substitutes for Silver. Its intrinsic excellence, combined with its brilliant appearance defies all competition. It is upwards of thirteen years since this manufacture was introduced by SARL and SONS to the public, and, notwithstanding the many spurious and unprincipled imitations, the utmost demand exists for the former producers; thus giving a convincing proof of its having answered the end proposed, which was to produce an article possessing the durability and appearance of solid silver at one-sixth its cost. The magnificent stock has recently been enriched with many novel and novelties in dinner, tea, and breakfast services, and never possessed so many attractions as at the present time. The Spoons and Forks equipment includes all the various patterns that are made in solid silver. A new and enlarged Pamphlet of illustrations, with Prices, is just published, and now ready for circulation. It may be obtained gratis by applying at the manufactories.—Sarl and Sons, 17 and 18, Cornhill. Cautious.—The public are hereby cautioned that no article is genuine, except purchased at Sarl and Sons'. No other parties are authorised to sell it.

WATCHES.—T. COX SAVORY and CO., 47, Cornhill, London, submit for attention a most complete stock of Fine-class SPECTACLEWORK WATCHES, for which being made by themselves, can be strongly recommended for accuracy and durability. A written warranty is given with each.

PRICES MOUNTED IN SILVER CASES.

Patent Lever Watch, in double-backed, engine-turned case, the movement with the latest improvements, for the detached escapement, jewelled, hard enamel dial, hand to mark the seconds, and maintaining power to prevent one going wheat being wound	£4	14 6
Ditto, jewelled in four holes, and capped	5	5 0
Ditto, the finest quality, with the improved regulator, jewelled in six holes, capped, and highly finished in gold cases	6	6 0
Either of the above in massive cases 18s. 6d. extra.	8	8

GOLD CASES—SIZE FOR LADIES.

Patent Lever Watch, in engine-turned, double-backed, gold case, with richly ornamented gold dial and figures, the movement with the latest improvement, i.e., the detached escapement, maintaining power to keep the Watch going whilst being wound, and jewelled	£11	11
Ditto, with richly engraved case	12	12
Ditto, with very strong engine-turned case, chased edges, and jewelled in four holes	14	14

GOLD CASES—SIZE FOR GENTLEMEN.

Patent Lever Watch, in double-backed, plain, or engine-turned gold case, the movement with the latest improvement, i.e., the detached escapement, jewelled in six holes, hard enamel dial, hand to mark the seconds, and maintaining power to prevent the watch going whilst being wound. Also in 9 carat gold cases	£16	16 0
Ditto, in stronger case, improved regulator, and capped	18	18 0
Ditto, jewelled in eight holes, and capped	20	0 0
highly finished Watch	21	0 0
Either of the Gentlemen's Watches may be had in gold hunting cases, for £3 8s. each extra	17	17 0

T. COX SAVORY and CO., Watchmakers, 47, Cornhill, London, serves doors from Gracechurch street.

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CAUTION.—PATENT EVER-POINTED PENCILS.—S. MORDAN and CO. are daily receiving complaints from the public of the brittle nature of their truly useful invention, which has now been before the public above thirty years. S. M. and Co. cannot undertake to guarantee that the Pencils of the name be stamped legibly on the case. A quantity of counterfeits are constantly pressed on the public, as being of a greater profit to the salesman, but will be found of no value in use.

CHALK PENCILS made from the Cumberland Lead, prefixed by Mr. Brookman's Patent Process. By Mordan and Co. have the satisfaction in asserting that each excellent pencils on every respect are only to be obtained of them, and from the Sole Proprietor, Mordan, purpose quence of the Cum erland Company having disposed of the whole of their stock of crude black lead to parties in Germany, by which they are enabled to offer their Cedar Pencils, made from the only pure lead extant, with the confidence that their assertions will be fully corroborated by the public. The highest encomiums have been pronounced on the e Pencils by painters, engineers, draughtsmen, and others, and draughtsmen of the greatest eminence in their several professions, and whose testimonials have been published in the Times. The following names are selected —

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By the aid of the most simple mechanical arrangements, the Patentees have succeeded in producing a most efficient and portable Printing and Copying Machine, equally well adapted for the Counting-house, Office, or Library. With this Press every person may readily become independent of his Printer.

This excellent machine is produced at a less cost than the cheape t Lithographic Press in the market, and, in addition to its capability of doing the work of a Lithographic Press, it is an excellent and easy Copying Press, so that it may be said that this latter qualification is obtained by the purchase gratis.

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NO CHARGE MADE FOR STAMPING PAPER and ENVELOPES with Arms, Crests, or Initials; and Stationery of every description at manufacturers' prices. RODRIGUES' cream- aid Adhesive Envelopes, 6d. per 100; cream-aid Note, full size for paper for 6d., thick ditto, five quires for 1s.; Foolscap, 3s. per ream, Bank-paper, 4s. 6d. per ream Best Sealing-wax 2s. per pound. Card-plate elegantly engraved, and 100 superfine cards printed for 4s. 6d.—Observe, at MAKER MONMOUTH'S, 31, Piccadilly, London.

SHIRTS.—E. LODGE and Co.'s SHIRTS (non-registered) surpass all others in three great requisites, viz., Elegance of fit, material, and moderate prices. Six for 30s., or 6s. for 42s. Strongly recommended.—Address, 15 and 16, Strand, opposite the Golden Cross, Charing cross.

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SHIRTS.—Patterns of the New Coloured Shirtings, in every variety of Colours.—Upwards of 300 different styles for making FORDS' EUREKA SHIRTS including Spring, Spots, Stripes, &c., sent post free on receipt of six stamps. Price 37s. the half dozen; if washed and ready for use, 39s. List of Prices and mode of self-measurement sent post-free.—Richard Ford, 38, Poultry, London.

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CAPPER and WATERS having given great attention to perfecting this Shirt, can recommend it for fitting with a Patterns and Directions for self-measurement sent free by post.

Hitherto unattained. Any gentleman can have the Corazza, or any other form of Shirt, by sending measure or pattern Shirt.—1. Round the Neck; 2. Round the Chest; 3. Round the Waist; 4. Round the Wrist; 5. Length of the Wearer.

Excellent Cotton Shirts, with Fronts, Collars, and Wrists of the linen, 5s. to 10s. each.

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CAPPER, SON, and CO., 69, OLD CHURCH-STREET, CITY, LINENDRAPERS to the QUEEN, and Manufacturers of BASSINETTES, INFANTS' Baby Linen, Children's Dresses, and Ladies' Under Clothing, for Home, India, and the Colonies.

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FORD and COMPANY, MANTLE, SHAWL, and FUR WAREROOMS, 24, Oxford-street, Four doors east of Newman-street.

KING and CO., SILKMERCERS, &c., 243, REGENT-STREET, respectfully solicit the attention of Ladies to the five following Advertisements, containing particulars of the Spring Silks, Mantles, Barèges, Shawls, &c., which are now ready for inspection, at 243, Regent-street.

LADIES residing in the Country or Abroad are respectfully informed that KING and CO., will forward PATTERNS of SILKS, &c., post free, to any part of the United Kingdom, India, America, and the Colonies. Address, to KING and CO., Regent-street, London.

GLACE, STRIPED, and CHECKED SILKS, 7s. 6d. the full dress. The Riche à Quatrième, 11s. 6d. the full dress. At KING'S, 243, Regent-street. Patterns sent post free.

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THE BLACK SILKS at PETER ROBINSON'S.

Superior Black Silks, 2s. 4½d., 2s. 9d., and 3s. 11d. per yard; or, £1 8s. 6d., £1 19s., £1 15s. £1 15s. the dress.

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For First Mourning:

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Beautiful Silk Mantles, trimmed with Patent Crape, One Guinea and £1 10s.

Patent Crape Bonnets, 7s. 6d. and 12s. 6d.

Widow's Bonnet and Veil, Best Patent Crape, 18s. 6d.

Widows' Best Caps, 3s. 6d.

Superior Paramatta, 1s. 6d., 1s. 10d., and 2s. per yard;

Beautiful Bombay Flounced Skirts (made up), One Guinea.

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For Mourning:

Superior Skirts, with Deep Flounce and Patent Crape, £1 10s. and Two Guineas

Beautiful Silk Mantles, trimmed with Patent Crape, One Guinea and £1 10s.

Patent Crape Bonnets, 7s. 6d. and 12s. 6d.

Widow's Bonnet and Veil, Best Patent Crape, 18s. 6d.

Widows' Best Caps, 3s. 6d.

Superior Paramatta, 1s. 6d., 1s. 10d., and 2s. per yard;

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P S Directions for measuring, patterns of material, and list of prices, sent post free, on application.

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LADIES' and CHILDREN'S CHOICE of READY-MADE LINEN, Invalid Union Under-Clothing, Hosiery, Economical Family Home and Outfitting Establishment.—T. HUGHES and CO., 208, Regent-street. Six Chemises, 18s.; Drawers, 12s.; Night Dresses, 17s. If prepaid, sent with priced lists, rail free; or, if desired, experienced assistants sent throughout the country, with samples of respectables, plain, moderately, or richly trimmed, for selection. Invalid, Parturient, and Family Outcoat Outfits; including richly-printed Flannel and Fine and Silk Robes à Déjeuner, Dressing Gowns, Swaddle and Infant's Clothing, and trimmed Model Bassinettes. Specialité for Hughes' Sailing Habits, and their unique "Bonjolie Mantevelle Equestrian Trousers."

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Messrs. Sowerby and Co. have determined to share with their patrons the full profit resulting from their long experience and unlimited capital, which enable them at all seasons and particularly to the present, to hold out such inducements as to merit from them an exclusive call. Forces of the highest character in perpetual succession. Each of the finest texture and variety, furnishing the choicest specimens in Diplomatic Saloons, Court and Evening Dresses, Mantles, Shawls, ready-made skirts and fancy fabrics of every novel manufacture with a combination of Taste, Economy, and Fashion, forming decorative Appendages, altogether unexampled in extent, variety, or price.

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ICE and REFRIGERATORS, for cooling wine, butter, fruit, jellies, water, and all kind of creams.—The greatest and most economical luxury of the day.—WENHAM LAKE ICE COMPANY, 164 a, Strand, London.

SLACK'S ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE, GRATIS, or sent free by post, containing upwards of 500 Engravings, and Prices of Bonders, Fire-irons, Furnishing Ironmongery, Slack's Nickel and Electro-plated Wares, Table Cutlery, &c. No person should furnish without one. 336 and 7 SLACK, 336, Strand

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BURTON'S Patent PERAMBULATORS.—The distinguished Inventor of the Reversing Carriage, and the increasing demand, are sufficient proof of the as lity and excellence of these Carriages, and of the elegant carriages, for infants, children, and invalids—propelled from behind by the slightest pressure Illustrated Circulars, shipping Orders.—Office, 487, New Oxford-street

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JONES'S FLESH SOAP for the Toilet, produces a healthy action on the pores, and leaves the skin delicately soft. In tablets, 1s. the packet. W. JONES and SONS, 34, Jermyn-street, Haymarket, near the Turnpike, Islington

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EAU-DE-VIE, A PURE PALE BRANDY, pecially from smoky, and possessing all the extraordinary properties of the finest Cognac at one-third the price; tasting like a liqueur imperial gallon. A case can among one dozen French bottles, 24s. HENRY BRETT and CO., Old Furnival's Distillery, Holborn.

KITCHEN RANGES.—BROWN and GREEN'S PATENT ECONOMICAL RANGE offers a great saving in fuel, and is a certain cure for a smoky chimney. For prospectuses, &c., apply to F. Brown and Son, 45, Poland-street, Oxford-street, London; or to Brown and Green, Luton, Beds.

IMPROVED AIR CANES, for Shooting Rabbits, Rooks, Sea-Fowls, with ball; small birds, with shot, &c., with long range, and without noise portable and shooting-destructive weapons, from 63s.; including pump and apparatus.—REILLY, Gun Maker, New Oxford-street, London.

TO ANGLERS.—CHARLES FARLOW, Manufacturer, 191, STRAND, invites anglers to inspect his large and varied STOCK of SALMON FISHING TACKLE, at moderate prices. Trout flies, 2s. per dozen. Catalogues forwarded gratis.

TROUT FISHING EQUIPMENT.—For 10s. 6d., rod, winch, line, 12 flies, and 6 j-cast. For 21s., best plain blued rod, winch, line, 12 flies, 90 yards patent line, 30 best flies, 2 collars, and fly-case. For 42s., one of the best rods in London, with 2 tops, 3 trout baits, 6 salmon ditto, gut hook, multiplying winch, 70 yards patent line, 24 best flies, 2 gut collars, and fly-case. Forwarded in answer to post-office order. Rods re-hooped and repaired on approval. Best trout flies 6d., or 5s. 6d. a dozen; 3-trout wa king-stick rod, 2s., 4-joint ditto, 3s. 6d. Catalogues of fishing-tackle, rods, reels, hooks, flies, second quality, not branded, 5s. 6d. JOHN CHEEK, 132 C, Oxford-street. Catalogues and Guides gratis.

A LADY'S ARCHERY EQUIPMENT for 20s. consists of a 5 ft. deal self bow, six arrows, spare string, glove, six targets, and pasteboard pouch; for 30s., a superior set, including large and stand, for 73s., a most superior set, including a two-piece bow, six cedar arrows, silver arm-guard, belt, &c. A Gentleman's set for 70s. 6d. consists of a 5 ft. best self bow, six pine arrows, and a 3 ft. target, for 45s., a superior set, including target, stand, arm-guard, belt, and pouch; for 82s. 6d., a most superior set, including a two-piece bow, six cedar arrows, silver arm-guard, &c.—JOHN CHEEK, 132c, OXFORD-STREET.—Target, 4 ft. diameter, 15s. Archer's Guide and Catalogue gratis.

TO VISITORS FROM THE COUNTRY AND THE CONTINENT.

MR. MECHI has the pleasure to acquaint his friends and the public that he has made most extensive alterations and improvements in his premises, which he doubts not will commend themselves to the approval of his patrons. All persons of taste should hasten to inspect the unique and recherché STOCK of LEGANCIES now on SHOW in the NEW SHOW ROOMS, 4, LEADENHALL-STREET, near the India House. He has brought out some most novel and new specimens in papier maché. Finding it impossible to drap up them advantageously in his former space, he has fitted a splendid new Room, in which he invites those who are desirous of seeing the most brilliant specimens the country can produce. He has also in stock in London of Ladies' and Gentlemen's Dressing-cases, Work-boxes, Writing-desks, and every thing for the Table, and a Catalogue of which he will forward gratis. N.B. Mr. Mechi has secured the best location at the Crystal Palace.

EVANS'S PATENT SHOWER BATHS, Warm and Cold Baths, Slipper, Leg Hip, and Foot Baths, Sponging and Douche Baths, and Baths of every description, combining all the improvements, may be seen at 63, Gracechurch-street, and 57, Jermyn-street, Haymarket, where every variety of shape and pattern.

Fender Rollers, Garden Engines, Horticultural Tools, Syphon, Shears, Syringes, and garden regulators in general. Also a variety of new garden Reels, Trellises, Garden Chairs, Chairs, &c.

Tea and Coffee Urns, Percolators, and machines of new and elegant designs, combining all the recent French and English improvements.

Papier Maché Tea-trays and Waiters, Table Cutlery, Plated Ware, Patent Dish Covers, and every article for the kitchen always on show at

Jeremiah Evans, Son, and Company's Stove, Grate, and Cooking Apparatus Manufactory and Warehouse, 33, King William-street, London-bridge.

PORTABLE BUILDINGS.—Sole Manufacturers, Messrs. HEMMINGS and HEMMINGS Patent Improved PORTABLE BUILDINGS, adapted to all climates. A great variety may be seen erected at the Works, consisting of four Churches and Chapels, two-storied Houses, and other Dwellings, with balconies and verandahs, and ornamental Villas. An Emigrant's House fitted up complete, to accommodate a seventy-five persons, and many other Buildings, covering no more of ground. Every Building may be seen perfectly erected, previous to being packed for shipment, thereby enabling any inexperienced person to re-erect them without difficulty. The number of work is managed in the most extensive drying-rooms at Old House. Apply at the works; or at Mr. R. Manning's, 63, Gracechurch-street; Messrs. Baker and Sons, Basinghall-street; Messrs. Fox, Brownes, and Co., Glasgow; T. Mather, Newcastle, Messrs. M'Donald, Bathurst, 7, Fenchurch-street.

THE BEST FOOD FOR CHILDREN AND INVALIDS.

ROBINSON'S PATENT BARLEY, for making the superior barley-water in fifteen minutes, has not only obtained the patronage of her Majesty and the Royal Family, but has been awarded a prize by every class of the community; and is acknowledged to stand unrivalled as an eminently pure, nutritious, and light food for infants, children, and invalids, much approved for making a delicious custard-pudding; and excellent for thickening broths or soups.

ROBINSON'S PATENT GROATS form another diet universally esteemed for making a superior gruel in fifteen minutes light for supper; and, alternately with the Patent Barley, is an excellent food for children and invalids, being particularly recommended by the Family as the purest and best preparation of the kind extant, and far preferable to the fine oats Groats

Prepared only by the patentees, ROBINSON, BELVILLE, and Co., purveyors to the Queen, 64, Red Lion-street, Holborn, London.

ESTABLISHED IN 1841.—By Appointment, To the Queen, GENERAL MOURNING WAREHOUSE, Nos. 247, 248, and 249, Regent-street.

The Proprietors of this Establishment desire most respectfully to submit that, from their having been so many years engaged in the SALE OF MOURNING ATTIRE, and from the immense business transacted in their warehouses, and from the numerous commands they receive to attend in various parts of the country, they are enabled to sell their goods on more advantageous terms than any other house in London.

Messrs. JAY have ever been deemed it unnecessary to quote prices, from a conviction that a Person

SUPPLEMENT

TO THE

ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

No. 686.—VOL. XXIV.] SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 1854. [WITH TWO SUPPLEMENTS, 1s.

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

[We have received the following from our Special Correspondent at the seat of the war, and find by the post mark at Belgrade that it took twelve days to travel from Schumla to that place].

SCHUMLA, May 8, 1854.

I take the opportunity of a courier to Widdin to give you the latest intelligence from this place. We hear that some days since the town of Fokstcham, in Moldavia, was burnt by accident, and the Russians lost all their stores, ammunition, and provisions. Fokstcham was the head-quarters of their commissariat. The fire commenced in the hospital, and spread so quickly, that it could not be stemmed. Only a few houses, I am told, remain. Since my last letter was dispatched, the Russians have bombarded Silistria, but have not done much damage. Their armed batteries are too far to do any serious damage, unless the river be crossed. This the enemy has not done.

The greatest astonishment has been felt here at the news contained in the London journals of the 19 h ult. The departure of the Prussian Ambassador is looked upon as a prelude to warlike preparations against England, and, consequently, against Turkey. There are many Prussian officers in the Turkish service; and the news has taken them by surprise after the energetic speech of M. Von Bonin in the Chamber, and the conditions with which the granting of extraordinary supplies was clogged by that assembly.

The British fleet, which left Odessa on the 26th ult., has gone to Sebastopol, but only for the purpose of blockade. It is supposed that they will make no attempt at bombardment. The details of the affair at Odessa have reached this place, and astonished us on account of the small loss sustained by the combined squadron. The steamers which acted were so worked as to steam round a circle and to fire as they steamed. This, I believe, is a novelty in the art of warfare, which is highly interesting to note.

We do not, as yet, know here whether the French Ambassador has left Constantinople or not. But it is generally supposed that he has, not perhaps for the reasons given, but because for some time past he has been on the eve of a recall.

Behram Pacha, or rather, Colonel Cannon, has left this on a complimentary mission from Omer Pacha to the British and French Generals.

Prince Napoleon Bonaparte, who commands a French division, is daily expected at Varna, from whence he will come and visit this place.

MAY 6.—I informed you, in a previous letter, of the advance of the Turks into Little Wallachia, consequent on the retreat of the Russians from that portion of the ground hitherto occupied by them. I told you that the Turkish forces, having advanced as far as Bailleschdi, and found no enemy before them, had returned again with their main force to Kalafat, and contented themselves with advancing their outposts. Since those operations took place, orders were dispatched from hence to the Commander-in-Chief in Kalafat, to the effect that the troops should advance from thence and occupy Little Wallachia as fast as the Russians evacuated it. Accordingly, on Monday, the 1st of May, a corps of cavalry, under Skender Bey, advanced to Radovan, which was found occupied by some Russian horse and Cossacks. Skender Bey, at the head of his men, charged into the place with such impetuosity that the enemy retired almost immediately, losing 100 men killed, twelve prisoners, and sixty horses. In consequence of this success, Skender Bey has been raised from the rank of Lieut.-Colonel to that of Colonel.

I hear that, on Wednesday last, the 3rd inst., an engagement took place before Nicopolis, between the Russians and the Turks. I have, however, no details of the engagement, and therefore merely notify the fact.

A BASHI-BOZOUK.—FROM A DRAWING BY JAMES ROBERTSON, ESQ., OF CONSTANTINOPLE.

THE BASHI-BOZOUKS.

THE Bashi-bozouks are an "institution" (if we may so far profane the word) of the past, a relic and evidence of Oriental barbarism, which it will take all the reforming energies of the Abdul-Medjid dynasty, backed by the force of example, set by his Western Allies, to subdue or improve. What the "Janissaries" were to the capital the Bashi-bozouks are to the provinces: a voluntary and irregular band of marauders, who, under pretence of fighting for their Sovereign, commit every act of brigandage and atrocity upon their unfortunate, unarmed fellow-subjects. In the hope of pay or plunder, those fierce and untameable bands have gathered in great numbers from all parts of the wide Ottoman empire to the defence of the sacred standard of Islamism; creating, we apprehend, more trouble and difficulty to the regular army of Omer Pacha than they can be expected to do good. Armed in all sorts of fashions by themselves, or wholly unarmed, as the case may be, they, for a trifling monthly pay, find their own subsistence (how and where the cry of the helpless will too often tell), and, ready to turn their hand to anything, have sometimes been of use in light skirmishing operations, but in the regular movements of the battle-field, in the face of, or in connection with, disci-

plined troops, they can be of no use. It has been urged as a plea in extenuation for the numberless enormities committed by the Bashi-bozouks, that they are in arrears of pay, and have nothing but their own industry, and their chances of the road, to depend upon for their subsistence. There may be something in this apology as far as plunder goes, but nothing can be said for the shocking cruelties with which their acts of robbery have been accompanied; and Omer Pacha has found it necessary to make some severe examples from amongst their numbers, both to deter others from similar crimes, and as an example to his own regular troops.

From the last accounts from Constantinople, it appears that measures are about to be taken—measures imperatively necessary now that the operations of the war are about to be carried on upon a truly European scale, to rid the Ottoman cause of these dangerous allies, or at least effectually to curbe their evil propensities. By virtue of an arrangement between the Commanders-in-Chief of the three armies, with Marshal St. Arnaud at their head, General Jousouf was to take the command of the Bashi-bozouks; and their officers and sub-officers were also to be French. The Bashi-bozouks who *do* not choose to serve under these conditions will be sent to Gallipoli; these who *do* will have to mind their p's and q's.

THE TREATY BETWEEN ENGLAND, FRANCE, AND TURKEY.

(From the *Moniteur*.) PARIS, May 23.

Napoleon, by the grace of God and the national will, Emperor of the French,

To all present, and to come, greeting:

On the report of our Minister the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs,

We have decreed and decree as follows:

Art. 1.—A treaty of alliance, destined to guarantee the integrity and independence of the Ottoman Empire, having been signed at Constantinople on the 12th of March of the present year 1854, between the French Empire, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and the Sublime Ottoman Porte, this treaty having been ratified, and the respective ratifications having been exchanged on the 8th of May, the said treaty, the tenor of which follows, will receive its full and entire execution.

TREATY.

His Majesty the Emperor of the French and her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland having been invited by his Imperial Majesty the Sultan to aid him in repelling the aggression directed by his Majesty the Emperor of All the Russias against the territories of the Sublime Ottoman Porte—an aggression by which the integrity of the Ottoman Empire and the independence of the throne of his Imperial Majesty the Sultan are menaced; and their said Majesties, being fully persuaded that the existence of the Ottoman Empire, within its actual limits, is essential to the maintenance of the balance of power between the States of Europe, and having, in consequence, consented to give to his Imperial Majesty the Sultan the assistance he has asked for this object, it has appeared fit to their said Majesties, and to his Imperial Majesty the Sultan, to conclude a treaty, in order to declare explicitly their intentions, agreeably to that which precedes, and to regulate the manner in which their said Majesties will lend assistance to his Imperial Majesty the Sultan.

With this view their said Majesties and H. I. M. the Sultan have named as their plenipotentiaries—

Baraguay d'Hilliers, Viscount Stratford de Redcliffe, and Mustapha Redschid Pacha.

Art. 1. His Majesty the Emperor of the French, and her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, having already, at the request of his Imperial Majesty the Sultan, ordered powerful divisions of their naval forces to repair to Constantinople, and to extend to the Ottoman territory and flag the protection that circumstances would permit, their said Majesties engage, by the present treaty, to co-operate still further with his Imperial Majesty the Sultan for the defence of the Ottoman territory, in Europe and Asia, against the Russian aggression, and employing for this end such a number of land troops as may appear necessary for attaining this object; which land troops their said Majesties will forthwith dispatch towards such and such points of the Ottoman territory as shall be judged expedient; and his Imperial Majesty the Sultan agrees that the English and French land troops, thus dispatched for the defence of the Ottoman territory, shall receive the same friendly reception, and shall be treated with the same consideration as the French and British naval forces already employed for so as time in the Turkish waters.

Art 2. The high contracting parties engage, each on his part, to communicate reciprocally to each other, without loss of time, every proposition that one of them might receive from the Emperor of Russia, whether directly or indirectly, with a view to the cessation of hostilities, or to the conclusion of an armistice or peace; and his Imperial Majesty the Sultan engages, moreover, to conclude no armistice, and to enter into no negotiation for peace, nor to conclude any preliminary of peace, nor any treaty of peace, with the Emperor of Russia, without the knowledge and consent of the high contracting parties.

Art. 3. As soon as the object of the present treaty shall have been attained by the conclusion of a treaty of peace, his Majesty the Emperor of the French and her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland will make arrangements at once for withdrawing immediately all their military and naval forces employed for realising the object of the present treaty, and all the fortresses or positions in the Ottoman territory that shall have been provisionally occupied by the military forces of France and England shall be restored to the authorities of the Sublime Ottoman Porte within the space of forty days, or sooner, if possible, to date from the exchange of the ratifications of the treaty by which the present war shall be terminated.

Art. 4. It is understood that the auxiliary armies shall preserve the faculty of taking such part as may appear suitable in the operations directed against the common enemy, the Ottoman authorities, whether civil or military, not claiming to exercise the least control over their movements; on the contrary, all aid and facility shall be afforded them by these authorities, especially for their disembarkation, their marching, dwelling or encampment, their subsistence and that of their horses, and for their communications, whether they may act together or may act separately.

It is understood, on the other hand, that the commanders of the said armies engage to maintain the strictest discipline among their respective troops, and will cause to be respected by them the laws and usages of the country.

It is of course understood that property is to be everywhere respected. It is, moreover, understood on either side that the general plan of the campaign shall be discussed and agreed upon between the Commanders in Chief of the three armies if a considerable part of the English or French troops should be in line with the Ottoman troops, no operation can be executed against the enemy without having been previously concerted with the Commanders of the allied forces. Lastly, due attention shall be paid to every requirement, relative to the wants of the service, addressed by the Commanders-in-Chief of the auxiliary troops, whether to the Ottoman Government through the medium of the superior military authorities, or, in case of urgency, to the local authorities, unless paramount objections distinctly stated, may prevent its execution.

Art. 5 The present treaty shall be ratified, and the ratifications shall be exchanged at Constantinople within the space of six weeks, or sooner if possible, to date from the day of signature.

In faith of which, &c.

NAPOLEON.

THE BRITISH CONSUL AT VARNA.—It is, perhaps, not generally known that our Consul at Varna, Colonel Neale, whose name so frequently occurred in accounts from the East, has himself seen and shared in much severe military service, and is therefore particularly well suited for his present post. Lieut.-Colonel Edward St. John Neale, now British Consul at Varna, was a distinguished officer in the Liberating Army of Portugal, of 1832, and was present, in command of a Company, in every action in which the British troops in the Portuguese service were engaged during the war that secured Donna Maria on the throne. He was afterwards with the British Legion in the earlier and more fortunate part of their career in Spain. Having obtained the order of St. Ferdinand, for the valour he displayed at the capture of St. Sebastian, Colonel Neale left Spain, and went with Colonel Hodges to the Consulate in Bosnia-Servia, which he managed for eight months alone, during Colonel Hodges' absence. Having subsequently been Vice-Consul at Alexandretta, Colonel Neale was appointed Consul at Varna, the 28th May, 1847. Colonel Neale is on terms of intimacy with Omer Pacha, and is much esteemed by that famous General. The family to which Colonel Neale belongs, has long been creditably known in the civil and military service of British India.

THE TATERNAL RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT.—A recent fact strikingly illustrates both the fears of the Russian Government and its method of proceeding. A tradesman of the capital having failed, closed his shop, situated in one of the most frequented quarters of the city. This circumstance, apparently so ordinary, excited a sensation, and the Government arrested the tradesman and transported him at once to Siberia for having failed at a critical time, and thus betrayed the uneasy state of trade. The police found upon inquiry that the immediate cause of the failure was a claim made by a nobleman for a sum of money due to him. The nobleman was fined 15,000 roubles, and ordered to leave St. Petersburg, and reside on his property.

THE TREATY BETWEEN AUSTRIA AND PRUSSIA.

The following is a translation, from the original German, of the defensive and offensive treaty between Austria and Prussia. The military, or so-called "*Secret Stipulations*," which contain the eventualities spoken of in the convention, are not annexed:—

OFFENSIVE AND DEFENSIVE TREATY BETWEEN PRUSSIA AND AUSTRIA.

His Majesty the King of Prussia and his Majesty the Emperor of Austria, penetrated with profound regret at the fruitlessness of their previous efforts to avert the outbreak of war between Russia on the one side, and Turkey, England, and France on the other, considering the moral obligations imposed on them by having signed the last Vienna protocol; seeing the constant augmentat on of military measures on both sides, and the increasing dangers emanating therefrom to the general peace; persuaded as to the high mission which, on the threshold of a fanesfe future, is allotted to them and to Germany, intimately allied with both States, in and for the interests of European welfare; have resolved to unite—during the existence of the war which has broken out between Russia on the one side, and Turkey, France, and England on the other—in a defensive and offensive alliance; and have named for the conclusion thereof the following Plenipotentiaries:

His Majesty the King of Prussia, his Minister-President Baron von Manteuffel, &c.

His Majesty the Emperor of Austria, his Actual Privy Councillor Baron von Hess, &c. &c. &c. Actual Privy Councillor Count Thun von Hohenstein.

The same after exchanging their full powers, found in due order, agreed upon the following points —

Art. 1. His Majesty the King of Prussia and his Imperial Apostolical Majesty reciprocally guarantee to each other the possession of their German and non-German territories, so that any attack made upon the territory of the one, no matter whence it may come, shall be regarded as a hostile attack upon the territory of the other.

Art. 2. In the same manner the high contracting parties hold themselves bound to safeguard the interests of Germany from all and every threat, and regard themselves, consequently, as bound to resist every attack upon any portion of their territory, in case that one of them should, in accord with the other, find itself required to move (*vorrücken gehen*) in defence of German interests. Agreement as to the initiative (*eintritt*) of the eventuality just mentioned, as well also as to the extent of assistance to be afforded, shall form the subject of special arrangements, which are to be considered as integral portions of the present treaty.

Art. 3. In order to give the necessary weight and strength to the offensive and defensive alliance, which is established between the two great German Powers bind themselves, in case of need, to hold a portion of their military force fully prepared for war, at given epochs and at given points, to be determined between them. Special stipulations shall also ensue as regards the time, extent, and mode of employing this military force.

Art. 4. The high contracting parties will invite all German States to adhere to this alliance in such measure as is provided for by Art. 47 of the Vienna concluding Acts, so that the legal federal obligations may receive such extension by adhering States as the present treaty points out.

Art. 5. Neither of the high contracting parties will, during the existence of the alliance, conclude any separate treaty whatever with other States which does not fully harmonise with the principles of the present treaty.

Art. 6 The present treaty shall be submitted as soon as possible, for the ratification of the august Sovereigns.

VON MANTEUFFEL.
VON HESS
VON THUN.

Done at Berlin, April 20, 1854.

ADDITIONAL ARTICLE TO THE OFFENSIVE AND DEFENSIVE TREATY CONCLUDED BETWEEN AUSTRIA AND PRUSSIA.

According to the stipulations of Art. 2 of the treaty concluded this day between his Majesty the King of Prussia and his Majesty the Emperor of Austria, relative to the conclusion at an offensive and defensive alliance, the more explicit understanding as to the initiative in the eventuality wherewith the action of one high contracting party for the common defence of the territory of the other shall be grounded, will form the subject of special arrangements to be considered as integral portions of the principal treaty.

His Majesties have not been able to overlook (*haben sich die Erwägung nicht entziehen können*) the consideration that the indefinite prolongation of the occupation of his Highness the Sultan's territory on the Lower Danube by Russian troops will endanger the political, moral, and material interests of the whole German Confederation. They therefore declare, and this in so much higher degree the further Russia extends her war operations, that the high contracting parties will, during the existence of this alliance, conclude any separate treaty whatever with other States which does not fully harmonise with the principles of the present treaty.

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VON HESS
VON THUN.

Done at Berlin, April 20, 1854

THE GOVERNMENT, ADMINISTRATION, AND INTERNAL CONDITION OF THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE.

FOR the last forty years the Russian Empire has excited the alarm of many politicians and statesmen, and the curiosity of the people in all the civilised countries of the world. Much of the alarm has lately subsided, for the "big bully" has been proved by experience to be like other bullies, a coward and a false pretender; but the events of the last twelvemonth have tended to increase, rather than to allay, the curiosity that previously existed. Everybody wants to know something more of the man whose ambition has convulsed the world, and something more of the semi-barbarous State over which he rules. The press teems with books and pamphlets upon the subject, and it would seem as if all other literature were suspended, except that which relates to the Czar and his empire, his army, navy, and resources, and the character of himself and his people. The events of the war are as yet not sufficient of themselves to satisfy the public craving, and the broad-sheets of our daily and weekly contemporaries are expected to record not only the progress of our armies and the negotiations of our diplomatists, but to give their readers some insight into the internal condition of the State which it has become the duty of the Allies to humble and restrain. For this purpose we present our readers with a brief and succinct account of the powers and functions of the Czar, the state of his Army, Navy, Police, and Administration, and such details of the condition of the Nobility and People as we have been able to collect from the principal works that have lately been published upon the subject. The picture thus drawn of the Russian Empire is by no means a favourable one; but all travellers, whatever their country or their condition, are unanimous in their reports of the degraded condition of all classes of the Russians. There is little contradiction between German, French, and English writers. The system of Government is a brutalising despotism, and it has produced the only fruits that could have been expected of it; and, were the despotism not tempered by the fear of assassination, it is possible that it might have grown still more vicious and degrading than it is. Its natural consequence may be briefly stated as a discontented and plotting nobility, a dissolute and ignorant priesthood, and a people of slaves, ignorant, sensual, and stolid, looking upon the knout as the emblem and the arm of Government, and worshipping the Czar with as much servility as the native Africans exhibit towards their Fetiches. The Czar is, in fact, the Fetich of the Russians, and will be treated perhaps with as little ceremony, when his devotees discover how powerless is their idol to save them from the disasters which his evil passions have brought upon his country.

THE CZAR.

The Czar is the absolute lord and master of Russia and of the Russian people. His will is law. He is head of the State and the Church, and claims to be the vicegerent of God on earth. A reverence for the Czar, amounting almost to idolatrous worship, is instilled into the Russians from their earliest childhood; they breathe it with the air; it is their chief mental food, and moulds their whole course of life. Next to the name of God, the name of the Czar always occurs in the religious vocabulary of the people, in whose eyes the two names have become the next thing to synonymous. "All comes from God and the Sovereign." "God is too high, the Czar is too far distant." "A man who is beaten by the Czar's orders is worth two who have not been." "What is mine is the Czar's." "Near the Czar near death;—fear not the judgment but the judge." Such are a few of the proverbs current among the Russian peasants and people, which show the dread estimation in which the Czar is held by them

The following passages from the Russian Catechism, as taught to children in schools, show in a still more powerful manner the extent of his despotic authority and assumption of almost Divine power:—

Question 1.—How is the authority of the Emperor to be considered in reference to the spirit of Christianity?

Answer.—As proceeding immediately from God.

Ques 2.—How is this substantiated by the nature of things?

Ans.—It is by the will of God that men live in society; hence the various relations which constitute society, which, for its more complete security, is divided into parts called nations, the Government of which is intrusted to a Prince, King, or Emperor; or, in other words, to a supreme ruler; we see, then, that, as man exists in conformity with the will of God, society emanates from the same Divine will, and more especially the supreme power and authority of our Lord and Master, the Czar.

Ques 3.—What duties does the Orthodox teach us, the humble subjects of his Majesty the Emperor of Russia, to practice towards him?

Ans.—Worship, obedience, fidelity, the payment of taxes, service, love, and prayer; the whole being comprised in the words worship and fidelity.

Ques 4.—Wherein does this worship consist, and how should it be manifested?

Ans.—By the most unqualified reverence in words, gestures, demeanour, thoughts, and actions.

Ques. 5.—What kind of obedience do we owe him?

Ans.—An entire, passive, and unbounded obedience in every point of view.

Ques. 6.—In what consists the fidelity we owe to the Emperor?

Ans.—In executing his commands most rigorously, without examination in performing the duties he requires from us—and in doing everything willingly, without murmuring.

Ques. 7.—Is it obligatory on us to pay taxes to our gracious Sovereign the Emperor?

Ans.—It is incumbent on us to pay every tax in compliance with his supreme commands, both as to the amount, and when due.

Ques. 8.—Is the service of his Majesty the Emperor obligatory on us?

Ans.—Absolutely so; we should, if required, sacrifice ourselves in compliance with his will, both in a civil and military capacity, and in whatever manner he deems expedient.

Ques. 9.—What benevolent sentiments and love are due to the Emperor?

Ans.—We should manifest our good-will and affection, according to our station, in endeavouring to promote the prosperity of our native land, as well as that of the Emperor, our father, and of his supreme family.

Ques. 10.—Is it incumbent on us to pray for the Emperor, and for Russia, our country?

Ans.—Both publicly and privately, beseeching the Almighty to grant the Emperor health and integrity, happiness and security. The same is applicable to the country, which constitutes an indivisible part of the Emperor.

Ques. 11.—What principles are in opposition to these duties?

Ans.—Irreverence, disobedience, infidelity, malevolence, treason, mutiny, and revolt.

Ques. 12.—How are irreverence and infidelity to the Emperor to be considered in reference to God?

Ans.—As the most heinous sin—the most frightful calamity.

Ques. 13.—Does religion, then, forbid us to rebel and overthrow the Government of the Emperor?

Ans.—We are interdicted from so doing, at all times, and under all circumstances.

Ques. 14.—Independently of the worship we owe the Emperor, are we called upon to respect the public authorities emanating from him?

Ans.—Yes; because they emanate from him, represent him, and act as his substitutes; so that the Emperor is everywhere.

Ques. 15.—What motives have we to fulfil the duties above enumerated?

Ans.—The motives are twofold some natural, others revealed.

Ques. 16.—What are the natural motives?

Ans.—Besides the motives adduced, there are the following:—The Emperor being the head of the nation, the father of all his subjects (who constitute one and the same country), Russia is thereby alone worthy of reverence, gratitude, and obedience; for both public welfare and individual security depend on submissiveness to his commands.

Ques. 17.—What are the supernatural revealed motives for his worship?

Ans.—The supernatural revealed motives are, that the Emperor is the Viceregent and Minister of God to execute the Divine commands; and, consequently, disobedience to the Emperor is identified with disobedience to God himself; that God will reward us in the world to come for the worship and obedience we render the Emperor, and punish us severely to all eternity should we disobey and neglect to worship him. Moreover, God commands us to love and obey from the inmost recesses of the heart every authority, and particularly the Emperor—not from worldly consideration, but from apprehension of the final judgment.

Ques. 18.—What books prescribe these duties?

Ans.—The New and Old Testaments, and particularly the Psalms, Gospels, and Apostolic Epistles.

Ques. 19.—What examples confirm this doctrine?

Ans.—The example of Jesus Christ himself, who lived and died in allegiance to the Emperor of Rome, and respectfully submitted to the judgment which condemned him to death. We have, moreover, the example of the Apostles, who both loved and respected them; they suffered meekly in dungeons, conformably to the will of the Emperors, and did not revolt like malefactors and traitors. We must, therefore, in imitation of those examples, suffer and be silent

Ques. 24.—At what period did the custom originate of praying to the Almighty for the prosperity of the Sovereign?

Ans.—The custom of public prayer for the Emperor is coeval with the introduction of Christianity, which custom is to us the most valuable legacy and splendid gift we have received from past ages.

Such is the code of religion in Russia, and such the means by which the Czars have contrived to sow the seeds of despotism throughout the land. So long as the the Russian people retain this blasphemous catechism, so long will Russia continue to have need of a dictator.

THE ADMINISTRATION—THE FUNCTIONARIES OF THE GOVERNMENT.

Although the Czar is the sole and irresponsible head of the Administration, it suits his convenience to have a deliberative body or Parliament to assist him. The Administration consists of three principal Councils—the Council of the Empire, the Holy Synod, and the Directing Senate. The Council of the Empire, established in 1810 by the Emperor Alexander, is composed of forty members, chosen from among the Princes of the Royal blood, statesmen, generals, and admirals, and has five departments. The first relates to the laws; the second, to the army and navy; the third, to civil affairs; the fourth, to public economy and commerce; and the fifth, to the affairs of Poland. When the Council of the Empire meet collectively, the Czar is the speaker; but when a particular department meets, a President is elected. The Holy Synod is entrusted with the direction of ecclesiastical affairs, and is composed of a Metropolitan, three Archbishops, a Bishop, the Father-confessor to the Czar, an Archimandrite, an Almoner-General to the Army and Navy, and a Protopope or first High Priest. This Synod holds its sittings chiefly at Moscopoe, but on particular occasions at St. Petersburg, and is presided over by an Attorney, who is the Czar's representative. The Directing Senate, founded in 1711, by Peter the Great, and consisting of about 100 members, elected by the Czar, is the chief tribunal of the Empire. It has eleven department, six of which meet at St. Peteraburg, three at Moscow, and two at Warsaw. In a general meeting of the Senate, affairs are decided by majority; but in the departments the votes must be unanimous. Besides these, there are eleven Ministries created by the Emperor Alexander. 1st, the Ministry of the Imperial Household; 2nd, that of Internal Affairs; 3rd, Foreign Affairs; 4th, War; 5th, the Navy; 6th, Education; 7th, Finance; 8th, Justice; 9th, Imperial Post; 10th, Highways; 11th, Board of Control of the Empire, auditing all accounts of the Empire. The Ministry for Foreign Affairs provides the Ambassadors, which are three in number, and sent respectively to the Courts of London, Paris, and Vienna; and the seventeen Ministers Plenipotentiary which are sent to the other principal capitals of the world. Every chief town of a province has a Chamber of Regency, composed of four Councillors, and presided over by a Civil Governor; and every town has a municipality, or *duma*, elected annually, and composed of two Burgomasters and four Councillors, whose principal duties relate to the di-putes of citizens. There is likewise a Common Council, called the Council of Six, whose members are chosen every three years. In every province there is a Chamber of Finance, consisting of a President and a given number of Councillors, and having four State institutions, viz., the Commission for Liquidating the National Debt, and three banks.

THE LAW AND THE MAGISTRACY.

The state of the Law in Russia is at the present day precisely what it was in the time of Peter the Great. Nominally the laws have been altered and modified by the Czar Nicholas and his predecessor Alexander, but they have been merely re-arranged and modernised in expression. The Ukases issued by the Czar, on his sole authority, and which form the laws, are stated by a recent traveller to amount to upwards of 40,000, arranged under 2000 different heads, and interspersed with postscripts and *nota benes*—the whole filling forty-five folio quarto volumes. These Ukases are often directly at variance with each other, and are many of them ridiculously puerile. Some of them interdict the use of English hats and French waistcoats, and forbid smoking in public places.

Russian law is described by all writers as a greedy, rapacious bully—an ogre fattening upon the estates of the rich and the bones of the poor. Money will buy anything in Russia. The Judge sells his judgment to the highest bidder; so that justice is to be purchased like any more tangible commodity. Barristers are not only the most corrupt of the corrupt, but they are illiterate and ill-informed persons. Special pleaders arrange beforehand how the case shall be settled, and share the spoils amicably between them, in order that they may subsist during the trial. A law case often lasts from twenty to thirty years, and is seldom known to be decided in less than ten. As there is no justice to be found in Russia, so there is no word to express the idea of it in the Russian dictionary.

THE POLICE.

The Police are the most rapacious class of men in the whole Empire. They live chiefly on plunder and on bribes, to obtain which they resort to all manner of intrigues and dishonest actions This state of things is, to a certain extent, brought on by the insufficient wages allowed to them by the Government; the *Natschalnika*, or Comm's aries of Police, receiving no more than from twenty to twenty four pounds a year, and the subordinate officers scarcely sufficient to provide them with the commonest necessaries of life. Nothing can be done in Russia without the supervision of the police. A person can scarcely even stir abroad without being followed by one or other of this exceptionable sort of valets. If a man fall down in a fit in the streets, the police must pick him up; and, if no policeman be at hand, the man must lie there till one arrives, it being against the law for any non-official person to offer him the least assistance. No measures are taken for the relief of a person suffering from an accident until after a regular statement has been drawn up as to the colour of the individual's hair and eyes, his form, his features, his clothes, &c. Cases are related, in recent as well as in ancient books of travel, of persons drowning before the eyes of hundreds of their fellowmen, and of murders committed in the public thoroughfares; of which the passers-by have remained mere spectators, from fear of incurring the odium of the police by interfering. These disgraceful regulations are said to have been framed originally with a view to prevent *robbery*; for the Government authorities, being themselves dishonest, suspect every one else; and look upon a person that takes hold of a drowning man's coat to save him, as being in the act of purloining that article.

If a person is unfortunate enough to lose any article of dress, or to be robbed of the same, he suddenly finds himself entangled in the meshes of those human spiders, who, pouncing upon him unawares, solemnly charge him with having lost his watch or mantle, as the case may be, and peremptorily demand a fee for the trouble they have been put to on his account. This done, the police note down particulars as to the amount and quality of the lost goods, and leaving their victim to reflect at his ease on the roubles of which he has been fleeced, return after a short time for another fee. Woe to the man who is audacious enough to refuse the demands of these guardians of the public property! From that moment he becomes the *protegé* of the police, who will not fail to make him aware of the fatherly interest they take in his lost property, and in all his doings, even to the smallest and most trivial action.

The police are expressly forbidden to interfere with persons found drunk in the streets. The reason for this is that the Government has a monopoly in the manufacture and trade of spirituous liquors. When it is added that large revenues amounting to 50,000,000 roubles, or £3,000,000 sterling, are annually drawn from this source, it will easily be conceived why the Government should encourage drunkenness. But, by a strange anomaly, the police are directed to take into custody every person found smoking in the public thoroughfares. Government is not in a position to draw large revenues from tobacco, and consequently looks upon smoking in the light of a public nuisance, and punishes it accordingly.

The posting system of Russia is a department of the police, in which the system of bribery is carried to a great extent. The post-masters must be bribed before they will confess to having a horse in their stables; and when once the honest truth is purchased, another fee must be paid to make it worth the station-master's while to harness or saddle the animals required. The departure of passenger-boats depends entirely on the good pleasure of the police. The registered day of sailing is not regarded. No circumstances, however urgent, will induce them to let the boat start, unless they receive a gratuity. They take a sort of instinctive pleasure in delaying things as much as possible, and chuckle over the fearful faces of their victims, knowing that sooner or later the growing impatience of the traveller will produce them roubles. It is a matter of no small difficulty to travel from one Russian town to another. Instances are on record of travellers having had to spend several days in obtaining permission to leave a particular place. The passport must be taken to the police-office to be examined and re-examined, and, after being handed about from one official to another, be finally allowed to get far days among a heap of other documents of a similar description. In the meanwhile, no notice whatever is taken of the traveller, unless, indeed, he be so far initiated into the mysteries of Russian society as to give the functionary a bribe.

No position whatever can be maintained in Russia without bribery. Even the Governors of provinces must bribe the officials in their service if they have any desire to become popular rulers; and the neglecting to do so is often followed by loss of position and degradation for life. A circumstance is related by Mr. Oliphant, which gives strong proof of the instinctive dishonesty of the Russian people. He describes the case of a steam-boat company on the Volga, which, although their boats were in great demand, and well freighted with passengers and goods, not only realised no gains, but actually sustained a heavy annual loss. The directors, instead of calling the officials to account—for that were useless, thieving being practically no crime in this portion of the world—at once transferred the management of their affairs to a few Englishmen resident in Russia. A complete change in the prospects of the company was the consequence of this change of hands, and, instead of loss, an influx of unlooked-for profits was the result.

An interesting anecdote is related by M. de Lagny, which further illustrates the question of bribery and official robbery in Russia. The Czar, it seems, having been made aware of the innate rottenness of his empire, by the investigations of some German gentlemen whom he had deputed to inquire into the subject, related to Count Orloff all he had learned on the subject, and exclaimed with concentrated indignation:—"Every one robs me throughout the empire; every one around robs me! In whatever direction I choose to glance I behold only pilferers and robbers. There is only one person, one single person, who can walk proudly with head erect. Of this person at least I am sure!" As he said these last words, he looked at his favourite very fixedly and very strangely: and the Count, imagining that the Emperor was alluding to him, bowed to the ground, to thank his august master for having had the goodness to think him an honest servant. But the Czar, striking himself on the breast, added:—"And that person who does not rob is myself! I am the only person throughout the empire who does not steal!"

It has been stated by several writers that the Czar has done his best to put a stop to the corrupt practices of the police. This, Galovin denies, and gives an unpublished anecdote as a proof of the error of such statements:—

The Emperor (observes that writer) asked General Martinoff one day how it was that the Commissioners of Police had such fine horses, and such handsome furs—whether they bought them with their pay? "They have eleven to twelve hundred roubles a year," replied the General. "And how much do they spend?" "From ten to twelve thousand," was the reply. "How, then, do they manage?" "I must leave your Majesty to guess." "That is a point upon which I never thought before," replied the Czar.

The Russian historian assures his readers that the Czar has since done nothing whatever to amend this state of things.

THE NOBILITY.

The nobility are divided into two classes, the Boyards and the Tchinn.

THE BOYARDS, or feudal nobility, amounting to about 225,000, are the owners of the soil and of the peasantry that live thereon. The most wealthy of these serf-proprietors are Count Cheremetieff and Count Stoganoff, the former of whom is said to possess as many as 100,000. The Boyards occupy a position somewhat similar to that of the ancient chieftains under the feudal system of England, Scotland, France, and Germany. But, although their power as a great political body has long been on the wane, yet it is evident that they must exercise a very great influence both on the Government and the interior condition of the empire, so long as they own so large a portion of the land and of the population, whom—like kings and despots—they can scourge, imprison, or execute, at pleasure.

The principal noble families of Russia are, or pretend to be, of foreign extraction—the more illustrious claiming their descent from Italian, Tartar, and Georgian ancestors. It is the peculiar pride of each noble to be able to prove that he is not a Russian in blood; and the length to which the Boyards carried their boasts of precedence one over the other, is said to have irritated one of the early Czars to such a pitch that he one day ordered all their genealogical tables to be publicly burnt.

The Boyards are described by all travellers in Russia as being a degraded and licentious class. There are, no doubt, a few honourable exceptions; but that the bulk of the aristocracy are ignorant and brutal appears to be an incontestable fact.

There are three universities in Russia—viz., those of Moscow, Kharkoff, and Kief, intended for the instruction of the nobility, and to which the Czar is anxious to restrict them; and it was to effect this purpose that he instituted a tax on all noblemen going abroad. The character of the information and intellectual training provided by these establishments is described by those who have inquired into the subject to be of the narrowest and most superficial description; all liberal views being carefully excluded, and history—which is the principal study of Russian students—so obscured and perverted as to render the instruction so obtained even worse than none at all. By far the most enlightened of the aristocracy are such as have been brought up in foreign schools. But it must not be imagined that every nobleman finds it expedient to provide all his children with the benefits of education. This is far from being the case, even on the testimony of Krusenstern, in his "Progress of Public Instruction in Russia," who, although notoriously partial to the cause of Russia, states that the average number of noble children receiving instruction of any kind is no more than one in five.

The tax levied upon the nobility for the privilege of travelling abroad amounts to as much as £80 a head. But all the money in the world will not induce the Czar to grant his permit if he suspect the party of having political reasons for leaving the country; and a full and accurate

(*Continued on page* 522.)

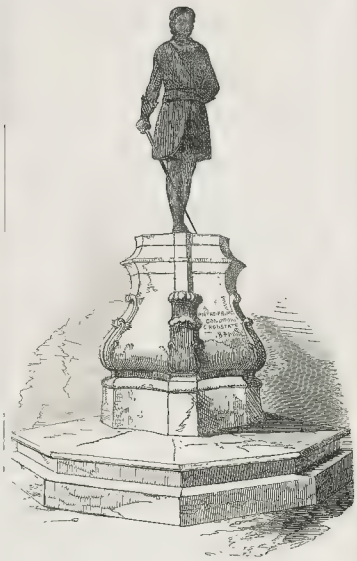
CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE SAVIOUR, AND THE OBSERVATORY, AT CRONSTADT.

CRONSTADT.

IN the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for April 8th, we Engraved, from a series of original sketches, the principal fortifications of this reputedly impregnable port. We now Engrave two Views of the public buildings, &c., of the town, also from sketches by a Correspondent.

Cronstadt may be considered at once the outwork, the arsenal, and the commercial *entrepôt* of St. Petersburgh. Eight leagues of water separate the two localities; but that water is seldom more than eight feet deep, so that all large vessels, and even the packet-steamers, are obliged to stop and unload at Cronstadt. Ships of war are, indeed, built at St. Petersburg, where there are excellent building and graving docks, but they are always sent to Cronstadt to be rigged and armed. Cronstadt itself contains three ports—one used for commercial purposes, another for the repair and outfit of ships of war, the third as a station for the Russian Navy. Cronstadt lies upon the island of Kottline, three leagues in length by half a league in breadth. Its western point, is however, much narrower. Sand-banks surround it on every side, except at the south-east extremity, where the town and harbour are situated. Along the opposite coast of Ingria, another sand-bank stretches, and extends so far into the sea as to leave but a narrow and winding channel by way of entrance to Cronstadt Harbour. Within the port, moreover, the water is from six to seven fathoms deep, but the channel in places is barely four—a depth by no means sufficient for huge 131-gun ships like the *Duke of Wellington*, for whose passage even the Sound was not considered safe.

The town of Cronstadt is described by Mr. Lang, as very regularly built, and containing many fine, straight, and well-paved streets, and several public squares. The houses, however, with the exception of those belonging to the Government, are chiefly of one story, and built of wood. The city has three gates: and is divided into two parts, the Commandant and Admiralty quarters, which are subdivided into four districts. Between the Peter's and Catherine canals is the old Italian palace, built by Prince Menschikoff, who took this island from the Swedes in 1703. It is at present occupied by the School for Pilots, a large establishment, where 300 pupils are educated for the naval service, and twenty for the merchant service. The Naval Hospital is a large and well-regulated institution, with accommodation for 2300 patients, and a separate building for officers of the navy. Among the buildings are the Admiralty, Exchange, Custom-house, barracks, a Protestant gymnasium, various schools, an invalid asylum for sixty females, the nobility's club, and the house of Peter the Great, where he resided for some time; but, with the exception of a few old oaks, which he is said to have planted with his own hand, there are no remains of the former garden.



STATUE OF PETER THE GREAT, AT CRONSTADT.

Of the churches we have engraved the Cathedral Sábor (Saviour), erected in the St. Andrew's quarter. Its spire and dome are covered with brass plates. The building, with tower and staff, in the centre of the accompanying View, and nearer the spectator, is a sort of time telegraph; reminding one of a similar building, answering a similar purpose, in Portsmouth Dockyard. The railing in the foreground is that of the balcony of the British Consul's residence, from which the Sketch was taken. There are also in Cronstadt other churches, a club for the nobility, a bazaar, barracks, schools, and other public buildings. The Hospital for the Military is capable of containing 2000 sick.

The Statue of Peter the Great, is in the Square of Cronstadt. The figure looks towards (his) the fleet. On the granite pedestal is the inscription, in Latin:—

Petro primo conditori Cronstate, 1841.

CRONSTADT,—THE HARBOUR.

H.M. STEAM-SHIP "TIGER."

LOSS OF H.M.S. "TIGER."

The *Russian Invalide* gives the following report from General Ostensacken, relative to this catastrophe, in a Supplement of the 10th ult.; but, of course, great allowance must be made for exaggeration, so far as details are concerned:—

I hasten to lay before your Highness [Prince Paskiewitsch] the fact and fact of the British steam-frigate *Tiger*, of 400-horse power. It ran aground, was set on fire, and blown up, as it was impossible to get it afloat and bring it into harbour, because two other steamers prevented the attempt. The following are the details: This morning, May 14, the frigate, which came in the direction from St Sebastopol got ashore near Kartazzi, about six versts (four miles and a quarter) from Odessa. The position field pieces (18 or 12 pounders) of No 3 Battery, 16th brigade, under Lieutenant Abakounoff arrived from the Lustdortcolony before the other two steamers could assist the *Tiger*, and, supported by two companies of the Dnieper reserve infantry regiment, and a platoon of Lancers of Count Nekrine's regiment, opened their fire with such precision that, after the vessel had received several shots, and its captain had lost his foot, she was forced to surrender. The enemy's shot flew harmlessly over the battery (evidently from the vessel lying on her beam), the cocours were hauled down, and the Lieutenant, who had taken the command, presented himself before me, and declared his crew prisoners of war. By my orders he sent his boats and crew ashore, and laid down his and their arms. They and their wounded, five in number, were sent to the quarantine. Meanwhile eight pieces of the light position battery No. 2 (twelve-pounders) and the horse battery No. 11, arrived from Odessa, with a battalion of the Sonzial reserve regiment, and the reserve battalion of the Ukraine light infantry, with two squadrons of Archduke Ferdinand's Lancers, reached the shore. The enemy's wounded were not yet removed before two of the enemy's steamers were observed through the fog. As no means were at hand to float the surrendered vessel and get her into port, and as more enemy's vessels might also arrive at any moment, I ordered the stranded ship to be set on fire with shot. The two steamers of the enemy came within gun range, and opened their fire upon our batteries. Colonel Granowitch maintained such a well directed fire during two hours, with twelve pieces, that the enemy's ships were compelled to retire out of range much damaged. Two men and three horses of the reserve battery were killed. Colonel Fensky and Lieutenant Smirnoff, of the 2nd Light Infantry and 10th Brigade, received contusions. We have made prisoners Captain Giffard, 24 officers (and warrant officers), with 201 seamen and marines. The *Tiger* was armed with sixteen Paixhans. At half-past seven p.m. she was completely burned.

With regard to the loss of the *Tiger*, at Odessa, and the capture of the crew, the following communication has been received by a Greek house in London. The paragraphs are translated from the original letter, and, either from caution or inclination on the part of the writers, are perfectly Russian in tone:—

The two steamers which appeared in our harbour the day before yesterday came to inquire for the commander of the *Tiger*.

They came with all the civility due, and as soon as they cast anchor hoisted the Imperial Russian flag. In the same spirit they fired muskets instead of guns, so as not to frighten the town.

They have asked to see the captain, but that is not allowed, as he and the others are in quarantine.

They have offered to give money and cigars to the prisoners, which has been allowed. They brought letters to them, and took letters from them, and they have given instructions to the Austrian Consul to hand them money when required.

Our Government treats them very kindly, and the prisoners wrote a letter to thank the Commander-in-Chief.

At the Conversazione of the Institution of Civil Engineers, on Tuesday last, was exhibited a fine model of the *Tiger*, which excited considerable interest throughout the evening.

THE BALTIC FLEET IN ELGSNABBEN BAY.

EVERY graphic record of our noble fleet in the Baltic will, doubtless, be welcomed as an interesting contribution towards what may be hereafter termed an illustrated history of the war. We have been favoured with the accompanying instance by Lieut. East, of H.M.S. *Hogue*, who sketched the scene from the highest point of Elgsnabben Island, in the Bay (on the coast of Sweden, about sixty miles from Stockholm).

The main portion of the fleet under the orders of Sir. C Napier, Commander-in-Chief, and comprising sixteen sail of the line (inclusive of the French screw steam-ship *Austerlitz*), together with five steamers, were detained until the afternoon of the 8th ult., owing to the boisterous weather which had prevailed for the previous fortnight. On the evening of the 3rd the signal, "Prepare to sail to-morrow at daybreak," was made; but so dense a fog came on as to render objects invisible at a distance of 300 yards, and this continued during the 4th, and up to the forenoon of the 5th, when it dispersed, and the fleet weighed under steam alone—the *Neptune*, *Monarch*, *Boscawen*, and *Cumberland* being in tow of the smaller steam-vessels, the *Prince Regent* and a small steamer remaining at anchor in Elgsnabben Bay. As the fleet was about to proceed to sea, the *Leopard*, 16, Captain Giffard, despatched on the 24th ult. on particular service, came into Elgsnabben Harbour, bearing intelligence of great importance.

A letter in the *Daily News*, dated Stockholm, May 10, states the general belief in that capital to be that the sudden departure of Sir Charles Napier was caused by the intelligence that that portion of the Russian fleet which during the winter had remained at Sveaborg, was endeavouring to get away to Cronstadt. Some persons asserted that twenty Russian vessels had already succeeded in escaping from Sveaborg, and that, in all probability, they would be able to reach Cronstadt. The fact of the British squadron having first proceeded towards San Island (Sandö), not far from the northern extremity of the island of Gothland, instead of sailing direct from Elgsnabben to the Gulf of Finland, excited much speculation.

During the fortnight the British squadron lay at Elgsnabben Bay, it was visited not only by the inhabitants of the neighbouring islands, Utö, Ornö, and Dalarö, but also of the somewhat distant coasts of Osterhaninge, Westerhaninge, and Osmo.

The two vessels that remained in Elgsnabben, after the departure of Sir Charles Napier, were the *Prince Regent* and the *Monarch*, which, to the very last, were visited by numbers of persons. The latter left the bay on the afternoon of the 7th, and the former on the next morning; numerous spectators in small boats, and on the neighbouring islands, giving the *Prince Regent* a friendly farewell. The noble bay in which in former times the rival fleets of the Scandinavian States and of Lubeck more than once assembled, is now deserted; and the only vestige—so to write—of the British fleet is young Freeland's grave in the fir-decked churchyard of Musko. (The funeral was engraved in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of last Saturday.)

THE BALTIC FLEET AT ANCHOR, IN ELGSNABBEN BAY.

THE GOVERNMENT, &c., OF THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE.

(Continued from page 519.)

statement of all their intentions is required, together with a description of the route they intend to take, and a list of the places in which they intend to reside.

The nobility are the principal manufacturers of Russia, or rather owners of factories; for the whole control and management of them are confided to foreigners—principally Englishmen. The principal produce of these factories are hemp, flax, and tallow, which are shipped to different parts of the Continent, and to England. It is a matter for speculation whether the present war, cutting off, as it necessarily does this source of profit from the Boyards, will not become so unpopular among them as to be a source of personal danger to the Czar.

The political decline of the Boyards began in the time of Peter the Great, whose national reforms they thwarted by every means in their power. Perceiving that he could not curb this headstrong nobility, and finding that the axe and the sabre only tended to make things worse, the Czar determined to form a new order of nobility from among the mass of the people. For this purpose he issued a Ukase, declaring that civil and military officials should thenceforth be placed on the same footing with respect to rank as the ancient lords of the Empire. To this new aristocracy he gave the name of the Tchinn, or "Retitled," by which denomination they have ever since been distinguished.

THE TCHINN are estimated at 750,000, and are divided into fourteen classes. The first class is represented by one man—Marshal Paskiewitsch, Viceroy of Warsaw; the second is composed of all admirals, generals, governors of provinces, marshals of the court, and councillors of the Senate; the third class, of the vice-admirals, grand equerries, and procureurs of the Senate; the fourth class, of the chamberlains, rear-admirals, and major-generals; the fifth class comprises the post-captains, officers, clerks, and officials of the Imperial stable. The remainder are composed of the Czar's valets, servants, and the minor officials and superannuaries of the public offices. This aristocracy, after continued broils with the feudal lords, who at first considered their institution as a mere whim of the Czar, have at length gained the supremacy, and only wait a favourable opportunity—according to the accounts given of them by De Lagny and others—to upset the existing state of things, and seize the property of the Boyards, which they have long conveted.

The Tchinn, as well as the Boyards, have the privilege of trial in a court of law in all cases of offence, and are not, like the bulk of the people, under the immediate orders of the police. To prevent mistake, every member of the nobility is compelled to inscribe the number of his class upon his front door; and any civil functionary found molesting the inhabitants of any house so distinguished are liable to punishment. The inadvertence of the Czar Peter in so lavishly scattering the badges of nobility among the people, and the too great eagerness with which his successors have followed his example, are every day becoming more apparent. An influential body of needy *employés* has been puffed up into arrogance which, it is to be expected, will one day explode in revolution. The Tchinn hold in their hands the keys of life and death; before their secret tribunals the fate of the Czars has been more than once decided, the length of their lives prescribed, and the day of their death fixed. For nine entire years—from 1838 to 1847—did these secret societies meet to pronounce the doom of the Emperor Nicholas, and that, too, when his death was not urgent; and now, when he stands not only in the way of their ambition, but between them and their very bread, it is not likely that the Tchinn have forgotten their old tribunals.

THE SERFS.

The words *slave* and *negro* have been so often coupled together that they have almost become synonymous; and when the great question of slavery is mooted, the mind instinctively turns to the United States of America. But we ought to go to the north of the most civilised portion of the old world is a whole nation of slaves. The soil, together with the human beings that live thereon, is split up into hereditary estates, divided among some fifty or sixty thousand noble families. The Russian peasant has no property of his own: his wife, children, his furniture, his implements of husbandry, are his master's. Even his limbs are not his own, for all that he has belongs as much to his proprietor as the wool, offspring, and flesh of a sheep in England belongs to the farmer or the butcher. He is looked upon in all respects as a "chattel." His master may ill-use him as much as he pleases. There is a particular ukase which expressly forbids the serf from bringing up corn, plaints before a court of law against his owner, such offence being punishable with the utmost severity. The average value of a serf is 100 roubles. The slaves of Russia are bought and sold by private contract, and families can be disposed of in separate instalments, if need be. Serfs are often given as birthday presents, and cases have been known in which they have been put up as stakes at gambling tables.

Hundreds of serfs (says Captain Jesse) are taken from the east and central parts of Russia and sent to the Crimea, and there let out on hire for the benefit of their proprietors, as they have been to the contractors of the railways made in Russia, who agreed to pay, independently of the monthly stipend, seven hundred roubles a head for those who died about the value of a horse. Though in an indirect manner, I have known them sold in the streets and market-place of Kief. The men only are reckoned as souls if young and healthy, they usually sell for a thousand roubles a head; a woman, that is no soul, fetches only five hundred.

A serf may receive his liberty by rendering peculiar service to the State—such as denouncing conspirators or persons attempting the life of the Czar, and, once having received his freedom, he is nominally free for life. Nevertheless he can, at a moment's notice, be forced to enlist as a common soldier, and thereby enter another state of thraldom even worse than that from which he is emancipated. If a Boyard be unable to pay his debts, his peasants are compelled to do so to the last farthing of their means; and if a slave be killed by one of his fellows the owner of the murdered man receives compensation in money from the owner of the murderer—which money is generally raised from among those that witnessed the quarrel.

The peasant has no private interest in the cultivation of the soil. The opinion generally expressed that the indolence and ignorance of the peasantry are solely attributable to their state of serfdom, is supported by the fact that in Orenburg, where there are great numbers of emancipated slaves, not only agricultural, but every other industrial department of the public service, flourishes to an extent hitherto unprecedented in the annals of the country. M. Togoborski, in his "Etude sur les forces productives de la Russie," rejects the idea that slavery is the cause of the bad state of Russian agriculture, and observes that the emancipated serfs of the Czar, amounting to more than half the entire serf population, do not work a bit better than the rest. But Golovin at once defeats this argument by proving that the serfs of the Czar are not free, unless it be a proof of freedom to be compelled to pay 600 roubles for the bare privilege of becoming a citizen, a tax which will probably swallow up all their gains. "Properly speaking," observes Golovin, "there are only 72,000 free peasants in Russia."

The serfs have the privilege of working three days of the week on their own account on the payment of a certain tax. This tax is called "obrock" (sometimes spelt *obrok*), and is enforced by greedy agents, who have been known to squeeze the last copek from their tenants, in order that some pool may remain in their own hands. Nor do the extortions of the serf-owners end here. The serf cannot even marry without being subject to a heavy tax. He is, however, if too poor to pay prompt obrok, allowed the privilege of taking a wife for a lease of five years at fifty roubles a year, as one rents a house.

Some writers couple the nobles and serfs together in their accounts of the population, disregarding for the time the small intermediate commercial or middle classes. But the nobles and serfs—the highest and lowest classes in the empire, and, as one would suppose, the most distant from each other—are in reality in close approximation; and the case of a noble being summarily degraded to the rank of a serf, and of a peasant being raised to the rank of the Tchinn, is of so frequent an occurrence as to place many families of the Tchinn in near relationship to the most despised of the serfs. It is related of the Empress Catherine II. that in a sudden fit of enthusiasm, or, as her friends say, of condolence with the miseries of the serfs, she, with one dash of her pen erased the word "*serf*" from the Russian dictionary. It was, however, only the word which displeased her, for, as we read in the annals of her reign, not only did the serfs suffer more during her administration than in any other time, but the free peasants of "Little Russia" were by her command reduced to the most abject slavery.

The Russian serf, both in the towns and in the provinces, is a wretched and degraded being. Not only is no attention paid to his intellectual and moral culture, but education is prohibited him by the law. His frightful depravity is a cause of anxiety to no one, and his non-observance of the decencies of life is looked upon, not as a reason for furnishing him with instruction, but as a manifestation of the natural state of his mind, to attempt to purify which would be as ridiculous as to attempt to "wash a blackamoor white." The serf is rendered indolent by ill usage. All the good qualities that may have been inherent in his race have been blunted by long subjection to tyranny. His principal characteristic is apathy. He has no strong desire for anything, not even for liberty, which one would imagine to be the summit of a slave's ambition.

The number of serfs in Russia is estimated by Ivan Golovin at 24,000,000; but Kusenstern, who, from his well-known partiality to Russia, is not likely to exaggerate, gives that number to the Czar alone, and estimates the total serf-population at not less than 42,000,000. Some of these, and particularly those belonging to the Czar, are better treated than the rest, and enjoy certain privileges which render them, if not actually free, at least sufficiently so to enable them to provide a comfortable subsistence for themselves and families, and in some few instances to amass wealth. Next to the Czar, the principal serf proprietor is Count Cherémetieff, whom we have already mentioned as possessing 100,000. Many of these live in the towns, driving about in their carriages, and giving splendid banquets. But the knowledge that they are, after all, only slaves, is like "a worm i'the bud" of their prosperity; and cases are known of many wealthy serfs who would sacrifice half their fortune to purchase the name of "freeman." Count Cherémetieff, however, turns a deaf ear to such entreaties; and the richer the serf, the greater the desire of the boyard to retain him; for there is nothing which is so flattering to the pride of a great noble as the consciousness that these rich trademen hold their vaunted position only by his suffrage.

When Count Kherkoff (says Captain Jesse) gives large parties, he takes pleasure in making the wealthiest of his serfs put on his liveries and wait at table. One of them, a clever watchmaker, offered him a large sum for his emancipation, but his request was refused, and the Count's answer was, "No; pay me five hundred roubles a year, and I will not exercise my power, but I will never part with it."

THE ARMY.

The Russian Army is composed of four principal divisions: the Imperial Guard, the Army in Active Service, the Military Colonies, and the Cossacks. The Imperial Guard, as we learn from the "Almanach de Gotha," consists of 486,000 men, with 996 pieces of cannon; the Army in Active Service, 288,000; the Military Colonies, or regular troops stationed at the Caucasus, Finland, Orenburg, and Siberia, together with the battalions of the Line and the Guards of the Interior, about 198,000; and the Cossacks, viz., the Cossacks of the Don, of Azof, of the Danube, of the Black Sea, of the Caucasus, of the Ural, of Orenburg, of Siberia, of the frontiers of China, and of Astrakan, about 130,000, with 224 pieces of artillery. There are, besides these, the Reserves, divided into two regiments, and consisting of upwards of 200,000 men, and the Reserve Veterans and Invalids, amounting to upwards of 100,000.

These statistical estimates with respect to the Russian army are the very lowest that have been formed, and yield a total of upwards of a million of soldiers. Counting all the recent levies made by the Czar, the Russian soldiery must greatly exceed that number. The threat of the Emperor Nicholas, that if, in his war with Europe, one million of soldiers were not sufficient, he could raise two, or three, or even four millions, was an empty boast; for it is well known that he cannot even provide his regular troops with the common necessaries and decencies of life. Russian military statistics are of little value. On paper they have an imposing appearance: for there each cipher stands for a soldier; but, on the field, a person accustomed to the sight of English and French troops will behold, not soldiers, but motley mobs, half naked and half starved. The miserable condition of the Russian army is attributable to several causes, and, among others, to the universal system of corruption which pervades every part of the public service. The different grades of the army are almost exclusively filled up by needy members of the Tchinn. Their pay being scanty (a Colonel receiving £92 a year, and a Captain £12), they have recourse to wholesale and open plunder, which often brings them in as much as from three to four thousand pounds per annum. The funds for the maintenance of each regiment are placed in the possession of its commanding officers, who have thus no difficulty in carrying out their dishonest designs. Cases have been known of officers receiving and appropriating to themselves the pay of men who have died in battle, or disease, or who have never existed at all except on paper; of sending the horses of their regiments to grass, and retaining the forage money; and of stinting the troops of food and clothing, or buying unwholesome supplies at low prices, and pocketing the difference. Whole regiments have frequently fallen a prey to disease and death in consequence; and thus have the chances of war been turned against the Czar, and the victory of his opponents secured by his own Generals. Bad roads, unwholesome or scanty food, tattered and insufficient clothes all tell in time of war, and disease and starvation often cut down the the troops before they reach the scene of action.

It frequently happens that the men must be lashed with the knout before they will do their duty; and all the zeal they show when they are roused is only terror, at the best, and all their bravery is but cowardice of the darkest dye; for not the prizes of an honourable ambition, not the thought of freedom, and the desire of doing well, nerve their arms in the hour of need; but they face the foe from fear of the knout at their backs. These remarks do not apply, however, to the Imperial Guard, who are better drilled, better paid, and better accoutred than the other divisions of the Russian army, and commanded by officers sprung from the higher order of nobility, whom the Government compels to defray all the expenses of mounting the cavalry corps from their own private exchequers.

The pay of a Russian soldier is eight roubles a year. If he be married, he receives a trifling sum in addition, together with an additional half-pound of coarse wheat flour, and quarters in the barracks. The State likewise allows a portion of flour to each male child, but nothing whatever to the female children. The allowances set apart for each soldier are so insufficient, independently of the roguery practised upon them by their rapacious paymasters, that the soldiers, when not in active service, are constantly compelled to gain their livelihood by letting themselves out at so much per day to any one that is in want of hands. The Russian army is kept up by conscription, the duties of which devolve upon the feudal nobility, each of whom must furnish a certain number of soldiers from his estates. The age of liability to be drawn as a soldier is from twenty to twenty-five, in ordinary cases. Every estate of five hakens has a right to retain four of its liable peasants, on the payment by the Boyard of 1000 roubles in cash, or 100 roubles a year for fifteen years. The father of a family of two is liable to be called to arms, but the father of three or more children is exempt. No man is too vile to be a soldier, in Russia; drunkards, thieves, mendicants—all are enlisted indiscriminately, because no inquiries are made as to previous character and pursuits, so they be hale in body. Such are the men to whom the Czar looks for aid in the day of peril.

THE NAVY.

Russia had no navy before the time of Peter the Great; and, even at his death, what it had consisted only of a few light craft, unworthy the name of ships. Catherine II. followed out, to some extent, the example of her illustrious ancestor; but it is chiefly to the Emperor Nicholas that Russia owes her navy. The Russian navy consists of three fleets, called the Blue, the Red, and the White, which are respectively stationed at Sebastopol, Kronstadt, and Archangel. The fleet in the Baltic (according to the "Almanach de Gotha") is composed of 1 ship of 120 guns, 3 of 110, 15 of 84, 12 of 74, 30 of from 60 to 74, 20 steam-boats, and several corvettes and brigs. The fleet in the Black Sea is composed of 3 ships of the-line of 120 guns, 3 of 110, 7 of 74, 8 frigates of 60, 10 of 44, 20 steam-boats, and corvettes and brigs. This yields a total of 137 vessels, manned by 50,000 seamen; with 63 admirals, 72 captains of first rank, 80 of second, and 211 lieutenants. The Russian navy is estimated by M. de Lagny at 240 vessels, with 3000 guns, and 80,000 seamen. The following extract from an excellent article in *Fraser's Magazine* for May, 1854, throws considerable light on the real state of the Russian Navy:—

> The Baltic fleet—or, as the sailors of the Black Sea contemptuously call it, *la flotte de la mer douce*—is, to a very considerable extent, a paper institution. Its numerical force is theoretically fixed at twenty-seven sail of the line, nine frigates, nine steamers, nine brigs and corvettes, with a certain allowance of tugs and tenders. For Russian ships in obedience to some mysterious law like that which regulates the development of the flowering organs of endogenous plants arrange themselves according to multiples of the number three. What, then, must be the feelings of the Grand Duke Constantine, Lord High Admiral of All the Russias, when that eminent navigator reflects that the squadron at Helsingfors is not capable of exact ternary subdivision? We must at once confess our inability to understand this perpetual recurrence of the number three; but then there are many other things connected with the Muscovite navy which are equally incomprehensible. Why, *e.g.*, are ships commanded by a general? why do naval officers of a certain rank wear spurs? why does a ship firing ninety-eight shots at a mark 30 feet long by 20, only hit twelve times?

It must be stated that nearly all of the seamen are pressed from among the inhabitants of the very centre of the empire, who abhor the name of the sea, and are far the most utterly unfit for the service. Even the knout fails to make seamen of them. The Czar's much-vaunted naval preparatory schools have not yet provided him with an officer of any great ability, or one whom he could trust to fill any important post. His best admirals and sailors are Finlanders and others who have voluntarily entered his service.

The wages of the seamen is very low (about sixty roubles a year), so that they, like all other *employés*, have recourse to cheating the Government, and plundering the supplies, in order to increase their miserable allowance. The seamen, when in harbour, are, like the soldiers, often compelled to sustain themselves by doing the work of artisans, instead of attending to the business of their ships. This state of affairs is, of course, highly detrimental to the prosperity of the Russian navy.

As an instance of the general unfitness of Russian seamen for seaservice, Mr. Oliphant states:—

> It is hardly natural to expect that men whose maritime experience has, perhaps, never extended beyond the Bosphorus, should be as good sailors as those who have gone round the Horn once for every year of their lives. The seamen reared in such a nursery as our mercantile marine affords, must ever be a very different description of men from those reared in the dockyard of Sebastopol. It is said that when, upon a few occasions, the Russian fleet in the Black Sea encountered a gale of wind, the greater part of the officers and men were always sea-sick. It is certain that they have sometimes been unable to tell whereabout they were in their extensive cruising ground, and once between Sebastopol and Odessa, it is currently reported that the Admiral was utterly at a loss, till at the Flag Lieutenant, observing a village on shore, proposed to land and ask the way.

Another weighty argument to be put in the balance against the statement of Russian naval statistics, is the bad quality of the wood employed—principally unseasoned fir or soft oak—which seldom lasts longer than six or seven years, owing to the ravages of a worm indigenous to the southern waters, and the venality of the Russian shipwrights—more disastrous than the ravages of any worm—who "get up" naval craft in a slop style, although paid the highest prices for their work.

The Russian fleet, in the Baltic, is described as a miserable scarecrow, stationed at the mouths of rivers, and before forts, to terrify the enemy by its magnitude and showy appearance. But, like a real scarecrow, its chief merit is in remaining stationary. Weather-beaten tubs, floating hospitals, wrecks, and hulls crumbling "piecemeal" into the water, are all decked out in white canvas on a review day, and entered into the navy-list as men-of-war ready for active service.

"If," says Mr. Oliphant, "in estimating the strength of the Russian navy, we deduct the ships which, for all practical purposes, are unseaworthy, it will appear that the Black Sea fleet—that standing bugbear of the unfortunate Porte—will dwindle into a force more in proportion to its limited sphere of action."

THE CLERGY.

The Clergy are divided into two classes, viz, the Regular and the Secular, and are subject to three controling powers, exclusive of the Czar—the Synod, the Consistory, and the *Prastinie* or *Gouvernium*. The principal of these is the Synod, from whose body the Czar elects the Archbishops, Metropolitans, and Bishops. The members of the Consistory are chosen by the Bishop, who has the power to annul all their decisions. The Prastinie is composed of Archimandrites, Hegumens, and Igumens, and is governed by the Superior of the most important convent. In every town there is a Deputy of the Church, whose office it is to appear as counsel for ecclesiastics in courts of law.

The Russian clergy are reported by all travellers to be quite as corrupt as any other class of individuals in the empire. They exercise no real authority in the State, and command little respect either from the nobles or the people; for it needs no learning, no examination, no character for morality and uprightness to become a priest—"a good pair of lungs, a reverend beard, long hair, and a black gown, with a metal plate attached to the breast, are the only requisites for religious candidates!" The clergy, who in other countries are the mediators between God and man, and the fathers of the poor, are too often the perverters of the Bible, the oppressors of the oppressed, and the encouragers of drunkenness, and its attendant evil passions. This deplorable state of things is chiefly to be attributed to the desire of the Czar to keep the people in ignorance. It has long been the policy of the Government to have an ignorant and needy priesthood; for it is evident that the admission of wise, learned, and benevolent men into the Church, would be the commencement of the education and advancement of the people, and the consequent downfal of the ultra-despotic power which at present overawes them.

The principle of honour is not encouraged either by precept or example. The clergy are compelled by law to make known to the authorities all plots confided to them in the confessional; and it is to the dishonesty of these mercenary emissaries that the [illegible] owed

for much important information. The ordinary members of the priesthood are allowed to marry once, but the higher functionaries not at all. The clergy are not liable to the conscription, but they are subject to the knout like the rest of the people.

They are described by Galovin, a native writer, as being for the most part in utter destitution. "Their pecuniary situation (observes that writer) is the disgrace of the Russian Church. The priests have no salaries, and their parishes have to maintain them. The rural priests receive an allotment of land, which they cultivate themselves as well as they can. Very few landowners pay them a fixed sum. In the towns they collect what they can from the contributions of the pious, and the dues for the performance of the various holy offices—a state of things which, as may be readily imagined, gives rise to all sorts of mendicity, extortion, and petty cheating." Many of these priests cannot afford themselves shoes for every-day wear; and yet, judging from the immense revenues paid by the Church into the State exchequer, one would imagine that the clergy had a considerable portion of superfluous wealth. The unjust appropriation of Church dues for State emergencies is one of the principal causes of the poverty, and consequent depravity, of the clergy.

The priests draw a means of subsistence from the sale of certain holy pictures called "Bogs," of which they have a monopoly. These consist chiefly of representations of Jesus and the Virgin Mary, and are held forth as preventives against malaria, charms against evil spirits, &c. Some of these are considered to be more precious than others, on account of the miracles they are alleged to have performed, and are hired out for large sums. The pictures in most repute are, as we learn from M. de Laggny, "the Virgin with Three Hands," "The Virgin of Vladimir," and "The Bleeding Virgin," which pictures are believed to have been painted by the Holy Ghost himself. If the paint gets rubbed off the cheeks of one of these holy faces, the picture increases in value; for this is considered a sure sign that the saint is moved by the prayers of his devotees. The trade in relics is also very remunerative; the great toe of a dead person, an old rag, or a lock of hair, are as good as bank-notes in the hands of the clergy, who can at any time convert them into hard cash. There is a case on record relating to the discovery of an old tombstone, bearing the name of a "holy man," which the priests exhibited before the crowds of gaping, crank fanatics. The blind repaired thither to purchase grains of the stone-dust to throw into their afflicted eyes; and old women rolled about in the mud in front of the relic "that their devils might be cast out."

"Prayers for the Imperial Family," says Golovin, "occupy two-thirds of the time in the Russian Ritual; and though the statement may seem incredible, the priest, when he divides the bread, blesses the offering in seven portions: the first of these is in honour of the Imperial Family; Christ, the Virgin Mary, and the whole Hierarchy follow after. The idolatry of the Czar—and I do assert it unequivocably—is carried in Russia further than the worship of God!"

THE MESTCHANE; OR, MIDDLE CLASS.

The *mestchané* are the intermediate class between the nobles and the serfs, and are divided into two separate classes—the merchants and the tradesmen. The merchants, amongst whom are very few native Russians, are among the most enlightened body of men in the empire, and, by subscribing for the opening of hospitals and benevolent institutions, often do a great deal towards alleviating the miseries of the many. The tradesmen, or retail dealers, are compelled by law to reside in the towns, and are, like the serfs, subject to the conscription.

Generally speaking, the native Russians make but indifferent merchants—all the principal manufactures of Russia being of foreign origin, and under the supervision of foreigners. The prohibitive policy of the Government is alone the cause of the inferiority of Russia as regards her commerce; and what little external trade she has is principally in the hands of Englishmen, Frenchmen, Germans, and Armenians.

The only merchants (says Mr. Oliphant) who are able to engage directly in foreign commerce, are those belonging to the first or second guilds—the latter of which is limited entirely to the capitalists of the empire, and is a great advantage, is so high, and the capital required by Government, before it can be obtained, is so great, that comparatively few are enabled to embark in the extensive transactions involved by foreign trade. So effectually is this system calculated to prevent any addition to the Russian mercantile community, that, notwithstanding the Black Sea, trade so extensively and recently called into existence, there are only four native merchants in the first guild now than there were fifteen years ago; while, on the other hand, the number of peasants holding certificates, enabling them to trade within the empire, is increased by one hundred per cent. during that time, thus showing that the commercial relations of the country have improved by virtue of that foreign trade which has not benefited the merchants of a higher order. As the same time it is evident that it is highly prejudicial to the true interests of commerce, that it should be so jealously exercised by an ignorant and half-civilised peasantry, who are only allowed certificates by the year, and are still in the condition of serfs.

The inhabitants of the provinces are supplied with goods and provisions by means of fairs, which are held in all parts, and are chiefly frequented by traders and pedlars from the interior of Asia, and from China. Of these, the most celebrated is that of Nijni Novgorod, at the distance of about three days' journey from Moscow.

It would be hopeless (says Mr. Oliphant, with reference to the Fair of Nijni Novgorod) to attempt a description of the different merchants and goods, or to enumerate the variety of articles exposed for sale. The Bukharians, Persians, and Georgians inhabit one quarter, which is likely to prove the most interesting to the stranger. It is a convenient arrangement no less for a resident of the merchant, that the fair is divided into quarters as devoted to the sale of different merchandise. The Katanki Red, or Chinese division, is at once distinguishable by the rows of square leather boxes, which contain the tea. In the cutlers' quarter I was surprised to find so great a preponderance of Russian ware. * * * * Those articles of commerce to which most attention seemed directed, and which form the main features in the fair to the stranger's eye, were teas and furs from the East, and cotton goods from the West. England supplies the great quantity of dingo which is annually sold here, and used extensively as a dye throughout Russia. The Governor's house, to which is attached the police-office, is a large stuccoed edifice; the whole of the lower story is devoted to commercial purposes, and forms an Eastern-looking bazaar, quite in keeping with the shawls and carpets here tastefully arranged for sale. Besides tea from China, the barges down the Kama bring quantities of Siberian iron, furs, and skins, together with curious-looking wooden boxes, covered with lacquered tin, which seemed to be in great request, while smoked hams, dried fruits, Caucasian wines and fish, are among a few of the articles which come from the countries bordering on the Caspian. It was an endless source of interest to us Westerns to explore the Eastern quarter; whose no doubt our Western manufactures prove still more attractive to the ragged-looking Kharghees, or half-tamed Tartars. All distinctions of rank are forgotten in that more engrossing pursuit which attracts people so many thousands of miles, and through so many difficulties.

Among the scanty middle-classes of Russia we should not omit to mention the Germans and the Jews. There are many German colonies in the southern provinces who enjoy a degree of freedom that makes them prosperous, whether as merchants or cultivators of the soil. It is to be regretted that so intelligent a traveller as Mr. Oliphant was prevented by accidental circumstances from visiting these colonies, between Saratow and Sarepta, and favouring the world with the result of his experience concerning them. The chief Jewish colony is that of the Karaites, at Tchoufut Kalé. Mr. Oliphant says of it:—

As almost all the Karaites are engaged in trade or manufacture, and as they observe the most scrupulous honesty in their dealings, it has naturally followed that they are a prosperous and thriving community, while, as an exception had been made in favour of this portion of that interesting people whose unhappy destiny has been so wonderfully accomplished, probably the only settlement exclusively Jewish which still exists is the fortress of Tchoufut Kalé—a refuge which God seems to have provided for those only who worship Him purely in the manner of their fathers. The population of Tchoufut Kalé has, however, dwindled down to a very small remnant since trade has increased, and additional facilities have been afforded for settling in more convenient positions than upon the summit of one of the highest crags in the Crimea. The population of the resport of Eupatoria is composed mainly of Karaites, nearly two thousand of whom are now resident there, and some of them are wealthy merchants.

THE KNOUT.

The principal means by which the Czar governs his people is the knout. An invention more diabolical, or a mode of punishment more barbarous in its cruelty, was never heard of, or even imagined, among savages and cannibals.

The knout consists of a thong of leather, about five yards in length and an inch in breadth, having a wooden handle at one extremity, and verging in a point towards the other. The following description, from the "Knout and the Russians," will give the reader a good idea of what the knout really is —

Conceive, reader, a robust man, full of life and health. This man is condemned to receive fifty or a hundred blows of the knout. He is conducted, half naked, to the place chosen for this kind of execution. All that he has on is a pair of simple linen drawers round his extremities. His hands are bound together, with the palms laid flat against one another, and the cords are breaking his wrists; but no one pays the slightest attention to that. He is laid flat upon his belly, on a frame inclined diagonally, and at the extremities of which are fixed iron rings; his hands are fastened to one end of the frame, and his feet to the other; he is then stretched in such a manner that he cannot make a single movement, just as an eelskin is stretched in order to dry. This act of stretching the victim causes his bones to crack, and dislocates them—but what does that matter? In a very little time his bones will crack and be dislocated in a very different manner. At the distance of five-and-twenty paces stands another man: it is the executioner. He is dressed in black velvet trousers, stuffed into his boots, and a coloured cotton shirt, buttoning at the side. His sleeves are tucked up, so that nothing may thwart or embarrass him in his movements. With both hands he grasps the instrument of punishment—a knout. The signal is given: no one ever takes the trouble to read the sentence. The executioner advances a few steps, with his body bent, holding the knout in both hands, while the long thong drags behind him on the ground between his legs. On coming to about three or four paces from the prisoner, he raises, by a vigorous movement, the knout towards the top of his head, and then instantly draws it down with rapidity across his loins. The thong flies and whistles through the air, and, descending on the body of the victim, twines round it like a hoop of iron. In spite of his state of fatalism, the poor wretch bounds as if he were under the powerful grasp of galvanism. The executioner retraces his steps and repeats the operation as many times as there are blows to be inflicted. When the thong envelopes the body with its edges, the punishment—a most literally cut into strips, as if with a razor; but when it fails flat, then the bones crack. The flesh, in that case, is not cut, but crushed and ground, and the blood spurts out in all directions. The sufferer becomes livid and blue, like a body in a state of decomposition. He is removed to the hospital, where every care is taken of him, and is afterwards sent to Siberia, where he disappears for ever in the horrid mines there.

Such are the everyday experiences of Russia; such are the scenes to which the Czars inure their people, in order that they may know that they are slaves, and that their wretched bodies are the absolute property of the Emperor, to scourge and torture at his will.

There are other modes of punishment in Russia, of which it will be as well to make mention, such as impalement, and the rod—which last is inflicted by an entire regiment of soldiers, and commonly known by the name of running the gauntlet.

We cannot do better than quote the following instance of Russian "caning" from M. de Laggny's excellent book, and of which that writer was an eye-witness:—

The culprit was condemned to six thousand strokes of rods; and, twenty-four hours after, six thousand men, ranged in two parallel lines in a plain without the city, awaited, armed with small sticks of green wood, at out the size of the little finger, for the hour of execution. The condemned was conducted in a car, escorted by some men. No priest had attended him. He was bound, and dressed in a pair of drawers, wound round and below his hips, and fastened by a string. The rest of his body was naked, and only covered by a soldier's cloak, which they had thrown over his shoulders. They made him get out, and fastened his two hands tightly to the mouths of two muskets, crossed to the heights of the chests with which they were armed. In the left hand he had a rod resting on the barrel, and the points of the bayonet upon the breast or the criminal, a rolling of drums was heard; immediately all the officers entered their ranks, and two sub-officers came to take the unfortunate, who they constantly held in the same manner as a soldier who goes backwards holding the bayonet before him. Here, again, admire the barbarity—the refined intelligence of this people! The sentence was then read, and the blood gush. There is no pity. Each man must do his duty. The Muscovite soldier is a machine, who must have no feeling; and woe be to his own shoulders if he shows any hesitation! Every one must receive from twenty-five to one hundred blows at the will of the general who has the honour of commanding those 6000 executioners. The Russian Government is scrupulous in the smallest details; it lays stress on everything being carried into effect. But with such men you run no risk. Thus they act with regard to a man who is being executed as they would at a review.

The sufferer advances to the nine hundredth stroke of the rods. He has not uttered a cry or a single complaint—he convulses or rebounds along from time to time, announces his agony. The foam now begins to flow from his mouth, and the blood from his nose. After fourteen hundred strokes, the face, which for a long time had turned blue, becomes as one green. The eyes are haggard, they almost start from their sockets, from which flow large bloody tears, which wrinkle his face. He was panting for breath. The officer who had accompanied me quitted the rank for me, and I approached the body. The skin was literally ripped up; it had, properly speaking, disappeared. The flesh was chopped almost reduced to a hash. Here and there over the flanks like so many lumps other strips of flesh remained attached and glued to the bayonets of the executioners. The muscles were torn. No human tongue could describe this spectacle. The punishment had lasted one hour and a half, and had brought the condemned. They placed him in it, lying on his stomach; and, although he had quite lost consciousness, they continued the punishment until the Hungarian body surgeon ascertained the pulse no longer

SEBASTOPOL, AND ITS FORTIFI

COPIED, BY PERMISSION OF THE ADMIRALTY, FROM THE SKETCH TAKEN

which they are built is soft; and, according to the statement of Captain ne—whose work upon "Russia and the War" contains some very ecting information on the subject, and who had extensive op-tunities of examining them—the strength of the masonry is very sionable. The counterforts are filled with rubble, and several of keystones of the arches have certainly been shaken by the firing of ates. The Alexander fort has only one tier of guns in casemates, the per tier being *en barbette*; the work terminates in a circular tower, rampart of which is about six feet thick. The apertures or port-es of all the casemates are small, so that there is no possi-ty of training the guns to the right or the left. Admiral ig, who formerly commanded the Black Sea fleet, con-ars this of no consequence, as, from the great number of guns employed, upwards of twelve hundred, there is no point in or near the ha bour which does not lie under a cross fire of sixty pieces of the largest ar lery. The casemates are used as barracks, ten men occupying the space between each gun, and the general objection is that batteries on this principle are not capable of making a lengthened defence, as the smoke fills them rapidly, and so annoys the artillerymen that they can-not continue to work the guns. The Alexander battery is covered in the rear by the guns at the extremity of the wall of the town. This is the case with all the batteries; they give a mutual support to each other, which is the true spirit of fortification. Of course they are liable to attack from the land side, unless, as the public have been informed, the Russians are taking measures to throw up land defences. The Russians consider the harbour impregnable, but that remains to be proved.

THE ILLUSTRATION.

At length we are enabled, by permission of the Lords of the Admiralty, to present to our readers a general View of the Town and Fortress of Sebastopol, on the Black Sea; together with a Panoramic Sketch of the adjacent Coast, and its several points of defence; from the Sketches made by Lieut. Montagu O'Reilly, during the recent visit of the *Retribution* to Sebastopol. Her stay extended to but three hours and a half, during which time Mr. O'Reilly, with remarkable celerity, sketched the whole place, including all the forts, batteries, men-of-war, and town. A fair copy of this Sketch was sent to the Admiralty; and this important and interesting Illustration of the progress of the War our Artists have been permitted to copy. The Sketch is on a large scale, measuring about twenty feet in length.

24 POUNDER BRASS GUN, AND REMAINS OF TURKISH FRIGATE, AT SINOPE.—SKETCHED BY LIEUT. M. O'REILLY.

N S, O N T H E B L A C K S E A

ENANT MONTAGU O'REILLY, ON BOARD H.M.S. "RETRIBUTION."

The defences of Sebastopol are thus described:—Five line-of-battle s were moored head-and-stern across the harbour, so as to command entrance of the harbour, which is so narrow that only one line of tle ship can enter at a time, exposed to a cross-fire of 600 heavy guns ors entering the harbour; and, should this be accomplished, the allants would have to withstand a raking fire of five or six line-of-tle ships, three of three decks. By land it is very different: the e being surrounded by heights, which might easily be carried; and would place the town, all the heavy batteries, ships, and docks, at mercy of an enemy.

The town is surrounded by a wall, loopholed. Within seven miles astopol there are several deep inlets, where landing could be cted in a dingy, free of all guns — those of the port out of range; so that a sufficient force could be landed to overpower the enemy. (These capabilities are shown in detail in the Panoramic Views of the Coast, in the Number with which the present Supplement is published. The four Engravings, if placed in the order there shown, in a single line, from left to right, will represent the town and fortifications, with the adjacent coast.)

MEMORIALS OF SINOPE.

During the last visit of H.M.S. *Retribution* to Sinope, the accompanying relics of the attack by the Russian fleet, were Sketched by Lieutenant O'Reilly. First is a 24-pounder Brass Gun, found upon the rocks of Sinope Bay, whither it had been blown from the Turkish frigate in the distance. It should be added that the gun was found in the bent condition here represented.

The accompanying Illustration shows the entrance to a Fascine Battery, in Sinope Bay, containing six 24-pounder Turkish guns and a mortar. The portion represented was most severely handled by the Russian ships; under the Battery were two Turkish frigates, one o which blew up during the action. It may be as well to add a few words in explanation of what is termed a Fascine Battery. When artillery are required to act in exposed situations, any shelter that can be speedily erected is desirable; upon such occasions it is found that bags filled with sand or earth, when heaped together, make a good breastwork; in the present instance faggots were employed, and supported by a double row of piles driven into the ground.

FASCINE BATTERY, AND TURKISH ORDNANCE, AT SINOPE.—SKETCHED BY LIEUT. M. O'REILLY

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

A large consignment of live quails has just been received. The importation consisted of 6000 quails, in good condition. They were brought from Alexandria (Egypt), and were landed at Liverpool, from whence the birds were transferred by rail to London.

Workmen have lately been employed at the silver works of Orzbram, Bohemia, in casting a lion in massive silver, to be placed on the summit of a triumphal arch on the occasion of the Emperor of Austria's visit to Prague.

The electric telegraph is now in operation from Calcutta to Sipree, a distance of 1000 miles; and a summary of the English news received by the Overland Mail of the 24th February, passed over the lines.

The *Kingston*, emigrant-ship, about to sail from Southampton, has been fitted up with baths, and an oven for baking bread, with which the emigrants will be supplied twice a week.

The Queen of Spain has sent the Grand Cross of Isabel la Catolica to Omer Pacha and Mehemet Ali Pacha.

The Salisbury magistrates have decided that vehicles conveying yeomanry baggage are not exempt from toll, and that only regular troops can claim that immunity.

The celebrated plain of Marengo is about to be sold, together with the splendid building erected on the spot by the proprietor, including the coi ection of relics.

The first ripe strawberries grown in the open air, this season, were exhibited at Edinburgh, on Saturday last. This is three weeks earlier than last year, and six days earlier than any former year for the last twenty.

A medal has been struck in Paris to commemorate the triple alliance. The motto is: "Catholicism, Protestantism, Islamism—God protects them."

A few days ago the whole of the Custom-house establishment at Great Grimsby, was peremptorily suspended by order of the Commissioners of Customs in London.

The Latter-day Saints in Utah now number from 40,000 to 50,000; all creeds are tolerated in the territory, and the franchise is common to all.

The wreck of the *Taylour* was sold at Liverpool, the other day, by auction, for £480. The ship originally cost £20,000.

Queen Christina, of Spain, who was dangerously ill, of measles, is said to be convalescent.

Orders have been received at Southampton to telegraph the arrival of the King of Portugal to her Majesty as soon as he reaches that port.

Colonel Monti, who fought on the side of the patriots in Italy and Hungary, in 1848 and 1849, has just died at Turin, in the prime of life.

Water is now conveyed to Genoa in cast-iron water-pipes, of the immense length of fourteen miles.

The Duke of Somerset is said to have purchased "a vast and ancient edifice, on the shore of one of the most picturesque bays of the Mediterranean." The château is to be repaired, so as to form "a magnificent residence."

The laying of the first stone of the church to be erected in memory of the Queen of the Belgians, took place at Lacken, on Saturday last. The King and the whole family were present.

The iron trade is said to be in a very excited state, on account of the scarcity of pig iron.

M. J. Delus, of Bremen, having ascended Mount Vesuvius with a party of friends lately, went too near the brink of the crater; and, the ground having given way, he fell in, and was killed.

The imports of wool into Liverpool last year, from all parts of the world, including coastwise, were 120,000 bales, or 14,000 tons.

The cattle and provision markets in Ireland are still advancing, and animal food has reached a price which almost places it beyond the reach of the labouring classes and persons of small income.

Two weeks ago Blidah, a town in Algeria, was nearly destroyed by an earthquake; several houses were knocked down and large oak-trees rooted up.

A practical miner has suggested a mode of using to advantage, for illuminating the mines, the gas generated in the mine itself, and which, at present, is productive of so much danger and death.

The United States post-office department has engagements with nearly 6000 contractors for conveying mails by coaches, steam-boats, and railways; and the annual transportation of mails in that country is 61,826,240 miles—the greatest distance of the Earth from the Sun.

Lord Torrington has given notice of his intention to present a petition to the House of Lords, from the merchants and planters of Ceylon, in which they pray for the appointment of a Committee to inquire into and report upon the question of coffee.

The Sunday movement, as it is called, gains ground in France. The notaries of Douai have decided that their offices shall be closed on Sundays. The proprietors of some of the principal shops at Châtillon-sur-Seine have also decided on not opening on the Sabbath.

The colony of British Guiana offers £1000 to the first introducer of machinery which will prepare 100 tons of clean plaintain fibre for market or the manufacture of flax.

The Scottish Society of Antiquaries has appointed a Committee to make arrangements for a National Exhibition of Scottish Portraits, in Edinburgh, in 1855.

The Egyptian Railroad is now in good working order, and answers exceedingly well. It is chiefly used when European or Indian passengers arrive in Egypt. English engine-drivers are employed on it. The speed is about twenty miles an hour.

A violent tornado visited Rungpoor, in Bengal, on the 10th of April, depopulating villages, and carrying before it houses, cattle, and everything that interrupted its course.

The smaller the population in Ireland, the larger the quantity of whisky consumed. During the year ending April 5th, 1853, the quantity taken was 9,920,000 gallons; this year, 10,360,000 gallons.

The directors of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway have given permission to all their servants, with their wives and families, to travel in any part of their line, at any time, for half the usual fares.

The Ceylon gold-diggings have resulted in no discovery of any importance. The few diggers that have been laid up with fever.

In a garden at Barton, Lincolnshire, a redcap has built its nest within an inverted flower-pot, which was used as a shade for a plant. The nest is large, and contains nine eggs, the bird entering by the hole at the top.

The Great Western Railway of France was inaugurated at Le Mans on Sunday last.

The English steamer which arrived in Cork on Sunday landed thirty paupers, transmitted to Ireland under the provisions of the Law of Settlement.

An electric telegraph from Melbourne Bay to the Custom-house, a distance of about eight miles, had commenced working on the 7th of March, and the extension of the line to Geelong is said to have been determined upon.

The sums insured in England on farming stock, and exempt from duty, in the year 1853, amounted to £33,038,377.

The rank of Infante of Spain has been conferred, by Royal decree, on the young Duke of Parma, on whose father, lately murdered, it had been conferred in the same manner.

An Northamptonshire young lad named George Walker, has become insane in consequence of having been operated upon repeatedly by mesmeric lecturers in that town.

The declared value of our exports last year was £98,933,781; an increase of more than £20,000,000 over those of 1852.

The Spanish Government steamer *Francisco de Asis* left Cadiz on the 18th ult., for the eastward, with the ex-Queen of the French on board.

The Worcester Festival Committee having written to Jenny Lind, with a view to secure her services for September next, she says she is sorry her plans for summer are of such a nature as will not allow her to accept the "tempting offer."

The *Espana*, of Madrid, announces that the police have authorised the public representation of combats between wild animals at Aranjuez. There is to be a fight between a hyena and dogs, and another between a bull, a leopard, and a panther.

Genoa letters state that a domiciliary visitation has been made at the residence of Mrs. Mears, an English lady, who is said to be implicated in the revolutionary attempt at Spezzia.

In the course of a "thunder squall" at New York, on the 15th May, the lightning entered an electric telegraph-office, and set fire to a file of messages hanging near the operator's head.

Tabourers on the line of the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway, have turned out for an advance of wages.

Upwards of a million Irish men, women, and children have landed at Liverpool within the last four years.

The Customs duties received at the port of Dublin during the past week were £100 over the corresponding week last year; being £17,900 against £16,900.

The directors of the German railways are at present concerting together to give greater speed to their trains, and particularly to those known by the name of express.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

F, Stamford.—A new Chess-club has just been established at Barton-on-Trent, under the auspices of the Rev. C. Hanken and Mr H. Turton the former a most distinguished amateur of the game, and the latter, one of the best Chess Problem composers of the day. For particulars address either of these gentlemen.

EDEN GO-BRACE.—It is rumoured that the 3rd London Chess club is in process of re-organisation, under very promising parentage; but, we presume the arrangements are not yet composed, or we should have been favoured with information on the subject.

PHILO-CHESS.—1. Consult Ducange, "Glossarium ad Scriptores," &c., edition 1737. 2. Ozanam, "Recreations Mathématiques et Physiques," edition 1790.

J. P.—Your Problem shall be examined. The Solution of 535 is correct.

E. B. C. of Princeton.—A communication despatched a few days since, it is feared, has miscarried. Let us hear from you again at your earliest convenience.

MERGO.—No. The game is drawn.

OTTER.—We have not seen, and, besides, the times are not propitious.

RECTOR.—*The Chess Players' Chronicle* gives a monthly list of the Chess clubs in the United Kingdom, with their places and days of meeting. Cheek's club is in process of re-organisation, and we presume there is a well known work on this game by Staunton.

A READER AT THE MUSEUM.—We don't vote or at your complaining. The deficiency of works on Chess in the library of the British Museum has long been a crying reproach to the authorities of the printed book department of the institution. With the exception of a "Bibliotheca," purchased a short time ago, the collection has not been enriched by a single copy of any book on mediæval lore for the last twenty years.

L. L. A., D. W., Bury, Lancs.—In Problem No. 535, Mate cannot be given in the way you suggest. See our Solution in the last Number. In future, Correspondents must be good enough to understand that when no notice is taken of their Solutions, it is because they are incorrect. Half our Chess columns would be taken up weekly, were we to record all the failures sent us.

A BEGINNER AT CHESS.—A player having advanced a Pawn to his 8th sq., can claim a Queen, even though his original one is on the board.

TYRO.—Address your letters simply "to the Editor." The odds of "The Exchange" are not so much advantage as the Pawn and move.

W. N. F.—In the "Book of Games" contains a "Treatise on Draughts" and, besides the two books we mention there is a well known work on this game by Sturges.

G. H. L. *Chess-player's Chronicle* is published on the 1st day of every month by Kent and Co., 23, Paternoster-row; and can be procured through any bookseller in the kingdom.

CHESS.—R. Bell is right, and the solution has been entered.

A. C. of Stow.—Well. You have not succeeded with Problem 535. 2. The notation you propose is sufficiently simple for the country, but has now quite gone out of vogue.

H. B. H.—Your solution of No. 536 is not "Black to play" in last week's paper. In the position to Mr. Bridport's correct stratagem No. 537, White to move should be *B to K 8th*. Black's first move, *K t B 6th*. The remaining moves are tolerably obvious.

AMATEUR, Newbury.—Many thanks, as you suggest, he would be mated by the Knight's move.

HERMES.—You had better address your inquiries to the author, care of the publisher. It is quite impossible for us to undertake to answer them.

G. H., Bath.—We strongly suspect of what you call "Problem Chess-men," and advise you never to use them. I you wish to attach as stakes to the positions.

J. M.—1. The term "double Pawn" is not a misnomer, though it is in Italian; writers prefer "Pedone doppiato" to "Pedone." 2. Attack the Piece of the adversary. The rule given in Pendleton's "Chess" is a little too much for us; we should say, "attack the most valuable piece."

BY BERANGER.—We really cannot say. To ensure attention the same week you must send before 8 A.M.

G. MCA.—No. It is clever and ingenious. No. 2 is very moderate. The Diagrams are almost unintelligible.

ORREA, P. T. M., and Others.—The conclusion of Herr Capera's Enigma are—White to play, and mate in three moves.

AN OCCASIONAL CHESS PLAYER.—If your King is checked by the newly-made Rook, and you cannot capture it, or move your King, he is of course dismounted.

J. J., of Penrhyth.—By in Mr. Bigland a capital stratagem No. 534. Black play, for his first move, P to K 8th (Q), White cannot move K to K 5th (ch). R K to B 4th. 3. R to B 7th—Mate.

H. J.—In the diagram of Mr. Brandreth's clever little Problem, No. 536 there are two typographical errors. The Pawn at Black's Q B 5th should be a Black *Bishop*, and that at Black's Q R 4th should be a Q B 4th. We have repeated the position correctly among our Chess enigmas.

R. M. S.—Nine-tenths of the mistakes in printing Chess Problems arise from the objectionable practice of using what are called "suppose men," or from authors attempting to represent the figures of the Pieces, instead of describing them. The best mode in making a diagram of a chess position is to imitate the mode by the initial letters, as—W. S., for White King; B K for Black Rook, &c.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 535, by Mills, Mrs. Pilkeddy, Stricks, Mrs. Dove, Charley Rose, Peregrine, Omega, S. L. M., Sophrosyne, Philo-Chess, Armand, Johnson, M. P., Sturges, W. Grimshaw, and others.

SOLUTION OF ENIGMAS, by Jerome, Miles, Peregrine, Salaberry, Fair, Omega, Plato, M.P., S. T. W., are correct. All others are wrong.

PROBLEM No. 536.

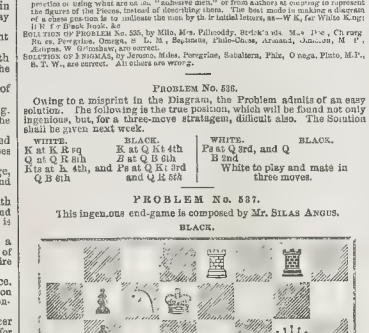
Owing to a misprint in the Diagram, the Problem admits of an easy solution. The following is the true position, which will be found not only ingenious, but, for a three-move stratagem, difficult also. The Solution shall be given next week.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
K at K R sq	K at Q Kt 4th	P at Q Rd, and Q	
Q at Q R 6th	*B* at Q B 6th	B and	
Kt at h. 4th, and	P's at Q Kt 3rd	White to play and mate in	
Q B 6th	and Q R 5th	three moves.	

PROBLEM No. 537.

This ingenious end-game is composed by Mr. SILAS ANGUS.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in five moves.

A stoutly-fought Game between Mr. S—F and Mr. STERN.

(French Opening.)

WHITE (Mr. S—f.)	BLACK (Mr. Stern.)	WHITE (Mr. S—f.)	BLACK (Mr. Stern.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 3rd	25. Kt to Q B 3rd	K R to Q B 2nd
2. P to Q 4th	P to Q B 4th	26. P to Q Kt 3rd	Q to R Kt 3rd
3. P to h. B 4th	P takes Q P	27. R to Q 3rd	Q to K sq
4. Q takes P	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	28. P to Kt 4th	Q to Q B 3rd
5. Q to her sq	Q Kt to K 2nd	29. Kt to Kt sq	P to K R 3rd
6. Q B to K 3rd	P to K B 4th	30. P to K B 5th	P takes K B P
7. P to K 5th	P to Q Kt 3rd	31. P takes P	K to K B 2nd
8. K Kt to K B 3rd	K R to K 2nd	32. Q to K h. 4th	K to R sq
9. Q Kt to Q B 3rd	K Kt to his 5th	33. Kt to Q 6th	Q to K R 5th (ch)
10. Q B to Q 4th	Kt takes B	34. K to Q R 2nd	Q R to K B sq
11. Kt takes Kt	Q B to B 4th	35. R to K 7th	Q to h. K 7th
12. Q to Q 2nd	Q B to Q Kt 2nd	36. Q to Q 4th	K R to K 2nd
13. Castles	Castles	37. R to Q 8th	K to K Kt sq
14. P to K R 3rd	Q to K R 5th	38. P to K B 6th	Q to K R 4th
15. K R P takes Kt (a)	Q takes R	39. Kt to K 4th	Q to K B 2nd (ch)
16. K Kt P takes P (b)	B takes Kt	40. Q to Q Kt 3rd	Q to K t 3rd
17. Q takes B	Q to K 5th	41. K to Q Kt 2nd	K to K B 3rd
18. P to K Kt 3rd	R takes K B P	42. Kt to K 6th (d)	P takes Kt P
19. Q takes Q P	Q R to K B 6th	43. Kt takes P	Q to K Kt 2nd
20. B to K 2nd (c)	B to h. B	44. Kt takes K R	Q takes Q (ch)
21. Kt takes B	K R to K B 2nd	45. R takes Q	
22. Q to Q 4th	Q R to Q B sq	And Black abandoned the field.	

(a) Very well conceived. White, however, does not make quite so much as he might have done of the attack this sacrifice afforded him.

(b) Much better to have taken the Pawn with his Kt. since, if Black took again with the Pawn he must evidently have lost his Queen.

(c) Here, again Mr. S—f plays below his mark. B to Q B 4th would have been greatly superior to B to K 2nd.

(d) A sound precautionary move, and not a lost time, as young players would think it to be.

CHESS ENIGMAS.

No. 873.—By Herr F. CAPRAZ.

White: K at Q B 3rd, R at K R 2nd, B at K 7th, Kt at K Kt 5th; Ps at K Kt 3rd, K B 4th and 5th, K 6th, and Q B 7th.
Black: K at K B 4th, P at K B 2nd.
White to play, and mate in three moves.

No. 874.—By J. PHENIX.

White: K at K Kt 6th, B at K Kt 2nd, Kts at K R 5th and Q Kt 5th; Ps at K Kt 3rd, K R 3th, and Q Kt 6th.
Black: K at K R 3rd; Ps at K R 2nd, K Kt 5th, K B 4th, and Q Kt 2nd.
White to play and mate in four moves.

THE SUPPLY OF MUSKETRY AND SMALL-ARMS FOR THE BRITISH ARMY.

The Select Committee appointed to consider the cheapest, most expeditious, and most efficient mode of providing small-arms for her Majesty's Service, have published their Report. The Committee first directed their inquiries to the complaints of the Board of Ordnance, in regard to the difficulty of procuring machinery; next, they obtained all the information which they could collect as to the plan of a large Government factory for the production of muskets; and, lastly, they heard from the contractors, and from other persons connected with the gun trade, the statements and suggestions which they had to offer in reference to the present system, and to the best mode of securing a cheap, expeditious, and efficient supply of small-arms hereafter.

Lord Raglan, the Master-General, stated that he was charged with the responsibility of providing a sufficient supply of small-arms for the defence of the country, and that he was not satisfied with the present mode in which that supply was obtained. He added, that his objection did not apply to the details of the system only, but that he considered it unsafe for the country to go on without substituting for it arrangements by which the supply of small-arms should be independent of contractors. His opinion with regard to the proposed Government factory was founded on the information given to him by Mr. Anderson, and the report of a committee of officers assembled to consider this matter. Sir T. Hastings, a member of the Board of Ordnance, and Comptroller of Stores, gave evidence to the same effect. He referred to the experience of the last three years as a convincing proof of the impossibility of obtaining a sufficient supply of muskets under the present system. In May, 1851, the Board of Ordnance took steps to procure 25,000 rifled muskets. The contracts were entered into in February, 1852, and the muskets were not delivered until November, 1853. Again, in April, 1853, contracts were entered into for 2000 artillery carbines, and of these 550 only have been delivered. In Spain in August, 1853, a rifled musket of a new pattern was decided upon; 20,000 barrels were ordered, but the offers to contract were so unsatisfactory that they had again to be advertised for. The only tenders, however, were from the same parties, and the great was the delay that the Board had only been able to enter into a contract for setting up, to be completed in September, 1854. Sir T. Hastings read many letters from the contractors assigning various reasons for these delays—"Combinations and strikes amongst the workmen," "Difficulty in procuring coal," "Illness of a skilled artisan," "Accident to machinery," &c., were adduced as causes of delay, and excuses for failure in the fulfilment of the contracts. Sir T. Hastings informed the Committee that a large supply of muskets of the new pattern were now required to be provided as speedily as possible, namely:—

For the Line	150,000
For the Artillery	14,000
For the Militia	100,000 at least
Pensioners	16,000
Coast Guard	14,000
Marines	12,000
Navy	30,000
Channel Islands Militia	6,000
Colonial Corps	6,000
	347,000

In addition to this number the highest military authorities considered that there should be in store for the home service 450,000 stand of arms; whilst the number required in the Colonies amounted to 150,000 more. The total number would, therefore, be upwards of 900,000. When this number had been provided, a supply of 30,000 muskets in each year would, it was believed, suffice to replace those worn out in the service. The matter is considered condemnable at the end of twelve years. For the speedy and economical supply of this large amount of muskets the Board of Ordnance proposed to take the whole manufacture into their own hands, and they accordingly directed plans to be prepared for an establishment capable of producing 600 muskets a day.

The Committee, in endeavouring to ascertain the grounds upon which the Board of Ordnance had arrived at this conclusion, found that Lord Raglan and Sir T. Hastings stated that they had been guided in their opinion partly by the report of the Commissioner who, during the year 1853, visited the manufactories of the United States, and partly from communications with persons conversant with machinery. The advantages of producing muskets by machinery were said to be—cheapness in the manufacture, an exact similarity in the several parts, so that they may be readily interchanged and replaced; and, above all, the facility of rapidly producing muskets, and of increasing or reducing the supply according to the requirement of the time. Sir T. Hastings expressed his belief that these advantages were secured to the United States by the system there adopted, for they possess, he says, two factories, each capable of producing 30,000 muskets a year. He also referred the Committee to the establishment of Colonel Colt. Mr. Anderson, the civil engineer in the Royal Arsenal at Woolwich, informed the Committee that he had directed his attention during some months to the manufacture of muskets by machinery, and, although he considered that there was as yet little machinery in England specially adapted to this purpose, there was abundance of talent to produce such machinery if required. Mr. Anderson admitted that he was not practically acquainted with the manufacture of muskets, but, as a mechanician, he thought that many parts of the rifled musket now adopted might be much improved. He was also of opinion that a more definite system of producing and boring barrels might be devised, and that an improvement might be introduced in the forging process of the bayonet.

The attention of the Committee having been directed to the American musket, they were desirous of seeing one of the muskets which had been made by machinery, in order that they might compare it with the workmanship of the rifle musket approved here by the highest military authorities. The Board of Ordnance could not comply with this request, and admitted that they had never themselves seen the musket to which they referred. The Committee examined Mr. Whitworth, the eminent engineer and manufacturer of machinery, who had been during last year commissioned by the Government to visit the manufactories of the United States, and whose report has been lately presented to Parliament. Mr. Whitworth said he had not been specially directed to inspect the manufactories of fire-arms, and had not therefore given the close attention to the subject which he would have done if he had foreseen the present inquiry. Mr. Whitworth's evidence was to the effect that at Springfield, the Government establishment of the United States, there was an ingenious system of machinery for the manufacture of gun-locks. A gun-lock was completed in his presence within the space of twenty-three minutes, and this operation was performed entirely by machinery, with the exception of some polishing with sand-paper, a labour which was performed by hand, but which did not occupy more than two minutes. Mr. Whitworth does not suppose that they could work at this rate constantly, but thinks it would be safe to take double as the average time for completing a gun stock. As regards working in iron, Mr. Whitworth did not consider the American system to be the manufacturers of this country. He did not examine musket in America minutely. It was his opinion, that with regard to an American musket, taking a number of the different parts of it, there was greater identity than in the rifles manufactured in this country, because so much more attention was paid to the machinery, and also to the persons attending that machinery; but he thought that the parts of one individual musket were not so good in America as the rule which he had seen in England. Mr. Whitworth would not recommend the establishment in this country of a Government factory on a scale equal to producing 600 muskets a day, but he would recommend the Government to have an establishment as perfect as could be made, to produce a limited number, and to set an example to other gunmakers. Mr. Wallis, the head-master of the Government School of Art at Birmingham, had also visited the United States as a Commissioner. He said that the fit of the other parts of the musket made at springfield, which he saw, in his opinion, perfect, as he saw the lock, the barrel, and the furniture put into a gun stock, each part being fetched indiscriminately from a heap, and he saw no choice made in the portion to be fitted; but he has no practical acquaintance with the manufacture of fire-arms; and his knowledge of machinery had been acquired from residence in manufacturing towns, and not from any superintendence of a factory or business necessarily connected with machinery. The Committee also examined Colonel Colt; and several members of the Committee visited his establishment, to which their attention had been especially directed. From his evidence, it appears that the Government of the United States do not provide their muskets solely by a Government factory, but obtain a large portion by contract from private manufacturers. As regards the cheapness which may be expected to result from an increased employment of machinery in the production of rifled muskets, Colonel Colt said that many parts of the new musket would

necessitate the employment of complicated and expensive machines: he thought the arm might be in some respects simplified, and the cost of its production thereby reduced, without detracting from its efficiency The price of the musket must depend in great measure upon the quant ty to be produced according to a given pattern. If the Government were to advance £100,000 for machinery, the manufacture must be at first nicw and the musket more costly. Colonel Colt would not like to deliver any in the first year, but in the course of ten years he thought he should be able to produce a million muskets, at a price not exceeding 30s. each. If only a smaller number were required, the cost of the musket would be increased. Mr. Nasmyth, the well-known inventor of the steam-hammer, considered the systematic introduction of machinery into the gun trade to be feasible and highly desirable. About four years ago he supplied the Russian Government with some machinery for producing parts of a musket; he believes that if proper steps were taken, a factory might be established for £150,000, which would be ready to commence working in eighteen months from the present time. He considers that in the private, the masters are in a state of dependence upon the skilled workmen, from which they can only be emancipated by the substitution of machinery for hand labour. Mr. Nasmyth had, however, not seen a musket produced entirely by machinery.

The Committee having heard all that could be urged in favour of a GOVERNMENT manufactory for muskets, came to the conclusion that they had not received evidence sufficient to satisfy them that a Government factory would afford the cheapest, most expeditious, and most efficient mode of providing muskets. They, therefore, recommended that the system of contracting for the supply of small-arms should not be discontinued without further proof that a sufficient supply cannot be obtained under it. The Committee added, that the complaint of the contractors, that the orders of the Government for small-arms had not been continuous, raised a question of great importance. "There is no doubt, they say, that a large demand for small-arms, spread over a number of years, would attract to the gun trade a supply of hands sufficient to meet the demand. Even in the first year considerable additional supplies might by this means be attained, and in each successive year the increase would be augmented. On the other hand, it has been observed that it would not be judicious on the part of the Board of Ordnance to employ themselves to large and continuous orders, for in this age of rapid invention, such a course might be attended with very inconvenient consequences. For instance, the pattern of 1842 has been substituted for that of 1841; therefore, if large orders for the pattern of 1851 existed, they would be orders for a now obsolete arm. Some new pattern may soon supply the place of that which is now ordered. The contractors, however, state that the continuous employment which they desire need not depend upon the identity of the pattern."

The Committee does not appear to have devoted its attention to ascertaining whether the Birmingham manufacturers were able during the last war to meet the great demand for muskets that was made upon them. With the view of supplying this deficiency, we have collected some particulars which will be of interest at the present moment.

In 1793 there were no establishments large enough to take the contracts of the Government, and the Board of Ordnance despatched Lieutenant-Colonel Miller, an artillery officer, to Germany, to purchase muskets. In this service he was engaged for nearly two years, and purchased nearly a quarter of a million of small-arms. It was at this time, and for some years subsequently, the practice of the Ordnance department, when the Government needed a supply of arms, to engage with one or more individuals for the number required. These contractors again contracted with the trade, the Board of Ordnance sending down "viewers," or inspectors, from the Tower of London, to reside in the individuals employed in the manufacture of the barrels and the locks, and with the gunmaker to set them up complete. From 1793 to 1798 the Irish Ordnance Department made large demands upon Birmingham for fire-arms, upon the Militia, Fencibles, Yeomanry, &c., required for the suppression of the Rebellion. During the same period the Volunteers in England and Scotland, who purchased their own fire-arms, gave orders which increased to a considerable extent the activity of the manufacture, both in Birmingham and London. But, notwithstanding the number of guns which were supplied during these years to the Government, in 1803, when war was again declared, found itself with an insufficiency. For an army of 177,000 men it had but 133,000 firelocks. It therefore obliged once more to have recourse to Germany and purchased 233,000 firelocks, for about £700,000. "The state of destitution," says the writer of a scarce pamphlet, printed at Birmingham for private circulation, and a copy of which is before us, "in which the arsenals of our country were at the period of the war in 1793, and afterwards in 1803, appears to show a remissness on the part of the Board of Ordnance in not having an adequate supply of small-arms, and more particularly at the latter of those periods. For, notwithstanding the increase of our magazines at the Peace of Amiens, the Board of Ordnance then ceased giving out orders for any further supply of small-arms. Had it still kept the manufacturers employed during the interval of peace, they could have made the number of arms which the Government was compelled to purchase on the Continent, of a superior quality and uniform pattern, and at about one-half of the price." Notwithstanding the wants of the Government, the Board of Ordnance did not give any extensive orders in Birmingham until March, 1804, and these orders were at first executed with considerable difficulty, in consequence of the scarcity of hands. The manufacturers, at the peace, discharged a great number of their workmen, who became absorbed by the other trades of the town; but by degrees the greater portion of them, allured by the high wages to be obtained, returned to their old trade and from 1804 to 1815; the gun manufacture flourished in Birmingham to an extent never before or afterwards attained From March, 1804, to December 31, 1809, there were made at Birmingham, for the Government, independently of fowling-pieces, and guns for the home, colonial, and foreign trade, 1,066,443 barrels, and 867,818 locks. During the thirteen years of war there were fabricated in the private establishments in Birmingham and London, and at a small manufactory set up by the Government at Lewisham, 2,673 366 stand of arms. Of this number there remained in store, or in use in the army and navy after the pacification of Waterloo, 1,839,256; leaving 1,804,110 lost by the chances of war, or remaining in the hands of the allies. From 1803 to 1815 inclusive, Great Britain furnished to her allies and to her own army, navy, militia, and volunteers, upwards of three millions and a quarter of small-arms of various kinds, as appears from the following Table :—

Arms furnished to the allies (including muskets, carbines, pistols, &c.)					
					2,111,613
Ditto	regular troops	..	..	..	511,983
Ditto	regular militia	..	..	..	54,415
Ditto	local militia	..	..	..	101 651
Ditto	volunteers	..	..	..	47,585
Ditto	navy	..	..	..	21,265
	Total	..	..	..	2,227,715

Birmingham produced more than two-thirds of these guns in their complete state, and nearly the whole of the gun-barrels.

The following Table shows the number of Barrels for every description of Fire-arms produced in each year at Birmingham, from 1804 to 1815 inclusive:—

Years.	Muskets.	Rifles.	Carbines.	Pistols.	Total in each year.
1804	60,211	62	....	....	80,186
1805	109,908	2,988	3,120	1,158	118,049
1806	114,332	13,106	4,418	2,276	134,022
1807	155,869	4,874	6,536	8,842	174,190
1808	192,375	6,444	5,240	21 4	227,159
1809	265,031	1,433	5,571	16 618	288 6 1
1810	299,382	1s.	11.	6 415	305,241
1811	316,760	1,381	172	3,611	321,4 5
1812	409,861	2,261	7,894	16,847	436,263
1813	412,913	466	24,378	51,078	488,836
1814	269,212	61	6,566	36,313	312,185
1815	98,688	....	442	4,117	103,248
Total	2,773,346	32,552	74,582	155,755	3,087,644

The following is the number of locks it produced within the same time:—

Years.	Muskets.	Rifles.	Carbines.	Pistols.	Total in each year.
1804	81,021	20	....	....	81,041
1805	91,148	4,721	4,006	....	99,87
1806	102,047	11,280	....	....	114,027
1807	119,389	8,047	1,430	5,071	134,937
1808	175,589	5,947	1,899	9,440	192,875
1809	223,345	2,412	203	8,813	234,773
1810	280,839	1,288	24	10,080	301,931
1811	338,143	2,690	179	9,663	345,654
1812	419,254	134	9,555	24,291	443,244
1813	371,694	99	23,805	62,018	457,616
1814	247 396	....	3,610	20,091	271,188
1815	98,884	....	238	....	99,052
Total	2,616,229	37,338	45,101	15,04 4	2,879,203

The next Table shows the total number of complete Arms manufactured and set up in Birmingham during the war:—

Years	Muskets.	Rifles.	Carbines.	Pistols.	Total in each Year.
1804	26,506	85	....	....	26 691
1805	50,789	889	....	200	51,878
1806	60,756	1,597	....	1,800	63,253
1807	58,873	1,788	....	1,800	61,011
1808	87,386	2,299	....	2,759	92,891
1809	148 699	557	....	2,317	151,374
1810	185 596	1,103	....	3,060	189,795
1811	319,873	1,224	....	5,074	326 871
1812	274,026	1,325	4,123	9 067	288 740
1813	279,681	497	17,934	22,231	320 643
1814	168 949	729	8 695	6,784	184,149
1815	68,800	737	8,126	982	78 615
Total	1,672,610	14,635	38 778	55,474	1 743 382

In the year 1804, the Government, with the view, as alleged, of checking the large prices demanded by the Birmingham gun manufacturers, and of increasing the supply, resolved to establish a gun manufactory of its own. The subject was not brought under the notice of Parliament until 1806, when the sum of £15,000 was voted for the erection of suitable buildings for the fabrication of locks and barrels, at Lewisham, near Blackheath. The further sum of £7000 was granted in the following year. Operations were not actually commenced until 1808. It was both predicted and wished by the Birmingham people, that Government would fail in its experiment: and they loudly complained of the unfairness of the competition. They alleged that the Government enticed away their best workmen; and asserted that, instead of manufacturing at a cheaper rate, it would ultimately be found that private trades could have supplied with sufficient promptitude, all the arms required, and at a cost considerably under what the nation would have to pay in turning gunmaker for itself. The result verified the prediction. Up to the 1st July, 1810, the Lewisham gun-factory had cost upwards of £66,000, and the Government was only in a position to turn out 25,000 barrels, and 15,000 locks in a year; while Birmingham, at a much cheaper rate, was turning out upwards of 200,000 barrels, 300,000 locks, and 186,000 stand of arms in a year. The Government had also an establishment at the Tower; but its operations were confined to the rough stocking and setting up of arms, with the materials supplied from Birmingham and Lewisham, and by different private manufacturers under contract with the Board of Ordnance. In consequence of the complaints of the Birmingham and London gunmakers, a commission of military inquiry was instituted to inquire into the working of both these establishments The commission, after a long inquiry, decided in favour of the works pursued at the Tower, and against those of Lewisham. The commission recommended that the Ordnance department should confine itself to the setting up of guns, and that it should cease manufacturing both locks and barrels. The Board of Ordnance, however, resolved, notwithstanding the report of the commission, to continue its experiment; and, in 1813, obtained the authority of Parliament for the erection of a second gun-barrel and look factory at Enfield, in Middlesex. This new manufactory was not completed until 1815, when the war was at an end.

LANDING OF THE ROYAL HORSE ARTILLERY IN THE BOSPHORUS.

THE large Illustration upon the next page is a scene of real life, which we are enabled to present to our readers by aid of the pencil of an Artillery officer. It is a memorable incident, having occurred during the first landing of the Royal Horse Artillery in the Bosphorus, on the 3rd ult. In the accompanying View, the nearest ship is the *Mercia*, No. 2 transport, having on board the left division of Captain Leving's troop of Royal Horse Artillery. Behind this ship is No. 21 transport, with Captain Levinge and one subaltern on board, with the right division of the troop. In the distance is the view of the Bosphorus, taken from the landing place; on the right, at the foot of the hills, is the barrack Kouleli, given over by the Turkish Government for the use of the Royal Artillery; it is a roomy building, with stable accommodation for a very large number of horses, and the correspouding number of men for a cavalry regiment. The view from this point, looking westward towards Scutari, or eastward towards the Black Sea, is very beautiful. In the extreme distance, disappearing round the left point of the Bosphorus, is the *Terrible*, on her return to the Black Sea, after having brought despatches from the fleet of the bombardment of Odessa, and repaired some slight damage which she received from the fire of the Russian guns.

THE BOMBARDMENT OF ODESSA.

The following extract from a letter of an officer of one of the vessels engaged at the Bombardment of Odessa appears in the *Dublin Evening Mail*:—

I have, thank God, been spared to give you an account of our first affray with the Russians, which took place last Saturday (April 22), at Odessa, when we destroyed the Imperial port, shipping, and property to a large amount.

The *Vauban*, French steamer, was obliged to leave the scene of action, having been set on fire by a red hot shot, which penetrated the outer planking, and rolled down between it and the inner lining, towards the bottom of the vessel. Having burnt its way through inside, it was soon removed, and all put to rights again; but they were rather apprehensive of the ship blowing up, from its proximity to the magazine, which they cleared away directly.

The only loss of life on our side occurred on board the *Terrible*. A shot which came through the side caused splinters, which killed one man and wounded four others. This shot took an extraordinary course; having passed obliquely through the side, it came in contact with the "combing" of a hatchway in the centre of the deck, bounded back at an acute angle to the same side, struck a gun, glanced from it into the port, and finally went overboard. At first, most of the enemy's shot and shell fell short, but after a little they got their guns to bear beautifully upon us, and were giving it to us thick and warm, when, by steaming astern, we dropped our anchor, and spelled their range. It was a dreadful but glorious sight to see their magazine blow up—such cheering took place from our jolly tars. After we had silenced the batteries, and set the shipping on fire, our rocket-boats were pulling in to us to give them something more, when the Russians opened fire on them from other places; on which account we were obliged to blaze away again, and remained till the signal of recall was hoisted by the Admiral, whose ship, together with all the liners, was anchored just at a nice distance to witness the day's proceedings.

As we passed the *Queen* and *London*, they manned the rigging, and gave the old *Terrible* three hearty cheers.

Some of the lockers-on said we fir d splendidly; however that may be, we suffered far more than any of the ships engaged, which is attributed to our having been 200 yards closer in. At all events, our position was more favourable for the direction of the captain's fire. Our gunner has just told me that, *we* (*Terrible*), on Saturday, fired no less than 873 rounds of shot and shell, besides 51 rockets. We are now *en route* to Constantinople, as fast as we can steam, with intelligence of the Odessa affair.

CONSTANTINOPLE, April 28.—We have been quite lions here since our arrival from Odessa. No end to people coming on board to view a wounded ship—among them, many of the Guards. List of casualties in the *Terrible* during action:—One man killed, and four wounded. The shot struck in the hull in eleven places; stock of small bower-anchor shot off; two links of short cable shot away; both paddle-box boats shot through; also paddle-boxes; fore gangway ladder and paddle-bridge ladder shot away; two mariner spars and two paddle-box boats' oars shot away; stanchions and crutch of port quarter boats' davits shot away; starboard paddle-wheel and break damaged; starboard forecastle hammock-cloth, berthing, and two hammocks knocked overboard, and number of ropes shot away.

By the last mail from Constantinople several letters have been received in the Pyne, from Shields captains who have escaped from Odessa; and, as these letters were written for the information of their own family circles, and with no idea that they would come under the observation of any one connected with the press, they have especial interest. These simple and homely narratives contradict in every particular the despatches of the Russian General, Osten-Sacken, with regard to the bombardment of Odessa. Mr. John Tate, master of the barque *Princess*, reached Odessa with his vessel on the 3rd of April, seeking a cargo; and, four days after, as he was standing on the Mole, overheard the parley between the boats crew of his countryman and to the war steamer *Furious* and the Russian authorities. His account of the transaction corroborates Captain Jones's report on every point, and he states that the steamer's boat was returning to the ship, and within fifty yards of her, when the Russians opened one of their batteries, and fired seven shots at her. About four days after this transaction, three English war-steamers entered the roads, and captured eight laden Russian merchantmen. This circumstance greatly exasperated the Russian authorities, and they put a guard of eight soldiers aboard of each English and French vessel in the harbour. The steamers, however, having taken their departure during the night, the guards were removed from the vessels next day. On the 20th, in the grey of the morning, Mr. Tate descried a fleet of large vessels approaching the harbour; and, suspecting that they were the Allied fleets, he quietly went ashore and got water and provisions aboard his ship. His vessel was in ballast, a good sailer, and the wind was fair for a run out of the harbour. Mr. Tate, therefore, took advantage of the confusion in the port consequent upon the appearance of the fleets, got in his anchor, and made a dash for the sea. The Russians observed his movements when too late, and gave chase to him with a boat filled with soldiers; but the armed *Princess* outsailed them, and in half an hour Captain Tate was under the protection of a large English war-steamer that came in towards the land to meet him. He was requested to bring in in the roads, and put himself under the protection of the fleet, and then to go aboard of the English Admiral's ship. Mr. Tate was cordially received by Admiral Dundas and Admiral Lyons. He is a very intelligent young man, and was able to give some valuable information with regard to the forts, batteries, the position of the powder magazine, and the number of mounted shot-fire. He was also able to mark out the position of the French and English vessels in the harbour, and tell where a Russian war-steamer was laying. Mr. Tate having anchored his vessel in a secure position, witnessed the subsequent proceedings. He says that on the 21st a boat put off from the fleet in command of an English Lieutenant. She pulled in towards the shore with the Russian flag flying. They were met by a boat manned with Russian officials, and the following is Mr. Tate's version of the parley. The Russians asked the Lieutenant what was wanted. He replied that the Admirals requested that all the French and English merchant vessels be given up, and in exchange the fleet would liberate fifty Russian seamen who had been captured. The answer of the Russians was that the authorities considered all the English and French vessels, in the harbour, lawful prizes, and the subjects of those countries prisoners. "Then," shouted the Lieutenant, "if the demand is not complied with by sunset, make ready for your breakfast to-morrow morning!" the bombardment, as observed from the roads, Mr. Tate states had a fearfully grand appearance, more especially when the powder magazine blew up. During the fighting eight English merchantmen and two Frenchmen escaped from the harbour. The ruins of the buildings destroyed by the fleet burned for four days. The merchant vessels that escaped were conveyed across the Black Sea by war vessels.

The following is from a letter from Admiral Dundas, dated off Odessa:—

I own I feel annoyed at the remarks of a portion of the press at my lying all the winter at Therapia. If I had not done so, and had cruised for two months (a peace time), and had exposed my ships by such a foolish plan, what a state they would have been in, instead, as they are now are, in the finest condition imaginable! We arrived at Varna without a want, and found an Aide-de Camp from Omer Pacha, expressing a wish that only a few should come near him; and there I was all ready, and in conjunc ion with the French fleet (eighteen as I of the line) and a dozen s.eamers. We are on the best possible terms with the French, and the utmost cordiality exists between us. Would you believe that the report of the Russian fleet having left Sebastopol and landed troops on the Danube, was all a fa'sehood, and dest.tute of truth? I had stationed frigates cruising all round the Black Sea, watching their movements; not one ship has ever left port since we entered it. A few days ago we gave Odessa a little of our shot and shell. It was well done by the steamers—five English and four French, with 9 ".. Sterboats I spared the town; and in a few hours we could have knocked both it and the mole, where the neutral ships were, into one mass of fire The pier, the mole, and the magazine were all destroyed. I did, in conjunction with my French colleague, what we considered our duty after the flag of truce had been fired on. Our guns carry beautifully.

We recapitulate the attack, as represented by our Artist. The steamers entered in two divisions. The first consisted of the *Sanson*, *Mercure*, *Descartes*, and *Mogador*. The *Sanson* fired the first shot at the Imperial Mole, and the fire was instantly returned. The movement, as witnessed from the large ships, about three miles and a half off, was a most curious sight. When within about 2000 yards each steamer delivered the fire of her enormous guns, then veered round in a circle of about half a mile in diameter, each taking up the fire in succession. Thus they kept wheeling and twisting about like so many waltzers, without ever touching or getting into scrapes. The guns in the mole answered promptly, and in the course of an hour the *Vauban* and the two sailing frigates, on fire from red hot shot, and riddled in several places. Happily, the fire was got under, and she returned to her post.

Mr. Oliphant, in his "Russian Shores of the Black Sea," describes Odessa as a more agreeable town than any other in the dominions of the Czar, which he had visited, but he was unable to go to so extravagant a length, in admiration of it, as his fellow passengers, on board the steamer, went:—

Hitherto my life had been rendered miserable by repeated allusions to the "Russian Florence." Some infatuated Odessans on board the steamer impressed upon me for two days and nights that nothing I had seen at Moscow or St. Petersburg could give me any conception of the glories of Odessa, which, according to them, combined in itself the charms of all the capitals in Europe. The statues and the opera were Italian; the Boulevards and the shops, French; the subterranean cafés English principles; and the hotels unequalled in Europe—the whole forming attractions which may surpass my most sanguine anticipations

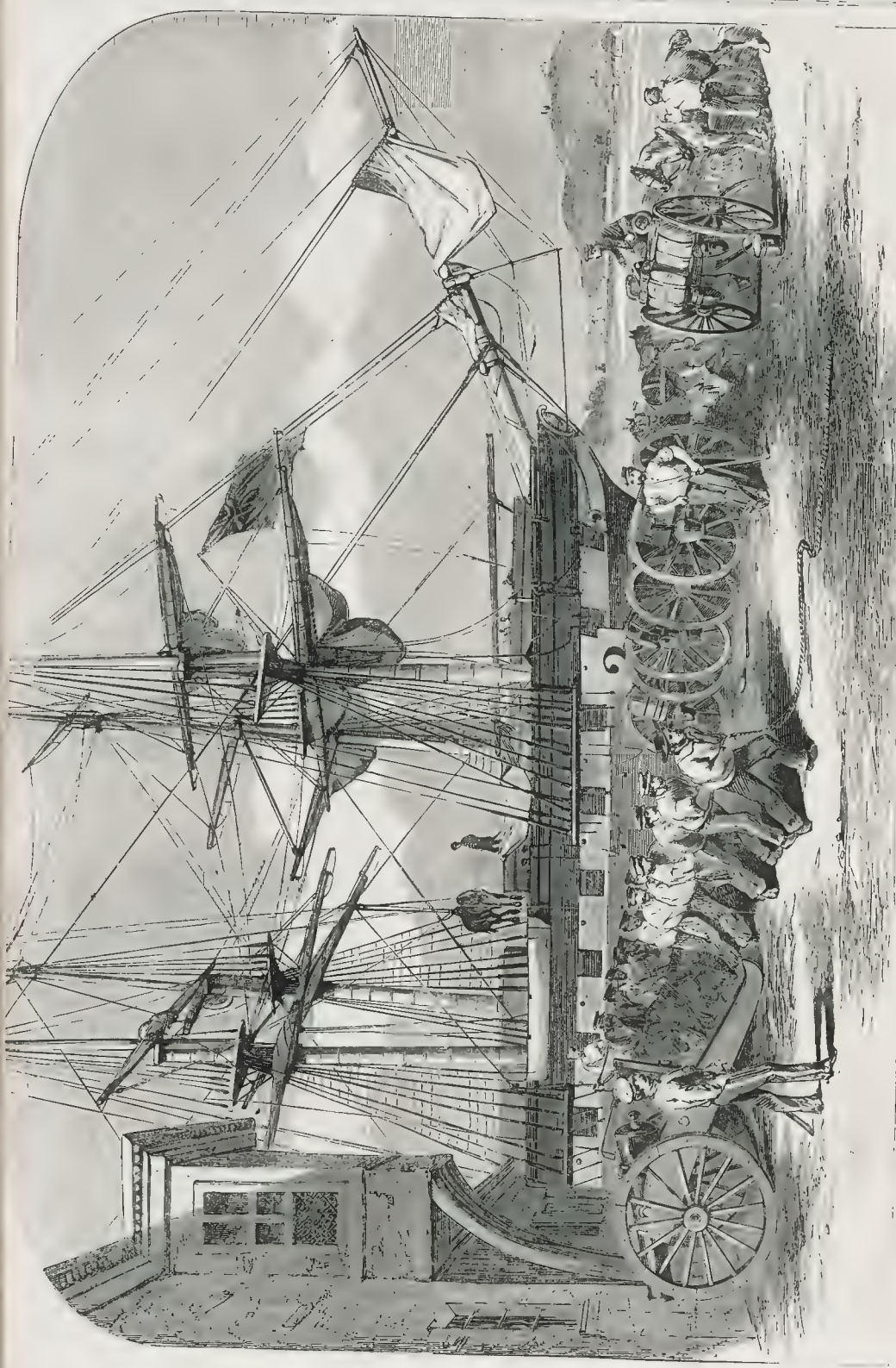
It struck me as somewhat singular, as I was leaving the wharf, upon asking what means existed of leaving this enchanting spot, that we should find it necessary to buy a carriage and post, as no diligence had as yet been established. I was informed, however, that only town in Europe running upwards of a hundred thousand inhabitants, which cannot boast of some public means of conveyance other than a post telèga, which is infinitely more barbarous than a Connemara waggon, and only meant for the conveyance of feld-jägers and despatches.

It was evident that these benighted inhabitants of Odessa prized their city in extravagance of the most unbounded. It could not be strange to them that a pair of sheets should be charged a rubie extra in the best hotels, since they seldom or ever made use of them at home; while it was not to be wondered at that jugs and basins should seem a needless luxury to those who followed the mode of washing adopted on board the Russian steamer, which consisted in each man's tucking a little water into his friend's pannikin, and then washing his own face in what was left when the others were split. Our exertions to obtain a basin on board evidently caused us to be looked upon as bad travellers, who did not conform to the manners of the country.

The change from the climate, inhabitants, and customs of the East, to those of the bleak North, was very marked on our arrival at Odessa. We were again surrounded by substantial houses and covered with a sharp wind that howled over the desolate steppe. Here were no lofty peaks to shelter us, nor summer sun to warm us; winter seemed fairly to have set in the day we arrived, with the view of chasing us out of Russia. However, we could not go until we had been advertised a certain number of days in the papers, for the benefit of imaginary creditors. Fortunately the police given notice of our intended departure before we arrived whereby the length of our stay was considerably diminished. Meantime we found plenty to amuse us in the greatest mercantile emporium in Russia.

It must be admitted that Odessa is very cosmopolitan in its character. Almost every country in Europe has its representative here, and the principal streets are filled with people of every variety of costume. Indeed, Odessa has an air of business and activity about it quite foreign to Russian towns generally; and this is doubtless owing to its rapid growth and mixed population. There is a great deal more liberty enjoyed by the inhabitants than by those of any other town in the empire; and I was struck by the unwonted freedom of smoking and conversation which prevailed among those with whom I mixed. The evident effort made to be as little Russian as possible, is a significant comment upon the inconsistency of the inhabitants, who, while they maintain the superior excellence of everything civilised, seem chiefly desirous of sinking their nationality, and, with that facility of imitation peculiar to Russian character, seek to assimilate themselves as much as possible to other European nations. It follows, therefore, that, apart from the novelty with which this city is invested by its commercial character, in a country affording no encouragement to trade, there is little to interest in its broad glaring streets, where clouds of white dust overwhelm the passengers, and rows of stumpy trees are reduced almost to the same colour as the tall houses behind them

Although there is no macadamised road leading in any one direction



FIRST LANDING OF THE ROYAL HORSE ARTILLERY IN THE OSPHORUS.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

THE BOMBARDMENT OF ODESSA—FROM A DRAWING BY W. HALL—(SEE P. 537.)

ent of Odessa, yet even the magnificent rivers, which afford such evident means of communication with the interior, are not taken advantage of. The Pruth, the Dniester, the Dnieper, and the Bug, are all either navigable or might easily be made so. At present little else but wood-rafts float down their broad waters. No private company has enterprise, or rather hardihood enough, to attempt an undertaking which the Government might at any moment ruin; and even now, almost all speculations in Russia are carried on by rash foreigners, who have not lived long enough in the country to know better. I think, therefore, it will be some time before a railway is completed to Moscow, though Government now offers a guarantee of four per cent. It will be a singular anomaly if a railway shall connect Moscow and Odessa in the absence of any macadamised road between the two, and one none the less striking, because only to be found elsewhere in America.

THE CAUCASUS AND THE SEAT OF WAR IN ASIA.

WITH our impression of this day we present our readers with a Map of the eastern shore of the Black Sea, and of the western coast of the Caspian, including the territory enclosed between those two geographical boundaries. This Map, in conjunction with the one we printed on the 14th of last January, gives a complete view of the Seat of War in the Euxine, the Caucasus, and in Asia; and it is our present purpose to describe, historically and politically, the principal localities in and around which the Allied fleets, the Turkish armies, and the mountaineers of Schamyl, will have to contend against the Russian colossus.

The mountainous range of the Caucasus, forming a natural barrier between Europe and Asia, extends from the Black to the Caspian Sea in a diagonal line: the length from Anapa to Baku being 690 miles; but the average breadth is only thirty leagues, if the inferior Caucasus, or Ararat, is not included. This region is celebrated in the fables and traditions of antiquity, as well as in the annals of authentic history. Here Zoroaster placed the abode of Ahrimanes, and here the vulture gnawed the liver of the enchained Prometheus. Jason and the Argonauts sailed up the river Phasis, now called the Rion, in search of the Aries Chrysoellus, the Ram with the Golden Fleece. Here dwelt the warlike Amazons, and here reigned the Great Mithridates. According to the Sacred Writings, the ark rested on Mount Ararat; and local tradition affirms that the cradle of Christ is deposited on the summit of Mount Kasbek, above the tent of Abraham, which is itself suspended in the air.

Circassia, the northernmost and most extensive division of the Caucasus, is inhabited by a race distinguished by the name of Atteghei, which signifies a people dwelling in a country which lies between two seas. Some antiquarians trace the Atteghei tribes to the Koumanian Tartars, others to a colony of wandering Arabs. It is now ascertained, says Mr. Spencer, that the Polouzians or Koumanians were nothing more than subjects of Circassian Princes, whose names alone have been recorded in history. "Their territory, Kabiri (Kabardah), according to a singularly curious manuscript map found in the Imperial library at Vienna, joined the country of the Koumanians, over whom, in all probability, the Kabardian Princes exercised some sort of nominal sovereignty." A travelling Monk, named Ruysbrok, who journeyed over the vast steppes of Western Tartary, in the thirteenth century, says:—"This whole plain was, previously to the irruption of the Mongol Tartars, inhabited by the Koumanians, who called themselves Kaptchat Tartars, and were descended from a great chief of that name, and traced their origin to Ishmael. The Byzantines always spoke of the people of the Western Caucasus as Zychians, the Greek word for Circassians, and describe their territory as extending from Pitsounda, the ancient Pythus, along the shores of the Euxine to the mouth of the river Kouban, being the precise territory they now occupy, and to which Russia has laid claim by virtue of the treaty of Adrianople.

Various names have been given to the Caucasian mountains by different nations. The Chaldeans called them Tawr-An; the Persians, Seddi-Iskender, signifying the rampart of Alexander—for, according to Persian tradition, it was here that the great Macedonian received his first check; the Georgians call them Kof-Kaf; the Turks, Kof-Dagh: and the majority of the Circassian tribes, Aour. The highest peak of the Caucasian Alps still retains among them its original name of Acua-Dagh, which means mountains of snow. The highest summits of the mountain range are the Elbeorus or Spat, which rises 16,830 feet above the level of the sea, and the Kasbek, also called the Mquivari, whose elevation is 14,400 feet.

Russian Princes expelled the successors of Mithridates from the kingdom of the Bosphorus, and Sviatoslaf founded Tmutarakan, supposed to be the same as the modern Taman, on which the ancient Phanagoria was built. But the Russians were driven out by the Polouzians, to whom we have already referred, about the beginning of the eleventh century; nor did they again appear in the Caucasus till the sixteenth century, when they approached by the Volga. We may date the real and permanent advances of Russia on the Caucasus from the reign of Peter the Great, his conquest of Azof on the Palus Mæotis, and his victories against the Persians on the Caspian, from whom he took Shirvan, Gulian, Mazanderan, Asterabad, Daghestan, and the important city of Derbent; for, although the Empress Anne was compelled to restore these provinces to Nadir-Shah, Russia determined to recover what she had once possessed. Anne, however, founded Kisliar on an arm of the Terek, which became the boundary of the Russian possessions in the Caucasus during her reign. Catharine II. annexed the two Kabardahs, and there built Mosdok, and the towns of Georgievsk, Staropol, and Ekaterenograd. Heraclius, Czar of Georgia, placed his country under the Protectorate of Paul I.; and in 1802 Alexander declared it a Russian province. Abhasia next passed under Muscovite rule; and Paskiewitsch conquered Erivan and Nachetchivan from the Persians. However, under the native leaders—Kasi-Moullah, Hamsad Bey, and the celebrated Schamyl, Circassia has obstinately resisted, and still resists, the denomination of the Czar, and, with the aid of England and France, will establish its independence.

It is necessary here to recite the fourth article of the treaty of Adrianople (1829), which is thus worded:—

> Georgia, Imeritia, Gouriel, and several other provinces of the Caucasus having been for many years and in perpetuity united to the empire of Russia, and that Empire having besides, by the treaty concluded with Persia at Tourkmantchai, on the 10th February, 1828, acquired the Khanats of Erivan and Nachetchivan, the two high contracting parties have recognised the necessity of establishing between their respective states, on the whole of that line, a well-determined frontier, capable of preventing all future discussion; they have equally taken into consideration the proper means to oppose insurmountable obstacles to the incursions and depredations which the neighbouring nations or tribes have hitherto committed, and which have often compromised the relations of friendship and good feeling between the two empires: consequently, it has been agreed upon to consider hereforward as the frontier between the territories of the Imperial Courts of Russia and those of the Ottoman Porte in Asia, the line which, following the present limit of Gouriel from the Black Sea, ascends as far as the borders of Imeritia; and from thence, in the straightest direction, as far as the point where the frontiers of Akhalzick and of Kars meet those of Georgia, leaving, in this manner, to the north of, and within this line, the town of Akhalzick and the port of Khalvalick, at a distance of not less than two hours." All the countries situate to the south and west of this line of demarkation towards the Pachalic of Akhalzick, shall remain in perpetuity under the dominion of the Sublime Porte; while those which are situated to the north and east of the said line towards Georgia, Imeritia, and Gouriel, as well as all the littoral of the Black Sea from the mouth of the Kouban as far as the Port St. Nicolas, inclusively, shall remain under the dominion of the Emperor of Russia.

This littoral of the Black Sea extends about two hundred leagues, and we will now notice some of the principal positions on this line of coast. Anapa, as will be seen by reference to the map, is the first Russian settlement in Circassia, and is situated at the base of a mountain which terminates the lesser chain of the Caucasus, from whence the vast plains of the river Kouban extend north and east. Anapa formerly belonged to the Circassians, who, in 1784, allowed the Turks to build a fortress upon it. Six years afterwards, having been held by the Turks, it repulsed General Bibikoff. In 1791 General Goudovitch barried it by assault. In 1807 both the town and fortress were captured by a Russian squadron, commanded by Admiral Pastchekin. Finally, in 1828, after a murderous siege of three months, it surrendered to Prince Menschikoff and Admiral Greig. Soudjouk Kale] is thirty miles south-east of Anapa, and the bay affords safe anchorage. Gelendik is sixteen miles distant from Soudjouk Kale. Redout Kale is a bad sea-port, which, prior to Russian occupation in 1827, was the great dépôt for English manufactures on their way to Persia and Georgia; but the English establishments, since 1827, have been transferred to Trebizond. The Russians have attempted to establish a rival port at Poti at the mouth of the Rion.

When the treaty of Adrianople was communicated to the chieftains of the Caucasus, they assembled together and drew up a declaration of their national independence, which they add ressed to the Sovereigns of Europe and Asia, but, unfortunately, it received no official attention. This document, deeply interesting, and the more so at the present crisis, is much too long for insertion in our columns; but we shall give its substance, and some of its stirring passages. It commences by denying any subjection to Russia, and affirms that the Sultan of Turkey were no more than their spiritual chiefs; that they had, indeed, frequently deserted and betrayed them, and that their pretension to sign away by treaty any portion of the Caucasus was a usurpation and an insult:—

> We know (says the declaration) that Russia is not the only power in the world. We know that there are other powers greater than Russia, who are not friends to the Russians, but rather their enemies, and who are not enemies of the Sultan, but his friends. We know that England and France are the first among the nations of the earth, and were great and powerful when the Russians came in little boats, and got from us permission to catch fish in the Sea of Azof. We thought that England and France would take no interest in a simple and poor people like us, but we did not doubt that such wise nations knew that we were not Russians; and though we know little, and have no artillery, generals, discipline, ships, or riches, that we are an honest people, and peaceable when let alone, but that we hate the Russians with good cause, and almost always beat them. It is, therefore, with the profoundest humiliation that we have learned that our country is marked on all the maps printed in Europe as a portion of Russia—that treaties of which we know nothing should have been signed between Turkey and Russia, pretending to hand over to the Russians those warriors that make Russia tremble, and these mountains where her footsteps have never come that Russia tells in the west that the Circassians are her slaves, or wild bandits, or savages, whom no kindness can soften and no laws restrain. We solemnly protest, in the face of Heaven, against such womanish arts and falsehood. We answer words with deeds, but it is truth against falsehood. For forty years we have protested triumphantly against accusations with our arms. This ink, as well as the blood we have shed, declares our independence; and these are the seals of men who have known no superior, save the decision of their country—men who understand no subtle arguments, but who know how to use their weapons whenever the Russians come within their reach.

The document then appeals to England for protection, expressing a hope that she will not "open her ear to the wiles of the Russian, while she closes it to the prayers of the Circassian." It explains the political and social condition of the country, and dwells upon the disadvantage of not possessing a common chief having central authority over all the tribes, their disunion being the source of weakness. It then refers to the cruelty and perfidy of Russia, its merciless firing of whole villages, its stealing of children, the calumnies it circulates against the honour of the Circassians, and the mean arts by which it purchases the secret services of the treacherous agents of the Porte. It declares that thousands of Russian prisoners in the Caucasus prefer the barbarism of the mountains to the civilisation of their own country; and concludes with the following paragraph:—

> It is by arms, not by words, that a country can be conquered. If Russia conquers us, it will not be by arms, but by cutting off our communications, and making use of Turkey and Persia as if they were already hers; by rendering the sea impassable, as if it were her own; by blockading our coast; by destroying not only our vessels, but those of other States which approach us; by depriving us of a market for our produce; by preventing us from obtaining salt, gunpowder, and other necessaries of war; by depriving us of hope. But we are independent—we are at war—we are victors. The representative of the Emperor who numbers us in Europe as his slaves, who marks this country as his on the map, has lately opened communications with the Circassians; not to offer pardon for rebellion, but to bargain for the retreat of 20 000 men enveloped by our people, and to make arrangements for exchange of prisoners.

This appeal being utterly disregarded by the statesmen of Europe, the Emperor Nicholas determined to bid defiance to England; and, under the pretext of having blockaded the littoral of the Black Sea, claimed by him under the treaty of Adrianople, seized the merchant ship *Vixen*, laden with salt and bound for Circassia, and confiscated it on the 26th of November, 1836. We have already shown that Turkey had no legal power to surrender a line of coast which she never possessed: moreover, there was no *de facto* possession by Russia—no less than thirty-six British subjects having offered testimony or made affidavit to the contrary. The Russians did, indeed, take possession of the eastern side of the Bay of Soudjouk Kale, where the *Vixen* was captured—the entire bay being nearly eight miles in circumference—and commenced throwing up intrenchments, and erecting huts and palisades for the use and protection of the military, on the bank of a small river called the Doba; but Mr. Spenser, who visited the country in September, 1836, declares that the natives had expelled the Russians and destroyed their intrenchments at that date; while the crew of the *Vixen* also deposed that they found the bay completely deserted by the Russians, there being neither a civil or milit ary functionary belonging to that people nearer than the forts of Anapa and Gheiendic. But on this subject a very curious fact remains to be related, showing the falsehood of the Russian Government, and the credulity of our own. Lord Durham, then our Ambassador at the Court of St. Petersburg, addressed a letter to Lord Palmerston, then Secretary for Foreign Affairs, dated the 13th of May, 1837. It runs thus:—"With respect to the military *de facto* occupation of Soudjouk Kale, I have to state to your Lordship that there is a fortress in the bay which bears the name of the Empress Alexandrinsky, and that it has always been occupied by a Russian garrison." *Always* is a vague term: was that the case before or after the treaty of Adrianople? But what is the fact? The fortress which bears the name of the Empress Alexandrinsky is situated on the Caspian, which Lord Durham confounded with the Black Sea; and it is a well-known fact that no fortress whatever existed at Soudjouk Kale since the Circassians expelled the Turks, in 1816, from that place, and razed the buildings to the ground, till the capture of the *Vixen*.

Referring again to the map, we observe that the river Kouban separates the Western Caucasus from the country of the Cossacks of the Black Sea. From the mouth of that river, which enters the Euxine close to Taman, by one of its branches, while two other branches empty themselves into the Sea of Azof, to the mouth of the river Terek, which falls, near Kisliar, into the Caspian, there is a continuous line of Russian forts, among the principal of which are Ekaterinodar and Stavropol, which last was raised to the rank of a town in 1785. Along the eastern flank of this range runs another chain of forts connecting the northern line with the Terek—among the strongest of which are Alexandruk and Georgievsk. Mosdok is the central point, and Kislar the extremity, on the islands of the Terek, where that river reaches the Caspian. Another line of forts along the Caspian runs from Kislar to Baku, passing through Derbent. The Pass of Derbent was called by the ancients the Pylæ Albaniæ and the Via Caspia. It bears also the name of the Demir Capu, or iron gates. A military road runs from Mosdok to Tiflis, through the famous Pass of Dariel, which is the key of the Eastern Caucasus. It was frequently attacked by the Persians, but without success; and it became a proverb in Persia, "When a King is too happy, let him attack Caucasus." Nadir Shah attacked the pass in 1741 with 40,000 troops; but that famous conqueror was defeated by the Lesghians. It was at that date the Lesghians placed themselves under the supremacy of Russia, as a protection against the Persians. In this pass stands the fortress of Vladikaukas, otherwise spelt Vladikavkaz. Its name is a compound word, derived from the Russian verb, Vladet, to govern or command; and Kavkaz the Russian name for the Caucasus. It is supposed to be the key of the Pylæ Sarmaticæ, the Portæ Caucasiæ, or Portæ Iberica of the ancients, through which the Medes, or rather their descendants, the Sarmatians, and other nations, passed into the plains of the north, and gave origin to a variety of peoples. This pass is now known as the Defile of the Terek. To the westward of the road of the Vladikaukas is the country of the Ossetinians, who have submitted to the Russians. On the eastern side of the Isthmus lies Daghestan, between the high ridge of mountains and the Caspian; and the district westward of Daghestan is inhabited by the Lesghians, their territory extending far into the mountains. The Abhasians principally dwell on the western side of the Caucasian hills, or that side of the chain which faces the Black Sea.

The defence of the line of the Kouban river is entrusted to the Tchernomorskis Cossacks, otherwise called the Cossacks of the Black Sea. These are the descendants of Zaporoghian Cossacks, so called from *sa*, beyond, and *poroghe*, a cataract, because they formerly dwelt beyond the cataracts of the Dneiper. In 1775 Catharine II., alleging that they were guilty of high treason, banished them to the district of Bielgerod. In 1787 they were pardoned, and formed into regiments by Prince Potemkin, and by him called the "Faithful Cossacks of the Black Sea," in the hope they would prove so in future. They rendered signal service in the Turkish wars; and, when peace was established, the Empress gave them the country conquered from the Kouban Tartars. Thither they were transplanted in 1792, and charged with the defence of their territory, which stretches on the south from the mouth of the river Laba to the embouchure of the Kouban in the Black Sea. Towards the north and east it is limited by the river Yea, which separates it from the government of Ekaterinoslaf and the country of the Cossacks of the Don. On the west it is bounded by the Black Sea, the Sea of Azof, and the Strait of Euikale, or Strait of Kertch, anciently called the Cimmerian Bosphorus, and marked on our map. Kertch is the ancient Pantieapæum, the capital of Mithridates. The country of these Cossacks contains one thousand square miles, and their military duty terminates at Redutskoi-Karantin, where the defence of the Caucasian line is taken up by the Grebenski Cossacks, who descend from the Cossacks of the Don, and at an early period demilitated themselves on the banks of the Terek. In one of the campaigns of the Czar Ivan I. against the Tartars of the Caucasus, a body of these Cossacks formed the advanced line of the army, and scaled a mountain which resembled a comb, on account of sharp small spurs which sloped down from its summit and projected horizontally. In the Russian language, Greben signifies a comb, and to commemorate this gallant exploit the Czar bestowed on these Cossacks the title and name of Grebenski, which they have ever since borne.

By the various lines of forts and other military defences referred to, the Western Caucasus is completely girded round by the Russians, and while their vessels commanded the Black Sea they shut out from the mountaineers both powder and salt, to them invaluables. In spite of these disadvantages, native independence has been preserved, nor have the Russians achieved more than commanding the sea shore by forts. In the interior of the Western Caucasus they have made no progress. In Daghestan they only rule by military power, and an annual sacrifice of the lives of 20,000 soldiers. Mansur Bey, Khasi Moullah, and Schamyl (who is a Lesghian by birth, born in 1797) have in succession defied the armies of the Czar; and now that the last-named hero is to receive the support of France and England, we confidently expect that all the tribes will rally under his banner, expel their envenomed enemy from their heroic land, march into the Crimea, and, attaching Sebastapol on the land side while it is bombarded by the fleets, capture that fortress, and annihilate Russian supremacy in the Black Sea.

Again referring the reader to the map, and directing his attention to the Caspian and the south-western divisions, we must allude to the successful efforts of Russia on what used to be Persian territory. By the treaty of Goolistan, in Karabagh, concluded between Persia and Russia in 1814, the former engaged not to maintain ships of war on the Caspian, and ceded to the Czar all her acquisitions south of the Caucasus, nominatively Georgia, Imeritia, Mingrelia, Derbend, Bakou, and all Persian Daghestan, Shirvan, Shekkee, Ganja, Karabaugh, and parts of Moghan and Talish. In 1828, by the treaty of Turcomanchai, Russia still further acquired territory, for Persia was compelled to cede the opulent provinces of Erivan and Nukhchivan, including the fortresses of Erivan and Abassabad—this last place establishing the Russians on the Araxes or Arras. But Russia obtained more, for she retained Talish and Moghan, thus securing a footing beyond the Arras, from which she menaces the most valuable parts of Persia. The author of "Progress and Present Position of Russia in the East" (generally supposed to be our former Minister at the Court of Teheran, Sir John MacNeill) has observed, on these transactions:—

> Russia thus occupies positions beyond the Araxes, in Persia, and beyond the Danube, in Turkey; has claims for indemnities on both; has the exclusive possession of the Caspian, and the command of the Black Sea—controls the mouths of the Kur, on the one, and of the Danube on the other; and desires to be the protector of the Sultan, and to guarantee the throne to the heir of the shah, for the obvious or avowed purpose of subjugating both empires. While the position occupied by Russia in European Turkey menaces Constantinople and the Dardanelles, the attitude she has assumed in Asiatic Turkey menaces Armenia. She has acquired possession of the mountain passes that separate that province from Georgia, and of the fortresses that defended the Turkish frontier. By every movement she threatens to interrupt the only line of communication by which British manufactures, to the value of one million and a half sterling, are yearly carried through Turkey into Persia. She has already advanced to within nine miles of this road, and to about ninety from Trebizond, the port from which it leads. The course which she would pursue, were either under her control, may be inferred from her commercial system generally, from the fact that she is our rival in the market of Persia, and that she has put a stop to the transit trade through Georgia, because it interfered with her exclusive commerce on the Caspian. Yet the Persian trade is but a small portion of what would be lost to England were Russia in possession of the Dardanelles.

Territorial absorption is the notorious policy of the Czars; but when their empire is termed a colossus, however grandiose the term, it is vague. Let us then be definite. The acquisitions of Russia from Sweden are greater than what remains of that kingdom. The acquisitions from Poland are nearly equal to the Austrian Empire. Her acquisitions from Turkey, in Europe, are of greater extent than the Prussian dominions, exclusive of the Rhenish provinces. Her acquisitions from Turkey, in Asia, are nearly equal in dimensions to the whole of the smaller States of Germany. Her acquisitions from Persia are equal in extent to England. Her acquisitions in Tartary are not less in area than Turkey in Europe, Greece, Italy, and Spain. The acquisitions she has made within the last sixty-four years are equal in extent and importance to the whole Empire she had in Europe before that time. These encroachments are the condemnation of the past policy of the Statesmen of Western Europe. When the partition of Poland was effected, Louis XV. exclaimed, "Could I have foreseen what has happened, I would have sold my last carriage to prevent it." Let us hope that atonement will now be made for past errors; that Finland will be restored to Sweden, the Crimea to Turkey, the Caucasus rendered independent, and Persia be reinstated in her ancient territory. The motive to the present war, and its justification, is the maintenance of the balance of power, for which the sole guarantee in the future is the re-construction of the political map of Europe and Asia.

* An hour is equivalent to three miles

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Baku
Kuba
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Akhti
Nukha
Wells of Naptha
Kaleesi
Alijan
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Sheki

CIRCASSIANS.

THE CIRCASSIANS.

We present, in two Engravings of Circassian life, an idea of the bearing and aspect, in their homes and out of door- of a race, perhaps, as interesting and remarkable as any that ever existed. There are many facts which justify this remark. In the first place, they are one of the most ancient nations in the world; their history is so prolonged, that, with the exception of China, of Egypt, and of Persia, the history of every other country which is at present independent, is a record of yesterday in comparison; but, if in this particular they have but one or two rivals on earth, there is a much more striking peculiarity in which they defy all parallel—and that is, that at no epoch have they ever yet lived in subjection to a foreign dominion. They have often been defeated in battles—often been driven into the mountains—often been overrun and overwhelmed; b it has never happened, that, even for the short term of more than one generation, they obeyed any but their own laws, or bowed under the sceptre of a stranger. Great disasters have befallen them. More than 300 years before Christ, the Macedonian arms had, for instance, swept like a storm over a part of their country; but even this yoke they escaped, because, as Pliny rather archly says, Alexander "was obliged to leave Hyrcania in haste." Much later, but still sixty or seventy years before the Christian era, they sustained another memorable overthrow, having sent all their available forces to help Mithridates against the Romans. The carnage which they suffered at the hands of Pompey is one of the most terrible and complete on record. When, however, their condition might be deemed most remarkable was during the short universal Asiatic rule of Tamerlane. We need not remind our readers in what concerns Russia, although the odds are so enormously against a handful of mountaineers, and in favour of the discipline, the numbers, and the resources of an immense military empire, that, despite the pertinacity of the efforts expended, the Circassian tribes are still at a great distance from being reduced to the condition of the Poles. They are still living under their own chiefs, with their own customs and with their own laws. It is not, therefore, merely because this race trace back so far their national history that they interest us; but because they are the only people on the face of the globe who can trace back so far an *independent* national history. Few in number, yet their region is so important, and their character is so striking, that they are well known to the ancients; and abundant mention of them, under their old name, occurs in Herodotus, in Verrius Flaccus, in Pomponius Mela, in Strabo, in Plutarch, and in other great writers. In fine, their annals are the brave record of a liberty maintained for at least 2300 years, often in the face of the mightiest potentates in human remembrance, and no now to be readily surrendered to an arrogant Russian tyrant.

But, without the excitement of these noble recollections, were the Caucasian tribes as new as the New Zealanders, they would deserve great attention. Our Engraving speaks for itself. They are mani-

A CIRCASSIAN FAMILY.

festly the true aristocrats of nature. The erect figure, the thoughtful brow, the regular, earnest, firm, and noble countenance, the martial port, the fine and muscular limbs, the well-opened chest, the breadth of the shoulders, the straightness of the back, the sculpturesque setting of the head upon the fine throat, all evidently betoken one of the most thoroughbred of the human families or septs. A first glance at the costume of the men conveys we know not what of some vague recollection of the Crusaders. And, indeed, the chain-mail enforces or heightens that whimsical middle-age resemblance. There is a strange union of ancient and of modern weapons and arms. The Circassians have adopted pistol and gun, without relinquishing the spear and the bow and arrow; and they do execution with both. In truth, nothing but an easy and abundant supply of percussion fire-arms would make it worth while to abandon altogether in that region the cheap and formidable instruments of the javelin-man and the archer. The Russians, when they subdued the Don Cossacks and the Astraks, and had begun to push aggression into the Caucasus, captured and cajoled a sufficient number of the real Georgians, to form a regiment with the addition of some of the conterminous tribes. Of course, the costume of these was modelled on the true type; and the corps in question forms one of the most striking and wildly picturesque features in the annual review of May at St. Petersburg. They carry the bow on horseback; and the quiver is supposed to be furnished in that apparatus on the breast which the reader will perceive in our Engraving. Either eight very short arrows, or a row of cartridges, could be stowed thus.

Although the country is so mountainous—one of the peaks of the Caucasus being much higher than Mont Blanc—reaching, in fact, to an altitude of 18,000 feet above the sea), yet there is an admirable breed of horses, and the Circassians are breeders of taste. Nevertheless, it is not as cavalry that the inhabitants are principally formidable to an invader, but as guerilla-fighters, whose superiors the world never saw—not even a Switzerland or an Scotland, in the fastnesses of the Tyrol, or in the Sierras of Spain.

Of the female type among the Circassians our Engravings furnish two or three specimens. The beauty of these women is of course well known—their too common destination is not worthy of the gallant and superior people. We have little to add respecting the accessories of the two sexes. We have delineated the sheepskin, here, as in so many other regions of Asia and of Eastern Europe, an essential part of the male costume. In mid-winter the wool is worn outwards—in wet and cold, the skin.

Within doors we see a lou-choke in a moment of ease and repose. Two men—a chief and an attendant—are about to depart not unnecessarily for the chase, for a Circassian never stirs abroad without his arms. The child lets his mother know that he would like to accompany his father. Others are regaling themselves. What tea smoker has on the stool before him is coffee, the strongest stimulant that is popular (for opium is the drug of a lost class) in the temperate East. The wooden jug on the floor contains water; and there is a wooden cup at hand.

The ancient names of the Circassian tribes were innumerable; but by far the most prominent classes in that region were the Iberians (the real and proper Iberians, not the Spaniards, as usually "Iberian" from the name Ebro), and the Albanians. These are the real and primitive Albanians. The first occupied the south-west part of the country, between the Black Sea and the Caspian; and the latter the eastern part, which is now Daghestan, with Derbend for its capital. The Russians, we need not say, have forced their passage right through both the "Caucasian gates and the "Albanian gates" (*Caucasiæ portæ*), and have marched as conquerors, long since, to Idis, and further still, to the lake and city of Erivan, in the Persian province of Azerbijan. And the present Viceroy and Governor-General of Poland, Prince Paskewitsch, who commanded the latter expedition, derives his proudest title from that ancient Persian place. He is Prince of Erivan, "Erivanski." But, with regard to the intermediate region, Schamyl, not Nicholas, is still the veritable master. Russian camps and forts in the Caucasus are "sword thrusts in the water." And the present rupture of Russia with Turkey, and with Europe, will be of immense importance to the brave Circassians, who are now furnished with proper supplies. The Tartar barbarian has been able to go to Colchis; but he will not be able to stay there. His communications with the outward base of operations are destroyed effectively—destroyed, we trust, for ever.

LITERARY MISCELLANIES.—No. XIII.

A PLEA FOR THE DONKEY.

MOST people have more or less contempt for Donkeys. "He's a mere Donkey!" is a common phrase; "An Ass of a fellow!" is another; "That chap ought to wear Donkey's ears!" is a third. I intend to put the ladies and gentlemen who use these phrases a little through their facings, and prove that there is neither rhyme nor reason in using the term asinine as identical with stupidity. Most of these people, indeed, have never given any head to the matter, but fixed their admiration on horses: "prancing steeds—dear, beautiful, sleek creatures, toss'n up their noble heads, and flying like the wind. Talk to us of Donkeys—poor, pitiful, ugly, miserable, little drudges—half starved—cuffed and owned by blackguards of costermongers, and as stupid as stupid can be."

Stop a little, and let us consider. The Donkey, it is admitted, is not so big as the horse; but the horse is not so big as the camel. Is the horse the worse for that? You answer, no. Well, is the Donkey the worse of the horse for being smaller? You must equally say no. Next, as to intelligence—which is most intelligent, the sharp-eyed terrier or the heavy and fierce bull-dog. Judge an animal by his intelligence and his capability for doing the work for which he is adapted, and you have the best test.

Now, let us try the horse and the Donkey by it. The Donkey is stronger in proportion than the horse: he can carry a greater load—he has more endurance—he can go a longer journey without giving in, than the horse—he can get on upon coarser food and a harder bed than the horse. It is calculated that if a man and a horse start on a journey together—each to go at his natural pace—the man will pass the horse on the third or fourth day, according to the vigour and endurance of either. Now, put a man on the horse and a boy on the Donkey and my life for yours, the same will be the result. The horse, after two days' travel, must have a day's rest. This is not necessary with the Donkey; he is more enduring; he has his night's sleep, and he goes on fresh for the third day, leaving his friend, the equine animal, being carefully groomed in the stable.

The finest horses tire themselves the soonest. The high pacing coursers, who almost strike their noses with their knees, are the soonest the food for the hounds, while nobody ever saw the Donkey attempt to damage his nasal organ with his knees. On the contrary, he starts off in a smart, neat, compact little trot, and can amble and even gallop if he pleases. The trot, however, is the Donkey's most enduring pace: on he goes, pit-a-pat, pit-a-pat—a little in-kneed in some specimens, but not worse trotters for that. Besides, the Donkey is a healthier and a hardier creature than the horse. I never heard of a Donkey having a cold in his head; but I have known horses with distressing coughs. I have seen horses dressed from head to foot in sanitary trappings, with their eyes looking out of holes like hobgoblins; but I never saw a Donkey wearing any apparel but his pannels. Another advantage of a Donkey is his patience—his patience of the load and of the blow. Lash a spirited horse, and he rears, snorts, perhaps attempts to bite the leg, or fling himself back on his tormentor, while he gains nothing by his turbulence save more flogging, or a gallop till he is utterly worn out, an ultimate submittance. Now the Donkey, when ill-treated, does not rear save his punishment by needless resistance. He hangs down his head, and, reasoning with himself, that his owner is his master, in the sense of common sense, comes off better than the horse. But the one is the spirited and noble beast, and the other is low. No, it may be answered, the first is foolish, and the second is wise. The one gets more stripes than the other, and the end, in both cases, is the same.

Now is a Donkey uglier than a horse? No; I insist that he is the more picturesque creature of the two. He is rugged in his coat, his mane hangs disorderly on his neck—so much the better. He is more in the state of nature. The pampered horse looks as if his coat had been rubbed with pomatum, and his mane operated upon by a *perruquier*. Which is the more picturesque; and, as picturesque—the more agreeable to look at? As a proof of this, it is a remarkable fact that all picturesque and nomade races have employed Donkeys in preference to horses—and that from the first existence of mammalia upon earth. The Zingarees of Spain use Asses; the Musketeers do not, but they are not nomade; they are trading, and sleep in posadas, while the gipsies of the land encamp in tents—a picturesque race, and their Donkeys as picturesque and as rough as themselves, for though, as we have said, the horse may be more stately and graceful—the mule more elegant in his trained amble—the Donkey, with its slim legs and neat compact trot, and its rough pile, is more picturesque than either of the other two. In regard to the western gipsies, I fear me that they are, in some degree, degenerating down into using horses; but the true scions of the Spanish and Bohemian gipsies will stick to the asses.

The Donkey is, indeed, essentially of the country. What is more beautiful than to see the travelling merchant, who supplies the petty hamlet and the labourer's hut with commodities from the town, camped in a grassy nook of a green English lane—the hawthorn edges towered over on either side by the lofty elms; the cart with its store of varied goods and chattels piled up in its broad shallow tray, and hanging from all convenient points of the vehicle; the one train, with its rope and leather traces on the ground; and the proprietor—a swarthy fellow, in a velveteen shooting coat, a long waistcoat, and a broad straw hat—is arranging his wares, and his two plump Donkeys are cropping out of bags slung round their necks beside him. Many a picture has been executed of such a scene—or of the gipsy encampments with their fires, and tents, pots, and their tents, and the Donkeys touching the leaves, but in vain, by their example, to lend in companies. Our painters, indeed, are fond of laying their heads together, although what the subjects which these senates discuss has not, as yet, been ascertained by any philosopher while the horses never give them an opportunity. Indeed, in point of phrenological development, the Donkey—always admitting the difference of size—is superior to the horse: the forehead of both being about equal in breadth—but the horses possessing a hollow behind above the eye, which detracts from the actual breadth of their brows. Besides, it is known that when a Donkey is associated with horses, he invariably takes the lead, and conducts the bigger animals from the stable to the pastures and from the pastures to the stable.

Though no doubt capable of struggling on through hard work, performed amid the toil and moil of clashing vans and heavy horses, coming under coal-sacks, or even the degradation of soot-sacks, yet I love to see the Donkey in its more primeval, or even suburban, aspects, where it carries young masters and misses along both the dusty roads or the bushy heaths, as the will and taste of the lurer may dictate. But be merciful, Master Smith, and be gentle, Miss Smith, and guide the hoofs which bear you to the pleasant trending on the heath amid the bushes, and beneath the shade of the spread trees. I saw a Donkey the other day upon the west—instead of hanging down its head it held it aloft, and on its forehead was a brass star. Its mane was smoother than the average, indicating the oft-applied comb; its coat, in its regularity of lay, announced a similar process; besides, its sides were plump—not a rib was to be seen; its harness was ornamented by brass ornaments, brightly scoured; its conductress was a maiden of tidy appearance, and the cargo of its cart was flowers. But that was an exceptional Donkey—exceptionally favoured. The general tool of the Donkey, when we find it in the country, is, as we have already sketched it, conveying the goods of rural traffickers, or accompanying the gang of gipsies. Sometimes the farmer presses it into his market service; and, driven by his portly lady, Dapple trots briskly along with a lading of vegetables, lots of dairy produce, poultry, and eggs. In watering-places, whether sea-side or mineral, Donkeys abound, and are in their element. In the former you see them trotting under the white cliff, leaving the imprint of their small hoofs on the firm sand, bearing children rosy with sea-breezes, and braced with salt-water, under the guardianship of sea-side costumed parents—one arrayed in a light shooting-coat, broad straw hat, flowing white trousers, yellow slippers, and a telescope slung in a case round his shoulder; the other, in a little straw *chapeau*, and a general marine *negligée*—suited for sand, shingle, and clambering amid the rocks. At mineral spas Donkeys may be frequently seen waiting for hire round the pump-room, and performing their usual functions, as the animated conveyances, mostly of children, but occasionally of a party of sporting young ladies; or drawing peacefully along some yellow-faced old nabob, who prefers the easy pace of the Donkey, with a walking attendant, to the more restive paces of a frisky pony, which would too rudely shake up his bilious old corporation.

Occasionally you find the Donkey attached—as a sort of appanage—to the general establishment of the horses of a great house. Sir Walter Scott, in his Diary, narrates that at Abbotsford—if we mistake not—they had two female asses, for the double purpose of giving milk to the family, and pulling the vehicle in which Lady Scott and the young ladies took the drives round the grounds. These animals—which were "winkedly" as Scott says, nick-named by the girls, "Hannah Moore" and "Lady Morgan"—were kept in a paddock, and even if they were at its furthest end from the house, when Sir Walter, or indeed any member of the family with whom they were familiar—appeared, both Donkeys, sending forth joyful neighs, galloped up and laid their muzzles upon the pales, rubbing their rough heads against the kindly hands presented to them.

Supplying families with milk leads us to a slight sketch of another subject of a more melancholy cast. Has the reader ever seen a sleek female Donkey being conducted to the stately portals of a great house? and has he marked her being milked there, and noticed at a drawing-room window—watching the process—the slender form of a young girl, with hectic cheeks and gleaming eyes, and a deadly pale forehead, evidently, from the motion of her lips and her chest, the prey to that fearful plague—consumption? Presently, the Donkey's reeking milk is carried into the mansion, and the young patient disappears from the window. She takes the milk as a medicine: the Donkey is her unconscious doctor. Now, is the milk of any other animal used in the same way? No doubt, to the tribes of the Calmucks and the Scythians, mare's milk is a copious article of diet. But it is only the lacteal fluid of the ass that has obtained the celebrity of being, if not a curative, at least a palliative, of the wearing cough before which fade so many of the fairest of our younger population. What result naturally follows? Why, that there is some more subtle and curative influence in the milk of the female Ass than in that of any other known animal.

There are a number of other particulars which we could mention about the Ass—the Biblical reputation which it possesses, and to which tradition assigns the dark stripe down its back, but, turning to more mundane topics, we may refer for a moment to the immortal Dapple, and admire how Dapple always kept out of the scrape when Rosinante's shoulders were basted; and how, while the sails of the windmill were rolling Rosinante over and over, Dapple was quietly cropping the thistles of La Mancha. Who, again, does not lament that in the wilds of the Sierra Morena, when Sancho had gone peaceably to bed on the back of Dapple, the rascally Gines de Passamonte clances to come by, and cunningly subtracts the most immortal of all Asses from under its master's seat, leaving him upon the tressels of his dearly-beloved, supported by four rascally sticks. True, amends are made; and who does not rejoice when Sancho, trudging along in the train of the Princess Micomicona, and in the midst of a goodly company, suddenly espies no less a personage than the redoubted Gines di Passamente, mounted upon the still more redoubted Dapple, who, perceiving the rightful owner supported by such a formidable party, leaps off the back of the outraged Dapple, and scours off with all the speed the greatest scoundrel in Spain could muster, while Sancho and Dapple shed mutual tears of joy upon each other.

A. B. R.

PAUVRE PETITE CATARINA,

THE LITTLE WANDERING SINGER.

BY GRACE GREENWOOD.

By thine eyes, where sorrow striveth
With the sunshine of the South;
By the heart's ungathered sweetness,
Reddening round thy tender mouth;

By thy slight form's mournful drooping;
By its soft, unconscious grace;
By the vague, unchildish trouble
Shadowing o'er thy morning face,—

Do we read a want unanswered,
Asked in, searching everywhere—
All a hungered heart's wild yearning
For the mother-love and care.

Days there were—by baby beauty
Knew no dream—no grief-eclipse;
When Joy fondled thee—Love only
Kissed its impress on thy lips.

But vain seeking, weary waiting,
Sober all that beauty now;
And untempered suns have duskly
Coloured o'er fair cheek and brow.

Riseth to thy lonely dreaming,
O'er a weary home-ess waste,
Vision of some lordly castle,
Or gay palace, fitly graced?

Light and glow and pictured splendors—
Forms of knight and noble maid,
Dancing o'er the shining marbles,
Sating in the jasmin shade?

Golden fruitage of the orange,
Orbed sunshine—luscious bloom
Of the crimson-cleft pomegranate—
Rose-illumined cypress gloom?

Quivering flash of gorgeous plumage—
Wave of flags where waters run—
Silver gleam of plashing fountains,
Making rainbows in the sun?

Singles out thy heart some figure,
Peerless in its gentle grace?
For one instant shines before thee,
Clear and sweet, the mother-face?

Is the father-look upon thee?
Does he rock thee on his breast,
Smoothing down thy baby-ringlets,
Hushing every sigh to rest?

No! that vague and wistful sadness,
Yearning from thy patient eyes,
Tells of blanks in memory's tablets,
Tells of baffling mysteries.

Dreams thou'st called those loving faces,
Scarcely questioning whence they came;
Faint and far the old home voices—
Half forgot the baby-name.

In thy ways, poor wandering singer,
Thou may'st e'en have paused and sung
At the home door, while unto thee
Kindred hands have careless flung.

Only silver for thy singing—
Yet some maternal strain, perchance,
May have reached thy lady-mother,
And pierced her heart amid the dance.

* * * * *

Gone, the changing scenes of fancy;
And again my glances fall
Only on a simple picture
Hung against my chamber wall.

'Tis a young Italian singer,
Leaning on her tambourine;
Musing in the purple twilight,
With a sad, unchildlike mien.

"Pauvre petite Catarina!"
Says the painter—and no more;
But my heart, dreamed out her story,
And still loves to con it o'er.

Often do I vainly question—
Have her tired feet ceased to roam?
Hath her sweet voice lost its sadness—
Singing in her new-found home?

Can she on her mother's bosom,
Love's divinest birth-right claim?
Learns she in beloved voices
Once again the baby-name?

Is her heart-thirst quenched in kisses?
Hath her little sun-burnt face
Caught from joy and sweet contentment
Yet a rarer, truer grace?

Thus before thy gifted, beloved,
Fancies wild and yearning wake
In my heart; but most I love it,
I confess, in its present state.

Philadelphia, U. S., February 3, 1854.

TRUTHS FROM FARMERS.

THE master of a Ragged School, who had exhausted all the stereotyped plans of reward and punishment, without being able to make his vagabond pupils keep their faces clean, at length succeeded by a very simple expedient: he put a looking-glass in the passage by which they entered the school-room, just over where the little used soap, basin, and jack-towel had long been displayed in vain.

The dirt, previously unconsciously worn by more than half the ragged ones, disappeared with marvellous celerity, and very soon the habit of cleanliness was established. There was nothing in the mechanical or chemical qualities of a shilling shaving-glass to make long-accustomed dirt peel off ragamuffin faces, but it told the truth, and the truth set the young dirt-pie makers a scrubbing. In the same way the sea captain, who had taken to use a barometer, after having studied the law of storms, shortened sail, and made all snug while the sky was clear, because the barometer suddenly fell, and saved his ship in the midst of the same hurricane that sent unwarned captains' ships to the bottom. The barometer was no magic antidote, but it warned the wise captain to look out for squalls

So, too, the mere art of book-keeping, however beautiful in theory and exact in practice, will not make a trader's fortune, or even save him from ruin: but in its results, by its severe truth-telling qualities, it has prevented thousands of traders from cheating themselves, and thus at once warned them from bankruptcy and led them to fortune. In every pursuit one important element of success is to leave as little as possible to guess-work.

What the mirror is to those who would be clean-faced—what the barometer and the compass are to the mariner—what correct accounts to the trader—statistics are to a nation. That and no more. They serve the double purpose of encouragement and warning, they guard equally against undue depression and elevation.

The old Millers of the "Three Black Crows" and of the "Barnfull of Gin" illustrate the manner in which rumour deals with public questions in which figures are concerned. How many Irish orators were robbed of their material of their eloquence by the figures of the last Census and the statistics of Irish agriculture!

For some years past the science and the practice of statistics have made steady progress in England, although, in the collection of figure facts, we are still far behind the Prussians, and other of the more educated German States.

The taste for statistical facts gathers strength from the wide extension of our commerce, and the rapidity with which news is transmitted between the most distant regions. An ordinary newspaper now contain a mass of materials for statistics—the price of produce in markets all over the world, in the pound of corn before the Corn Laws, the principal markets, not only of England, but of Europe; and even in the quotations of the betting ring on the next great race of the year, from the resorts of turfmen in London, Manchester, Newmarket, and Doncaster—which proves immensely the demand there is for a kind of information of perfectly modern origin

It is under these circumstances of preparation that a very general demand has arisen among the non-agricultural, and the more intelligent of the agricultural community, for the establishment of a system of agricultural statistics. We regret the necessity of using this hard word to signify nothing more than a correct return of the annual *produce* and *resources of agriculture*; for nothing alarms a farmer so much as a hard word with a Greek or Latin derivation. Long lectures have been by degrees consumed to the preliminary forms of statistical collection; they are [illegible] the imposing and exporting. They see once a year, at least, the assessed taxgatherer, and answer his questions, as to horses, carriages, men-servants, dog-dogs, and hair powder: farmers don't pay assessed taxes. They fill up income-tax papers full of small-trivial inquiries: farmers make a mere return of their rent. They have no official inquiries as to extension [illegible] owners, or lodging-house-keepers: in various capacities, they are [illegible] with the numerous cross-questionings as to [illegible] examination, banishment, medical attendance, [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible] of property, and the [illegible] of registrations, an Englishman is pursued from his cradle to his grave. Farmers [illegible] [illegible] ing, live out of the world, don't [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

PRIVATE. PRIVATE.

THE ROYAL REG

[illegible] FIELD BATTERY OFFICER.—UNDRESS. OFFICER.—FULL DRESS. GUNNER AND DRIVER, FIELD BATTERY. OFFICER, FIELD BATTERY.

T OF ARTILLERY.

LITERATURE.

HISTORY OF THE FRENCH PROTESTANT REFUGEES, from the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes to the Present Time. By CHARLES WEISS, Professeur d'Histoire at the Lycée Bonaparte. Translated, with the assistance of the Author, by Frederick Hardman. Blackwood and Sons

The doctrines of the Reformation were introduced into France at the commencement of the sixteenth century, during the reign of Francis I. In 1519, two years after Luther had openly denied the infallibility of the Church of Rome, the Faculty of Theology of Paris denounced the new opinions; and, in 1521, the Sorbonne published their famous condemnation of the Lutheran heresy. John Calvin, the great apostle of the French Reformers, a native of Noyon, in Picardy, where he was born on the 10th July, 1509, acquired a wonderful popularity after the publication of his "Christian Institutions," which, in 1536 he boldly dedicated to Francis I. This work became a standard of faith and discipline, and gave fixedness and unity to the preachers of the Reformed doctrine. The Faculty of Theology at Paris drew up an answer to that book, in which they minutely detailed the Catholic systems of Orthodoxy, and the two parties joined issue on their respective documents: Calvin triumphed, and France, urged by the priests, gave herself up to a long extermination of the heresy by the sword. Dating from the Conspiracy of Amboise, in 1560 to the Peace of Vervins, signed on the 2nd May, 1598, the religious wars of France had continued during thirty-six years, spread ruin through the country, and deluged its best blood, splintering the moral character of its people. This is the grand epoch of the Guises and the Châtillons, the leaders of the respective parties; of the massacre of St. Bartholomew, and of the celebrated Henry IV. At the termination of these wars, the famous Edict of Nantes was promulgated, which has certainly received more laudation than it deserved, for it was rather an Act of Toleration than a Charter of Liberty. Amiable, frank, and chivalrous, Henry IV. was deficient in firmness and sincerity, and is not unjustly accused of having had a religious opinion and but a feeble hold on his heart, when he joyously said to his more intimate friends before his real or pretended conversion, "Paris is well worth a mass." That he was despotic may be inferred from the fact that he opposed the decree of the Parliament by their own authority, and in spite of justice. How much can we admire a Prince who ostentatiously boasted that he was "every peasant had a fowl daily for dinner, and yet signed the atrocious law which condemned a peasant to the whip and the galleys for killing or snaring a rabbit! It has been urged in his defence that in framing the Edict of Nantes he gave to the Calvinists all the religious liberty he was able to concede; but this posthumous justification is not admitted by his contemporaries

The volume before us, as the title imports, narrates the history of the French Protestant Refugees who sought new homes in foreign countries, after Louis XIV had revoked the Edict of Nantes; but three introductory chapters precede the main subject, and to these we will first turn our attention. Louis XIII. and Louis XIV. himself solemnly confirmed the Edict. During the minority of the former, "the Regent, Mary of Medicis, declared, in the name of the King, that he recognised that the observance of this edict had established an assured peace *among his subjects*." For which reason, they make the King "and no other, understand that this edict be perpetual and irrevocable; consequently needs not be confirmed by a new declaration, nevertheless, in order that our above-named subjects may be assured of our good will, we make known, pronounce, and declare that the said Edict of Nantes, and all its rescripts and articles, shall be inviolably kept." Louis XIII. confirmed this declaration when he became of age, and Louis XIV. himself, during his minority. When it was shortly afterwards proposed to the Assembly of the Clergy of the Notables, that the first act of his coronation oath, should expel from his dominions all *heretics denounced by the Church*, Louis XIII made a declaration, which, says M. Weiss, "is one of the finest documents of that French policy which is to the following terms, "protesting his intention of preserving the edict inviolate, he declared that he experienced very great displeasure at the contention which among the Catholic deputies of the Chamber of Nobility, and the Clergy, to bring about the abolition of the edict, and afterwards declared that they desired the observance of the peace established." But what was most remarkable in this act of Louis XIII was, that he could not, without violence in religious matters, "by a stroke of the pen, cut off the number of those who had quitted the Church, and compel them into the path that would have led them."

Louis XIV., during the first years of his reign, confirmed, to the Protestants, and Madame de Maintenon, the edict of his father and predecessor. M. Weiss quotes one of her letters, addressed to the Princess Palatine, in 1677, which discusses the King's sentiments, and the means to be employed to restore the Huguenots to the Church. Our extracts from this letter, which we regret, for as our author justly observes "it is a precious memorial of Louis XIV.'s true sentiments at that time," She tells her brother to have compassion on people who are "born in error, and who have not examined with care the foundations of their faith," and reminds him that "God has given to kings the power of bringing back to the truth the number of those who had quitted it, but not that of compelling

EDUCATION CENSUS.

ENGLAND AND WALES.

We have now the Report of the Census Commissioners on Education. The delay in producing it is partly accounted for by the return having been incomplete, and by the Commissioners having opened a correspondence with their officers to get information concerning several thousand schools, not included in the returns. A whole year elapsed before the correspondence closed, and then it required a considerable time to reduce the multiplied and complex materials into order. 86 returns were received from 44,836 day schools (15,411 public and 29,425 private); from 20,197 Sunday schools; from 1545 evening schools for adults; and from 1057 Literary, Scientific, and Mechanics' Institutions." From 1026 other day schools (107 public and 1089 private), and 457 other Sunday schools, no returns were procured. Assuming that such of these last-named schools contained, upon an average, as many scholars, as each of the schools which made returns, the following is the general result:—

	Day Schools.			Sunday Schools	Evening Schools for Adults
	Total.	Public	Private.		
School's	46,012	15,518	30,324	23,514	1,545
Scholars ..	2,144,378	1,422 982	721,396	2,407,642	39,783

The total number of males in day schools is estimated to be 1,157,685, and of females 986 693; of which there are in public schools, 801,146 males and 621,836 females; and in private schools, 356,522 males and 364,857 females. The male scholars in Sunday schools are estimated to be 1 [illegible]3,783, and the female 1,213,859.

SCHOOLS AND SCHOLARS AT DIFFERENT PERIODS. We must remind the reader, that some of the latter end of [illegible] popular education has engaged the energies of many of the most philanthropic men of the age. Till 1833, the object was promoted exclusively by private exertions. Then the Government began to devote to it a portion of taxation, and from that time till 1850 appears about $1,000, 00. The result of this activity, is thus explained:—

It appears as to Day-schools that while in 1818 there was a scholar for every 17.26 persons, and in 1833 a scholar for every 11 26 persons; and as to Sunday-schools, it appears that while in 1818 there was one Sunday-scholar for every 24.40 persons, and in 1833 one scholar to every 9 28 persons, in 1851 there was one scholar to every 7 45 persons. The increase between 1818 and 1851 was, of day-scholars, 213 per cent., and of Sunday-scholars 404 per cent; while the increase of population was but 54 per cent.

The following Table shows the figures for each of the three periods:—

Periods.	Population at each Period.	Number of Scholars in Day-Schools		Proportion of Scholars to Population in Day-Schools	
		Who are also Sunday-Scholars	Day-Scholars only	Who are also Sunday-Scholars	Day-Scholars only
				One in	One in
1818	11,549,683	674,883	477,235	17.25	24 10
1833	14,386,448	1,276,347	1,048,890	11 27	9 28
1851	17,927,609	2,144,378	2,407,642	8.36	7 45

We will now subjoin a Table to show how many of our present schools had their origin before the beginning of this century, and how many since.—

Date.	Number of existing Schools established at each period.		
	Total	Public	Private.
Before 1801	3 3.3	2,879	457
1801 — 1811	1 0 2	559	443
1811 — 1821	2,207	1,140	1,067
1821 — 1831	4,484	1,958	2,527
1831 — 1841	7,467	3,035	4,432
1841 — 1851	22,414	5,484	16,930
Date not specified ..	4,267	1,169	3,098
Total	45,049	15,516	30,524

PROPORTION OF CHILDREN AT SCHOOL.—This rate of progress is satisfactory. It is generally assumed that the provision for education is sufficient if 1 in 8 of the population can attend school. On the population returned by the Census, 17,927 609 for England and Wales, this proportion gives 2,240 951 scholars as the number who should then have been receiving instruction; and the number was 2,144,378 independent of Sunday scholars, or 1 in 8.36, it is plain that the means of education in England and Wales are not so deficient as they are generally represented. Probably, however, a few youths more than can find schooling, like a few quarters of corn at a market, more than is required, gives, as it were, a bad character to the whole, and degrades the market, or the morality, in proportion far more than commensurate to the arithmetical surplus. From the information ga hered by the Census, as to the ages and occupations of the people, Mr. Mann is of opinion that about 4,8.8 696 persons between the ages of three and fifteen, in England and Wales, ought to be at school. Deducting from this number 1,100,000 as so engaged in occupations as to be unable to attend, 5 per cent. for those who are ill, and 200,000 for those educated at home—he says 3,668,26. children should be at school. Further deductions, however, are to be made for the age at which parents will choose to allow their children to remain at school—only rarely to so late an age as fifteen years—and will consent to send them—as the rule, not before they are five years old; and making allowances for these, the conclusion is that 3,000,000 children should be at school (8,015,462). Assuming this to be the standard, our means of education are yet very deficient, and the number of children who attend day-schools, is 800,000 less than ought to attend, or almost a third.

We doubt, however, whether the age of fifteen be not much too high to expect children to remain at school. In practice boys go to work when they are twelve years old, or at an earlier age, and the practice is better than the theory. When the mind and the limbs are growing and plastic, both are easily fashioned to perform what is to be the actual business of the mature and rigid man. At fifteen the mind and the body have both acquired peculiar habits that may not be suitable for the business the man will have to live by. Except, perhaps, for a few occupations, such as those of the counting-house and a part of factory labour, school life is not, and cannot be, a fitting preparation for business. How can school give a boy the habits and taste suitable to a sailor? The age of fifteen places the limit of remaining at school too high. We prefer, therefore, the general estimate of that of Mr. Mann; and conclude that the national means of education are, on the whole now very little, if at all, deficient, were they properly and equally distributed.

WHAT IS TAUGHT.—The following is an account of what the children are generally taught.

In the 44,836 school establishments of England and Wales, from which returns were received, it appears that boys were taught (alone or along with girls) in 41,035 (14,295 public and 26,040 private), while girls were taught (alone or along with boys) in 40,416 (14,084 public, and 26,332 private). The number in which instruction was given in each of the eleven subjects, as to which inquiry was preferred, is given in the following Table:—

Subjects of Instruction.	Boys' Schools				Girls' Schools			
	Number of Schools in which instruction is given upon each subject.		Percentage in which instruction is given upon each subject.		Number of Schools in which instruction is given upon each subject.		Percentage in which instruction is given upon each subject.	
	Public	Private	Public	Private	Public	Private	Public	Private
Total number of Schools ..	13 741	21,252	100	100	11,837	21,091	100	100
Reading	13,345	20,780	98 4	97.8	11,745	20,651	99.2	93 2
Writing	13,504	11,724	98.8	55 2	11,814	13,288	99.8	63 0
Arithmetic	10 767	10,331	78 3	48.1	9,847	11,123	83 2	52 7
English Grammar	7,886	7,400	61 7	34 8	5,283	9,052	44 4	42 9
Geography	4,914	4,841	35 8	22 9	3,740	7,369	31 6	34 9
Mod rn Languages	341	2 078	2 5	9 8	262	1,502	2 2	7 1
Ancient ditto ..	778	1,041	5 6	4 9	44	40	0 4	0 2
Mathematics ..	744	2,965	5 4	13 9	44	187	0 4	0 7
Drawing	1,418	1,783	10 3	8 4	347	1,761	2 8	8 4
Music	453	1,161	3 3	5 5	1,410	3,353	11 9	15 8
Industrial Occupations ..	620	250	4 9	1 2	5,264	6 606	45 3	31 5

* The term "school" is used to denote a distinct establishment. Thus, a school for both boys and girls, if under one general management and confined in one range of buildings, is regarded as any one school, although the [illegible] may be separated in separate compartments of the building, under separate superintendence.

The number of scholars instructed in particular branches of learning, so far as concerns 1 8.8,024 children out of the 2 144 378 [illegible], or 1 240 093 connected with public schools (698,167 males and 540,926 females), and 30 577 81 connected with private schools (383 445 males and 358,483 females), is—

Subjects of Instruction.	Boys		Girls.			
	Number of Scholars learning instruction upon each subject.	Percentage of the whole Number of Scholars.	Number of Scholars in each subject, as returned in Instruction upon each subject.	Percentage of the whole Number of Scholars.		
	Public Schools.	Private Schools.	Public Schools.	Private Schools.	Public Schools.	Private Schools.
Total number of Scholars ..	698,167	383,448	100	100	540,926	358,483	100	100
Reading	693,8[illegible]	4,[illegible]	99	84	540,[illegible]	2,[illegible]	99	87 4
Writing	3,[illegible]	3,[illegible]	0[illegible]	0[illegible]	1[illegible]	2,[illegible]	0[illegible]	0[illegible]
Arithmetic	3[illegible]	3,[illegible]	0[illegible]	0[illegible]	1[illegible]	2,[illegible]	0[illegible]	0[illegible]
English Grammar	[illegible]	[illegible]	25[illegible]	31 [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Geography ..	9,[illegible]	[illegible]	1[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Modern Languages	16,[illegible]	[illegible]	2 4	8 3	[illegible]	[illegible]	1 0	7 8
Ancient ditto ..	18,[illegible]	[illegible]	2 7	8 2	[illegible]	[illegible]	0 2	0 6
Mathematics ..	19,23[illegible]	[illegible]	2 8	5 9	[illegible]	[illegible]	0 [illegible]	0 3
Drawing	36,[illegible]	[illegible]	5 [illegible]	6 6	[illegible]	[illegible]	1 0	0 4
Music	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	12 6	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Industrial Occupations ..	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

The education of females at school is less general than that of males. Of the 2,144,378 scholars, there were 1,157,685 scholars, or 132 per cent; and out of 2,146 384 females, there were only 986,693 scholars, or 108 per cent. A larger proportion of boys than of girls continue late at school. The following Table shows the comparative proportion of Education in different Counties:—

County.	[illegible]	County	[illegible]	County	[illegible]
Bedford	10 4	Kent	13 9	Suffolk	12 3
Berks	13.3	Lancaster	10 6	Surrey	12.5
Buckingham ..	[illegible]	Leicester	12.5	Sussex	[illegible]
Cambridge	10.1	Lincoln	12.8	Warwick	12.8
Chester	12.1	Middlesex	10 0	Westmorland ..	[illegible]
Cornwall	10 9	Monmouth	9.0	Wilts	[illegible]
Cumberland ..	13 0	Norfolk	12 1	Worcester	11 0
Derby	11 6	Northampton ..	12.5	York, East Riding	[illegible]
Devon	11 4	Northumberland	12 3	York, City ..	10 7
Dorset	[illegible]	Nottingham ..	12 4	York, North Riding	13 7
Durham	[illegible]	Oxford	13 8	York, Wilding ..	12 3
Essex	12 6	Rutland	14.8	North Wales ..	9.0
Gloucester	12.2	Salop	11.0	South Wales ..	8.6
Hereford	9.9	Somerset	12 1		
Hertford	14 0	Southampton ..	14 3	ENGLAND AND WALES ..	12 0
Huntingdon ..	14.0	Stafford	[illegible]		

SCHOOLS CLASSIFIED.—We have stated above the total number of schools and scholars; and must now quote a Table in which these schools are classified:—

Classes of Public Schools.	Number of Schools	Number of Scholars.		
		Total.	Males	Females
Class I.—Supported by Gene al or Local Taxation	610	48,826	28,708	20,118
Class II. Supported by Endowments	3,126	206,379	138 498	67,781
Class III.—Supported by Rel[illegible]	10,595	1,048,851	569 209	479 [illegible]
Class IV. —Other Public Schools ..	1,081	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Total of Public School's ..	[illegible]	[illegible]	736 [illegible]	[illegible]

PUBLIC AND ENDOWED SCHOOLS.—Of the first class, thirty five are military and fourteen naval schools; one is a school supported by the Woods and Forests; and three are corporation schools. 523 are workhouse schools; and thirty-four prison schools. 28,703 males and 20 118 females are taught. From 107 public schools no returns were obtained and they are not included Of the schools supported by endowment, 866 are collegiate and grammar schools, and 2559 are "other endowed schools." Besides these, forty schools primarily supported by religious bodies, are endowed, and 27 schools are endowed by public subscription; making, in fact, the total of other endowed schools, or schools receiving any amount of endowment, 4021, which teach 171,479 scholars. The total sum of all schools supported by endowment is stated to be £288 986, which is very much below the usual estimate of £500 000 devoted to this purpose Between 1751 and 1801 there were endowed 879 schools, and between 1801 and 1851, 883. The date of the most ancient endowed school is A.D 1216, and then follows 1268, 1284, 1360, and so on.

SCHOOLS SUPPORTED BY RELIGIOUS BODIES — These have been rapidly augmented. The schools of Class III. amounting 10,595 came into existence in the following periods:—

	No. of Schools.
Before 1801	766
1801- 1811	416
1811—1821	879
1821—1831	1,021
1831—1841	2,417
1841—1851	4 604
Not stated	498

Within the last fourteen years, therefore, 4604 schools have been built, supposed to be capable of containing 460,000 scholars, which is a striking testimony to the zeal for education displayed in our age. Of the expense, it is said —

"The total income, for the year 1850, of the 5761 schools, from which sufficiently authentic statements were received was £598,937. The number of scholars in these schools being 634,184, this makes the average annual expense of each to be 14s. 6d. If it can be assumed that the income of the remaining 4834 schools was the same per scholar as that of the above 5761, the total annual income of the whole 10,595 schools in Class III. having 1 048 851 scholars, will be £760,218; and if the 2113 schools belonging to religious bodie:—which have been placed amongst "Endowed Schools" in Class II.—be taken into account, the total income will be £905,188 for 1,158,736 scholars; as follows:

Sources of Income.	Schools in Class III.		Total of Schools supported in any degree by Religious Bodies.	
	Aggregate Income.	Average Amount per Scholar	Aggregate Income.	Average Amount per Scholar
	£	£ s. d.	£	£ s. d.
From Permanent Endowment ..	25,779	0 0 6	192,687	1 0 7
,, Voluntary Contributions	376,340	0 7 2	4 5,9[illegible]	0 6 8
,, Grants from Government	42,064	0 0 10	43,[illegible]	0 0 9
,, Payments by Scholars ..	299,185	0 4 11	2[illegible]	0 5 0
,, Other Sources	56,900	0 1 1	[illegible]	0 0 2
Total	760,218	0 14 6	960,188	0 16 2

For 3232 of the schools of religious bodies there are 44 167 teachers (22,176 males and 21,991 females), thus composed, viz, 14,558 general teachers (5902 masters and 8656 mistresses), 8312 paid monitors and pupil teachers (4418 males and 3894 females), and 20,597 unpaid teachers (11,856 males and 9141 females). These teachers instruct 876 926 scholars (486 112 males and 391 126 females). It is assumed that the proportions of teachers to scholars is the same in the remaining 2[illegible] schools as in the above 3232, the total number of teachers, and of each kind, in the schools of religious bodies, contained in Class III., will be—

	Total.	Males.	Females.
Masters and Mistresses ..	17,922	5,91[illegible]	10,[illegible]
Paid Monitors and Pupil-Teachers ..	10,073	5,76[illegible]	4,[illegible]
Unpaid Teachers	25,[illegible]	13 342	11 [illegible]
Total	53 [illegible]	26 07[illegible]	27,[illegible]

From what can be gathered, from the fact[illegible] named for the two counties of Lancashire and Lincolnshire, the accom[illegible] general being imperfect, it appears that the average attendance of [illegible] is £55, and of mistresses, £31.

THE EXTENT OF SCHOOL ACCOMMODATION provided by different religious bodies is seen by the following Table:—

Religious Denominations	Number of Schools and Sittings [illegible] in connexion therewith. Scholars [illegible] any Amount from Religious Bodies.	
	Schools.	Scholars
London Sa[illegible]		
Church of England	10,555	929,474
Church of Scotland	5	945
United Presbyterian Church ..	3	377
Presbyterian Church in England ..	23	2,223
Calvinistic Methodists	1	315
Primitive Methodists	13	2,940
Independents	453	97,956
Baptists	131	9,959
Society of Friends	24	2,976
Unitarians	39	4,906
Moravians	7	966
Wesleyan Methodists	381	41,044
Methodist New Connection ..	14	1,951
Primitive Methodists	23	1,815
Bible Christians	8	577
Wesleyan Association	14	1,476
Calvinistic Methodists	44	2,995
Lady Huntingdon's Connexion ..	10	714
New Church	9	1,051
Isolated Congregations	69	5,865
Other Protestant Congregations	14	1,144
Latter Day Saints	2	221
Protestants	1	15
German Protestants	2	145
Roman Catholics	33	4,382
Jews	15	2,251
Not connected with any particular denomination	511	52,57
Others	4	1,064
Total	13,[illegible]	[illegible],[illegible],[illegible]

Of course, at all these schools "common things" are taught, and it is [illegible] from the statements already given, that in the public girls' schools, about 45 per cent of the more useful manual occupations are taught; while, of the public boys' schools, only 4½ per cent of the whole are those only, at one taught. But the only [illegible] one of the males [illegible] more out of doors than the occupations of females, the latter can better than the former be taught in schools.

SPECIAL Schools, or other Public Schools, are classified and enumerated as follows:—

Description of Schools.	No. of Scholars		Description of Schools.	No. of Scholars	
	Males	Females		Males	Females
Ragged Schools (exclusive of those of the Religious Bodies)	1[illegible]	[illegible]	Foundry School	1	55
Orphan Schools	[illegible]	[illegible]	Model Lodging Houses ..	[illegible]	[illegible]
Blind Schools	[illegible]	[illegible]	Industrial Schools	[illegible]	[illegible]
Deaf and Dumb Schools	9	20[illegible]	Agricultural Schools ..	[illegible]	[illegible]
Schools for Idiots	1	[illegible]	Reformatory Schools ..	[illegible]	[illegible]
Factory Schools	[illegible]	[illegible]	Union Workhouse Schools ..	1	96
Charity Schools	4.	2,	Subscription School	1	[illegible]
Chemical Works	4	44[illegible]	Schools of no specific character	[illegible]	[illegible]
			Total	[illegible]	[illegible]

Ragged schools, factory schools, and schools of an [illegible] character, altogether accommodate nearly 100,000 out of the 1,[illegible],221 scholars.

EVENING SCHOOLS FOR ADULTS are a useful novelty. Returns were obtained from 1545, which are frequented by 27,839 male and by 11,954 female scholars. Two are free, at the others the payments are from less than 2d. to upwards of 5d. per week. The comparisons of the schools, and the subjects taught, are comprised in the two following Tables:—

Occupations of Scholars.	Number of Scholars	Occupations of Scholars.	Number of Scholars.
Soldiers	[illegible]	Knitters	180
Chemists	[illegible]	Greengrocers	5
Seamen	[illegible]	Tobacconists	2
Domestic Servants ..	1,[illegible]	Beamaker	9
Hotel Keepers	[illegible]	Weavers	154
Victuallers	[illegible]	Factory Hands	[illegible]
Washerwomen	[illegible]	Lacemakers	16
Dressmakers	[illegible]	Millers	274
Clerks	[illegible]	Colliers	16
Employed in Offices ..	[illegible]	Coal-dealer	1
Hawker	[illegible]	Quarriers	18
Shopkeepers	[illegible]	Surveyor	5
Book-keepers	[illegible]	Lead Miners	50
Seamen	[illegible]	Labourers	511
Artizans	[illegible]	Woman	11,405
Agricultural Labourers ..	[illegible]	Apprentices	92
Fishermen	[illegible]	Occupation not stated ..	[illegible]
Bricklayers	[illegible]		
Milkman	[illegible]	Total	[illegible]
Butchers	[illegible]		

Subjects taught.	No. of Schools in which each subject is taught	Subjects taught.	No. of School in which each subject is taught.
Reading	[illegible]	Navigation	[illegible]
Writing	[illegible]	Physical Sciences ..	[illegible]
Arithmetic	[illegible]	Phonography and Shorthand ..	[illegible]
English Grammar ..	[illegible]	Sewing and Knitting ..	[illegible]
Geography	[illegible]	Chemistry	[illegible]
Mathematics	[illegible]	Geometry	[illegible]
Modern Languages ..	[illegible]	Algebra	[illegible]
Ancient Languages ..	[illegible]	Astronomy	[illegible]
History	[illegible]	Logic	[illegible]
Drawing	[illegible]	Arts and Sciences ..	[illegible]
Music and Singing ..	[illegible]	Mechanics	[illegible]
Elocution	[illegible]	Sculpture	[illegible]
Book-keeping	[illegible]	Religious Knowledge ..	[illegible]

We must add that there are in England and Wales 1[illegible] literary, scientific, and mechanics' institutions, of which seventy-seven are in Middlesex, and 155 in the West Riding of Yorkshire The Sunday-schools amount to 23,[illegible]; with 2,407,642 scholars, fought by 318,[illegible] teachers.

SCOTLAND.

Of Scotland the Report states:—"The total number of scholars in day schools reporting which information has been forwarded was 2[illegible],817 This gives a proportion to the population of Scotland (2,[illegible],742) of 12.76 per cent, or 1 scholar to every 7 [illegible] inhabitants. Making [illegible] a fair allowance for deficient returns, it seems probable that about 11 per cent (or 1 in 7) of the people of Scotland are at school, the number returned as scholars was 426,556. The following Table presents a comparison of the figures gathered from both sources of intelligence:—

Counties	Number of Scholars according to the Educational Census.	Number of Scholars according to the Population Tables.	Counties.	Number of Scholars. According to the Educational Census.	According to the Population Tables.
Aberdeen	39,27[illegible]	49,[illegible]	Kirkcudbright	[illegible]	7 425
Argyll	11,347	14,[illegible]	Lanark	[illegible]	[illegible]
Ayr	23,[illegible]	[illegible]	Linlithgow	[illegible]	[illegible]
Banff	[illegible]	[illegible]	Nairn	[illegible]	[illegible]
Berwick	[illegible]	[illegible]	Orkney and Shetland ..	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bute	[illegible]	[illegible]	Peebles	[illegible]	[illegible]
Caithness	[illegible]	[illegible]	Perth	[illegible]	[illegible]
Clackmannan	[illegible]	[illegible]	Renfrew	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dumbarton	[illegible]	[illegible]	Ross and Cromarty ..	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dumfries	[illegible]	[illegible]	Roxburgh	[illegible]	[illegible]
Edinburgh	[illegible]	[illegible]	Selkirk	[illegible]	[illegible]
Elgin	[illegible]	[illegible]	Stirling	[illegible]	[illegible]
Fife	[illegible]	[illegible]	Sutherland	[illegible]	[illegible]
Forfar	[illegible]	[illegible]	Wigtown	[illegible]	[illegible]
Haddington	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Inverness	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Kincardine	[illegible]	[illegible]	Total	[illegible]	[illegible]
Kinross	[illegible]	[illegible]			

In England the number of Sunday scholars to the population is 13.4 per cent; in Scotland not above 10.1 per cent.

EVENING SCHOOLS FOR ADULTS—returns from 438 of which were obtained—are attended by 15,371 scholars, 9500 being males, and 5871 females. The payments vary from less than 1d. per week to 4d. and upwards; but in the largest number the payments are between 2d. and 4d. Of such schools there are 11 in Aberdeen, 61 in the county of Edinburgh, 25 in Forfar, 37 in Renfrew, and 173 in Lanark. In the counties of Elgin, Inverness, Nairn, Orkney and Shetland, and Wigtown, there are none of these schools; but they are found in all the rest of the counties. The occupations of the persons attending these schools are thus stated:—

Agricultural Labourers	561	Sawyers	2
Miners	249	Architects and Engineers ..	59
Lead Miners	34	Shoekeepers	59
Coal Miners	185	Warehousemen	278
Coal and Lime Stone Miners ..	29	Mercantile	39
Coal and Iron Operatives ..	343	Clerks	156
Ironmongers	1	Tradesmen's Apprentices ..	14
Employed on Public Works ..	10	Butchers	3
Artisans (not otherwise defined)	4,396	Gardeners	18
Factory Operatives	2,497	Seamen	41
Woollen Manufacture	52	Fishermen	31
Weavers	249	Soldiers	53
Bankers	287	Police Officers	5
Block Machine Printers	13	Domestic Servants	553
Tambourers	34	Labourers (not otherwise de-	
Shoemakers and Curriers ..	30	fined)	6
Paper Makers	50	Not stated	4,774
Dressmakers	24		
Seamstresses	2	Total	15,071

There are 221 literary, mechanics', and other similar institutions, of which a list is supplied that will be extremely useful for reference.

ISLANDS IN THE BRITISH SEAS.—The present volume also supplies us with the following account of the number of Scholars and Schools in the Islands in the British Seas:—

Description of Schools.	Isle of Man				Jersey				Guernsey and other Islands			
	No. of Schools.	No. of Scholars on the Books.			No. of Schs.	No. of Schs are on the Books.			No. of Schs.	No. of Schs are on the Books.		
		Total.	Sex.			Total.	Sex.			Total.	Sex.	
			M.	F.			M.	F.			M.	F.
Public Day Schools ..	69	4671	2805	1867	14	1950	1192	758	28	1477	1295	182
Private Day Schools ..	57	1662	844	818	85	2938	1652	1286	87	1994	880	1114
Total Day Schools .	126	6333	3649	2685	99	4888	2844	2044	115	3471	2175	1296
Sunday Schools.												
Church of England	28	3247	1095	1282	16	2242	1123	1119	13	2215	990	1225
Independents ..	2	133	68	65	2	54	21	33	1	113	55	58
French Independents ..		..	..	..	1	22	12	10	1	27	11	16
Baptists		..	..	..		..	..	..	2	129	5	71
Wesleyan Methodists ..	25	2778	1854	1424	11	947	486	461	14	1600	754	846
French Wesleyan Methodists		..	..	..	10	636	290	346	..	..	..	..
Methodist New Connexion ..		..	..	..		..	..	..	1	133	68	65
Primitive Methodists ..	18	1385	687	698	1	135	71	64	1	63	37	26
Bible Christians ..		..	..	..	1	232	118	114	1	35	19	23
Wesleyan Reformers ..	1	80	45	35	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Isolated Congregations ..	2	171	86	85	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total Sunday Schools	87	6894	3333	3586	42	4268	2121	2147	38	4315	1985	2330

Supported by

In the Isle of Man there is 1 scholar to every 8½ inhabitants; in Jersey, 1 scholar to every 11½ inhabitants; and in Guernsey, 1 scholar to every 7½ inhabitants. The two latter have rather a high reputation for their schools; and in them, property being minutely divided and easy of transfer, the inhabitants are remarkable for their enterprise and skill. In Jersey a number of fine vessels are continually being built; and, until the late improvements in naval architecture, few vessels surpassed the Jersey craft.

RELIGIOUS WORSHIP.

ISLANDS IN THE BRITISH SEAS.

ISLE OF MAN—Population, 52,387.

Has 133 places of worship—29 Church of England; 86 Wesleyan; 2 Presbyterian; 1 Independent; 4 Roman Catholic. Number of sittings 32,985, of which 13,770 are free; of attendants at worship on Census Sunday, 10,612 morning; 7512 afternoon; and 11,892 evening.

ISLAND OF JERSEY—Population, 57,020.

Has 67 places of worship—20 Church of England; 1 Free Presbyterian; 9 Independent; 1 Unitarian; 24 Wesleyan; 1 Primitive Methodist; 1 Christian; 1 Chris ian Church; 2 Roman Catholic; 1 Latter-day Saints. Number of Sittings 25,192, of which 6864 are free; of attendants at worship on Census Sunday, 12,457 morning; 9356 afternoon; 10,809 evening.

ISLAND OF GUERNSEY, AND ADJACENT ISLES—Population, 23,719.

Has 64 places of worship—16 Church of England; 7 Independent; 6 Baptist; 1 Society of Friends; 26 Wesleyan; 2 Brethren; 1 Bethel Union; 1 Church of Christ; 1 Various; 2 Roman Catholic; 1 Latter-day Saints. Number of Sittings 22,227, of which 10,070 are free; of attendants at worship on Census Sunday, 8480 morning; 9459 afternoon; 10,131 evening. It must be remarked that the returns for the Islands are incomplete.

SCOTLAND.

The enumeration of persons attending Public Worship, being voluntary, was more imperfect in Scotland than in England, and the want of local registrars prevented its being made tolerably complete by subsequent inquiries. The following is the

SUMMARY OF THE WHOLE OF SCOTLAND—Population, 2,888,742.

Religious Denominations.	Number of Places of Worship.	Number of Sittings.†		Number of Attendants at Public Worship on Sunday, March 30, 1851		
		Free	Total	Morning.	After-noon.	Evening.
PROTESTANT CHURCHES.						
Presbyterians—						
Established Church	904	296,170	529,764	229,757	119,888	20,023
Reformed Presbyterian Church	37	3,812	13,924	6,546	3,930	1,743
Original Secession Church ..	30	3,183	12,774	8,266	4,011	1,312
Relief Church	2	370	1,020	220	200	275
United Presbyterian Church ..	427	45,724	244,924	123,443	121,927	27,762
Free Church	824	329,688	421,787	256,492	175,563	56,846
Episcopal Church	112	7,811	29,867	21,130	9,072	4,200
Independents, or Congregationalists	168	32,310	58,847	22,131	20,851	14,484
Baptists	109	15,626	17,537	7,196	6,045	3,138
Society of Friends	6	430	1,230	168	122	..
Unitarians	5	800	1,950	600	104	684
United Brethren, or Moravians	1	200	200	16	..	55
Wesleyan Methodists—						
Original Connection ..	61	7,587	18,961	6,847	2,173	7,011
Primitive Methodists ..	10	1,720	1,890	397	404	718
Independent Methodists ..	1	400	600	190	150	180
Wesleyan Reformers ..	1	..	..	11	..	11
Glassites, or Sandemanians ..	6	890	890	429	554	100
New Church	5	330	710	211	67	120
Campbelites	1	80	80	11	14	..
Evangelical Union	27	2,146	7,371	3,756	4,349	2,093
Isolated Congregations—						
Various	8	350	1,450	718	77	406
Common	2	350	350	..	..	..
Unscriptural	1	..	320	200	220	..
City Mission	7	330	780	70	40	686
Christians	7	716	1,131	417	236	280
Christian Disciples	14	1,658	1,647	503	49	188
Christian Reformation ..	1	..	60	..	11	..
Reformed Christians	1	..	..	8	..	8
Free Christian Brethren ..	1	340	340	180	261	..
Primitive Christians	2	210	210	57	74	..
Protestants	4	1,240	1,240	230	400	935
Reformation	1	260	260	10	18	..
Reformed Protestants	1	725	725	150	..	105
Separatists	1	..	..	11	..	..
Christian Chartists	1	220	220	100	80	..
Denomination not stated ..	6	330	330	..	70	316
OTHER CHRISTIAN CHURCHES.						
Roman Catholics	104	12,510	41,040	33,377	15,999	11,258
Catholic and Apostolic Church	2	450	450	273	191	150
Latter-Day Saints, or Mormons	20	1,393	1,432	1,239	1,164	834
Jews	1	36	67	28	..	7
Total	..	2,914	490,212	1,422,438	740,794	490,340	155,765

Besides the places of worship embraced by the actual enumeration, and included in this return, there are 481 other places of worship from which no returns were made. Mr. Mann, assumes, however, "an aggregate of 3326 places of worship, and 1,244,600 sittings; the proportion of sittings to population being 58.5 per cent. The number of attendants on the Census Sunday was—morning, 943,951; afternoon, 819,863; evening, 188,874: the proportion to the population being—morning, 32.7 per cent; afternoon, 21.4 per cent; evening, 6.5 per cent. The corresponding proportion for England and Wales were—morning, 26.9 per cent; afternoon, 17.7 per cent; evening, 17.1 per cent." This tabular view condenses much information in a small compass:—

Religious Denominations.	No. of Places of Worship.	No. of Sittings.	Number of Attendants at Public Worship on Sunday, March 30, 1851.				Proportion per Cent of Attendance to Population.				Proportion per Cent of Attendance to Sittings			
			Morning.		After-noon.	Evening.	Morning.		After-noon.	Evening.	Morning.		After-noon.	Evening.
			Free.	Total.			Free.	Total.			Free.	Total.		
Established Church ..	1,183	767,088	351,454	184,192	30,763	12.2	5.6	1.1	45.8	24.0	4.0			
United Presbyterian	455	288,100	159,191	145,411	30,810	5.5	5.1	1.1	55.3	50.8	10.7			
Free Church.	889	495,330	292,308	198,383	64,811	10.1	6.9	2.2	59.0	40..	13.1			
Other Churches..	853	284,282	140,998	90,677	62,490	4.9	3.1	2.1	49.6	31.9	21.8			
Total ..	3,396	1,834,805	943,951	619,863	188 874	32.7	21 5	6 5	51.433	8	10.3			

* From the lists forwarded to the Census office, it appears that there were 481 other places of worship existing at the time of the Census, but from which no returns were procured.

† The returns afford no information as to the number of *sittings* in 285 of the above-mentioned 2914 places of worship. Of these, 87 belonged to the Established Church, 5 to the Reformed Presbyterian Church, 2 to the Original Secession Church, 17 to the United Presbyterian Church, 67 to the Free Church, 12 to the Episcopal Church, 30 to the Independents, 23 to the Baptists, 2 to the Society of Friends, 1 to the Unitarians, 5 to the Wesleyan Original Connection, 1 to the Wesleyan Reformers, 1 to the Glassites, 7 to the Evangelical Union, 13 to Isolated Congregations, 13 to Roman Catholics, 1 to the Catholic and Apostolic Church, and 11 to the Latter Day Saints.

‡ The number of *attendants* was not stated in the case of 242 of the above-mentioned 2914 places of worship. Of these, 134 belonged to the Established Church; 6 to the Reformed Presbyterians, 1 to the Original Secession, 8 to the United Presbyterians, 47 to the Free Church; 7 to the Episcopal Church, 7 to the Independents, 7 to the Baptists, 1 to the Unitarians, 4 to the Wesleyan Original Connection, 3 to Isolated Congregations, 15 to the Roman Catholics, and one to the Latter Day Saints.

In Scotland, as in England and Wales, the Church accommodation is unequally distributed in proportion to the population. Thus, while the average of sittings to population is 58 5 per cent, they are below this proportion, or only about 47 per cent in Aberdeen; 33 per cent in Airdrie; 26 per cent in Arbroath; 44 per cent in Ayr; 45 per cent in Dundee; 42 per cent in Edinburgh and Leith; and 30 per cent in Glasgow, &c. They are above this proportion—in Brechin 80 per cent; in Elgin 82 per cent; in Rothesay 88 per cent. The religious zeal of the people, though great, has not been able in Scotland, any more than in England, to keep pace with the increase of population in the large towns. Of the counties of Scotland, Lanark seems the worst provided with church accommodation—8 per cent of its inhabitants; and Bute the best—84 per cent. Yet it is obvious, from the contiguity of the clergy and the people in the former, and their great separation in the latter, that we should reason erroneously did we infer that a less religious spirit, or less theological information, prevailed amongst the population of Lanark than the population of Bute.

Of the 2914 churches returned, 624 were in existence before 1801, and the remainder were built in the following years:—Between 1801 and 1811, 127; between 1811 and 1821, 197; between 1821 and 1831, 246; between 1831 and 1841, 816; and between 1841 and 1851, 1032. Of 442, the date of the erection is not mentioned. Since the great separation of the Free Church from the Established Church, no less than 710 churches have been built by the former. Prior to 1801, the Wesleyans of all kinds had only 10 chapels in Scotland; now they have 72. There are two other sects now rather numerous—the Evangelical Union, with 27 chapels; and the Christian Disciples, with 14; which, prior to 1801, seem hardly to have been heard of, as the former had then only two chapels, and the latter only one.

ADDITIONS TO CENSUS LISTS PUBLISHED WITH "THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS," APRIL 22.

The different form in which the last Census Returns were published, from any previous returns, and their very complicated nature, occasioned some omissions and errors in our Lists. The additions and corrections we now publish will, we hope, make them complete and correct.

Names of Places.	Population.		Males.
	1841.	1851.	1851.
Almondbury, Y W R	37,315	41,804	20,979
Audlem, Chester	3,371	2,870	1,414
Aughton, York, E R ..	634	654	341
Aysgarth, York, N R ..	3,735	5,627	2,997
Bebington, Chester ..	5,008	10,016	4,831
Beverley,* York, E R ..	5,730	10,098	4,774
Birstall, York, W R ..	29,726	35,708	18,035
Bolton,† Lancaster ..	73,505	87,200	42,810
Bolton-le-Sands, Lanc.	1,774	1,809	914
Braithwell, York, W R	800	1,033	533
Brecknock, Brecknock	5,364	6,070	2,909
Bridlington, York, E R	6,070	6,946	3,317
Brinkburn, Northumb	208	229	118
Bromfield, Salop	658	682	333
Broton	468	518	266
Burneston, York, N R	1,494	1,651	813
Calverley, York, W R	21,639	24,487	12,209
Cardiff, Glamorgan ..	10,077	18,351	10,286
Cardigan, Cardigan ..	3,925	3,477	1,805
Carrington, Lincoln.	229	167	101
Cerrchiog, Anglesey.	160	171	81
Chipping, Lancaster ..	1,873	1,653	826
Cockerham ‡ Lancast	3,730	3,520	1,826
Cockermouth, Cumb.	4,940	7,375	3,425
Coniston, Anglesey ..	1,402	1,651	813
Colchester, Essex ..	17,750	19,443	8,853
Colva, Radnor	221	184	96
Cowbridge, Glam ..	1,631	1,711	819
Crewe § Chester		4,491	2,335
Croston, Lancaster ..	3,539	4,031	2,068
Cundall, York, W R ..	378	389	201
Darfield, York, W R ..	7,519	8,644	4,477
Darlington, ‖ Durham	11,877	12,453	5,754
Dartsea, Anglesey ..	1,953	2,064	1,047
Delamere, Chester ..	914	1,050	544
Dowland, Devon ..	244	208	113
Downholme, N R	248	268	138
Droitwich, Worcester	6,586	7,096	3,564
Dronfield, Derby ..	4,583	5,231	2,641

* Municipal borough, 8,016.
† Parliamentary borough, 61,171.
‡ A township included in 1841, excluded in 1851.
§ No return for 1841.
‖ The town, 11,328.

Names of Places.	Population.		Males.
	1841.	1851.	1851.
Rowley, York, E R ..	507	498	219
St. Hilary, Glamorgan	164	187	82
St. John Lee, Nthmpt	1,947	2,073	1,029
St. Olave Marys, Y N R	1,431	2,970	1,463
St. Woollos,* Monmth	13,766	20,279	10,536
Salisbury, Wilts	11,626	11,657	5,307
Sheriff Hutton, Y N R	1,030	1,040	504
Shoreham (New) Sus	27,889	30,555	15,474
Shrewsbury,† Salop ..	21,517	23,719	11,145
Sinnington, York, N R	1,000	1,000	488
Skipton, York, W R ..	7,000	7,000	3,500
Slaithwaite, York, W R	3,000	3,000	1,500
Snaith, York, W R ..	4,000	4,000	2,000
Southport, Lancaster ..	2,000	2,000	1,000
Stainforth, York, W R	1,000	1,000	500
Stanwix, Cumberland ..	1,000	1,000	500
Stapleton, York, N R ..	1,000	1,000	500
Stockton, Durham ..	1,000	1,000	500
Stonegrave, York, N R	1,000	1,000	500
Stonyhurst, Lancaster	1,000	1,000	500
Strensall, York, N R ..	1,000	1,000	500
Sutton, York, E R ..	1,000	1,000	500
Swaffham, Norfolk ..	1,000	1,000	500
Swinton, York, W R ..	1,000	1,000	500
Tadcaster, York, W R	1,000	1,000	500
Tarporley, Chester ..	1,000	1,000	500
Tattenhall, Chester ..	1,000	1,000	500
Tetbury, Gloucester ..	1,000	1,000	500
Thirsk, York, N R	1,000	1,000	500
Thornton, York, W R ..	1,000	1,000	500
Thornton-le-Dale, York, N R	1,000	1,000	500
Thorpe, York, W R ..	1,000	1,000	500
Thurnscoe, York, W R	1,000	1,000	500
Tickhill, York, W R ..	1,000	1,000	500
Tideswell, Derby	1,000	1,000	500
Tintern, Monmouth ..	1,000	1,000	500
Tiverton, Devon	1,000	1,000	500
Todmorden, York, W R	1,000	1,000	500
Tong, York, W R	1,000	1,000	500
Topcliffe, York, N R ..	1,000	1,000	500
Torquay, Devon	1,000	1,000	500
Totnes, Devon	1,000	1,000	500
Towcester, Northampton	1,000	1,000	500
Tregaron, Cardigan ..	1,000	1,000	500
Trelleck, Monmouth ..	1,000	1,000	500
Tremadoc, Carnarvon ..	1,000	1,000	500
Trowbridge, Wilts ..	1,000	1,000	500
Truro, Cornwall	1,000	1,000	500
Tunbridge Wells, Kent	1,000	1,000	500
Tyldesley, Lancaster.	1,000	1,000	500
Ventnor,* Isle of Wight	1,000	1,000	500
Wakefield, York, W R ..	1,000	1,000	500
Walkden, Lancaster ..	1,000	1,000	500
Wallasey, Cheshire ..	1,000	1,000	500
Wallingford, Berks ..	1,000	1,000	500
Walsall, Staffordshire ..	1,000	1,000	500
Walton, Lancaster ..	1,000	1,000	500
Wantage, Berks	1,000	1,000	500
Ware, Hertford	1,000	1,000	500
Warkworth, Northumb	1,000	1,000	500
Warrington, Lancaster	1,000	1,000	500
Warwick, Warwick ..	1,000	1,000	500
Watchet, Somerset ..	1,000	1,000	500
Watford, Herts	1,000	1,000	500
Watton, Norfolk	1,000	1,000	500
Wellington, Salop ..	1,000	1,000	500
Wellington, Somerset ..	1,000	1,000	500
Wells, Somerset	1,000	1,000	500
Wendens Ambo, Essex	1,000	1,000	500
Wenlock, Salop	1,000	1,000	500
Weston, Suffolk	1,000	1,000	500
Worcester, Worcester	1,000	1,000	500

* Partly included in Newport.
† As parliamentary borough, it has 19,681 persons.

Names of Places.	Population.		Males.
	1841.	1851.	1851.
Accrington, Lancaster	7,481	Whalley	
Adpar, Cardigan ..	1,746	Llandyfrog	
Altrincham, Chester	4,488	Bowdon	
Ashton-under-Lyne,	4,750	Leigh	
Blackpool, Lancaster.	2,180	Bispham	
Blyth, Northumberland	2,060	Earsdon	
Brackley, Northampton	3,187	St. Pt & St. Pe's	
Brentford, Middlesex.	8,870	Hanwell and Ealing	
Brentwood, Essex ..	2,205	Southweald	
Brigg, Lincoln	3,697	Wrawby	
Burnley, Lancaster ..	20,826	Whalley	
Burry, Glamorgan ..	2,413	Llanrhidian	
Colne, Lancaster ..	6,544	Whalley	
Congleton, Chester ..	10,930	Astbury	
Cowes, Isle of Wight	1,786	Northwood	
Darwen Over, Lancast	7,020	Blackburn	
Haslingden, Lancast.	6,154	Whalley	
Heywood, Lancaster ..	12,154	Bury	
Hindley, Lancaster ..	5,285	Wigan	
Hawich, Lancaster ..	9,104	Deane (worth	
Hounslow, Middlesex.	3,814	Heston & Isle-	
Hyde, Chester	10,041	Stockport	
Llandovery, Carmarth	1,927	Llandingat	

Names of Places.	Population.		Males.
	1841.	1851.	1851.
Sturdish, Lancaster ..	8,886	9,595	4,693
Sudbury, Suffolk ..	5,728	6,013	2,899
Teddridge, surrey ..	674	594	302
Tarrington S. Co., Nr.	2,675	2,350	1,111
Thornhill, York, W R	7,201	6,858	3,606
Waddington, Lincoln	1,122	1,325	659
Waltham, York, W R ..	254	245	141
Wells, Somerset ..	4,607	4,736	2,178
Wendens Ambo, Essex	347	421	215
Wenlock, Salop	19,774	20,248	10,186
Weston, Suffolk	211	243	111
Worcester, Worcester	26,306	27,521	12,458

Names of Places.	Population.		Males.
	1841.	1851.	1851.
Arthuret	2,149		
Doddington	4,171		
Gamerby	5,098		
Skelton	2,837		
Worcester	5,114		
Hunts	7,147		
Radnor	2,345		
Prescot [by	14,865		
Minster Shep-	8,049		
& N Stanford	3,739		
Not ascertained	4,765		
Halifax	34,362		
Bickerstaffe &	2,079		
Ashton			
West Ham	10,586		
Ashburton	5,019		
Bedwelty	8,305		
Tunbridge	10,587		
Speldhurst			
Leigh			
Newchurch			

* No return of the number of persons, except as included in the south division of Newchurch, to which is assigned 3655.

TO CENSUS CORRESPONDENTS.

MR. W. SCALES.—Flaxtow is included in West Ham; March, in Doddington.

A SCOTSMAN. Lynn appears as King's Lynn.

MR. JOHN BRADLEY.—There is no Newland in the Census in the E R of Yorkshire—Newland, in the W R, a hamlet, is included in Drax; Brough, in Elloughton; Skerne, in Nor & S, in Swine; Swanland, in North Ferriby; and Anlaby, in Kirk Ella. Brackley, Northampton, a district, appears as St. James Brackley and St. Peter Brackley. Bishop Auckland appears as Auckland St. Andrew; Dereham appears as East Dereham; Pershore, as St. Andrew Pershore.

MR. KNIGHT.—If you saw the number of districts, parishes, townships, &c., included in some boroughs, you would be sensible of the impracticability of giving in such a work as ours all the parishes within the boundaries of boroughs. There are in Dorchester and Shaftesbury three or four parishes with the names of Saints—which of them were we to give as exclusively constituting Dorchester or Shaftesbury?

A SALOPIAN.—There is no separate return in the Census for either of the places you mention.

MR. W. H. COTTON.—Faringdon, Berks, appears in our list and in the Census as Great Faringdon.

MR. J. WESTBAKE.—Every one of the more than 100 places you refer to is either in our list, under some other name, or it is some part of a parish, and returned in that parish, or there is no separate return of it in the present Census. We except four places, the omission of which is rectified. Other Subscribers will perceive from this example that many supposed errors arise from the plan of enumeration of the Commissioners in 1851 having been different from that of 1841.

MR. BENJ. WILSON.—Bramley township is a part of Leeds.

W. D. F.—Some of your names have enabled us to correct an error or two, but the bulk of them are either in our list or they have no separate existence in the Census of 1851.

MR. WILLIAM ANDERSON. —Wymondham town contains only 2970 persons.

MR. GEORGE MERCALFE, JUN.—The only separate returns in the Census for Pately Bridge are first as a district, with 7579 persons, and secondly as a sub-district, with 2027 persons. The figures you have sent, belong, in the returns, to the township of High and Low Laithe, which is said to include the town of Pately Bridge, of which no separate return is given. The township mentioned is included in the Census returns in the parish of Ripon. You mistake the number of males; and the figures are—High and Low Bishopside, population in 1841, 1537; in 1851, 1862 Males, 905.

MR. J. J. N. ALLEN.—East Chiltington (Sussex) is returned as a hamlet forming a part of Westmeston parish, and is not intended to be included separately in our Lists.

MR. J. H. HOSEBURN.—The figures in the Map are those of the population of the Municipal Boroughs referred to. The figures in the Lists are those of the population of the Towns as popularly known. That many towns are returned officially, with different amounts of population, is only one part of the general complication of the Official Returns.

We must beg all our Correspondents to remember that, besides the prefixes of Great and Little, North and South, &c., which determine the situation of places, many have two names. Thus, Allenton appears as Alwinton: it is known by both names, and the Commissioners have used the latter. Chapel, Essex, is also known as Pontesbright, and was so returned in the former Census; in the present it appears as Chapel. Similar examples are very numerous. If our readers do not find a place which bears two names under one, they must look under the other. There is, we are only too well aware, endless confusion in all the multiplied topographical arrangements of the empire, and the national nomenclature requires a Linnæus or a Jussieu to reduce it into order.

CENSUS ERRATA.

Page 3, Column 3 of figures.—Bridport.—For 4787, substitute 7126.

„ 3, Col. 4. Read Sockburn, 1841, 7816, instead of 1816.

„ 4, Col. 3, names.—Clawson.—Substitute for the figures given, 833, 869 443.

„ 4, Col. 4.—Colyton.—Substitute 2451, 2504, 1225, for the present figures.

„ 6, Col. 1.—Frustfield, Wilts, dele. The figures opposite to this name belong to Fryern Barnet, and each of the row of figures which follows down to Fatford Amno, Y N R, included, eight names, belongs to the place below it. Dele the figures opposite Fatford Amno.

„ 7, Col. 4 of names. Transpose the figures of Keswick, Norfolk, and Keswick, Cumberland

29, Col. 1.—Unrepresented Towns.—Add Leighton Buzzard, population 6874.

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

No. 687.—VOL. XXIV.] SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 1854. [WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.

THE AMUSEMENTS OF THE PEOPLE.

THE imposing ceremonial of which the second Crystal Palace is this day to be the scene, naturally suggests reflections as to the uses of the magnificent establishment so solemnly inaugurated. Although a private undertaking, Royalty has not scorned to lend its name and presence to grace the opening celebration of the day; nor have the high functionaries of religion deemed it inconsistent with their duties or position to consecrate to its uses by prayer and praise an establishment which has for its objects to cultivate the tastes, improve the understanding, and administer to the healthful recreation of the people. The first Crystal Palace and the Great Exhibition of the Industry of All Nations marked an era in the material progress of the nation. The second Crystal Palace—with its treasures of art and science, with its antique courts and modern gardens, and with its almost incalculable inducements for the study of the works both of man and of nature—will mark an era equally important in the moral history of the British people. A consequence, extension, and development of the great idea which produced the Exhibition of 1851, the Palace and Park of Sydenham are destined, we may not unreasonably expect, to exercise a more permanent influence upon the character of our age—to elevate the sources of enjoyment among all classes; to administer to the refined tastes of the wealthy, in a manner more complete and satisfactory than the wealthiest could ever devise or procure for themselves; and to afford to the humble earners of their daily bread, means of instruction and amusement, so many, so various, and so excellent, as almost to realise the wonders of romance, and to make the fabulous treasures of the palaces of Eastern Caliphs appear mean and vulgar by comparison.

In many countries the amusements of the people are an object of national concern. In our free country, where the course of legislation for the last forty years has been a simple undoing of the mischief done by the over-legislation of past times, lawmakers have refused to give due attention to the moral and intellectual wants of the people. Law in this country has not insisted that the people should either be educated or amused. It has, for the most part, left their intellectual culture and their recreation to voluntary agencies. The consequences have not been altogether satisfactory in either respect. The upper and middle classes have, it is true, been no sufferers, for voluntary agencies are more than sufficient to accomplish the purpose, wherever there are pecuniary means to attract and purchase what is required. Supply follows demand as surely in such cases as it does in the more tangible articles of commerce. But, upon the needy or the destitute classes, the result of the no-system, by which the Government ignores the intellectual wants of the people, has been to some extent unfortunate. As regards Education, the Government has merely shut its eyes and ears, having had but small inducement to open either amid the fierce and irreconcilable hostilities of jarring sects; but, as regards Recreation, it has done worse than refuse to listen—it has impeded and discouraged every effort made to provide healthy out-of-door amusements for the labouring classes. The consequence has been, that the phrase of "merry England," once true of the habits of the working and rural population, has become a dim tradition of the past—carrying us back to the days of Elizabeth, but having no foundation in latter times; and that the modern Englishmen who gain their bread by hard labour in field or factory have been driven for amusement into the beer-shop and the gin-palace. Harsh law has brutalised but too many of them; and the very debasement which has thus been produced has been invariably brought forward as an argument to oppose any attempt to provide them with innocent and healthful Recreation. To bring multitudes of people together in search of pastime has been to raise the bugbears of Drunkenness and Debauchery before the mental vision of those by whose Puritanism and Fanaticism every source of enjoyment has been as jealously shut from the people, as if laughter were a crime, or refined and exhilirating amusements of any kind were luxuries not to be thought of by those who had no money in the bank, and who could not give security to society for their good behaviour, if allowed to meet and to be delighted.

But voluntary agency has at length undertaken a portion of the duty which, in ancient times, was considered the privilege of the State. The Crystal Palace, at Sydenham, with its beautiful grounds—its superb situation, upon a hill, overlooking the rich woodlands of Kent, and one of the loveliest districts of country in the world—its close proximity to the metropolis—its well-ordered attractions in all the arts that administer to the cultivation of the understanding and the taste—the judicious admixture of the beauties of antique architecture and sculpture with the triumphs of modern art—and the still more happy blending with all these, not only of the wonders of the vegetable and floral kingdom, but of those geological, zoological, and ethnological marvels, which it is the privilege of this age, and the glory of the scientific men of this country, to have brought to light or methodised;—all these things will give a new and higher character to the amusements of the British people. Were it simply for the beneficial effects which may be anticipated to ensue from this attempt at refining the pleasures of the multitude, we might well be thankful to the far-seeing enterprise of the Directors of the Crystal Palace Company. But—great though such a result may be—it is not the only one that will follow, if the Palace and its treasures prove but half as attractive as they deserve to be, both to those who have time and money at command, and to those who have little of either. With objects including all those which made the Great Exhibition of 1851 the envy and the example of civilised nations, the Sydenham Crystal Palace will transcend that

OTHO, KING OF GREECE, AND HIS QUEEN, AND SUITE, AT ATHENS.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

of Hyde-park, in treating Art upon its own merits, and not merely in its connection with Industry and Manufactures. It will educate the people in the knowledge and appreciation of the Beautiful. It will aid in the accomplishment of a task which the State has scorned, and which private enterprise never before sought to effect. It will create a taste for the elegancies and refinements of life in the deepest strata of society; and the results of which will exhibit themselves hereafter in an infinitude of modes, of which we can at present form no estimate. A too exclusive attention to money-making, and a too intense forgetfulness of the public amenities, in the commercial worship of that great idol—Self—will be corrected by that love of Art and Nature, which familiarity with the treasures of the Crystal Palace will, after a time, induce among the trading and labouring classes. Had Art been cultivated as much amongst us for the last two centuries as it has been among the French, it is probable, notwithstanding the wide commercial uses of the Thames, that it might have been preserved in its purity to the public; and that a row of stately terraces and trees might have lined its northern and southern banks in all the extent of the metropolis, and afforded sites for statues and other monuments worthy of the liberality and intelligence of the people. We might long ago have possessed a National Gallery—not a positive disgrace to us; and Trafalgar-square, said by high authority to be one of the finest sites in Europe, might have been covered with noble monuments of architectural genius, instead of being, as it is at present, an eyesore to every person of taste and education who passes through it. We might have had public statues, unlike those which Sir William Molesworth has taken under his guardianship, and which might have elicited the admiration, instead of the contemptuous wonder or pity, of foreign visitors. London, in its whole extent, might have been the most beautiful, as it is the wealthiest, capital in the world. Ten thousand other influences might have been exerted in every direction in humanising the people, and encouraging among them a love of Art, and of intellectual refinement. By such means they would have been imperceptibly, but surely, weaned from the coarse and brutal indulgences which have been but too popular, both in town and country; and into which they have been in a manner forced by meddlesome legislation, in the form of dancing licenses and music licenses, and many other interferences with their harmless enjoyment. But, if the New Crystal Palace be as successful in its appeals to the higher faculties and emotions of the public as its predecessor, the Great Exhibition, proved to be, we may anticipate that the next generation of Englishmen will reap many advantages which have been denied to the men of the present day. In the meantime the people will enjoy a place of recreation to which the world can, as yet, offer no parallel.

GREECE.—FRENCH OCCUPATION.—OTHO AND HIS QUEEN.

AFTER the seizure of the Greek ships on the 26th ult., and the landing of 3000 troops of the expeditionary corps of General Forey, King Otho promised neutrality, and charged one of his former Ministers to go with explanations to Constantinople. At the same time a new Cabinet, composed of M. Mavrocordato, as President of the Council, and of General Kollergi, M. Palamides, M. Argyropulo, M. Calligas, and M. Isiko, was formed. M. Canaris, whose name also figured in the Ministerial list, declined accepting the functions which were offered to him In consequence of these arrangements, it was expected that the new Cabinet would recall the leaders of the insurgents, change the members of the household of King Otho, dismiss the functionaries who have been implicated, and ask the French to abandon the idea of occupying with troops Athens and Syra. In the meantime it is understood that the mass of the division of General Forey will proceed to Varna At the departure of the *Primauguet*, on the 28th, Athens was tranquil, and the population had "pronounced" against Russia The Queen of Greece is said to have exhibited the greatest distress of mind at the French occupation; and it was thought her departure would take place very shortly. The French were apparently not expected so soon: as the King and Queen were driving together at the Piræus a few hours before their arrival, quite unconscious of the rapidly approaching and overpowering force The latest news relating to the Royal pair says: "The Queen has had a very serious nervous attack, and the King is far from being at his ease"

We have engraved upon the preceding page a spirited Sketch of King Otho and the Queen riding past the base of the Acropolis, accompanied by the Royal cortège, and presenting, altogether, a very melodramatic appearance.

A telegraphic despatch has been received from Athens, May 29, which states that the insurgents had defeated the Turks, with great loss, at Chaggi Petras; but no reliance can be placed on it.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

THE WAR MINISTER.—Lord John Russell having declined to to accept the Colonial Department, Sir George Grey is to be the new Secretary for the Colonies, in the room of the Duke of Newcastle, who, as we stated on Thursday, will hold the appointment of Secretary of State for the Affairs of War.—*Morning Post.*

THE White Sea squadron, under the command of Captain Ommanney, consisting of the *Eurydice*, 26, Captain Ommanney; *Miranda*, 18, screw, Captain Lyons; and *Pirate*, 17, Commander F. B. P. Seymour, arrived at Lerwick, Shetland Islands, on the 26th ult., and left on the 26th for the North Cape.

THE Lords of the Admiralty have given notice at Lloyd's that the entrance to be conveyed to Constantinople has been completed to their tons The heaviest gun weighs 130 cwt. Notice has also been given that a vessel is required to convey 220 tons of coke for the use of her Majesty's steam navy to Malta.

AN ARMY TELEGRAPH.—An electric telegraph apparatus, to be employed on the field of battle, for the purposes of forwarding communications of the operations of the army from one portion to the other, is now nearly completed at the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, and will be shortly dispatched to the seat of war. Each portion is fitted in a light four-wheeled waggon, which holds sufficient wire for a length of twelve miles.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

THE Hon. and Rev. Horatio Powys, it is said, is to be the new Bishop of Sodor and Man.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—*Archdeaconries*: The Rev. T. C. B. Storch, to Geelong, Melbourne: Rev. R. Wickham, to St. Asaph. *Subdeanery*: The Rev. R. Barton, to Christ Church, Dublin. *Lectures*: The Rev. H. Atkinson, to Edermine, Wexford; Hon. and Rev. G. T. O. Bridgeman, to Bymhill, Shropshire; Rev. R. Chapman, to Normanton, near Grantham; Rev. H. B. Farmer, to Rathsaran; Rev. O. Goodrich, to Humber, near Leominster; Rev. J. B. Smith, to Selby, Lincolnshire; Rev. J. St. George Williamson, to Thomastown, Kildare. *Vicarages*: The Rev. C. Campbell, to St George's, Wolverhampton; Rev. J. Davies, to Mold, Flintshire; Rev. J. Murray, to Wroxton, with Balscott annexed, Oxfordshire; Rev. J. G. Smyth, to North and South Elkington, Lincolnshire; Rev T. H. C. Wright, Wolferton, near Clifton-on-leme. *Incumbencies*: The Rev. W. Battersby, to the Chapel of Ease, Derry; Rev. M. W. Currie, to Saltwood, Kent; Rev. E. Du Boisson, to Brenton, Herefordshire; Rev. J. C. Head, to O'Brien's-bridge; Rev. W. F. Mackesy, to Langcliffe, Yorkshire; Rev. G. Morgan, to St. Paul's Church, Poole. *Perpetual Curacy*: The Rev. J. Lloyd, to Llanstephan, Radnor.

A Testimonial of regard and esteem has been presented to the Rev. G. V. Reed, curate of Tingewick, by his parishioners.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

On the 1st of June the last reception of the Legislative Body by the Emperor, took place at St. Cloud. At a grand dinner which preceded this reception were present Lord and Lady Cowley, Lord and Lady Londesdery, General Gémeau, M. Dusloz, &c. The dinner not taking place till eight o'clock, the Deputies, and several of the Ministers, who arrived early, were compelled to wait a considerable time before the Emperor and Empress, followed by those who had dined at the Palace, made their appearance in the Grand Gallery. It was remarked that Lord Cowley was the only member of the *corps diplomatique* present.

You have, probably, heard of the arrest of the Sergeant Bolchot, on an accusation of joining in, or rather leading, an attempt to establish a revolutionary movement. A rumour—which seems, however, to have but little foundation—asserts that, on his being seized, a paper containing his nomination to the post of Generalissimo of the Army was found upon him. Other arrests relating to the same affair have also been made.

It appears that the release of the young composer, M. Léon Regnier, from the hold of the Conscription is due to the intervention of the Empress, who from the first was strongly interested in the affair.

One of the most ancient buildings in Paris, and one of the most curious and interesting in an historical point of view, the prison of the Abbaye, has just been demolished. The ground on which it stood is not to be built upon, but is to serve for the extension of the Place de l'Abbaye and the Rue Ste. Marguerite.

Five hundred mules have just been purchased by the Government, to be dispatched to the East, for the purpose of transporting the wounded. The animals are furnished with a newly-invented sort of litter, or palle of containing each two men, as comfortably and commodiously as in a bed.

L'Ami de la Religion and *L'Univers*, two of the principal organs of Catholicism, have been carrying on a sharp controversy on the subject of the English Roman Catholic Church. The former accuses the new episcopacy with having adopted too exacting and arrogant a tone; and to have, by its violence and tendency to absolutism, injured the interests of the religion it intended to support. Cardinal Wiseman, taking to himself—not without justice—the attack, replies in the *Univers*; whereupon the two spokesmen of a faith whose starting-point is unity, go to battle with right good-will, and deal each other as hearty verbal kicks and cuffs as other twin brothers are wont to do when some cause of difference of opinion makes them forget their unity.

The third volume of M. Véron's "Memoires d'un Bourgeois de Paris," has just made its appearance. With the exception of the first chapters which treat of the Revolution of July, and follow Charles X. up to the period of his death, this volume is much more of a literary and biographical, than of a political, tendency. This number, like its predecessor, contains much curious and interesting matter, and reveals a number of facts and anecdotes hitherto unknown to the public. The history of his management of the Opera, of the first representations and success of "Robert le Diable," accompanied by the letters of Meyerbeer on the subject, and a number of clever and most amusing literary and dramatic portraits, and incidents, cannot fail to have a lively interest for the general class of French readers, and a certain attraction even for English one.

The excessive cold and wetness of the weather continues to throw a gloom over everything here, and, still worse, causes much illness, more especially inflammations of the chest, typhus, and cholerine. Since the commencement of the winter, little or no interruption has occurred in the sickness which has reigned here. Not long since, in one of the least-frequented streets leading to the cemetery of Montmartre, not less than four-and-twenty funerals have been counted passing through in one day.

On Sunday took place, at Versailles, the last races of the *Société d'Encouragement*. Notwithstanding the badness of the weather, they were tolerably well attended. Five races, the last a steeplechase, were run on the occasion.

On Sunday, also, took place the inauguration of the new branch of the Eastern Company's Railway between Epernay and Rheims. The first train starting from Paris arrived at Epernay with great rapidity. The Cardinal Archbishop of Rheims received the *convoi d'inauguration* on its arrival at the station; and, having blessed the engines, proceeded —followed by his clergy, the numerous guests, and the inhabitants of Rheims and its environs—to the cathedral, where a "Te Deum" was performed.

A new ballet, composed by M. Théophile Gautier and Madame Cerito has a brilliant and merited success. The *Contessina Gemma* (Cerito) loves the famous Neapolitan painter *Massimo*; the *Comte Gabrielli* adores the *Contessina Gemma*; he magnetises her. In her mesmeric state, she returns his adoration—in her normal condition, she continues constant to *Massimo*; hence, as may be supposed, ensues a succession of *contretemps* and difficulties, more entertaining in a ballet than they would be in the bosom of a domestic family. Of course, however, the magnetising noble is defeated, the lovers made happy, and the audience highly pleased with the entertainment. The music, by the Marquis de Santa Croce, is brilliant and effective, and adds to the success of the whole.

UNITED STATES.

The *Canada*, which sailed from New York on the 23rd ult. arrived at Liverpool on Sunday. The House of Representatives had passed the Nebraska Bill, by a majority of nine votes; it was read a third time on the 23rd.

According to the *New York Herald*, the Secretary of the Navy, probably in consideration of the unsettled state of the relations with Spain, had issued an order directing that all vessels of war on the point of departure should be delayed.

The Senate had adopted a resolution offered by Mr. Clayton, to the following effect:—"That the Committee on Foreign Relations be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing by law for such restrictions upon the power of American Consuls residing in the Spanish West India Islands as will prevent the abuse of the American flag in protecting persons engaged in the African Slave-trade."

The Earl of Elgin had arrived at Washington. His visit, according to the American journals, is connected with the negotiations respecting the fisheries.

The *Atlantic*, which sailed from New York on the 27th ult., arrived at Liverpool on Wednesday evening. The aspect of affairs with regard to Cuba was more pacific. It was expected that two special Envoys would be dispatched to Madrid to endeavour to settle the disputes.

THE OVERLAND MAIL.

The steamer *Calcutta* arrived at Trieste on the 7th, at half-past ten a.m., in 102 hours. The Indian mails had been at Alexandria from the 30th ult., with advices from Calcutta to May 1; Bombay, May 10; Shanghai, April 14. Affairs in Burmah are satisfactory. The Imperialists are said to have been driven from Shanghai "by the Europeans, assisted by the rebel army."

LUMLEY v. GYE.—On Thursday week the Wagner case came again before the Court of Queen's Bench: the Attorney-General appearing for Mr. Gye against a rule which had been obtained by Sir F. Thesiger, calling upon him to show cause why the verdict in his favour should not be set aside, and a new trial granted. After hearing the Attorney-General, the proceedings were adjourned until Monday; when Sir F. Thesiger endeavoured to show that a new trial ought to be granted, because there had been an improper admission of evidence, and because the evidence adduced did not justify the finding of the Jury. Sir F. Kelly, Mr. Huggins, Mr. Cowling, and Mr. Huddlestone having been heard on the same side, Mr. Justice Erle, Mr. Justice Crompton, and Lord Campbell all agreed in the opinion that the rule should be discharged.

THE WAR.

ADVANCE OF THE ALLIED TROOPS.

Marshal St. Arnaud, Lord Raglan, and the Seraskier returned to Constantinople on the 23rd, after having conferred with Omer Pacha, and visited the camp at Schumla. The result of the conference was an immediate order for the advance of the Anglo-French army to Varna; and no time was lost in carrying the order into execution. On the evening of the 24th, the first British troops sailed from Gallipoli for the immediate seat of war. The corps honoured by this precedence was that of the Sappers and Miners. In ten hours from receiving their orders, without a hint beforehand to hold themselves in readiness, the officers managed to get pontoon train, horses, and everything on board. On the 29th, Sir George Brown, with a division of the Rifles, and 7000 men, left Scutari for Varna; and the rest of the English troops there were to follow as speedily as possible. It was expected that the last of the 23,000 men would have embarked by the 10th inst.

Marshal St. Arnaud arrived at Gallipoli on the 26th, in order to hasten, by his presence, the departure of the French troops to Varna. The French squadron, under the command of Admiral Brust, then in the roads of Gallipoli, was to embark the first division of the army, under General Canrobert; and the second division, under the command of General Bosquet; the third division, which is under the command of Prince Napoleon, is to proceed by easy marches along the banks of the Sea of Marmora. The orders given were, that the troops should not be over-fatigued, and that their marches should not exceed four or five leagues per day. They would arrive at Constantinople on the 5th of June, but they would remain in that capital only for a short time, as the intention was, that they should follow their comrades by sea to Varna as soon as the necessary number of transports could be placed at their disposal.

The brigade of cavalry, under General d'Allonville, the military equipments, the train of artillery, and the medical stores, were to take the route by Adrianople towards the Balkans. They will not be able to join the rest of the army before the 15th or 20th inst.

THE INVESTMENT OF SILISTRIA.

Up to the 30th of May, Silistria still held out against the formidable assaults of the Russian army. From the 20th ult. hardly a single day had passed without Prince Paskiewitsch attempting some new project for making himself master of this formidable fortress; but all of them had failed. The orders of the Czar were, that Silistria must be taken immediately, at whatever cost of life, and the Russian commander has evidently followed up the instructions of his master as far as he was able. The loss of life has been very great. Some accounts say that not less than 8000 Russians have fallen before Silistria. On the 21st ult., Mussa Pacha, the Turkish Commander-in-Chief at that place, addressed the following letter to Omer Pacha, from which it will be seen that he was at that time quite aware of the deadly nature of the assaults which were about to be made:

SILISTRIA, May 21.—Yesterday, the Russians sent some troops against the outer posts. We immediately sent men to repulse them, and succeeded in doing so, after a slight loss. The Russians had upwards of 150 men killed, and a great number wounded. This day the Russians again attacked the outer fortifications. During the action, two Mussulman Circassians, lieutenants of cavalry, named Osman and Hassan, quitted their posts and passed over to us, in order to inform us through love for Islamism, of the plans and movements of the Russians. According to what they assure us, the enemy has advanced on Silistria, with three *corps d'armée*. This day, they are determined either to carry Silistria, or to leave their troops annihilated, and they are taking all the measures which they think necessary to arrive at that object. At the moment that I am writing, the enemy appears desirous to attempt a general attack against the place. However, the fire from the ramparts not permitting him to approach, he has halted his battalions beyond the distance of a cannon-shot. As to us, our troops have been so distributed over the fortifications as to be able to sustain the attack and repel it.

Between the 27th and the 29th ult. the Russians had made several attempts to carry some of the outworks of the fortress by assault, but had been defeated in every instance with tremendous slaughter. On the morning of the 30th the Turks made a sortie, killed between 1500 and 1800 of the enemy, and spiked a number of their guns. With such lessons as these, it is no wonder that the Russians are beginning to be rather tired of running their heads against a stone wall for the glory of the Emperor. The latest accounts speak of them as not showing their usual alacrity; and Prince Paskiewitsch is said to have given it as his opinion, that Silistria cannot be taken by storm without a sacrifice of from 20,000 to 25,000 men. Under these circumstances it is not surprising that the Russian Commander should have resolved to adopt the slower and safer process of mining. How far that plan is likely to succeed or not, may be partly gathered from the following letter from Vienna:—

It will be remembered, as regards the comparative situation now and then, that everything is in favour of the Turks; and yet the fortress held out, in 1828, from the 19th May to the 30th June, that is, six weeks from the day of complete investment and breaking ground until that of capitulation. Nor did the latter ensue until the then raw and ill-organized Nizam army had been completely defeated in open battle by General Diebitsch, near Kuleitscha, and the garrison thereby deprived of all hope of succour The fortress has, since that time, been greatly strengthened; and, in spite of the inherent defects of all Turkish fortifications—that is, overlong curtains, over-lofty scarps, and insufficient flank fire, with ill-proportioned ravelines, horn-works, and counter-guards—it is ten times stronger than it was in 1828, and has a sturdy commander and brave garrison, with every encouragement to hold out to the death, from the prospect of succour, and the experience they have that the enemy's Danube batteries can produce no great effect upon the *enceinte*. Approach by mining is talked of, as having been struck out by General Schilder as an infallible process. So it would be if the approaches to it reached the foot of the glacis. But weeks would be required to mine up to the distance of 300 yards, and, meantime, it is to be supposed that the garrison would not fail to countermine to such a distance at least as would secure their counterscarps. The garrison has also an advantage in the periodical flooding of the Danube, which about this time is much swollen by the melted snows conveyed into its bed by the Save, Theiss, and twenty other great affluents. These inflations of the waters must render the maintenance of bridges more difficult, inundate the island batteries and the trenches, and greatly enhance the difficulty of approaching upon the river side. Indeed, it would seem that the attacks upon the fortress are intended to be as much pressed as may be possible, in order to anticipate these embarrassments. Meantime a letter has been received here from an impartial eye-witness in the Russian camp, who states that the vigour of the defence during the recent three fruitless assaults was so determined, and the fire so murderous, that upon the third attempt the storming columns could not be brought up to close range, and were driven back by the most valiant example, and cavalry stood close in the rear to prevent their falling back. The letter says that the Russian troops do not evince their usual readiness for combat.

With respect to the relief of Silistria, it is said that the plan of Marshal St. Arnaud is to detach 24,000 French, 15,000 English, and 30,000 Ottomans of Omer Pacha's army for that service. 55,000 Russians are on the right bank of the Danube employed in investing the place. These 25,000 will be placed between two fires, and will, it is hoped, be driven into the Danube, or made prisoners.

THE AUSTRIAN NOTE TO RUSSIA.

The Austrian Summons to the Czar to quit the Ottoman territory appears to be a very mild document, indeed it is rather a request than a summons. In the Vienna note—Austria for herself, that is as a great European Power, strongly *advises* the evacuation of the Turkish territories. After referring to the treaties existing between Russia and the Porte, the Imperial Cabinet, in the clearest language, expresses its opinion that the passage of the Pruth was an unjustifiable act. It then goes on to say that a longer occupation of the Turkish provinces will increase the danger of a general war, and under existing circumstances, would be a crime. The Imperial Cabinet, therefore, calls on the Russian Government to name the time at which its troops will quit the two Principalities and the other Turkish provinces. The concessions which have been made to the Christians by the Porte are brought into strong relief in the body of the note.

The official reply to the Austrian note is expected at Vienna some time between the 20th and 24th inst. Among the anti-Russian party in Germany, the prevailing belief is that the whole affair is a "mere farce," in which Austria plays into the hands of Russia, with a view to promote some diplomatic intrigue by which the Czar may escape from the perils in which his unbridled ambition has involved him.

THE BALTIC FLEET.

The news from the Baltic since our last publication contains nothing of much importance. The delay of the French fleet is explained by the statement that some time was required to exercise the crews at great guns before bringing them into action. Many of the men have never served on board line-of-battle ships before, and are, consequently, unused to manœuvre on a large scale. On the 30th ult. the fleet left Kiel, and next day sailed for Gothland, there to await further information as to the movements of Sir Charles Napier.

On the 27th the English fleet was still in Hango Roads, waiting, as was understood, the arrival of the French squadron, which would be a week, probably, before it reached him. The following extracts are from a letter dated Hango Roads, May 27 :—

We have not yet made the pine-woods of Hango re-echo with the booming of a broadside of our heaviest artillery. The Admiral is evidently reserving his full force and strength for more important opponents than the batteries of Hango. The taking of such fortifications as those would, with the force now lying before them, be a work of very little time; but it is quite clear that we consider them somewhat beneath our notice, and wish to preserve our strength unimpaired to deal out our biggest blows to antagonists more worthy of our size. Whether those be the ships of war or principal strongholds, or both combined, yet remains to be told. Therefore, there appears to me an unwillingness on the part of the Commander-in-Chief to risk a single ship being disabled until he has fought an action with the more formidable adversaries. We have no docks at hand wherein to repair damages, should we receive any, and we are far from England; hence the necessity for caution.

Two deserters from the Russian gun-boats at Eckness, sulled on board the flag-ship on the morning of the 25th, in a small shallop. As well as I have been able to hear the news, these men state that there are now ten gun boats near the town, with crews of about forty men, amongst whom are a few regular troops and sailors, but the major part of them are pressed men. The deserters are Finlanders, who had been pressed. They represent that the *Arrogant* and *Hecla* caused great slaughter amongst the troops in fighting their way up to Eckness. The *Basilisk* was sent away on a reconnoitring expedition towards Sveaborg. She looked into the harbour, and saw the Russian ships at anchor. The *Cruiser* arrived to-day. She has made some prizes, which she has left at Faro.

THE ALLIED FLEETS IN THE BLACK SEA.

Nothing further has been done in the Black Sea, except the capture of a few Russian vessels. The Czar's fleet still lies snug at Sebastopol, nor is there any chance of its leaving those safe quarters, seeing that it is not, according to the most recent accounts, as strong in number and weight of metal as the force it would have to encounter. The Russians have not destroyed all their forts on the Circassian coast, as was lately represented. They still hold Anapa and Soukum-Kalé, where they have concentrated all their force, which is about 12,000 men; and Anapa has seventy guns mounted. No important movement is likely to be attempted by the fleets in the Black Sea till a collision has taken place between the Russian and the Allied armies.

Admiral Hamelin, Commander-in-Chief of the French Fleet in the Black Sea, has made the following report to his Government:—

Ville de Paris, Baltchik, May 21.

Monsieur le Ministre—Having left the Bay of Kavarna on the 17th of April, in order to commence mi itary operations in the Black Sea, the two combined squadrons cast anchor on the 20th inst., before Baltchik, where they are now taking in water and necessary provisions.

It is no fault of ours if this cruise of more than a month has not been marked by events of war more numerous and more important; but the naval forces of the Russians have been so closely shut up in Sebastopol under the shelter of the thousand guns of that port, that during twenty days spent at a short distance before them, we have not been able to induce a single ship so much as to engage one of our small steamers employed in reconnoitring. On the other hand, our steam cruisers have roamed the whole extent of the Black Sea, and, since the opening of hostilities, have brought in as prizes a large number of vessels carrying the Russian flag; and more, the division of ships and frigates sent on a mission to the coasts of Circassia, have found that the Russians themselves have abandoned the sixteen forts, reared only after so much toil and so many battles, on the 200 leagues of the coast which extends from Anapa, near the Sea of Azof, nearly to the port of Batoum—a new check, in my opinion, for the Muscovite power.

Finally, sir, if you will consider that the Imperial Port of Odessa has been completely destroyed by our screw ships; that the Russian fleet, challenged in its own ports, has not dared to issue forth to avenge this blow; that the Russian flag is unable to venture out in the Black Sea, of which the Czar pretended to make a Muscovite lake; that all the Russian possessions on the Circassian coast have been destroyed or abandoned, and that, in consequence, the flank of the Russian army in Asia is exposed, you will perceive that this first phase of our operations has produced notable result, to the advantage of the Western Powers and to the detriment of Russian influence in the Black Sea. I am, &c., HAMELIN.

CHANGES IN THE TURKISH MINISTRY.

According to accounts received from Constantinople, vià Vienna, Mehemet Kepreali Pacha, who not long since was called from the Government of Adrianople to be Minister of Marine, has been raised to the rank of Grand Vizier. The new Grand Vizier belongs to the modern school of Turkish statesmen; is well acquainted with European politics, and formerly represented the Sultan at the Court of St. James's. He is succeeded in the ministry of Marine by Halil Pacha, brother-in-law of the Sultan. Letters from Constantinople give reason to expect further changes in the Ottoman Cabinet.

AUSTRIA has succeeded in obtaining a footing for her army on Turkish ground. The last accounts from Constantinople say that orders have been transmitted to the Turkish authorities in Albania to receive the troops which Austria is about to send there.

ALL the German States have lately increased the effective strength of their armies. That of Bavaria now consists of 75,000 men.

RUSSIA is said to be making great preparations for war in Poland. The Russian journals state that there are 250,000 soldiers in Poland; but that must be a gross exaggeration.

ACCORDING to a statement made by Sir James Graham to Mr. Duncan, M.P., the other day, it is not the intention of Government to blockade Archangel. He thinks it will probably remain open all the season.

THE number of Greek pirates captured or destroyed by the vessels of England and France up to the 25th ult. was calculated at twenty-seven, and the vigour of the assaults made upon them has already diminished the number of the acts of piracy. About 5000 English and French trading vessels are sent annually into the Greek seas.

THE Russian ship-of-war, *Aurora*, forty-four guns, arrived at Callao on the 16th of April from Rio.

THE French have had some fighting on the river Senegal with the natives. They took Podor at the point of the bayonet, and intend to construct a fort there, to serve as the point d'appui of new combinations for extending French commerce with the population on both sides of the river higher up.

LETTERS from Singapore state that the Admiral on that station had arrived at that port, and was collecting a small squadron, with the view of looking after the Russian vessels-of-war in the China Seas, on learning the declaration of war.

MEAT is becoming very scarce and dear in Memel, on account of the prohibition of the exportation of cattle from Russia. One of the objects of that prohibition is, no doubt, to prevent the English getting supplies.

THE Governments of France and England having informed the Court of Morocco of the state of war existing between them and Russia, and the obligations resulting therefrom for neutral States, the Emperor has expressed to the Chargés d'Affaires of the two Governments at Tangiers the satisfaction which that communication has given him, and has declared that no Russian vessel, or vessel bearing a flag friendly to Russia, shall be received in the ports of his empire during the war.

THE CONSTITUTION FESTIVAL was held at Copenhagen, on Monday, by fifty thousand persons. It passed off without accident or commotion. The Court was absent.

AUSTRIA has resolved to raise the military cordon on the frontier of Freiburg, the Swiss Federal Council having given satisfactory assurances for a future good understanding.

THE Envoys of France and Austria have had private audiences of the King of Sweden, for the purpose of laying before him the views of their respective Sovereigns as to the conditions of Sweden's publicly joining the Western Powers, and taking an active part in the war. The French Ambassador was the bearer of an autograph letter of Napoleon III., which contained the proposed basis of Swedish co-operation.

A SECTION of the metropolitan police are under orders for Constantinople to assist the Commissariat. The men have volunteered from the different divisions, and each constable receives a bounty of £12 and a stipend of 4s. per diem.

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

VARNA, May 18, 1854.

I HAVE been so busy sketching, that I have had no time to write; but in truth there is nothing new, except that Omer Pacha arrived here today from Schumla. The Generals in Chief are expected here every moment; and I will write a full letter, with the account of their reception, and the ceremonies here.

I rode here yesterday in twelve hours from Schumla—a hard ride of ninety miles, without stopping. You see I am getting hardened. I was here twenty-four hours before Omer Pacha, who reached this day, at three p.m.

[The Sketches forwarded by our Correspondent will appear in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of Saturday next.—EDITOR.]

CONSTANTINOPLE, May 24, 1854.

My last letter doubtless prepared you for the intelligence of the investment of Silistria. Convoys despatched from Schumla, and returning from whence they came flying rumours of the capture of the fortress—were certain symptoms which official denial could not conceal. It was under these circumstances that Omer Pacha left Schumla for an interview with Marshal St. Arnaud and Lord Raglan, at Varna. He started in the night of the 17th-18th, and arrived in about four or six hours. The road, which leads through Yeni Bazar and Pravadi, is one of the pleasantest that can be taken on that side of the Balkan. The vale which Pravadi is supposed to defend is a little Paradise of cultivation, which contrasts singularly, by the varieties of colour which its crops present, with the bare monotonous plains common to the rest of Bulgaria. As for Pravadi itself, it is a place of desolate aspect—destroyed by the Russians in 1828, and never since rebuilt. In front of it are lines of feeble merit as works of art; and the heights are covered on each side by a fort. The town behind has nothing in it but heaps of ruins; and the soldiers inside the lines and forts have the lugubrious aspect of watchers in a city of the dead. The sensations which are experienced on entering this place are such as to banish the pleasing effect of the landscape outside; and the traveller does not recover his equanimity until he finds himself at a considerable distance on the way to Varna, contemplating the beautiful lake which winds its way from Devna to the sea, with its varied beauties of forest, rock, reed, and greensward—its flocks of storks and ducks, and its buffaloes wallowing in the mud. The view of Varna itself was not prepossessing on that day; a thick fog was drifting over it, pushed by a wind from the Black Sea. A sensation of cold and damp struck one on entering the fog, which at the same time veiled everything from sight. The Black Sea is frequently visited in spring by vapours of this kind, which render the navigation extremely dangerous. Omer Pacha, on entering Varna, alighted at the Custom-house, where he was received with all the honours, and the guns of the harbour saluted with nineteen guns. He then took up his quarters for the night at a palace prepared for him.

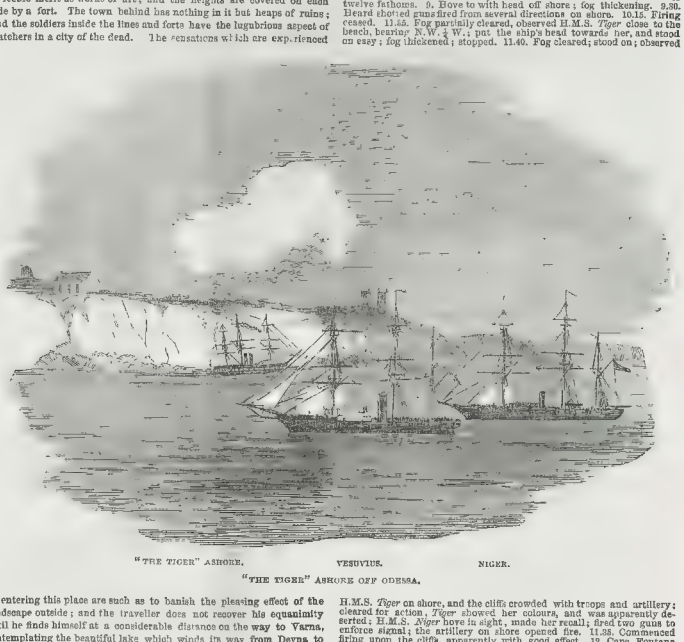
Early on the 19th the signal was given—a steamer in sight; and at about nine o'clock the *Caradoc*, having on board Lord Raglan, Brigadier-General Tylden, Admiral Boxer, and their staff, cast anchor. She was followed by *Le Berthollet*, carrying Marshal St. Arnaud and his staff, and by the Turkish steamer *Chek Per*, with Reza Pacha and Mehemet Pacha on board. Omer Pacha, who had been waiting in the quarantine building, immediately entered a boat manned by sixteen rowers, and went on board the Turkish steamer, where a conference was held between the Generals and the Ministers of War and Marine. The conference lasted about three hours, when Lord Raglan landed and received the usual salute; and was shortly followed by Marshal St. Arnaud and his staff, who received similar honours.

As pressing despatches were sent shortly afterwards to Gallipoli, and the *Caradoc* was dispatched to Constantinople immediately, it was supposed that instant orders had been given to press the departure of the several European forces with the utmost speed.

At Constantinople, where I arrived at the same time as the *Caradoc*, the news of the investment of Silistria was not known, and considerable doubts were entertained, and expressed, whether the English troops could be sent to Varna, as they were still in want of much in the shape of stores and ammunition; but to-day there are evident symptoms that a move is in prospect. To-night several transports will leave Constantinople for the Black Sea.

In the meanwhile, we have now to regret the loss of one of our fine steam-frigates, the *Tiger*, of 16 guns and 400 horse power, which was wrecked off Cape Fontana Lighthouse, on the morning of the 12th inst. Cape Fontana is a point about five miles from Odessa, where a fort existed, which the *Arethusa* lately destroyed. The *Tiger* was cruising before Odessa, in company with the *Vesuvius*, 6, paddle, Commander Powell, and the *Niger*, screw, 16, when she went ashore in a thick fog, at the mouth of a small bay. The Russians on the cliffs were not long in discovering her helpless state; and messengers having been dispatched to Odessa, three batteries of artillery came out with all speed to attack her. The crew, in the meanwhile, were endeavouring to get the ship off, but without success; and the *Vesuvius* and *Niger* were, unfortunately, unable, from the thickness of the fog, to give her any assistance. At one moment the commander of the *Vesuvius* found the spot where the *Tiger* lay clearing from fog, and forthwith became himself embedded in the mist. At another the mist cleared off from around the *Vesuvius*, and remained obstinately within the bay where lay the *Tiger*. The Russians, who were near the scene of the disaster, began firing into the *Tiger* at about eight o'clock, with twenty-four guns and musketry, and the wreck returned the fire as it best could. Towards eleven o'clock the *Tiger* was first observed from the *Vesuvius*. The cliffs above were crowded with people and soldiers, on whom she fired and killed several. Her shells were thrown with such precision that they told greatly, and a great number of people were to be observed running away and taking refuge in an edifice on the right, which, turning out to be a church, was respected by our commander. The crew of the *Tiger* had already surrendered, after setting fire to the ship. Captain Giffard had one leg carried off by a shell, and his nephew killed near him. Two sailors were also killed and several wounded. The rest of the crew, about 200 in number, were made prisoners and taken to Odessa, where they were treated with every respect. The following extracts from the log of the *Vesuvius*, as well as the enclosed Sketch, will best conclude the description of this melancholy disaster. The Sketch was copied from one made on the spot by Mr. Goodden, of the *Vesuvius*.

12th May, 5.30.—Observed land on the port bow. Sounded in five fathoms. Heard two guns; answered with one. Head off shore and steered S.E.; stood in shore, and observed land on the port bow; heard a gun answered with two guns and musketry; stopped, and proceeded as for thirteen; and cleared away. 8.30. Stood off and on shore, seven to twelve fathoms. 9. Bore to with head off shore; for thickening. 9.30. Heard shotted guns fired from several directions on shore. 10.15. Firing ceased. 11.15. Fog partially cleared, observed H.M.S. *Tiger* close to the beach, bearing N.W. ½ W.; put the ship's head towards her, and stood on easy; fog thickened; stopped. 11.40. Fog cleared; stood on; observed



"THE TIGER" ASHORE. VESUVIUS. NIGER.

"THE TIGER" ASHORE OFF ODESSA.

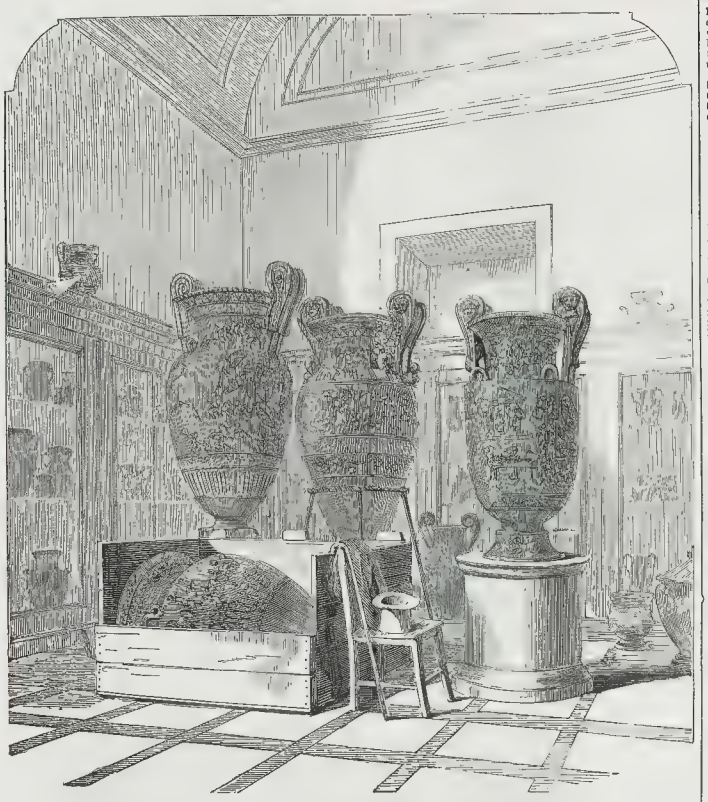
H.M.S. *Tiger* on shore, and the cliffs crowded with troops and artillery; cleared for action, *Tiger* shoved her colours, and was apparently deserted; H.M.S. *Niger* bore in sight, made her recall; fired two guns to enforce signal; the artillery on shore opened fire. 11.55. Commenced firing upon the cliffs, apparently with good effect. 12. Cape Fontana Lighthouse W. ½ W. half a mile. 12.30. Captain went on board the *Niger*. 12.45 Observed the enemy to fire shell on the *Tiger*. 1.30. Ceased firing on the troops; observed fire to break out on board the *Tiger*. 2. *Niger* sent boat ashore with flag of truce. 3. Boat returned to *Niger*; observed the *Tiger's* mainmast fall, and several explosions took place on board.

To-day, being the Queen's birthday, there was a grand parade at Scutari; and fireworks and games were organised for the pleasure of the men. It was a splendid sight to see our troops wheel upon the broken ground, preparatory to passing before the Generals and their staff. The Highlanders and the Guards especially distinguished themselves by the precision of their movements. There were numbers of people on the ground, mostly English and Greek. The Turks were absent, and appeared unwilling to be moved from their ordinary apathy by the ceremonies in honour of the birthday of our Queen. Lord Raglan, the Duke of Cambridge, Sir De Lacy Evans, and the other Generals, were on the ground; and Lord Cardigan appeared, fresh from Europe, walking about with an opera-glass slung to his shoulders. Several fresh arrivals of troops were announced during the review.

THE KING OF PORTUGAL.—The King of Portugal disembarked on Saturday morning, in the Royal Barge of the Southampton Docks, and, with his brother and suite, proceeded at nine a.m. in the Queen's state carriages, which were drawn up in readiness to receive his Majesty on the wharf, direct to London. All the ships in the docks were handsomely dressed with flags, and as the Royal party stepped on shore the guns from the Platform Battery commenced firing a Royal salute. Don Pedro V., of Portugal, who is nearly seventeen years of age, was born on the 16th of September, 1837. His brother, the Prince Don Luiz Filippe (Constable of the kingdom), is a year younger, and was born on the 31st of October, 1838. The Royal party are accompanied by the Duke of Terceira, the Viscount Carreira, the Baron Sarmento, Colonel Foloucque, and by a son of the Marquis of Ficalho, who is about the same age as the young King. The squadron was escorted as far as Cape Finisterre by the French war-steamer *Newton*. The King of Portugal and his brother are to stay a short time on a visit with Queen Victoria and Prince Albert, and will then proceed to France and Belgium, and to such other European Courts as they may be able to visit before the winter sets in; when their father, the King-Regent of Portugal, is anxious for their return to Lisbon.

A RUSSIAN MAN-OF-WAR BUILDING IN NEW YORK.—A New York paper states that Mr. Webb, the shipbuilder, of that city, has resolved, under the advisement of those high in authority, to continue the building of the Russian man-of-war now in progress of construction in his shipyard.

THE 12th East Suffolk regiment has formed its head-quarters, and will immediately proceed to Melbourne. The first division will embark on board the *Camperdown*.



NEW ROOM AT THE ROYAL MUSEUM, AT NAPLES, WITH THE GIANT VASES.

THE NEW ROOM IN THE ROYAL MUSEO BORBONICO, AT NAPLES.

(From our own Correspondent.)

THOSE who have visited the Royal Museum of Naples will remember that, after they have passed through the series of chambers devoted to the interesting collection of domestic Roman Bronzes, they entered the rooms devoted to the so called Etruscan Vases. Very recently, an additional chamber has been thrown open to the public, containing some of the most remarkable fictile terra cottas yet known, both as regards size and historical associations.

The large illustration shows this new room, with the four giant vases from Cumæ and Canosa. As is usual, they all display a black ground: the figures are dead red, while being very sparingly used here and there for the details. The drawing is of the highest order, and the composition of the groups worthy of the best periods of Greek art. The subject illustrated on the left hand vessel is that of the Battle of the Amazons. Above, the presiding deities are represented in council. The lower and upper portions of this vase are occupied with decorations, simple and elegant: height, 4 feet 8 inches, independent of the handles. The upper circle of the central terra-cotta is occupied with sea-horses, and other grotesque marine figures. Two females are sitting on hippocampi, with tridents; whilst in the middle of the group is seen a double-headed monster, probably Scylla and Charybdis. Below, are represented Diana, and other personages, in chariots, divided by a palm-tree, and surrounded by dolphins (the legend, in Greek, is written above). Height of the body of this vase 4 feet 8 inches. The right hand vessel shows on its upper circle a chariot, and a figure carrying a huge tazza. The middle section is filled up with the portion of a temple, in and around which, are several figures. Again, below these is seen a *lectisternium*, and a dead body thereln, with a legend in Greek—*Archemoros*. Round about figures are employed in performing the usual Pagan offices of burial: height, without handles, three feet nine inches. The fourth vase, which has not yet been elevated, is occupied with Homeric subjects, and is remarkable for its fine drawing—one figure, pouring a libation into a tripod, has all the simplicity and grandeur of the very highest efforts of sculpture: height, four feet two inches. Altogether, these wonderful examples of Greco-Italian art, considering their size and excellence of form, are the most remarkable illustrations yet known of the perfection to which the settlers of Magna Græcia had brought plastic creation.

TERRA-COTTA RIBBED ARCHAIC VASE.

SUPPOSED HUNTING-TIGER ON VASE.

ANTELOPE ON ARCHAIC VASE.

Yet more interesting, in an historical point of view are the terra cottas occupying the glass cases which surround this room. They are the earliest examples of pottery yet known, and have been found in tombs below the level of the Greek graves. They were evidently produced by the earliest emigrants to the shores of the Mediterranean, and have been called arbitrarily by some Phœnician, by others Egyptian, vessels, but without much authority or proof.

Mr. Ashpitel, the well-known antiquary, suggests that they were the productions of the inhabitants of Cumæ, in Asia Minor, who joined a body from Chalcis, and, according to the authority of Strabo (lib. 5), first colonised the classical shores of Naples. We immediately commenced a careful investigation of any salient peculiarities which could throw light on the matter. The vessels are made of a light yellow-brown earth, generally with a globosity of form. (See Illustration.) Sometimes they are decorated with geometrical designs, and the Greek meander border, or rather a suggestion of the same; or they represent birds, like turkeys, elk-like beasts, and very frequently an animal of the feline species, very like the cheetah, or hunting tiger of the East—a beast appropriated even now to royal and noble personages. In one vase these animals are seen in the lower circle, above which is a chariot with four horses, containing warriors, with foot attendants—in design, and even in execution, resembling the sculpture of Nineveh.

Mr. Ashpitel strongly urges a study of this group of vases, as likely to lead to the most interesting results. It might add another link to the chain of discovery so ardently longed for by ethnologists and philologists, viz., whether Europe received its arts and civilisation from Nineveh to Lycia, from Lycia to Æolia, and from thence, as we may infer, from Strabo to Greece; or whether science and civilisation passed directly northward, from Egypt to Italy?

One thing is certain—that now, for the first time, a distinct collection has been made of the works of a period anterior to the Italo-Greek times. Cumæ is affording many examples. In fact, the archæologist, it is hoped, will shortly have materials for study, which may prove second only in interest to the late discoveries of Egypt, Assyria, Lycia, and

ORNAMENT ON TERRA-COTTA VASES.

Etruria. They may have a Biblical as well as a Classical interest; they are certainly amongst the earliest records of mankind, and the emblems painted on these singular vases may prove to be the alphabet of a belief which grew into such exquisite poetry in the hands of the Greeks.

It would seem the tide of civilisation has flowed either from the East to Nineveh—branching, perhaps, to Egypt in one line, and in another to Asia Minor—then to Greece, then to Italy; or it may have been that these arts originated in Egypt, and flowed westward to Nineveh, and northward to Italy. The chain alone can be traced from the pictorial remains on such singular terra-cottas, which may, in time, convert speculation into history.

If we turn it to proper account, there is now much material awaiting the student. Bonucci is employed on the Royal excavations at Canosa. H.R.H. the Prince of Syracuse is doing much at Cumæ; whilst Fiorelli, the eminent archæologist, records and publishes, from time to time, the result of the Prince's labours. The pens of Professors Quarantu and

ORNAMENT ON TERRA-COTTA VASES.

Minervini are continually employed on the same subject, and the French and Germans are not idle. But, hitherto, I am not aware that any attempt has been made to use the objects of discovery as the stepping-stone of history, or as a means of filling up the blanks of chronology.

[The accompanying Illustrations are all from the pencil of Mr. Ashpitel, who is giving the subject every attention, with a view to insertion in the Journal of the British Archæological Association. The vases are all yellowish brown; the figures red and brown, mixed; the light lines are merely scratches, with a sharp point.]

THE TOMBSTONE OF BLUSUS.

THE Museum at Metz, although little known, possesses the richest store of Roman antiquities in Germany. Among these is the Tomb tone of Blasus, which was found at Weisenau, a village in the neighbourhood of Mentz. The inscriptions of this stone have the peculiarity that the one on the front is repeated on the back, with the omission of a few words. The inscription on the front is somewhat obliterated, and would not be quite intelligible were it not repeated on the back. The front inscription is as follows:—

BLVSVS ATVS
AN LXXV H S E V M
NIS F AN VXSO
SATO VERN
F PARENTIBVS P

The inscription on the reverse is:—

BLVSVS ATVSIRI F
NAVTA AN LXXV H S E
MENIMANI BRIGIONIS F AR
VXSOR VIVA SIBI FECIT ET MVS P
PARENTIBVS PIO PIETATE POSIT

Blusus, Atusiri filius,
Nauta, annorum septuaginta quinque, hic situs est.
Menimani, Brigionis filia, annorum , uxor
Viva sibi fecit,
Sato verna . . .
Filius parentibus pietate posuit.

(Blusus, son of Atusir, mariner, seventy-five years old, rests here. Menimani, daughter of Brigion, years old, his wife, erected this monument in her lifetime. Sato the slave . Primus the son has placed this, in final love of his parents.)

So reads the completed inscription on the front, except that one word is not clearly defined.

While the other lines of the front inscription are easily repaired by the back inscription, the question now is, how the words "SATO VERN" have to be combined with those following. In the inscription on the reverse, which was no doubt cut at a later time, these words are omitted; because, not the slave Sato, but, by this time, the son Primus, super-

THE TOMBSTONE OF BLUSUS.

STATION OF THE TRIESTE-VIENNA RAILWAY, AT TRIESTE.

ntended the bas-relief and the inscription. The blank left for the age was never filled up.

The sculpture belongs, probably, to the better period of the Roman Empire, at least before the end of the third century; but it will be safer to place the time of the erection of this monument in that of the first Frankish Kings.

The ancients were accustomed to place the effigies of the defunct above the inscription; but it is uncertain whether the Romans sculptured the portraits of living persons upon the same stone with those of the dead. The wife of Blusus is here represented in a costume rarely found in ancient art; but differing very little from that which we see on sculptures found in this part of Germany. The tunic, ruff, and ruffles, are rarely worn by ancient female figures. The *stola* does not cover the bosom; and equally peculiar is the head-dress. The cloak (*palu*) reaches down to the knees. The jewellery is superb: the neck ornament bears a rosette; there are likewise a brooch, finger-ring, and armlets. These rich ornaments are rarely found on monuments, and seldom so prominently as upon this stone. Meninani holds in her right hand a ball of thread, in her left a spindle. In her lap sits a little dog, the only instance known to the writer of a monument bearing a lap dog, the keeping of which, however, was a classic custom. The husband of Meninani is dressed with equal simplicity: he wears an undercoat and a cloak Between his father and mother is the bust of the son, Primus. He is dressed in a tunic, and wears a bulla round his neck.

THE TRIESTE-VIENNA RAILWAY.

At the present time two great undertakings in Trieste are fast approaching completion—namely, the Railway Station, on the north; and Lloyd's Arsenal, on the south part of the town.

It is evidently of the greatest importance that the portion of the above Railway which lies between Laibach and Trieste should be finished, as by this means the whole of the line through Central Europe will be completed; thus connecting the two great and important seas the Baltic and Adriatic, and offering the greatest advantages to commerce as well as to the tourist. The difficulties in the construction of this part of the line were very great, from Trieste lying in a valley, and rendering it necessary to provide an incline of 1 in 100, which causes it to take a round of four miles before arriving on the carse with which the town is surrounded.

To procure land for the Station, it was requisite to remove a considerable portion of an adjoining hill, and fill up about 400 feet of the sea, in which operation 60,000 cubic feet of earth were employed.

The Station will have its own dock, capable of containing about 100 vessels.

Thus far the Railway works. Directing our attention next to the south part of the town, where the foundation-stone of Lloyd's New Arsenal was laid in May last, we find a long row of warehouses already erected, as well as wet and dry docks in process of construction.

The chief entrance of the Arsenal, in the form of a tower, is halt

THE AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S NEW ARSENAL, AT TRIESTE.

finished; as is also the engine-house for raising the vessels. Altogether, the construction of this Arsenal is on as grand a scale as that of the Railway Station.

The designs, which are very tasteful, are by Mr. L. Hanson,; and the superintendence of their execution has been intrusted to the engineer-in-chief, Heyder.

When finished, these two great undertakings will form in the flourishing seaport of Trieste two worthy monuments of the inventive genius of its former fellow-citizen, his Excellency the present Internuncio at Constantinople, Baron de Bruck, who, through his unremitting energy, overcame the formidable obstacles which the execution of these projects at first presented.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, June 11.—Trinity Sunday. St. Barnabas.
MONDAY, 12.—Wat Tyler killed in Smithfield, 1381.
TUESDAY, 13.—Battle of Naseby, 1645. Battle of Marengo, 1800.
WEDNESDAY, 14. Battle of Saragossa, 1809.
THURSDAY, 15.—Trinity Term ends. Magna Charta signed, 1215.
FRIDAY, 16.—Duke of Marlborough died, 1722.
SATURDAY, 17.—John Wesley born, 1703

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE
FOR THE WEEK ENDING JUNE 17, 1854.

Sunday.	Monday	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday
M h m 1 45	A h m 2 10	M h m 2 36	A h m 3 0	M h m 3 25	A h m 3 50	M h m 4 15
A h m 4 40	M h m 5 5	A h m 5 31	M h m 5 56	A h m 6 21	M h m 6 46	A h m 7 12
M h m 7 37	A h m 8 3	M h m 8 30	A h m 8 58	M h m 9 26	A h m 9 55	M h m 10 23

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

M. P., Andover.—The Engraving of the Baltic Fleet Post-office, in last week's ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, is from a Sketch, not a Photograph.
DECLINED.—G. O., near Bremen; M. W. C.; Z. Z.; J. M. G., Great Malvern; and Z. Z. (music.)
ERRATUM.—In our Journal of last week, the inscription line on Mr. Cooke's picture should have read "Zuyder Zee Botter—Returning to Port."
*** The Illustration of the Southwark Clock-tower will appear next week.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 1854.

THE war begins to look ominous for the Emperor of Russia, Thrice, if not four times, his troops have been repulsed from before Silistria—on each occasion with heavy loss. The British and French armies, large detachments of which began to leave Constantinople for Varna on the 29th of May, have, ere this, advanced beyond Schumla to the relief of Silistria, either to raise the siege, if its gallant Ottoman defenders still hold out; or to recapture it from the Russians, if the latter have, by dint of desperation, succeeded in taking it. The main interest of the war is at present concentrated in that fortress. It appears certain that no attempt will be made upon Sebastopol until the naval operations of Admirals Dundas and Hamelin can be seconded by a military force in the Crimea. There will be no force available for the purpose, until the defeat of the Russians, before, or in Silistria, shall have been accomplished; and the public need not therefore expect to hear, for some time, any news of importance from the Black Sea—unless, perhaps, there should be a renewed attack upon Odessa. Should there be any truth in the rumour, that such an attack is contemplated, it is tolerably certain that the commercial, as well as the fortified part of the city, will fall under the range of our guns, and that the Russians will not be allowed a second opportunity of making prisoners of any gallant English or French seamen, whose ships may be driven, in fog or in storm, upon the enemy's coast. One such disaster is quite sufficient, and the delivery of the officers and crew of the *Tiger*, or the total destruction of Odessa will probably be the alternative submitted to the judgment of the brave, but mendacious, Oster-Sacken and his Imperial master. The Circassians, under the guidance of the veteran Schamyl, are well supplied with arms and ammunition, and have already done much to distract the councils of Russia, and to afford a diversion in favour of the Sultan. The forts abandoned on the coast have all been seized, and some of them reconstructed by the Circassians. Georgia has been declared independent, and the Georgians, in several important towns, have placed themselves under the protection of the Ottoman flag.

The insurrections in Albania, Epirus, and Montenegro—fomented by Russian intrigue—have been suppressed, with the entire concurrence and partial support of Austria; and the King of Greece has received the well-deserved punishment of seeing his territories, if not his capital, occupied by the troops of the Allies; and of knowing himself disgraced and humiliated in the eyes of his people. Doubtless, the Allies will not trouble themselves to dispossess King Otho of his sovereignty; but will leave the Greeks themselves to arrange matters with a Monarch who has proved himself unable to govern them in peace, or to protect them in war. Nor are these the only clouds that have gathered upon the fortunes of the Czar. His attached friends the Emperor of Austria and the King of Prussia have been securely drawn into the alliance against him. They may dislike the necessity, but they have yielded to it, and have already been dragged so far into the irresistible vortex of events as to have demanded of the Emperor the evacuation of the Danubian Principalities, as a measure essential to the security of Germany, and his refusal of which, within a reasonable time, to be fixed by himself, will be regarded by both Powers as a *casus belli*. Austria and Prussia flatter themselves, in all probability, with the hope that they will be enabled to save the Czar from the consequences of his crimes against Europe, to the extent of securing the integrity of his empire. But events, slow as they may have appeared to the impatient public in this and in other countries, have been too rapid for such a compromise. A few months ago it might have been possible to have engaged Great Britain and France to such an understanding. But that day has passed. Belligerents, before the victory of one, and the defeat of the other, may listen to many suggestions which become utterly idle and useless after blood has been shed. Whatever may be the feeling in the German Courts, there is no feeling of mercy towards Russia in the popular mind of the Western Allies. On the contrary, there is a very strong feeling that mercy would be unwise, and that the only security the world can have against a renewal of such wicked attempts to disturb it, is a partial dismemberment of the Russian Empire, by the restoration of Finland and the Crimea to their rightful owners. If the Czar should yield to the well-meant representations of his German friends, and consent to the immediate evacuation of the Turkish territories, a new difficulty would doubtless arise between Russia and Germany on the one side, and Great Britain and France on the other. But his haughty refusal to listen to terms is much more probable than his acquiescence in a compromise. In this case, Austria and Prussia will be compelled, by their own recorded sentiments, by their foregone proceedings, and by the overpowering current of events, to take a still more decisive part against him, and to obey the leadership of France and England in the future conduct of the struggle. In the meantime, the Czar's prospects in the Baltic are not less gloomy than they are in Bulgaria, in the Crimea, and in Asia. The gallant achievement of Captain Hall at Bekness is but a foretaste and specimen of what British sailors are prepared to do in those regions—and may well increase the anxiety which the people of St. Petersburg begin to entertain with regard not only to Cronstadt, but to the capital itself.

We believe, that up to the commencement of the present week, there were only two armies in the world, of which the Colonels or other officers were permitted to eke out their incomes by pickings and "cabbagings" from the clothing of the soldiers. Those armies were the Russian and the British. Thanks to the force of public opinion long and earnestly expressed, and swelling to its greatest volume in the presence of war and danger, the British Army has been removed from this evil companionship. By Royal warrant, dated Tuesday last, and issued under the auspices of Mr Sidney Herbert, the active and able Secretary at War, the scandal attaching to the British army, from this cause, has been abolished. No one ever pretended that the Colonels of our regiments were overpaid; but it was keenly felt by those gentlemen themselves, that the mode of payment was objectionable; and that it was a hardship upon them to be compelled to make up the fair allowance which was their due, by what was technically called the "off reckonings" upon the clothing of the men under their command. The country will rejoice to learn, that the difficulties, which under the *régime* of the Duke of Wellington were found to be insurmountable, have been effectually conquered; and that in future the Colonels of the British Army will receive a fixed allowance, in lieu of the varying profits derived from the former unsolidierly, but very tailorly practice. No one, we may be certain, will more sincerely rejoice at this change than the Colonels themselves, and no unpopularity will for the future be attached to any grade of the British Army for practices which gentlemanly feeling and sound economy alike condemned. It may be anticipated, however, that the rank and file of the Army will be the greatest gainers by the change. Already the uncomfortable stock has gone to the limbo of other absurdities, and will, in a few weeks, be a portion of attire as purely historical as the cocked hats and pigtails of Marlborough and Wolfe. Other reforms in costume will follow in due course; and perhaps the kilt itself will be found to be a garment as unsuited to countries where musquitoes are abundant as it is to the colder climate, where it is erroneously supposed to have been invented and to be in daily use. If the French alliance had produced no other benefit, it would not have been altogether fruitless, in proving, as it has done, to the military authorities and martinets of this country that comfort and common sense in dress are valuable adjuncts to the success of armies in the field; and that the British soldier, always good and sturdy, may be made still better and more serviceable if he be not distressed and "worried" by needless and oppressive articles of attire.

THE COURT.

The Court has been enlivened this week by the arrival, on a visit to her Majesty as the Queen Consort, of the King of Portugal and his brother the Duke of Oporto, both of whom are Knights of the Garter. His Majesty arrived at Buckingham Palace on Saturday morning. Lord de Tabley and Colonel Wylde were in attendance, and conducted the illustrious visitors to Buckingham Palace, where they arrived at half-past eleven o'clock. They were received by her Majesty at the door of the grand hall. The Queen was accompanied by the Duchess of Kent, but Majesty and the Duke of Oporto paid visits to her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, in the afternoon, at Clarence House, St. James's; to her Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester, at Gloucester House; and to her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cambridge, at her residence, in St. James's Palace. In the evening her Majesty and the Duke of Oporto accompanied the Queen and the Prince, to witness the performance of the French Play.

On Sunday the Queen and Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, the Princess Alice, and the Duchess of Kent attended Divine Service in the private chapel of Buckingham Palace. The Hon. and Rev. Gerald Wellesley preached and administered the Holy Sacrament. The King of Portugal and the Duke of Oporto went in the forenoon to attend the service in the chapel of the French Embassy in Hanover street, Portman-square.

On Monday his Royal Highness Prince Albert, with the Prince of Wales and Prince Alfred, accompanied by the King of Portugal and his brother the Royal Highness the Duke of Oporto, left Buckingham Palace, at twelve o'clock, for Eton College, for the purpose of being present at the delivery of the speeches. In the evening the Queen and Prince Albert received and entertained at dinner the King and the Duke of Oporto, honoured the Royal Italian Opera with their presence.

On Tuesday the Queen, attended by the Hon. Eleanor Stanley, Major-General Buckley, and Captain Du Plat, visited her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester, at Gloucester House, and later visited her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent. In the forenoon, Prince Albert, the King of Portugal, and the Duke of Oporto inspected the Wellington Barracks. Prince Albert afterwards rode on horseback, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, and inspected the new hotel at the Paddington Station of the Great Western Railway. At one o'clock the King of Portugal and the Duke of Oporto left the Palace, for the residence of Count Lavradio, the Portuguese Minister, in Gloucester-place, where his Majesty had a diplomatic levee for the reception of the foreign Ministers resident at the Court of Great Britain. Later afterwards returned at four o'clock to Buckingham Palace. In the evening the Queen and Prince Albert, accompanied by the King of Portugal and the Duke of Oporto, honoured the Marchioness of Ormonde and Mrs. Cavendish with their company at a grand ball, at their residence, in Piccadilly.

On Tuesday the Queen held a Privy Council, at which the Marquis of Anglesey and Lord Belhaven were sworn in respectively as Lords-Lieutenant of Anglesey and Wigtonshire.

The Countess of Mount Edgecumbe has succeeded the Viscountess Canning as the Lady in Waiting. Lord Camoys and the Hon. Mortimer West have succeeded the Marquis of Ormonde and Mr. F. Cavendish, as Lord and Groom in Waiting.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess Mary visited her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, at her residence, Clarence-house, St. James's, on Wednesday.

The Duke of Devonshire was seized with an attack of paralysis at an early hour on Friday, at Chatsworth. The attack was less serious than was at first imagined; and his Grace, having been placed in his carriage by his own desire, was taken to London direct, in order to secure the best medical advice. It is feared that his Grace's right side will be permanently affected.

Lieut. John O'Reilly, R.N., had an interview with Colonel the Hon. C. Grey, at Buckingham Palace on Tuesday, to submit drawings by his son, Lieutenant Montagu O'Reilly, of her Majesty's ship *Retribution*, of Odessa, Varna, the Sulinch mouth of the Danube, and the bombardment of Odessa, for the inspection of his Royal Highness Prince Albert.

THE GREEK INSURRECTION IN TURKEY.

A BLUE BOOK, containing nearly three hundred pages of official correspondence with reference to the Greek Insurrection in Turkey, has recently been laid before Parliament. These documents—consisting principally of letters addressed by Mr. Wyse, the British Ambassador at the Court of Athens, to the Earl of Clarendon, and his Lordship's replies—are full of information, and, we may add, of warning.

The conduct of King Otho from the commencement of the Eastern crisis has been distinguished by duplicity. His pledge that every officer in his army who joined the insurgent troops should be expelled his service, was rendered worthless shortly afterwards by the fact that General Tzavellas, who placed himself at the head of the rebels, retained his position as Inspector-General of the Greek Army; and the assurances of the Ministry as to the desire of the King to prevent his subjects from joining in the insurrection, were belied by the acts of his Generals, who were at the same time, openly and with his concurrence, aiding the insurgents. But King Otho, in taking upon himself the difficult task of covertly co-operating with the Emperor of Russia, while openly professing to be on the most friendly terms with the Porte and her Allies, over estimated his powers of deception. The Governments of England and France were not to be trifled with. The insurrection in Albania, Thessaly, and Epirus was but another phase of the great Russo-Turkish Question; the Government of Greece was but an instrument in the hands of the Czar, and the struggle for independence of the Greeks was but a cloak to cover a diversion in favour of Russia.

In a letter, dated March 17, 1854, Mr. Wyse made known to the Earl of Clarendon the answer of the Greek Ministry to the demands for explanation made by the English and French Governments. M.M. Tricoupe and Metaxa represented, on behalf of King Otho, that the Government had incurred unpopularity by its efforts to prevent the people from taking part in the insurrection; that the nature of the constitution of the country was such as to render the Government unable to take more efficient means, but that it was willing to do its best with that object "if only allowed a little breathing time."

Nor are these misrepresentations (continued Mr. Wyse) confined to diplomacy. The press, too, has been tampered with. * * * It is the nation, in their colonies, which bears forward the reluctant Government; but it is the Government as we too truly know—that bears forward the hesitating and reluctant nation.

Mr. Wyse was fully aware of, and emphatically denounced, the conduct of the King of Greece from the very first; and already, at that early period of the negotiations, spoke of it as "differing in nothing from open war, except in the preliminary ceremony of a proclamation." In a letter, also bearing the date of March 17th, his Excellency informed the Earl of Clarendon of an interview which had taken place between M. Rouen, on the part of the French Government, and the King and Queen of Greece:—

In the four hours M. Rouen spent in endeavouring to convince them of the obligations by which they were bound, the responsibilities which they accepted, and the dangers to which they were exposed, he could perceive no other impression had been made than a feeling of resentment at the course pursued by England and France, and a fixed determination to abide by it, with unconquerable resistance to their counsels. The King he did not find received a Divine commission to protect the Greek race against Mahometan oppression by every means in his power; and all warning of impending peril he regarded as menaces affecting his dignity and independence. Gentle means might win him, but against threats he was inflexible.

It was in vain that M. Rouen deprecated these unmerited misinterpretations; he left him more than ever resolved to identify his course with that of his people—in other words, to lead on, if possible, and to extend the movement.

The Queen was, if possible, more excited (*emportée*). She indulged in the strongest invective against M. Rouen and the French Government; and, when he ventured to suggest that the movement was not national, but emanated from an intrigue of the Court, both started up, with tears in their eyes, and the King exclaimed, "What! not national? It is the whole nation as one man; and such language proves only you do not comprehend us or the Greek nation."

In another letter, dated March 27th, Mr. Wyse mentioned the fact of the King having summoned a Council of his Ministers, at the commencement of the outbreak in which the following questions were proposed:—

1. Whether the revolt, as the Radoviza quarrel was interpreted, was national?
2. Whether the King of Greece should take part in it?
3. Whether it should be done openly or secretly?

The two first questions (said Mr Wyse) were decided in the affirmative, and on the third it was determined the King should proceed secretly. There is now (he added) question of longer any question of remaining with reserve to the insurrection on the part of the Greek Government; * * * on the power it has been for many years in preparation to raise, at the head of which are the King and Queen of Greece, and the instruments of which are partisan Russian Ministry, is clear to the commonest observer.

The reply of the Earl of Clarendon, to these and other less important despatches, contains a concise statement of the whole policy of the English Government with regard to Greece:—

Let the Greek Government (said his Lordship, under date April 22nd) publicly disavow the criminal acts of those who have ostensibly quitted its service to swell the ranks of the insurgents, or at least a period, limited to a few days, within which every person now or hereafter in its service, who has proceeded to take part in the insurrection, must return into the Greek territory under pain of future punishment, in case the warning is disregarded; let it officially declare that it will never again admit into its service any persons who have so left it, dismissal from it, in order to join the insurrection, and in case it refuse to release from his obligations toward it, any person who may apply for permission to retire, but whose motives for making the application are not at all open to suspicion. Above all, let the language of the Court and its adherents correspond with that of the professions of the Government, and let it not be supposed that the King of Greece is so unmindful of the obligations of his position towards England and France as deliberately to encourage practices opposed to their policy, or insensible to the perils which he will have to encounter, if he braves the resentment of those two Powers.

The Government of Greece may rest assured that England and France will not allow it with impunity to thwart their firm resolution to uphold the Turkish Empire; and it cannot doubt that those Governments have the means of making their determination respected. If, as the result of the employment of these means, the throne of Greece should crumble away, and the present dynasty give place to another form of government less subject to the caprices of ambition, and more disposed to devote its operations to the legitimate development of the resources which, from its geographical position, the Greek State counts as within its power to realize, there is no liability for any such result, and for the consequences which may ensue will rest with those whose misconceived views and unfriendly conduct will have converted an enemy into a friend, which England and France would be the last to maltreat or forsake.

On the 11th May, 1854, Mr Wyse announced the seizure, during the skirmish at Petra, of certain important correspondence between the leaders of the insurrection and the Greek Government. The principal portion of this correspondence consisted of two letters—one from General Grivas, to a friend whose name was not specified, the other from Tzavellas to the private secretary of the King of Greece. The first of these letters, bearing the date of April 2nd, contained no information of any consequence, and was written at a time when the Government had not openly taken part with the insurgents. The writer after expatiating on the "glorious struggle" for the independence of Greece, in which he and his confederates had embarked, deplored the bad condition of the troops, and blamed the Government for not "appointing proper persons to a regular army at a regular pay." The letter of General Tzavellas was more to the point. It was dated April 13 (25), and was evidently intended for the perusal of King Otho. It contained, besides various details as to the condition of the troops, a request that several battalions should be sent forthwith to Arnino, *with orders to desert immediately* on their arrival, and place themselves under his command." This General, it should be remembered, was at this time in the service of the Greek Government.

Armed with these proofs of the guilty participation of King Otho and of the Greek Government in the outrage against the Porte, the Allied Powers proceeded to carry out their policy with respect to Greece, as exposed in the letter of the Earl of Clarendon, from which we have quoted. An ultimatum was accordingly presented to the Greek Government on the part of England and France; which the King at first rejected, alleging as his excuse that his Ministry had resigned; but which, on the arrival of sixteen English and French ships on the shores of Epirus, and the landing of the Allied troops, he duly and formally signed.

As long as the Grecian territory continues to be thus occupied, the world has a guarantee for the good behaviour of King Otho. We doubt whether he could be depended upon for one moment after the withdrawal of the Allies.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

The Exchequer-bonds (£8,000,000) Bill was read a third time, and passed.

THE WAR MINISTER.

On the order of the day for the House resolving itself into a Committee of Supply,

Lord J. RUSSELL entered into explanations respecting the more efficient administration of military affairs during a time of war, and stated that it was the opinion of the Government that the management of the War Department should be separate from that of the Colonies—with which it was now united. The Government had, therefore, come to the conclusion that the appointment of a War Minister would be expedient. The financial department would, however, be still left to the Secretary at War. It was not deemed advisable to abolish the office of Commander-in-Chief, which the Government, after a careful consideration, regarded as a most useful and necessary appointment.

Mr. HUME expressed a hope that the Government would be able to lay on the table some definite plan, before asking for any further estimates. He was always desirous that there should be one head to the War Department, who should be a Cabinet Minister. He objected to the plan of entrusting the Treasury with the management of the Commissariat; and, in conclusion, he expressed a hope that the clothing of the Army would be immediately altered.

Mr. E. ELLICE thought the statement of the noble Lord far from satisfactory, although he quite agreed that there should be a head of the Military Department responsible to that House for the expenditure of the Army. The present arrangement might do, if intended to last only through the war; but, if it were designed to make it permanent, he urged that there ought to be one head of the War Department responsible to the House for the general expenditure.

Mr. RICH thought the statement of the noble Lord so far satisfactory, that he would not proceed with the motion on the subject of which he had given notice.

Colonel DUNNE thought that the person to be appointed ought to be a military man.

After a few words from Mr. M. GIBSON and Mr. WILLIAMS, the subject dropped; and the House went into Committee of Supply.

Several votes of the Civil Service Estimates were agreed to.

Upon the vote £8,676, to Defray the Charges of Salaries and Expenses of the Two Houses of Parliament and Allowances to Retired Officers, a discussion of some length ensued; in which it was contended —by Mr. Hume, Mr. French, Mr Spooner, and other hon. members—that, before any more more money was granted, an estimate of the total cost of the works should be furnished.

Upon a division, the vote was carried by a majority of 57 to 35.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

THE WAR.

In reply to the Earl of Hardwicke, the Duke of NEWCASTLE said that an ambulance corps had been established by this country for the first time. The object of this corps was to render more effectual the necessary assistance on the field of battle, in conveying the wounded soldiers with the utmost care possible to the nearest place for their relief. A screw steamer was engaged by the Government, which would start with this corps for the East the day after to-morrow.

NEW SECRETARY AT WAR.

The Earl of DERBY asked whether it was true that Lord J. Russell had accepted the office of President of the Council? and he wished further to ask, in regard to the new office of Minister of War, whether the noble Earl at the head of the Government was prepared to explain to the House and the country what were the precise functions and duties proposed in connection with that office? (Hear, hear).

The Earl of ABERDEEN said, his noble friend, the member for London, had accepted the office of President of the Council, and would continue in the House of Commons. He had further to inform the noble Earl that it had been decided that the separation of the functions of the Secretary of State for the War and the Colonies should be carried into effect before the next meeting of the House. The functions of the new Minister of War would be the same as those now discharged by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. What further changes hereafter might take place in the administration of the Military Department he was not prepared to state. The War Secretary would possess all those powers and functions now held by his noble friend near him.

The Earl of DERBY asked whether the new Secretary of State was to have anything to do with the control of the financial department?

The Earl of ABERDEEN: The new Minister will have nothing whatever to do with the control of the financial department.

Lord PANMURE expressed his gratification at this arrangement of the Government.

The Earl of DERBY asked the noble Earl, whether the new Minister would have anything to do with the finances of the Army, or with the patronage of the Army; and whether it was intended only to appoint this Minister during the war?

The Earl of ABERDEEN said that the new Minister would possess neither the one power nor the other. The Minister of War would have control over the administration of the Army. And this he (the Earl of Aberdeen) thought would be found quite sufficient to occupy his utmost attention. "As to what may happen in time of peace—if that happy day should ever come (Laughter)—the noble Earl will have the goodness to wait for that event before it will be necessary to determine what are to be the functions of the new Minister during a time of peace."

THE ORDER OF THE GARTER.

The Earl of ALBEMARLE moved for the appointment of a Select Committee to inquire into the administration of the funds of charities connected with the Military Order of St. George and the Garter; and more especially with the Royal Grant of King Edward III., commonly called the "Old Dotation," and that of Queen Elizabeth, commonly called the "New Dotation." The noble Earl, in a speech of much length, brought the case of the Knights of Windsor before the House.

The LORD CHANCELLOR opposed the motion on the ground that this was a case for the ordinary legal tribunals of the country, rather than for their Lordships' House.

The motion was ultimately withdrawn.

The Nuisances Removal Bill and the Dublin Port Bill severally passed through Committee.

The Consolidated Fund (£8,000,000) No 2 Bill was read a third time and passed.

The High Treason (Ireland) Bill and the Income-tax No. 2 Bill, were severally read a second time.

The Industrial and Provident Societies Bill and the Church Buildings Acts Amendment Bill, were read a second time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

LORD J. RUSSELL'S APPOINTMENT.

Upon the motion of Mr. HAYTER, a new writ was ordered to issue for the election of a representative for the city of London, in the room of Lord John Russell, since his election, has accepted the office of Lord President of the Council.

THE FALKLAND ISLANDS.

Mr. G. DUNDAS asked the Under Secretary for the Colonies, whether any official information had been received regarding a fracas, said to have occurred at the Falkland Islands, in which the American whaler *Rachel* was seized by her Majesty's ship *Express*; and also asked whether there was any objection to place the correspondence connected with the subject on the table of the House?

Mr. PEEL said that the whole of the circumstances of the case were under the consideration of the Government; and it would at the present time be very inconvenient to lay the correspondence on the table.

THE NEWSPAPER STAMP.

In reply to Mr. M. Gibson, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said that the state of the law in reference to the periodical press and the Newspaper Stamp was still under consideration.

SUPPLY.

The House then went into Committee of Supply upon the Civil Service Estimates.

The greater portion of the night was occupied by a discussion upon the different votes proposed.

At a quarter past twelve o'clock the House resumed, the chairman reported progress, and asked leave to sit again.

The Common Law Procedure Bill, and the Bills of Exchange Bill, were severally read a second time.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

AUSTRIA AND PRUSSIA.

The Emperor of Austria and the King of Prussia were to meet yesterday (Friday) at Chemnitz or Tetschen, on the Bohemian frontier. Counts Buol Schauenstein and Alvensleben, from Vienna, and Count Thun, from Berlin, had been suddenly summoned by telegraph to attend this unexpected conference. Baron Manteuffel accompanied the King. Count Arnim was also summoned, but illness prevented him from attending. The object of this meeting is totally unknown, but it is conjectured to have some relation to Russian proposals. As the King of Prussia is known to have expressed a decided reluctance to engage in hostile demonstrations against the Emperor of Russia, it is supposed that he has proposed a conference with the view of making important modifications in the Austro-Prussian treaty. If that were the case, however, M. de Manteuffel is not the man whom he would have taken with him, for it was under the advice of that Minister that he agreed to the treaty.

THE RUMOURED ADVANCE OF THE RUSSIANS.

The news of the advance of the Russians towards the position of the Allied armies created considerable uneasiness in the moneyed world of Paris on Thursday. The French Funds fell nearly 2 per cent, and the Railway Shares followed the course of the public securities, though not quite in the same proportion. The determination of the Russian General to bring his adversaries into action as soon as possible is looked upon not only as an indication of confidence in his own strength, but of his determination, if he can, to meet Omer Pacha in the field before the arrival of the English and French armies. It is not likely, however, that Omer Pacha will be induced to fight a pitched battle until the arrival of his powerful auxiliaries; or that the English Generals will hazard an encounter under disadvantageous circumstances. It is, in fact, not yet known whether the object of the English army, in advancing Varna, is to make a diversion in favour of Silistria, or to cover Schumla in the event of Omer Pacha being forced to retreat. The semi official journals of Germany declare that the Russian army on the Danube is 250,000 strong.

GREECE.

Letters from Athens, of June 1, state that the Ministry has taken the oath, and that all its acts are of a nature to give complete satisfaction to the Porte. Epirus is pacified, after a fresh advantage gained by the Turks at Badowitz. The accounts from Thessaly are not so satisfactory. Nothing is known of the state of affairs in Macedonia. The presence of the French troops has produced an excellent effect: their appearance is admirable. The accounts from the provinces are tranquillising.

The private telegraphic despatch, announcing that the Ottoman troops had suffered a defeat in Thessaly, is said to have been strangely exaggerated. The engagement in question had not the importance ascribed to it. Reinforcements, moreover, have been sent to Thessaly, and it was hoped that in that province, as well as in Epirus, the odious projects of the rebels would be defeated.

THE BREVET.—The 20th of June, the anniversary of her Majesty's Accession to the Throne, is the day fixed upon for the approaching Brevet.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, JUNE 8

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading	Thermometer. Lowest Reading	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity	Direction of Wind	Rain in Inches.
	Inches							Inches
June 2	29.656	58·0	50·6	52·2	— 4·5	85	N.E.	·01
„ 3	29.727	64·0	46·6	51·8	— 5·2	77	N.E.	·09
„ 4	29.903	66·9	43·0	52·7	— 4·4	60	N.E.	·00
„ 5	30.025	69·2	45·5	51·9	— 5·4	81	N.E.	·00
„ 6	30.016	57·2	47·3	50·7	— 6·8	78	N.N.E.	·00
„ 7	30.040	67·4	47·4	50·4	— 7·4	76	N.N.E.	·00
„ 8	30.021	63·0	47·8	52·9	— 5·0	78	CALM.	·00

Note. The sign — denotes below the average.

The corrected reading of the barometer decreased from 29·66 inches at the beginning of the week, to 29.62 inches by the afternoon of the 2nd; increased to 30.08 inches by the morning of the 5th, and decreased to 29.66 inches by the afternoon of the same day, increased to 30.09 inches by the afternoon of the 7th; and decreased to 29·99 inches by the end of the week. The mean for the week, at the height of eighty-two feet above the level of the sea, was 29·905 inches

The mean temperature of every day has been much below its average, and that of the week was 51·6°, being 5·6° below the average of the corresponding week during 28 years.

The range of temperature during the week was 22·2°, being the difference between the lowest reading of the thermometer on the 4th and the highest on the 8th.

The greatest daily range of temperature during the week was 21·9°, on the 8th; the least, on the 4th, was 10·6°.

Rain fell during the week to the depth of rather more than one tenth of an inch.

The Weather has been dull and cold, the sky has been overcast almost constantly.

Lewisham, June 8, 1854. JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—Within the week ending June 3, the births of 739 boys, and of 735 girls, were registered, these numbers exceed the averages of the same week in the nine preceding years, by 84 and 49 respectively. The deaths registered within the same period were 561 males and 529 females, exceeding the average of the preceding ten years, corrected for increase of population, by 83. The long-run per cent of cold weather, which has now continued for seven weeks, with temperature lower than usual, has been accompanied with a high mortality. In the past week no less than 269 deaths were caused by epidemic diseases, while in the previous week 214.

REMOVAL OF CITY CHURCHYARDS.—A very numerous and influential meeting of clergymen and other parochial members of the City of London, on the provisions of the Church Buildings Acts Amendment Bill, was held on Wednesday, in the large room of the London Coffee House, Ludgate-hill. Mr. Bothamley, Esq., presided, and addressed the meeting at some length. The Church Building Amendment Act, 1851, was a measure which was introduced under false colours. That bill proposed to come between them and the clergy, and the member of their churches, and carry their places of worship away without reference to their wishes. The provisions relating to the churchyards were also opposed to the interest and feeling of the community, who would regard its operation as a desecration of the dwellings of the dead. The meeting was afterwards addressed by Mr. R. S. Thompson, Messrs. J. J. Toogood, Rector of St Andrew's, and other gentlemen; and, after some opposition, various resolutions were passed in condemnation of the bill. It was also resolved to petition Parliament to reject the bill.—A meeting of the Fellows of Sion College is summoned to be held at the College Hall on Tuesday next, to take into consideration the measures proposed relative to the churches and burial grounds of the city of London, in the Church Building Acts Amendment Bill, now before the House of Commons.

THE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.—On Saturday last the second fortnightly exhibition of the Horticultural Society was held at Chiswick. The weather, though fine, was cool, and scarcely propitious for a floral exhibition; and consequently, though some 4000 or 5000 persons were assembled, the company was not so numerous as might have been expected. The flower-beds and shrubs in the Gardens, and the trees and turf are in a most flourishing order. The specimens exhibited for the prizes were of the highest excellence, the fruits being particularly fine.

SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.—The annual general meeting of the friends and supporters of this society took place on Tuesday, at the Hanover-square Rooms, the Marquis of Westminster in the chair. It appeared from the secretary's report of the proceedings of the Society during the past year that upwards of 200 cases of cruelty had been prosecuted under the superintendence of the society, and conviction had in most instances been obtained. The financial statement of the past year was highly satisfactory, upwards of £1000 having been bequeathed to the funds by various individuals, who were formerly supporters of the society.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL.—At a meeting of the governors of this hospital, on Wednesday afternoon, Dr. W. S. Kirkes was elected Assistant Physician, after one of the severest contests in the annals of hospital electioneering; beating his opponent, Dr. Hue, by 20 votes. Mr. Coote was elected Assistant Surgeon.

MURDER AT NEWINGTON.—On Tuesday last a woman named Rosa Murray was murdered by one of her lodgers, a man named Simmons, who has been committed to Newgate.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

ARTISTS and connoisseurs in art, who admire and copy Mr. Cuningham, are putting themselves in a very unnecessary flutter about the arrival of Dr. Waagen in England. The learned Doctor, we are told, is the author of a well-known work called "The Treasures of Art in England;" he is, also, the Director of the Berlin Gallery—above all, he has come, the papers assure us, on a visit to Prince Albert. How easy it is to couple unconnected and never-to-be-connected circumstances. This visit of the Doctor's is preliminary, we are told, to his appointment as the salaried director of the National Gallery. At least thirty Royal Academicians are in a sad way about the present keeper. Mr. Coningham is indignant at the notion of a German being appointed to so responsible an office. All this indignation is premature. Dr. Waagen has arrived in England to pay a visit to his friends, Sir Charles and Lady Eastlake, and to receive—what is so well due to him—the congratulations of his friends in this country on the publication of his most useful work, "The Treasures of Art in England." For our own parts, we confess we should not be sorry when we heard that Dr. Waagen had been actually appointed Director, and on a good salary. He would do his work well. The appointment, as the Commons' Committee recommended, was not to be for life, but during good conduct. Now, is it likely that a man so distinguished as Dr. Waagen would throw up a most honourable office for life in his own country, to receive a temporary appointment in this? We think not. Much as we should like to see Dr. Waagen the new Director of our Gallery, we should—chiefly for his own sake—in some degree regret the appointment. He would, we repeat, do his work well; but he would subject himself to more unnecessary annoyances than his sensitive nature would well endure. Mr. Panizzi has outlived his calumniators; abuse has done him good, and made him render extra services to the country that employs him; but it is not every one who possesses his abilities—and, above all, his determination not to give in.

The Guild of Literature and Art has obtained its bill; and all its operations will now be regulated "pursuant to Act of Parliament." We are glad of this: the Guild is now in a better position than the Literary Fund. It is true that the Fund has a large funded property; and that the Guild has only a small capital, won by the persevering exertions of some dozen or sixteen authors and artists. But the same means to increase its funds is now open to the Guild, that for half a century, at least, has been open to the Fund. Not that the Guild is started to lessen the useful exertions of the Literary Fund—there is ample room for both—but to do its usefulness in its own circle, and to set the Fund a better example. Mr. Dickens, it will be remembered, is one of the leading managers of the Guild: he helped to start it, he has watched it through infancy and boyhood, and now sees it attain manhood with a fine field for good before it.

The west and last relief of the Nelson Column, just erected, is not the worst. It embodies an incident connected with the Battle or St. Vincent; was designed by the late Mr. M. L. Watson, whose fine statue of Flaxman is an enduring example of his genius, and carried out, many of our readers may be glad to know, after his death by his friend, Mr. Woodington. When are we to see the four lions at the four angles? Oddly enough, the largest contributor to the Nelson Monument in Trafalgar-square, was the present Emperor of Russia. We taught the Romulus of Russia the art of ship building; he left his nation a great people; we sold our ships and guns to (shall we call him?) the Augustus of Russia, and Nicholas turns those very arms against us. Truly (if we are to fall), we are much in the condition of the poet Waller:—

> That eagle's fate and mine are one
> Which on the shaft that made him die,
> Perceived a feather of his own,
> Wherewith he wont to soar so high!

But our fates will not be altogether the same. We have no fear of the result.

The Mirrors of the month are not particularly brilliant: *Blackwood* hits Ruskin hard; and *Fraser* is up to his mark. A new Miscellany (the "National"), now in its fourteenth number, has a readable but too short article on "Newspaper Stamps." Here is something which our readers will like to hear about the *Times* and ourselves:—

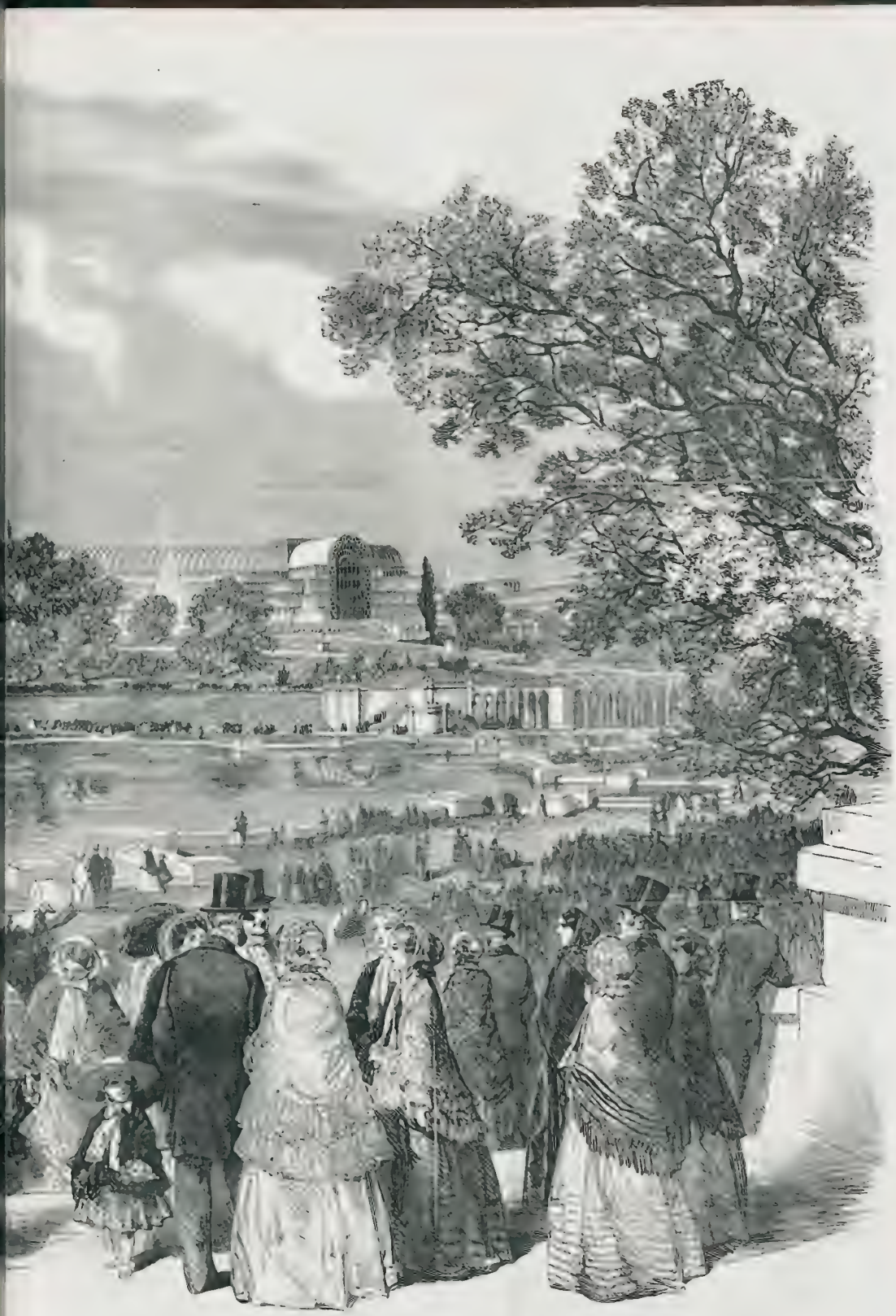
The sale for the *Times* during the three years over which the return extends, shows something like an increase of nearly a million a year. In the year 1852 the number of stamps issued to it was, in round numbers, fourteen millions. The daily sale, therefore, is something like 45, 00 copies, which, large as the enumeration is, is nearly a third of a London paper, is something insignificant compared with the population of Marylebone or Tower Hamlets, to say nothing of the great city in which it is published. To our thinking, nothing is more curious in the history of this great paper, than the smallness of the number of its necessary and intelligent for the eyes of the world. Who does not see the *Times*? Who fancies himself up to the information of the day who does not read the *Times*? We have seen other daily papers, and have admired but not satisfied. The ablest man who ventures to talk of politics and news at a public table or in private life, and who has not seen the *Times*, is only too apt to hear his facts contradicted, and perhaps overthrown by a man of very inferior talents, or no talents at all, who has seen the *Times*. And yet forty-five thousand copies are found sufficient for the world! By how many people the *Times* is read for the forty-five thousand how many are there to one who buys a copy—one to one house, to one club, or to one public library—it is impossible to say. We would form a curious piece of statistics. Before every public tavern is one copy of the *Times* (or by how many times is it seen before the tavern under the auspices of the post!), and before it is one of the other great London papers through the post. How many have read the *Times* in the course of its life? England for Australia or New South Wales? We confess that figures staggered us when we attempted the computation. Jedediah Buxton would quail before the calculation, and Babbage's machine, should it attempt its solution, would become, if possible, more useless than it is at present.

After the sale of the *Times*, nothing is more curious in the return than the sale of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS. Apparently it is decreasing in sale; for the return shows a decrease, without accounting for it. We say apparently, for the decrease is accidental, as the increase was casual. In 1851 we find an issue to it of seven millions of stamps; in 1853, of only five millions, and in 1854, of only four millions odd. The decrease has been accounted for in a most unanswerable manner. A paper that depends for its sale upon illustrations will have its sale regulated by the number and price of the events of the events requiring illustration. Thus, the Exhibition of 1851 swelled the daily sale to an additional three millions; and in 1852, the Duke of Wellington's death and funeral carried its sale to more than an extra million. The year 1853, in spite of Chobham, was all but barren of events demanding pictorial illustration. The paper then fell back upon its large, independent, and steady circulation. The year 1854, with the Black Sea and the Baltic, Sebastopol and Napier, Bomarsund and Odessa, is, we are assured, and know, swelling the sale to its Great Exhibition and Wellington circulation. What odd things affect the sale of a public paper! A bet was once made, in the days of the well-known Jack of Norfolk, and that able editor, Mr. Barnes, whether the sale of a daily paper was greater or not when the party whose principles it advocated was or was not in power. As in all matters where bets are introduced, opinions varied very much, a referee was named. The referee was Mr. Black, of the *Morning Chronicle*, who still lives in his retirement in Kent, and who told us, not many months ago, Black, with his great experience, favoured, and unprejudiced, facts in favour of those who said that a journal was better when its own opinions "You have your own party, as purchasers," said Mr. Black, "and you have the discontented (always an increasing body), who are dissatisfied with whatever party is in power."

Should this brief allusion to Mr. Black reach his eyes in the Weald of Kent, he will not be displeased with our remembrance of his many services to newspaper literature.

James Montgomery, the poet, has left several handsome legacies to charitable institutions in Sheffield. Poets do not die in debt in our day. We shall have them (and why not?) becoming rich men. Goldsmith died three thousand pounds in debt. "Was ever poet," said Johnson, "so trusted before?" But this was a long time ago. The Nestor of our generation of poets is a rich banker.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE, AT SYDENHAM,



WILL APPEAR WHEN COMPLETED.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

OPENING OF THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

THE Crystal Palace of 1854—the second and improved edition of the "World's Fair" Fabric of 1851—opens this day, with honours that have not often been before granted to a commercial enterprise. The Queen, with her Royal Family, and her kinsman, the King of Portugal, join, assist, and dignify the inauguration of the Palace and Park which have grown out of the little Victoria Regia Conservatory at Chatsworth. But these are old stories. On this day it is not writing, however eloquent, that our readers require: those who live within a reasonable distance will prefer a railway ticket to any number of adjectives; and those who study our pages in regions too far removed to dream of visiting Sydenham by land or sea, will, in the first instance, turn to our Illustrations in preference to our descriptions. Under these circumstances, the favourite studies of Mr. Gradgrind, "Facts," will be considered most appropriate by all classes.

People want to know how to get to the Crystal Palace, and something of the plan and geography, and curiosities of the place, when they get there. This information, with the help of an accurate Plan, prepared from actual measurement, we will endeavour to supply.

The railway from the London-bridge Station will commence running special trains up to the South Wing of the Palace at ten o'clock a.m. At eleven o'clock, Exhibitors provided with cards will be admitted; and at two o'clock, Exhibitors' Assistants; but the Assistants will only be admitted at one entrance—viz., the Railway Station, at the Norwood end.

In addition to those who, traversing the intermediate distance by carriage or by steam-boats to London-bridge, will there take the rail, a large number of persons may be expected to find their way to Sydenham by the road in private carriages, and these will have a remarkably pleasant route, clear of the usual obstructions of slow traffic from the end of the town west of Charing-cross.

For the benefit of those coachmen who have not yet ventured into regions so unfashionable, as well as for cab-drivers leaving "the stones" for the first time, we give the following directions:—

FROM BELGRAVE-SQUARE TO THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

Drive to *Vauxhall-bridge*, thence by Kennington Turnpike or the Wandsworth-road, to Brixton Church; leave the Church on the right hand, and when you reach the George Canning Tavern, with its compo statue of that statesman, turn sharp to the left, and then on, passing a narrow bridge over the dirty Effra; go on past the Half Moon through the village of Dulwich, taking care, as there are several cross-roads, to leave the Church on the left hand, and the Greyhound Inn and Dulwich College on the right; keep straight on through a turnpike—and thus so far you can travel without a single hill, with galloping ground from the moment you left the stones. On passing the turnpike, the hill on which the Palace stands, rises visibly. A few minutes brings you, if you are a season ticket holder or exhibitor, to the North Transept. If an invited guest to the Central Transept, there, after descending, your coachman will find attendants in the Crystal Palace livery stables to take charge of your carriage and horses.

It is understood that the road just described will be that adopted by the Royal carriages, and will be stopped up beyond Dulwich after one o'clock. In that case a deviation may be made, to the right or left, by the more hilly roads, all leading to the north or south entrances of the Crystal Palace.

To those not likely, in full evening dress, still be the rule, but may well go on horseback, it may, however, be as well to mention that for the latter half (somewhat more than half) of the delightful ride (of which nearly half is over grass) by Wandsworth-common, up the Wandsworth-road, over Clapham-common, to Balham-hill, and then turning into Clapham-road, keeping to the right, across by a bridle road into the upper part of Tooting-common, and so on, through the trees, to Streatham Church; at Streatham, dropping to the right for a quarter of a mile along the Croydon-road, you reach Streatham-common; turning sharp to the left across the common, you proceed on to Gipsy-hill, and then through Norwood past the Nunnery, reach the Gipsy-hill station, which have "dropped out" under the patronage of the Crystal Palace workmen and visitors.

THE PALACE.

The new Palace stands on the slope of a steep hill, running nearly north and south, parallel with the Brighton Railway. This position rendered it necessary to raise the rear of columns facing the garden terrace on brick pillars and in this rear a basement story, sometimes called the Paxton Tunnel, has been formed, running the whole length of the Building. In this tunnel the steam apparatus for warming fifty miles of pipe has been erected; and a light and convenient space has been provided for exhibiting heavy machinery in motion and agricultural implements. Near the two extremities of this basement, north and south, two wings extend, each 576 feet in length, flanking the garden terrace. A tower rises, in the form of a Greek cross, at the extremity of each wing; and each tower contains at its summit a tank containing 200 tons of water, which can be easily distributed, for any purpose, throughout the Building.

The North Wing affords a way to the garden, from the Queen's private apartments, as well as, also for exhibitions of a private nature. The South Wing forms a cover way from the railway station.

The present Building is rather so long nor so broad as that in Hyde Park, being 1608 feet in length, and 384 feet broad at the widest part—the Central Transept.

The area of the main building covers 22 acres, that of the wings three acres more. If the glass were laid side by side, it would extend to a distance of nearly 30 miles; and if laid end to end, to 200 miles.

The ground floor and wings afford a superficial area of nearly 600,000 feet.

The effect of the diminished length and breadth of the Sydenham Building is increased by the additional height of the arched, or waggon roof and the three transepts—two being of the same dimensions as the one in Hyde-park; the third, or Central Transept, one of the largest areas in the world. The top of the lantern in the Nave is 110 feet from the ground, and 200 from the basement: that is to say, about the same height as the interior of the dome of St. Sophia, Constantinople. The span of the Transept is 120 feet, or twenty feet larger than the span of St. Peter's, at Rome.

Above the principal floor are a gallery of twenty-four feet in width, a second gallery eight feet in width, and in the Central Transept a third gallery of the same dimensions. The last gallery alone is at present let to tenants for the exhibition and sale of goods. On the present occasion we shall confine our description to the principal floor.

In the Central Transept the Queen's Dais has been erected. Behind the Dais, hiding for the present the colossal Montezuma's horse, the amphitheatrical orchestra, for the accommodation of a chorus and bands of music amounting to 1500 persons, has been erected. At the four corners of the Nave stand colossal statues of the Farnese Hercules; of Rubens, the Flemish painter; of Duquesne, the French admiral, and as a temporary substitute—waiting the arrival of the Farnese "Flora"—Marochetti's Sir Robert Peel. Two Norfolk Island pines (presents from the Duke of Devonshire) cast a green shade on the Rubens and Duquesne. In front of the Dais, under the garden gallery, are colossal bronzed copies of the modern Italian sculptor, San Giorgio's "Castor and Pollux." In the galleries rise the seats prepared for distinguished foreign visitors.

The Central Transept marks the division of the main floor between Art and Commerce. The rents derived from the southern half must pay interest on the capital expended on the northern.

But before examining the interior, it may not be amiss to take a survey of the surrounding country. From the main Transept is an open corridor, covered by the overhanging roof, from which a fair view may be had of the gardens, and the whole country rising beyond the railway to the summit of the Kentish hills; and each of the other two Transepts has a similar open corridor: than which it would be impossible to imagine more agreeable resorts, for rest, on one of the half-million seats provided by the Company, after an exploration of the miles of glass and fountain, covered walks amid flowers and statues, and stalls for the sale of every imaginable luxury. On either side of the open corridors staircases, 23 feet in extent, conduct to the basement, and by 21 feet of ascent to the gallery.

Turning from the Central Transept to the northern arm of the Nave, we have before us an open path of nearly 700 feet, between beds of rich flowering shrubs and evergreens, with statues and groups marble-like, if not marble, interspersed at regular intervals; and, as a background, on either hand the outside walls of the two series of Courts, in which are illustrated specimens of art and architecture from Nimrod to Michael Angelo—the Greek, the Roman, the Moor, Byzantine, Mediæval, Renaissance, and Italian.

On the left hand is the series of Courts executed under the direction of Mr Owen Jones—the first being Egyptian, reduced to the scale of one-fifth. It is well worth while to pause before entering the massive door of the Tomb Temple, and look through the long colonnade of pillars, adorned with brilliant hieroglyphics; on through the Greek and through the Roman Courts, to where the honey-combed arch of the Alhambra closes in the vista, giving but a narrow glimpse of the solid monument beyond.

Vistas, arranged with great art and admirable effect, form one of the most remarkable features of the Crystal Palace.

The Great Nave, with its trees, flowers, and fountains; the long square galleries, and the tunnel-like rangs of the highest galleries, afford one series of effects in simple colours;—the Courts, viewed in their length and in their breadth, where every age and style is mingled, another. We must not pause now to describe the Courts in detail, or to note the progressive styles of Egyptian Art, or to dilate upon the half-deciphered particoloured writing. Passing the kings and gods of Egypt—passing the rich blue roof powdered with stars, and the pictorial chronicles of the walls—passing the mouth of the Tomb of Abou Simel—we reach the Greek Courts, where are concentrated copies of all the most glorious remains of Greek art—in groups, in single figures, in bust, on friezes. The walls are adorned with copies of the frieze from the Parthenon, now in the British Museum. This is divided into three portions—the first painted like a picture, the second, white on a blue ground; the third, pure white. The question as to the truth and wrong of this arrangement is hotly disputed; but it is involved in too much doubt to be dismissed in a few words. The ceiling of the Greek Courts—a diapering pattern, in blue, red, and gold—is an object of very general admiration; and in the contents of these Courts we have, for the first time, an opportunity of comparing original casts of the most famous statues—the three celebrated Venuses of three periods of Greek art, the Laocoon group, Achilles, and the Dying Gladiator; besides numerous busts of poets, orators, and and philosophers, heroes, and demigods. We dwell on these with more pleasure than on imperfect representations and models of the Parthenon and other triumphs of Greek architecture, because that architecture owed so much to proportion, size, situation, material, and atmosphere, that any copy must be unsatisfactory, however beautiful as a shell for the series of sculpture's work.

The Roman Courts, which follow, have walls of rich-coloured marble and arched roofs, decorated in the same style as the Pompeian Court. Also in the Roman Courts form the chief ornaments; while, fronting the Nave, are the white statues embowered in beds of flowers and flowering shrubs. Among the series of busts are to be found portraits of the most celebrated Roman Emperors, and the women, too, of Rome, famous or infamous. It is startling to find them so like the women that one sees every day.

The Alhambra follows the Roman Courts, where no statue, nor bust, no painting of any living thing, is to be found, but covered with rich detailed ornament, by the multiplication of simple mathematical figures in strong relief, coloured in blue and red and gold, and with such a rich variety which can only be compared to a good collection of Indian shawls, or Persian prayer-rugs.

We venture to foretell that the Alhambra will share with the Pompeian the favour of the great majority of the visitors. The perfect simple colouring—the gorgeous arcades of the Court of Lions—the marble fountains—the beds of flowers—form a combination of natural beauty as new as surprising. The cast of the Court of Lions is about half the size of the original. The other Courts represent, on a reduced scale, the "Hall of Justice"—made so familiar to the many by the pen of Washington Irving; and to the comparatively students of architecture, by the work of the architect, published at a period when he could never have hoped to execute in brick, plaster, and marble, what he has so successfully copied in his portfolio. The walls of these Courts are covered with sentences from the Koran and Mahometan ejaculations, repeated again and again, in gold characters.

Next to the Alhambra Court stands the Fox Talbot Court, with two Alto Chaud figures, which, seated, raise their heads to the top of the Northern Transept, seventy-two feet. Assisted and supported by the mere size. While looking up at them from their comparative pigmy Sphinxes and palm-trees, we can imagine the original objects among the flat Nubian desert, against the clear azure of an Eastern sky, with the Nile flows at our feet.

Beyond the monsters of Egyptian art, Assyrian colossi, the prodigies of Nineveh, the sculptures of the Assyrian Court—composition executed by Mr. Layard—the remains of Persepolis and Nineveh—the sacred bulls and all the mythical illustrations—are to be found, brought from the cellars of the British Museum, are re-produced, and the whole family, can arranged in a manner which almost gives them a new interest.

A fountain, designed and executed by Rafael Monti, and a marble basin for aquatic plants, divide the Assyrian Court from the Byzantine Court, which is the first of the series executed under the direction of Mr. Digby Wyatt. The Byzantine Court is rich in restorations of Christian architecture of the earliest date. The doorways of Kilpeck Church and of Shobden Church (in Herefordshire), and the doors of Hildersheim—all three present on their panels strange rude specimens of symbolic religious art. The cloisters of the Court, rich in particoloured marble columns and golden and coloured decorated roofs, redeem the ugliness of the architectural forms.

Then follow Court of the Lofty German Gothic art, British Gothic, and Italian and Renaissance, each of which would occupy a fervent student and admirer for days, not days, but weeks; doing carvings are restored to their former crispness and brilliancy. The "long-drawn aisle and fretted vault" we have not; but we have carving and colour in perfection.

The Renaissance Court follows, full of beauty and interest; to which, on an opening day, only a passing glance can be given—but that glance must not omit the famous Gwynne Court.

The Italian Courts will include complete the series, and bring us back to the Central Transept, where it will be as well to pause; then descend the stairs to the basement, and take the air upon the Terraces of eighteen acres, which form the first section of the Crystal Palace Park.

The Commercial Courts we shall leave themselves, as to their destination. In due course they will be described, with their contents.

Our illustration is taken from the Lower Terrace of the Gardens, and presents a scene which may be fairly expected, when time has enabled Sir Joseph Paxton and Mr. Gibbs to complete their designs for the fountains and waterworks. In the meantime, we shall have the Crystal Palace Company to finish their work before we say anything of their Gardens.

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME OF THE OPENING.

Holders of season tickets only, or of special cards of invitation (which are confined to foreign Ambassadors, her Majesty's Ministers, and others specially invited—limited on her Majesty), will be admitted to the Palace and Park on this occasion.

Holders of season tickets will be admitted at the North and South Transepts, and by the railway, between the hours of eleven and two o'clock.

They will be allowed to take their places, subject to such regulations, as in part of the Building, except the parts reserved in the Central Transept and Nave for the purposes of the ceremonial, and in the reserved seats.

A limited number of seats will be reserved for the *corps diplomatique*, her Majesty's Ministers, Members of both Houses of Parliament, Commissioners, and their families, and for the families of other persons who are present officially to assist at the ceremonial.

Holders of cards of invitation, on cards for reserved seats, will be admitted at a private entrance at the Central Transept, between the hours of eleven and two o'clock.

Exhibitors' Assistants who have been sanctioned by the Directors, will be admitted at the railway station after two o'clock, and will immediately take their places by the counters or objects exhibited by their employers.

A Dais has been raised on an elevated platform in the Central Transept, on which a chair of state will be placed.

The Directors, with the principal officers and others connected with the undertaking, will assemble at half past one o'clock in the Central Transept, opposite the Dais, in levee dress, or in full evening dress.

His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, her Majesty's Ministers and Officers of State, and the Foreign Ambassadors and Ministers, will take their places on the platform to the right and left of the chair of state, in levee dress, at half-past two o'clock.

The Lord Mayor and Sheriffs of London, the Mayors, Provosts, and other representatives of the municipal bodies of the kingdom, will take their places before half-past two o'clock, in their robes of office, in a space reserved for them in front of the Dais.

Places immediately adjoining will be reserved for their families.

The Foreign Commissioners, the Royal Commissioners of the Exhibition of 1851 and of the New York Exhibition, the Representatives of the Dublin Exhibition and of the Paris Exhibition of 1851, and the Presidents of the principal learned societies, will take their places, in levee dress or in full evening dress, at half-past two o'clock, in a space reserved for the purpose in the Central Transept, fronting the Dais.

Places immediately adjoining will be reserved for their families.

Places will be reserved for members of the House of Peers and their families in the Front Gallery on the right hand of the Dais, and for members of the House of Commons and their families in the Front Gallery on the left.

Her Majesty, with the Royal Family, and her suite, will leave Buckingham Palace, so as to arrive at the Central Transept of the Crystal Palace precisely at three o'clock. She will ascend the Dais and take her seat in the chair of state.

On her Majesty's arrival, the chorus, comprising 400 instrumental and 600 vocal performers of the various musical societies of the kingdom, in addition to two regimental bands, and the band of the company—the whole under the direction of Signor Costa—will perform "God Save the Queen."

On the Queen taking her seat, and when the music has ceased, the Directors of the Company will proceed to the Dais, and the Chairman will read to her Majesty a short address, describing the origin and objects of the undertaking, which he will then deliver to her Majesty.

Her Majesty will be graciously pleased to return an answer.

Mr. Fuller will present to her Majesty a series of medals struck to commemorate the occasion.

Sir Joseph Paxton will present to her Majesty the general handbook descriptive of the Palace and Park.

Mr. Owen Jones will present to her Majesty handbooks descriptive of his Fine Arts Courts.

Mr. Digby Wyatt will present to her Majesty handbooks descriptive of the Fine Arts Courts.

Mr. Phillips will present to her Majesty the handbook of the Portrait Gallery, and the remaining series of general handbooks.

Mr. Ferguson will present to her Majesty the handbook descriptive of the Assyrian Court.

Professor Owen will present to her Majesty the handbook descriptive of the Geological department.

Professor Forbes and Dr. Latham will present to her Majesty the handbook descriptive of the Zoological and Ethnological department.

A Royal procession will be formed as follows:—

Superintendents of Works and Principal Foremen.
Contractors.
Architect, Engineer, and Secretary.
Principal Executive Officers.
Directors.
Sir Joseph Paxton. Mr Laing, M.P.

THE QUEEN.

H.R.H. the Prince Albert. The King of Portugal. Her Royal Family. H.R.H. the Duke of Oporto, and their respective Suites.
The Archbishop of Canterbury. The Cabinet Ministers.
The Foreign Ambassadors and the Foreign Ministers.

The procession will turn to the right, move to the south end of the Nave by its west side, returning by its east side; will then pass round the east side of the Central Transept, and down the north end of the Nave by its east side, returning by the west side to the Central Transept.

All persons not forming part of the procession will keep their places during it.

On the return of the procession her Majesty will again take her seat on the Dais; and the Ministers and Ambassadors will take their places as before.

His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury will then say a prayer, asking God's blessing upon the undertaking; and the orchestra will perform the "Hallelujah Chorus."

When the music ceases, her Majesty will declare "The Crystal Palace opened." The orchestra will then perform "God Save the Queen," during which her Majesty will retire.

The barriers which had kept the Nave and Transept clear will then be thrown open, and the public will be allowed to circulate through the Palace and Park.

CHESS.

CHESS NOTES.

A GUARDSMAN.—The St. George's Chess-club is at 53, St. James-street. The rules of the Club, the list of members, and all particulars respecting the subscription, &c., may be had on application at the Rooms.

P. A., of Edinburgh.—It admits of a second solution: and is, in other respects, below our mark.

W. D., Notting-hill.—It is quite out of reason to expect we can find space to reply to such a variety of questions as you propound. Why do you not procure some elementary work on the game? Those books pounds, before attempting to play? Get the "Chess-player's Handbook," published by Bohn, or one of Lewis's Treatises on the game.

EDMUND T.—The proposed alterations in the Chess Rules, we should think, had at last ripened to the effect Chess and Science.

E. F. H., Cambridge.—It shall be re-examined.

J. M.—The beautiful "Perse Chess-men" are for sale by the manufacturer, Meshi, of Long-street.

A Subscriber.—If the Queen and the odds of the marked Pawn, are considered to be [illegible] value. We won't pretend to decide which is the greater.

J. [illegible].—I have but one set to spare, and that is engaged. Country Chess Players' Association, 53, St. James-street.

E. Your [illegible] no mention on next week.

R. [illegible].—The present is the [illegible]. Applications for tickets, and the programme of the arrangements of the Liverpool Meeting, must be made to the Honorary Secretary, Morton Sparke Esq., Liverpool.

W. M. WITNEY, Oxon.—His is the examiner's hands.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 836 by Alexander, S. P. Q. R., "Beleta," Omega Philo-Chess Subaltern, True Blue, Feabes, Milo C. P. Q., T. J. of Hanworth, Dervon, Edmund Fox, Dover, Dora, Cris, Addison, F. H. C., C. H. R., Oxford, E. H. W. Stockwell, Cantab, Chris, F. T. R., Major, Hylax, Medicus, A. Z., R. S. P., Mercator, Tipdon, G. W. M., are correct.

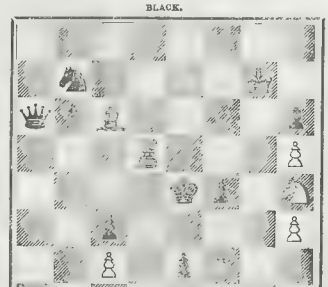
SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 837, by Dervon, Phiz, Beigie, S. T. M., Omicron, E. H., An Old Subscriber, J. F. M., are correct.

SOLUTIONS OF ENIGMAS, by Dervon, O. P. Q., Philo-Chess, Miles, E. H. of Norwich, Georgia, D. D., F. P., Rugby-boy, M. F., J. M. of Shoreburn, Crib, are correct. All others are wrong.

PROBLEM No. 838.

By Mr. W. GRIMSHAW.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in three moves.

A GUIDE TO THE CRYSTAL PALACE (Routledge and Co.)—*In tempore ad* Sydenham *venit*, would not be an inappropriate motto for this well-filled volume, issued upon the eve of the opening of the vast Temple of Industrial Sciences, with whose marvels it seeks to familiarise the reader. Within the compass of some 200 pages, we here have the origin and object of the People's Palace, at Sydenham, attractively explained, and the construction narrated. Then follow a popular synopsis of the contents of the several Courts, stored with the choicest productions of fine art and industrial ingenuity. Thus far, the proceedings may have been the first Exhibition of 1851; but the Sydenham succes-or supersede important educational objects in the departments of Natural History and Ethnology, and Geology. From the wonders of ancient and modern art, the visitor passes to models of the stupendous creatures with which palæontology has peopled this Exhibition—upon a portion of the very ground, the Wealden itself, which, from the number of gigantic fossils which it contains, has been called the metropolis of the "Dinosaurians," or monster lizards. The terraces, fountains, and park, and their picturesque groupings, are ably described, and, throughout the work, the illustrative accompaniments possess descriptive power and beauty far above the Catalogue routine; and the book will excite interest far beyond that of the visit to the Exhibition, which, however, it shows to be the mainspring of immense good.*

NATIONAL SPORTS.

MANCHESTER RACES.—WEDNESDAY.

Meiklam Handicap.—Haxlenut, 1. Blanco, 2.
Sapling Stakes.—Lord Alfred, 1. Sicily, 2.
Union Handicap.—Dervish, 1. Viper, 2.
Produce Stakes.—Midsummer, 1. The Assayer, 2.
Maiden Plate.—Jetty Treffz, 1. Gamelad, 2.

THURSDAY.

Tradesman's Cup.—Rataplan, 1.
Two-year-old Stakes.—Lady Palmerston, 1. Sarsband, 2.
Cleveland Handicap.—Lupus, 1. Gryerstone, 2.
Cup.—Pax, 1. Rosewood, 2. Gardenia, 3.
Selling Stakes.—Pilgrim, 1. Dr. 2.

FRIDAY.

Wilton Stakes.—Skip, 1. Fenwick, 2.
Grand Stand Stakes.—Nelly Hill, 1. Ammonia, 2.
Salford Borough Cup.—Typee, 1.

SETTING AT ASTERSALL'S—THURSDAY.

ASCOT STAKES.—4 to 1 to the 84.
ASCOT CUP.—2 to 1 agst Virago (dead); 3 to 1 agst Stockwell (taken to £50); 4 to 1 agst West Australian and Rockwell (1); 10 to 1 agst Mountain Deer (1).
ST LEGER.—3 to 2 agst King Tom (1) 10 to 1 agst Accordist (1); 10 to 1 agst Darvish (off).
EPSOM DERBY, 1855.—1000 to 60 on the field (offered).

RACES TO COME.—The only meeting during the ensuing week is that of "Royal" Ascot, on Tuesday next, and three following days. Her Majesty and Prince Albert, with their august visitors—the King of Portugal and the brother and their daughter. Abundance of first-rate sport will be found, although the "Emperor's Cup' will be an item missed.

CRICKET.—A capital match was played on Monday and Tuesday, at Lord's ground, between an All England and Nottingham eleven, the former scoring 99 runs, England's first innings, 159; second, 117. Nottingham, 118; and 109. G. Parr (Notts) scored 94 in his two innings: in the first, 39; and second, 55; and was presented with a new cricket ball for the day.

ACTAEON.—An interesting match took place on Wednesday afternoon, at the little yachts of the Prince of Wales's Club Eleven yachts (from four to eight tons burthen) started: the course being from Blackwall to the Chapman Head, and, after some capital sport, the contest ended by *Little Mosquito* being first. *Britannia* second, and *Julia* third; but, owing to the allowed time, the *Blue-eyed Maid* obtained the third prize.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

During nearly the whole of the week the market for National Securities has been rather excited. The large quantities of stock lately offered on the part of the public having caused the supply to become very limited, very great difficulty was experienced on Tuesday in the settlement of the Account. To show the extreme scarcity of stock, we may observe that at one time there was a "backwardation" of not less than *one* per cent between the Money and the Account price. This heavy margin, whilst it has materially benefitted lenders, has been productive of serious inconvenience to the *Bears*, whose losses upon the Account have been unusually large. However, no failures worthy of particular notice have taken place. The advance in the price of Consols, since Friday last, has been £1 per cent. This is a most important improvement, considering that we are now engaged in a Continental war; but we are not surprised at it, seeing that large amounts of capital still seek a profitable investment. The fact that the stock of bullion in the Bank of England is steadily on the increase, that our imports keep up surprisingly well, that future arrivals of bullion are likely to be on a large scale, and that the exchanges having become more favourable to this country—have tended to impart general confidence; and we may further observe that a large portion of the mercantile community are of opinion that peace will, before long, be concluded. Under all the circumstances, the present demand for stock is considered unsatisfactory; and the question is in a measure connected with the future progress of the war. Should the Three per Cents, or Money, varied from 93 to 94 down to 92; the Three per Cents Reduced, from 91½ to 92¾; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 92¾ to 93¾. Consols, for the Account, were 92¾ to 93¾; Long Annuities, 1860, 4 1-16; Bank Stock was done at 215; Reduced, 92; New Three-and-a-Quarters, 92¾; India Bonds, 95s.; Exchequer-bills, 1000l., 95s. to 98s.; Ditto, small, 95s. to 98s.; and Exchequer-bonds, 98 to 99. Numerous fluctuations took place in the Consolidated Market during the week. The Three per Cents, or Money, varied from 93 to 94 down to 92; the Three per Cents Reduced, from 91½ to 92¾; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 92¾ to 93. Consols, for the Account, were 92¾ to 93¾; Long Annuities, 1860, 4 1-16; Ditto, 1859, 4 5-16. Exchequer-bills were 95s. to 98s.; small, 95s.; and Exchequer-bonds, 98 to 99. Numerous fluctuations took place in the Consolidated Market during the week. The Three per Cents, or Money, varied from 93 to 94 down to 92; the Three per Cents Reduced, from 91½ to 92¾; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 92¾ to 93¾. Consols, for the Account, were 92¾ to 93¾; Long Annuities, 1860, 4 1-16; Ditto, 1859, 4 5-16. Exchequer-bills were 95s. to 98s.; small, 95s.; and Exchequer-bonds, 98 to 99. The Market was very firm on Thursday. The Three per Cents, to-day, were done at 92¾ to 93¾; India Bonds, 4s.; Exchequer-bills, 2s. to 4s.; and Exchequer-bonds, 98 to 99. Scrip, 1 prem.

There is a very improving market for most Foreign Securities, the value of which has had an upward tendency. Some of the Bonds have advanced rapidly. The following leading prices:—Spanish Three per Cents, 19½; Buenos Ayres Six per Cents, 75; Ecuador Bonds, 8¾; Grenada Deferred, 6¾; Mexican Three per Cents, 24¾; Peruvian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 79; Portuguese Four per Cents, 40; Russian Five per Cents, 100 to 101; Ditto, Small, 88; Ditto Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 87 to 88; Spanish Three per Cents, 41½; Ditto New Deferred, 29¾; Spanish Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 19¾; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 63; Ditto Four per Cents, 83¾; Venezuela, 26.

The transactions in Joint Stock Bank Shares have not been extensive. Australasia have marked 81¾; British North America, 64¾; London and County, 31; Oriental, 43 ex bonus; South Australian, 43; Union of Australia, 71. Miscellaneous Shares have sold as follows:—British American Land, 7¾; Canada Six per Cent Bonds, 109; Crystal Palace, 6¾; Do., New B shares, 5; Peel River Land and Mineral, 5; Peninsula and Oriental Steam, 56¾; Do., New, 26¾; Van Diemen's Land, 18; Berlin Waterworks, 7; East London, 120¾; Grand Junction, 70; Do., New, 17; Kent, 80; Lambeth, 97; Southwark and Vauxhall, 89; Albion Insurance, 90; Atlas, 10¾; Argus, 23; County, 125; European, 19¾; Globe, 127¾; Guardian, 2; Pelican, 45; Phœnix, 185, ex. div. and bonus; Rock, 72; Royal Exchange, 236; Sun Fire, 260; Do., Life, 65; United Kingdom, 45; Hungerford Bridge, 12; Waterloo, 5; Do., Old Annuities, 6¾; Do., New, 3; London Docks, 80.

The shipments of bullion to the Continent have been small, whilst the imports have been on a large scale, chiefly from Mexico. New York Exchange has been in good demand, at a slight premium. Railway Shares, in which some particulars have been given, have ruled as follow:—

Caledonian, 80½; Eastern Counties, 12¾; East Anglian, 3¾; Eastern Counties, 12¾; East Lancashire, 61; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 88; Edinburgh and Northern, 102; Great Northern, 97½; Great Western, 87½; Lancaster and Carlisle, 87; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 85½; Leeds Northern, 19½; London and Blackwall, 8¾; London and Brighton, 105¾; London and North Western, 93½; Ditto, Half-shares, 51¾; London and South-Western, 81½; Manchester, Sheffield and Lincolnshire, 41¾; North British, 31; North Eastern, 74¾; Northern and Eastern, 8¾; Northern of France, 34½; Paris and Lyons, 27¾; Paris and Strasbourg, 31¾; Sambre and Meuse, 9¾; West Flanders Five-and-a-Half per Cent, 9.

Mining Shares have been in very moderate request. On Thursday, Aqua Fria were done at 1½ to 1, Carson's Creek, 1; Cobre Copper, 45; Mexican and South American, 6¾; Port Phillip, 2¾; Rymney Iron, New, 9¾.

Friday Evening.

The amount of business doing in the Consol-market has been comparatively small. Prices have fluctuated to some extent—the Three per Cents, ex dividend, having been done at 91½ ¾ ¼ to 92 and 91¾. The Three per Cents Reduced are 92 to 92¾. There had been very little inquiry for Foreign Bonds or Railway Shares.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE, Friday.—A very limited quantity of English wheat was received fresh into market on Monday morning, and the demand for it ruled steady, while more would have commanded higher terms. Of foreign wheat 11,000 quarters arrived, and of this quantity 10,000 quarters of wheat have exceeded 12,000 quarters. The sale for all kinds was inactive; but we have no change to notice in the quotations. Floating cargoes were unaltered. Barley was in fair average supply, and very moderate, at barely stationary prices. There was scarcely any inquiry for malt, yet the quotations were not lowered. We had a more limited supply of oats, owing to the crops across the country, and prices had a firmer and tendency. Beans, peas, and flour were a shade sale, on former terms.

English.—Wheat, 1 mes and Kent, red, 72s. to 84s.; ditto, white 72 to 88s. Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 74s to 84s.; ditto, white, 74 to 87s; 48s. to 50s. grind by Barley, 34s to 36s.; malting ditto, 34s to 40s. malting, 44s to 46s. Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 67s to 70s. Harrow beans, 42s to 43s.; Kingston and Ware, 40s to 43s.; Chevalier, 42 to 44s.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 20s to 23s.; potato ditto, 23s to 25s.; Youghal and Cork, black, 24s to 26s.; ditto, white, 26s to 28s.; Sligo, Limerick, and Londonderry, old, 24s. to 25s.; grey peas, 44s to 46s.; maple, 47s to 48s.; white, 46s to 47s; harlers 47s. to 50s. per quarter. Town-made flour, 65s. to 70s.; country marks, 56s to 58s. per 280 lb.

ARRIVALS, English wheat, 760; barley, 110; malt, 2940; oats, 29; flour, 2930. Irish: oats 220. Foreign: wheat, 82,260; barley, 6400; oats, 2720; flour, 11,840.

Bread.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis a from 10d. to 11d.; household ditto, 8d. to 9d. per 4lb. loaf.

Fresh Meat.—Our market to-day commands a steady sale, at full prices. In other kinds, only a few changes have taken place. Generally speaking, the trade is dull.

Imported Meat.—Supplies in raw search this week have been but moderate. In the general quotations, however, no material change has taken place. The demand is heavy, at full prices.

Newgate and Leadenhall (Friday).—The general demand ruled steady, as follows:—

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef	3	4	4	0
Mutton	3	6	4	4
Veal	3	8	4	8
Pork	3	6	4	4

Clerkenwell (Friday).—Only a moderate supply of meat is on sale in this market, and the general demand has ruled steady, at the following prices:—

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef	3	4	4	0
Mutton	3	6	4	4
Veal	3	8	4	8
Pork	3	6	4	4

Smithfield (Friday).—Our market, to day, was very moderately supplied with beasts, the general quality of which was inferior. All breeds came in fair request, at Monday's currency. Prime oxen, of which we have seen very few, sold very steady, at very full prices. Prime old Scots, and shorthorns, were in good demand, at quite last week's quotations. In other breeds we have experienced a dull inquiry for the demand is scarcely so brisk as last week. Prices have ruled from 2s. to 4s. per 8lb. lower. Calves were steady, at full prices. In sheep and lambs, the supply has been small, and the trade has ruled steady, at from 4s. to 6s. per score. In pigs very little was doing. Which ones sold steady, at from 4s. to 6s. per score.

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef	3	4	4	0
Mutton	3	6	4	4
Veal	3	8	4	8
Pork	3	6	4	4

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	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef	3	4	4	0
Mutton	3	6	4	4
Veal	3	8	4	8
Pork	3	6	4	4

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, JUNE 6.

WAR OFFICE, JUNE 6.

MEMORANDUM.—Her Majesty has been pleased to approve of all first appointments of gentlemen to commissions in the Fusilier and Rifle Regiments being in future made in the rank of Second Lieutenant as heretofore, and not in the manner which has lately prevailed in the Coldstream Regiment of Foot Guards.

7th Fusiliers, consisting proprietory of the same number of Lieutenants and Ensigns as in other regiments of infantry of the line, and not of Lieutenants only as heretofore.

4th Dragoon Guards: Sergeant-Major J. G. Drake to be Quartermaster.

1st Foot: Ensign J. Hall to be Lieutenant.

6th Foot: Lieut. F. W. Gore to be Captain; Ensign L. B. Mote to be Lieutenant; T. H. Hackett to be Ensign.

16th: J. Tulloch to be Assist. Surgeon

19th: Lieut. R. Lane to be Captain, Lieut. M. Turner to be Captain Ensign C. E. Parkinson to be Lieutenant, Ensign W. D. S. Dickens to be Lieutenant; L. Keswick to be Ensign, W. V. Mackeyne to be Ensign.

56th: Lieut. W. F. Kerrich to be Captain; Ensign R. Day to be Lieutenant; J. Armstrong to be Ensign.

57th: Lieut. to be Assist. Surgeon

59th: Lieut. to be Assist. Surgeon

Cape Mounted Rifleman: Ensign W. Bisset to be Quartermaster, Sergeant-Major C. B. Marshall to be Ensign.

WAR-OFFICE, JUNE 6.

1st Foot: To be Captains—Lieut. G. G. Carlyon, Lieut. F. Carter; to be Lieutenants—Ensign F. H. Hope, Ensign F. P. Muller, Ensign J. A. R. Todd, Ensign R. L. Williams; to be Ensigns—Cadet G. H. Somerset.

2nd: Lieut. R. C. Bamford to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign P. S. Steele, Ensign J. T. Peake, to be Ensign J. A. Wilkie.

3rd: Lieut. A. B. Robson to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign W. Wainman, Ensign W. H. Thomas; to be Ensigns—Ensign J. Wood.

4th: Lieut. T. F. Roberts to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign J. Paton, Ensign T. C. Sheppard, to be Ensigns—Cadet the Hon. H. Keppel Kenney, H. B. Mainland.

5th: Lieut. A. E. Johnston to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Second Lieut. R. H. Hardy, Second Lieut. E. Sturdee, to be Ensigns—Cadet E. Mead.

6th: Lieut. P. A. Moore to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign J. Dawson, Ensign J. L. O. Mensergh; to be Ensign—J. Green.

7th: Lieut. W. H. Hunt to be Captain.

9th: Lieut. G. S. Gordon to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign R. C. W. C. Blossom, Ensign W. Barnett to be Ensign—H. H. Thompson.

11th: Lieut. L. H. Scott to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign W. H. Clarkson, Ensign J. Gregory; to be Ensign—C. Gosnell.

13th: Lieut. F. Van Straubenzee to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign R. L. D. Wilkie, Ensign J. A. Rowley; to be Ensign—J. P. Miller.

14th: Lieut. J. M. O'Toole to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign H. H. A. Ingleheart, Ensign R. Vivian; to be Ensign—F. H. Mayne.

15th: Lieut. J. Wilkinson to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign F. E. Lock, Ensign W. M. Morris; to be Ensign—R. Fry.

16th: Lieut. G. P. Macdonald to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign J. W. Freeman, Ensign C. T. Gwynn; to be Ensign—J. Kekall.

17th: Lieut. F. J. S. Lindsay to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign C. M'Pherson, Ensign A. F. Traherne, to be Ensign—J. D. Prevost.

18th: Lieut. M. F. Haymes to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign G. H. Pocklington, Ensign W. O. Taylor; to be Ensign—J. Wright.

19th: Lieut. R. Barrett to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign H. Levett, Ensign T. W. Scott; to be Ensigns—Cadet G. Baldwin, E. W. Evans.

20th: Lieut. G. B. Butler to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign F. Padfield, Ensign W. T. Nethersburn; to be Ensign—J. J. S. O'Neill.

21st: Lieut. F. E. N. Haley to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Second Lieut. N. Killeen, Second Lieut. the Hon. R. H. Rest, to be Ensign—W. Cairns.

22nd: Second Lieut. D. Granville to be First Lieutenant; to be Ensigns—Cadet F. Horsford, J. Creagh.

23rd: Lieut. W. T. Betts to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign E. A. Collins, Ensign W. E. Lockhart; to be Ensign—J. Gilvan.

24th: Lieut. W. Wyatt to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign E. L. Haworth; Ensign H. Wyatt; to be Ensign—J. Sabben.

26th: Lieut. R. Pennefather to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign J. D. Ross-Lewin, Ensign J. O. Stevenson; to be Ensigns—Cadet S. Gubbins, A. J. Austin.

27th: Lieut. to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign A. Mitchell, Ensign A. [illegible]

28th: Lieut. to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign W. S. Worthington, Ensign [illegible]

29th: Lieut. to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign W. M. Lake, Ensign [illegible]

30th: Lieut. to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign [illegible]

32nd: Lieut. A. Lloyd to be Lieutenant; to be Lieutenants—Ensign A. M. Lee, Ensign J. M. Hogg; to be Ensign—F. X. Reid.

33rd: Lieut. W. J. Rumley to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign W. H. Bennett, Ensign A. A. [illegible]

34th: Lieut. W. J. Turner to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign H. Sparke, Ensign [illegible]

35th: Lieut. S. G. Newport to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign C. B. Phillips, Ensign T. W. Parnell; to be Ensign—J. D. Gubbins.

40th: Lieut. [illegible]

Fitzalans: to be Ensign—W. B. Rose.

41st: Lieut. E. R. Wetherell to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign F. B. Dixon, Ensign J. A. Lockhart; to be Ensigns—Cadet C. F. Wilkinson, H. Hill.

Ensign J. A. Lockhart; to be Ensigns—Cadet G. F. Wilkinson, H. Hill.

42nd: Lieut. A. H. Chisholm to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign J. C. Rowe, Chisholm Ensign D. Humphorson; to be Ensigns—Cadet R. Wilkinson, H. Hill.

44th: Lieut. A. Greene to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign C. Bingham, Ensign R. F. Eyre; to be Ensign—Cadet F. O. Watkins, M. S. Smith.

46th: Lieut. [illegible] to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign A. Walker, Ensign H. [illegible]; to be Ensign—J. A. Stubbs.

48th: Lieut. [illegible]

Ensign [illegible]

49th: Lieut. [illegible]

50th: Lieut. to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign H. Knapp, Ensign [illegible]

W. T. Waldy, to be Ensign—F. B. G. Atkinson.

52nd: Lieut. J. Gordon to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign J. S. Gaynor, Ensign C. Finnerty, to be Ensigns—Cadet J. A. Bloomfield, J. F. W. Mullen

54th: Lieut. W. R. Williamson to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign R. Penefaux, Ensign [illegible]

55th: Lieut. to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign [illegible]

Ensign [illegible]

56th: Lieut. M. to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign [illegible]

57th: Lieut. to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign [illegible]

58th: Lieut. S. G. Newport to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign C. B. Phillips, Ensign T. W. Parnell; to be Ensign—J. D. Gubbins.

59th: Lieut. [illegible]

60th: Lieut. [illegible]

61st: Lieut. [illegible]

62nd: Lieut. [illegible]

63rd: Lieut. [illegible]

64th: Lieut. T. H. Powell to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign H. Cliffe, Ensign R. B. Stoker; to be Ensign—L. J. Wylde.

65th: Lieut. J. Freed to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign G. A. Morgan, Ensign W. M. Ogilvy; to be Ensigns—Cadet W. J. Johnson, J. F. Mulvaney.

66th: Lieut. W. W. Bassett to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign F. A. Robertson, Ensign J. Y. Hasler; to be Ensign—C. Smith.

68th: Lieut. H. C. Balmayne to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign S. Whalington, Ensign K. F. Murchison; to be Ensign—W. S. Purvis.

69th: Lieut. G. Newcomen to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign R. J. Spoffith, Ensign I. B. Bomford; to be Ensign—S. L. H. Fleming.

70th: Lieut. D. J. Minter to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Second Lieut. F. Fitzpatrick, Second Lieut. T. E. Richardson.

72nd: Lieut. G. H. Wilkeson to be Captain, to be Lieutenants—Ensign A. G. Dickson, Ensign L. Blakiston; to be Ensign—W. C. Kelly.

73rd: Lieut. A. J. Le Grand to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign R. Bennett, Ensign C. A. Hand; to be Ensign—H. F. Brooke.

74th: Lieut. J. Gordon to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign A. S. Magrath, Ensign F. Baillie; to be Ensign—J. W. Lewis.

76th: Lieut. D. R. Ross to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign W. H. J. Westby, Ensign J. Galbraith; to be Ensign—C. A. Short.

77th: Lieut. H. F. Savage to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign R. F. Armstrong, Ensign [illegible]

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169th: Lieut. [illegible]

170th: Lieut. [illegible]

171st: Ensign W. J. Denny to be Lieutenant; W. O'Malley to be Ensign.

173rd: Lieut. A. Fremlin to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign C. C. W. Veasy, Ensign J. T. Campbell; to be Ensigns—S. B. Burges.

74th: Lieut. F. Rowe to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign J. A. Caldwell, Ensign F. G. Bulteel to be Ensign—W. J. L. Milligan.

76th: Lieut. H. H. Lacy to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign J. Geddes, Ensign H. J. Robinson; to be Ensign; Cadet G. Gascoigne.

77th: Lieut. T. O. Forster to be Captain, to be Lieutenants—Ensign W. J. Carden, Ensign F. Alder; to be Ensign—Cadet G. E. Knight.

78th: Lieut. H. Mackay to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign F. Percival, Ensign F. C. Turner; to be Ensign—Cadet G. F. Sewell

79th: Lieut. the Hon. J. H. M. Fraser to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign F. B. N. Crealford, Ensign H. F. Baillehet.

82nd: Lieut. H. Bruce to be Captain to be Lieutenants—Ensign J. White, Ensign J. F. Pilkington.

83rd: Lieut. J. B. Young to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign W. Hallowes, Ensign R. Lesage.

85th: Lieut. J. H. Burke to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign A. D. Maule, Ensign N. Greer; to be Ensign—Cadet H. H. Day

89th: Lieut. to be Captain; to be Lieutenants—Ensign W. H. D. R. Welman, Ensign H. W. Fitz; to be Ensign—G. W. Gregory.

Rifle Brigade: To be Lieutenants—Lieut. the Hon. W. D. M. Best, Lieut. C. V. Oxenden; to be Lieutenants—Second Lieut. T. H. Brunston, Second Lieut. G. T. Boscawen, Second Lieut. the Hon G. B. Leyer, Second Lieut. R. Gore.

ADMIRALTY, JUNE 2.

The following promotions, dated the 26th May, have been made this day, taken place consequent on the decease of Vice-Admiral of the White Hyde Parker, K.C.B.:—Vice-Admiral of the Blue Sir W. H. Dillon, Knight, K.C.H., to be Vice-Admiral of the White. Rear-Admiral of the Blue Reserve Lieut. R. W. Hunt, to be a Vice-Admiral on the Reserve List. Rear-Admiral of the White, Richard Coxon, C.B.; to be Vice-Admiral of the Blue. Rear-Admiral of the White, Peter Rainier, C.B., Junior Lord of the Admiralty, to be Rear-Admiral of the Blue. H. Plumridge [illegible] to be Rear-Admiral of the White. Captain [illegible] Segmour to be Rear-Admiral of the Blue.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

J. LAMERTON and J. GALSWORTHY, Edinburgh, [illegible]. T. POTTS, Hawes, near Brighton, ex. penter and builder. MARY [illegible], Edinburgh, Scotland-hill, Liverpool victualler. H. SIMMONS, Northcote-street, Commercial-road, High-street, Shoreditch and Hackney-road, boot and shoemaker. R. WEST, Fleet-street, and St. James's-walk, Clerkenwell, [illegible] and [illegible]. E. BIALLIS, Bedford place, Commercial-road [illegible]. [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

FRONT OF THE NEW GRAND CENTRAL RAILWAY STATION, AT BIRMINGHAM.

pilaster being flanked by piers of rusticated masonry. This story is built entirely of Derbyshire stone. Above the arcade runs a boldly-moulded plain cornice, above which, corresponding with the arcade, are ten handsome windows with pedimented heads, and at the foot of each is an elegant balcony. The first floor is divided from the second by a string course, above which is another line of windows, with square heads and cornices. Above this is another string-course and a range of smaller and less ornamented square-headed windows, placed immediately under the principal cornice, which is remarkable for its breadth of treatment combined with fulness of detail. The whole front is surmounted by a handsome balustrade, broken at convenient distances by the introduction of pedestals, between which the chimneys are placed, with due regard for regularity of line; and as these projections are finished with cornices and caps, they add to, rather than detract from, the effect of the building. The edifice, with the exception of the lower story, is constructed of white brick; the window-frames, mouldings, cornices, and the rusticated quoins on the edges of the walls being formed in Portland cement. The wings are only three stories high, and are, of course, less ornamented than the centre—the windows being all square-headed, and the cornices plainer; but the mouldings and string-courses are carried on so as to preserve uniformity, and the upper string-course of the centre runs into the principal cornice of the wings. The Hotel, which is entered by a fine stone porch, comprises the whole of the left wing, the centre (excepting the ground-floor), and the third story of the right wing. The remainder of the edifice is devoted to railway purposes exclusively. The portion of the building fronting the Station is 504 feet long and 92 feet high.

On Saturday last the new Hotel (the Queen's) was the scene of a well-merited recognition of eminent services; when Mr. E. Watkin was presented with a handsome candelabrum and a silver teapot and stand, by his brother officers of the London and North-Western Railway Company, on the occasion of his leaving that line to take the management of the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway. An elegant cold collation was provided by Mr. Scott, the manager of the establishment. Captain Huish presided; and amongst the gentlemen present were the Marquis of Chandos (the chairman), Mr. Benson (the deputy chairman), Mr. Glyn and Mr. Thomas Smith (directors), and Mr. C. E. Stewart (the secretary), of the London and North-Western Company; Mr Denison, M.P. (the chairman), Mr. Packe the (deputy chairman), and Mr. Seymour Clarke (the general manager), of the Great Northern Company; Mr. Ellis (the chairman), Mr. Beale (the deputy chairman), and Mr. Carbutt and Mr. Hutchinson, of the Midland; and several other gentlemen. The cloth having been withdrawn, and several toasts given, the Chairman, in an appropriate address, presented the testimonial to Mr. Watkin, which was acknowledged by that gentleman in a suitable reply; after which the company retired.

POYNTON AND WORTH COLLIERS' LIBRARY AND READING-ROOM, (SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

FESTIVITIES IN ANGLESEA.

HENLLYS, at Beaumaris, the beautiful seat of Captain Hampton Lewis, has recently been the scene of high festivity. On the night of Saturday week a colossal bonfire, 60 feet high and between 50 and 60 in circumference, was ignited on the lawn, and flung its brilliant light across the waters of the Menai, illuminating at the same time the noble mansion now in course of erection by Captain Hampton. The effect was singularly grand, as the monster pyramid of fire flung its lurid flames abroad, with almost noonday brilliancy, bringing into bold relief the dark woods. A large body of the inhabitants of Llanfaes was entertained at dinner by Captain Hampton, in a building specially fitted up for the occasion, when the usual loyal and patriotic toasts were given, and "the Health of the Heir of Baron Hill," who had just attained his majority, was drunk with the greatest enthusiasm. We regret that the excellent owner of Henllys was prevented by sudden and severe illness from participating in any of the festivities which took place to commemorate Mr. Bulkeley's coming of age. Lady Bulkeley very kindly distributed, through Captain Hampton's steward, a large quantity of tea and sugar amongst the poorer parishioners of Llanfaes.

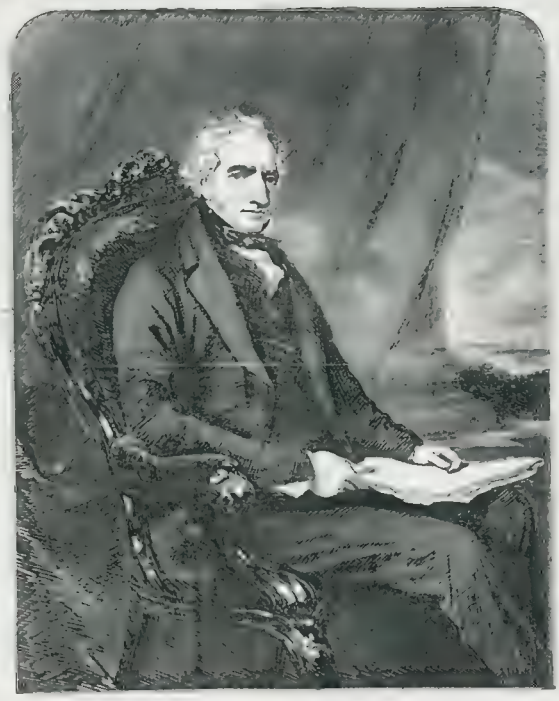
REJOICING AT HENLLYS, BEAUMARIS, TO CELEBRATE THE MAJORITY OF "THE HEIR OF BARON HILL"

THE LATE JAMES MONTGOMERY.

UPON the recent death of "the Christian Poet," it will be recollected that his portrait appeared in our Journal of May 6th. The Engraving was copied from a print executed several years since, and bearing little resemblance to the venerable poet in his later years. We have, therefore, re-engraved his Portrait from the most recent picture, namely, that painted by Mr. R. Smith, 72, Dean-street, Soho, hanging in the South Room of the present Exhibition of the Royal Academy. This has been pronounced an excellent likeness. Our Artist has copied little more than the figure of the poet, omitting the accessories of the picture, which is throughout a graceful composition, and painted with much feeling.

As a pendant, we add the record of a very interesting incident in the poet's closing years,—the Address delivered by him, on his 80th birthday anniversary, Nov. 4th, 1851, on planting a tree in the ground of the Sheffield General Infirmary, of which he had been for many years chairman. The tree being planted, Mr. Montgomery spoke as follows:—

The Sheffield general infirmary and I are *contemporaneous*. In the first week of April, 1792, I became a resident here. In the same week the original prospectus of an hospital, to be established in this part of the county, open to the sick and lame poor of every nation, was issued from the press of Mr. Joseph Gales, with whom I was engaged, whom also I afterwards succeeded, and conducted the local newspaper, under the title of the *Iris*, substituted for the *Sheffield Register*, from 1794 to 1826. The subscriptions in aid of the benevolent project, commencing with a donation from the into Mrs. Fell, of Newhall, came in so freely, that within two years they approached £20,000 when, land having been purchased, the foundation-stone of the building was laid. I was present on that auspicious occasion. The work was prosecutously carried on for three years following, till, on the 4th day of October, 1797, the top stone having previously been brought forth with "Grace! Grace unto it!" the doors were thrown open to all the world—and thenceforward have flowed into it more of the diseased and accidentally afflicted poor than there are at this time inhabitants throughout the whole neighbourhood of Hallamshire. I was a privileged spectator on that joyful occasion, and not being rich enough to contribute liberally out of my small substance, *such as I had I gave*—a hymn—which was accepted and sung within the walls, where, and around which, were assembled the thousands of Sheffield, with more cordial devotion than they were wont to muster on political occasions in those perilous times. I then became an annual subscriber and governor, and as such have been enabled to continue ever since, till at this hour I stand on this consecrated ground; for it was at that time consecrated with the sacrifice of praise and prayer, offered by the late venerable Vicar of Sheffield, the Rev. James Wilkinson, one of the fathers and founders of the charity—on which, from that day, he settled an annuity of ten pounds, to be paid out of certain Church property, purchased by himself and added to the revenues of the incumbency for the benefit of his successors. I stand, therefore, this day between the living and the dead, the sole survivor of all who were originally engaged as co-operators in the erecting and endowing of this house of mercy; for I cannot find on our existing records one name, *but my own*, of those whom I singly represent, and who were mutually and individually concerned as parties in the great work, completed more than fifty-four years ago. That solitary name (at the age of eighty years) must soon, in the course of Providence, cease to be periodically enrolled with the transitive list of subscribers appended to the annual reports of the Sheffield General Infirmary: but the scene and the circumstances of this day assure me, that on this ground, and under yonder roof I may yet be mentioned and remembered with kindness by the remnant of the present generation, and perhaps the unborn of the next. I feel at once honoured and humbled by the demonstrations of good-will towards me by the friends of this noblest of our local institutions.



THE LATE JAMES MONTGOMERY, THE POET.—PAINTED BY R. SMITH.—FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

"A WINTER'S MORNING."

BY E. DUNCAN.

WE have here a purely English landscape, treated in a genuine style, from the hand of Mr Duncan, one of the most esteemed members of the Old Water Colour Society, and which forms part of the present year's Exhibition. Though the materials are very simple, the arrangement is somewhat original, and very agreeable. The ground in the neighbourhood of the old farm-house is covered with snow; the white mass being broken across by the rude fence and gate, through which a flock of sheep are advancing towards the spectator, as they sally forth in search of their daily meal. The latter are admirably painted, and give life and warmth to the centre of the picture. The cold, hazy atmosphere in the receding distance is painted with great delicacy and truthfulness of effect.

BRITISH INSTITUTION.—WORKS OF OLD MASTERS.

THE second Exhibition of the season—that of the Works of Ancient Masters—including some by British artists, recently deceased, was opened on Monday last. The collection, as a whole, cannot be described as of superior excellence; the masters represented being chiefly those of the Flemish, and later Italian schools and the works themselves being, with a few exceptions, of but a medium class of merit.

One of the most striking pictures is the "Belisarius," by Salvator Rosa, which hangs over the chimneypiece in the North Room. The figure is boldly treated, and admirable alike for dignity of character and attitude; the colouring, as in all this artist's productions, is severe and cold, and none the worse in effect for having escaped the friendly offices of the cleaner.

But of superior importance is the "Christ on the Mount of Olives," one of the noblest specimens of Correggio's inspired hand, which formerly belonged to the Royal collection at Spain, afterwards found its way to France, and at the Peace was presented to the Duke of Wellington; being exhibited by the present Duke. Observe the sublime intention which makes the chief light proceed from the Saviour, who kneels on the left of the picture; whilst the sleeping Disciples, and the soldiers who approach with Judas are thrown into dark shadow; the crepuscule of the coming dawn being slightly indicated in the background. From the same collection is contributed a very striking picture—"A Witch," by Spagnoletto—conceived in the wildest manner, and executed with a boldness worthy of a follower of Michael Angelo. The Witch is seated in a car, composed of skeleton bones; her fierce look, half that of man, half of woman, and her parchment skin drawn up in wrinkles round her waist; and proudly she rides on, surrounded by her creatures, whose faces exhibit every variety of unhallowed and extravagant expression.

"Jacob with Laban's Flock," also by Spagnoletto, the property of the Earl of Derby, is a bold and effective performance, but wants Scriptural character. Jacob, with one knee on the ground, rests his hand upon one of his sheep, and looks upward, as in earnest appeal to Heaven. The colouring is solemn and full toned.

The "Triumphal Procession," a finished sketch by Rubens, is interesting, as being a copy, with variations, from a beautiful compartment of Andrea Mantegna's celebrated frieze of "The Triumph of Julius Cæsar," now at Hampton Court. It was painted when Rubens was at the Court of Duke Vicenzo Gonzaga, at Mantua (1601-7), and when the original still adorned the ducal palace. The variations introduced show the lively and eminently dramatic fancy of the great Flemish painter, thus instead of the sheep intended for sacrifice, which, in the original, walk beside the elephant, we have a lion and a panther

"A WINTER'S MORNING."—PAINTED BY E. DUNCAN.—FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.

which last appears to growl at the elephant, who turns round to strike him with his trunk. The treatment is bolder than that of the original; the forms rounder and more real than those of the severe antique model followed in it; whilst the rich florid colouring of Rubens' pencil gives an effect to the whole which Mantegna was far from realising. This picture is the property of Mr. Rogers, the poet, by whom it is highly prized.

By Rembrandt we have a capital portrait of a gentleman, holding a musical instrument, painted in the Master's richest style the property of Sir J. Carnegie; and a picture entitled "The Magdalen," the property of the Duke of Hamilton. In the latter is a strange effect of chiaro-oscuro in the brighter manner, with a female reclining at the edge of a piece of water as the foot of a rock, upon which is perched a peacock. In the background is a sporting dog, running; and, beside the disconsolate heroine, a sort of Chinese parasol—truly a strange composition, but enormously brilliant when seen at a proper distance.

Guercino's picture of "Joseph's Garments brought to Jacob," exhibited by the Marquis of Westminster, is a good specimen of that master, in his earlier and bolder style. The "Allegory," by the same artist—belonging to the Duke of Hamilton, represents a female enclosing an infant in a net, whilst an aged man leans forward, as interested in the fate of the latter—the whole probably being suggestive of the trammels of Sin, which Wisdom alone enables us to overcome. It is painted in a firm manner.

The "Diana and Acteon," by Albano, exhibited by Sir C. Burrell, is in a fine state of preservation, and a good sample of this once celebrated artist's style. Upon examination, however, it shows how inferior was his genius, and how adventurous the process of restoring an original has proved. Yet there are to this day, those who, from force of habit, set down Albano as a great master—to be named with Correggio and the Carracci!

A "Virgin and Child," by Murillo, exhibited by Colonel Hugh Baillie, displays to advantage the truly *naturalesque* treatment of the artist, and a charming expression both in mother and child, is the result; but it is not the "Holy Family" of our Ideal. The picture has apparently been damaged, and subjected to the process of restoring and cleaning, which has not improved its original state. The same remark, by the way, we are sorry to add, might be applied to many other pictures in the present collection: such is the impudence of professional picture-dealers—such is the imitation of connoisseurs!

Running the eye along the walls, we observe a spirited "Boar Hunt," by Rubens and Snyders, the property of Lord Derby; and an interesting picture of "Rubens' Wife and Child," by the same, the property of Lord Bute; several very fine Cuyps, amongst which that of "Cattle and Figures on the Banks of a River" (owner, Lord Bute) is the most striking—the light rays of the silvery, not golden, sky, being very clear and brilliant; one or two admirable Ruysdaels—the most remarkable that belonging to the Rev. F. Leicester, representing a cloudy atmosphere, and stagnant water covered with dark vegetation.

Amongst the larger works, what are termed the "Ancient Masters," are several Vandykes, very well of their kind, and which the owners appear to take pride in exhibiting, more on account of their family association with the original's, than for any love of art; and so, also, amongst the more modern painters, we find, as we are sure always to find in this Gallery, a goodly lot of portraits by Reynolds; for the most part selected for exhibition, as we opine, upon similar grounds. These, it would be waste of time to notice individually.

Not so, however, the "Puck," by Reynolds, the property of Mr. Rogers, the most successful Shakspearian realisation. Not so, either, the little "St. John," by the same artist, belonging to Mrs. Newdegate—which is an evidence that the accomplished President of the Royal Academy, though up to the *espièglerie* of a Shakspearian subject, was not equal to a sublime Scriptural one. The figure is that of a smart and somewhat forward boy, with a good head of hair, sitting very much in the still ude manner (with variations) by Michael Angelo, Raphael, and Guido, with his mouth open, as if calling to some one at a distance, but without the slightest attempt at solemnity, or even *grandiose* character, in the expression.

The Queen contributes a picture, by Granet—"The Interior of a Convent"—remarkable for its severe perspective, and as artful arrangement of light and shade. Placed at the end of the Sculpture Room, the effect from a distance is very striking. This picture was painted in 1821, and is well known by the engraving published of it.

Prince Albert pays appropriate compliment to British art, in one of its most gifted professors, recently deceased, by exhibiting one of Martin's chefs-d'œuvre, "The Deluge;" whilst, as a companion piece, Mr. Hope exhibits the same artist's magnificent "Fall of Babylon." Between the two barge Etty's "World Before the Flood;" and at a little distance off is an early and admirable picture by Turner, "Landscape—with Bandit," exhibited by the Royal Academy. Etty, Turner, Martin—three worthy names, all departed from us within a few years. Rising art must work hard to supply their places.

A good supply of landscape and *genre* pictures—by Wouvermans, Mieris, Hobbima, Vandevelde, Jan Steen, Teniers, Ostade, Schalken, Karl du Jardin, Metzu, and others of that favourite class—adorn the walls in all directions; amongst which will be particularly remarked "A Girl with Rabbit," by Gerard Dow—the property of Mr. Hope—a perfect marvel of textural manipulation.

MUSIC.

THE "Prophète" has been reproduced at the ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, with Madame Viardot in her original part of *Fidès*—a part in which she still has no equal. In other respects, the Opera is cast in the same manner as last season, excepting the character of *Bertha*, which is now performed by Mdlle. Marai, instead of Madame Castellan, who, though in London at present, is not at the Royal Italian Opera—a circumstance somewhat surprising, considering how valuable her services have been, and how great a favourite she has always been of the public. The part of *John of Leyden* continues to be sustained by Tamberlik, to whom Mario resigned it last season. We regret to observe that Mario's delightful voice has become so uncertain. On Tuesday he was again unable to sing in the "Puritani;" and the opera was consequently changed. Grisi gave another of her farewell performances last night (Friday); that evening having been chosen for the accommodation of those who would be prevented by their visit to Sydenham from being present at night.

AT the ROYAL OPERA, DRURY-LANE, the star of the week has been Madame Rudersdorff. On Saturday last she performed the character of *Agatha*, in the "Freischütz;" and, on Tuesday, that of *Leonore*, in "Fidelio." Both appearances were attended with triumphant success; and "Fidelio" was repeated on Thursday. Her impersonation of the interesting heroine of Beethoven's beautiful opera is the most satisfactory we have witnessed since Schroeder Devrient and Malibran. As a piece of acting, it is distinguished for simplicity, truth, and touching effect. The applause of the audience was mingled with tears. As a vocal performance it was marked by that purity, even severity, of taste which characterises the thoroughly-educated German artist. We must add that "Fidelio," as given on these two occasions, has been in its ensemble the most perfectly performance at this theatre. The orchestra has been strengthened and improved, and the choruses and concerted pieces are sung with increased precision and effect. Herr Anschütz, who has succeeded Herr Lindpaintner as conductor, is evidently a musician with the genius of his office.

SINCE the cessation of the French Plays, the ST. JAMES'S THEATRE is kept open for the performance of French Comic Operas. The announcement of this enterprise emanates from the Directors of the Théâtre Lyrique at Paris, who state that the entire company of that theatre are to appear at the St. James's. The Théâtre Lyrique is the third of the Parisian musical theatres: it has been but recently established, and is on a much smaller scale than the Opéra Comique, but it has some clever performers, and enjoys at present a considerable share of public favour.

The performances at the St. James's began on Wednesday. The opera was "Le Bijou Perdu," by Adolphe Adam—a piece produced at the Théâtre Lyrique, in October last, with great success, but we doubt if it will be equally fortunate here. It is certainly immaterial—a thing of no consequence in Paris, but not yet disregarded, we trust, in London. A young nobleman, who has a criminal intrigue with the wife of his friend, and who tries to seduce a decent girl, in humble life, and to get rid of her lover by having him sent off to be a soldier, is scarcely a becoming hero for a gay comic opera; nor are such atrocities to be treated as the trifling escapades of a man of rank and fashion. The whole affair is an exhibition of the most heartless levity. Nor is there any redeeming merit in the music, which is in the usual style of its author—light, trivial, commonplace, and better fitted for the ball-room than the stage. The manner in which this piece was acted and sung has certainly not given us a high idea of the strength of the Théâtre Lyrique company; we shall not prejudge them, however, but shall wait till we can see and hear them in something better. The only one who made any impression was the prima donna, Madame Marie Cabel. She played the part of the little *grisette*, whose escape from the toils of the noble *roué* forms the subject of the piece, and delighted the audience by her piquant looks, her trim toilette, her grace, smartness, and playful coquetry. As a singer she is of the same class with Ugalde, Thillon, and Nau; probably surpassing them all in the clearness and flexibility of her voice, the facility of her execution, and the profusion and brilliancy of her ornaments. When we further hear her in better music, we may be able to discover whether she possesses the higher qualities of a singer—those which are derived from the mind and heart. Her splendid and original displays of vocalisation were vehemently applauded; but the performance, in other respects, was received with indifference. The theatre was fully and fashionably attended; and this speculation, if well conducted, will undoubtedly meet with encouragement.

THE principal CONCERTS of the Week have been those of the two Philharmonic Societies. The Old Society's Concert, on Monday, was marked by only one novel feature; a symphony by Schumann, performed for the first time in this country. Its production proved a failure; it being generally condemned as dry, laboured, uninteresting work. The directors, we presume, brought it forward in compliance with the demand so often made for novelty. Schumann is one of the chief German celebrities of the day; and the directors can scarcely be blamed for giving the English public "a taste of his quality," and showing us what sort of music is at present in vogue in Germany. The rest of the concert was made up of orchestral masterpieces of Beethoven and Mendelssohn, and of vocal pieces of Mozart, Bobeldieu, and Rossini, sung by Madame Castellan and Gardoni. The Queen and Prince Albert honoured the concert with their presence, accompanied by the Prince of Wales and Prince Alfred, and by their Royal guests the King of Portugal and his brother, the Duke of Oporto. The last concert of the Society is on the nineteenth of this month.

The New Society's Concert, on Wednesday, had no novelty of importance, but was interesting from the excellence of most of the pieces. Beethoven's symphony in C minor, and his overture to "Egmont," Mendelssohn's pianoforte concerto in G minor (played by M. Hallé), and his overture to the "Midsummer Night's Dream," and Weber's overture to the "Ruler of the Spirits," were all admirably performed. Madame Rudersdorff sang the scena from Spohr's "Faust," containing the beautiful air, "Ja, ich fühl es" (Yes, I feel it, so sweet), with great energy and power; and Madame Amedei gave Mozart's air "L'Addio," with taste and expression. This was the last concert of the season.

On Wednesday evening Mr. Benson gave his annual concert at the Beethoven Rooms, Queen Anne-street. The vocalists were Miss Dolby, Poole, Rensford, Eyles, and Stabbach; and Messrs. Benson, Francis, Hobbs, Whitehouse, and Phillips, and the instrumentalists, Mr. G. A. Osborne (pianoforte), Mr. Daudo (violin), Mr. Lucas (violoncello), and Mr. Richardson (flute). The concert opened with Mendelssohn's brilliant Trio in D minor, which was exquisitely rendered by Messrs. Osborne, Daudo, and Lucas. Mr. Benson sang, with much taste and feeling, Handel's beautiful song, "Al son ti stringo;" and Miss Dolby elicited vehement applause by the admirable style with which she gave "Flow down, cold rivulet, to the sea." But perhaps the gems of the evening were the English glees and madrigals of Spofforth, Müller, Bishop, and Horsley, of which there were no less than six in the programme. The rooms were crowded by a fashionable audience, and the entertainment was of the most brilliant description.

MRS. ANDERSON'S Annual Concert takes place on Monday morning next. It is always the most attractive concert of the season, both from the rich and tasteful selection of the music, and the host of talent employed in its performance. We are glad to see Mrs. Anderson's own name once more in the programme; as our musical readers are aware that the severe accident she met with four years ago has disabled her, till now, from performing in public.

A STRONG company has been formed by Mr. Beale, for the purpose of giving operatic performances in Manchester, Liverpool, and Dublin, during the months of August and September next. Cravelli, Tamberlik, Marai, Lucchesi, Susini, Tagliafico, Cotti, and Polonini, are engaged; and the performances will be under the direction of Mr. Benedict. "Eidelio" will be given with the same cast as at the Royal Italian Opera. The other operas will be "Lucrezia Borgia," "Lucia di Lammermoor," "Il Barbiere," "Elisir d'Amore," "La Sonnambula," and "Norma."

THE THEATRES.

PRINCESS'.—Commend us to Mr. Harley as an evergreen, whose vitality suffers no abatement, and still maintains its original freshness and colour. In a new piece produced on Monday, under the title of "From Village to Court," by Mr. J. M. Morton, the same peculiarity and brilliancy of manner characterised the actor's assumption of the part of a *Baron von Grosenbach* as in the best of his past days. The old fidgetty courtier, full of a mock dignity, and well practised in the ways of corruption, blind to his own meanness, and alive to his own interest, but blundering in the means, or outwitted by those in his plans, and thus defeated of his end; such was the character which, in Mr. Harley's treatment of it, was a quick and moving portrait. He was ably seconded by Mr. D. Fisher, as a peasant, named *Maximilian Krootz*, who hopelessly loves one *Rose Bertram*, and yet is "as jealous of her as a Barbary-hen." *Rose* has won the gratitude of a *Captain Manheim* (Mr. Cathcart) by attentions to him when dangerously wounded—so dangerously, that he had never been able to see her. Out of this customary ingredient the action, which is very slight, is made to grow, and which consists of certain small perquisites thrown by the espionage of the *Baron* in the way of the *Countess of Lindenberg* (Miss Murray), who wishes to explain to *Manheim* that she would rather leave the Grand Duke for a husband than himself—an explanation which he would have welcomed, as he desires to transfer his affections to *Rose*. The *Baron's* vigilance necessitates the parties to make *Rose* an unconscious signal bearer, by means of a ring and a bracelet, between them; but the telegraph is found not to work well, being interfered with by the jealous *Krootz*. The rehearsals at this theatre are so well cared for, that the performers in this little, but elegantly-written, piece, acted with the precision of a French company—the manager's desire in this respect having been remarkably successful. The impromptu manner of placing plays on the English stage had certainly produced a slovenly style of acting, which left the success of a new piece to chance. By Mr. Kean's mode of preparation, nothing is trusted to accident; and the natural result is the safety, if not the triumph, of every fresh production. The scenery and dresses were, as usual, new, beautiful, and costly; and the drama itself was received with well-merited applause.

ST. JAMES'S.—On Saturday, with M. Regnier's benefit, the French dramatic season closed at this theatre. Under the conduct of M. Lafont, with such talent as that of Madame Allan, Mdlle. Luther, MM. Ferville and Brindeau, this brief term will claim remembrance for the peculiar refinement of the entertainments produced, and the combination of specific excellences in the performers by which they were supported.

LYCEUM.—As we had announced, this theatre re-opened on Monday, under the management of Mr. Charles Mathews, who met with a cordial reception from the audience. The pieces were "Before Breakfast," "Give a Dog an Ill Name," and "Trying it On."

ASTLEY'S.—A grand Whitsuntide equestrian spectacle, entitled "The Cossacks; or, Vive la France," was produced on Monday. It is an adaptation from the French, and forms the medium for complimentary recognition of the union of the Tricolour with the Union Jack. The date of the piece is 1814. Russian aggression is the theme of reprobation throughout, and the dialogue contained some hitting allusions. The scenery is excellent. The Circle, of which Miss Emily Cooke is the heroine, added its usual amusements; and the evening was closed by the production of a new farce, entitled "The Old Horse to be Sold so Pay the Expences, if not Redeemed within Fourteen Days," by Mr. Campbell, and which proved eminently successful.

ADELPHI.—A new farce, by Mr. Mark Lemon, was produced on Wednesday, on the occasion of Madame Celeste's benefit. It is entitled "A Moving Tale." The *moving* of the title is, however, not "re-moving"—the plot turning upon the inconveniences resulting from a change of residence. Both houses, half void of their furniture, furnish the scenes of the play. The family of the Grandisons are put to their shifts, and as much filled with regrets at parting with their late happy home, as with hopes in entering their new one. *Mr. Grandison* (Mr. Keeley) is glad to escape from the confusion, and accepts an invitation to dine with a fellow clerk; but *Mrs. Grandison* (Mrs. Keeley), who is resolved be shall partake his share of the responsibility, sends for him to the scene of bustle, and involves him in an angry domestic altercation, which is carried to an extravagant length. All manner of mishaps, too, have occurred, owing to *Mr. Grandison's* absence; but at length an end is put to the dispute by the entrance of the children full of complaints against their aunt, in whose custody they had been left. All the anger of the parents is now turned on the offending relative, who is thus made the scapegoat of their quarrel; and the husband and wife are reconciled. The rich acting of Mr. and Mrs. Keeley consummates the fortune of this little drama, which is well built up in its details.

OLYMPIC.—A slight change has, this week, taken place in the bill of this theatre. The comic drama of "Hush Money," has been revived, and serves for the opening piece of the evening. Mr. Robson is the hero—and such a hero! *Mr Jasper Touchwood*, exceedingly nervous by constitution, suffering from remorse at having caused the deserted *Sally* (Mrs. A. Wigan), apparently to drown herself, and suffering still more from the fear that he may be suspected of having pushed her into the river, by *Tom Tiller*, the waterman (Mr. Emery) whom he bribes into silence, is just the sort of character which is suited to the eccentric genius of Mr. Robson. Never would *Touchwood* look again on that waterman; but lo! he finds him engaged as extra footman at the house of the intended bride's father, and all his terrors are renewed. He is literally prostrated with their agony, which is exhibited with wonderfully artistic detail; nor less marvellous is the delineation of the reaction, when, somewhat reinforced by a glass or two of sherry, he rises into a fever of manful resistance to consequences, and seems to be more insane than intoxicated. *Sally*, too, reappears, and is at first mistaken for her ghost; great is the nervous delinquent's joy at finding her to be real flesh and blood. Mr. Robson's perfect realization of this character will give another fillip to the fortunes of the house, which was crowded.

WILLIS'S ROOMS.—Dr. J. J. A. Ricard, from Paris, gave a lecture, in French, on "Mesmerology," on Tuesday afternoon, for the purpose of introducing a clairvoyante somnambule to the London public. His lecture, which was divided into two parts, entered into the history of Mesmerism and the proceedings of learned bodies in relation to it. After which the clairvoyante appeared on the dais: a few passes sufficed to produce somnambulism, when, her eyes being bandaged, she played at cards with success, and read writing with facility. Her arms also were thrown into a catalepsic state. The experiments were few, but not sufficiently tested, though apparently satisfactory to the initiated.

CREMORNE GARDENS.—These delightful grounds were opened for the season on Monday. A host of attractions have been added to those of last year. Nearly the whole of the horticultural portion has been re-arranged and relaid to a uniform plan, interspersed with many new statues and vases. The musical arrangements are confided to Mr. Howard, as M. Besozzi; and we had a new ballet, and an entirely new corps of sagacious dogs and monkeys, besides new fireworks, &c. &c. &c. The minor exhibitions include the microscope, and the "Cosmorama," including some effective naval pictures; and the attractions have been immense crowds of Lobby visitors.

NEW ATTEMPT TO GUIDE A PARACHUTE.—On Monday night, in addition to the ordinary programme at Vauxhall Gardens, London, there was announced an ascent in the usual way, and a descent from a balloon in a peculiar manner, by Mr. Coxwell—the machine which enables him to steer in the air. Everything was in readiness for the ascent, but, from the stormy state of the weather, it was considered unadvisable to make the experiment. It was, therefore, postponed until Saturday (this day).

PARIS EXHIBITION.—A preliminary meeting of the silk trade of London was held on Saturday last, in Spital-square, to consider the proper representation of its productions at the Paris Exhibition, when it was resolved to ask the Board of Trade Department of Science and Art to summon a general meeting of the trade for the purpose of organising the requisite measures to represent completely the silk manufactures of the metropolis at the Universal Exhibition of 1855.

GREAT WESTERN HOTEL.—On Tuesday Prince Albert and the Prince of Wales, accompanied by the Duke of Portland, visited the magnificent hotel, which has just been opened, adjoining the Great Western Railway Station, at Paddington. A view of the hotel appeared in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS No. 598.

THE REGENT'S-PARK ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.

THERE is certainly no spectacle in London more interesting, and more calculated to enlighten the general public as to the appearance and the manners and customs—so far as they can be observed in captivity, and which is further than most people imagine—than this collection of beasts of all kinds, carnivorous and granivorous, from all quarters of the world; of birds in equal variety: of reptiles of all species; and of fishes and zoophytes. The Directors of these Gardens deserve great credit for the enterprise which they display in obtaining new specimens, while an equal degree of credit is due to our own countrymen in foreign climes, inasmuch as many of them lose no opportunity of sending new specimens of animals to the Gardens. Indeed, ever since [illegible] sometimes even oftener—animals and birds hitherto unknown to the collection make their appearance; and every now and then the birth of a giraffe or a lion, adds to the interest of the Gardens.

We may as well begin our sketch with the lion, the king of the beasts. There are several fine specimens of this animal, in most cases accompanied by the lioness. The Indian lions recently imported have a fuller look—the lion has a scantier mane than the African specimens. There is a glorious old Nubian lion, with a vast forehead, and a mane which extends down his back. The Indian lioness is of corresponding bulk. The collection of tigers and leopards is also very rich. These animals are more restless than the lions; but most of the feline tribe spend the greater part of their time in sleep. During the severe cold of last winter, day-beds, comfortably littered with straw, were provided for all the lions and tigers; and it is pleasant to see the male and the female, lying head and tails, sometimes languidly opening their eyes, and giving a lazy wave of their tails. Most of the animals take their foods to their beds, and eat it there. These creatures, so fierce in their native woods, seem to have lost a great deal of their ferocity; and they do not pounce upon their food with the fury, and devour it with the rapacity, which many people believe; on the contrary, I am inclined to think that they have learned the consciousness of beef, for, when they obtain their ration, they do not fall upon it with voracity, but consider it, turn it over with their huge paws, tear off a morsel and consume it, and then generally take it to their beds and devour it at their leisure. I must not, in this class of animals, pass over the panther, the puma, still more the puma, looking as harmless as puss upon the rug. A late eminent tragedian possessed an animal of this species, which followed him through the house like a dog, at last at his table, and slept in his room.

A propos of dogs, a curious fact is evident, but not without a parallel, occurred in the Gardens. At the feeding-time of two lion cubs, a fine, strong mastiff leaped into the cage. Everyone expected that the cubs would fall upon him; but no, they eyed him with some curiosity, and even suffered him to take his morsel from their paws without eye hitting or roar. Since then they have continued good friends, and tumble about together, in the manner represented in our Engraving. The dog appears to relish his voluntary imprisonment; and when I visited the Gardens to see this strange companionship, the dog was walking up and down, and the lion cubs in their bed were tranquilly regarding him. Of course, the fact of the cubs being born in the menagerie, and kept constantly well fed upon beef, would cause them to have an idea that there was no other food; and that, consequently, the mastiff remains in safety, and is fed along with his companions.

The bears, the hyenas, and the jackals are all restless animals. The former, if two are in one den, which sometimes happens, play with each other, standing on their hind legs, and sometimes simulating a fight, and at others clumsily kissing each other—both with their mouths wide open. The brown bears are those who principally indulge in these recreations. The white are more staid, yet I have seen them too occasionally indulge in the same amusement.

The mild dromedaries—the "ships of the desert"—remind one of Eothen's magnificent account of his desert journey, and Layard's "gay and gentle eye" while the genius, with the small pencil of a boy's book, "the Adventures of Rolando," who, with his companions, chase a "cameleopard," which they discover feeding "under a mimosa tree." There is a young giraffe, born in the Gardens, which, next to the antelope, is the special favourite of the young ladies. The latter, notwithstanding his fits of savagery and his tusk, does not seem to excite such interest as the hippopotamus, which is so popular that a stage is erected for his admirers, where, on holidays, they sit lunching on cold provisions and drinking something out of bottles. Some few years ago, while the usual ignorance of his species, perch close to the monster's nose, and apparently pick up some morsels which had been dropped as he consumed his food, with which he flew away, seemingly satisfied with his exploit. The various specimens of small deer are, as I have already mentioned, favourites with the ladies; but by far the most popular creatures with the general run of the visitors are the monkeys, to whom more gerbroad-nuts, bits of biscuit, and sometimes bits of pie, or cold fragments of the luncheon—than any creatures in the menagerie. I [illegible] natural repugnance to monkeys, apes, and especially gran outangs, which walk about, like gentlemen, with

(*Continued on page 554.*)

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

THE ROYAL OPERA, DRURY-LANE, OPEN EVERY NIGHT for the Performance of GRAND OPERA, with BALLET, on a similar scale of magnificence and completeness as the principal Continental Opera-houses. And a Brilliant Play-house Prices:—For full of the Evening, see the Daily Papers.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.—Every Evening, commencing at Seven o'Clock precisely, the new and original Drama, entitled THE KNIGHT OF THE BURNING TARGE and MR. BUCKSTONE'S VOYAGE ROUND THE GLOBE.—Box-office open from 10 till 5.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE, Oxford-street.—Mr. CHARLES KEAN respectfully informs the Public that his BENEFIT will take place on MONDAY, JUNE 26th.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE, Oxford-street.—On MONDAY, and during the Week, will be presented a new Comic Drama, entitled FROM VILLAGE TO COURT; and the new magical Drama of FAUST AND MARGUERITE; with other Entertainments.

G. V. BROOKE and the DRURY-LANE COMPANY at the QUEEN'S THEATRE, MANCHESTER. This engagement will commence on MONDAY, MACBETH; TUESDAY, at Manchester, on MONDAY, 19th instant, assisted by Messrs. O. Bernard, A. Lonsdale, Bolton, A. Rayner; Mrs Vickery, Mrs. E. Bailey, and Miss Fanny Cathcart, from the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, with a full company. Mr. Brooke before embarking for America, can only visit Bath, Winchester, London (for six nights), Birmingham, and Liverpool.

MORNING DRAMATIC READING.—Mr. WEBSTER'S Reading of "Henry IV.," having met with marked approval, he will Read "The MERCHANT of VENICE" at WILLIS'S ROOMS, on SATURDAY, 17th JUNE, at Three O'Clock precisely. Reserved Seats, 3s.; Ditto for four, 10s.; Unreserved Seats, 2s.; Ditto for four, 5s. Tickets and Places to be had of Mr. Mitchell, 33, Old Bond-street, and at Willis's Rooms, King-street, St. James's.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.—OPERA BOXES and STALLS in the best situations, and on the most moderate terms, can always be secured by HAMMOND'S MUSICAL LIBRARY, 9, New Bond-street, opposite the Clarendon Hotel. Opera Pit Tickets and Private Boxes at all the Theatres.

ROYAL GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street.—SEBASTOPOL (from the Admiralty Drawing by Lieut. MONTAGU G REILLY, of H.M.S. "Retribution") and SILBERIA are now added to the DIORAMA of the DARDANELLES, BLACK SEA. Exhibiting daily, at Three and Eight. Admission, 1s., 2s., and 3s.

BERLIN is just OPENED at BURFORD'S PANORAMA, LEICESTER-SQUARE, by special Command of the Cathedral in full length. Palaces, Museums, and all the splendid public buildings, immediate in view of the spectator. Admission, 1s. TINDALE, with the COMBINED BRITISH and FRENCH FLEETS, and the BELGRADE ALPS, are also OPEN. Admission 1s.

MR. FRIEND'S GRAND MOVING DIORAMA of CANADA, the UNITED STATES, NIAGARA, and the GT. LAWRENCE, with Original Songs, and Choruses, forming the most beautiful Entertainment in existence. DAILY, at Three and Eight. Stalls, Saturday and Monday, 3s.; Tuesday, Thursday, Regent-street. Admission, 1s. and 2s.; Reserved Seats, 3s.; Boxes, 15s.

SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER-COLOURS.—The FIFTIETH ANNUAL EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN at their Gallery, 5, PALL-MALL EAST. Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d. JOSEPH J. JENKINS, Secretary.

THE NEW SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER-COLOURS. Their TWENTIETH ANNUAL EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN at their Gallery, No. 53, PALL-MALL. From Nine till dusk. Admission, 1s. JAMES FAHEY, Secretary.

GALLERY of GERMAN PAINTINGS,—The SECOND ANNUAL EXHIBITION of the WORKS of MODERN GERMAN MASTERS is now OPEN, daily, from 9 a.m. till Dusk. Admission, 1s. Gallery, 168, New Bond street, next door to the Clarendon.

ST. MARTIN'S HALL.—Mendelssohn's ELIJAH, will be performed next WEDNESDAY, June 14th, under the direction of Mr. JOHN HULLAH. Tickets, 1s., 2s. 6d., and 5s. Comm ences at Eight o'Clock.

ROYAL ACADEMY of MUSIC.—The THIRD CONCERT for the EXHIBITION of the STUDENTS, will take place at the HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS on THURSDAY MORNING, the 15th JUNE, to commence at Two O'Clock. Single Tickets, 5s. Family Tickets to admit Four, 10s. To be had at the principal Musicsellers, and at the Royal Academy of Music, Tenterden-street, Hanover-square.

CHORAL FUND.—On MONDAY EVENING, JUNE 19th, the CREATION will be performed at St. MARTIN'S HALL, Madame Clara Novello, Miss Amy Duley, Madame Weiss, Herr Reichard, Mr. T. Williams, Mr. Lefler, and Mr. Weiss will sing for the benefit of the Chorally. Conductor—Mr. G. Hibbon. Commencing at Eight o'Clock. Stalls, 5s. at Cramer and Co.'s, 201, Regent-street; Keith and Prowse, Cheapside; at St. Martin's Hall; of all Musicsellers; and of W. W. Grice, Secretary, 13, North-street, West-square.

MUSICAL UNION.—Members are requested to observe that the MATINEES for the season will take place WEDNESDAY.—WILLIS'S ROOMS, TUESDAY, JUNE 13th. Quartet, in D, Mozart. Duo Concertante, Pianoforte, by J. B. Cramer. Trio, Pianoforte Quartet, No. 5 in A, Beethoven. Solos, Pianoforte Executants, Ernst, Goffrie, Hill, Cecil, and Hall. Doors open at Three. Ticket, Half-a-Guinea each; to be had of Cramer and Co., Regent-street, Olivier, an Chappell and Co., Bond-street. Mdlle Clauss is engaged for the 6th, and Vieuxtemps for the 20th. Sainton, Director J. ELLA.

MISS ARABELLA GODDARD begs to announce that her ANNUAL GRAND EVENING CONCERT will take place at the QUEEN'S CONCERT-ROOMS, Hanover-square, on WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, when she will perform Beethoven's Concerto in G Major, Rondo Capriccioso, and a selection of solo by the members of the Orchestral Union. Vocalists—Mrs. Lockey, Mr. Rivarola, and Mr. Weiss. Conductor—Mr. Alfred Mellon. Tickets, 7s.; reserved seats, half-a-guinea each; to be had of the principal Musicsellers; and Miss Goddard, 47, Welbeck-st. Doors open at 8 p.m. Carriages at 11.

MRS. ANDERSON (Pianiste to her Majesty the Queen) has the honour to announce that her ANNUAL GRAND MORNING CONCERT will take place at the HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, on MONDAY NEXT, JUNE 12, to commence at Half past One o'Clock precisely. Vocalists: Mesdames Castellan, Louise Dyer, Agnes Bury, Rudersdorff, Messrs. Sims Reeves and Charles Novello, Signori Gardoni and Belletti, Herren Reichardt and Formes, Instrumentalists: Blagrove, Mrs. F. B. Jewson and Mr. W. G. Cusins; violin, M. Sainton; violoncello, Signor Piatti. Conductor, Mr. Costa. The Orchestra will be complete in every department. Reserved seats and tickets may be secured at the principal Music Warehouses; and of Mrs. Anderson, 34, Notting-ham-place.

EXHIBITION of AMERICAN PLANTS.—The ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS REGENT'S-PARK.—JOHN WATERER begs to announce that his unrivalled Collection of RHODODENDRONS is now in full bloom, and that the Gardens will continue to be open throughout the month of June.—Admittance Gratis, by orders from Visitors of the Society.

American Nursery, Bagshot, Surrey, June 10, 1854.

ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, REGENT'S-PARK. Fellows and visitors are informed that a pair of GIANT ANTEATHERS, an adult pair of INDIAN LIONS, and a pair of LEOPARDS, have been added to the Collection. On Monday the 1st Life Guards will perform (by permission of Colonel Hall) every Saturday, at Four o'Clock. Admission, 1s. Monday, 6d.

THE SECOND WEST KENT ANNUAL POULTRY and FLOWER-SHOW will take place in the MARKET-FIELD, FARNINGHAM, on TUESDAY (Private View) and WEDNESDAY, the 20th and 21st of JUNE, 1854. Entries will close on the 13th. For lists and particulars of entry, apply to Hastiste Thomas, Secretary, Idon Inn, Farningham.

CHELTENHAM.—THIRD ANNUAL POULTRY EXHIBITION. Under the Patronage of the Lord-Lieutenant, Members of Parliament, Nobility, Clergy, and Gentry of the County. This Exhibition will take place at the PITTVILLE SPA, on WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, JUNE 14 and 15. Garden open at Ten. Admission 1s. Catalogue 6d.
JESSOP BROTHERS, Secretaries, the Avieries.

SINGING.—Signor RÉ, from the Conservatorio of Milan, gives LESSONS in Private Families and Schools. Signor RÉ's Method for Forming the Voice has proved most successful.—Address, 47, Mount-street, Grosvenor square.

IN STATU QUO CHESS-BOARD.—By Royal Letters Patent.—This invention supplies a want felt by all Chess players. By the use of this Board, the game may be discovered and resumed at any time, without the Chess-men in the most wilful disturber. For ordinary play, and for use at railway stations, the In-Statu Quo Chess-board has obvious advantages not possessed by any other hitherto produced.—Sold at all fancy repos tories. Wholesale by the patentee, JAQUES, Hatton-garden.—Price, with men complete, 30s.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Public Notice.—The Authentic VIEW of the PALACE, on a large scale (size 26 inches by 9), beautifully engraved on Steel, is now ready, price 3d. plain; 6d. coloured. Also, size 22 by 10 inches, plain, 6d.; coloured, 1s. Also, size 27 by 14 inches, plain, 1s.; and coloured, 1s. 6d. Either View sent post free, on roller for four stamps extra.
H. BERGER, Hydrographer to the Queen.

OPENING of the CRYSTAL PALACE.—CALLAGHAN'S CRYSTAL PALACE PERSPECTIVE GLASSES, indispensable to all visitors. These extraordinary little glasses (introduced at the Exhibition of 1851), though scarcely larger than your thumb, yet possess such wonderful power and clearness as to show objects at a distance of a mile and more. Not only will they be found invaluable for viewing the interior of the Crystal Palace, but also for the magnificent scenery of the surrounding country. Price 12s. 6d. each. To be had of the appointed agents, viz., Sams's Library, 1, St. James's-street, Mitchell's, 33, Old Bond-street, Waterton's, 4[illegible]-park-corner; Keith, Prowse, and Co., 48, Cheapside; and at the Book-stalls at the London-bridge Station; or will be sent, post free, on receipt of stamps or money order, payable to William Callaghan, Optician, 45, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury, London.

PARIS EXHIBITION of 1855.—The Lords of H.M. Privy Council for Trade, being desirous that the Officers charged with the preliminary arrangements for the PARIS EXHIBITION should have the assistance of a few gentlemen practically acquainted with each of the most important branches of trade carried on in the Metropolis, have appointed Gentlemen to be so mentioned Trades, and who may be interested in the Exhibition, to assemble at the Lecture Theatre, at MARLBOROUGH HOUSE, on the days hereafter mentioned.
Goldsmiths and Silversmiths—on Wednesday, June 14, at Eleven, a.m.
Furniture and Decoration—on Thursday, June 15th, at Eleven, a.m.
Clock and Watch-making—on Saturday, June 17th, at Eleven, a.m.
Notice of other Meetings will appear in due course.
By command of Their Lordships, C. E. LEWIS, Capt. R.N.
Marlborough House, Pall-mall, June 9th, 1854.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY.—ASCOT RACES, JUNE, 1854.—SPECIAL TRAINS will run from WATERLOO BRIDGE STATION during the forenoon of TUESDAY, 13th, and THURSDAY, 15th JUNE, commencing at 8 a.m., and from WINDSOR, at the close of the Races, each day.

First Class		Second Class.	
Single Journey	5s. 6d.	Single Journey	3s. 10d.
Double Journey	8s. 6d.	Double Journey	5s. 6d.

Tickets to Journey Tickets can be obtained on and after Monday, the 12th, at Messrs Tattersalls, Hyde park corner; and at the Universal Office, Regent-circus; Messrs. Cox and Co., Charing-cross; Sprod Eagle, Grace church-street; Reit-le-Tan, Fleet-street. Golden-cross Charing-cross; Hatchard and Sch, Oxford-street, and at the Gloucester and Rose Bear, Holborn; any day (Sundays excepted) until Thurs ay, June 15.
Carriages and Horses will only be conveyed on Tuesday and Thursday, by the Express leaving Waterloo at 7.5 a.m., and returning from Windsor at 10 0 p.m. A day's notice required, in order to secure horse boxes and trucks.
Omnibuses will be continually running, at moderate and fixed fares, Superior conveyance can be procured at Windsor during the Races, to convey parties to and from the Course
Open Carriage Tickets will only be issued on the above days.
ARCHIBALD SCOTT, Traffic Manager
Waterloo Station, May, 1854.

THE GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY—The prices of COALS brought to London by this Railway have been reduced, and are at present as under:—

FROM THE COUNTY OF DURHAM.	Delivered within five miles of the Station.
Best Wall's End, Primrose Quality.	s. d.
Hamilton's Walls End, screened	24 0 per ton.
Hamilton's Original Wall's End, screened	23 0 "
Adelaide Tees Wall's End, screened	22 0 "
FROM THE YORKSHIRE COAL FIELD.	
Hemsworth Coals, Best quality.	
Silkstone, screened	21 6 "
Hemsworth Coals, Second Quality.	
Elsecar, inch, screened	20 0 "
Hemsworth Coals in furnace Coals.	
Elsecar Hard	21 0 "
Whitwood	20 0 "

Orders can now be promptly executed.
Beyond five miles from the King's-cross Station, is per ton per mile extra, for cartage. Cash to be paid on giving the order, or on delivery.
The only office for Coals brought to London by the Great Northern Railway is at King's-cross, and cars should be taken to address orders to Mr HERBERT CLARKE, Sole Agent for the sale of Coals consigned to the Kings-cross Station, at the Secretary's
JAMES MOWATT, Secretary.
King's-cross Station, London, May 8, 1854.

THE GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY. The Directors have, from this date, altered the rates of Interest on Deposits, as follows:—3½ per cent for three years, and 4½ per cent for five or seven years. The interest will be paid half-yearly, in January and July; by coupons, at Messrs Smith, Payne, and Smiths, Bankers, London. Offers of loans to be sent to the Office of the Secretary. Secretary's Office, King's-cross Station.—London, 8th May, 1854.

RAILWAY PASSENGERS may obtain Tickets of Insurance against RAILWAY ACCIDENTS for the Journey, on payment of 1d., 2d., or 3d., by inquiring of the Booking Clerks, at all the Principal Railway Stations, when they have a Railway Guarantee. RAILWAY PASSENGERS ASSURANCE OFFICE, 3, Old Broad-street, London
WILLIAM J VIAN, Secretary.

A DELAIDE, PORT PHILIP, SYDNEY.—A PASSENGERS and GOODS LANDED at Melbourne, Port Salmon, Geelong, Sydney, Moreton Bay, Adelaide, 21s to £80. Nonestrage. Children half-price. Intermediate berths, per 1st-class ship. Apply to WM. BENNETT and CO., 85, Philpot-lane, London, Marchants, Colonial, Shipping, and General Agents.

LIVERPOOL BLACK BALL CLIPPERS.—These celebrated Ships SAIL EVERY FORTNIGHT, for MELBOURNE, GEELONG, SYDNEY, and ADELAIDE, and are all of first-class, and have made the fastest passages on record. Cash orders issued in all wards from £1 upwards, and parcels forwarded. Apply to John Jaffrays and Co., Great St. Helens, London; or to the owners, James Baines and Co., Cork-street, Liverpool.

THE WEST INDIA ROYAL MAIL STEAMERS sail from Southampton for Barbadoes, on 27th of each Month, now proceed DIRECT to ST. THOMAS, and thence to GRASSIC, via Carthagena.
Malls, Passengers, and Goods for HAVANA VERA CRUZ, and TAMPICO, will be carried out by the Steamer of the 2nd, and those for HONDURAS and CHAGRES, by the Steamer of the 17th of each month.
For all other places comprised in the Company's West India Scheme of Mails, including Carthagena, Chagres, and Grey Town, Malls, Passengers, and Goods will be conveyed by the Steamer both of the 2nd and 17th of each month.
Particulars as to Rates of Fares, Freights, &c., may be had on application at the Company's Offices, in London and Southampton, where pamphlets containing all information sanctions to be received as heretofore.
Steamers Tickets issued, available for six months, with an abatement of 25 per cent on the passage-money
N.B. Goods taken on moderate freights to and from Barbadoes, Demerara, Grenada, Trinidad, Jamaica, Honduras, Nassau, Carthagena, Chagres, and Grey Town (Nicaragua); and (homeward only) from Tampico, Vera Cruz, and Havana.
Particulars as to cargo may be had of Robert Hesketh, Esq., the Secretary to the Superintendent of the cargo department Southampton. Freight being prepaid.
No. 3, Moorgate-street, London. R. CHAPPELL, Secretary.

WEDDING CARDS.—An assortment of the most beautifully engraved WEDDING CARDS, ENVELOPES, &c., can be had on application, or sent post free, on receipt of two stamps. Printing, Arms, Address to Stephenson's General Stationery Warehouse, 20, Oxford-street.

FIELD'S WEDDING, BIRTHDAY, and CHRISTENING PRESENTS, at the Great Bible Warehouse, 38, Regent-street, corner of Air-street. Splendid Illustrated Large Type FAMILY BIBLES, from £2 2s. each. Rich Velvet CHURCH SERVICES, in morocco look-cases, for 18s.; Elegant POCKET REFERENCE BIBLES, Maps, and Steps, and runs and clasps. 10s. 6d.; the Complete Bible and Prayer, bound in morocco, with rims and clasps, 2s. 6d.; also, the Bible and Prayer, 7 vols., with clasps, 5s. 6d., suitable for children.—John Field has the largest, cheapest, and best Stock in the kingdom.—No. Bible-street.

SMART'S WRITING INSTITUTION, 5, Piccadilly, between the Haymarket and Regent-circus. Open from Ten till Nine daily. Persons of all ages received (privately) and taught at any time, suiting their own convenience. Lessons one hour each. No Lessons on Sundays. Terms for Ladies, Gentlemen, and Children (if preferred) £1 1s. per month. For terms, &c. apply to Mr. Smart, as above.

The Fire, Explosion.
MESSRS. FOSTER and SON are directed to SELL by AUCTION, at the FIRE, ENGHASTON, near Bridlington, on MONDAY, JUNE the 19th, and four following days, at Eleven for Twelve o'clock precisely, all the rare ANTIQUE CARVED FURNITURE, Glass and China, and Effects of Dugdale Hughton, Esq., while in disposal of his residence. The sale will occupy several days, and but few of the effects can be particularly enumerated in an advertisement. The great feature of the sale is the Carved Elizabethan Furniture, including the appointments for six chambers, with curiously carved bedsteads and hangings, wardrobes, chests of drawers, and chests of drawers; a library bookcase of excellent design, writing tables, and many high-back carved chairs; in the dining room a set of oak dinner tables, cabinets and sideboard of elaborate richness of workmanship; and chairs covered with tapestry of Venetian broaded tapestry work; drawing-room furniture in mazarine-brocade, including a 60 guinea couch, by Broadwood, in tapestry; ottomans, chairs, cabinets, &c.; noble glasses, silk and other hangings to the windows, with carved cornices. Also, a beautiful table, chest of drawers and fantasti, formed of cocoa de pens, of remarkably fine workmanship, in the taste of the Empire; Turkey and Persian carpets, Oriental china, some antique table-glass, fine pieces of old Italian tapestry, a clarence built by Oldell, Wells-street, London; a beautiful by Shaw, Longacre; a rare-bodied phaeton for one or two horses, a brougham, sets of harness, &c.; a small steam engine of two-horse power, with pumping-apparatus, for cellar, of between 300 and 400 dozens of choice old wine, much of which has been for many years in the cellars of Sir Thomas Hesketh, Bart., Burgundy, Champagne, Claret, Hock, and Madeira; the plate in antique, and modern, of Queen Anne pattern, forks, and table spoons, service, salt cellars, tea-urn, chased jug, high and dwarf candl sticks &c. May be viewed four days previously, and prior to the sale, by cards, to admit four persons (to be had on application to Messrs. Foster, 54, Pall-mall and at the office of the coach.

INFANT ORPHAN ASYLUM, Wanstead.—[illegible] promised to assist in the election of HANNAH NICHOLSON, daughter of [illegible] Nicholson, who [illegible] for the Asylum, by VOTING PAPERS and PROXIES. And those who have not received a voucher for Candidates are solicited to send in their proxies in her favour

QUEEN'S COLLEGE, LONDON, 67, Harley-street Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1853 for general Female Education, and for granting Certificates of Knowledge. EXAMINATIONS for Certificates will be held during the Week ending SATURDAY, the 24th of JUNE, commencing at 10 A.M. Candidates desirous to be included in their names on or before Saturday, the 10th June Further particulars may be obtained on application at the office of the College.

REDEMPTION of MORTGAGES and LOANS.—Provision made for this purpose by the LAW, PROPERTY, and LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY, 20, Essex-street Strand, London Particulars sent on application.
EDWARD S. BARNES, Secretary.

ACCIDENTAL DEATH INSURANCE COMPANY. Capital £[illegible],000, fully subscribed.
[illegible] CHAIRMAN.
[illegible] DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN.
A [illegible] may be secured weekly, in addition to doctors' bills, in case of accidental death or injury, by an Annual Payment of [illegible].
by [illegible] Agents throughout the Kingdom.

ACCIDENTAL DEATH INSURANCE COMPANY.
Accidents by Sea, Fire, ordinary Travelling, or from any other cause.
Sums can be secured weekly, in addition to doctors' bills, in case of accidental death or injury.
Apply at the Local Agents' Offices in town of duty, and at the Chief Office, 3, Old Broad-street, London.

ACCIDENTAL DEATH INSURANCE COMPANY.
For Risks, either by Land or Sea, or in the Face of the Heavy ens and against.
Personal attendance or medical examination required
Prospectuses can be had on application to the Agents, or at the Company's Offices, or of any of their Agents
By order, WILLIAM YOUNG, Secretary.
7, Bank buildings, Lothbury.

THE WESTMINSTER and GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE ASSOCIATION, 27, King-street, Covent-Garden. London.
TRUSTEES.
George Bodkin, Esq.
Colonel W. H. Merrick
Joseph Wm. Lea, Esq.
The Office, established 1836, by Members of the Westminster Fire Office (founded 1717), has been highly successful in its operation. And [illegible] a full participation of the premium to the risk incurred, and a liberal treatment of its funds, have enabled the Directory to make additions to policies, which have equalled one-half of the premiums. The profits are divided every five years—the next division of which will be in 1857, and assurances effected prior to the 31st of December next will participate in the profits for seven years. Any information respecting life assurances, with proposals and forms of proposal, may be obtained on application to the Office
Agents required for the principal country towns

ECONOMIC FUNERAL COMPANY, 21, Established 1843. 28, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars. This Company has now been in full operation for upwards of ten years, combined with moderate and fixed charges, an unexceptionable style of conducting.
Best Class Funeral with Hearse and four, Two Coaches [illegible] pairs, Mutes, Feathers, &c. complete £29 0 0
Pair Horse (separate Car. lage) Funerals complete £5 5 0
ALEXIS BOND, Manager.

GEOLOGY and MINERALOGY.—Elementary lectures on these interesting and universally science, can be had, from Two Guineas to One Hundred, of J. ENNANT, Geologist, 149, Strand London

ORFILA'S POMPEIAN HAIR DYE is now ready to be procured of the sole Proprietors, GRAFFTEY and PATTESON, 20, Soho-square.

RIMMEL'S TOILET VINEGAR, to supersede Eau de Cologne, Hair-dye, Perfumes, and other celebrated [illegible] for the toilet, are now to be had at the new West-end Depôt, 96, Strand, Exhibition.

TINGLETS on COMBS, PLAITS, BRAIDS, BANDS, and BOUNTS, of fine Glossy Hair, post-free on the receipt of 8s. 6d.; all of first quality. At COLLEY'S Human Hair Factory, Hosiery, Hosiery, Warehouse, 28, Hungerford-market West-end, corner of Crosby square. Established 40 years.

FOR the HAIR.—GRAFFTEY and CO.'s BALMA POMPEIANA, after the lapse of sixteen years, retains its superiority as the most safe, and elegant compound for restoring, preserving, and beautifying the Hair, however lank or impaired it may be, it does not cause a disfigurement, or any other cause. Sold by all Perfumers, price 3s. 6d.; or of the proprietors, 20, Red Lion square, Holborn.

FOR LADIES ONLY.—GRAFFTEY and CO.'S DEPILATORY, price 4s. 6d., removes superfluous hair in the face, neck, and arms, quickly, painlessly, and effectually, for the convenience of parties at a distance from their agents, its [illegible] secrecy. Sent, thirty-one postage stamps, by post forward to [illegible] carriage free, by addressing direct to 20, Red Lion square, Holborn.

BLOOD NEEDLE-CASE, containing 100 of Dr. Lancet's Celebrated Vegetable Blood Pills, for Ladies, including Twelve Postage Stamps to DRANE, DRAY, and Co., may have this neat and valuable appendage to her work-table forwarded free by return of post. Observe—Dr. Lancet's Pills (coming to the Moment), London-bridge. Established A.D. 1780.

LOOK to YOUR LEGS.—If they swell, or the veins are enlarged, get one of BALLKY'S ELASTIC STOCKINGS or KNEE CAPS, and see an immediate relief. Prices across measure at 7s. 6d.—W. H. Bailey, 418, Oxford-street, London

LOSS of HAIR.—Mr. PURKESS begs to inform the Nobility and Gentry he may be consulted upon the HAIR from 10 till 5 daily, and will guarantee the restoration and preservation by his treatment.—13, Maddox-street, seven doors from Bond-street.

TO NERVOUS SUFFERERS.—A Retired Clergyman, having been restored to health in a few days, after many years of great nervous debility, is anxious to make known to others the means of cure; and will therefore send (free), on receiving a stamped envelope properly addressed, a COPY of the PRESCRIPTION he used. Direct, the Rev. E. DOUGLASS, 18, Holland-street, Brixton, London.

DEAFNESS.—Patronised by Royalty.—PINE'S ACOUSTIC REFLECTORS are the greatest relief with the least inconvenience ever offered to the public. They can be worn with the hair or bonnet without the aid of a spring. To be obtained of Mr. W. Pine, at his Acoustic Repository, 353, Strand, one door from Wellington-street. Price £2 2s. each.

A NEW DISCOVERY in TEETH.—Mr. HOWARD, Surgeon Dentist, 52, Fitzroy-square, has invented an entirely NEW DESCRIPTION of ARTIFICIAL TEETH, fixed without wires or ligatures. They will be found greatly to the comfort and advantage of those who have suffered from the inconvenience and pain occasioned by the ordinary method. They will be found superior to any teeth ever before used. This method does not require the extraction of roots, or any painful operation, and will support and preserve teeth that are loose, and is guaranteed to restore articulation and mastication. Decayed teeth rendered sound and useful in any [illegible]. 52, Fitzroy-street, At home from 10 till 5.

Now ready, price 2s.,
NEW READING CASES for PROTECTING the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS during perusal. PORTFOLIOS to contain Six Months' Numbers, 4s. each.
CASES for BINDING the Volumes, 2s. 6d. each.
May be obtained at the Office, 198, Strand; and of all Booksellers.

EDUCATION in GERMANY.—MARIENBURG HOUSE SCHOOL, near COLOGNE. Principal, Mr. ALFRED BASKERVILLE. For Prospectuses, with terms, References, and a View of the Establishment, apply to Mr. Mitchell's Royal Library, 33, Old Bond-street.

EDUCATION.—WANTED by a LADY, residing in a pretty village in one of the Midland Counties, TWO LITTLE GIRLS, from six to nine years of age, to EDUCATE with her own daughter, under an experienced Governess. The highest references given and required. Address A. B. C., Mr. Mall's, Highstreet, Bedford.

HANWELL COLLEGE and PREPARATORY SCHOOL
The Fees commence on entrance.
"Hanwell College, conducted by Dr. Emerton, is fully sustaining the high character it has acquired. We find that formerly a set of Hanwell College have been either high wranglers or first-class men of our Universities during the present year; and this is the twentieth instance of success at Sandhurst or Addiscombe we have had to record within a short period."—United Service Gazette, 1853.
Prospectuses may be had on application to the Rev. Dr. Emerton, Hanwell College, Middlesex.

THE SHORTEST of SHORT-HANDS.—An experienced MEMBER of the REPORTING INSTITUTE (not the Phonetic) gives LESSONS, personally or by letter, in MR I 4, Somerset-street, Gosw[illegible]-road. *** INTERLINED SPECIMENS, containing Examples of the use of every necessary Rule, 1s. Post-free, 1s. 2d.

PHOTOGRAPHIC PORTRAITS.—Collodion Process.—CAUTION.—Talbotype. Henderson.—His Honour Vice-Chancellor Wood has this day issued an INJUNCTION to restrain the defendant from making and selling Photographic Portraits by the above process without the license of the Patentee. Artists and others desiring to practise the beauty of the Photographic Art are requested to apply to us. All infringers of the patent rights will be prosecuted without. Price and Bolton, 1, Lincoln's-Inn New-square, May 25, 1854.

INSTITUTE of PHOTOGRAPHY, 179, REGENT-STREET.—Messrs. COOKE and CO. respectfully solicit the attention of Amateurs to the COLLODION prepared only in this Establishment from the recipe of Mr. W. A. Dallmeyer. The Collodion is superior to any other, and will not blister or loop up. Waxed, iodised, and Albumenised Papers of the first quality; also Photographic Chemicals of every kind from their own Laboratory.

PHOTOGRAPHIC NOTICE.—The following American Articles can only be obtained at C. H. FORTNER'S, 4, Leicester-hill—Scovill's Pocket-book for 1854 contains a list of all articles (French, English, and American), used in [illegible] sold by him at the lowest possible rate.
Iodine for Coaters to Charles H. Fottinger, Chief Office, London.
Coated book plates, 6d.; per post, 6d. The undermentioned are in America, for which C. H. F. is Sole Agent—

Iodine.	Sensitive.
Bromine.	Solaro-chrome.
Lime.	Preserver.
Gentle Breeze.	Amber Enamel
Iron Head Rests	Stereoscopic Cases and the
Ditto, Mahogany Baths.	Improvement of fancy
Buff Lathes	ditto in England.
Gilding Machines.	

Every description of article used in glass or paper process.
Coated book plates, 6d.; per post, 6d. The undermentioned are in America, for which C. H. F. is Sole Agent—
N. B.—M. Lafayette-lane, and Crystal Palace, Sydenham.

LITHOGRAPHY.—Messrs. DAY and SON, Lithographers to the Queen, having built suitable and most extensive premises, larger and more appropriate than any other establishment in the world, are now prepared to carry out every species of perfection and dispatch, and more economically, all those higher branches of artistic Lithography for which they have for years been pre-eminent. Colour-printing, as perfected by them, is rendered available, from its simplicity and economy, to which it is peculiarly adapted. For the purpose of illustration, other fac-similes of pictures or book s size, likewise to the production of pattern-books, show-cards, &c. every description of engineering, drawing, plan work, and all kinds of commercial work, executed by the original process of the inventor, with a rapidity and superiority of style hitherto uncombined. Estimates given.—17, Gate-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields

LONDON SUBURBAN COTTAGE and other RESIDENCES, for SALE, with Occupation, the purchase money payable by Yearly Instalments, extending over a period of Ten Years. For descriptive particulars apply to Mr. DAVID BURGES, 12, Gresham-street, Guildhall; and to the following parties, apply to Mr GREEN, Minford-road, Grove-road, Upper Holloway and Mr JAMES GRIFFIN, 4, Sandborough-terrace, opposite the Lea Arms, Brownlow-road, Dalston.

HARMPLEX.—The admirers of the immortal Hand will be pleased to learn that W. M. Kerr, Binns, and Co. have at length succeeded in producing a perfect instrument, which combines the celebrated and curious JUG, proved to have been invented by the late Mr. Harmplex, of Sandborough terrace, by means of which may be obtained of most respectable dealers, or at the Manufactory, late Chamberlain's, Hyde Pottoman Works, Worcester. Price 5s. 6d. each. Cash only. ALEXIS BOND, Manager.

WILLIAMS'S.—Foreman and Pupils, J. and A. JUMP, in the service of the late Mr. Vallamy the rec, etc. periods of 37 and 15 years, and up to his decease, beg to inform the nobility and gentry, that in consequence of the DEATH of the late business from 68, Pall-mall, and its transfer from his family, to 17, Gate-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields (third door from Chancery-lane), Old Bond-street, Piccadilly, about the 24th of June next, from which date all orders, by post or otherwise, will be carefully attended to

EAU-DE-VIE, A PURE PALE BRANDY, possessing all the fine aromatic flavour and delicate properties of the finest Cognac, at half its price; being only 12s. per Imperial gallon. A case containing one dozen bottles, 8s. HENRY HUNTER and CO., Old Vauxhall Distillery, Holborn.

CHOICE OLD PALE COGNAC BRANDY. 20s. per dozen, strongly recommended to consumers, and those to whom it is medicinally prescribed, being well matured, with delicate flavour and (from its great age) free from any heat HODGES and BUTLER, Wine Merchants, &c., 153, Regent-street, London; and 30, King's-road, Brighton. Originally established A.D. 1667.

SCHWEPPE'S SODA, POTASS, MAGNESIA WATERS, and ARMAD ED LEMONADE, continue to be manufactured, as hereto fore, at their Original Works, and are sold in several Establishments in London, Liverpool, Bristol, and Derby. Every bottle is protected by a Label, with the name of "SCHWEPPE" thereon, without which none is genuine. CHARLES and RICHARD SCHWEPPE, 51, WATER-COURT, CITY-ROAD.

THE CHOICEST WINES of FRANCE and GERMANY.

Sparkling Hermitage	All at 42s.	Hock.
Ditto		Sparkling Hock.
St. Peray		Champagne.

Pure Roussillon (one of the finest red wines), 28s.; Minor Sherry, 24s. 30s.; Standard (a Wellington), 36s.; Fine old Brown Sherry, 42s.; Rich, 48s.; Moselle (Diamond Carafe), 36s. 42s.; Red Hock 24s. 30s. 36s.; St. Julien Claret, 30s. 36s.; Milk Punch, 36s.—ROBERT INGLIS, 355, Strand, (two doors west of Somerset House). Carriage free to all rail stations in England. Wines shipped free of duty.

CAUTION.—Messrs. ALLSOPP and SONS find it necessary to caution the Public, and especially buyers of Bass Ale, to the fraudulent practice, against which they have been selling spurious Ales for those of Messrs. Allsopp and Sons' Brewery. Allsopp and Sons have felt compelled, by the extent to which this Shipwards practice has been carried, to proceed, in several cases, to the Courts of Law, and to obtain Injunctions against Dealers, and have ultimately been driven to prosecute criminally, for the commission of this offence.
Messrs. Allsopp and Sons will thank all persons having reason to doubt the genuineness of any article sold on their account, to send them the earliest information, in order that immediate steps may be taken for prosecuting the parties.
Messrs. Allsopp and Sons will be happy to furnish the names of respectable houses, where a supply of their Ales may be depended on as genuine from the Brewery.
BURTON-UPON-TRENT.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL. PREPARED FOR MEDICINAL USE IN THE LOFOTEN ISLANDS, NORWAY, BY APPOINTMENT OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL ANALYSIS. THE MOST EFFECTUAL REMEDY FOR CONSUMPTION, BRONCHITIS, ASTHMA, GOUT, RHEUMATISM, RICKETS, AND ALL SKIN DISEASES.
Approved of and recommended by BERZELIUS, LIEBIG, WOHLER, JONATHAN PEREIRA, PORQUIER, and numerous other eminent medical men and scientific chemists in Europe.
Pecularly efficacious in cases with scrofula by the Governments of Belgium and the Netherlands.
It has almost entirely superseded all other kinds in on the Continent, in consequence of its proven superior power and efficacy—effecting a cure much more rapidly.
Contains iodine, phosphate of chalk, volatile acid, and the elements of the bile—in short, all its most active and essential principles—in larger quantities than the pale oils made in England and Newfoundland, deprived mostly of these by their mode of preparation
Sold Wholesale and Retail, in bottles, label as with Dr. de Jongh's stamp and signature, by ANSAR, HARFORD, and CO., 77, Strand, Sole Consignees and Agents for the United Kingdom and British Possessions, and by all respectable Chemists and Vendors of Medicines in the United Kingdom, and at the following prices:—
IMPERIAL MEASURE Half pints, 2s. 6d.; Pints, 4s. 9d.

PIGMY ELEPHANTS, AT THE SURREY ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.

sticks in their hands. They recall Lord Monboddo's—a Scotch Lord of Session's—theory; on which he wrote a learned work, to prove that all men and all women were born with tails which were unjustly and cruelly snipped at the birth, contending that a tail would have been a very useful appendage, and that as every animal had a tail, and as man was an animal, that he must have had a tail also. The learned Lord quoted a great many instances from ancient authors, of tailed men and women, and was always very angry when any one disputed his theory.

I was amused, the other day, on seeing in one of the minor magazines, an account of the great anteater, in which the author gave a fair enough description of the animal, with his bristly hair, long snout, and spoon-like tongue, lapping up thousands of ants, and then entered into a most vehement philippic on the atrocious cruelty of sacrificing the lives of hundreds of thousands of industrious ants to satisfy the voracity of an ugly beast. Now, the food of the anteater is simply soft-boiled eggs, mashed up in milk, which it laps with its three-inch-long tongue; so that the philanthropist eloquence on industrious ants was quite thrown away.

I have necessarily to omit many interesting animals—birds, and beasts; but it would be unpardonable not to mention the pelicans of the wilderness, with their vast pouches hanging to their bills. The best time for seeing them is when they are being fed. The keeper collects them together into the cage; then proceeds to fling into their pond a goodly quantity of lumps of fish, I think cod; he then releases the captives, who have been poking their pouches through the bars and uttering guttural quacks. The moment the door is opened wings and legs are in active requisition, and such a rush and such a scene of fluttering, splashing, gobbling—one bird trying to take the fish from another, in which, however, it seldom succeeds. When a pelican has secured a fair proportion, he makes a grab at a final morsel, with which he waddles out of the pond, pursued by several others who have not been equally fortunate, but who are too unwieldly long to pursue the chase. I observe that the otter and the seal—the *phoca* of Monkbarns, which knocks down the valiant Hector (who had calculated on conquering it with a stick) with a flap of his powerful tail, an overthrow for which the Antiquary rallies the Highlander all the evening—I repent that I observe the two animals in question to be objects of considerable attention. The otter is only familiar to those who go to spear it—a cruel way of punishing him for eating the choicest part of the salmon. They might net it, and then knock it on the head. The seal is not a native of the English seas; and, therefore, few Englishmen are acquainted with them. The Northern Seas are their element, although in a no higher latitude than the Moray and Benaly Firths I have seen a sand-bank a mile long and half as broad, black with seals. Swimming one day in one of these localities, a seal popped up his round shining head and little ferret-like eyes not a yard from my face. I question whether the phoca or I was the more frightened—he turning round, and partially lifting himself with a plash, and diving, while I swam to the shore, with more rapidity than ever I did in my life. The seal is a dreadful devourer of salmon, as they enter the mouths of rivers they cluster about stake-nets, and eat the salmon alive, quite at their ease. The fishermen attract them to the surface by means of music, for which they have a great predilection, not to say taste. I have seen a whole shoal of black heads convoying a boat, from which resounded the harsh shrieks of the bagpipe, or the notes of a fiddle playing execrably some unknown and unintelligible scrapings. But a brass instrument is that which has most effect in raising them, and the fishermen, by its use, shoot them and spear them by scores.

The Aquavivarium is a new and very interesting addition to the Gardens, containing, as it does, a beautiful collection of our native fishes, fresh water and salt, with shell-fishes, and the zoophyte tribe, which stretch out their long fibres, and then contract them; adhering shell-fish abound, and their ova often sparkle on the green weeds. Along with the more rare fish, the familiar sole and whiting are seen; and there is a small gold-fish-like creature, but longer, and with a very long snout—the name of which I do not know, but which seems something like a diminutive salt-water pike. Here are two large crocodiles, which live on gravel and water in the west tank, in a torpid state, and a smaller one, equally motionless in the East. There, however, are turtles which swim about on the surface or under water, or scramble on stones provided for them, and sleep.

I must pass over the new Aviary, with its beautifully-plumaged birds and its ducks, a species of which look as if it were compo-ed of all the most brilliantly-coloured precious stones—only devoting a few words to that strange creature, the flamingo, which has legs fully a yard in length, and hardly thicker than the stem of a tobacco-pipe. But the strangest peculiarity is that it has knees, while the peculiar formation of the joint makes it kneel backwards—a peculiarity shared in, I should think, by no other bird of the same species—certainly not by the stork—the other bird which I will briefly notice—merely, I suspect, from the sympathy I feel for the "stork upon the house-top," and particularly for Philip Van Artevelde's domestic stork, from whose chattering by night the old housekeeper prognosticates evil to the family. Here are Taylor's nervous lines—

> Our stork he chattered on the roof all night;
> And Roger is the wisest stork in Ghent.

A. B. R.

LION CUBS AND DOG,

IN THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, REGENT'S-PARK.

AMONG the numerous novelties which delighted the twenty thousand visitors at the Zoological Gardens on Whit-Monday, none appeared to interest them more than the Lion Cubs, which we have chosen for our Illustration. Both these animals were born in the menagerie towards the end of 1853, but have been judiciously reserved for exhibition until the present time, when they have acquired sufficient age and strength to endure the situation in which they are placed. The lioness, we understand, was brought up entirely by hand, with the bull-terrier puppy as her foster brother. The lion was suckled by his mother, a lioness of the Nubian race, presented to the Society by his Highness the Viceroy of Egypt, in 1850. The female cub is the offspring of a splendid lioness, from Mozambique, presented to the Society by Lieutenant-General Sir Harry Smith.

The admirable health and full development of these valuable animals reflects great credit on the Society's establishment; and we may now hope that infant Lions will in future form a constant feature in the menagerie.

The extraordinary degree of popularity which this interesting collection has attained has been well indicated by the result of the admissions on the two great holidays of this year. We understand that on Easter Monday and Whit-Monday alone, the number of persons who visited the Gardens amounted to no less than 38,500. The last acquisition to the menagerie is a pair of the Riman dahan, an exceedingly beautiful and very distinct species of leopard, from Assam.

SURREY ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.

MR. TYLER, the proprietor and manager of this very pleasant place of resort, deserves great credit for the constant addition he is making to his menagerie and aviaries. He now possesses a large and well-selected collection, embracing, in all, the principal attractions of the Zoological collection, in the Regent's-park, although he does not yet possess some of the rarer specimens, and the most difficult to procure, which at present inhabit the Gardens in question. He has lately added, at considerable expense, two calf elephants, which in height reach up to the breast of a man of ordinary stature. They are the youngest elephants ever imported into England. They are natives of Bengal, and were brought over in the *Hoogerd* East Indiaman. They are well worth a visit, not, of course, on their account merely, but on that of the whole collection.

LION CUBS, IN THE GARDENS OF THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY, REGENT'S-PARK.

"MINCEMEAT," THE WINNER OF THE OAKS, 1854.

THE WINNERS OF THE DERBY AND THE OAKS.

In our last Number we gave a portrait of "Andover," the winner in the race for the Derby Stakes, on the 31st ult., and to-day we give the likeness of "Mincemeat," the winner of the Oaks Stakes, on the 2nd inst. The former was bred by W. Edwards, Esq., and is by Sir Middleton and Defence. Andover is a bay horse, standing about 15¾ hands high, with a handsome head, good neck, sloping shoulders, and great length of girth; he has strong powerful quarters, well let down, short, from hock and knee to the ground; good bone; is lengthy and low; a remarkably racing-looking nag; the off hind fetlock joints white. Andover ran third for the Ham Stakes at Goodwood last year; at the same meeting he won the Molecomb Stakes. At Brighton Club Meeting he walked over for a Sweepstakes, and also won a Plate of 100 Sovs. For the present year, Andover is in the Three Year old Triennial Stakes and Stewards' Plate at Stockbridge; in a £50 Sweepstakes at Goodwood; in the Champagne Stakes at Brighton; in the County Plate at York; and the Don Stakes at Doncaster.

"Mincemeat" was bred by Mr. J. Cookson, and is by Sweetmeat and Hylla. The winner of the Oaks is a small and by no means a good-looking filly. During 1853 she ran second for the Molecomb Stakes, at Goodwood, at Newmarket, First October Meeting, ran a dead heat for second place in the Rutland Stakes, and in the Second October Meeting she won the Belford Stakes. Mincemeat has two engagements for 1854, in the Stewards' Plate, at Stockbridge, and in the Great N. and S. of England Biennial Stakes, at York August Meeting.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE, AT CHELTENHAM.

THE public spirit of this "Queen of Watering places" has just succeeded in raising an Exhibition structure which is worthy of rank with the emanations of the great gathering in Hyde-park, in 1851. Soon after this eventful display was projected, an effort was made in Cheltenham to restore the attractions of the summer season, upon which, for two or three years previously, little attention had been bestowed, and it was decided to get up, in 1850, a monster flower show, offering prizes of such a value as would induce the leading horticulturists of the kingdom to exhibit. So satisfactory was the result, that it was thought advisable to remodel the local Floral Society, and it was arranged that, instead of five or six petty exhibitions in the course of a season, three of a superior character should be held, the amount of prizes offered to be fully set forth in the schedule, and each show to be enlivened by the performances of the most efficient musical corps to be engaged in the kingdom. The alteration was found to work most successfully, the prizes ranged from £10 downwards—and the result of the determination to improve the character of the society was that shows, unsurpassed only by those of Chis-

OPENING OF THE CRYSTAL PALACE, IN THE ROYAL OLD WELLS GARDENS, CHELTENHAM.

wick and Regent's-park, were of frequent occurrence. But this was not all. Last year, an International Exhibition was held at Pittville Spa. The prizes offered amounted to nearly £300, and among the exhibitors were some of the leading growers of the Continent.

The scheme for the present noble undertaking was, however, first propounded only in the month of September last, by Dr. Conrtland Shaw, of Cheltenham, who first sketched out the plan of the monster Flower Show of 1853; he it was who proposed the All Nation's Flower Show of last year.

The original proposal of Dr. Shaw was that there should be an exhibition of flowers, of works of art having some connection with horticulture, and of articles the design of which might be taken from the science. The floral portion of the display—from the fact that rare plants ought not to be a longer time out of their conservatories—was to be confined to two days; the other portion, it was proposed, should remain open for a much longer period; and therefore it was suggested that a Crystal Building to contain these articles should be erected. The project was received somewhat coldly at first; but this did not deter some two hundred inhabitants of Cheltenham from coming forward and undertaking to provide a sort of floating capital. A good working executive committee was then formed, and these gentlemen prosecuted their labours most vigorously; and the result of their combined exertions of less than eight months, may now be seen in the grounds of the Royal Old Wells.

The committee found it advisable to form a fourth section for the fine arts; and subsequently, in consequence of so many applications being made for the admission of articles of utility and interest, not coming within the scope of the Exhibition, a fifth department, under the title of the Museum section, was created.

The committee decided upon the grounds of the Royal Wells as the site of the Exhibition, and, having agreed upon the erection of a Crystal Building, advertised for plans and tenders, and accepted those of Mr. George Parsonage, of Cheltenham, who has executed his contract in the most creditable and satisfactory manner. The building is 400 feet in length, and 40 feet in width, with a transept 90 feet by 40 feet, and having a ridge-and-furrow roof, with handsome dome. The principal entrance is in the broad walk, opposite the Pump-room, and the doors are filled with stained and ornamental glass; the national emblems of the rose, shamrock, thistle, and leek, together with the Royal arms, being introduced with pretty effect. The roof is supported by iron columns, which, being hollow, answer the purpose of water conductors; they are painted blue and white. The lower portion of the exterior of the building is painted red and granite. In the centre of the transept is an elegant fountain; and the principal entrance is guarded by a pair of sculptured griffins.

We have only space to add that these sections which more immediately relate to Horticulture, "the arts and sciences connected therewith, and designs taken therefrom," occupy about three-fourths of the Crystal building.

The Fine Arts Section occupies the upper portion of the building, and includes nearly 800 separate productions. Of these, about 160 are oil paintings, 60 are water-colours, the rest being miniatures and photographs.

The Museum Section occupies the Royal Well Music-hall, and is filled by a remarkable collection of curiosities.

The Great Flower Shows in connection with the Exhibition, take place on Tuesday and Wednesday, the 20th and 21st inst. The shows will be open to all nations, and the prizes offered amount to upwards of £300. On these days, the price of admission to the whole of the Exhibition will be 5s.

The building was opened with great ceremony on Thursday week, June 1. The weather was fine, the bells of St. Mary's Church rang merry peals, and flags and streamers floated gaily from many public buildings in the town.

A public breakfast took place beneath a spacious tent, which covered the broad walk facing the Royal Wells Music-hall. About five hundred sat down. The pillars which supported the marquee were tastefully decorated with flowers. The chair was taken by Mr. W. Nash Skillicorne, Chairman of the Executive Committee.

Grace having been said by the Rev. J. Browne, the assembly partook of the cold collation set before them, and which was served up in the best style, by Mr. Cooper, of Queen's-circus. The band of the Coldstream Guards was in attendance, and, during the repast, played some appropriate airs. At the close of the breakfast a variety of toasts were drunk.

The Chairman, Committee, and other gentlemen then proceeded in the following order to open the Crystal Building:—

The Coldstream's Band
Mr T. Volle, Hon Sec. Mr G. Parsonage, builder.
Rev. A. Boyd. W. N. Skillicorne, Esq. Rev J Browne.
W M. Tarit Esq. Dr Shaw. Rev Dr Brown
Members of the Executive, Fine Arts, Museum, and General Committees.

The route the procession took was down the principal walk, across the Archery-ground, and through a tent in which pottery, implements, &c., were displayed, entering the Exhibition building at the lower door, to the tune of "Annie Laurie," and proceeding straight to the transept. Arrived here, the Chairman and his two reverend supporters took their station on a small stage, placed in front of the fountain, the members of the committee, and many others who had followed, ranging themselves around. Then came a flourish of trumpets, and the Hon. Secretary declared the opening of the Exhibition in the following terms:—

God save the Queen. Cheltenham Great Exhibition, 1854. We hereby, on this day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four, and in the seventeenth year of the reign of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, do declare the said Exhibition opened.

The trumpets again sounded, the doors of the transept were thrown open, and the public were admitted.

The assembly was then addressed by the Rev. A Boyd, upon the great object of the Exhibition. At the close of the address, an orchestra of some hundred voices, selected from the various church choirs of the town, and including also several clever amateurs, accompanied by the Cheltenham Summer Band, struck up the National Anthem—these musical arrangements being ably conducted by Mr. B. H. Cox. The National Anthem concluded, the choir proceeded to sing the Hallelujah Chorus, "the Heavens are Telling," "Sing unto God," and "Awake the Harp," closing with "Rule Britannia," while the band and the gentlemen who accompanied him, proceeded to the upper portion of the building, and opened the Fine Arts' Section. Passing through this department, they left the building at the top entrance, and proceeded along the walk which bounds the county ball, to the Music-hall, which, also, to open the Museum of Curiosities and Works of Art there arranged. Here five fountains were in full play on the lawn. Arrived at the Music-hall, the doors were thrown open, in answer to a flourish of trumpets, and the centre of the building and its supporters was greeted by an appropriate performance on the organ, by Miss Evans. This closed the formal business, and the company, to which there had been a large accession by the arrivals after breakfast, proceeded to view the wonders which had been arranged for their inspection, to ramble in the grounds, and to amuse themselves in any other way they pleased until nearly seven o'clock, at which hour the gates closed—the whole day, to all present, having proved one of unalloyed enjoyment.

The Exhibition is open daily, and in consequence of the Whitsun-holidays, the committee kindly determinated that the admission on Tuesday, as well as on Monday, should be only one shilling. The admission on other days is half-a-crown.

MALAPROPOS CORRESPONDENCE.—In a law case before a Dublin Court last week, in which the Marquis of Sligo and Sir James Dombrain were litigants, counsel read the following letter, written by Sir James to his solicitor, Mr. Jeffers, in 1853. "Dear Jeffers, I inclose a list which I have this day received from the noble Marquis Did you ever see such a shallow pated fool. We must squeeze him. Warn Gibbot not to let the country people cut down a tree without our consent. We can use flying seals as well as his Lordship.—Yours, &c. J. Dombrain." This letter was sent by mistake to the Marquis, who replied as follows:—"Dear Sir James, this day received a letter from you, but found it to be incomprehensible, until I discovered that it was addressed 'Dear Jeffers.' You should take care not to write so of me, nor allude to me, in the manner things happen on the stage, they are not a little rare in reality. However, I dare say you will not mind the mistake much, though it may make you feel a little awkward when you next write to me. It is very difficult to explain to a man that you have a polite or courteous meaning towards him in calling him a 'shallow-pated fool,' or that you are possessed of the most open intentions when you express a wish 'to squeeze him.' Read your letter; that is a fact; and as it was directed to me, it is your fault, not mine.—Yours, &c., SLIGO."

THE present military stock is about to be abolished, and a new pattern stock has been sent in for inspection. The inventor is a Spanish teacher fitted with horse hair, is very thin, and is 2 feet 7 inch.

PRESENT CONDITION OF THE ARMY.

(From our Military Correspondent)

RECENT experience has at length convinced the British nation of the culpable indifference shown by the authorities respecting the efficiency of the English soldier. During a long period of years we have witnessed the exertions of our Continental neighbours in improving the interior economy of their armies. They have discarded what was cumbersome and superfluous in the appointments, and directed attention to the better arming and clothing their troops. We have seen their *materiel* placed on a superior footing, while long-cherished systems have been discarded to make room for better-organised arrangements. On the part of the French neither pains nor money has been wanting towards effecting improvement in every branch. Annual encampments and reviews on an extensive scale were put in practice for the purpose of testing the efficacy of numerous changes which had been introduced, as well as to accustom the men to disregard annoyances inseparable from a soldier's position when in the field. The bearskin cap and harrassing accoutrements worn by Napoleon's Imperial Guard have passed away, and every alteration decided on and put in practice has proved beneficial, and consequently disseminated satisfaction throughout the entire army. Instead of being oppressed with the heavy belts and pondrous knapsack, as of yore, the Frenchman of the present day marches with ease and comfort to himself, and can compass an extraordinary number of miles with comparatively little fatigue. Loosely but yet well clothed, furnished with arms manufactured on the most recently approved principles, and a pack so poised and lightened as not to impede his movements, he offers a striking contrast to the appearance of the British soldier when paraded in heavy marching order. The equipments of the three battalions of Foot Guards now in Turkey do not vary in burdensomeness from those they carried in 1815. The cut of the coatee has indisputably undergone varieties of alteration since that period; but its characteristic objections are preserved. The felt cap, higher in front than behind, which was worn at Waterloo, has been superseded by the bearskin, which, in windy or wet weather, becomes a most inconvenient and defenceless head-dress. The broad straps of buffalo leather crossing each shoulder, the heavy pouch, and unwieldy knapsack—the fastenings of the latter binding the arms and compressing the chest, together with the stock impeding respiration, up to this date flourish in all their pristine absurdity.

A few nights since the Secretary-at-War informed the House of Commons that a newly-invented covering for the soldier's neck was under consideration. The right honourable gentleman was understood to say that a pattern, on improved principles, had been forwarded to Turkey, for the sanction of the General commanding the expeditionary force. Such being the case, a considerable period must elapse before the highly necessary change can be effected, and the present campaign will have terminated prior to the issue of the much-desired boon. Surely Lord Hardinge has sufficient experience what a soldier suffers in a hot climate, under the present regulations, without deeming it necessary to protract the amendment, by entering on a correspondence with an officer at Scutari or Varna! There are hundreds of practical men now in England, whose suggestions could readily obviate the evil, and the new articles should be fabricated forthwith, and at the least possible delay dispatched to their destination.

The Royal warrant regulating the future positions of Colonels of regiments, in regard to clothing, and the emoluments they are to receive, was issued on the 6th inst. Much praise is due to Mr. Sidney Herbert for his exertions. Through his instrumentality the soldier may now hope to receive his clothing equal in quality to the amount of money voted by Parliament for that especial purpose; added to which it will relieve the Colonels from a false position, in which they have hitherto been placed, by being given regiments with a tacit understanding that they were to draw their salaries from the off-reckonings. In future, the Colonels of the three regiments of Foot Guards will each receive a fixed sum of £1000 annually. The Commander of the King's Dragoon Guards—that corps having eight troops—will draw £800. Other regiments of Dragoon Guards and Dragoons, £450. The 1st Royal Regiment, having two battalions, £1200; and all other battalions £600 separately. If, therefore, the sums charged against the public for clothing the Army is allowed to retain its present amount, there is no reason why British troops should not be clothed and equipped equal, or perhaps superior, to those of any other nation. But as yet no alteration in the costume has been authorised beyond white linen covers for the helmets and shacos, as preservatives against the heat of the sun.

The decided opposition manifested by the Duke of Wellington against improving the dress of the Army is proverbial, and the frivolous excuse advanced for continuing in error, is said to rest on the supposition that, by pertinaciously adhering to so palpable a mischief, a "*graceful compliment*" is paid to the memory of a great man. How long this lamentable want of judgment may be tolerated it is difficult to define, but while the authorities remain imbued with such faulty hallucinations, so long must the troops suffer from unpardonable prejudice. The Indian Suttee immolates herself on her husband's funeral pile to purify the deceased from all offences, but in England the whole of the Army is put to torture in courtesy to the remembered opinion of a departed warrior.

Impressions made on the mind in early days are frequently difficult to eradicate in after life, and to that must be attributed the reason advanced by the late Commander-in-Chief for discountenancing innovations. His argument naturally sprung from recollections of the Peninsular glories. It was urged that splendid successes having been achieved during the late war, by troops armed with the now obsolete musket, and hampered with oppressive loads, why should not victory attend our colours, if unfurled under similar circumstances? It appears to have been overlooked that, forty years since, our opponents laboured under equal disadvantages with ourselves, but subsequently *they* have skilfully advanced towards perfection, while *we* remained stationary. The slow progress of the first heavy coach running from London to Edinburgh might with equal reason be advocated in the present day, when compared with the rapidity of railway travelling.

It was hoped at Chobham might have suggested some definitive mode of rescuing the soldier from the inconveniences he now experiences on a long march; but, beyond occasionally parading one man from some half-dozen regiments, each arrayed in a new description of dress, nothing whatever was accomplished. The troops embarked for Turkey fettered with the same impediments which clogged their movements during the mimic engagements. Regiments of the line have been permitted to discard the bayonet belt, but the household infantry still carry that additional weight. A man's kit could be considerably diminished in bulk without, in the slightest degree, encroaching on his fitness for all duties. By substituting black belts for white, as in the case of the rifles, the necessity for carrying sponge and pipe-clay would be obviated. Two good shirts, and a couple of pair of stout socks, would be ample, without the present addition. By issuing well-tanned half-boots, the soldier would march with ease to his feet, and the blacking and shoe-brushes would be unneeded. The button-brush and stick, razor, shaving-brush, and one towel, are equally unnecessary. The stock and clasp should long since have been cast aside, and replaced by a small black cotton neckerchief. The forage cap might be fashioned so as to protect the ears and nape of the neck when in bivouac; and a leathern helmet should be substituted for the unsightly invent on generally known as "the Albert hat." The Dockyard Brigade at Woolwich already possess the improved head-dress, while the regulars, actually in the

I, are indecorated to continue the hideous and unrecreative shako. The officers in her Majesty's yard have likewise assumed the comfortable frock, and entirely discarded the coatee—a privilege denied to the line The militia have adopted the more sensible costume, and wear it at all undress parades.

One of two reasons has hitherto influenced adherence to inconsistency with reason by enforcing regulations contradictory to obvious truth. Either the authorities were biassed by unconquerable aversion to any deviation from what was considered perfect in their bygone youth; or else the pecuniary advantage reaped by following in the beaten track preponderated when weighed against consideration for the welfare of the service. So many departments claim the right of meddling with the administration of the Army, that surprise cannot be felt at the numerous blunders recently perpetrated. But it rests with the General Commanding in Chief, to remodel the dress and appointments, so as to place the English soldier, at least, on a par with the gallant and well-equipped allies with whom he is acting. Should these important points remain unheeded, we shall experience loss in more ways than one. On a long march the men must unavoidably straggle from sheer fatigue, and become incapacitated for work. These vacancies must be filled up by constant drafts from England at an enormous expense, which a little sound judgment, promptly exercised, might avert. But, if blind infatuation continues in the ascendant, at any rate let something be conceded in favour of the men who are risking health and life in support of their country's honour. The abominable stock is at length to be cast aside, even though no further change be sanctioned. That alone will prove an acceptable boon, and the British soldier will be found to fight equally well if permitted to breathe, as when half choked by a collar which is neither ornamental nor useful.

The Ordnance and the Admiralty offer striking proofs of what could be accomplished towards improving their different services, and it must ever form a source of regret, that the Horse Guards did not sooner follow the excellent examples set before them.

REFORM IN ARMY CLOTHING.

The following announcement on the subject has been issued from the War Office:—

(Circular, No. 1162.) War Office, June 6, 1854

I have the honour to inclose you a Royal warrant, regulating the future position of Colonels of regiments in regard to the clothing of their regiments, and the emoluments which they are to receive; and explaining to the rest of the Army the system in use in the Household Cavalry, by which the Colonels, in lieu of clothing the men, receive a fixed annual payment in lieu of varying profits derived from the off-reckonings.

In adopting this mode of payment—which is in accordance with the principle which ought to regulate the issue of all public money, and will put an end to much misrepresentations to which the Colonels of regiments have been unjustly exposed—I am anxious that the change should be effected as not to injure the interests of the officers who will be affected by it.

In cases, therefore, in which the Colonels of regiments, having but lately issued accoutrements to their regiments, have either had very reduced profits, or have been exposed to a loss for which they have not been compensated by higher profits in previous years, or for which they would have been reimbursed by a surplus in subsequent years, I shall be prepared, upon a statement of accounts of past years, since the Colonel has had the regiment, being forwarded to me, to make compensation sufficient

THE WAR.—"THE FIRST SHOT."

(From a Correspondent.)

H.M.S. *Sidon*, Kustengeh, Black Sea.

I send you a sketch of the place at which (to the best of my know ledge) the first shot was exchanged between the Russians and English; and, although a trifling affair, it may be thought worthy of notice for that reason.

I must first tell you that the *Magellan*, French war-steamer, and ourselves, are on detached service from the fleets, and have been stationed to watch the coast from Kavarna Bay south to the Sulineh mouth of the Danube north. On the 11th April we were lying quietly at anchor off the town of Kustengeh, Bulgaria; two of our boats and one from the *Magellan* were on shore watering. About eleven a.m. the look-out man reported a large body of Cossacks coming over the hill at the back of the town, and advancing rapidly towards it. A gun was fired as a signal to the boats to return to their ships, as they only had two or three mu-kets with them, and no other arms.

A number of the Cossacks, on their arrival in the town, dismounted and formed in open order on the high-ground, where they got just out of the boats' head shoved off. An exchange of shots took place, and one of the Cossacks was seen to fall; the remainder, not ex xecting any resistance, retreated behind the houses, where they kept up a fire upon the boats until they were out of range, happily without effect, which does not say much for their aim.

As soon as we saw from the ships that the boats had left the beach, the Frenchmen and ourselves fired shot and shell, which, in about a quarter of an hour, cleared them out of the town. One shell from our pivot-gun, at the almost incredible distance of 3500 yards, burst right over the retreating body; and from the mast-head they were seen to stagger about in all directions. We were also m aning and arming our b ats to send on shore to attack them, but, owing to the short space of time which elapsed from their entry into the town to their exit, they were of no serv ce.

The town of Kustengeh contained about 1600 inha bitants, principally Turkish, who deserted it on the 28th of March, leavi g the approach of the Russian army, who were then within sixteen hou rs' march of the place. There were only remaining about a dozen Gre ks; and some of whom we saw from the ships run towards the Cossacks , and give them information that our boats were on the beach, which they could not otherwise have known; and such treachery towards us gu es far to prove the desire of the Bulgarians to place themselves under the Russian rule. There were large quantities of grain left in the stores, wh ch, no doubt, will be a great attraction to the Cossacks.

It should be explained that in the Sketch the ships are sh own nearer to the town than they actually were.

THE "MAGELLAN" AND THE "SIDON" ATTACKING KUSTENGEH, ON THE BLACK SEA.

THE SIEGE OF SILISTRIA.

(From the Times.)

SILISTRIA, May 11.

Finding nothing likely to take place in Schumla beyond the ordinary routine of camp duties, the usual gossip of the place, and speculations as to what would occur—all of which had long since lost their relish for novelty—I resolved, in company with another English officer, to pay a visit to the Turkish outposts in the Dobrudja. We accordingly started on the 4th inst., and rode to Kosludji, a distance of forty-eight miles. After passing the plains of Schumla, which extend for a distance of fifteen miles in the direction of Yeni-Bazar, the country presents a more wooded appearance being still, however, a succession of large plains, or rather slightly undulating ground, with one or two villages at long intervals. Kosludji is a village of no particular importance, containing about 1000 souls, and is situate at the base of a small range of hills. The next day brought us to Hadji-Oglou Basardschik (thirty miles), after passing through a finely-wooded though badly-watered country, very thinly inhabited, and for the most part devoid of cultivation. On our way we met several long trains of bullock waggons, containing unhappy Bulgars transporting their *lares* and *penates* from their now unsafe homes to Schumla for protection. On arriving at Basardschik, we were conducted to the quarters of Mehemet Pacha, a Chief of Bashi-bozouks, who commands in this district, and for whom we had a letter of introduction from Omer Pacha. He seemed a shrewd, intelligent little gentleman, and showed us much civility during our stay. Basardschik is the last regular advanced post of the Turkish army in the Dobrudja; from which reconnoitring parties are pushed forward and temporarily stationed in some of the deserted villages, whence they make constant incursions on the Russian outposts in the vicinity of Kara-su, Rassova, Beilik, &c. It is occupied at present by about 800 or 900 regular cavalry, and about 3000 Bashi-bozouks, 1200 of whom are quartered in the town, and the remainder in tents on the south side. The town is situated on the extremity of a gentle slope, surrounded on three sides by ground of a similar description. It presents a most desolate appearance, half of it having been destroyed by fire about a month ago; the remainder is deserted by its inhabitants; and Bashi-bozouks, with their horses, are now quartered within its ru ned houses: these, with starved hungry dogs and cats, are the only living occupants of a fine town that must once have contained 6000 or 8000 inhabitants. It gives one the idea of a town lying under some grievous curse, "the abode of every foul and unclean thing, the dwelling of beasts of prey"—a term most applicable to some of its unsouth occupants, who stable their horses within its walls. They present a most cut-throat appearance as they lounge and loll about the streets, scowling at the passers by, seemingly engaged in speculating on their chances of plunder. After halting here a day we left, accompanied by a small escort of our friends the Bashi-bozouks, provided by Mehemet Pacha, with the intention of falling in with, if possible, a reconnoitring party, which he told us we might perhaps find starting from Bairamdere. About a mile's distance we passed one of those strange tumuli which form so peculiar a feature in the scene y of this country, and have afforded material for the speculations of more than one learned *savant*—a fact which deters me from troubling you with any theory of my own as to their origin. At present they are made available for the posting of videttes of regular cavalry thrown out from Basardschik; and, being about 600 to 800 yards apart, and rising to thirty feet above the plains, are well adapted for the use they are now put to. We traversed in our route splendid plains, but barren and laid waste, bearing all the marks war brings in its train that the most eloquent member of the Peace Society could desire to witness—ruined, burnt, and deserted villages, neglected fields, the tots' absence of population, wells, which in this country are most valuable property, choked up, and the barley which had been stored for the coming year, gave to the whole scene a most dreary and melancholy aspect. This, we were told, is the state of the whole of the Dobrudja, and by what we saw of the country it appeared to have already been the theatre of a long campaign. The burning of the villages was not, however, the work of an enemy, but of Mus a Pacha in his retreat from the Dobrudja, and also of those practic s of the Bashi-bozouks. As evening was closing in we met several st ng parties of these gentry proceeding sou who informed us that the troops, after a skirmish with the enemy, were retiring, and had a ready marched through Bairamdere. On reaching this place we hailed two of these cavaliers, who corroborated the previous statements, and declared that there was nothing behind them but *giaour peccorada* (meaning the Russians). While speaking to them we heard shouting and yelling to our right, and observed a few solitary horsemen coming down the hill, from the opposite side of the town. These, we were told, were the Russian Cossacks, and while we were reconnoitring them through our telescopes, a large body of horsemen emerged from the glen from which we had heard the yelling. They proved to be a corps of Arab irregular cavalry, returning from one of their reconnaissances in the direction of Kara-su. A wild-looking set they were, with their swarthy handsome faces, and dark piercing eyes glaring from beneath their gaudy head dresses, which, with their stripped blankets hanging loose from their shoulders, gave a lively and picturesque appearance to their straggling line. We turned our horses' heads and joined this corps, one of the officers of which told us that they had had a brush with the Russians, in which they had killed four of the enemy, and took one prisoner. He also stated that they had been twenty-four hours in the saddle; and in spite of this, instead of sparing their horses and husbanding their already exhausted powers, every now and then some few of them set off at full speed, brandishing their arms and lances, and yelling like maniacs. During the short time we were with them, we had an opportunity of witnessing the effects of this on their cattle, by seeing two of their gallant little horses drop down dead from sheer exhaustion. Night was now fast approaching, and the whole regiment set off at a smart canter, leaving us, who were more careful of our beasts' seeing they were our own property (a circumstance which makes a mighty difference in such cases) to get on as best we could. As we followed we saw their camp-fires burning at a considerable distance; but being occasionally obscured by the unevenness of the intervening ground, we began to think that we were mistaken, and that the lights we saw were Will-o'-the-wisps. Having come to this conclusion, we agreed on tugging our jaded horses after us for five minutes longer, and bivouacking for the night by the roadside, although a drizzling rain was falling. About the end of this time a messenger from the Commanding Officer met us, and told us that the Colonel, having heard of two travellers being in the rear, had sent his compliments, and asked us to come up to his hut. Never was message more welcome to belated wanderers in search of adventure; and our guide conducting us by a short cut into the middle of the camp, we had an opportunity of seeing groups of these wild sons of the desert in all sorts of picturesque attitudes, gazing with a half indolent, half curious stare on the Giaour intruders. On reaching the Colonel's hut we met with a most cordial reception, and we, not without reason, thought him the best friend one could meet with in a long day's march, for we certainly met with most genuine hospitality during our sojourn at his station. While treating us to the usual pipes and coffee, he took care to provide for our more substantial comfort by giving directions that one of the deserted houses in the village close by should be cleared out and prepared for our reception, and an ample share of his own rations sent there. After bidding our kind host good night we repaired to our domicile, which far surpassed our most sanguine expectations. We found a clean floor (albeit of mud) and a cheerful fire blazing on the hearth, by the light of which we discussed our frugal meal with an appetite and feelings which only those who have had a long fast and march (fifty-four miles) can experience. Next morning we paid him a visit, and found him seated with his domestic chaplain (a dancing Dervish!) at breakfast. On our telling him we wished to get on to Silistria, he entertained us most hospitably. His dinner, in the true Turkish fashion, was served up one dish at a time—first, soup, to which each helped himself by spoonfuls; then roast duck, next roast lamb; then a huge flat cake; then, kabobs; then, a sweet dish; after which we thought our labours were at an end; but, to our horror, a huge pilaff was placed before us. The old gentleman's ample, unaffected, yet courteous and well bred manner, together with the style of his who'e establishment, spoke of the Turk of the old school, and reminded one very much of the accounts of our own feudal times.

Yesterday we reached this place without having encountered any Cossacks, who, we were informed, made occa-ional marauding excursions from Beilik. On our arrival we found everything in readiness for the Russian attack, which must come off in a very few days, as the whole of the works constructed on the islands opposite will be destroyed by the rising of the Danube. Four more battalions of infantry will be thrown in in the course of a few days, and Omer Pacha declares that with this and the forces now here Silistria must stand or fall. It may be considered presumption on the part of your correspondent to criticise the plans of a General who has received so much praise from abler hands, but it does seem to be a great error to leave a place of such importance unsupported, our loss of which would be of such incalculable advantage to the enemy. The strength of the garrison is supposed to be about 16 000 of all arms; that of the Turks, including the four expected battalions, about 15,000. The former are carrying on their operations against the fortress with wonderful energy and activity, and have nearly completed a zigzag of approach on the island of Schtiluk, whence they will most likely attempt their crossing. The Turks are not idle, and have, under the direction of a Prussian artillery officer, named Grach, erected considerable works, and to whom the Turks are indebted for many of their improvements strengthened and added to the defences of the place.

4 p.m.

The cannonade has just commenced. Balls and shells in all direction

May 12.

I had just time, at the conclusion of my last letter, of the 11th inst., to inform you of the commencement of the Russian cannonade against this place, which commenced about four p.m., and was immediately answered by the Turkish batteries. It was kept up pretty briskly on both sides till after seven, when the enemy began to slacken their fire, and by eight o'clock it had ceased entirely, the Turks having the last shot. At the commencement of the firing numbers of the enemy's shells fell and burst among the streets and houses of the town, and the whole place was soon a scene of painful excitement—scared women and children running wildly about seeking for shelter; the terrified inhabitants collecting their goods, and hurrying to the subterranean rooms which they had constructed in anticipation of this event; and by the time my friend and I were mounted, and on our way down to the battery on the Schengil bastion, we found the whole of the streets silent and deserted. On reaching the battery we found Musa Pacha, the Commandant of the garrison; Hussein Pacha, of Turkish artillery; and Colonel Grach, the Prussian Instructor of Artillery; and, while there, we were particularly struck with the admirable manner in which the Turkish artillerymen worked their guns: their master practice was excellent, most of the shells bursting in or immediately over the Russian batteries. The practice of the enemy was very slovenly, and, on the whole, indifferent; as our list of casualties only shows one cha seur and a horse killed, a peasant and a child in the town wounded, and a trading shallop on the bank of the river destroyed. As an instance of the carelessness of the Russian artillery, we found an 8-inch shell fired by them with the fuze uncapped; and I was told this was by no means a rare occurrence. Considerable damage, however, has been done to the buildings of the town; and, as far as shattered roofs and broken walls testify, the luckless inhabitants, who are the principal sufferers on these occasions, have but small cause to thank their would-be protectors.

Towards five in the evening an opposition cannonade was got up overhead in the shape of a thunderstorm, and a perfect rainbow which followed appeared as if in mockery of the belligerents below, who were hammering heartily at each other. On the morning of the 12th, we observed a battery of four guns had been thrown up during the night on the adjacent island of Salhaneh, which had not been previously occupied by them. During the whole of this forenoon (the 12th) the enemy seems to be engaged in transporting ammunition and stores from the mainland to the island of Hopper, as their boats and shallops made frequent passages from one side to the other, and towards evening large bodies of infantry were seen moving down to the water's edge, for the purpose, as we concluded, of being thrown into that island. No attempt has been made to cross as yet, and it seems to me that the enemy are much more likely to take advantage of the position they have now obtained in the Dobrudja to throw across a force and march against this place by Rassova and Beilik. Had Mustapha Pacha, when he retired in disorder through the Dobrudja, retained the line of the Kara su, the siege of Silistria would have been a much more difficult affair than it is now, as the passage from the island must always be a considerable obstacle to an assailant. Had the line of the Kara-su been retained, which I believe was quite possible, the siege would have been a very different affair, as the great obstacle, viz., the passage of the Danube, is now overcome.

The Turks have not been idle, and Musa Pacha is indefatigable in his exertions. My companion, Captain J. A. Butler, Ceylon Rifles, and myself have tendered our services during the siege. As we are in force, you may expect a most full account of it as soon as Omer Pacha or the Allied Generals may deem it fit to raise the siege. News has just come in that a large body of Russians is within twelve miles of the place, and they have succeeded in driving in our cavalry outpost at Yenikoi, with a loss on our side of forty killed and wounded. To-morrow we may expect to see them here.

THE TURKISH COMMANDER OF SILISTRIA.—Silistria is decidedly the best fortified, best appointed, best victualled, and now best garrisoned stronghold in Bulgaria. It has for its commander Musa Khoosool Pacha, president of the Artillery Council of the Ottoman empire—an officer of the highest intelligence. He has received an excellent education under a Turkish Pachá), and has been well instructed in all the details of European armament, drill, and system of artillery. He was sent, some years back, to fortify Silistria, which then could only boast of the enceinte which the Russians had breached and taken in the last war. With him were a few European engineers and artillery officers, the chief of whom was Malinofski, the principal designer of the exterior fortifications. The Pacha's judgment on this occasion was acknowledged to have shown itself to be of no mean order; and among other ways in which he proved it was one invaluable in his position as military governor, namely, in implicitly following the plans of the designer to the minutest particulars, for it was unde, him, that the most of the repairs and new forts were afterwards constructed. He originally was to have been the Governor of Varna; but Omer Pacha, thinking that Silistria was a more important point, changed his destination. Among other persons composing the garrison, is an officer of artillery, who served for many years in Prussia in that arm. His name is not mentioned here, as it might be inconvenient for him hereafter, possibly. To him is due the efficiency of the Ottoman artillery regiments, of which he is the instructor. He has been garrisoned at Silistria for a considerable period. He knows exactly in which direction every gun in the fortress and outworks ranges, for it was he that installed them and assisted at the embrasures and barbettes. Not a shot or shell under his orders is mislaid. He knows to an ounce the quantity of powder in hand, and how it is distributed. He has received the high y practical and theoretical education of a struck artillerymen; and in our whose *savoir vivre* and *savoir faire* will enable him to bring his knowledge to bear in every circumstance. He is, moreover, much liked by the Turks, who consult him on all occasions, and always address him as Pacha. He is invariably addressed by them as "usta," or "master" of an art.

A NEW WAR PROJECTILE.—An ex-officer of the armies of France and Italy has just arrived in Paris, to make known a war projectile, which he calls the *Grenade Explosif*, and which, according to him, produces terrible effects. This projectile, he says, can arr ve in the midst of masses in a form which does not betray its nature, and, in an instant, in the range of numerous armies and sink entire fleets. A single explosion . . . stated, would produce these frightful results.

DURING the last week Captain E. Ford, of the Royal Engineers, has been inspecting the forts and defences in the nor in order to draw up a report regarding them, preparatory to their b ing placed in a proper state of defence.

LAUNCH OF A STEAMER AT GREENOCK.—On Wednesday week there was launched the *Heligoland*, the property of Messrs. John Cesar Godfrey and Sohn, represented in this country by Messrs. Robinows and Marjor.banks, of Glasgow and Leith. The length of the *Heligoland*, keel and fore rake, is 185 feet, breadth of beam, 27 feet, depth of hold, 11 feet; and height of poop, 2 feet. She is to be propelled by a pair of oscillating engines of the collective power of 300 horses, and is expected to be of great speed.

THE PAPER TRADE.—Some leading paper manufacturers have recently called the attention of Government to the consequences likely to arise to their trade from the present war with Russia. It appears that the supply of raw materials for the manufacture of paper has of late years barely met the enormously increasing demand, in spite of many new substances worked up; and it is now feared that the short supply and dearness of all fibres and textile fabrics will prove very detrimental to the paper trade and the literary world. In consequence of these representations, circulars have been issued by the proper authorities to the governors of our various colonies, calling their attention to the necessity of finding some substitutes, within our colonial territories, for the materials at present used in paper making.

THE ENGLISH TROOPS AT SCUTARI.

EXTERIOR OF BARRACKS AT SCUTARI.

THE humble quarters in which Lord Raglan lives, at Scutari, are the centre of intelligence in these busy times; Generals, Brigadiers, Colonels of Regiments, Commissary Officers, and Aides-de-Camp, may be seen flying to and from it every moment of the day as fast as their horses can carry them. The Sappers are busy fitting up horse-boxes on board the transports, and all the stores required for the troops have been already put on board. Looking away to the Sea of Marmora, the white sails of transports and store-ships, making way against the current, are visible in all directions; and the little wharf and landing-place at Scutari is alive with men, working away in loading boats with casks of provisions or munitions of war; while the air is shrill with the creaking and screaming of the wheels of buffalo-carts toiling up and down the steep ascent to the barracks. In strange contrast to all this life and activity, the natives lie idly on the shore, scarcely raising their heads to look at what passes around them; or take a very unobtrusive and contemplative interest in the labours of the soldiery as they watch them, chibouk in mouth, from booths pitched along the shore. Lord Raglan's quarters seem to be an especial resort for them. The house, which is a low wooden building—very clean, and neatly painted and matted within—is situate on the beach, about three quarters of a mile from the barrack. In front of it is a tolerably spacious court-yard, with high walls, well provided with little stone boxes for the sparrows and swallows to build in, and inside this court there is constantly a small stud of led horses and chargers belonging to the aides and officers on duty. Directly opposite to the entrance of the court is a wooded knoll, with a few grave-stones peering above the rich grass, and a Turkish fountain, in front of a group of pine trees surrounded by water-carriers, is in the foreground. Groups of Turks, Greeks, and Armenians, each distinct from the other, are generally to be seen reclining at the foot of these trees, and gazing listlessly into the court-yard, while they carry on monosyllabic conversations at long intervals, between the puffs of tobacco smoke. The beach, which somewhat resembles that at Folkestone at high water, is bounded by a tolerable road, which is a favourite walk of the women and children of Chalcedon, and the suburbs beyond it, but these animated bundles of bright-coloured clothing scarcely deign to look at the men in uniforms or to turn their heads at the jingle of sword and spur. In the stagnant water which ripples almost imperceptibly on the shore, there float all forms of vestiness and corruption, which the prowling dogs, standing leg-deep as they wade about in search of offal, cannot destroy. The smell from this shore is noisome; but a few yards out from the fringe of buoyant cats, dogs, birds, straw, sticks—in fact, of all sorts of abominable flotsam and jetsam, which bob about on the pebbles unceasingly—the waters become exquisitely clear and pure. The slaughter houses erected by the sea-side do not contribute, as may readily be imagined, to the cleanliness of this filthy beach or the wholesomeness of the atmosphere. On a slope rising up from the water's edge, close to Lord Raglan's quarters, the camp of the brigade of Guards is pitched; a kind of ravine, about a quarter of a mile across, divides it from the plateau and valley at the back of the barracks, in which are pitched the camps of the other regiments and of the light division. Clumps of tall shady trees are scattered here and there down towards the water's edge, under which a horde of sutlers have erected sheds of canvas and plank for the sale of provisions, spirits, and wines, combined with a more wholesome traffic in cakes, Turkish sweetmeats, lemonade, and sherbet. The proprietors are nearly all Smyrniotes or Greeks from Pera, and do not bear the highest character in the world as respects their moral qualities. The regular canteens established within the lines are kept by a better class of people, and are under the *surveillance* of the military authorities, but it is said that permission to erect some of these temporary canteens has been obtained through bribing the lower classes of native interpreters. Syces, or grooms, with horses for sale, ride about at full speed through the lanes and pathways leading to the camp, but the animals they bestride are generally small bony garrons with mouths like vices, stuffed out with grass and green food, and not worth a tithe of the prices asked by the owners. These gentry are kept at arm's-length, and are not allowed to come within the lines. All this scene, so full of picturesque animation—these files of snowy tents, sweeping away in tier after tier over hillock and meadow, till they are bounded by the solemn black outlines of the forest of cypress—these patches of men at drill here and there all over the plain these steadier and larger columns at parade—this constant play and glitter of bayonet and accoutrement, as the numerous sentries wheel on their beaten tracks—this confused crowd of araba drivers, match sellers, fruit and cigar and tobacco vendors, of kamals or porters, of horse dealers, and gaily-dressed rogues and rapparees of all nations, will disappear with the departure of the troops to Varna, and leave no trace behind except the barren circle which marks where the tent once stood, and the plain all seared and scorched by the camp fires. What is to become of the mushroom tribe which has started, as it were, from the ground, to supply the wants of the soldiery, it is hard to say, and not very interesting to inquire, but it will not be long ere they will find their way to the English camp in its new quarters. Among the most amusing specimens of the race must be reckoned some Jew and Armenian money changers—squalid, lean, and hungry-looking fellows, whose turbans and ragged gaberdines are ostentatiously dirty and poverty-stricken, who prowl about the camp with an eternal raven croak of "I say, John, change de monnish—change de monnish," received occasionally by a slip timkle of a leather purse well filled with dollars and small Turkish coinage. They evade the sentries, and startle officers as they lie half asleep in the heat of the sun, by the apparition of their dusky hands and yellow visages within the tent, and the cuckoo cry, "I say, John, change de monnish." Their appearance at Scutari at all is the greatest compliment that could be paid to the national character. The oldest Turk has never seen one of them near a native camp, and the tradition of ages affirms that where soldiers come the race disappears. Indeed they only show in the sun-time. They are a sort of day ghost, who vanish at the scent of darkness, and the croak and the jingle are silent, and they grub themselves gently away ere twilight, and where they live no man knoweth. Any one who has seen Vernet's pictures in the Louvre of the taking of Abd-el-Kader's Smala, will at once recognise the type of these people in the wonderful figure of the Jew who is flying with his treasure from the grasp of the French swordsman.

Rumour has it that Lord Raglan, and the Generals and others who accompanied him to Varna, had rather a rough, but eminently practical, experience of what is to be expected in that district, unless the Commissariat be well attended to. It is said that, on their late journey, he and his staff had to travel for more than twelve hours without a morsel of food. The Commissariat will evidently have a very hard task to perform at Varna, in provisioning so large an army in a country which is cut off from the feeding ground of the Dobrudja by the Russians on the one hand, and which is drained by the exigencies of the masses of Turks concentrated near Schumla, on the other. It is to be hoped they have made good and effectual preparation for the force, and that they will not be taken quite by surprise. There is no beef to be had even at Scutari just now, but the supply of mutton and lamb is sufficient, and about 800 sheep and lambs are slaughtered every day at the shambles of Scutari for the army.

The accompanying Illustrations are from Sketches by Correspondents—the Officers' Quarters, in the Turkish Barracks, at Scutari, and the upper Engraving shows the Entrance to the Barracks with more than its characteristic activity.

OFFICERS' QUARTERS, AT THE TURKISH BARRACKS, SCUTARI.

THE BALTIC FLEET.

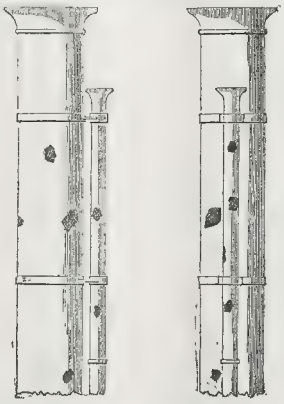
THE "DRAGON" SHELLING FORT GUSTAVUSVARN, HANGO.

EXPERIMENTS ON GUSTAVUSVARN.

(A portion of the following intelligence appeared in our Late Edition of last week.)

The fleet, or rather that portion of it under the immediate command of Sir Charles Napier, arrived in Hango-roads on the 20th May, and anchored within the extreme range of the enemy's guns. The squadron was allowed to take position unmolested by the guns from the forts on shore. Three insular forts protect the entrance to the harbour, massive structures composed of huge blocks of granite, casemated, evidently heavily armed with guns as well as mortars. The principal fort, called Gustavusvarn, sweeps the approach to the harbour with a long tier of guns, and also from casemate batteries beneath. Two other forts, Doman's Holm and Gustavus Adolphus, to the eastward of the central fort, rake the entrance, and are pierced with embrasures looking to seaward. The shore all round is covered with masked batteries, raised in commanding positions, concealed by trees and branches, and not very readily distinguished. From the preparations on shore it became evident that the Russians did not intend remaining silent.

In the afternoon of the 22nd the *Dragon*, Captain Wilcox, was ordered to take up a position close by an island, where a buoy had been previously laid down. This position flanked the principal fort, Gustavusvarn, and only two guns evidently, out of the many that mounted the walls, could be trained to bear upon her. The vessel was now ordered by signal from the flag-ship to try range of guns. She immediately opened fire. The first shot was good in direction, but fell a little short; the second struck the fort about the centre of the wall; the succeeding ones commenced ploughing up the turf forming the breastwork on the summit of the walls, and sending the fascines and sand-bags flying into the fort in profusion. After the second or third shot the fort replied. The ship and fort thus continued the engagement for about three hours and a half, during which several of the *Dragon's* shells burst right over the centre of the fort, and must have caused severe loss. Two of the shells which struck the walls did considerable mischief, smashing up one of the embrasures. The engagement was not a rapid one; on the contrary, a slow and steady fire was maintained on both sides. The *Magicienne* was ordered, somewhat later in the day, to a corresponding position on the opposite side of the small, narrow, rocky island in question, and opened an effective fire upon one of the masked batteries on the land side, into which she threw several shells. The battery replied with shell, and, it is thought, red-hot shot; but the *Magicienne* was evidently out of range. The *Basilisk* next joined the group. The *Hecla*, Captain Hall, was employed in engaging the fort Gustavus Adolphus. Several of her shot and shell told with great effect. All the shots from the fort against the *Hecla* fell short. The *Hecla* remained at her anchorage for the night. The other steamers were recalled about half-past four. The *Dragon* had one man killed and another wounded. She was struck three or four times.



ELEVATION. END VIEW.

THE SHATTERED FUNNEL OF THE "HECLA," STEAM-SHIP.

A GALLANT CUTTING-OUT AFFAIR.

Previous to these highly-satisfactory experiments on the batteries at Hango, two English vessels had performed a very gallant exploit in that vicinity. It appears that the *Arrogant* had been detached from the fleet for a considerable time, employed in reconnoitring the enemy's posts and shores about Hango Bay. While so employed, the *Hecla*, commanded by Captain Hall, whose services in the China War are so well known, joined her; and the Captains of the two ships planned a little expedition of their own, which turned out quite a daring and successful manœuvre.

The two ships proceeded up a narrow river, and, on anchoring on the evening of the 19th ult., the enemy, from behind a high sand-bank, in a thickly-wooded place, fired upon one of the boats, which was at that time pulling at a distance of from six to eight hundred yards from the shore, round shot also striking the *Hecla*. Both ships beat to quarters, cast loose their guns, loaded with shot and shell, which they poured into the wood and against the sand barricade, whence the enemy was quickly dislodged. The vessels were not further molested that evening, the anchorage was shifted for the night, and all made snug, with watches posted.

At two in the morning both ships again weighed, the *Hecla* leading, both ships' companies standing by their guns. After about three hours quietly feeling their way along the intricate navigation of the river, both ships came suddenly within range of an enemy's battery. The *Hecla* opened fire, which was quickly answered from the fort; the promontory upon which stood the battery was crowded with soldiers—fine stalwart-looking fellows, with long grey coats, and spiked steel helmets glittering in the sun. While the battery was firing upon the *Hecla*, the *Arrogant* let fly a whole broadside amongst the soldiery. A troop of horse artillery, when the smoke cleared off, was observed scampering away. A prolonged and heavy fire of musketry now ensued from the wood, and Minié balls fell thick on board both ships. The *Arrogant* now got aground within twenty yards of the battery. However, before attempting to haul the ship off, the enemy's guns were dismounted by a

THE "MAGICIENNE" ATTACKING THE RUSSIAN FORTS IN HANGO BAY.

broadside; and the ship was then got off in safety. On passing the fort where the guns had been dismounted, a terrible sight was witnessed—gun carriages blown to fragments, guns dismounted, helmets and knapsacks strewed about without owners.

The town of Eckness now opened, and there lay the ships, the objects of the expedition. The *Arrogant* was obliged to anchor here, as the water was shallow; the *Hecla* proceeded on, but another battery now opened fire upon her. The *Arrogant*, having broadside on, kept up a cannonade while the *Hecla* passed, firing shells on the enemy as she did so, ran up alongside of a barque, took her in tow, and steamed away with her, to the horror of the inhabitants. When this little expeditionary force was returning, they were joined by the *Dauntless*, she having been sent by the Commander-in-Chief to ascertain the cause and source of the firing, which was distinctly audible as the squadron steamed into Hango-roads. The *Hecla* had several shots through her funnel, steam-pipe and hull; one shot passing right through the ship's side. The round shot and shell went over the *Arrogant*. Both ships were studded with Minié balls. The *Arrogant* had one man shot through the heart, and a man wounded by a bullet in the navel, which ball went through his intestines, and passed out at his back. The *Hecla* had one man killed.

Captain Hall was resolved not to leave without carrying back some military trophy. He gallantly landed with his marines, threw them out as skirmishers, while himself and a party of men hoisted one gun (an iron one) into his boat, and placed it on board the *Hecla*.

The *Arrogant* and *Hecla*, with their prize in tow, joined the fleet on the 21st. The Commander-in-Chief hoisted the signal, "Well done, *Arrogant* and *Hecla*." The flag ship manned the rigging; her example was followed by several other ships—all of which gave the heroes three hearty cheers.

By permission of the Lords of the Admiralty, we engrave the Official Plan of the above gallant affair. The Defences of the Point consisted of four 24 lb. iron guns, in a battery made of pine timber; a brigade of six field-guns, with horses; also four 3-lb. iron guns, in a sand battery. The third battery, at the inside point, was unfinished. At Lovisa were three large iron guns, in a pine-wood battery; and three field-guns, howitzers, worked by artillerymen.

We add the accounts with which we have been favoured by Correspondents:—

"On Saturday, the 20th May, after cruising for some time off Gotteka Sando, waiting for the junction of the French squadron, Admiral Sir Charles Napier, with his flag flying in the *Duke of Wellington*, 131, and accompanied by the French line of-battle ship *Austerlitz*, anchored with a portion of his fleet off the Island of Hango, in Finland, the *Lightning* steamer having been previously engaged in laying down buoys for their passage. The Gulf of Finland was supposed to be clear of ice, and some of the steamers had gone up to destroy gun boats, and to watch the enemy's motions. The weather ever since the fleet entered the Baltic had been remarkably fine, and the nights beautifully clear, though still a little cold.

"Sir Charles anchored the fleet just outside the range of the enemy's four batteries, mounting about 80 guns. On Sunday, the 21st, the ships were engaged completing provisions. In the afternoon the *Arrogant* steam-frigate, 47, arrived, with the *Hecla*, 14, towing a Russian prize barque, which had been "cut out" by them from under a battery, about ten miles to the eastward. As soon as the three vessels anchored, they were greeted by the whole fleet with genuine British cheers; the French on board the *Austerlitz* joining in, and the Russian soldiers in the forts looking on. On the afternoon of the 22nd May, the Admiral ordered the following steamers, viz., the *Dragon*, 6; the *Magicienne*, 16; the *Basilisk*, —; and the *Arrogant*, 6, to take up positions to shell the batteries. The Illustration represents them in the act of shelling these forts, which they did for about three hours. The *Dragon* received twenty shot in her hull two under water, and otherwise received some slight damage. She had one man killed, and one wounded. As the Russians would, no doubt, construe the withdrawing the steamers from under their guns into a defeat, it was generally supposed that Sir Charles would, on the 23rd, undeceive them on that point, by directing a general attack upon the forts by the ships of the line.

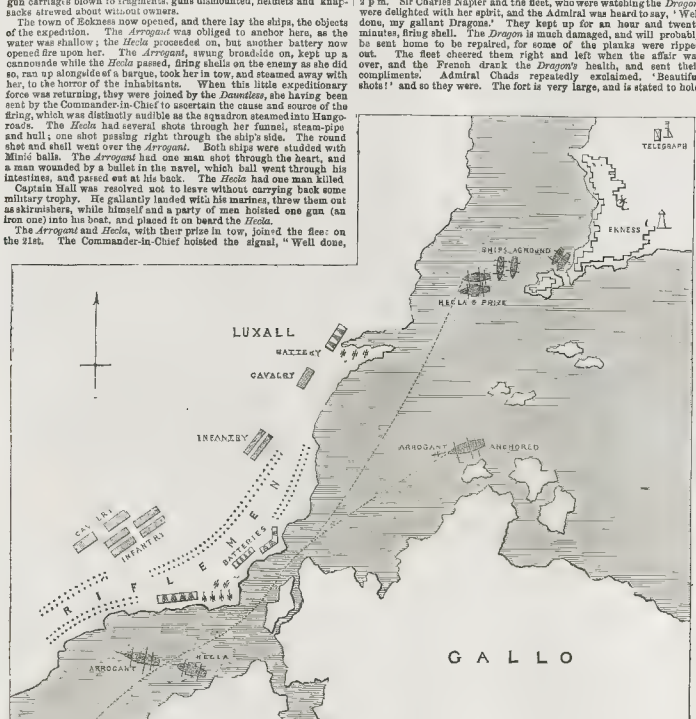
"The harbour of Hango is good; the land around low, and covered with a forest of fir, in which, it is said, large numbers of troops are concealed. There is no village within sight of the fleet. On the chart there is marked 'Tanks, *with good water*;' but as they are surrounded with trees, it would not be safe to land and get it. The enemy is a bold one, and, as there seems likely to be plenty of hard work for our men, no unnecessary risks must be run. Half the fleet had been left off Gotteka Sando, about fifty miles from Hango; and the French squadron had not yet joined."

"H.M.S. *Duke of Wellington*, Hango Head, May 22nd.

"The *Dragon* and *Magicienne* have tried the range of their guns from behind a small island, on Fort Gustavesvarn; the first shot the squadron fired, everybody was anxiously watching, with glasses, the moment the signal was made by the Admiral, 'Try range!' She fired very well, and quantities of shell burst right inside, throwing the black dirt up in the air. The *Magicienne* was then ordered to do the same. They fired about three hours, and dismounted one of the guns, and damaged the right-hand embrasure of the three facing the squadron. About four o'clock p.m., general recall was made, when they returned. The *Dragon* had one man killed by a round shot, and two wounded: her mast was shot off close to the end, nine shots struck her hull in different places. The *Magicienne* was not touched, I believe; they must have killed numbers, as quantities of their shot and shell went right into the middle of the fort. The *Hecla* all this time tried her guns at a smaller fort about a mile and a half to the right. One shot was brought on board from the *Dragon*: it was a 24-pounder; the distance 1800 yards.

Another Correspondent states that "On the 22nd ult., the *Dragon* 'opened the ball,' ordered in, by the Admiral, under the fort, to fire at 2 p.m. Sir Charles Napier and the fleet, who were watching the *Dragon*, were delighted with her spirit, and the Admiral was heard to say, 'Well done, my gallant Dragon!' They kept up for an hour and twenty minutes, firing shell. The *Dragon* is much damaged, and will probably be sent home to be repaired, for some of the planks were ripped out. The fleet cheered them right and left when the affair was over, and the French drank the *Dragon*'s health, and sent their compliments. Admiral Chads repeatedly exclaimed, 'Beautiful shots!' and so they were. The fort is very large, and is stated to hold 7000 men; and from the *Duke* could be seen some of the guns and men pitched up into the air. The *Dragon* only lost one man."

Our Correspondent adds:—"We cut out two vessels at Revel on Sunday afternoon. We have two unfortunate Russians on board, whom we took at Revel: we kept them on board the whole time we were there; they fell down on their knees, pointing to the shore; and when we took them towards the guns, they cried bitterly, and crossed themselves."



PLAN OF H.M.S "ARROGANT" AND "HECLA" TAKING A MERCHANT SHIP FROM THE PORT OF ECKNESS, IN THE GULF OF FINLAND, AFTER PASSING AND DESTROYING THE DEFENCES, MAY 20, 1854.

CAPTAIN HALL, OF THE "HECLA."—It is not a little singular that his services began in the Baltic, where his last laurels were won. At an early age he was a midshipman in the *Warrior*, when she was employed in the Belt, against the Danish gun-boats, to protect the convoys of our merchant-vessels. In 1816-17 Mr. Hall went out to China with Lord Amherst's expedition, in the *Syra*, and was employed in exploring the Gulf of Corea and the Loo Choo Islands. When in the *Iphigenia*, in 1822, he volunteered to conduct the boats of that ship to the attack of an armed slaver. Capt. Hall is one of the very few officers who, having chosen that line of promotion which stops at the position of master, was made an exception to that rule of the service, and made Commander for his distinguished services. He was Master of the *Parthian* at the capture of a piratical schooner in Campeachy Bay, in 1824. But his most distinguished services were performed in the *Nemesis*, during a second visit to the Chinese waters, in 1840-3. He was present at no fewer than twenty-seven different engagements, several of them very dashing affairs, and was named in eleven Gazetted despatches, frequently with high praise. In these engagements he was wounded, and has a slight halt in his walk in consequence.

THE RUSSIAN NAVY.—An article in the June number of *Fraser's Magazine* on the subject of the Russian navy states that the ships-of-war generally are dull sailers and difficult to manage; that many of the line-of battle ships are only suited for the navigation of their own waters, where they do not require to be filled up with water and stores as if bound for a distant station, and that the vessels, taken as a whole, are similar to the glorious old tubs with which our old naval glories were acquired. With respect to the important question of armament, the Imperial navy is utterly inefficient, and the gunnery practice still more defective. Of the ten paddle-wheel vessels of the Baltic fleet rated as war-steamers, only three of them can fight both decks. For power or tonnage they are not to be compared with our *Terrible* or *Retribution*; and their maximum speed is about seven knots. Most of them can hardly face a stiff breeze. There are three powerful sloops in the Black Sea fleet, and the remainder are paddle-wheels, neither large nor powerful. The active force is at present represented by the *Pantsoh*, a small schooner built at Northfleet, new on the Kamschatka station. The only first-class screw steam-frigate the Baltic did possess was lost in the year 1852, and it is not probable that any of the ships now on the stocks will ever be fitted with machinery, as the only resource is the Imperial works of Colpin. Compared with the armament of our ships, the Russian ships are far below the mark, more particularly in the Baltic than in the Black Sea fleet—the latter, in point of equipment, being much superior to the former. Taking from this fleet the three-deckers *Twelve Apostles*, of 120 guns, and the *St. George*, of 112 guns, and comparing the weight of their broadsides with that of our *Queen*, it is found that that vessel can throw a broadside exceeding in weight that of the *Twelve Apostles* by 2136 lb., and of the *St. George* of 1040 lb. This gives the *Queen* an advantage, as compared with the latter, equal to the possession of thirty-two 32-pounders—almost a whole deck; and, as compared with the former, of nearly five 32-pounders. At a distance of 7200 yards the *Queen* could pour her broadside of 58 guns into the *Twelve Apostles*, which could only reply with 34 guns: and the *St. George*, under the same circumstances, could only reply with 17. Our *Inspericuse*, 51, screw, throws a heavier broadside than an ordinary Russian 74; and our *Termagant*, 24, screw, a heavier broadside than some of the Russian 44-gun frigates. Of the three largest vessels of the Baltic fleet, the only Russian steamers which can fight guns on their main decks carry 28 and 12 guns respectively. The largest steam frigates in the Black Sea carry a 10-inch gun forward, and it is believed a second 10-inch gun, or 68-pounder gun aft, with four 24 pounders. The smaller steamers have a pivot 68-pounder, 68 cwt., and two 12-pounder carronades.

RUSSIAN SAINTS.—Some time ago the Czar sent pictures of his saints to Cronstadt, to protect the soldiers there. The last orders of the day issued at St. Petersburg, however, enjoined that, in the event of that city being threatened with a blockade or storm, all the pictures of the saints are to be removed to Moscow. The saints, which a few weeks ago were deemed able to protect others, are now deemed as incapable of protecting themselves as the old men, women, and children who are to be removed along with them.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

The grand ball, to be given by the Lady Mayoress at the Mansion-house, will take place on Tuesday, the 27th instant, instead of Tuesday the 20th, as previously intended.

Piper-major Ross, of the 42nd Highlanders, who carried off the prize at the Northern Meeting last year, is to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mackay, the Queen's piper. Ross gets his discharge from the regiment, and commences immediately his duties at the Palace.

Arrangements have been made for opening 44 miles of the Danish railway, between Tonning and Flensburg, for public traffic early in July.

The value of the imports into the colony of Victoria in 1853 was £15,842,637, of which about £13,300,000 was from Great Britain and British colonies, and about £1,700,000 from the United States. As the population last year was estimated at 300,000, this would give a consumption of about £60 per head.

The Marquis of Lansdowne has assisted 150 persons to emigrate from his estates in Kerry to Canada. Their passage, and all other needful expenses, are to be defrayed from Cork.

The Duke of Wellington has announced his intention to give annually a gold medal of his father, as a reward for historical proficiency in the Sherwick Grammar-school.

Mendicity is spreading rapidly at Madrid, a great number of families having been reduced to indigence by the stoppage of public works.

It is said to be the intention of the Bavarian Government very shortly to send a special mission to London, in connection with the Greek difficulties.

The Oxford Public Library was formally opened to the public last week, in the presence of the Mayor and a number of the leading citizens.

Mr. Edwards, President of the Honduras Railroad Company, reports that the Congress of Honduras has ratified the contract granting to the company 2,500,000 acres of land, to aid in the construction of the road.

The blockade of the Baltic ports has reduced the Customs revenue of the Czar for 1854 to one-fourth of what it was last year at this time.

The salaries and expenses of the Post-office for the ensuing year are estimated to amount to £1,525,325.

The state of St. Salvador was visited by a succession of earthquakes on the 16th of April, which nearly destroyed the capital. Nearly 600 families were buried beneath the ruins.

The American and West India mail-steamers brought in two millions and a half of dollars, besides £400,000 in English silver brought by the *Canada*.

Mr. Stephenson's tubular bridge over the Nile at Benha will, says the *Newcastle Chronicle*, be fit to rank by the side of the imperishable monuments of ancient Egyptian industry. It is to have ten arches, and is to be 370 feet in length. Unlike the Britannia-bridge, the railway will pass over the top.

The value of the cattle conveyed by the railways of the United Kingdom during the last year has been estimated as follows:—Oxen, £13,786,383; sheep, £6,511,897; calves, £1,08,293; pigs, £2,868,374: total, £23,478,7 7.

The grapes are looking well in the neighbourhood of Lisbon. The crop is very large, and, even allowing a good discount, there is a chance of an average vintage.

Lieutenant Strain's party, reported to have been lost in their attempted exploration of a new Darien route, are all safe again on the seaboard, with the exception of one man, who died on the return march.

Not less than eighteen or twenty defaulters were reported on the Paris Bourse on Monday, with liabilities amounting to 3,000,000 francs.

The number of British ships wrecked in the month of May amounted to 101. The record for April contained a list of 99 ships—making a total of 200 losses in the two months.

It is said that St. John's, Newfoundland, will be in direct telegraphic communication with all the cities in the United States, in October next.

Mr. Hunt has obtained leave to bring in a bill to afford greater facilities for the establishment of institutions for the promotion of literature, science, and the fine arts.

The *Madrid Gazette* contains a Royal order, stating that it is her Majesty's pleasure that all her Ministers shall, while acting in their official capacity, carry gold-headed canes, as emblems of authority.

The notorious Tom Provis, alias "Sir Richard Hugh Smyth, Knight, Baronet," the claimant of Ashton Court, was removed from Gloucester gaol to Millbank Prison, last week.

The inaugural profession of faith was made on Sunday at the Irish Metropolitan Roman Catholic chapel, by the newly-nominated rector of the Roman Catholic University of Ireland.

A general crusade against drunkenness has been commenced in New South Wales and Victoria. At Melbourne a Liquor Law League has been formed.

Chevalier Bunsen's son (the Rev. H. G. Bunsen, M.A., Vicar of Lilleshall, Shropshire, and domestic chaplain to his Grace the Duke of Sutherland) has been appointed "Lecture Secretary" for the Church Missionary Society, in the diocese of Lichfield.

Gold has at length been discovered in the only one of the Australian colonies in which it remained to be found. Letters from Freemantle, Western Australia, state that surface specimens have been obtained within fifteen miles of that place, yielding a good percentage of pure metal.

The farming class, as well as labourers, are again appearing amongst the emigrants from Ireland. On Friday last 200 emigrants left Waterford by one vessel; and they included several respectable-looking farmers and their families.

The Bishop of Gibraltar has submitted a project to the British Ambassador for the erection of an English church at Constantinople; and Lord Stratford de Redcliffe has promised to propose the subject to his Majesty the Sultan.

The police-force of Liverpool is said to be in a very disorganised state, and resignations are of frequent occurrence.

A collection of pictures has been purchased for the National Gallery, from Herr Kruger, of Minden. They are shortly expected to arrive in the country for delivery at their destination.

The Raughly O'Beirne Lighthouse, which is situated on the most dangerous part of the coast of Donegal, and has been erected for some years, has never yet been lighted.

A steamer *Gazelle* was wrecked on the Columbia river lately, killing twenty, and wounding thirty persons.

The British Electric Telegraph Company succeeded in laying down another submarine cable, on Friday week, between Portpatrick and the Irish coast.

The silver custodia, inlaid with jewels, together with maces of the same metal, and other silver articles belonging to the Corporation of Madrid, have been stolen.

Last week a father and son, the former aged ninety-six and the latter seventy, applied to the Blackburn board of guardians for relief.

There are altogether 1059 banking establishments in the United States. Their total circulation at the beginning of 1854 was about £41,0.0,000, while their specie was little more than £10,000,000.

During a thunderstorm which passed over Worcestershire last week, an old fisherman, who had sought shelter from the rain under a pear-tree, was killed by lightning.

Within the last eighteen months no less than 266 vessels have been built, or are now on the stocks, on the river Clyde. Their aggregate tonnage is 187,770 and their estimated value £5,000,000.

A letter from Melbourne by the last steamer, states that rents have fallen in the suburbs: "comfortable four-roomed cottages can now be had at from £250 to £300 a year!"

Great alarm has been caused in Bolton by the discovery that the reservoirs which supply that town with water do not contain more than will last from two to three weeks. As a first step to meet the emergency, the supply of water for manufacturing purposes is to be cut off.

The Brighton Railway Company issued 35,000 tickets, on Monday last, to different stations along their line, at the ordinary excursion rates.

The fracas at the Falkland Islands is to be settled by the payment of compensation to the American captain whose vessel was unjustifiably seized by an English lieutenant-of-war.

By direction of the Primate to the Dean of Limerick, all the pews in the cathedral of that city are now open to the public.

A gentleman was recently travelling from Chester to London in a railway carriage, when his hat flew off; without hesitating a moment, he pitched his hatbox, on which were his name and address, after it, wisely judging that the latter would lead to the return of the former—and it did so.

Lord Howden, the British Ambassador in Spain, is about to take his departure from Madrid, leaving Mr. Otway as Chargé d'Affaires. An important command in the East is said to have been placed at his Lordship's disposal.

The Chinese, of whom there are about 25,000 in California, have started a newspaper, in the language of the Celestial Empire, called the *Goldhill News*.

TO ARTISTS.—A French Stuffed LAY-FIGURE (female) for SALE, may be inspected at J BARNARD'S Artists' Color Warehouse, 339, Oxford-street, London

LAW.—ARTICLED CLERK. A Solicitor practising in one of the largest Towns in the Midland Counties, has a VACANCY in his Office for an ARTICLED CLERK, who can, if wished, be received into his House. Address A. Z., Post-office, Nottingham.

COUNTRY HOUSE WANTED, Furnished; in a good and healthy Neighbourhood, Rent moderate, Repair, district healthy, and grounds well stocked. North or West of London preferred. Apply (prepaid) to H. V., 54, New Bond-street, London.

MARINE RETIREMENT in SOUTH WALES.—A CLERGYMAN and his Wife, having two spare bedrooms, now finishing his cosy, new Marine Cottage, Glamorganshire, would be glad to RE-ENTERTAIN TWO BOARDERS on moderate terms for Two or Three Pupils to instruct in Classical Literature, Parisian French, &c. Apply to Mr. R. Jones, 18, Richmond-terrace, Clifton, Bristol.

TO BE SOLD, HIMALAYAN PHEASANTS of the following species:—A Cheer and Kaleege and of the above Mandarins Ducks (twenty-eight in number), viz., twenty Pheasants, eight Partridges. They are ready for the Bird-stuffer, are in good order, and to be SOLD for 5l., price, 30s., apply to Mr. Hawkins, Trunkmaker, 85, Strand.

FOR SALE.—Macaws, Parrots, Lories, Cockatoos, Parrakeets, Love-birds, &c., in great variety and magnificent plumage; very handsome Brazilian Canaries, and other Pictures. Piping Bullfinches, American Mocking Birds, and Virginian Nightingales in full songs; shown Tame also. 3 Dogs, Ladies' Birds, &c., at Hyam Seago and Jones's Wonderful Emporium, and other Curious, Rare Pets, handsome Canaries, elegant Welsh Horses, &c., very pretty Marmosets and other Monkeys; Lamas. These objects regarded as very moderate, and well worthy any gentleman's visit. Apply to C. A. LAW, Naturalist, 12, Camden-cottages, Camden New Town, close to the Camden-road Railway Station.

TO ENGINEERS, FOUNDERS, MANUFACTURERS, &c.—An Excellent BUSINESS TO BE DISPOSED OF, within the port of London, with first-rate front age to the river Thames, the buildings, erected within a few years on all of the most approved kind, and admirably adapted for the above-named branches, and are complete y fitted with plants, tools, and machinery, of the very best description, for execution of an extensive and lucrative chandise. There is a large and influential connection attached to these works, and can, therefore, no more gentlemen, of skill and energy, each taking a department could not fail to realise a handsome fortune. The capital required is very moderate, and two-thirds may be spread over a series of years if wished.—Apply to Mr. R. A. CHALLINOR, 44, Bucklersbury, London

BOROUGH STEAM WHEEL WORKS.—STEAM-MADE WHEELS of every description, of superior quality, supplied at the lowest remunerative prices, on the shortest notice.—Fancy, Newington-causeway.

JENNENS and BETTRIDGE'S Papier-Mâché Works and Show Rooms, Pall-Mall-street West, Belgrave-square, London; and Coleshill-street, Birmingham. Consists in an immense variety of every article manufactured of Papier Mâché. Jennens and Bettridge had the honour of receiving the only Prize Medal awarded to this manufacture by the Jurors of the Great Exhibition.

CARPETS, CURTAINS, CABINET and UPHOLSTERY FURNITURE, Purified Bedding &c., may be obtained in any quantity, and for goods display accommodation, at HOWITT and COMPANY'S Galleries and Warerooms, 295, 297, 298, 299, 300, High Holborn.

CARPETS.—LUCK, KENT, and CUMMING, Regent-street, Waterloo-place, are now selling largely before the great advances, are enabled to offer a large portion of their STOCK at the OLD PRICES. French Silk and Worsted Damasks, Tabouries, &c., at very great reductions; Turkey Carpets, Floor-cloth, &c.

PAPERHANGINGS and PANEL DECORATIONS, in Elegant New Designs.—White and gold panel drawing-room paper, 10½ per yard; ditto, with gold and green flock pilasters, 10d per yard; ditto, with crimson flock and gold, 1s. per yard, crimson and green flock dining-room papers, 8d. to 9d. per yard. Patterns sent to all parts of the kingdom for approval.—W. BRIDGMONT and COMPANY, manufacturers, 27, Somerset-street.

LOOKING-GLASS and CARVING and GILDING Manufactory. (Established, 1823). CHARLES NOSOTTI, 256 and 209, Oxford-street. These extensive shops and show-rooms are well known to the public generally as containing the most extensive assortment of Looking-glasses and Gilt Decorations of every description, in the best and most elegant taste of workmanship, and the unrivalled crystal-like beauty of the Glass, combined with moderate prices (which have long been the admiration of those who may be pleased to honour the Show Rooms with a visit). Designs forwarded on receipt of 13 postage-stamps—allowed for or being favoured with an order. Residence free of charge.—No. 209, Oxford-street.

CROGGON'S PATENT ASPHALTE ROOFING FELT, INODOROUS FELT, for damp walls, lining iron houses and in rolls, 27 inches wide, ONE PENNY per SQUARE FOOT. DRY HAIR FELT, for preventing the vibration of boat and deadening sound; and SHEATHING FELT, for ships' bottoms, on the copper like smooth. Samples, Amerithea, and testimonials sent by post.—Croggon and Co., 2, Downate-hill.

MODERATOR LAMPS, TABLE GLASS, and GAS CHANDELIERS.—The collection of MODERATOR and other LAMPS, in the new Show Rooms of T. R. GUMMES and CO. combine variety, elegance, with excellence of manufacture, and proportionate lowness of price. Rich Bronze Moderator Lamps, 15s., 30s., 35s., and upwards; Porcelain ditto, 30s., 35s., &c. Three forming vases for flowers, 15s. 6d. to 12 guineas. Every article is fully guaranteed and tried before delivery. Inspection of the finest Colza Oil. Show-rooms, 85, New Bond-street, three doors from Oxford-street. Old lamps taken in exchange.

TO VISITORS FROM THE COUNTRY.

MR. MECHI has the pleasure to acquaint his friends and the public, that he has made most extensive alterations and improvements in his premises, which he considers will recommend them always to the approval of his patrons. A perusal of taste should induce to inspect the newly-arranged STOCK of ELEGANCIES now exhibited in his new SHOW ROOMS, 4, LEADENHALL-STREET, near the India House. The Show Rooms contain the most superb and novel specimens in papier maché. Finding it impossible to display to their advantage nearly in the former space, he has fitted up splendid Show Rooms, to which he invites those who are desirous of seeing the most brilliant specimens this country can produce. He has the best Book in London of Ladies' and Gentlemen's Dressing cases, Work-boxes, Writing-desks, and every thing for the Toilet and Work Table. Illustrated Catalogue gratis. N.B. Mr. Mechi has secured the best location at the Crystal Palace.

EVANS'S PATENT SHOWER BATHS, Warm and Cold Baths, Slipper, Leg, Hip, and Foot Baths, Sponging and Douche Baths, and Baths of every description, combining all recent improvements, and every variety of shape and pattern.

Garden Rollers, Garden Engines, Horticultural Tools, Scythes, Shears, Syringes, and other Garden Requisites in great variety. Also a variety of new pattern Garden Seats, Chairs, &c.

Tea and Coffee Urns, Tea-trays, and machines of new and elegant designs, combining all the recent French and English improvements.

Papier Maché Tea-trays and Waiters, Table Cutlery, Plated Ware, Patent Dish Covers, and every article for the kitchen always on show at

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IMPROVED AIR CANES, for Shooting Rabbits, Rooks, Sea-Fowls, with ball; small birds, with shot; fish, with harpoon and line. Prices of these portable and elastic destructive weapons, from 5l., including pump and apparatus. REILLY, Gun Maker, New Oxford-street, London.

T. ANGLERS.—CHARLES FARLOW, 191, Strand, 121, STRAND, invites anglers to inspect his large and varied STOCK of superior FISHING TACKLE, at moderate prices. Trout flies, 3s. per dozen. Catalogues forwarded gratis.

TROUT-FISHING.—The Inventor of the DRIED FLY has the extension to this celebrated fact, and guarantees it to kill in any trout-stream in the kingdom. Trout-flies sent free).—Trout, 2½; Salmon, 3s.; Pike, 3s. and 3s. 6d. and Half Fly Lines, 3s. per score yards; Salmon Do., ditto, 4s. 6d. per score yards. Catalogues and Testimonials post free.—SAMUEL WARREN, 31, Friar-gate, Derby.

TROUT FISHING EQUIPMENT.—For 10s. 6d., rod, winch, line, 12 flies, and 6 casts. For 14s., best plain hickory rod, 30 yards of line, winch, 20 best flies, 2 casts, and fly case. For 42s., one of the best rods in London, with 3 tops, &c. For 21s., best hickory bottom rod, ringed, brazed, winch, line, 18s., second quality, not brazed, 8s. 6d. JOHN CHEER, 182, Oxford-street. Catalogues and Guides gratis.

ASHLEY'S HOTEL, Henrietta-street, Covent-garden, for families and gentlemen. Bed, 2s.; breakfast or plate, 1s. 3d.; dinner, 3s.; private sitting-room, 5s. A family or single Attendance charged, 1s. per day.

SURPLICES.—GILBERT J. FRENCH, BOLTON Lancashire, has prepared his usual large supply of Surplices. Parcels delivered Free at Railway Stations.

KING and CO., SILKMERCERS, &c., 243, REGENT STREET, respectfully solicit the attention of Ladies to the two following Advertisements, containing particulars of the Spring Silks, Muslins, Barèges, Shawls, &c., which are now ready for inspection, at 243, Regent-street.

LADIES residing in the Country or Abroad are respectfully informed that KING and CO., of Regent-street, forward to any part of the United Kingdom India, America, and the Colonies, Address, to KING and CO., Regent-street, London.

GLACE, STRIPED, and CHECKED SILKS, 25 to 50 in the full dress.
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MOURNING and HALF-MOURNING SILKS, 21 5s. 6d. the full dress:
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Extracted from the DAILY NEWS of May 27th, 1854.
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From time to time, for some years past, the House of Commons has ordered the Stamp-office to place before the world an exact account of how much business each newspaper in Eng and carries on with its subscribers. If the rule should be extended to all the commercial transactions of the empire—if all the grocers, and the farmers, and the cotton spinners and stockbrokers, had to state how much business they had been able to do during the year, the information might be vastly amusing to the inquisitive world at large, but the less ingenious of the whole would become as fidgeting that the custom would quickly come to an end. Let us suppose the "Return" exacted to the shareholders or members of a certain Insurance Co. Let us imagine, for instance, a Parliamentary paper giving the sums paid as incentive bar by the different Directors, M.P.'s. What agreeable contrasts we should see, and what lively compar sons might be drawn! The Millsons, and the Brookers, and the Sib.horps, as a class, would outbalance all to nothing the John Russells, and the Wilkinsons, and the Joseph Humes. The latter may do the world's best work, and carry on its industrial or the de facto government of the country; but, in the figures against their names, they would be weighed down at once by the pretentious regis ered dead weight of the jury consultancy, just as the "Times," with its advertisement-sheet deadweight, sinks figures into mere nonsi ical and straightforward propor ories. But the seamless who open other people's books are not likely to exhibit their own. Private transactions of private business are reserved for the grave alone, and having so limited the scope of our observations they soon come to be determined not to be nice.
As we have just said, the returns of the number of stamps issued to the different newspapers must forcibly to be ordered every few years, the sequel to the present quarterly form, and the first of the new papers has just been published. Before speaking about the figures in effect, we must in justice to ourselves say that we have not personally no objection to the issue of the Returns as question—our remarks were simply intended to call attention to the reasonableness of the proposal, and the gross partiality of its present exercise. If the world is to be made a victim of the commercial secrets of one class to the community let the world also know the income of all the rest. If Journalists are to be "shown up" for the forbearance of the press and the public, in 1850, showed that the "Daily News"—then the youngest of the daily morning papers—issued 1,054,000 stamps less than it did in the year beaten its three oldest competitors. Here are the figures in proof.

	Established.	Stamps issued.
Morning Chronicle	1770	2,12,547
Morning Post	1772	1,89,000
Morning Herald	1781	1,139,000
DAILY NEWS	1846	1,154,000

This was making great headway in a short time, so hadwe that mastered some public surprise, but perhaps, also, some newspaper jealousy. Attention was particularly called to the Morning Chronicle in a pamphlet-shower—and in the columns of a local paper by the same friend of letters—as the alleged "organ of that swell, the Daily News," on which £100,000 is said to have been spent," is suffering (from the pressure of the new penny stamp). The writer, fallen into, of course, unwittingly, arose from a comparison of the stamps issued during an unequal period of costly experiment when the paper was sold at 2½d., with the present time when it is sold at 1d., and the fact that and normal position amongst its rivals, and had ranked itself with them in price also. Advantage was taken of the same fact. As in all other commercial transactions of great magnitude, an English daily paper requires more than one year, or two, or three, for the settlement of what the normal average of business may be what the terms, which the DAILY NEWS has to offer, are likely to become and more extensively, for instance, in 1851, the year of the Great Exhibition, and sold less than a period of slighter fortune or public affairs came about. Hence, to take 1851 as the basis of an argument of average circulation most unfounded. Kings sit at the head of this journal through the eight years of its existence, these inquisitorial returns have been taking their annual round, which is, that the "Daily News" has made and held a better pace than any of its rivals, and has left a lead by any other London daily paper. For drawing attention to this fact in self-defence, we must we say, refer the reader to the papers who have helped us to our present height we know that we feel most powerful.
And now, to conclude the smooth task of speaking of ourselves, we may what is the present state of the case? Another Return just issued (Parliamentary Paper, No. 298). Omitting the class paper established by Mr. Cleave for circulation in the manufacturing districts, and leaving out the "Times"—because the Return gives a false idea of the circulation of that journal—the following are the figures as they now are given; and so, to all appearance, vastly swelling the total circulation—the total, in the last Quarter stand thus.

DAILY NEWS	310,191
Morning Herald	303,000
Morning Post	203,000
Morning Chronicle	167,500
EVENING PAPERS.	
Express (the evening Daily News)	127,133
Globe	57,000
Star	50,000
Standard	103,000

These figures show an increase of Newspaper circulation in the first quarter of 1854, as compared with the last quarter of 1853, as follows.—

DAILY NEWS, increase	23,000
Morning Herald, increase	11,000
Morning Post, increase	250
Morning Chronicle, no increase; but, on the contrary, a falling-off of	13,000

Again quoting from the above observation of our private affairs on public notice, we leave the above figures of the Quarterly Return to us their own story

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

No. 688.—VOL. XXIV.] SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 1854. [WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.

PROGRESS OF THE WAR AND THE ANTI-RUSSIAN ALLIANCE.

EVIDENTLY the plot thickens. Although events do not march quite so rapidly as to satisfy those who expect a great battle every week, and a naval or military victory every second day, the war gradually assumes large dimensions. To such persons as the King of Prussia, the contest that seems slow to the fiery-hearted critics of London and Paris, may appear endued with unnatural and inconvenient celerity. But whether people are patient or impatient, events take their own course. The great machine is in motion, and rolls by its own weight and the impetus which it has received. Among the remarkable—and, as they may hereafter prove, the important—events of the last few days, three are more especially deserving of mention:—First, the attempt of some of the minor Kings and Princes of Germany to serve the cause of Russia by a very unnecessary "Memorandum" or their opinions on the subject; second, the unexpected interview that has taken place between the Emperor of Austria and the King of Prussia at Tetschen; and, lastly, the still more unexpected transference of the Russian head-quarters from Bucharest, in Wallachia, to Jassy, in Moldavia.

The Bamberg Memorandum was drawn up at the town or that name—a name which is but too suggestive, to those who use the forcible English vernacular word, "Humbug!" of the true character of the document to which it has given birth. The parties who assembled or were represented on the occasion were the Kings of Bavaria and Saxony, and various Princelings and Dukelings of lesser note, who took it upon themselves, after the fashion of the celebrated and historical tailors of Tooley-street, to speak in the name of the great German people, and to recommend the Governments of Austria and Prussia to be "more deferential in their tone towards the Czar." In the estimation of these minnows among the Tritons, the demand made by the great German Powers for the evacuation of the Danubian Principalities on a day to be named by the aggressor, ought to have been accompanied by a demand for the simultaneous evacuation of the Black Sea by the Allied fleets of England and France. The force of impudence could scarcely have gone further. Such a document and such a recommendation are of course utterly worthless; but, as they probably owe their existence to the promptings of Russia, they are not without interest in showing on what terms the Czar would be happy to escape from the dilemma into which he has thrust himself. Irrespective of this consideration, the manner in which the "Memorandum" has been received in Germany ought to be a lesson to the small Sovereigns who were parties to it. It is not only the Austrians and Prussians who hold the impertinence in scorn, but their own subjects, who object that the name of Germans should be brought into disrepute by such presumptuous folly. Prussia and

REVEL.—THE INNER FORT.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

"THE FIRST SHOT IN THE BALTIC."—H.M. SHIPS "ARROGANT" AND HECLA" ATTACKING ECKNESS, RUSSIAN FINLAND.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

Austria may justly claim to represent Germany on this question; and where they lead the *roitelets* must follow. There was a time when, in the Russianised Courts of the smaller States of Germany, the very name of Nicholas was a watchword of security; but those days have gone by. The Kings of Saxony and Bavaria may preserve some portion of their ancient veneration for a Sovereign whom they believed to be not only all-powerful, but all-wise, and the best bulwark of European stability; but keener-sighted men have opened their eyes to the truth, and found that the golden image was but a calf at the best. Many who thought Nicholas almost a demigod a few months ago, now consider him a dangerous lunatic. Diplomatists and courtiers have lost faith in his power and reverence for his character at the same time. They see that he is encompassed and hemmed in by perils, that, turn which way he will, he may confront a declared enemy, or appeal in vain to a lukewarm and vacillating friend. When he was believed to be invincible, Europe swarmed with his admirers and defenders; but since it has been made patent to the whole world that his best armies and generals are not a match for the Turks alone—to say nothing of the Allies—his apologists and supporters have dropped off like May-blossoms in a frosty night. The Bamberg Memorandum has been scouted by this class of persons with even more contempt than by the rest of Germany; and the small Kings have taken nothing by their movement but a well-deserved snubbing from their more powerful brethren, and a loss of character among their own people.

The results of the personal interview between the Sovereigns of Austria and Prussia will show themselves in deeds, not in words. What passed between them will, perhaps, never be recorded; but it has been permitted to the statesmen, as well as the journalists, of both countries, and of all Germany, to know that there is agreement of policy between the two; and that Prussia not only supports the demand made by Austria for the evacuation of the Principalities, but agrees that the Czar's refusal shall be considered a *casus belli*. The adherence of Prussia, willing or unwilling, must therefore be considered as no longer doubtful. The policy of the minor German Powers, and especially of the egregious framers of the *Bamberg* Memorandum, was as the telegraphic wires of Vienna inform us, the topic of discussion. What opinion was passed upon the subject by the two Sovereigns may be easily imagined.

The sincerity of Austria and Prussia, in their opposition to the Emperor Nicholas, is doubted. Collusion, and a secret treaty with the Czar, are spoken of, as a possible key to the policy of Central Europe; but we must confess our disbelief in any such interpretation. It is not that we entertain a very high opinion of the good faith of the King of Prussia, or even of that of the Emperor of Austria, but because it is the plain and obvious interest of Germany, and of those two great States in particular, to restrain, *per fas aut nefas*, the ambition of Russia, that we do not suspect them of double dealing. But the reply of the Czar to the Vienna note will test the sincerity of both. The reply, when it comes, will be the next great point in the history of the struggle. If the Czar yield to the gentle coercion, and if one or both of those Powers should thereupon think proper to oppose the further prosecution of the war, there will be more than sufficient determination and strength in Great Britain and France, as well as in Turkey, to carry it on to its legitimate conclusion, without asking either for advice or for co-operation from Germany. If, however—as is most likely to be the case—the Czar should persist in his evil courses—lest his humiliation and stultification, before the eyes of all Europe, should lead to his deposition by his Court and nobility, it not to an issue more deplorable to his family—the German Powers will have no resource but to carry out the principle to which they have pledged themselves. In the most favourable case for the Czar, they must aid in restraining him. In the other and more likely one, they must aid in punishing him. If those Sovereigns were as wise as the people whom they govern, they would see that the aggrandisement of Russia, injurious to all Europe, is more injurious to Germany than to any of her neighbours; and they would support Great Britain and France, even more cordially, in the attempt to exact "material," and amply sufficient guarantees for the future good behaviour of the Czar, than they do in the attempt to back him out of his quarrel. But they are, perhaps, wise enough to be aware of all this. At all events, their present policy leads them strongly in that direction.

The explanation of the recent movements of Prince Paskewitsch upon Jassy remains a mystery. Whether it be that the repeated failures of the attacks upon Silistria, combined with the march of the British and French army to the relief of that fortress, and the simultaneous concentration of upwards of 100,000 Austrians upon the frontiers of Bessarabia, have led to this change in his tactics; or whether it be a step preparatory to the more resolute defence of the Crimea, or to the evacuation of the Turkish territories, it is impossible to state. It would, however, be instructive to find that, after a twelvemonth of bombast and bravado, the Russians had been compelled, by the fear of ignominious defeat at the hands of the enemy whom they affect to despise, to make a retrograde movement, and maintain themselves on the defensive. But the reasons of the movement are as yet inexplicable, for it will leave the forces before Silistria, and those in the Dobrudja, without the support which will be necessary to effect the capture of that fortress, or to maintain a position in Bulgaria. The Russian forces in the Danubian Principalities never, is now appears, exceeded 150,000 men. The Turks have 100,000 men under Omer Pacha and in the fortresses that guard the approaches to the Balkan. The Western Allies will, in a few days, have 50,000 of the finest troops in the world in full co-operation with the Ottoman commander; so that, leaving the menacing armaments of Austria out of the question, the Russians are fully matched. When we consider that the Black Sea fleet is utterly useless to them, and that the Allies command it for the support of military operations either in Europe or in Asia, and that St. Petersburg is effectually blockaded, the condition of the Czar and his fortunes seem so pitiable, as to give to his continuance in the war the character of hopeless fatuity, or rampant insanity.

PIRACY IN THE TURKISH WATERS.—The British schooner *Sarah*, of 160 tons, from Trieste to Latzina, when between the latter port and Tyenne, was attacked by two piratical Greek boats, and was plundered of her provisions and some money.

REVEL, IN THE GULF OF FINLAND.

THE *trafed* from Helsingfors is short; and in fine weather both the Finnish and Esthonian coasts may be seen from mid-channel.

The first buildings recorded as occupying the site of Revel were erected by Eric XIV., King of Denmark; but it was not until 1219 that Waldemar II., of Denmark, pulled down the fortress, and set about erecting a regular town. It soon became of sufficient importance to be quarrelled for by the Danes, the Swedes, the Livonian Knights, and even by the Pope himself; and it was formerly the great emporium of the Hanseatic League for the trade with Novogorod. In 1700 Revel was taken from the Swedes by the Russians.

Revel, says the author of the lively "Letters from the Baltic," is divided into two parts, the upper and lower town; the former, perched on the top of a rocky eminence, about a mile in circumference, encloses within its old Gothic walls the Dom, the castle, with the residence of the governor, the commandant's house, the gymnasium, and the houses of the nobility.

Revel has an arsenal; and the fleet from Cronstadt rendezvous here at times. In the harbour there is generally some Russian vessel of war—the hymn of the Russian sailors, which may be heard nightly at sunset, is not remarkably harmonious. The club of the nobility and *somata* contain some handsome apartments, and a collection of portraits of Swedish sovereigns, arms, and relics of remarkable persons. The English, French, and German newspapers are taken in here, and a stranger may readily procure admittance. At Revel is the mausoleum of Admiral Greig, the hero of Tschesme, who was buried here with great pomp in 1788.

The View of Revel upon the preceding page, from a Sketch by a Correspondent, shows that portion which is distinguished as the Inner Fort.

THE ATTACK ON ECKNESS.

THIS "gallant cutting-out affair" was minutely detailed in our Journal of last week, and illustrated with the official plan of attack. We now engrave the actual scene of this "frisking of the war," sketched by Lieut. Browne, of H.M.S. *Hecla*, showing the two ships in the narrow river, with well-wooded banks; just at the point of their coming with range of the enemy's battery. (See the several accounts at pp. 559 and 560 of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of last week.)

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

CONSTANTINOPLE, May 30, 1854.

THE Turks have again had the good fortune to worst the Russians before Silistria. On the 11th inst. the enemy endeavoured to force the passage of the Danube from the large island below the town, where he had already built a bridge communicating with the Wallachian side; but he failed in accomplishing his object. It was not till the 16th that he succeeded in crossing over a bridge of boats, which cost some sacrifices to lay down. Over this bridge the Russians passed to the number of 20,000, which, joined to 20,000 more who had advanced from Rassova, made a force of 40,000 men, with which two assaults were made, on the 16th and 21st, against the fort called Arab Tabejasi. This fort is an outwork of considerable extent, situated at 2500 yards from the place, and defends a line of about 500 yards of the inner enceinte. The assaults of the Russians were on both occasions unsuccessful; and, on the 21st, Moussa Pacha made a sortie with a body of infantry and cavalry, which swept the approaches of the enemy, killed 300 men, and wounded many more. The Russians are commanded by Prince Paskiewitsch and the Grand Duke Constantine. They have not hitherto attacked Silistria on the Fontracan side, and the communications are therefore still open with Schumla in that direction.

The combined fleets, in the meanwhile, have been lying almost inactive at Kavarna. Anapa, which is the only point still held by the Russians, on the coast of the Black Sea, was visited by Admiral Lyons on the 19th; and the whole of the Circassian coast has been examined, and arms and ammunition distributed to the people there, who have been masters of the country since the evacuation of the Russians. We shall shortly hear of Anapa being attacked by the combined fleets.

The agitation caused in the Bosphorus by the movements of our troops has given another aspect to Constantinople. The Golden Horn is filled not only with traders of the various nations which hold intercourse with Turkey, but with the largest and fastest steamers and transports of the English navy. Those masterpieces of naval architecture which have been produced by the necessity of lessening the distance between England, America, India, Australia, and the West Indies, are lying at the mouth of the Sea of Marmora, basking in the burning sun of Scutari, and waiting for freights of human beings to take to the Black Sea. In the midst of the fine-bowed clipper transport, the razor-billed screw, and graceful paddle steamer of fast constructions, are the antiquated forms of those old fixtures the *Megara* and *Simoom*. The *Victoria*, sitting on the water is like a sword-fish by the side of the *Megara*. The Turks, however, seem little curious of these contrasts, and they leave alike unobserved the graceful beauties of the one and the heavy blemishes of the other. They wander, as usual, into St. Sophia and the Sultanieh, say their prayers, and put their trust in Allah. I had heard it said that there was danger in visiting St. Sophia during the holy festival of Rhamazan; and Mr. Theophile Gauthier says, in his admirable "Letters on Constantinople," that he postponed his visit to that celebrated mosque until Bairam, for fear of offending the faithful. Whether it be owing to the presence of so many Europeans in Stamboul, or whether the Turks are really less prejudiced than it was said they were, I found no difficulty in visiting this splendid edifice, and thus witnessing it in its gala attire. I need make no apology for entering into a description of the scene, as I believe that St. Sophia has another aspect on festive days from that which strikes one on ordinary occasions. It is no longer a vast and resounding space, in the midst of which some straggling forms are to be descried kneeling at their prayers, or chanting in a corner. The place was crowded with people of many climes: the official Turk, with his fez and frock-coat; the old Musulman, with his turban and flowing gown; the Persian, with his fur bonnet out like a turner's chisel; the Circassian, with his pistol and cartouches, which hang like pan-pipes on his breast. Women, white and brown and black, were congregated in the place; whilst some were to be met in corners chanting forth the ceremonial prayers, others making genuflexions, and numbers washing in the fountains. Most were seated on their hams, or stood around a space, where a finely-turbaned person, rested behind a board and talked aloud, exhorting, teaching, and influencing by his eloquence his numerous audience. The unfortunate Turk who keeps the Rhamasan, and therefore must abstain from drink, and food, and smoke, during a space of hours which extends from sunrise to sunset, is fed substantially with sermons during the period of his fast. Whether these sermons were of the fanatic kind or not, I am unable to say, as it was impossible to understand a word of what the eloquence consisted: but the public around seemed to be considerably edified and pleased, as much by the words which escaped the speaker as by the gesticulation which he made, and the noise he created by slapping his hands upon his desk to enforce the argument. The preaching was not, however, confined to one man, but there were several in various parts of the Mosque, all equally busy in gesticulation, but surrounded by much smaller audiences than the first. It was strange, in the midst of the decorous Turks who satlistening and telling beads, to watch the children rushing amongst the groups, playing unconsciously at hide-and-seek behind the pulpits; and this reflection naturally followed—how do such boisterous children make such staid and fatalistic men? This problem might be solved here without difficulty, but would, perhaps, be tedious to the reader. Deeply altered as is St. Sophia since it fell into the hands of the Musulmans, it will never be anything but a Christian temple. The forms of the old mosaics, St. Sophia in gigantic stature, the Four Evangelists, whose faces are concealed under large roses of gilding; the Greek crosses, which meet the eye beneath the florid ornament which the Turks have painted there; all this, as well as the bloody hand of Mahomet II. imprinted on the marble column, twelve feet above the ground, reminds one of the Christian worship put down for centuries by Mahometan conquest.

The silence and repose in which the streets of Stamboul are plunged during the days of the Rhamazan are the natural consequence of the system which turns night into day. It is difficult, indeed, to comprehend in what the privation of the Musulman consists, even though he be a man of the strictest caste. He sleeps the greater part of the day, and takes his meals at night. At sunset, therefore, the shops, which have been closed since sunrise, begin to open; the cafés are cleaned out and made ready; the peripatetic vendors of sweets, of drinks, and tobacco, prepare for themselves a convenient place; and, when the solitary gun has fired which announces the close of day, the faithful rush out of their houses, take their preliminary pipe and raki, and fall to at—I was about to say—breakfast. The cafés are filled with people, the mosques are illuminated internally by little oil-glasses, fastened to wooden lustres that drop from the ceilings; the minarets are encircled by brackets of light. The cords which hang between the steeples are strung with lamps, which swing gracefully in the air, and simulate favourite verses of the Koran. The crowds wave to and fro, and the Bosphorus and Golden Horn reflect as much as they can the glitter of the illuminations. But, after all, a night of Rhamazan is not the brilliant affair of which I had heard so much. We have done much more with light, in imitation of the East, than the Easterns ever have. The illuminations are not on so large a scale as to render a lantern in the street an unnecessary precaution; and those who have written enthusiastically on this, as on most other Oriental subjects, have committed in a greater or less degree the offence which is now designated by the French as *la blaque de l'Orient*.

It appears that yesterday a slight change took place in the Ministry here. It is of little moment, I believe. The Ministry is still of the *mumee* Redschid, but perhaps more inclined than heretofore in the English direction. The Grand Vizier Moustapha Pacha is succeeded by the Rapudan Pacha, Mehemet Kebresli; and the post of High Admiral is given to Kalil Pacha. The pretext for the change is I am told, the conduct of the Grand Vizier in the affair of the Catholic Greeks, as raised by General Baraguay d'Hilliers.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

SCHUMLA, May 22, 1854.

The visit of the English and French Generals and other distinguished strangers here has excited a great deal of interest.

On Saturday intelligence reached us that Omer Pacha, accompanied by them, would arrive here about three or four o'clock. A considerable number of troops was drawn up on that part of the plain, close to the Varna road. The Pachas, mounted on very fine horses, and followed by their respective suites, joined them. The unusual number of officers of distinction, in comparison of men, who were there, threw a degree of brilliancy on the Ottoman army, which at other times, from the small proportion of stylish officers, has rather a tame appearance. After waiting for several hours, the most terrific storm of thunder and lightning that has been known here for many months, came on, accompanied with heavy torrents of rain. The troops had no shelter, and bore this outburst of the elements with patience. Ismael Pacha, with a view of ascertaining if the party was likely to come up, rode for several miles along the Varna road, and then ascended a height, that gave a very extensive view of the country all around. After remaining there for some time, and looking in vain in every direction, he returned to the troops. Before receiving, however, to give up hope of seeing the military chiefs, the commander of the troops waited for nearly another hour; and, there being no sign of their approaching, the troops were ordered to their quarters.

The plain—which, in summer, is nearly as dry as the flooring of a room—became, at the close of the day, like a lake or marsh. The foot soldiers must have encountered considerable difficulty in reaching their tents; for even those on horseback were put to inconvenience in crossing the streams of water that found their way in to the hollows and roads.

The fierceness of the storm effectually stopped the progress of the party from Varna. All the great men were thrown into a sad plight. A deserted village was the only place they could get shelter in; there, however, neither food nor beds could be procured, and the whole night was spent in a most comfortless manner. A start was made early in the morning, and about nine o'clock the military chiefs and their attendants reached the plain, where they found the troops drawn up in the same manner as on the previous day. A number of movements were performed by the different regiments, to the satisfaction of the English and French Generals. Marshal St. Arnaud then addressed the officers in the style in which Napoleon was in the habit of speaking to his soldiers. The words were interpreted by a Dragoman, who having never been placed in a situation so marked and public, shook with emotion, and his voice had a faltering and indistinct sound. Breakfast to the illustrious party, in one tent, and to the Pachas in another, wound up the business of the morning. Four roasted lambs were among the eatables, and that part of the fare was certainly enough to prevent any reflections being made on the hospitality of the distinguished individual who furnished the repast. Worn out with fatigue, Omer Pacha and his guests betook themselves to their apartments. Lord Raglan, having rested for some hours, mounted a horse, and accompanied by his Aides-de-Camp and General Cannon, and Captains Simmonds and Gavoni, rode along the heights, from which he had a view of the fortifications. He was surprised that such extensive works should have been made to defend a place which was not in itself of much importance, nor commanded any great road or pass.

Yesterday morning the illustrious visitors departed, at four o'clock; and as they passed through the plain there was another turn-out of Pachas and troops. After the party had reached the end of the line, they all dismounted, and the Pachas, having been formed into a circle, were addressed by Marshal St. Arnaud and Lord Raglan, who took up their position in the middle of it. We believe that the foreign Generals were agreeably surprised at the good appearance of the Turkish troops, and at their knowledge of military evolutions.

THE ALLIED TROOPS AT VARNA.

Step by step the Allied forces are drawing nearer to the scene of war. Last week we announced the departure of the French and English troops from Gallipoli and Scutari; and the last mail from the Black Sea brings word of their arrival at Varna. On the 25th ult. 500 French soldiers, including a company of Zouaves, disembarked, and on the following day a company of the Royal Sappers and Miners joined them. The excitement caused by these arrivals appears to have been much greater than was produced at Scutari. The Zouaves especially, with their Turkish dress, have astonished the natives.

Soon after landing (says a Varna correspondent) one of these gentry, whose capabilities of absorption of liquid appears to be very great, rolled into the middle of a crowd of lookers-on in the streets, in an exceedingly happy state, rattling a French song at the top of his voice; and, catching sight of an old Turk near him, he shouted to him at the top of his voice, "Les Russes, eh?—plouf!" and delivered a blow at an imaginary Muscovite, to the extreme astonishment of the old gentleman, and to the immense amusement of the spectators. The Turkish soldiers were evidently well pleased at the arrival of the Allies. They lent them a hand as they got out of the boat to step on to the pier, and fraternised afterwards in many ways. A sentry goes through his manual and platoon exercises for the amusement of a Zouave, who, in return, shows him how he performs those evolutions. A conversation of signs goes on between a long French *sapeur* and a Turkish soldier, who afterwards start off together to a baker's or a wine shop. The vivandiere, with her glazed hat, bound with tricoloured ribbon, stuck coquettishly on the side of her head, her tunic showing a very pretty *taille*, and her pantaloons, with the double red stripe, was the most astonishing sight to the Turks, soldiers and civilians. An Arab soldier, with a face as black as ebony, and glisten-

ing as a piece of sea-coal, walked up towards her, grinning until she could see every one of his supernaturally white teeth. She appeared to join in the black man's hilarity, though unable to see the point of it.

Sir George Brown and staff arrived at Varna on the 29th. The division is to be encamped at Devna, about eighteen miles on the road to Schumla, to which place the Royal Sappers and Miners had been sent forward. The 77th and 33rd regiments disembarked on the 31st; as did also a troop of Horse Artillery. The 4th Hussars were in one of the transports in Varna Bay; but had not yet landed.

As we stated last week, the chief portion of the French troops have been sent by land. A letter from Adrianople, of the 29th ult., states that a dozen superior officers and attendants had been there for two weeks making preparations for the comfortable reception of the men, who were to have been quartered there for some time. Owing to the arrangements made with Omer Pacha, however, they will, no doubt, march forward to Schumla.

RETREAT OF THE RUSSIAN ARMY.

The most important piece of news from the Danube is the removal of the Russian head-quarters from Kalarasch to Jassy, it being looked on as a convincing proof that Prince Paskiewitsch deems it necessary to keep in watchful eye on the movements of the Austrian army in Transylvania. Several regiments, which were advancing by forced marches to the Danube, have received orders to halt in Moldavia. The Transylvanian frontier is said to be swarming with Cossacks. Prince Gortschakoff is to retain the chief command of the troops on the right bank of the Danube. The Wallachian correspondent of the *Vienna Medical Journal*, writing on the 1st of June, gives a deplorable picture of the Russian army in the Dobrudja. "Their embarrassment," he says, "increases from hour to hour. All the purposes are continually removed, deceived, attacked, and taken unawares by the Turkish Irregulars, who receive all possible assistance from the malevolent inhabitants of the country." And these "inhabitants" are the very people who were to rise at once against the Sultan's authority, as soon as the Russians made their appearance!

THE SIEGE OF SILISTRIA.

Up to the 8th inst., the besieging army had achieved no important advance. No detailed account has yet arrived of what took place before Silistria later than the 24th ult., but the tenor of all the despatches is highly encouraging. An experienced European staff officer, writing from Schumla, on the 26th ult., says, "The Russians seem to be exclusively occupied with the siege of Silistria. . . . The garrison has displayed the greatest bravery, and is worthy of the admiration of Europe. It is daily gaining confidence in its own powers of resistance, and there is every reason to believe that it will offer an example as memorable as that of Ibrahim, and other Turkish places in the preceding wars." The loss of the Russians is said to have been enormous, although they still maintain their usual favourable style of reports. In one instance alone, on the 17th May, which they describe in a St. Petersburg bulletin, they actually admit having lost two men, but then they add that the Turks lost sixty.

The report that Omer Pacha intended to advance to the relief of Silistria is now contradicted. An attempt was made, according to one account, to send a "flying convoy" of provisions to the garrison; but the Cossacks had been scattered all over the country in such numbers that the convoy was forced to return to Schumla. Omer Pacha's army, which has recently been reinforced by 26,000 regular troops from Widdin, is now estimated at 106,000 infantry, 14,000 cavalry, and 140 guns.

Devna, where the English division, under Sir George Brown, has encamped, is about half-way between Varna and Schumla.

A BRILLIANT TURKISH VICTORY.

One of the most complete defeats which the Russians have sustained during the present campaign on the Danube, took place on the 26th ult., in the neighbourhood of Karakal, in Lower Wallachia. An Englishman, who was present, and who writes from the "Headquarters of the Army of Wallachia, Krajova, June 1," gives the following animated description of the affair, in which the bravery of the Turks seems to have surpassed anything which has yet happened since the war began:—

Our regiments of cavalry, of whom three were regulars, and one of our old friends the Bashi-bozouks, left Krajova, our head-quarters, on the morning of the 24th ult., and moved on Slatina, on the Aluta, where, as we were informed, the Russians were concentrated. On the morning of the 26th ult. we perceived in large force at Slatina. There was only an unimportant skirmish. They moved on Karakal, while the Turks followed on foot; and on the 30th May, exactly at noon, the affair began. We had, as I have already told you, four regiments of cavalry, about 2000 horses, and no cannon; while the Russians had four regular regiments—viz., the 1st and 10th Hussers, the 9th Lancers, and the 2nd Dragoons, six pieces of artillery, and 500 Cossacks. Owing to the admirable tactics of Omer Pacha and Skender Beg, this force was soundly thrashed before four o'clock. The numbers and results, as given officially, are 1000 Russians killed during the whole affair, but the most reliable accounts state 3000 horses brought to Krajova, the same number left dead at Karakal; more than 1000 muskets, lances, sabres, uniforms, equipments of all sorts and sizes, carriages full of baggage; 15 prisoners; and what, after all, is the best of the thing, and does not often happen in warfare, the six pieces of cannon, all with perfect harness, with their carriages, *caissons*, &c., *au grand complet*, all captured by an infantry force without guns, and defeated by us in triumph to Karakal. After beating the Russians handsomely, we pursued them as far as the Aluta, where a good number were drowned. The colonel of the 10th Russars, the Major of the same regiment, and more than ten other officers, were killed. The whole of the Russian artillerymen, without exception, were killed at their guns.

Yesterday morning a courier, who had been sent for the purpose from Karakal, conveyed the news of our victory to Krajova, and the return of our column with all its trophies. In an instant the whole of the army mounted on horseback, and came out to meet us, with a band of music at their head, and uttering shouts of joy. All Krajova met us. All the trophies were there. The prisoners marched first. The six guns above all produced a prodigious effect. They are the first that our corps has taken during a campaign in which it has invariably been victorious. The Turks were in the greatest enthusiasm—and, indeed, they had good reason to be so. Last night Krajova was illuminated. A courier has been sent to Omer Pacha. The guns are in the square of the town, and will remain with our corps *d'armée* during the whole of the campaign. The Turks have lost 100 killed and 200 wounded, as a result of the affair will doubtless be to give us definitive possession of the Aluta; and we shall take up position at Slatina and Karakal. The Russians are in full retreat on Bucharest.

THE BLACK SEA FLEETS.—CIRCASSIA.

Voluminous despatches have been received from the Allied fleets within the last few days, announcing the blockade of the Danube, and giving a detailed account of the proceedings of the squadron which was sent to co-operate with the Circassians along the coast. These despatches amply confirm the accounts previously received regarding the complete discomfiture of the Russians in Circassia. The native chiefs with whom Admiral Lyons communicated declared that they only waited for an order from the English and French, to rise and march against the Russians. As a proof of good-will, Admiral Lyons caused 15,000 ball cartridges, which had been captured from the enemy, to be given to the Circassians—9000 in the name of the English, and 9000 in the name of the French; and 1000 additional were given from the *Caradoc*. From Soukoum Kaleh, a pretty and wealthy town, the Russians, although 3000 or 4000 strong, had retreated in such haste that they had been unable to destroy the whole of the ammunition and stores. About thirty cannon were left in the fort, a portion of which only were spiked; and, along with these, the Allied troops found several thousand balls and shells, a quantity of grape shot, and between 700 and 800 tons of coal. Redout Kaleh was in the hands of the Russians when the squadron made its appearance before the town; but they soon fled, after having set fire to their stores, and destroyed a bridge of boats to prevent pursuit. The two establishments of Soukoum Kaleh and Redout Kaleh were the forts from which the Russians supplied their army in Asia, which must now be greatly at a loss for stores and ammunition. Soukoum and Souk Jouk Bay are the only points retained by the Russians; their garrisons in them have even been augmented, and now form an effective force of 30,000 men. This concentration is not far from the Straits of the Kertch, as is thought by Admiral Hamelin to indicate that the enemy intends to defend the peninsula of Taman, wh ch commands that Strait.

A letter from the Crimea, of the 22nd ult., announces that an officer attached to the staff of the Russian general commanding at Odessa had just arrived at Sebastopol to demand reinforcements. At that date Tiflis was regarded as in great danger from the Circassians. Sebastopol will have enough to do at home without sending aid to Tiflis.

THE CONFERENCE AT TETSCHEN.

The result of the Conference at Tetschen, between the Emperor of Austria and the King of Prussia, on Friday last, is said to have been highly satisfactory. Three grand points have been gained, we are told, favourable to the cause of Europe:—the Czar; viz.:—Austria and Prussia have drawn up a note, to be remitted to the minor States lately assembled at Bamberg, to the effect that any and every state is at liberty to join the Austro-Prussian Treaty; but that neither the treaty itself, nor the accession of any Power, will be made subjects of any debate at the Bund. Secondly, Prussia has thrown no difficulties in the way of the regular and consistent execution of the late treaty. Thirdly, Prussia consents to take the note issued by Austria on the first day of this month as the *summation* provided for in the treaty, and will back it by a special mission, which is to be entrusted to Count Manteuffel.

A despatch from Vienna, of Wednesday, says:—"It is not doubted that Russia has rejected the Austrian summons." If that be true, Count Manteuffel may as well remain at Berlin.

THE BALTIC FLEET.

A despatch from Copenhagen, of Tuesday last, gives a rumour that some English vessels, off Brahestad, in Finland, had demanded the gunboats building there, and, on the being refused, had destroyed the gunboats and a large number of merchant-ships, fired the wharf, on which were 10,000 barrels of tar, and destroyed altogether 200,000 silver roubles' worth of property. A telegraphic message from Hamburg, of Monday, states, on the authority of a Swedish journal, that "Admiral Napier was in the Bay of Svesborg. From the lighthouse, ten sail of the Russian fleet had been seen, sheltered behind the fortifications. Admiral Corry, with his division, was off Hango Head."

The following despatch gives a different version of the affair:—

LUBECK, Wednesday.

Admiral Plumridge has been punishing the Russians. He has destroyed their dockyards at Ulcaborg and Brahestad, burning 10,000 barrels of tar at one place, and 18,000 at another. He has also taken several of the gun-boats which had been prepared to oppose the English fleet. Ulcaborg and Brahestad are not far distant from each other in Finland, on the upper part of the Gulf of Bothnia. Ulcaborg is, next to Abo, the chief commercial town of Finland.

The screw line-of-battle ships, consisting of the *Duke of Wellington* 131, bearing the flag of Vice-Admiral Sir Charles Napier, Commander-in-Chief; *Edinburgh*, 58, flag-ship of Rear-Admiral Chads; *St. Jean d'Acre*, 101; *Auxerlitz*, 100; *Princess Royal*, 91; *Cæsar*, 91; *Cressy*, 80; *Blenheim*, 60; *Hogue*, 60; paddle steam-frigate *Penelope*, 16; and a few smaller steamers, remained at anchor in Ruggen Roads, Finland, for a longer period than was intended, in consequence of the prevalence of dense fogs at frequent intervals. The navigation of the Gulf of Finland under the most favourable state of the weather is attended with difficulty, especially for ships of great draught of water. At the present time it is rendered more hazardous from the fact of the Russians having removed the various buoys and beacons which denoted the usual channels. As an instance of one of the impediments which the enemy has thrown in the way of the safe progress of the fleet up the Gulf of Finland, it may be cited that the lighthouse on the island of Hango, which is situate at the north western entrance of the Gulf, has been pulled down, and the usual marks for vessels entering the roadsteads have been removed. Throughout the whole length of the Gulf similar proceedings have been adopted by the enemy, but these will not have the effect intended. By sending in advance two or three small steamers, to take soundings and bearings, the large ships will be able to shape a safe course to Sveaborg, and thence to the vicinity of Cronstadt.

Up to the latest dates no further bombardment of the forts commanding Hango Udd had taken place. Their speedy destruction would have been easily effected, but attended with very little advantage. The fortresses of Sveaborg mount 800 guns of large calibre, one-half of which, it is stated, could be brought to bear on any ships attempting to pass through the narrow channel to the harbour of Helsingfors. In the garrison are several thousand artillerymen, so that

INSPECTION OF BRITISH TROOPS, ON HER MAJESTY'S BIRTHDAY, AT SCUTARI.

the line of the Danube, this can hardly take place during the present campaign, which will be closed by the second or third week in November. The Allies, once in the field, will be sadly puzzled by their want of cavalry, and their communications will be very difficult to keep up.

Lord Lucan and Lord Cardigan, with some artillery and detachments of the 8th Hussars (under Major de Salis), and 17th Lancers (under Colonel Lawrensen) were quartered in a small village on the left bank of the Bosphorus, and about four miles from Scutari. The horses were in admirable condition, and but a very inconsiderable number had been lost during a prolonged and tedious voyage.

The French had collected two regiments of cavalry at Gallipoli, and these, together with the English division encamped in the neighbourhood, were reviewed by Marshal St. Arnaud on the morning of the 31st ult. The whole of the troops were in magnificent order; and the French General frequently expressed his admiration at their soldier-like appearance.

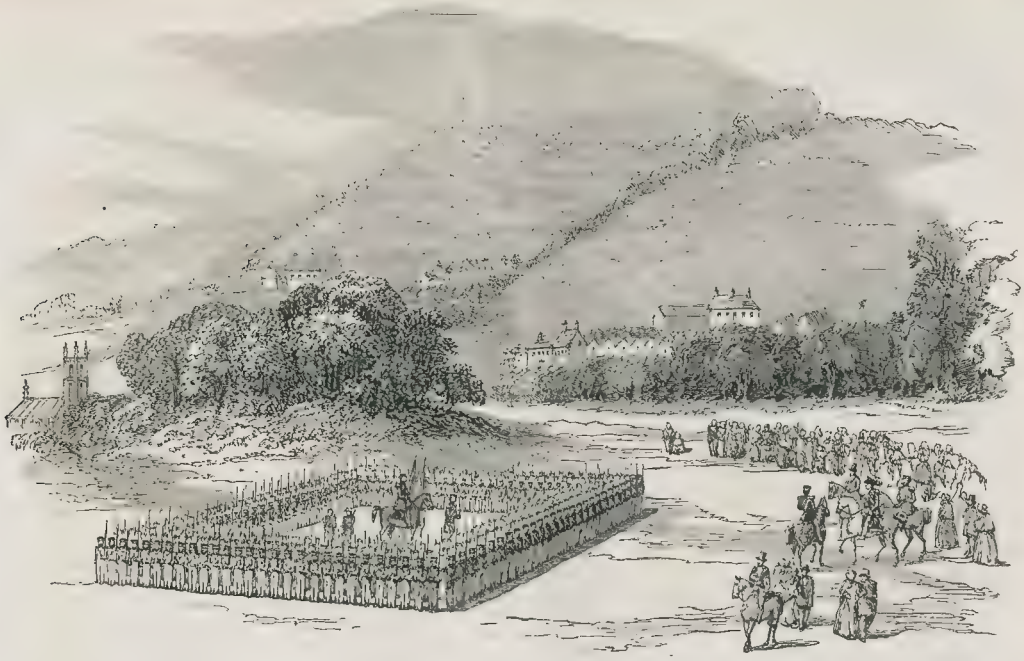
HER MAJESTY'S BIRTHDAY AT SCUTARI.

At a quarter to eleven o'clock all the regiments in barrack and camp were paraded separately, and afterwards marched to the ridge which bounds one side of the shallow but broad ravine which separated the camp of the brigade of Guards from the camp of the other brigades. The regiments then on the ground were the 3rd battalion Grenadier Guards, 1st battalion Coldstream Guards, 1st battalion Scots Fusilier Guards, 7th Fusiliers, 19th Foot, 23rd Welsh Fusiliers, 30th Foot, 33rd (Duke of Wellington's) Regiment, 41st (Prince of Wales') Regiment, 47th Foot, 49th Foot, 55th Foot, 77th Foot, 88th Connaught Rangers, 93rd Highlanders, 95th Foot, and the Rifle Brigade first battalion, and a battery of six pieces of artillery. The total force on the ground consisted of about 15,000 men; and, for weight, stature, and strength, could not be matched, probably, by a similar body of any troops in Europe.

The brigade of Guards, crossing the hollow, took up their position in columns of companies on the crest of the hill on the right flank, then came the 93rd (the 42nd and 79th regiments are still wanting of this brigade), completing the Duke of Cambridge's division. Sir De L. Evans' division, consisting of the 30th Foot, 41st Foot, 47th Foot, 49th Foot, 55th Foot, and 95th Foot, was formed next on their left; and Sir G. Brown's (the light) division, composed of the 7th Fusiliers, the 23rd Fusiliers, 19th Foot, 33rd Foot, 77th Foot, 88th Foot, with the Rifle Brigade attached, formed on the flank; three of the regiments being drawn up at right angles to the rest of the line in consequence of the narrowness of the point. The apathy of the Turks was astonishing on this occasion. There were some three or four gentlemen on horseback, with their pipe-bearers in attendance, and two or three native carriages full of veiled women on the ground; but, though Scutari, with its population of 100,000 souls, was within a mile and a half, it did not appear that half a dozen people had been added to the usual crowd of camp followers. The Greeks were more numerous. At twelve o'clock Lord Raglan, attended by Sir George Brown, the Duke of Cambridge, Sir De Lacy Evans, the Earl of Lucan, the Generals of Brigade Bentinck, Sir C. Campbell, Pennefather, Airy, Adams, Buller, their Aides-de-Camp and Majors of Brigade, and Lieutenant Colonel de Lagondie and Chef d'Escadron Vico, to the number of thirty or forty, appeared on the ground in a perfect blaze of gold lace and scarlet and white plumes. They were received by the bands of all the regiments striking up "God save the Queen." Lord Raglan having ridden slowly along a portion of the lines, wheeled round and took his post in front of the centre regiment. After a short pause, just as the guns of the *Niger* were heard thundering out a Royal salute from the Bosphorus in honour of her Majesty's Birthday, the bands struck up the national air again, and down at once fell the colours of every regiment drooping to the ground. The effect of these 32 masses of richly dyed silk, encrusted with the names of great victories, falling so suddenly to the earth as if struck down by one blow, was strange and inexpressible. In another minute a shout of "God save the Queen" ran from the Rifles on the left to the Guards on the right, and threw tremendous cheers, gathering force as they rolled on with the accumulated strength of a thousand throats from regiment after regiment, made the very air ring, the ears tingle, and the heart throb. Some of the regiments pulled off their shakos, and waved them in the air in accompaniment to the shouts, others remained motionless, but made not less noise than their fellows. After the cheering had died away the march past began in quick time. In the evening, a handsome obelisk, erected in the centre of the Guards' camp, and crowned with laurel, was surrounded by fireworks.

The accompanying Illustration shows the Review; the troops massed in columns, at the base of the hill on which are situated the Scutari barracks. On the right is the cypress-grove of the cemetery. On the left of the view is Stamboul and Seraglio Point, with mosques and minarets in the distance; the Sea of Marmora, with shipping, steamers, &c.

ENCAMPMENT OF BRITISH TROOPS AT SCUTARI.



INSPECTION OF THE SECOND ROYAL SURREY MILITIA, AT GUILDFORD.

ROYAL SUSSEX MILITIA ARTILLERY.

On the 1st of June, this regiment—Duke of Richmond Colonel, Lieut-Colonel Carr commanding—practised at the Dépôt, Southover, Lewes (represented in the accompanying Engraving). The square openings in the wall of the gun-shed are supposed to represent the embrasures of a regular fortification, and they command the fine range of the South-downs. The two large guns on the right are 32-pounders, mounted on a dwarf traversing platform, about one-third of a circle, on which the guns turn. The regiment is also practised in the use of the field-batteries and mortars, at Woolwich.

The helmet, which is somewhat after the Prussian form, has just been completed. The devices on the front are very handsome: the decorations being—a Star of the Order of the Garter, in silver, with red cross in the centre; a scroll, with the words "Royal Sussex Militia," underneath; and two gilt cannons, crossed. The body of the helmet is of polished black leather.

INSPECTION OF THE SECOND ROYAL SURREY MILITIA.

On Friday, the 2nd instant, an inspection of the above regiment took place in the grounds belonging to the Prince of Wales Inn, in the Woodbridge-road, by Colonel Bushe. The regiment mustered nearly 700 men on parade, commanded by their noble Colonel, the Earl of Lovelace. The company was very numerous.

The regiment was turned out in open column of companies; and, having been inspected by the officers, the men were served out with ten rounds of blank ammunition per man. The regiment was wheeled into line, the ranks opened; and, on the arrival of the Inspecting Officer, the Regiment presented arms. Colonel Bushe then inspected the line, the Band playing the National Anthem; after which the Inspecting Officer complimented Lord Lovelace on the appearance of the men, and their remarkable steadiness under arms. The ranks were closed and broken into column right in front; they then marched past in open review order and quarter distance column opened out, wheeled into line, advanced in line, charged, retired by files from right of companies, covered by the light infantry companies, firing and retiring. The regiment got the word—front turn square on the leading divisions; skirmishers called in, and forcing the rear face, prepared to resist cavalry; the square fired by files from right and left of faces, and kneeling ranks fired a volley, which was performed in a steady and very soldier-like manner. The square was reduced into column, and retired. The column then advanced, covered with the light infantry company, and formed a square on the leading division, commenced file firing from the right and left of faces; skirmishers called in, and formed the rear face in a very steady manner. The leading ranks fired a volley, and loaded. The square was then reduced into column, and wheeled to the left, and deployed into line upon the leading division. The line retired, halted, fronted, and formed quarter distance column on the left division, right in front. The

ROYAL SUSSEX MILITIA PRACTICE, AT SOUTHOVER.

column was then wheeled to the right, and the regiment divided into wings, the right commanded by Viscount Cranley, and the left by Major Parratt.

Earl Lovelace commanded the brigade.

Colonel Bushe expressed himself highly satisfied with the inspection; adding, that the wheeling of the lines was beyond everything which he had anticipated.

The Earl of Lovelace addressed the officers and men at some length, and with impressive eloquence, which will not be forgotten. His Lordship concluded by calling upon the men to give three cheers for her Majesty the Queen, which they did with great enthusiasm.

After the inspection, the officers gave a sumptuous déjeûner at the White Hart Hotel; the Earl of Lovelace presiding. There were upwards of 200 guests.

The health of her Majesty was followed by "The Noble Colonel," and "The Ladies of Surrey" (coupled with it Viscountess Cranley, who presented the Regiment with splendid colours).

After the déjeûner dancing was commenced to the fine band of the Regiment, and was kept up with great spirit until nearly eleven o'clock.

We are indebted to Mr. Andrews, of Guildford, for the accompanying Sketch of the Inspection.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY June 18.—1st Sunday after Trinity.
MONDAY, 19.—Inigo Jones died, 1652. Sir Joseph Banks died, 1820.
TUESDAY, 20.—Queen Victoria's accession to the throne, 1837.
WEDNESDAY, 21.—Queen Victoria proclaimed, 1837.
THURSDAY, 22.—Trial of Queen Caroline commenced, 1820.
FRIDAY 23.—Le Sueur born, 1646. Akenside died, 1770.
SATURDAY, 24.—Midsummer Day.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE
FOR THE WEEK ENDING JUNE 24

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
h m h m 8 0 8 32	h m h m 9 0 9 35	h m h m 10 0 10 5	h m h m 10 35 11 5	h m h m 11 11 11 32	h m h m Tide 0 5	h m h m 0 30 0 50

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

C. LENNOX, Frederoft.—We are obliged to our Correspondent for his offer; but, by reference to the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of the 3rd inst., he will find his suggestions have been anticipated.

H. G., Beds., is thanked. The localities have been too often engraved to be repeated.

I. M., Nottingham, will find the best account of the screw-propeller in the Treatise by J. Bourne, C.E.

E. G. W.—Yours is a question which it is impracticable to answer in our limited space.

W. H. A., Melbourne, is thanked.

H. R. W., Bickwell—Apply to Mr. Lumley, bookseller, High Holborn.

F. S. H., Valparaiso, is thanked; but we have not room for the proposed illustration.

A FRIEND, &c., Redruth, Cornwall.—The address of the Society is Exeter hall, London.

F. P., Manchester.—The employment of a Purser in the Royal Navy is to take charge of all the provisions, and to distribute them, according to a fixed scale, amongst the whole crew. He has a fixed salary, and some emoluments: he has a steward or assistant in all ships; and in a large ship he has a clerk.

H. M.—"The Tribune's Farewell" declined.

MAGISTER, Epping.—Certainly not.

G. O. S.—Our late Editions invariably contain the report alluded to.

A BIRMINGHAM SUBSCRIBER.—Pennies and halfpennies are in circulation of 1841, 1846, 1854, &c., and halfpennies and farthings *only* as early as 1838.

O. P. Q.—We cannot recommend any accredited work.

R. D.—We are not aware that any idea is at present entertained by the authorities of admitting gentlemen into the ranks of the Army as volunteers. During the Peninsular campaigns the practice was of frequent occurrence. When on duty, the volunteer fell in with the privates, and was told off without distinction. After the parade was dismissed he associated with the officers. On vacancies occurring, these gentlemen were generally promoted to the rank of Ensign. There are several officers now high in the profession who served in the capacity alluded to during the late war. Should the old system be revived, the Military Secretary would be the proper person from whom to gain information. No mention is made in the Queen's regulations regarding individual volunteers being attached to regiments.

DE ROSAS MILITAIRE.—The reason why there is no 5th Regiment of Dragoons, is as follows:—When the French, under General Humbert, invaded Ireland, in 1798, the corps formed part of the garrison of Castlebar. Humbert and his force with the Royal army there on the 27th August, and a battle took place, early in which the 5th Dragoons fled, involving the army in a rout so precipitate, that the affair was called the "Race of Castlebar." The Government resented that this panic was caused by disloyalty, more especially when, nine days afterwards, the Viceroy, only before whom 4000 regular troops had taken to flight, was received for a whole day in the port of Coloony, by less than 500 men, chiefly of the Limerick Militia, under the command of Colonel Charles Vereker, afterwards Lord Gort, by which they were led to march into Leitrim, where they were obliged to surrender to 20,000 men under the command of the Earl of Cornwallis, then Lord-Lieutenant. The motto of "Coloony" was granted to Colonel Vereker, and the thanks of Parliament given to his gallant little band; whilst the 5th Regiment of Dragoons was erased from the Army List, and has never been restored.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 1854.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL having, in consequence of recent modifications in the Ministry, vacated his seat for the City of London was re-elected on Wednesday, without opposition. A show of hostility was painfully elaborated, it is true, by the one-idead Mr. Urquhart, whose peculiar mania it is to believe that the war is a "sham;" that the British Government, and more particularly Lords Aberdeen, Palmerston, and John Russell, are in collusion with the Czar; and that Turkey will eventually be delivered up like a lamb to the Russian butcher. Mr. Urquhart, however, failed to find a proposer. He had not even the opportunity of making a speech—except a few words after Lord John Russell had retired from the Guildhall; when, true to his melancholy delusion, he aimed a few despairing words at the heads of an unwilling and dispersing audience. He informed them that they had lost the chance of saving their country, and that they had made another "tool for the Emperor to work with." We will not do Mr. Urquhart the injustice of bringing against him the accusation that he levels so freely against others; yet, if he be not a monomaniac, it is difficult to explain his conduct, except upon the supposition that he is himself the paid agent of the Czar, and that his denunciations of Russia are the "shams" which he represents the war to be. But, leaving this point, as we presume no one way or the other, let Mr. Urquhart take go his own way, and retire into private life. We believe him to be honest; but even in that case he is more fit for the exclusive attentions of our excellent friend *Punch* than for the serious notice of other people.

Lord John Russell's speech to the electors was manly and straightforward, and will produce the same effects wherever it may be perused. Whether his Lordship expected a real draft of the arguments of those who still, with the Peace Society, must trust we should have allowed the Turks to fight their own battles with the Czar, or whether he showed the interest which every Constitutional Power in Europe—and more especially the States of Germany—have in resisting the barbaric domination of Russia, he was equally emphatic and convincing. We question whether in the Guildhall there was a single individual, except Mr. Urquhart, whose patriotism was not kindled by the sound sense and vigorous eloquence of the most illustrious English statesman of the present day, and who not only is honoured by, but honours, the City of London, by becoming its representative. In Germany, more especially, the speech will operate powerfully in favour of the Anglo-French Alliance. We wish its challenge could induce the Emperor Nicholas to come out from behind the stone walls of Cronstadt and Sebastopol, and meet our navies in fair fight in the open sea; but of that consummation there is little probability. It is in affairs like those of Sinope that Russian Admirals like to indulge. Nor can we wonder at this when we recollect that it is a rule in the Russian navy never to meet an enemy unless the Russian has double the number of ships, guns, and men, of the fleet opposed to it. Not after such a cowardly fashion was the naval supremacy of Great Britain attained; and not after such a fashion has it been, and will it be, maintained;—as the Emperor, we trust, will speedily learn to his cost, by the capture of the forts to which he trusts for security, and by the annihilation of his naval power in his two sole outlets, the Black Sea and the Baltic.

The re-election of Lord John Russell, though never for an instant in the slightest peril, is a matter for gratulation, at a time when it is necessary to prove to all foreign Powers that the war is a popular one; and that the Ministry—notwithstanding a few growls and grumbles now and then from a people whose privilege it is to speak their mind, and to criticise freely the acts and words of men in power—is supported, to the fullest possible extent, by the enlightened public opinion of the country. In other respects, the slight and unimportant changes which have taken place in the Ministry, do not appear to have given very general satisfaction. The recent discussions in Parliament and the Press, on the necessity for the appointment of a special Minister of War, prepared the public mind for greater changes than the Administration itself has deemed it expedient to carry out. Public opinion emphatically designated Lord Palmerston for the post of War Minister; and we regret that, for reasons of their own, and which they are not likely to divulge, the colleagues of Lord Palmerston, and perhaps his Lordship himself, did not lend countenance and support to such an arrangement. The Duke of Newcastle, though not so popular as Lord Palmerston, is an able, conscientious, and industrious public servant; and will, it is to be expected, prove an efficient, if not a brilliant, Minister, now that his whole attention is to be directed to one special and important department. Sir George Grey, who succeeds to the Seals of the Colonial-office, uncumbered with those of the Secretaryship of War, is a man whose antecedents are not of a nature to render him a favourite in the Colonies, but who possesses administrative and parliamentary talent that would have rendered him useful in almost any department, except that for which he has been selected. The other changes are too slight either for cavil or for defence. As President of the Council, Lord John Russell fills an office, not merely honorary and ornamental, but in a high degree important, especially in connection with the great question of Public Education, to which his Lordship has devoted the best energies of his life. Lord Granville, who has accepted, in the redistribution of place, a minor office, only bides his time to secure that higher position to which his talents and high character entitle him.

THE COURT.

The Court left town on Tuesday for Windsor Castle. Previously to the Court leaving London, her Majesty received a visit from the Countess of Neuilly.

On Monday her Majesty held a Privy Council, when the Duke of Newcastle resigned the seals as Secretary of State for the Colonies. Lord John Russell took his seat at the Council as Lord President; Sir George Grey was sworn in as Secretary of State for the Colonies; and the Duke of Newcastle as Secretary for War. Secretary of State. The Queen held an investiture of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, at three o'clock in the afternoon, at Buckingham Palace. Sir James Graham, Mr. James Cosmo Melvill, and Rear-Admiral G. R. Lambert, were in succession created Knights of the Bath, receiving the honour kneeling before her Majesty.

On Tuesday evening the Queen had a dinner party at the Castle; the company at which included his Majesty the King of Portugal, his Royal Highness the Duke of Oporto, her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, the Duchess of Sutherland, the Duke of Wellington, the Portuguese Minister (Count Lavradio), the Marquis of Breadalbane, the Marquis of Abercorn, and the Earl Spencer.

On Wednesday their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess Mary arrived at the Castle, on a visit to her Majesty and the Prince Consort. The following distinguished company also arrived during the afternoon:—His Excellency the French Ambassador and the Countess Walewska, the Countess Lavradio, the Austrian Minister (Count Colloredo), the Duchess of Wellington, the Duke and Duchess of Beaufort, the Earl and Countess of Clarendon, the Earl and Countess of Beesborough, the Earl and Countess Granville, and the Ladies Harriet and Louisa Hamilton.

On Thursday the Queen and the Prince Consort, with the whole of the illustrious and distinguished visitors staying at the Castle, honoured the races at Ascot with their presence.

The Court returns to Buckingham Palace this day (Saturday).

The Marquis of Lansdowne gave a magnificent ball last evening (Friday) at Lansdowne House.

We are authorised to state, that the Marchioness of Breadalbane's second ball will take place on Monday, July 3rd.

The Earl of Ellesmere received a distinguished circle of literary and executive authority, on Tuesday evening, at his residence, St. James's.

THE Museum of Ornamental Art, at Marlborough-house, has been enriched by the addition of a choice collection of ornamental arms and armour—from the Royal Armoury, Windsor Castle—which has been graciously lent by her Majesty for the purpose. It consists of swords, daggers, pikes, matchlocks, plate armour, bucklers, &c., chiefly of early date, and many of them historically interesting. Amongst them, for instance, is the matchlock of the Dey of Algiers The ornamentation of some of the specimens is very rich and beautiful.

GUN-BOATS FOR THE BALTIC.—The *Arrow* and the *Beagle*, screw-steam gun boats, building by Messrs. J. C. Mare and Co., at Blackwall, are to be ready for launching on the 24th instant. The engines for these gun boats, two of 80-horse power, or 160 collectively for each, were ordered to be made by Messrs. Humphrys, Tennant, and Dyke, only nine weeks ago, and they are now ready to be put on board, so that no time will be lost in securing these much-required auxiliaries for the Baltic, for service with the fleet under the command of Vice-Admiral Sir Charles Napier.

DEATH OF CAPTAIN GIFFARD, OF THE "TIGER."—We regret to announce the death of Captain Lord Lately in command of her Majesty's Troop-ship *Tiger*, who received his wounds in defence of his ship, that was unprotected at the last when beaten down. He received a blow on the head, and another in the chest. He gradually sank from day to day, during his charge to the last—hopeless as the struggle was against fearful odds, and at every possible disadvantage. The melancholy intelligence of his death was despatched to Vienna by electric telegraph, on the 1st inst.; by the Austrian consul at Odessa. He was to be buried on the 2nd inst., with military honours. The young gallant gentleman, who fell by his side, was not a nephew, but a more distant relative. At the funeral, the captive crew of the *Tiger* were to pay the last respects to their deceased commander, who fell in defence of the ship's honour, and who was about to be sent to Moscow, with the exception of the surgeon, who remained to attend the Emperor of Russia.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

THE SIEGE OF SILISTRIA.

The advices from Silistria reach up to the 8th inst. The mine which had lately been laid, in order to blow up one of the bastions of the fort Abd-ul-Medjid, had produced hardly any effect. Nevertheless, however slowly the siege proceeds, there is still some progress visible, and several batteries have already been erected on both sides of the different points of attack. A sharp encounter took place on the 8th between parties of miners and counter-miners; the Russians were defeated, as the mine remained in the hands of the Ottomans. The besiegers have already approached within gun-shot of the fort Abd-ul-Medjid, and they lately fired a number of gabions with cotton, which they pushed on to the margin of their counterscarp, having their miners behind it, busy, meanwhile, in sinking two new shafts.

MOVEMENTS OF THE TURKISH ARMY

Letters from Orsova, of the 8th instant, bring us the intelligence that the Ottoman troops, which have lately been withdrawn from the Lesser Wallachia, are now marching to Rustchuk, via Nicopoli and Sistowa, and that they reinforce themselves by all the disposable forces which they meet on their road. It is further stated that Said Pacha, the commandant of Rustchuk, has received orders from Schumla to concentrate at that fortress a body of at least 40,000 troops, who are destined to break through the first investing line of the Russians at Turtukai, and then to come to the succour of Silistria. It is expected that Omer Pacha will also simultaneously make a diversion in favour of this fortress; but the main attack of the Russian positions is to be confided to the troops now assembling at Rustchuk. Two Ottoman steamers and eighty gun-boats, in the port of Rustchuk, were also preparing to second this expedition in behalf of Silistria. It was reported that it would take place about the 18th or 20th of this month.

THE AUSTRIAN SUMMONS.

The *Moniteur* gives credit to the statement printed in the German papers, that, at the interview between the Emperor of Austria and the Duke of Saxe-Coburg, his Imperial Majesty had declared that, if his summons to the Emperor of Russia to evacuate the Danubian Principalities should be rejected, he would immediately issue a declaration of war. The latest accounts from Stockholm intimate that Sweden is most anxious to join France and England in their war against Russia; and is only waiting for Austria to make the first movement, by which Sweden would be secured from having Prussia as an enemy in the Baltic.

GREECE.

A letter from Athens, of the 3rd, states that since the change in affairs the situation of the country is every day improving. In the towns of Nauplilia, the Piræus, Patras, Syra, and Hydra, addresses had been signed, which are to be sent to the new Ministry, expressing the confidence of the country in the programme it had adopted. These addresses show that the insurrection which has desolated Greece was the work of an ambitious and agitating minority.

BURNING OF THE "EUROPA"

Schooner *Mount Kingsford*,

Sir,—Having witnessed the burning of the transport *Europa*, with the 6th (Inniskilling) Dragoons on board, in the Bay of Biscay, about two hundred miles from England, I send you an account of it, with a small Sketch. I am a passenger of the above-named schooner, bound for Port-au-Prince, St Domingo. We did all we could for the poor fellows, wet and naked as they were, and will land them at Lisbon with the others (twenty-one) in the barque *Manco*, of Liverpool, now in port. On the 21st of May, originating, it is supposed, with the hay. It spread so rapidly that every one went to the boats just as they turned out. About eleven o'clock I went up the first boat, with eighteen in her. At half-past eleven, the second came alongside, with a third in tow, she having no oars, and having drifted across the second boat; otherwise they never could have cleared the dreadful sight. It was raining tremendously, very dark, and blowing hard. The second had five in her, and the third twenty-six, making a total of forty-nine. We bore down as soon as daylight to the wreck, where we saw the *Harmonie* of Dantzic, who had picked up twenty-six; and a brig—the *Clementine*, took up several more. The *Harmonie* keeps company with us, the captain having agreed to land the men at Lisbon. The *Clementine* lands hers at Gibraltar. There are about eighty-one saved, and twenty-three drowned or burned. The Colonel and Mr. Kelly (Veterinary-surgeon of the Regiment), are drowned. Lieutenant Webb, Cornet Dobbin, Cornet Black (Admiralty agent), and Mr. Noble (staff-surgeon), are among the saved; and the captain (W. Gardiner), and first, second, and third mates (Ginder, J. L. Adams, J. H. Stokes) of the *Europa*.

I am, &c. FRANK RICHARDS.

[We shall engrave our Correspondent's Sketch next week.]

The Admiralty have received, from Capt. Carnegie, of H.M. steamfrigate *Arrogant* (lat. 47.48 N., June 3), despatches detailing the above painful catastrophe. It would appear that the total loss is—two officers, six non-commissioned officers, two seamen, and one woman. Col. Moore would not leave the burning ship till his last man was in safety, and so perished.

WE have to record the deaths of the Rev. Lord Augustin Fitzclarence, aged fifty; the Earl of Mountstuart, at his seat in Ireland; and the Right Hon. R. Tufnell, at Cotton hall, Derbyshire.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS. *Rural Deanery.* The Rev. R. A. Gordon to Buntingford. *Rectories.* The Rev. W. Clifford to Foke, Dorsetshire; Rev. W. Cave to Mr. Shaen, with St. Mary Rededyn and St. Peter Colchrooke, Wm. Hetherington, Rev. Sir J. Macgregor, Bart., to Swallow, Lincolnshire. *Vicarages.* The Rev. W. French to Reydon, Suffolk, with the incumbency of Wrentham annexed; Rev G. Murray to Bedham, near Colchester. *Incumbencies.* The Rev. G. W. Bamfylde to Martin, Wiltshire; Rev. C. J. Collins to St. George's, Camberwell; Rev. W. L. Cox to Haywood, Wiltshire; Rev. H. J. Longsden to Seacroft, near Leeds. *Perpetual Curacy.* The Rev. J. Chamney to Meigh.

A TESTIMONIAL of regard and esteem has been presented to the Rev. J. Kingsley, from the parishioners of Bowden.

ST. LUKE'S CHAPEL, MARYLEBONE.—On Tuesday the Right of Public Baptism, one of the oldest Book pages in Natural Law, Bayswater road. Lord Russell being chief actor in the interesting ceremony. This church is being erected as a thank-offering for mercies vouchsafed by Almighty God to the inhabitants of the district at a time of visitation by cholera.

THE LONDON CHURCHES BILL.—A meeting of the clergy of the City of London was held at Sion College, on Tuesday, to discuss the Metropolitan Churches Fund Amendment Acts Bill. Dr. Croly spoke strongly against the measure, and referred to the destruction of churches and in Paris previous to the French Revolution. He concluded by moving the adoption of a petition against the measure. The Rev. Dr. M'Caul opposed the motion, which, however, was carried after some discussion.

THE CHURCHWARDEN CONTEST.—Great excitement has been produced in St. Paul's, this week, by the contest for the Churchwardenship of St. Paul's, Knightsbridge. The two candidates were Mr. Westerton and Mr. Theodore. The numbers at the final close of the poll on Thursday were, Westerton, 1326; majority, 326. A number of petitions have been presented.

THE MINISTRY.—The Cabinet, as at present constituted, consists of the following members:—Earl of Aberdeen, First Lord of the Treasury; Marquis of Lansdowne; Lord Cranworth, Lord Chancellor; Lord John Russell, President of the Council; Viscount Palmerston, Home Secretary of State; Earl of Clarendon, Foreign Secretary of State; Duke of Newcastle, Secretary of State; Sir George Grey, Secretary of State for the Colonies; Mr. Gladstone, Chancellor of the Exchequer; Sir James Graham, First Lord of the Admiralty; Sir Charles Wood, Board of Control; Lord Argyll, Privy Seal; Earl of Granville, Duchy of Lancaster; Sir W. Molesworth, Office of Works; Lord Sidney Herbert, Secretary of War.

MURDER OF SIX CHILDREN BY THEIR MOTHER.—On Saturday morning last, about six o'clock, a fireman, in passing a cottage at Westend, Edmonton, saw a pillow stained with blood outside one of the windows. He knocked at the door, and obtaining no answer he made his way into the house by means of a ladder, when he found a woman and five children lying on the bed, and another child on the floor. The woman, who was quite dead, had cut the throat of her children and then attempted to destroy herself. A letter, written by her husband is said to have been found in his pocket. The wretched woman, who is about forty-seven years of age, was first nurse to the Prince of Wales; but was discharged on account of some irregularity. Her husband is guardian of the ornamental waters and fisheries of Claremont. An inquest was held on the bodies of the children on Monday, when a verdict of "Wilful Murder" against their unhappy mother was returned.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

The report that the Emperor and Empress proposed going shortly to he Camp du Nord, has now given place to another, which it seems likely will be carried out, and within a very short period. This plan states that the Empress is to proceed, about the 25th inst., to the Eaux-Bonnes and Biaritz, where she resided two years before her marriage, and for which place she has a peculiar predilection. After a stay of a fortnight, her Majesty will return to Paris. During the interval, the Emperor is to proceed to Marseilles, to witness the laying the foundation of the Imperial palace, which the town proposes to erect for him; he will then rejoin the Empress in Paris, and both will proceed, later, to the Camp at St Omer.

It is a subject alike of remark and regret that an unusual number of deaths among the eminent men of France have, within a very short space, followed in rapid succession. Among those which have created the most sensation has been that of Admiral Baudin, whose long and brilliant services—which would, at any time, have rendered his loss one greatly to be regretted—make it, at the present crisis, one yet more to be lamented. The funeral, which was performed according to the Protestant rites—the Admiral being of that faith—was attended by no less than twelve regiments of infantry, some detachments of cavalry and artillery, a large number of the Navy, the Maréchal Vaillant, Minister of War; Maréchal Magnan, several Generals and Admirals, and a large number of the functionaries of State, besides a host of friends and admirers, who wished to pay their last mark of respect to the memory of the deceased. Over the grave, in the Cemetery of Montmartre, the Admiral Mackau pronounced a funeral discourse, containing an account of the life and services of his illustrious *confrère*. Immediately following the death of M. Baudin, have been those of M. Mauguin, whose Parliamentary career is one recorded in the annals of French history; M. Vivien, formerly a Minister, and one who had presided over the Council of State during the late Republic; and M. Delahaute, Receveur-General of the department du Rhône, who died suddenly on board the steamer running between Lyons and Châlon, by which he was proceeding to his country residence.

An unusual and alarming number of suicides, many of them resulting from the most trivial causes, have, we lament to say, to be recorded. Among the most distressing have been those of a young lady of singular beauty, and of excellent family, who, in consequence of the unhappiness caused by the preference of her father and step-mother to her half sister, drowned herself in the Seine; and of a Prussian officer, who, being seized with deafness, which medical skill failed to remove, blew out his brains in a box at the Opera. Among the working classes, the frightful mania has increased, within a short period, to a terrible amount, and the public journals are daily filled with the accounts of these melancholy events—occurring principally among young persons, sometimes almost children, of both sexes: love-disappointments, reverses of fortune, family quarrels, sometimes merely an apparently causeless discouragement and disgust of life, all lead to these catastrophes; and drowning, suffocation, and the pistol are resorted to as the cure for evils which a moderate amount of religious feeling and common fortitude would lighten and render endurable, if not dispel.

A work which promises much interest is about to appear within a short period. This is the memoirs of a man whose name is intimately and singularly connected with the events of the commencement of the Restauration—M. de Maubreuil, who possessed himself of the diamonds of Marie Louise, who was accused of having attempted the life of Napoleon, and who, on an occasion when he wished to make certain revelations respecting the Prince de Talleyrand, sought to bring about an explanation by giving the latter a blow. It is said that the Memoirs in question are a series of the most singular and interesting details, derived from the author's experience, which has been great, varied, and peculiar.

M. Horace Vernet, who has been charged to illustrate the principal events of the Eastern War, has taken his departure for Constantinople to commence his artistic labours.

It is said, *apropos* of the late visit of the Queen Marie Amélie to Belgium, that the French Government not only signified to the Belgian Government that no objection would be made here to any stay, however prolonged, of the widow of Louis Philippe in that territory, but stated that if she wished, by passing through France, to avoid a longer and more fatiguing sea journey, every facility for doing so would be afforded her.

The terrible persistence of the rain here is already producing its usual results, inundations in various parts of the country. Most of the principal rivers have overflown in the low-lands, causing in many places serious damage, and destroying to a painful extent the brilliant promises held out by the beautiful spring. In the higher grounds, however, things look better, and if the weather improves to a reasonable extent, it is to be hoped that the various crops will bear at least an average proportion.

The Boulevard Malesherbes, which was to have been commenced this season, is not to be put in progress until after the Industrial Exhibition, as it would cause too great an encumbrement in the Faubourg St. Honoré and the neighbourhood of the Champs Elysées. It is also probable that the opening of the Rue de Strasbourg will be deferred.

The journal of the *arrondissement de Loudéac* has received an *avertissement* for a singular cause—the energy of its expressions in a polemic on the subject of manure!

Spanish dancers are at present the chief attraction here. The Gymnase has a company headed by La Perea Nena, a *danseuse* of first-rate talent; and the Palais Royal another, led by La Pepa Vargas, who, though a less accomplished dancer in an artistic point of view, is said to bear more completely the stamp of her nationality in her style. At each of the theatres, the dances are set as jewels in a mounting, in a little piece composed for the purpose of presenting them. That at the Gymnase is called "La Comédie au Château;" that at the Palais Royal, "Espagnolas et Bogardinas," in which Grassot and Bayonthe, as Russian boyards, display their usual comic talents in a series of *grosses bêtises*, which, however, has the desired effect of producing peals of laughter.

UNITED STATES.

The *Europa*, which left New York on the 31st May, arrived at Liverpool on Sunday evening. The papers are filled with details of the slavery riot at Boston, and of the excitement produced by that event and the passage of the Nebraska Bill. A petition to Congress for the repeal of the Fugitive Slave Law had been placed in the Exchange Reading room at Boston, and had already received a large number of signatures, embracing many well-known merchants, who in the case of the fugitive Sims, two or three years since, were among the most prominent and active upholders of the law. On the 26th, at Syracuse, the Abolitionists learning that a fugitive would pass through that place in custody with a United States' marshal, the bells were tolled, and a crowd of some 2000 persons assembled at the railroad depôt to effect a rescue. On the approach of the train the cars were attacked by the rioters. A negro man, a passenger, was discovered, but no fugitive, and the mob retired, evidently disappointed.

According to the *New York Herald*, the visit of Lord Elgin to Washington is to conclude a treaty in reference to the adjustment of the Fishery Question, as well as to provide for reciprocity of trade with the North American colonies. The principle is extended to all the natural products of each country, with the exception of coal, tobacco, and sugar, and it is thought the first-mentioned article will likewise be included. Great Britain has acquiesced in the terms, but with the important proviso that the Colonies also agree to them.

Letters from Vera Cruz, to the 16th ult., state that Santa Anna made a triumphal entry into the city of Mexico on the 16th. After Santa Anna retired the siege of Acapulo, he fought a battle with Alvarez, and defeated him.

The Washington correspondent of the *Herald* asserts that the President has prepared a bellicose message on the subject of Cuba.

By the *Franklin* steam-ship, which arrived off Cowes, *en route* to Havre, on Thursday, we have New York papers to June 3. The Cuban difficulty was assuming a serious character; Mr. Soulé having failed at Madrid in obtaining what the American Government demands. The fugitive slave Burns had been given up to his master. A large military force, including a detachment of artillery, had been necessary to overawe the populace.

CHINA.

The last Overland Mail contains an account of the affair at Shanghai, in which the foreign residents came into collision with the Imperial troops. The commercial letters justify the conduct o the residents, who had been provoked by the disorderly conduct of the soldiers, and deemed it necessary to give them a severe lesson. The Hong-Kong papers speak of the transaction as very unwise on the part of the English, and as likely to lead to a serious collision with the Chinese. The native Shanghai merchants have also published a circular, in which they condemn the conduct of the English in attacking the Imperialists. The capture of the Imperial intrenchments was not effected without considerable resistance being made. The casualties were two killed and thirteen wounded, and the loss on the part of the Imperialists is stated to be from 200 to 300 killed and wounded.

Sir John Bowring arrived at Hong-Kong on the 12th, and landed next morning under the salute due to his rank from the battery, repeated by the men of war, both British and American. At noon he was sworn in as Governor and Vice-Admiral of Hong-Kong, and Chief Superintendent of British trade in China.

INDIA.

Among other items of intelligence from India by the Overland Mail, which arrived at Trieste last week, we learn that, on the 9th ult., the steamer *Feroze* had left Bombay for the Persian Gulf, and that the defences of Bombay were being put in order, as if for the reception of an enemy. According to the latest intelligence, the Russian squadron was near Singapore.

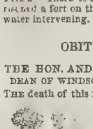
The rumours of Russian intrigue on the North-Western frontier are still as strong as ever. The latest report from Herat is, that forty Russians, having been associated with forty Persian officers, have gone to different places in Central Asia, with letters from the Persian King. They have engaged to strengthen and occupy Herat for a certain period of time; and the son of the late Vazeer Yar Mahomed Khan has agreed to leave it, and remain in Nooshapur, a district in Persian Khorassan; but he has not yet started. It is also said that the same Russian and Persian agents will come on to Candahar and Cabul. Dost Mahomed Khan is said to be at present inclined for an alliance with the British Government; while Scotian Mahomed Khan leans towards Persia. There is also a report that the Russians have built and garrisoned a fort on the shores of the sea, five marches from Oorgunge, no water intervening.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

THE HON. AND VERY REV. GEORGE NEVILLE GRENVILLE

DEAN OF WINDSOR, REGISTRAR OF THE ORDER OF THE GARTER.

THE death of this much-respected divine occurred at his seat, Butleigh Court, near Glastonbury, on the 10th instant. The Dean was younger brother of the present Lord Braybrooke, being son of Richard Aldworth Griffin, second Lord, by Catherine his wife, youngest daughter of the Right Hon. George Grenville. At the decease of his uncle, Mr. Thomas Grenville (the munificent contributor to the British Museum), he succeeded to the Butleigh estates, and assumed in consequence the name and arms of Grenville. Soon afterwards he resigned the living of Hawarden, and retired to the Rectory of Butleigh, of which he had then become the patron. In 1840 he was appointed Dean of Windsor, and continued to hold that valuable preferment up to the period of his death. Comparatively early in life he had been nominated to the office of Master of Magdalen College, Cambridge, which is in the gift of the Braybrooke family as hereditary visitors, and at the time he resigned that appointment (only a few months since), he was senior member of the Heads of Houses at Cambridge.



The very rev. gentleman was born 17th August, 1789; and married, May 8th, 1816, Lady Charlotte Legge, second daughter of George, third Earl of Dartmouth, and had six sons, all bearing the name of Neville, and four daughters—the eldest of whom, Frances Catherine, is wife of the Rev. Edmund Peel, Vicar of Wargrave, Berks. Of the sons, the eldest, Ralph Neville, Esq., late M.P. for Wolverhampton, succeeds to the Butleigh property; the second, the Rev. William Frederick Neville, becomes Rector of Butleigh; the third, the Rev. Seymour Neville, is one of the Minor Canons of Windsor; the fourth, Captain Edward Neville, is now with his regiment in Turkey; and the fifth, Glastonbury, is Lieutenant, Royal Engineers.

SIR LOFTUS OTWAY, C.B.

LIEUT.-GENERAL SIR LOFTUS OTWAY, C.B., Colonel of the 84th Regiment, a very distinguished British officer, was the fourth son of Cooke Otway, Esq., of Castle Otway, in the county Tipperary, by his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel Waller, of Lobinstown, in the same county. Loftus Otway was born in 1775; and, having entered the Army in his youth, passed the greater part of his life in the service of his country. He acted in Ireland in suppressing the rebellion of 1798, and he achieved a high reputation in the Peninsular War; he commanded three regiments of Portuguese cavalry at the Battle of Albuera. He obtained, in 1814, the honour of Knighthood, and was made a C.B. Sir Loftus Otway was also a Knight Commander of the Order of Charles III. of Spain. He became a Lieutenant-General in 1851.

Sir Loftus married Frances, only daughter of Sir Charles Blicke, of Carcon-park, Surrey, by whom he leaves a son, Loftus Charles Otway, Esq., Secretary to the British Legation in Spain; and a daughter, Georgina Frances, wife of Capt. J. W. Hughes, 4th Light Dragoons. Sir Loftus Otway died on the 7th inst., at his residence, 13, Grosvenor-square.

The family of Otway to which Sir Loftus belonged is one of great antiquity and eminence, both in England and Ireland. The late Hon. Robert Otway Cave, M.P. (whose mother the present Baroness Braye's right to the Braye Barony was established in 1839), was the nephew of Sir Loftus Otway, being the son of his eldest brother. Sir Loftus's second brother was the late Admiral Robert Otway, G.C.B., who was created a Baronet at the Coronation in 1831, and who died in 1846.

SIR THOMAS EDWARD MICHELL TURTON, BART.

THIS Baronet died on the 13th April, at the Mauritius, on his way to England from India, for the recovery of his health.

Sir Thomas was born 8th November, 1790, the only son of the late Sir Thomas Turton, of Starborough Castle, county Surrey, M.P. for Scarborough, created a Baronet 18th May, 1796. He adopted the legal profession; was called to the Bar in 1818, and held the important office of Registrar of the Supreme Court at Calcutta from 1841 to 1848. He married, first, 2nd November, 1812, Louisa, second daughter of Major-General Browne, by which lady (who obtained a divorce in 1833) he had married again) he has had issue. Sir Thomas's second wife, who survives him, is Maria-Louisa Hume, second daughter of Captain E. Denman, R.N.

ALEX. GRANT, ESQ., OF ABERLOUR, BANFFSHIRE, N.B.

THIS gentleman died at his residence in Arlington-street, Piccadilly, on the 7th ult., at the advanced age of 80. In early life Mr. Grant went out to Jamaica, under the auspices of his relative, the late Alexander Donaldson, Esq., and, by his industry and upright conduct in those days, soon became a Magistrate and Member of Legislature in that Island. Since his return home, in 1818, he has been a well-known and highly-respected West India merchant; and he was a Deputy-Lieutenant of his native county of Banff.

NOTES OF THE WEEK

THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

The opening of the Crystal Palace at Sydenham (full details of which will be found in another part of our Paper) was the event of the week; perhaps of the season. Originating out of the Great Exhibition of 1851, the new undertaking, and its ceremony of inauguration, are planned very much upon the same model. There were points of difference, however, which could not have passed unnoticed. For the building itself, it is larger than that in the Hyde-park; and an improvement upon it, in many respects—more especially in the two additional Transepts, and in the arched roof of the Nave, in place of the flat one, which had a mean and depressing effect. For the ceremony, it was very similar to that of 1851, so far as externals go; but, in the absence of the great industrial resources then present, which have not yet arrived at Sydenham, the pageant of the 10th of June, 1854, was tame in comparison with that of its predecessor.

NELSON'S DAUGHTER.

IT is now nearly half a century ago (Oct., 1805) that Nelson on the glorious day of Trafalgar, in a codicil to his will, solemnly bequeathed his only daughter "Horatia," to the beneficence of his country, adding, "this is the only favour I ask my King and country, at this moment, when I am going to fight their battle;—he then girded on his sword, and went forth to perish in the hour of victory. Poor Nelson! his great and generous soul was little able to conceive how small and weak a thing is public beneficence—he little dreamed how his precious legacy would be received by a grateful king and nation. Undisputed naval supremacy and a long peace were purchased for us by the blood of Nelson, on that day—peace during which England has grown rich; boasting much about Nelson, and the Nile and Trafalgar, and never blushing at the thought of Horatia. Occasional appeals made on behalf of the orphan-bequest have been treated with neglect, not to say contempt, by successive Governments. And why? The danger and difficulty which Nelson braved had passed away, as they imagined, for ever, and there was no longer need for Nelsons. Recent circumstances, however, have wonderfully changed the spirit of our times: the nation has again occasion to call upon the naval service, and looks hopingly and anxiously to see springing from its ranks such spirits as those of Nelson, Hardy, Collingwood, of old; yet, how dare she hope thus, when the dying request of Nelson is unanswered? But, better late than never; and we are glad to see that a deputation, headed by Vice-Admiral Sir William H. Dillon, K.C.B., has had an interview with the Chancellor of the Exchequer, calling his attention to the subject. The cautious Minister, having "asked for a copy of the codicil to the will" which was duly supplied him, "and having also examined the difficulties which presented themselves to the carrying out of the wishes of the deputation—*difficulties, however, of a very slight character*—said he would consult the other members of the Cabinet upon the subject, before coming to any definite decision on the matter." Making allowance for the usual official reserve, we cannot help fancying that we see in this announcement an honourable, though tardy, solution of this painful question; and proud will be the day when it is signalled through our fleets in the Baltic and the Black Sea, "England has remembered Nelson in the day of her trouble—the debt is paid!" Then, and not till then, may we repeat his last memorable order of the day—"England expects every man to do his duty," and go forth confidently, as he did, to battle.

POST-OFFICE CONTRACTS.

A bargain is a very good thing, when it is all on the right side; but as soon as there is the slightest chance of the reciprocity principle coming into operation, how naturally and how piteously do we *cry out*! The Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, having during a long series of years enjoyed an immensely profitable contract with the Post-office, for the conveyance of mails, begin for the first time to experience a slight reverse; arising from the increased price of coals, materials, &c., attributable, as they allege, to the war. Insuring all the long period of high salaries, lavish expenditure, and thumping dividends, when the public suggested that the bargain was a bad one, and that their work might be done better and cheaper under a system of free competition, instead of one of monopoly, the Directors complacently declared that the arrangement was an admirable one; and "stuck to their bond." Now that the usual dividend is temporarily suspended, and salaries also threatened, they come with a begging letter to the Lords of the Admiralty, "for such an augmentation of the payments for postal service as the Company may be found fairly entitled to, in consideration of the altered state of circumstances caused by the war;" and we are sorry to add that the said Lords have been weak enough to "intimate their willingness to institute an inquiry into the matter." The answer would have been a plain one—"Let them stick to their bond." One inevitable result of this "agitation" of the matter, however, will be to explode the system of monopoly contracts for the future and that will be a change in the right direction.

POLICE REGULATIONS.

The police are a very active and clever set of men; but, like other people, they want a little looking after at times. It is a general complaint, that by a singular fatuity, whilst they are very conspicuous, very often out, when there is nothing to do; they are never to be found when they are really wanted. Eschewing the ways of wickedness, the resorts of thieves, and the scenes of vulgar and dangerous riot, they delight in associating themselves with the proceedings of the respectable classes—at the theatre, the Ball, or the *fête champetre*—where they constitute themselves masters of the ceremonies. They should be induced, however, in their important vocations, to exercise their sprinkling gently, else they will become a bore and a scourge, instead of protectors of peace and order. A case took place at Bow-street, the other day one of a class of very frequent occurrence we are sorry to say, and which, though affording very good sport to the authorities whilst they last, are attended with great inconvenience to the unfortunate parties which calls for a word of remark. It was that of a gentleman's coachman, who was cast into limbo, together with his master's horses, vehicle, and all, charged with having broken the "police regulations" at the Olympic Theatre. It appears from the report that—

Mr. Baldwin, accompanied by Sir Charles Young, had been, with a party of ladies, at the Olympic Theatre; and, at the close of the entertainment, their carriage was sent for, and arrived in due course, but the constable on duty declared that no one answered to the name of Baldwin and he therefore called on the defendant to move on with his carriage; but he refused, seeing Sir C. Young in the lobby; and, in consequence, he was dragged off his box, and conveyed, carriage and all, to Bow-street, where he was detained in custody.

Mr Baldwin and Sir C. Young both complained of the extreme inconvenience to which the ladies of the party were subjected by the detention of their carriage, especially one elderly lady upwards of ninety, who had been induced to visit a theatre for the last time to see "the First Night." Owing to the extreme measures of the police, they were left alone in the lobby, deserted by the whole house, and it was only through an orange-girl they ascertained what had become of the carriage and coachman.

Upon this statement we submit that the police were guilty of a gross outrage, and ought themselves to have been the defendants. The magistrate, with an evident leaning in favour of the "ministers of the law," went so far as to consider "that the police ought to have been satisfied with the name and address of the defendant's master," and—"dismissed the case."

THE PARIS BOURSE.—SPECULATING FOR THE RISE.—(SEE PAGE 573.)

THE PARIS [illegible]—WAITING FOR THE BALL.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

THE "RISE" AND "FALL" AT THE BOURSE OF PARIS.

I.

Build your Tower of Babel,
Oh ye busy crowds!—
Ye are deft and able,
Strong and sure and stable—
Build it to the cloud!
Build with gold and paper,
Stock, and share, and scrip;
Broad at base and taper
As a sailing ship.
Build it up, we pray you try—
Right through Cloudland to the sky!

II.

Fortune's utmost malice
Finds you tough to slay;
To her shafts grown callous
In your lofty palace,
Working night and day.
Palace! No, an altar,
Raised for Mammon's self,
Where each word you falter
Is a psalm of pelf.
Shrine of Lucre—holy fane!
High Cathedral of St. Gain!

III.

Hark! the voices roaring!
Hark! the Babel din!
'Tis an anthem soaring,
'Tis a loud adoring:
Stoop, and enter in.
Mockery! Illusion!—
Furious oaths and bells!
Madness! rout! confusion!
Cries, and hoots, and yells!
Like a tide the people go—
Frantic, heaving to and fro.

IV.

Shall the rolling thunder
Shake it, base or roof?
Or the earthquake, under,
Rend the walls asunder—
Walls, destruction-proof?
Shall the sands entomb it?
Or the waters drown?
Or the fire consume it,
Till it topple down?—
"No!" a myriad voices cry,
"Great is Mammon! lift him high!"

V.

Oh, ye soap-sud blowers!
Pause and look around!
Oh, ye hazard-throwers!—
Loungers, comers, goers—
Hear ye not a sound?

Sturdy knaves and schemers,
Confident and bold;
Dupes and silly dreamers,
Ye are bought and sold!
Hark! a whisper far away!
Lo! a shadow on the day!

VI.

Eager-hearted strivers
That can toil and sweat,
Floaters, waders, divers,
Deep and keen contrivers,
Getting but to get;—
Lo! the monster, PANIC,
Looming large and near,
Breathing vague, tyrannic
Frenzies in each ear!
Who are dregs? and who are scum?
None can tell us—PANIC's come!

VII.

Oh, the foul example!
Oh, the selfish town!
In this earth so ample,
Wherefore crush and trample
Each his neighbour down!
Hark, the shouts and ouroes!
Hark, the wildering cry!
Close your yawning purses,
Men of gold, and fly!—
Fly! and hide in caves and holes:
Happy if you save your souls.

VIII.

Towers, their turrets lifting,
Carved with rare device,
Feel a sudden shifting,
As of basements drifting
On the broken ice.
Then a stifled rumbling,
Then a crash and fall:
Down comes Babel tumbling—
Domes and towers and all!—
Dig amid the whirling dust;
There is something left?—we trust.

IX.

Nothing worth the trouble—
Only stocks and shares;
Powdered dirt and rubble,
Paper, rags, and stubble,
And a few—despairs!
Contracts and debentures
For the winter fire,
Waifs of wrecked adventures
Stranded in the mire:—
Nothing else, in whole or parts;
Nothing—but the broken hearts!

C. M.

SPECULATIONS FOR THE RISE AND FALL AT THE PARIS BOURSE

(From a French Correspondent.)

THE Bourse has taken the place of the public gambling-houses which were suppressed at the commencement of the reign of Louis Philippe. Public morality has not in reality profited much by the abolition of those evil haunts; but the passion for gambling has, on the contrary, received fresh stimulus from the breaking up of the old *tripots*, and the substitution of a fine palace, at the cost of £350,000 sterling. The same loose principle—the desire for inordinate gains, obtained by chance, and not by labour—characterises both the frequenters of the "rouge et noir" tables and the gamblers at the Bourse. Attempts have often been made to justify the system of gambling at the Bourse, by representing it as an important element of political stability, on account of the great number of wealthy capitalists whom it interests in the maintenance of peace. But such arguments are of little value; for it is not from political stability, but from political instability, that the financial fluctuations proceed, which give rise to the hazards and speculations at the Bourse. It may be mentioned *en passant* that women were for some time allowed the right of entrance to the Bourse; and that, on their expulsion, they set up a gambling establishment of their own, opposite the Bourse, where they still continue to carry on operations, and gamble with as much or more virulence than men.

Of the *bond fide Agens de Change*—men whose business it is to buy and sell shares—who conduct their affairs, for the most part, on honourable principles; and who are in France, as in other countries, largely interested in the maintenance of public credit—we do not profess to speak in detail. It may suffice to say that they form a powerful company, numbering sixty members, and realising between them an annual revenue supposed to amount to 724,000,000 francs. They are appointed by the Government. The percentage allowed to them is fixed at ¼th per cent on the business they effect; so that it is easy to calculate to what an enormous sum their general operations must amount in the course of the year.

The influence of these agents is very great, as the instruments of the great bankers and money-dealers, whose combinations they constant or favour. The great bankers are suspicious in the midst of the agitated and miscellaneous crowd of the Bourse, from their quiet attitude and small number. They occupy a position in the left of the circle or "*parquet*" of the *Agens de Change*. The opposite side is that in which the *Coulissiers* assemble. The latter derive their name from the *coulisses*, or passages leading to the old Bourse. The profits of these outside jobbers are small compared with the sums derived by the legitimate leviathans of the Exchange. Many of them are very skilful, and often exhibit much penetration in discovering amidst the flow of political events the variations which affect the value of public and other securities. The *Coulissiers* are speculators by profession; but, not content with the excitement of the Bourse, they carry on their all-engrossing pursuits even amidst pleasure, and during the intervals of relaxation. It is chiefly in the gossip of the *Coulisses* that "coulisse-bull stories" or *Canards*, are concocted.

Political events are the principal causes which operate on the "*Cours des effets et des titres*," but it would be erroneous to attribute any permanent effect to such causes. Events have originated in extraordinary and sudden rises in the Funds, but even that scene for the time to overturn the Government of the country, for there are often powerful and secret influences at work which bring about consummations which have baffled the logical calculations of the keenest speculators.

The extraordinary scene that presented itself on the opening day of the new Bourse, when the dense crowd of impatient speculators gathered beneath the pillars of the great Grecian temple dedicated to Mammon, is remembered by the Paris, that even that scene sinks into insignificance when compared with the singular spectacle which the interior of the Bourse presents on a day of political crisis. It has been noticed that these financial commotions are periodical, and recur, on an average, every seven years. During these panics the consternation of the "Mammonites" is universal. A mournful silence reigns throughout the crowded halls of the Bourse. The voice of the crier, mounted in his rostrum, resounds as in an empty house: the "Fall" has crushed for the time those schemers, hearts, and petrified those busy tongues. But a sudden "Rise" changes the face of affairs: the groups re assemble, the game recommences, and the silence is succeeded by hubbub and confusion of voices.

[The two Engravings of the Bourse which we this week present to our readers have been executed with great care and precision. Most of the individuals represented are portraits, which will be easily recognised in Paris.]

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

THE WAR SECRETARY.

The Earl of ABERDEEN, in answer to a question from the Earl of Ellenborough, stated that the Government had no intention to bring in a bill to repeal the statute of Queen Anne which enacts that not more than two Secretaries of State shall sit at the same time in the House of Commons.

The Exchequer-bonds (£8,000,000) Bill, and the Vaccination Act Amendment Bill were each read a third time. The Railway and Canal Traffic Regulations Bill was read a third time. The Income-tax (No. 2) Bill, the Church Building Acts Bill, and the Industrial and Provident Societies Bill severally passed through Committee.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

A new writ was moved for Morpeth, the representation of which borough had been vacated by Sir George Grey's acceptance of the office of Colonial Secretary.

STAMP-DUTIES BILL.

On the motion for going into Committee on the Stamp-duties Bill, Mr. HUME, while admitting that if the duties on foreign bills of exchange were to be retained, the proposed scheme was an improvement, contended that, on currency grounds, those duties were most objectionable.

After some observations by Mr. Gregson, Mr. Thornely, and Mr. M'Gregor, the House went into Committee, and the first three clauses were agreed to.

Mr. HUME moved the omission of clause 4, which imposes the duties he had complained of.

After observations from various members, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said that this was the arrangement of a uniform tax, and the removal of an exemption for which there were no grounds. He would be glad to remove all stamps on bills, but circumstances did not enable him to afford it. The principle he contended for was that upon which all recent fiscal reforms had been based. If the Committee decided to retain the unjust exemption now existing, it would be impossible for him to carry out the great boon designed to inland trade.

After some further discussion the Committee divided, and the numbers were—For the clause, 173; for Mr. Hume's amendment, 110: Majority for Government, 63. The clause was agreed to.

The remaining clauses were discussed at some length, and the Bill passed through Committee. The House resumed, and immediately afterwards went into Committee of Supply on the Civil Service Estimates.

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHAPLAINS.

On a sum of £271,993 being proposed for the maintenance of Government prisons and convict establishments at home,

Mr. SPOONER moved the omission from it of £250 for special services of Roman Catholic priests in prisons.

Lord PALMERSTON defended the vote, and showed that allowances to Roman Catholic priests for services in prisons were not new. It was already the system at Millbank, and it was intended to extend it to all the Government prisons. The very purpose for which men were confined in gaol would be marred, if not defeated, if means were not found to touch their minds and reach their hearts

Mr. SCHOLEFIELD regarded the proposition of his honourable friend as dictated by narrow and bigoted views. He was willing to pay for chaplains of the Church of England, the richest in the country, while he refused to give anything to the priests of the poorest.

Mr. NEWDEGATE supported the amendment on the ground that every concession to Rome was an encouragement to the aggressions of Rome.

A long discussion ensued, when the Committee ultimately divided, the numbers were—For the amendment, 136; against it, 136: majority against the Government, 22.

The House having resumed, the Landlord and Tenant (Ireland) Bill, and the Leasing Powers (Ireland) Bill, were read a second time.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

DIVORCE AND MATRIMONIAL CAUSES BILL.

The LORD CHANCELLOR, in moving the second reading of the Divorce and Matrimonial Causes Bill, said the measure was intended to facilitate divorces for the cause of adultery, to transfer the jurisdiction over matrimonial suits from the Ecclesiastical Courts to Chancery, where a Court of Divorce would be established, consisting of the Lord Chancellor, the Chief Justice of the Queen's Bench, the Master of the Rolls, and two other members appointed under the Great Seal. From this court an appeal would lie to the House of Lords.

A discussion of considerable length ensued.

Lord BROUGHAM and Lord CAMPBELL approved of the principle of the measure, suggesting some modification of its details

Lord REDESDALE apprehended that the measure would prove prejudicial to morality, and derogate from the sanctity with which the marriage vow ought to be surrounded

Lord St. LEONARDS also opposed the bill, remarking upon the injury it would entail on the members of the ecclesiastical bar.

The bill was ultimately read a second time.

The High Treason (Ireland) Bill was also read a second time.

The Exchequer Bonds (£8,000,000) Bill was read a third time and passed, after some opposition from Lord BROUGHAM.

The Railway and Canal Traffic Regulation Bill and the Income-tax (No 2) Bill were respectively read a third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

LOSS OF THE "TIGER."

Sir J. GRAHAM, in reply to Captain Scobell, mentioned that official information had been received of the loss of the *Tiger*, and, as the circumstances must undergo the ordeal of a court-martial, it would be inconvenient in the meantime to produce the papers.

BLOCKADE OF RUSSIAN PORTS.

Sir J. GRAHAM, in answer to another question put by Mr. Horsfall, expressed his belief that the Admiralty in the Black Sea had adopted the established effective blockade of the mouths of the Danube. The Western Powers had determined that the blockade would be made to bear upon the ports of any foreign state.

THE CREW OF THE "SIAM."

Sir J. GRAHAM, in answer to Mr. W. Wilkie, stated that no "round robin" had been sent to him by the crew of the *Siam*. The conduct of the corporal punishments in the case of board that ship was greatly exaggerated. He thought it would not be necessary to lay off the ship.

THE BALLOT.

Mr. H. BERKELEY moved for leave to bring in a Bill to provide that all votes at Parliamentary elections in the United Kingdom should be taken by the ballot. Supporting the argument against the ballot founded on the assumption that the electoral franchise was a trust and not a right, he contended that the privilege was, in truth, a personal attribute appertaining to every voter, whose exercise should be limited only by two conditions—namely, that it should be unpurchased and unforced. For fulfilling these conditions he urged that the ballot offered the best if not the only effectual contrivance.

Lord D. STUART seconded the motion, and declared his persuasion that no reform could be complete without the ballot, nor any reformer sincere who did not advocate its adoption.

After a few words in support of the motion by Mr. WARNER,

Lord PALMERSTON resisted the proposal for introducing the ballot, on the ground that it would be ineffectual in securing secrecy to the voter; that, even if rendered perfect in that respect, it would be altogether discarded by the great bulk of the electorate, who prefer the open and manly proceeding of public voting; and that it would be available only for the few degraded voters whose whole life was a tissue of concealment and duplicity. The vote, he contended, was essentially a trust: its use was at once the exercise of a right and the performance of a duty.

Sir J. WALMSLEY replied to the arguments offered by the Home Secretary, and emphatically denied the assertion that the ballot was "un-English." He declared that every extension of the franchise which did not include that system of voting was a fraud.

Mr. BRIGHT insisted that the existence of undue influences at elections was undeniable and universal. The Liberal constituencies would be hoped, hereafter make the ballot a test for the representatives they returned, and the Liberal members make it a *sine qua non* in the Government they supported.

Sir W. MOLESWORTH denied that the vote was a trust in any sense which should compel the elector to endure the ordeal of publicity, and declared that no honest effort could be made on behalf of electoral purity before the ballot had been tried—at all events, as an experiment.

Mr. H. BERKELEY having replied, the House then divided. For leave to bring in the bill, 157; against, 194: majority, 37.

IRISH CHURCH.

Mr. Serjeant SHEE moved for leave to bring in a bill to alter and amend the laws relating to the temporalities of the Church in Ireland, and to increase the means of religious instruction and church accommodation for the Irish people.

The motion was seconded by Mr. P. URQUHART.

Sir JAMES GRAHAM moved the adjournment of the debate; which was agreed to, after a few words from Mr. Napier, Sir J. Young, Mr. Newdegate, and other members.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

Mr. PACKE withdrew his Church-rates Bill, deeming it hopeless to persevere; and the Public Revenue and Consolidated Fund Charges Bill passed through Committee.

In a Committee of Ways and Means, Mr. WILSON stated that, upon reconsideration, the Government had resolved to allow sugar to continue to be used in breweries.

The resolutions were agreed to.

The other business was disposed of, and the House adjourned.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

On the motion of Lord BROUGHAM, the Witnesses Bill was read a second time. The object of the measure was to compel the attendance of witnesses in civil cases from one part of the United Kingdom to any other part in which the trials take place, in respect to which their evidence may be required, upon receiving the ordinary subpœna. As the law at present stood their attendance was only required in criminal [illegible]

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL (CANADA) BILL.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE, in moving the second reading of the Legislative Council (Canada) Bill, said that the object of it was to repeal the clauses in the Union Act which prevented legislation by Canada itself; with the view of enabling the Canadian Parliament to effect such alterations in the Legislative Council as would render the constitution of that body more in accordance with public feeling in that country.

The Earl of Ellenborough and Lord Brougham severally suggested that a provision should be made for the amicable separation of Canada from this country.

After some discussion the bill was read a second time.

The High Treason (Ireland) Bill and the Vaccination Act Amendment Bill severally passed through Committee.

The Excise Duties' Bill was read a second time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

Lord J. RUSSELL took the oaths and his seat on his re-election for the City of London.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY BILL.

The House having gone into Committee upon the Oxford University Bill, Mr. E. DENISON, in reference to the changes which had been made in the bill during the recess, argued that the measure had been transformed into an enabling bill merely. The names of the additional Commissioners would have been mentioned.

Lord J. RUSSELL said that he had been in communication with two gentlemen, but he was not yet in a position to mention their names.

The consideration of the bill from the first clause was then entered upon, and several verbal alterations made.

Clauses up to 32 were agreed to.

Several bills upon the paper were advanced a stage.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

ROYAL COMMISSION.

The Royal Assent was given by commission to the following bills, viz., the Consolidated Fund (£8,000,000); Exchequer Bonds (£8,000,000); Income Tax (No 2); Industrial and Provident Societies; New River Company (New Reservoirs, &c.); Islington Cattle Market; and several other local bills.

The Lords Commissioners were the Lord Chancellor, Lord Stanley of Alderley, and Lord Canning.

In reply to the Earl of Donoughmore, the Earl of HARROWBY said, the evidence taken by the Commission of Inquiry on the College of Maynooth was complete, and would soon be laid before the House. But there was certain documentary evidence, which was procured through the agency of the Foreign Office, as to the mode of educating ecclesiastics in different Roman Catholic countries, and which had only recently come into the hands of the Commissioners. Those documents were all now translated, and they would be printed immediately. As soon as they were printed, the Commissioners would give the subject the most mature consideration.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH having moved for further returns as to Miscellaneous Estimates from 1835 to 1853, proceeded to contrast the charge contained in the estimates of the respective years, and observed that the total excess of the Estimates in 1853 over those of 1835 was £1,430 000.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE justified this increase in the expenditure.

The Witnesses Bill, and the Excise Duties Bill passed through Committee.

The Customs Duties Bill was read a second time.

The High Treason (Ireland) Bill was read a third time and passed.

The Vaccination Act Amendment Bill was reported with amendments.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

The House met at twelve in the morning, and was occupied in the consideration in Committee of the Valuation of Lands (Scotland) Bill, in which some progress was made. The House adjourned at three o'clock until five o'clock.

The House was re-assembled at five o'clock.

Lord D. STUART gave notice that on Monday next he should call upon the Government to give some explanation to the House on the subject of the late Ministerial changes.

LOSS OF THE "EUROPA."

Sir J. GRAHAM, in reply to Lord Jocelyn, said, that he had received intelligence of the loss of the *Europa*, which, according to the reports given in the daily journals had been burnt, while on her passage to Gibraltar. From the details entered into by the right hon. Baronet, it appeared that the vessel, when last heard from, was deserted; but it was ascertained that the greater portion of the crew, with the soldiers on board, had escaped. After the fire was discovered, the *Europa* was boarded by another vessel, and out of eighty-seven persons on board, all but twenty-one were rescued. In conclusion, the right hon. Baronet expressed his regret at being compelled to state that there was reason to believe that the conduct of the crew was far from satisfactory. A strict investigation, however, would be instituted into the circumstances attending the sad catastrophe.

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY BILL.

The House then went into Committee upon the Oxford University bill.

TERRIFIC THUNDER-STORM AND LOSS OF LIFE.—The metropolis and suburban districts were, on Tuesday, visited by a fearful storm of rain, thunder, and lightning, which was attended with considerable loss of property, and the death of one man, besides greatly jeopardising the lives of several others. The storm appears to have been particularly severe in the neighbourhood of Woolwich. Three men were struck down by the electric fluid on Shooter's-hill-road, but none of them were much injured. A travelling fishmonger, named Boyce, who was standing near them, was killed on the spot. The market-gardens in Kent were much damaged by the torrents of rain which fell during the storm.

STOPPAGE OF BISHOPSGATE-STREET.—The busy thoroughfare of Bishopsgate, between Crosby-hall and Bishopsgate Church, was completely ripped on Monday, by order of the Lord Mayor, and the wooden pavement taken up to make room for a set on pavement. Considerable inconvenience will be experienced for some time, as carriages, omnibuses, and other vehicles will have to make a detour into Broad street.

THE ROYAL BOTANICAL SOCIETY.—The first show of American plants for the season took place in the Gardens of this Society in the Regent's park on Monday. The collections exhibited were those of the Right Hon. Baroness Rothschild, Messrs. John Waterer, Mr. Baker, and Messrs. Standish and Noble. The flowers were very brilliant. Three or four thousand persons were present, and the usual military bands were in attendance.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE, BIRMINGHAM.—The Dean of the Faculty has received a communication from the Horse Guards, in reply to a memorial from the Council of the College, to the effect "that the General Commanding-in-Chief has granted to that body the privilege of recommending gentlemen for appointment to the medical department of the Army." The Council is also in communication on the same subject with the Hon. East India Company.

TOWN AND TABLE-TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

THE handsome bequest to the nation, by the late Lord Colborne, of eight really good pictures, has just been added to the National Gallery. Seven are hung together in the Centre Room; and the eighth ("a Shepherd, by Spagnoletto) is made a companion to the full-length of "St. John in the Wilderness," by Caracci. The centre of the seven is Wilkie's well-known "Parish Beadle"—so admirably engraved by Raimbach. This fine picture was painted for Lord Colborne in the year 1823—immediately after the completion of the "Chelsea Pensioners," for the Duke of Wellington. The price was 350 guineas; and it is now worth at least four times that sum. On its left is a capital Teniers—"Players at Trio-trac;" painted with a firm pencil, and a hand that had seldom recourse to repeated touches. In every respect, this is an excellent example of the master, and an accession of moment to the National Collection. On the right of the Wilkie, a small Bergheim "Crossing the Ford," and above the Berghem, a small Vandermeer—a Moonlight: only average specimens of both masters. A Weenix—"Dead Game and Dogs"—is suspended above the Wilkie; while the whole group is supported by two Rembrandts of great merit—"Portrait of an Old Man," and "Portrait of a Girl:" the latter in one of Rembrandt's best moods—a mood, moreover, in which he is not seen in any other picture in the National Collection. Of the style in which the old man is painted, Sir George Beaumont's Jew is a finer example.

An unusual occurrence in literature will change proprietors before the month. Two sets of the three first editions of Shakspeare will change proprietors under the hammer of Messrs. Sotheby and Wilkinson. One copy of the first edition of 1623 is the finest ever offered for sale. It belonged to Mr. Hibbert, and then to Mr. Wilks. Russia will have no effect on the price to be obtained for so choice a treasure.

Messrs. Christie and Manson have had some choice modern English pictures on view during the present week. Mr. Goodall's "Raising the Maypole," his best work, formed the centre of the room, flanked on either stone by a fine Müller, the "Acropolis of Athens;" and a very fine Callcott, "Hampstead Heath." An early Etty, the "Head of a Lady," in oval, painted in Lawrence's style, but with a surer pencil, found, as it deserved to find, many admirers. The sale was to take place to-day (Saturday).

The new Mayor of Oxford (Mr. Spiers) is properly ambitious of showing that a taste for literature and the arts is not wholly confined to the heads of houses; that the members of the Corporation of Oxford, if they do not understand books and pictures with University skill, are, at least, anxious to show their sympathy with authors and artists. With this view, and this feeling, the Mayor and Mayoress have issued cards for a grand gathering at Oxford on the 22nd; and London, it is said, will respond promptly and honorably to the Mayor's invitation. The present Vice-Chancellor will, we trust, show more sympathy with the Mayor's meeting than a former Vice-Chancellor showed for Shakspeare's House, and Mr. Macready's reading of "Hamlet."

Sir Francis Palgrave has just presented to Parliament his annual Report as Deputy Keeper of the Public Records. It contains some points of importance to authors and antiquaries. The arrangements, we are glad to learn, for the admission of literary inquirers, continue to work satisfactorily, though the time of several officers is necessarily taken up in attending to their researches. The new General Record Depository is hastening towards completion; the Commissioners of Works being at the same time desirous of finishing the building and of obtaining possession of Carlton Ride for other than Record purposes. The principal additions to the collection during the past year have been made, we observe, by the Treasury.

One of the choicest ivory caskets of mediæval workmanship preserved in this country was sold on Friday (yesterday), by Messrs. Sotheby and Wilkinson. It belonged to the late Mr. Stevenson, of Norwich; is of fourteenth century work, and contains on its lid and sides stories from the romance of Lancelot. This beautiful casket is the well known to the fellows of the Society of Antiquaries, and to the members of the Archæological Institute and British Archæological Association. The sale occurred too late in the week for a record of the price at which it sells in our columns of to-day.

A London Committee has just been formed in aid of the Edinburgh statue of Professor Wilson. The Committee consists of the Duke of Buccleuch, Lord Haddington, Mr. Macaulay, Mr. Stirling, M.P., Mr. Murray (of Albemarle-street), Mr. Lockhart, Mr. Peter Cunningham, and others. The Duke of Buccleuch has subscribed £25. Subscriptions are received by Messrs. Coutts and Co., and by Mr. Cunningham, the honorary secretary.

We have great pleasure in confirming the statement made in our paper of last week about Dr. Waagen and the new office of Director of the National Gallery. The Doctor is here, not on a visit (as some of our contemporaries stated) to his Royal Highness Prince Albert; but on a visit (as we observed last week) to his friends Sir Charles and Lady Eastlake, and has no wish whatever to accept the office which idle gossip has assigned to him.

BAZAAR AT GORE HOUSE.—Her Majesty's Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851 having granted the use of their beautiful estate for the purpose of a grand Bazaar in commemoration of the completion of the Consumption Hospital at Brompton, the committee of that institution are making active endeavours to ensure a most successful issue for the undertaking. Numerous donations of fancy work, paintings, drawings, minerals, &c., have been received within the last few days.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

During the whole of the week, great inactivity has prevailed in the market for all national securities; nevertheless, the amount of business done in it for Money has been tolerably good. The prices quoted have been comparatively trifling; indeed, the value of Consols had kept up remarkably well, considering the probable duration of the war in the East. On this latter point, however, opinions are much divided. Some of the *Bulls* contend that both Austria and Prussia are about to join the Western Powers to compel the evacuation of the Principalities; but the *Bears* hesitate not to say that such an alliance is wholly out of the question. What ever course events may take as regards the future, certain it is that, with an enormous drain upon our resources, we have Consols at almost a peace point; and where they are likely to continue for some time. The fact is, the late fall in the quotations was more the result of speculative than *bond fide* sales of stock.

On Monday, National Stocks were dull and drooping. The Three per Cent. Reduced marked 91¾; the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents. 91¼; and Consols for Account, 91⅝ to 91½. Exchequer Bills were done at 16s to 14s; Ditto, Small, 1s to 3s; and Exchequer Bonds (Scrip), ¾ prem. The transactions, on Tuesday, were wholly devoid of interest. The Three per Cents Reduced sold at 91⅝; the New Three and-a-Quarter per Cents, 91⅝ to 91¾; and Consols for Account, 91¾. Long Annuities, 1860, were 8 9-16ths. India Bonds, 48 prem. to par. Exchequer Bills, 4s prem. to par; Exchequer Bonds (Scrip), ½ to ¾ prem. Business on the following day, ruled inactive; yet prices were tolerably firm. Bank Stock, 208; the Three per Cents, Reduced, realised 91⅝ ⅞; Consols for Account, 91¾; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 91⅞ 92 to 91⅞. Exchequer Bills, £500, par to 2s. prem. and Exchequer Bonds (Scrip), ¾ prem. On Thursday, a very dull market was experienced. Consols, for opening were 91⅝ to ⅞ ex div.; the Three per Cents, Reduced, 91⅝; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 91⅝ ¾. Exchequer Bills, par to 4s. prem.

There have been very few transactions noticed in the Foreign-house, yet the quotations have ruled steady. The following are the leading prices:—Brazilian Five per Cents, Small, 98; Chilian Six per Cents, 103; Ecuador Bonds, 2¾; Mexican Three per Cents, 24¼; Russian Five per Cents, 110; Ditto, Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 85½; Venezuela Three-and-a-Half per Cents, 24¾; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 60¾; Dutch Four per Cents, 96¾; Ditto Four per Cents, New, 96¾; Belgian Four per Cents, 91¾; and Portuguese and Spanish Bonds, as last quoted.

Joint-Stock Bank Shares have sold inactively, and prices have shown a tendency to decline. Australia have sold at 21; Colonial, 74; Commercial of London, 14; London Chartered of Australia, 21; Oriental, 47½; Union of Australia, 70. In Miscellaneous Securities, comparatively few investments have been made. Australian Agricultural have marked 44¾; Crystal Palace, 6¾; Ditto, New B Shares, 2¼; London Docks, 108½; North British Australasian, 2¼; Peel River Land and Mineral, 4¾; Peninsula and Oriental Steam, 46; Ditto, New, 8¼; South Australian Land, 37¾; Scottish Australian Investment, 2¾; Van Diemen's Land, 12. Railway Shares have ranged thus:—Berlin, 1¾; East London, 12½; Grand Junction, 73; Ditto, New, 17; Kent, 87; Lambeth, 57; Southwark and Vauxhall, 83½; West Middlesex New, 11¾. Insurance Companies have been tolerably firm. Albion have sold at 90; County, 125; European, 19¾; Globe, 127; Guardian, 57; London, 28¾; Palladium, 2¾; Pelican, 8¾; Provident, 2¾; Royal Exchange, 185; Sun Fire, 260; Ditto, Life, 6; Hungerford-bridge Shares have been 12; Waterloo, 4¾ to 5; Waterloo Old Annuities, of £8, 23; Vauxhall, 21.

The imports of bullion have been on an extensive scale—£300,000 having arrived from Australia, £70,000 in dollars from New York, 300,000 dollars from Mexico, and 60,000 dollars from other quarters. The shipments have been very moderate; but an improved demand for gold has sprung up within the last few days for shipment to the Continent. It is probable, therefore, that most of the gold reported above will be sent to France; and we learn that heavy purchases of silver are likely to be made for China, where the dollar has again considerably advanced in price.

The last returns of the Bank of France show a further augmentation in the stock of bullion of £2,400,000. The total supply is now £18,896,000 There has been a moderate demand for money. In the rates of discount no change has taken place.

On the whole, the Railway Share-market has been dull. Prices almost generally have given way; but the fall has not occasioned any feeling of uneasiness. The following are the official closing prices on Saturday:—

ORDINARY SHARES.—STOCKS.—Ambergate, Nottingham, and Boston Junction, 6¾; Bristol and Exeter, 86¾; Caledonian, 58¾; Eastern Counties, 10¾; East Lancashire, 61; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 81½; Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, 75; Great Northern, 90¾; Ditto, A Stock, 70¾; Great Western, 77; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 62¾; London and Blackwall, 8¾; London, Tilbury, and Southend, 8¾; London and Brighton, 103¾; London and North-Western, 99¾; London and South Western, 84; Midland, 62¾; Ditto, Birmingham and Derby, 58; North British, 33¾; North Staffordshire, 10¾; Shropshire Union, 7¾; South-Eastern, 62¾; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, 70¾; Ditto, Extension, 12¾; York and North Midland, 51¾.

LINES LEASED AT FIXED RENTALS.—Buckinghamshire, 96 : Hull and Selby, 104.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Great Northern Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 104; Great Western 'Four-and-a-half per Cent, 97; Midland Four and-a-Half per Cent, 1st dis., Norfolk Four per Cent, 90; North British, 97; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 102¾.

FOREIGN.—Great Western of Brazils Shares, 19; Luxembourg Constituted Shares, 2; Namur and Liege, 8; Northern of France £20 Shares, 18; Paris and Lyons, 27; and Paris and Strasbourg, 31¾

All Mining Shares have been dull and drooping. On Thursday Agua Frias were 8; Anglo-Californis, ¼; St. John del Rey, 31; Colonial Gold, ⅛; Maraquita, ¼; Nouveau Monde, ¼; Quartz Rock, ½ to ⅝; Santiago de Cuba, 4; South Australian, ⅛.

Friday Evening.

There has been a very inactive market for Consols to-day, and prices have tended downwards. The Three per Cents have been done at 91 to 91⅛; the Three per Cents Reduced, 91¼ to 91⅜; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 91⅝ ⅞. In Foreign Bonds and Railway Shares, very little doing.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE (Friday).—The quantity of English wheat [illegible] this day, notwithstanding [illegible] and the arrivals [illegible] the week [illegible] were [illegible] the week [illegible] the week [illegible] the week

THE WELLINGTON TESTIMONIAL CLOCK-TOWER, LONDON-BRIDGE, SOUTHWARK.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

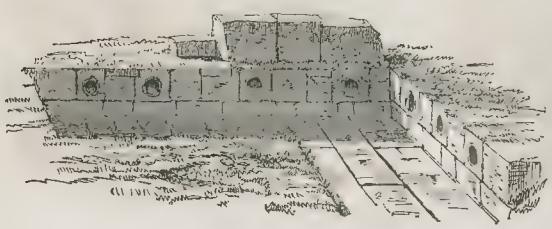
and the immense accumulation of rubbish, varying in depth from two to twelve feet, would startle the most enthusiastic antiquary, or the most determined explorer of our national antiquities. But the work at Fountains is planned and carried on with unflinching spirit. The "iron road" is laid down through the sombre aisles, into the sacred sanctuary that for three centuries glittered with all the pomp of the Romish Church. The soil is quietly and quickly removed; and the rich relics of architecture, the fragments of the "painted pavement," and the shattered tombs of its old lords and patrons once more see the light of day.

HOLY-WATER STOUP

SHIELD

At a recent meeting of the Royal Institute of British Architects—the Earl de Grey, President, in the chair—his Lordship exhibited several casts and original objects brought from Fountains Abbey. There was also an interesting discussion on the probable use of some curious earthenware jars, imbedded in the base wall of a screen in the nave. These jars were laid in mortar, on their sides, and then surrounded with the solid stone-work; the necks protruding from the wall like cannons from the sides of a ship. (*See Illustration.*) Their probable use has been the subject of much conjecture.

The other objects exhibited were:—A cast of an Early English Holy-water Stoup, which was carried away from the Abbey many years ago, and now used as the Font in the Chapel of Aldfield, a mile from the ruins. The original is cut out of a solid block of "Nidderdale marble." The date is *circa* 1230. Next we have illustrated a simple and beautiful Early English bracket, from the gateway of the Abbey; the cast of a female martyr saint (probably St. Margaret) bearing the "martyr's palm and golden crown," from the tower at Fountains—date about 1500. Beneath is an original sculpture in alabaster of the Assumption of the Virgin; this has been richly coloured and gilt. Some



PORTION OF VESSELS FOUND AT FOUNTAINS ABBEY.

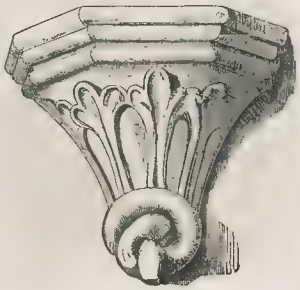
FEMALE MARTYR SAINT

perforated plates of lead—curious objects of the Decorated period—Professor Willis informs us, had been ventilators, inserted in Church and other windows of the middle ages, when needed. Next was a cast of a shield bearing the initials M. H., and crosier and mitre of Abbot Marmaduke Huby (1494–1526)—the Wykeham of the Abbey—the builder of the tower, and many other important structures.

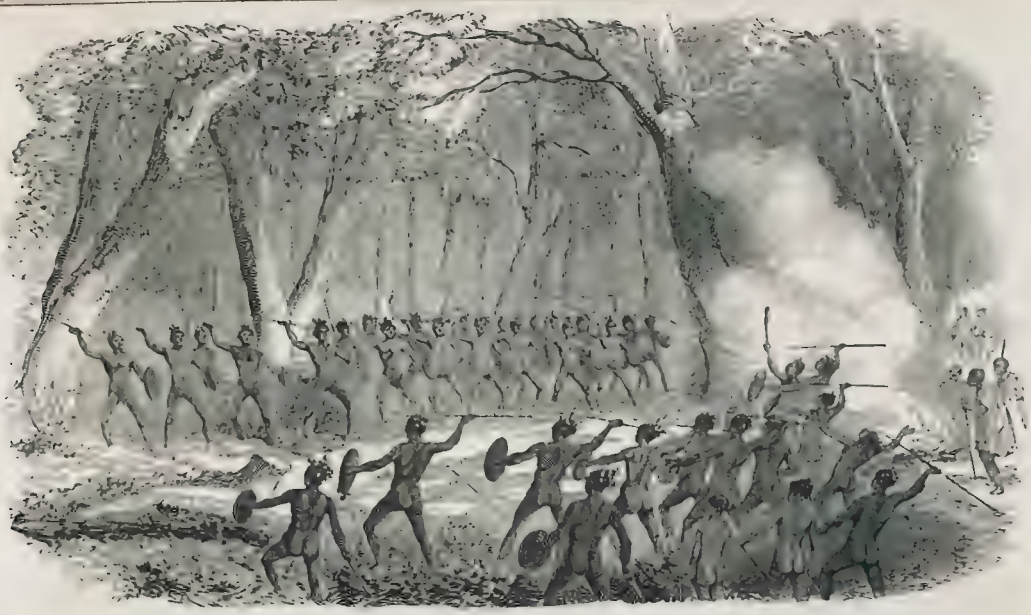
We understand that Lord de Grey, having granted permission to Mr. Harrison, of Ripon, to search for the old Norman choir of the Abbey,

THE ASSUMPTION.

the base has been discovered, in most instances, scarcely two inches below the present sward. It proves to have been very similar to the choir o. Kirkstall Abbey: without side aisles, and only about thirty-five feet in length from the eastern piers of the *original* centre tower. The present glorious Choir and Lady Chapel—a fine example of Early English architecture—was built between 1204 and 1246.



BRACKET, EARLY ENGLISH.



AFFRAY OF ABORIGINAL TRIBES, THREE MILES FROM BRISBANE, NEW SOUTH WALES.

ABORIGINAL AFFRAY IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

It is curious to find among the latest intelligence from this colony, the co-existence of two very opposite extremes of civilisation almost upon the same spot—namely, the advanced state indicated by the publication of a local newspaper, amid the sanguinary feuds of the aboriginal tribes of the country, rendering it of some importance that we should, in the words of our Correspondent, bring under the notice of the English public the barbarism amidst which the colonists live in the present days of high civilisation in New South Wales.

It appears from the *Moreton Bay Free Press*, published at Brisbane, that on December 21 last one of those barbarous and disgraceful scenes was enacted among some of the aborigines which are usually termed a war of fight; but which should rather be looked upon as among the superstitious ceremonies of a race of which very little is known. The scene of the conflict was a fine green flat, about a mile beyond Barnett's Swamp; and here, on the afternoon of the above day, were assembled a number of blacks of the Amity Point, Logan, Brisbane Island, and Ningy-Ningy tribes—the former being opposed to the two latter, in all they amounted to about one hundred and fifty men, women, and children. The cause of the quarrel was a Logan black named Harry, having stolen a gin or female of one of the opposite tribes. The battle commenced by her father running at Harry with a sharp hole, about half a foot in length. The latter was armed with a similar instrument and, locked in each other's arms, a most sanguinary conflict ensued, in the course of which both parties received some very severe stabs in the back and about the ribs. A parley ensued with the *gubby* and *woman* then took place along the hostile lines, ending with a grand melee in which the spears and boomerangs flew about with great rapidity; and, in the course of which the blacks displayed great tact in the use of their small shields. At last the Amity Point and Logan Blacks were routed; they were much less numerous than the others; and it was then discovered that one of the Brisbane Islanders was killed. The poor fellow had received a spear through the right breast, it entered near the arm pit and must have penetrated the right lung, for he died within ten minutes of receiving the wound. The warriors were all hideously bedaubed with red and yellow ochre; their hair frizzled out and ornamented with parrots and other feathers. During the fight, the old women of the tribe decorated in a somewhat similar manner, stood round a fire chanting or intoning, in a most monotonous manner, altogether it reminded one of the incantation scene in "Macbeth." When the fight of the blacks was discovered, the tribe set up a most unearthly yell, and beat their heads meantime with their waddies. The deceased was the brother of Dhamond, who was employed for some time in the Customs boat; but on no account could the blacks be induced to pronounce his name after his decease.

The savage conflict led to a similar affray a few days afterwards, at Logan, in which as before, the Amity Point and Logan tribes were opposed to those of the Ningy-Ningy and Bribie's Island. The writer adds that the fight of Dec 21 was followed by the revolting practice of cannibalism, for the black who was killed in the above affray was roasted and eaten, and this horrible feast was perpetrated within three miles of Brisbane.

We agree with the writer in the *Brisbane Free Press*, that it is the imperative duty of the Government to step in, and at any rate *endeavour* to put a stop to a murderous practice; one of the remnants of that barbarism which sixty-six years of active occupation of the country by Europeans has not been able to efface, and which must contribute to the extermination of a race that, like the red man of the American continent, originally the lord and owner of the soil, is rapidly disappearing before the advancing strides of civilisation. We are aware that there are persons so set to every just and generous feeling as to argue that the natives should be allowed to settle the matter in their own barbarous ways; but it must be recollected that the European having secured to himself the lands of the aborigines the least return he can make is to bestow on them the benefits of that civilisation which is the white man's proudest boast, and which has been the means of enabling him to render subservient to his power and will his sable brethren wherever he has found them. Now, amongst these benefits should be the repression of the meaningless feuds that frequently terminate in such murderous scenes as the one which we have described. It has been said that it is useless to endeavour to put a step to these con-

PRESENTATION OF A GOLD VASE, AT MELBOURNE, TO THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF VICTORIA.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

flicts, because, though prevented in one place, the blacks would but remove further on, out of the reach of the authorities, to indulge in their murderous work. Now, this we do not credit; and even granting it were so, it neither excuses nor relieves a Christian Government from the duty of making the attempt

TESTIMONIAL TO THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF VICTORIA.

By the last Australian mail we have been favoured with some interesting particulars of a grand farewell entertainment given by the citizens of Melbourne, as a parting token of esteem, to Mr. La Trobe, Lieutenant-Governor, whose able administration has rendered him highly popular throughout the Colony.

In Lonsdale-street, Melbourne, were prepared a ball-room, 315 feet long by 45 feet wide, and a supper-room of like width, and 170 feet in length. The whole was superbly decorated; and the exterior façade of the building was illuminated with coloured lamps, in the "Star of Brunswick," and other devices.

The company included, besides the highest Government officers, many members of the Legislative Council, the Judges, the most distinguished members of the bar, and, indeed, the greater part of the more wealthy and educated classes of society.

His Excellency arrived about half-past nine, accompanied by a brilliant staff of officers of the 40th and 99th Regiments, and of her Majesty's steamer *Electra*. Dancing proceeded with great vigour throughout the evening, and nearly 2000 persons were present.

During the evening, a superb Vase, which had been made for the occasion, was presented to his Excellency, as a parting memorial of friendship and regard. The Vase was manufactured in the colony, entirely of Victorian gold. It weighs 170 oz., and cost £1090. The ornamentation has been suggested by those occupations whence has arisen the great wealth of the colony.

The presentation took place at the south end of the dancing-hall, where, upon a dais, was seated his Excellency, surrounded by the members of the Executive Council and his numerous suite. The Honourable the Speaker, accompanied by the Mayor and numerous members of the committee, having approached, the Speaker presented the Vase to his Excellency; accompanying the ceremony by a valedictory address, wherein he stated the superb gift to be of native gold, manufactured by native talent.

His Excellency immediately rose, and gracefully accepted the Vase. His feelings were evidently much excited by the kindly sentiments expressed towards him by the Speaker. His Excellency, having replied, retired with a large portion of the company to the supper-room. The only toasts given were "Her Majesty the Queen," proposed by the Speaker; and "His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor," proposed by the Mayor. These were drunk with loyal enthusiasm. The company resumed dancing, and the enjoyments of the ball were prolonged until about five o'clock next morning. The orchestra numbered 100 performers, ably conducted by the Bandmaster of the 40th Regiment.

MUSIC.

GRISI'S farewell performances continue to draw immense houses to the ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA. She has repeated *Norma* and *Lucrezia Borgia* with undiminished éclat, and her appearance in the "Huguenots" is announced for this evening. Since the first performance of the "Prophète," last week, it has been twice repeated. The attraction of this gorgeous opera, aided by Madame Viardot's beautiful performance of the character of *Fides*, appears to be as great as ever.

THE Drury-lane ROYAL OPERA has brought forward an interesting novelty, the "Entführung aus dem Serail" of Mozart; an opera which, notwithstanding its great celebrity, is almost unknown in this country. An English version of it was produced about five-and-twenty years ago, at the English Opera-house, now the Lyceum; but it was so deformed by interpolations, omissions, and changes, that it could hardly be called Mozart's piece, and so indifferently performed that it made no impression on the public. It was produced in its original shape by the German Company, of which Staudigl was a member, when he first visited England; but that Company (with the exception of this great performer) was a very weak one, and their proceedings obtained little notice. The present revival of this opera at Drury-lane may, therefore, be regarded as equivalent to the production of a new work. The "Seraglio" was an early production of Mozart; immediately succeeding his first great work, "Idomeneo." At that period, so near the beginning of his career, Mozart's style resembled, in many respects, that of the Italian school of his day, before his music had acquired that German nationality and essentially dramatic character which are so apparent in "Figaro," "Don Giovanni," and the "Zauberflöte." In the "Seraglio," the Italian forms are preserved, the airs being lengthened by repetitions, and garnished with divisions, roulades, and florid ornamental passages, calculated less for dramatic effect than for displaying the vocal powers of a favourite singer. These Italian mannerisms detract greatly from the excellence of this opera; but then they are mingled with so many beauties, so many indications of the *mens divinior* -even then striving to free itself from the trammels of education and habit—so many traits of genius and feeling, that the music, on the whole, must be deemed worthy of its immortal author. The libretto is a light and pleasant little drama, very simple in its plot and incidents, but not without interest. The subject turns upon the fortunes of a young pair of Italian lovers. *Constance* has been taken by pirates, sold to a Pacha, and immured in his seraglio. *Belmonte*, discovering her situation, gets access to the place of her captivity, with the view of effecting her rescue. These are the sentimental characters. There are likewise a comic pair of lovers: *Pedrillo, Belmonte's* servant; and *Blonda, Constance's* waiting-woman, who are their master and mistress's fellow-prisoners. Their attempts to escape, thwarted by the jealous watchfulness of a ridiculous old Turk, the Pacha's major-domo, forms the plot of the piece. Their flight is intercepted, and they are brought before the irritated Pacha; who, however, is magnanimous enough to conquer his passion for his fair captive, whom he allows to depart with her lover. The music is beautiful. Mozart's genius was sufficient to impart a charm even to the Italian mannerisms of his day. The airs of the heroine—which were written expressly for a favourite singer then on the Vienna stage—are of a most brilliant description, demanding immense powers of voice and execution; but they are far from being merely pieces of display. Mozart often makes the most rapid roulades and diversions, and flights to the highest regions of the scale, serve to express violent agitation and passion. There are, moreover, multitudes of simple passages, in the songs of the lovers, which breathe the very soul of tenderness. The more comic portion of the music is often very light and playful; and the concerted pieces, in which the most busy scenes are carried on, are full of rich and beautiful harmonies. High praise is due to the performance of this delightful opera. Madame Rudersdorff, in the character of the heroine, left nothing to be desired. As an actress, she was graceful and intelligent; while she conquered the greatest vocal difficulties with the ease and finish of a consummate artist. Mdlle. Bury was a lively and agreeable *soubrette*, and sang very prettily. The part of *Osmin* demands an excellent comedian, as well as a singer of extraordinary powers—requisites which were united in Formès. The other characters were respectably supported; and the whole performance was received with the applause which it so justly deserved.

THE FRENCH company at the ST. JAMES'S THEATRE have brought out another *opéra comique*, "La Promise," recently produced with success at the Parisian Théâtre Lyrique. The music is by Clapisson, a composer who has gained considerable popularity as the author of many light musical pieces. He has an easy, fluent style, with little originality or strength, and resembles Auber, without Auber's higher qualities as an artist; but his music is generally gay and agreeable—all that is required for the pieces on which he employs himself. Such a piece is "La Promise." It is a lively picture of the manners and habits of French sailors, their sweethearts, *douaniers*, and other inhabitants of a small sea-port; and the best part of the music consists of nautical ditties which have a good deal of character, though amusingly unlike our John Bull seasongs. The airs written for Madame Cabel are quite adapted to that lady's peculiar style of singing, being filled with those florid and ornate passages which display to the greatest advantage her clear, flexible voice and brilliant execution. The piece, in short, is a trifle, but yet it is worth hearing, as it is very well performed, and put upon the stage with great taste and neatness. But we desiderate something of a higher stamp and more substantial character.

THE ENGLISH GLEE AND MADRIGAL UNION have resumed their performances at Willis's Rooms. The members of this association are, Mrs. Enderohn, Mrs. Lockey (late Miss Martha Williams); Mr. Lockey, Mr. Hobbs, and Mr. H. Phillips. For the performance of madrigals and full pieces they have the assistance of a considerable body of additional voices, all well chosen and thoroughly competent. At their first concert, on Monday last, they performed a selection of the fine old madrigals of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, and of the glees and part-songs of the more modern English composers. All these pieces were sung with the most exquisite purity and beauty, and warmly applauded by a large and fashionable audience.

THERE was a perform ance by the HARMONIC UNION, at Exeter-hall, on Wednesday evening, in aid of the funds of the German Hospital. It consisted of an oratorio, entitled "Christ the Messenger of Peace," composed by M. Naumann, and performed for the first time in this country. As far as can be gathered from a single hearing, and a somewhat indifferent performance, it appears to be a work of considerable merit, by no means remarkable for originality, but written in the plain, solid, grave style which befits so sacred a subject. No less than four of the principal singers who had been engaged for this performance—Mdlle Agnes Bury, Herr Reichart, Herr Hölzel, and Herr Formès—failed to make their appearance, and their places were filled by other performers, obtained at the shortest notice, and necessarily unprepared—a circumstance which demands explanation.

MISS ARABELLA GODDARD'S ANNUAL CONCERT will be given on Wednesday evening, at the Hanover-square Rooms.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Madame Vestris, after a long absence, returned to this stage on Monday, and signalised the occasion by successfully competing with Madame Allan in the part of the Mother, in the celebrated drama lately played at the St. James's, under the title of "La Joie fait Peur." The character of the old Steward—so finely acted by M. Regnier—was undertaken by Mr. Frank Matthews. Little of the original effect was wanting in the performance of the English version of an admirable French production, which, in its new garb, is appropriately named "Sunshine through Clouds." The house was full.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

ASCOT HEATH RACES.—TUESDAY.

Various causes contributed to render the opening of the Royal Meeting on Ascot Heath less brilliant this year than usual. The weather, that relentless spoil-sport, was so unfavourable that it must have hindered many people from venturing abroad for pleasure's sake alone; and it was also known that her Majesty would not honour the meeting with her presence on the first day. Under these circumstances we were not surprised to find that the attendance had fallen off in numbers, though not in respectability. Although the rain had diminished the attendance, it had the effect of putting the course in the best possible condition. Shortly before three o'clock the weather cleared up a little, but the day never became quite fine until towards the close of the racing, when the sun shone forth with a watery smile, that reminded us more of showery April than glowing June. The afternoon's sport came off as follows:—

Trial Stakes.—Crossbones, 1. Filbert, 2.
Welcome Stakes.—Bribery, 1. Weathercock, 2.
Sweepstakes of 50 Sovs.—Corebus, 1. Namur, 2.

Her Majesty's Gold Vase.—Hermit, 1. Rataplan, 2. Betting: 5 to 2 on Hermit. When the flag was dropped, Hermit walked off, followed by Rataplan. After proceeding about three hundred yards, Hermit ventured upon a gentle trot, and so they went on until they arrived at the foot of Swinley Hill, when a canter was passed; and after entering the Old Mile Course, the pace was gradually improved, until the race began in earnest. Hermit then made strong play, and at last won easily by a length and a half.

First Year of the Sixth Ascot Triennial Stakes.—The Bonnie Morn, 1. Joshua, 2.

Ascot Stakes.—Little Harry, 1. Grapeshot, 2. Betting: 10 to 1 agst Little Harry, and 20 to 1 agst Grapeshot.

Ascot Derby Stakes.—Phaëton, 1. Bobby, 2. Betting: 3 to 1 agst Bobby; 4 to 1 agst Phaëton

WEDNESDAY.

The Wednesday at Ascot has always been considered an "off day"—we speak not of the sport, for that was excellent; but of the general company, which was very limited, notwithstanding the fineness of the weather. The highway enjoyed a holiday, and the railways had an easy time of it; a few private carriages rattled through Windsor in the course of the forenoon, but the public vehicles, coaches, omnibuses, and cars, were more abundant than fares. Seven races invited the lovers of sport to the Heath; and thus they came off:—

Coronation Stakes.—Mishap, 1. Delia, 2.
Fernhill Stakes.—Bessie walked over.
Hardicap Plate of 100 sovs.—John O'Bruges, 1. Calamus, 2.
Royal Hunt Cup.—Brocket, 1. King of Trumps, 2. C. by the Emperor, 3. Alembic, 4. Twenty-two started. Betting:—2 to 1 agst Alembic, 10 to 1 agst Brocket and C. by the Emperor, and 20 to 1 agst King of Trumps.

Second Year of the Fifth Ascot Triennial Stakes.—Meteora, 1. Chamfaere, 2.

Third Year of the Fourth Ascot Triennial Stakes.—West Australian, 1. Vanderdecken, 2. Lord Exeter's Filbert, 3.

Sweepstakes of 15 sovs.—Delia, 1. Cranbourne, 2.

THURSDAY.

St. James's Palace Stakes.—Baalbec, 1. Prince Arthur, 2.
Visitors' Plate.—Jujube, 1. Little Jack, 2.
Gold Cup.—West Australian, 1. Kingston, 2.
New Stakes.—Mowpy, 1. Border Chief, 2.
Windsor Castle Stakes.—Hospodar, 1. Balmoral, 2.
Sweepstakes of 50 sovs.—Boer, 1. Pelham, 2.
Windsor Forest Stakes.—Meteora walked over.

The morning was heavy and drizzly; but cleared up before her Majesty and the Royal suite reached the Heath.

FRIDAY.

Sweepstakes of 50 sovs.—Epaminondas, 1. Weathercock, 2.
First Class Wokingham Stakes.—Bobbyhorse, 1. Octavia, 2.
Queen's Guineas.—Rataplan, 1. Epaminondas, 2.
Second Class Wokingham.—Brocket, 1. Inder, 2.
Maiden Plate.—Little Tom, 1. Vicotine, 2.
Sweepstakes of 20 sovs.—Bonne Morn walked over.
Great Western Stakes.—Dans walked over, after a dead heat with Kentyside Hero.

NEXT WEEK'S RACES.—Two meetings take place during the week: the one being the Newcastle-on-Tyne, on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday; and the other the Hampton, on Wednesday and Thursday the latter being a sort of minor "Derby" for the middling and working classes of the metropolis and, being held near Wales's "Olden Palace" of Hampton-court, should the weather prove favourable, will no doubt attract a very large assemblage of pleasure seekers.

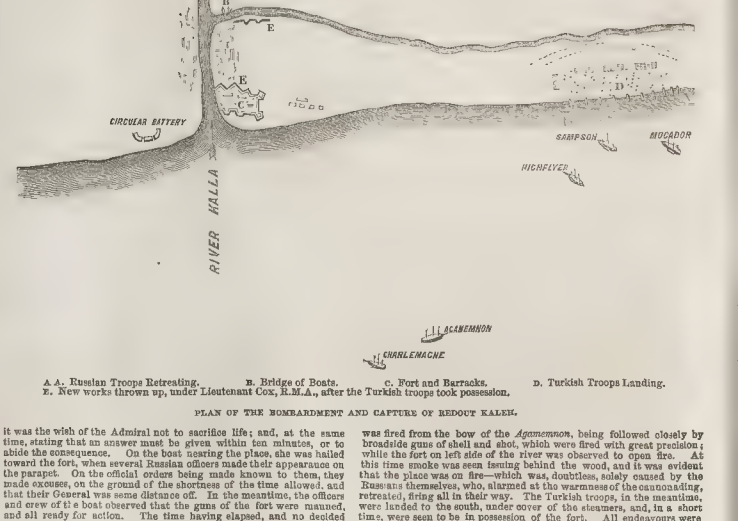
REFORMS IN DRESS AND ACCOUTREMENTS.—It is said that a frock-coat will soon be approved and taken into use by our troops as a substitute for the narrow coat and the cutting coatee now worn by our soldiers. The swords now being sent to Turkey for the use of our light cavalry are considered by experienced soldiers very much more efficient in the hands of a good swordsman than the one now in use. It is lighter and two inches longer, with a better protection for the hand, after the plan of the Highland claymore.

THE BLACK SEA FLEET OPERATIONS.

WE have been favoured by a Correspondent, of well-known artistic skill, with the accompanying three Sketches of the most recent operations of the Black Sea Fleet, engraved upon page 576

The first Sketch shows H.M.S. *Agamemnon* taking a survey of Sebastopol, and laying out a bait for the Russian squadron on April 29. The scene is life-like; but the two accompanying scenes possess more active interest. The lower Illustration shows the bombardment and capture of Redout Kaleh, on May 19. In the middle Sketch, the barning of the Redout, is seen part of the bridge of boats which was cut away by the Russians, and was picked up by the boats of the *Agamemnon*. The action is detailed in the following letter from a Correspondent:—

"On the afternoon of May 18th, one of the strongest and most important holds of the Russians on the east coast of the Black Sea, was annihilated by the combined French and English flying squadron, under the command of Rear-Admiral Sir Edward Lyons, G.C.B. On the previous day the gallant Admiral had taken an accurate glimpse at the place, and doubtless judging it useless to destroy the fort without occupying the town, proceeded to the Turkish camp at Tchurakseo to procure some troops. The Commander-in-Chief being absent at the time, no answer could be given to the demand till the following morning. It appears that the same demand had been made at an encampment further up the coast; but, as it was impossible to get a decided answer, the Admiral, with his keen discernment, seeing an opportunity of placing in the hands of Turkey so important a place, would not waste time, and promptly gave orders to the ships to proceed. On the morning of the 19th, at eight o'clock, the "pipe" was made "out boats," signifying a favourable answer, and everything betokened work to be done. By half-past eleven a.m., 800 Turkish troops, with four field-pieces, ammunition, tents, provisions, &c., had been taken on board, when the squadron got under way. The sea being calm the voyage was soon performed, though the *Agamemnon* was obliged to go at slow speed, for fear of swamping three gun-boats which she had in tow. At a quarter to four p.m., the ships had arrived off the town, the flag-ship being in advance, when a boat, bearing a flag of truce, under the care of Lieut. Maxor and — Elcock, Esq. (an officer some time in the Russian service), proceeded on shore, demanding the forts to be given up, and the town evacuated, as



A A. Russian Troops Retreating. B. Bridge of Boats. C. Fort and Barracks. D. Turkish Troops Landing.
E. New works thrown up, under Lieutenant Cox, R.M.A., after the Turkish troops took possession.

PLAN OF THE BOMBARDMENT AND CAPTURE OF REDOUT KALEH.

it was the wish of the Admiral not to sacrifice life; and, at the same time, stating that an answer must be given within ten minutes, or to abide the consequence. On the boat nearing the place, she was hailed toward the fort, when several Russian officers made their appearance on the parapet. On the official orders being made known to them, they made excuses, on the ground of the shortness of the time allowed, and that their General was some distance off. In the meantime, the officers and crew of the boat observed that the guns of the fort were manned, and all ready for action. The time having elapsed, and no decided answer given, *Agamemnon* began to take up her place, the *Charlemagne* following; while the *Highflyer*, *Mocador*, and *Samson* kept more to starboard, to protect the landing of the troops. At 5.12 the first gun was fired from the bow of the *Agamemnon*, being followed closely by broadside guns of shell and shot, which were fired with great precision; while the fort on left side of the river was observed to open fire. At this time smoke was seen issuing behind the wood, and it was evident that the place was on fire—which was, doubtless, solely caused by the Russians themselves, who, alarmed at the warmness of the cannonading, retreated, firing all in their way. The Turkish troops, in the meantime, were landed to the south, under cover of the steamers, and, in a short time, were seen to be in possession of the fort. All endeavours were made to stop the fire, but to no purpose: and at night it raged with great fury, illuminating the sky, and giving, doubtless, to their camp the

(*Continued on page 578.*)

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

THE ROYAL OPERA, DRURY-LANE, OPEN EVERY NIGHT for the Performance of GRAND OPERA, with BALLET, on a similar scale of magnificence and completeness as the principal Continental Operas, and at ordinary Play-house Prices.—For Bill of the Evening, see the Daily Papers.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.—Every Evening, THE MARRIAGE OF THE SEASON. After which, on Monday, Thursday, and Saturday, MR. BUCKSTONE'S VOYAGE ROUND the GLOBE. On Tuesday, A Pretty Piece of Business. Wednesday, The Barrack Room; and Box and Cox. Friday, Rural Felicity.—Mr. Buckstone's Benefit, Friday, June 30.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE, Oxford-street.—Mr CHARLES KEAN respectfully informs the Public that his BENEFIT will take place on MONDAY, JUNE 26th, on which occasion will be presented a NEW DRAMA (in three acts), a NEW BALLET DIVERTISSEMENT, and other Entertainments.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE, Oxford-street.—Under the Management of Mr Charles Kean).—On MONDAY, and during the Week, will be presented a new Comic Drama, entitled A FROG VILLAGE TO COURT; and the magical Drama of FAUST AND MARGUERITE; with other Entertainments.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.—OPERA BOXES and STALLS in the best situations, and on the most moderate terms, can always be secured at HAMMOND'S MUSICAL LIBRARY, 214, New Bond-street, opposite the Clarendon, Hotel. Opera Pit Tickets and Private Boxes at all the Theatres.

CONSTANTINOPLE and the WAR.—The LECTURE illustrating the MOVING DIORAMA at the EGYPTIAN HALL is delivered on WEDNESDAYS and SATURDAYS, by MR. STOCQUELER; and on the other days by MR. C. KENNEY. Daily, at half-past Two and Eight. Admission, 1s.

ROYAL GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Sackville-street. SEBASTOPOL (from the Admiralty Drawing by Lieut. MONTAGU O'REILLY, of H.M.S. "Retribution") and PANORAMA of the BATTLE of the DANUBE and of the BLACK SEA. Exhibiting daily, at Three and Eight. Admission, 1s., 2s., and 3s.

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MR. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC, including the Barouse Cleriaud and the Simplon, EVERY EVENING, at Eight o'clock, except Saturdays and every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday mornings, at Three. Stalls, 3s.; which can be taken at the Box-office, every day from Eleven till Four; area, 2s.; gallery, 1s. EGYPTIAN HALL, Piccadilly.

SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER-COLOURS.—The TWENTY-NINTH EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN at their Gallery, 53, Pall-mall East, from Nine till dusk. Admittance, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d. JOSEPH J. JENKINS, Secretary.

THE NEW SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER-COLOURS. The TWENTIETH ANNUAL EXHIBITION is OPEN Gallery, 24, Pall-mall East, from Nine till dusk. Admission, 1s. JAMES FAHEY, Secretary.

GALLERY of GERMAN PAINTINGS.—The SECOND ANNUAL EXHIBITION of WORKS by MODERN GERMAN MASTERS, from Eleven o'clock. Admission 1s. Gallery, 168, New Bond-street, next door to the Clarendon.

SIGNOR GIULIO REGONDI begs to announce the last MORNING CONCERT he will have the honour to perform at THE MESSRS. ERARD'S, 18, GREAT MARLBOROUGH-STREET, on THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 1854, to commence at Two o'Clock precisely. Tickets, 10s. 6d. each, to be had of the Concert Agents, Messrs. Cramer, Beale, and Wood, 201, Regent-street; and only of Signor Giulio Regondi, 69, Albany-street, Regent's-park; and Messrs. Wessel and Co., 229, Conduit-street, Regent's-street. For further particulars see Bills.

MUSICAL UNION—SIXTH MATINEE—Mr. WILLIS'S ROOMS, JUNE 20th, and ERNST'S LAST PERFORMANCE this Season. Quartet in C, No. 9, Op. 59, Beethoven; Pianoforte, Mr. Charles Hallé; Violoncello, Signor Piatti; and Madlle. Clauss. On the Director's Matinée, June 27th, extra seats will be provided and visitors' tickets must be paid for at the door. Viennaxtemps and other eminent Artists will perform. Single admissions to be had of Cramer and Co., Regent-street; Collcier and Chappell, Bond-street. Prospectuses, &c., of J. ELLA, Director.

ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, REGENT'S-PARK.—Fellows and visitors are informed that a new Elephant Antelope, an adult pair of INDIAN [illegible] from a herd of CEYLON, have just arrived, and may be viewed (by permission of Colonel Hall) every Saturday, at Four o'Clock. Admission, 1s. Monday, 6d.

MR. J. T. COOPER begs to announce that he continues to give LESSONS on the PIANOFORTE and SINGING (Ladies' Colleges attended.—16, St. Mary's-road, Canonbury.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—WHERE is FUTURITY? This having been a subject of much inquiry, Messrs. Moses Finlayson and Co. to acquaint the Nobility and Gentry that they have not any Establishment in the Crystal Palace, and the reason is, that they supplied so many of the Exhibitors at the Exhibition of 1851, as well as at those of Dublin and New York. It must, therefore, be obvious to all that, were they to become Exhibitors, it would be opposing some of their largest consumers. Many of their Patents, Registered Articles, and other Manufactures, are supplied to the Trade Retailers, at the Crystal Palace or of Messrs Finlayson and Co.'s Manufactory and Wholesale Warehouse, 49, 50, 51, and 52, Bunhill-row, 11, Beak-street; 38 and 39, Silver-street, and 84, Red Lion-street, Paris.

OPENING of the CRYSTAL PALACE.—CALLAGHAN'S CRYSTAL PALACE PERSPECTIVE GLASSES, indispensable to all visitors. These extraordinary little glasses (introduced at the Exhibition of 1851), though scarcely larger than a watch, possess such wonderful power and clearness as to show objects distinctly at the distance of a mile. Not only will they be found invaluable for viewing the interior of the Crystal Palace, but also for the magnificent scenery of the surrounding country. Price 12s. 6d. each. To be had of the appointed agents, Mr. Sams's Library, 1, St. James's-street; Mitchell's, 39, Old Bond-street; Westerton's, Hyde-park-corner; Keith, Prowse, and Co., 48, Cheapside; and at the Booksellers at the Railway Stations generally, or will be sent, post free, on receipt of stamps or money order, payable to William Callaghan, Opticlan, 63, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury, London.

PARIS EXHIBITION of 1855.—METROPOLITAN TRADE MEETINGS.—The Lords of her Majesty's Privy Council for Trade, being desirous that the Offence charged with the preliminary arrangements for the PARIS EXHIBITION should have the assistance of a few gentlemen practically conversant with each of the most important branches of trade carried on in the Metropolis, before all persons engaged in the undertaking are finally selected, and who may be interested in the Exhibition, to assemble at MARLBOROUGH HOUSE, on the days hereafter mentioned, for the purpose of hearing any observations they may be disposed to make and to name the persons who may be appointed as assistants, if required.

The Meetings to take place place punctually at Eleven o'Clock each day.

Philosophical Instrument Makers on Monday, June 19.
Musical Instrument Makers on Tuesday, June 20.
Manufacturers of Hardware, Pewterers, and Brassfounders—on Wednesday, June 21.
Saddlers and Harness Makers—on Thursday, June 22.
Tanners, Curriers, and Leather Dressers—on Friday, June 23.
Farriers—on Saturday, June 24.
Notice of other Meetings will appear hereafter.
By order, HENRY C. OWEN, Capt. R.E.
Marlborough House, Pall-mall, June 14th, 1854.

MAYALL'S PORTRAIT GALLERIES, 224, Regent-street, and 433, West Strand. DAGUERREOTYPE PORTRAITS, the most perfect style of Art, taste, and finish.—"Mr Mayall's portraits represent the high art of the Daguerreotype: they are as superior to the generality of such pictures as a delicate engraving is to a coarse woodcut."—Art Journal, Nov., 1853.

FIVE POUNDS.—Ladies and Gentlemen may learn in one hour to take PORTRAITS and LANDSCAPES, and may purchase the necessary Apparatus for Five Pounds, at the London School of Photography, 78, Newgate-street.

GEOLOGY and MINERALOGY.—Elementary Collections to facilitate the study of this interesting science, can be had, from Two Guineas to One Hundred, of J. TENNANT, Geologist, 149, Strand, London.

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COURSE of TWELVE THEORETICAL and PRACTICAL LECTURES on MAGNETOLOGY (Mesmerism) By C. J. A. RICARD, F.D.M., author of several scientific works member of several learned societies, and late Professor at the Athénée de Paris. These Lectures are now being delivered by A CLAIRVOYANTE SOMNAMBULIST, whose superior lucidity exceeds that of any other Somnambulist hitherto known in Europe.

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THE GRAND BAZAAR, under the immediate Patronage of her Most Gracious Majesty the QUEEN, her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cambridge, and the most illustrious and Noble Ladies, will be held, by the kind permission of her Majesty's Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851, in the beautiful grounds of Gore and Grove Houses, Kensington Gore, on TUESDAY, the 27th instant, and the following days, in behalf of the HOSPITAL for CONSUMPTION and DISEASES of the CHEST, Brompton.

The following ladies have kindly consented to preside at Stalls

Duchess of Somerset	Countess of Derby
Marchioness of Hastings	Lady Foley
Countess of Ailesbury	Lady Southampton
Countess of Derby	Lady Leigh
Countess of Jersey	Dowager Lady Shelley
Countess of Her Majesty's Bedchamber	Lady West
Countess Caroline Bellew	Dowager Lady Morgan
Lady Charlotte Bellew	Mrs. Wyndham
Viscountess Palmerston	Mrs. Quinn
Viscountess Strangford	Mrs. Philip Rose.

Donations of work, paintings, drawings, music, autographs, miniatures, botanical specimens, and other articles, will be received by the Ladies Presiding Stalls; or to the care of JAMES WADE, Esq., Grove House, Kensington Gore; or to the Secretary, at the Hospital, will be gratefully acknowledged.

Admission by tickets, 2s. 6d. each, to be obtained at Mr. Mitchell's Library, 39, Old Bond-street; Mr. Sams' Library, St. James's-street; Messrs. Lender and Cocks, 63, New Bond-street; Mr. Oilivier, 19, Old Bond-street; or at the Bazaar, on payment at the gate. Admission on the third day, 1s. 6d. each person.

PHILIP ROSE, Hon. Secretary.
Brompton, June, 1854. OSBORN P. CROSS, Secretary.

A ACCIDENTAL DEATH INSURANCE COMPANY. Capital £110,000, fully subscribed.
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NEW CASES and LEGACIES should be nominated by the Governors immediately. Forms of Nomination may be procured at the Office, where Subscriptions will be gladly received.
EDWD SHERIDAN LEEKS, Secretary
Office, 2, Charlotte-row, Mansion-house, London.

PROVISION AGAINST SICKNESS.—An ANNUITY of £52 per Week, or £7 per Day, may be secured, at any Age, or Infirm [illegible] by an Annual Payment of £3 [illegible] Apply to the Secretary, 1, ROYAL EXCHANGE, CORNHILL.
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2 Prevention. To afford temporary shelter and board for young women out of employ, which or without payment as the case may be, entitle, to prevent them falling into the snares which surround them in the streets of London.
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An occasional paper, called "London by Moonlight," is published, with a view to bring the objects of the Home, the interior of the premises that exist for such an Institution, the operations carried on towards meeting them, and to further the efficiency of the enterprise by soliciting contributions, personal support, &c. The printing and issuing these papers, while they have been productive of great good, have imposed considerable expense; it is therefore suggested, that, if the friends of the Institution would make a purchase of them for gratuitous distribution, the publicity and economy with which it is produced a twofold benefit—inasmuch as they would be making the Institution more extensively known, and, if not actually contributing to its funds, at least making a saving in the expenditure. The Numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, may be had at 2s. per hundred.
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HEALTH.—GYMNASTICS.—CAPTAIN CHIOSSO, Professor of Gymnastics at University College, London. Private Establishment, 36, Bdkar-street, Portman square. Gymnasium and Fencing Academy, 21, New-road, on rear of Gower-street.—Captain Chiosso's Rationale of Gymnastics. London: Walton and Maberly, Upper Gower-street, and Ivy-lane, Paternoster-row; and at Professor Chiosso's Establishment. Price 1s. 6d.

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EASTERN COUNTIES RAILWAY.—MARGATE and HERNE BAY, via TILBURY.—On and after 1st JUNE, the Steam-packet ORION will leave Tilbury Fort for Herne Bay and Margate every MONDAY, THURSDAY, and SATURDAY, on arrival of the Train leaving Bishopsgate Station at 10.35 a.m., Fenchurch-street at 10.45 a.m., and Blackwall at 10.50 a.m. Sunday 10.37 a.m., and Stratford at 10.37 a.m.; and will leave Margate every TUESDAY, Wednesday, and Friday, at Half-past 9 a.m., in connection with a Train direct from Tilbury to London.
Passengers are further informed, that on and after THURSDAY, 1st JUNE, SPECIAL TRAINS will run from Waterloo Station to [illegible] and returning from Hampton Court till Eleven p.m. each day.

1st Class, Single Journey, 2s. 6d.; 2nd Class, Single Journey, 1s. 6d.
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Double Journey Tickets may be obtained on and after Tuesday, 27th inst., at the Universal Office, Regent-street. 55, King William-street, City, and at the Stations. Return Tickets not issued on the Race Days.
ARCHD SCOTT, Traffic Manager.

Waterloo Station, June, 1854.

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THE CONSERVATIVE LAND SOCIETY.
ALLOTMENT OF THE WEYBRIDGE ESTATE.
TRUSTEES
Lord Viscount Ranelagh. Col. Lowther, M.P.
Rt. Hon. R. A. Christopher, M.P. J. O. Cobbold, Esq., M.P.
A PUBLIC MEETING of the INHABITANTS of GUILDFORD and neighborhood will be held in the Assembly-room of the WHITE HART INN, on MONDAY, the 26th inst., June 26th inst., at Half-past Seven in the Evening, when a Deputation of the Executive Committee of the Conservative Land Society, consisting of J. C. Colquhoun, Esq., Viscount Ingestrie, Henry Pownall, Esq., P. N. Powell, Esq., Thomas Bonsor, Esq., Rev. Sir Henry Dukinfield Astley, Bart., George Harvey, Esq., Surveyor; and C. L. Grunstien, Secretary, will attend to explain the Plan of Allotment of the Cobham's Grange Estate, Weybridge, Surrey, on that day, and the general objects of the Society.
Prospectuses and other information may be obtained from the 18th inst., at the Offices of the Society, 33, Parliament-street, Westminster.

PARIS.—Board and LODGING, with every comfort, is offered in a respectable family, occupying a private house and garden in the most healthy quarter of Paris. Terms, £2 a week. References in London and Paris. For particulars address (post-paid) to Mdme ARMÉ, 12, Rue de Charires, Avenue de Neuilly, Paris.

TO ANGLERS.—CHARLES FARLOW, Manufacturer, 191, STRAND, Invites anglers to inspect his large and well-assorted STOCK of FISHING TACKLE, at moderate prices. Trout flies, 3s. per dozen. Catalogues forwarded gratis.

TROUT-FISHING.—The Inventor of the DERBY TROUT-KILLER invites attention to this celebrated Bait, and guarantees it to kill in any trout-stream in the kingdom. Prime (most free)—per dozen, 3s.; Pike, 3s. and 3s. 6d. Trout-flies assorted or made to pattern, 1s. 6d. per dozen. Best Silk and Hair Fly Lines, 7s. per seven yards. Salmon Gimp, 6d. per yard, 5s. per score yards. Catalogues and Testimonials post free SAMUEL WARREN, 91, Fleet-street, Derby

NUMBER ONE, ST. PAUL'S CHURCH-YARD.—JOSEPH ROGERS PARKINSON'S is the PRICE of [illegible] further reduction of the Duty, 4l. 4s. per gallon in the Market Value, 4l.

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MESSRS. JOHN FOX and SONS' INDIA PALE ALE, Manufactured by them at their Brewery on the Mall Duty, 23s the Eighteen Gallon Cask. In Bottle—Quarts, 3s. 6d.; Pints, 2s. 3d. per dozen. Patent Steam Brewery, Farnborough, Kent.

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SCHWEPPE'S SODA, POTASS, MAGNESIA WATERS, and AERATED LEMONADE, continue to be manufactured, as usual, upon the largest scale at their several Establishments in London, Liverpool, Bristol, and Derby. Every Bottle is protected by a Label, with the name of their Firm, without which none is genuine. SCHWEPPE'S and BRIGHTON SELTZER WATER constantly Crush.—51, Berners-street.

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THE BLACK SEA FLEET OPERATIONS.

"THE AGAMEMNON" LAYING OUT A BAIT FOR THE RUSSIAN FLEET BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.—(SEE PAGE 576.)

(*Continued from page* 576.)

news of the victory, and that the place was in possession of the Turks. The boats, after landing the Turkish troops, pulled for the forts, and then into the river, hoping to cut the Russians off; but their flight was too rapid; and, on pulling up the river, it was afterwards ascertained that the Russian garrison had always the means of securing their retreat, by destroying the bridge of boats after crossing it, and that, during their retreat on this occasion, they had set fire to and completely destroyed the store houses and town, which had extended about a mile and a half up each side the river. The barracks and buildings inside the fort, and near the beach, within range of the guns, although evidently prepared for the torch of destruction, had escaped, the Russians not having time to fire them in their hasty retreat. The exact number of the garrison is not known; but information leads us to suppose, as well from the numbers seen from the mast-heads retreating, that they were

BURNING OF REDOUT KALEH.

2000 strong. The inland defences were found not to be strong, and no time was to be lost in securing the Turkish garrison against a surprise or an overwhelming force coming down on them; accordingly, men were landed, and in the course of two days such extensive intrenchments were thrown up as to ensure the Turks being able to hold out against any number of Russians likely to be brought against them. Sir E. Lyons, feeling satisfied with the strength of their position, departed for Sinope; leaving Captain Jones in the *Samson*, to inspire the new Turkish garrison of Redout Kaleh with confidence. We also find that the fortresses and towns of Agyeoo and Poti, dependencies of Redout Kaleh, were evacuated and burnt, on the intelligence of the fate of Redout Kaleh being received.

BOMBARDMENT AND CAPTURE OF REDOUT KALEH.

THE ASCOT CUP.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

HER MAJESTY'S VISIT TO THE MARQUIS AND MARCHIONESS OF BREADALBANE.

On Wednesday (last week) her Majesty and H R H Prince Albert, accompanied by their Royal visitors, the King of Portugal and the Duc d'Oporto, honoured the Marquis and Marchioness of Breadalbane with their presence at a grand ball given to nearly one thousand leading members of the aristocracy and the *élite* of society, at the noble Marquis's magnificent residence in Park-lane.

One of the earliest instances, after the Queen's marriage, in which her Majesty was pleased to accept the hospitalities of a private Peer was when, in 1842, she visited the Marquis of Breadalbane, at Taymouth Castle; and to that circumstance may, perhaps, in some measure, be traceable the partiality which the Queen has ever since manifested for an annual sojourn in the romantic scenery of the northern portion of her dominions. Her Majesty's visit of last week may be regarded as an indication of the continuance of the cordial feelings with which the members of the house of Breadalbane have ever been regarded by the Sovereign.

The saloon prepared for dancing, was built in the garden of Breadalbane House and the adjoining mansion. This magnificent apartment is analogous to the great hall at Taymouth Castle The decorations are in the mediæval taste. The roof is an open frame of timber, consisting of five bays, each bay divided into panels. The centre is occupied by a series of heraldic figures and emblems illustrating the authentic genealogy of this branch of the house of Campbell through twenty generations, extending back to an age prior to that of Robert Bruce. The side compartments are enriched with the insignia of the Order of the Thistle, of which the noble Marquis is a Knight Companion. The thistle and rue, with the motto "Nemo me impune lacessit," are here set forth in bold relief In the centre of the roof are dormer windows of stained glass inscribed with the family motto, "Follow Me." The walls of the saloon are decorated in imitation gold tapestry; and the apartment was illuminated by enamelled brass coronæ of five lights each, suspended by brackets terminating with the family crest—a boar's head. At the eastern end of the saloon were groups of ancient armour, and family and national banners, surmounted by a grandly-emblazoned monogram, "V. R.," underneath which appeared the Gaelic salutation of welcome, "Ceud mile failte."

THE QUEEN'S GOLD CUP.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

GRAND BALL TO HER MAJESTY, AT BREADALBANE HOUSE, PARK-LANE.

At the western extremity was a raised "recessed" orchestra, capable of containing twenty musicians. At the south end was the dais erected for her Majesty and the other Royal visitors; and over the throne waved the banners of the Queen, the King of Portugal, Prince Albert, and the Duchesses of Kent and Cambridge. The internal slopes of the roof are decorated with gold and crimson. On the panels, interspersed with the family arms and heraldic trophies, are some of the names most memorable in the annals of the Lords of Lorn. The floor is beautifully inlaid with oak and cherry-tree from the ancestral forests of Tayamouth.

This magnificent ball-room was the chief scene of the entertainment; but other rooms in the mansion were also devoted to the accommodation of the guests. In the principal banqueting-room, as well as in some of the other apartments, was a costly display of gold and silver plate. Throughout the mansion was a profusion of flowers. In artificial positions were placed pictures, sculpture, and other works of art, imparting to the whole interior an air of richness and poetic beauty.

The exterior of the mansion, both in the Park-lane and Grosvenor-street frontages, was brilliantly illuminated.

Her Majesty and Prince Albert, accompanied by the King of Portugal and the Duc d'Oporto, and attended by the Lords and Ladies of the Household, arrived, in six of the Royal carriages, at ten o'clock.

The Marquis and Marchioness of Breadalbane received her Majesty at the entrance of the mansion, and conducted her to the Royal boudoir adjoining the *salle de reception*, into which the illustrious guests immediately passed. The Queen having taken her seat on the dais, the company defiled before her Majesty, and re-assembled in the principal ball-room.

At half-past ten o'clock the Queen entered the ball-room, resting on the arm of the Marquis of Breadalbane. The King of Portugal followed, leading the Marchioness of Breadalbane. The Duchess of Cambridge (who had previously arrived) was led by Prince Albert, and the Princess Mary followed with the Duc d'Oporto. As the Queen entered, the orchestra, led by M. Laurent, played the National Anthem.

The illustrious party having for a few moments admired the imposing scene presented to them, the Marquis of Breadalbane received her Majesty's command to form a quadrille, in which he was honoured with the hand of the Sovereign. His Royal Highness Prince Albert danced in the same set with the Countess Walewska.

A waltz followed this quadrille, after which a second set was formed, in which her Majesty honoured the Ambassador of France with her hand, the Prince Consort dancing with the Princess Mary.

After a short interval, during which other dances ensued, her Majesty was pleased to join in a quadrille with the Duke of Hamilton; the French Ambassador being honoured with the hand of the Duchess of Hamilton (née Princess Mary of Baden).

The festivities were kept up with unflagging spirit until some time after midnight, when the Queen was conducted by the Marquis of Breadalbane to the supper-room, where a sumptuous banquet was served.

Her Majesty subsequently returned to the ball-room, and after participating for some time longer in the hospitalities of the noble Marquis, retired.

Among the company present were Prince Ghodam Mahomed, Prince Feroze Shah, the French Ambassador and Countess Walewska, and the members of the *corps diplomatique*.

The King of Portugal and his brother took great interest in the scene, but they did not take an active part in the entertainments. At half-past twelve o'clock the Royal carriages were in attendance, and her Majesty, Prince Albert, and their illustrious visitors were conducted to their carriages by the Marquis and Marchioness of Breadalbane, the principal Foreign Ministers, and officers of her Majesty's household.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent was prevented from being present by indisposition.

From the striking and effective character of this festivity much credit is due to the skill and taste of Mr. Crace, to whom the construction and ornamentation of the new ball-room had been entrusted by Lord Breadalbane. The admirable mode of lighting adopted by Mr. Faraday displayed the stained-glass windows to great advantage.

THE ASCOT PRIZE PLATE.

The three "Cups" contested for at Ascot in the past week are tasteful specimens of design and metal work, and will maintain the high reputation which English artists have achieved of late years.

The principal "Cup"—called this year "the Ascot Cup," and not the "Emperor's Vase"—has been manufactured by Messrs. Garrard, goldsmiths to the Crown, Haymarket. It is a statuette group of men and horses, in bright and frosted silver, from a design and model by Mr. Cotterill. The novelty lies in the treatment of the subject, which is perfectly original. Three equestrian figures represent the onslaught made by Charles of Luxembourg, the aged and blind King of Bohemia, attended by two Knights, on the English Man-at-Arms, at the Battle of Cressy. The Monarch stands nearly erect in his stirrups, and wields over his head, in act to cut, the formidable two-handed sword of the fourteenth century. His banner is held by one of his attendant Knights; whilst the other, with lance in rest, rushes into the conflict. The composition of this group, seen from any point of view, is perfect. The character of the horses and their riders is ably diversified. The energy and determination of the group are surprising. The armour is an elaborate specimen of silver work. All the minor parts have been carefully attended to, and the finish of every part is exquisite.

The "Queen's Gold Cup" has been modelled by the same artist and manufactured at the same establishment as the above. It consists of a tankard of large size. The sides are arabesqued, something in the Oriental style, and on the lid are figures representing a startled horse, an Arab, and an Egyptian snake-charmer. The horse rears, the Arab holds him fast by the bridle, the snake hisses and threatens, whilst the "charmer" plays his pipe and reduces him by degrees to subjection. The whole is very delicately finished.

The third prize, the "Royal Hunt Cup," is after a design, a model by Mr. Alfred Brown, and has been manufactured in silver at the establishment of Messrs. Hunt and Roskell, goldsmiths to her Majesty. The

THE ROYAL HUNT CUP

group is entitled "The Rivals," and consists of two stags combating with Sneyders-like fierceness:—

> Mighty heroes of the mountain side,
> Contending champions for the kingly sway

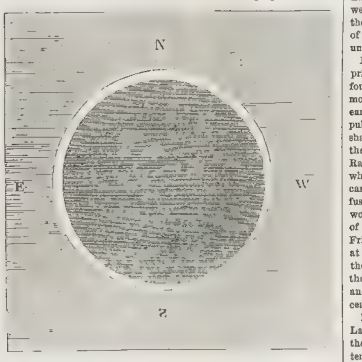
The composition is very life-like and characteristic, depicting a scene thus vividly described:—

> So when two vig'rous stags, each of his herd
> The haughty lord, through all the forest fear'd,
> Resolve to try which must in combat yield,
> In all their might advance across a field;
> They nod their lofty heads, and from afar
> Flourish their horns, preluding to the war.
> The combatants their threat'ning heads incline,
> And with their clashing horns in battle join.
> They rush to combat with amazing strokes,
> And their high antlers meet with fearful shocks;
> The mighty sound runs rattling through the hills,
> And echo with the fight the valley fills.
> Retiring off, the warriors cease to push,
> But then with fiercer rage to battle rush.
> The trembling herds at distance stand, and stay
> To know the conqueror, whom they must obey.

ON THE ANNULAR ECLIPSE OF MAY 26, AS OBSERVED IN CANADA.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

WE forward the following observations made by us yesterday, the 26th instant, on the Solar Eclipse. The mean time was obtained from several double altitudes of the Sun taken on the days preceding the



ANNULAR ECLIPSE OF THE SUN.

Eclipse, and continued up to the day itself by Mr. Rowan. The watches used were of a description to be depended upon, with a probable error of three or four seconds only. The register of the thermometers was carefully attended to by the Messrs. Williams, of Kingston; one thermometer was placed in sunshine, the other kept in the shade; the one placed in sunshine had the bulb blackened. Mr. Rowan used a small telescope by Troughton and Simms, attached to a transit theodolite; Baron de Rottenburg, a telescope by Dollond, three-and-a-quarter feet focal length, with an object-glass two-and-a-quarter inches. The place of observation was contiguous to Murney's Tower. The Eclipse was annular here, although not central, the Annulus being greater on the Eastern Limb than on the Western. Neither Mr. Rowan nor Baron de Rottenburg remarked any blunted appearance of the Sun's cusps, nor did they see any portion of the Moon's body throughout the Eclipse, with the exception that at 4 hours 49 minutes 15 seconds, a minute point of light, separated from the extremity of the Eastern cusp of the Sun by a very small distance, was first perceived on the dark body of the Moon. Possibly owing to the insufficiency of the optical aid employed, we did not perceive Baily's Beads with any degree of certainty. On the first contact of the Western Limbs of the Sun and Moon, Rowan observed a slight appearance of the light as it were running along the line of contact, but not with that degree of brilliancy or certainty which has been recorded on similar occasions. The first contact occurred at 3 hours 57 minutes 18 seconds, mean time; the junction of the Western Limbs of Moon and Sun at 5 hours 12 minutes 38 seconds; the junction of the Eastern Limbs of the Sun and Moon at 6 hours 42 minutes 42 seconds: the Annulus thus lasting 3 minutes and 4 seconds, and the Eclipse terminating at 6 hrs. 22 min. 28 sec. The Moon's Limb was remarked as slightly serrated in moving over the disc of the Sun, the utmost extent of unequality being towards the extremity of the Eastern Limb. At the period of greatest obscuration the appearance of the landscape immediately under the Sun was dark, and assumed a dull leaden hue, inclining to a neutral tint. The obscuration was very palpable and quite different from the ordinary shades of evening. Nothing remarkable was observed in the portion of the heavens opposite the Sun in the eastern horizon. Neither Mars nor any star of the first magnitude was visible. When the Annulus was formed, the double shadows cast by the Sun were very perceptible. The day throughout was most serene and cloudless, and highly favourable in all respects. No spots were observed on the disc of the Sun.

The following is the result of the observations made with the thermometers:—

Thermometer in Sun with blackened bulb.						Deg.	Thermometer in Shade.						Deg.
Hours.	Min.	Sec.					Hours.	Min.	Sec.				
3	57	18	..	..	..	62	3	57	18	..	..	..	71
4	9	15	..	..	..	79	4	9	15	..	..	..	71
4	37	29	..	..	..	77	4	37	29	..	..	..	70
4	48	40	..	..	..	74	4	48	40	..	..	..	69
4	57	0	..	..	..	72	4	57	0	..	..	..	66
5	12	55	..	..	..	67	5	12	55	..	..	..	66
5	15	59	..	..	..	66	5	15	59	..	..	..	65
5	25	0	..	..	..	67	5	25	0	..	..	..	64
5	30	0	..	..	..	69	5	30	0	..	..	..	65
5	35	0	..	..	..	71	5	35	0	..	..	..	65
5	45	0	..	..	..	73	5	45	0	..	..	..	67
6	0	0	..	..	..	75	6	0	0	..	..	..	65
6	15	0	..	..	..	76	6	15	0	..	..	..	66
6	22	42	..	..	..	75							

We remain, Sir, your obedient servants,

DE ROTTENBURG, Lt.-Col.
FREDK. J. ROWAN.

Kingston, Canada West, 27th May, 1854.

THE WEATHER.—In Mr. Bushell's *Weather Almanac, with Calculations on the Wind*, for the present year, we find the following predictions (for the present month):—"*Weather*: Rain (without much) twenty-four hours) on the 3rd, 7th, 8th, 11th, 13th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 25th (at one in the day), 26th, 29th, and 30th. Little summer weather: the latter part will be from the 3rd to the 11th; the remaining portion bearing little similitude, if any, to a 'glorious' June. Electricity but little. *Wind*: Gusty and very rough for the season; in particular at the end of the month. On the 4th, nearly north, or north by west, without much change to the 16th. Afterwards, a succession of fresh breezes from the west."

EXTENSION OF THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH TO SOMERSET HOUSE.—On Wednesday morning workmen were engaged in laying down a line of wires from the Strand to the Victualling Department of the Admiralty, Somerset House. By this arrangement the office will be placed in direct communication with the great naval arsenals at Pembroke, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Deal, Chatham, and from the last-mentioned yard with Sheerness, by means of numeral flags. Such a system is particularly required at the present time, as considerable delay will be avoided in sending orders for supplies of provisions and medical and surgical stores to ships fitting out, and for conveyance to those vessels forming the Baltic, North Sea, and Black Sea fleets, besides reducing the labour of the messengers.

WILSON'S HAMPSTEAD ESTATE BILL.—The Judges' report on this bill is most decidedly adverse. They say:—"We feel great difficulty in certifying our opinion that it is reasonable that the bill hereunto annexed (which we have perused without requiring any proof of its allegation) should pass into a law. It may well be that the testator abstained from extending the leasing power to the lands in question, for reasons which would have operated in his mind with equal force even if the lands had been as valuable for building purposes at the date of his will and codicils as they are now. Therefore, presuming the allegations contained in the preamble of the bill to be proved to the satisfaction of your Lordships, they do not, we think, afford any reasonable ground for applying to the Legislature for the powers which are sought."

OPENING OF THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

THE Crystal Palace doors are open, and doubts and fears and dolorous prognostications are at an end. Already, with but few dissenting voices, the verdict has been pronounced—"Paxton's second Palace is a greater success than his first." Such was the meaning of the applauding murmure of the tens of thousands who on Saturday last crowded the avenues and galleries, thronged the terraces, and wandered over the blooming gardens, and harmoniously shaven undulating lawns, adorned with statues and vases of marble, where less than two years ago were holly plantations and rudely-sloping fields. The work is not complete the fountains have yet to gush and the cascades to flow. The mason and the decorator, the sculptor and the painter, have still before them work of importance. The gardener has not ended his task; and another spring at least must pass over before the full idea of the author of the pleasure-grounds and park can be complete; but enough, and more than enough, has been displayed to extort even from the unwilling an acknowledgment that the second triumph is greater than the first. "Yes," ejaculated one of the most active organisers of the truly "Great" Exhibition of 1851—one who has hitherto studiously avoided countenancing the Sydenham Palace by word or deed—"this is a great success!" It was not extraordinary that the cautious world should doubt and fear the results of a second edition of the Crystal Palace of Hyde-park. Continuations are proverbially unsuccessful.

In this instance the public had been satiated with books, pictures, prints, speeches, and poems, in every shape, form, and substance, founded on the Hyde-park Exhibition. The prestige of a national—a more than national—a "World's Fair," was wanting, and had to be earned. The elements combined with the indifference of the general public, and the over-sanguine calculations of the promoters, to "lengthen shadows of despondency," as the Persians say. The opening adjourned, the capital doubled, the winter's rains, the miry roads, the West end Railway unfinished—these were stubborn arguments on the side of those who cried from day to day, with disagreeable pertinacity, "Oh! it never can be ready this year or even next: it is impossible to bring this confused mass of carpentering, gardening, statues, masonry, painting, iron work, and earth work, into an harmonious whole fit for the reception of a public rendered critical by the great work done in 1851." Even on Friday evening—when the carpenters were hammering away on all sides at seats and steps, needlewomen stitching at the crimson draperies of the Queen's Dais, and excited exhibitors were distractedly arranging their stalls by borrowed light:—it seemed impossible that the mere dust and rubbish could be cleared away, or the confused noise of preparation cease, for many days.

But in the night time some good fairies, or powerful genii of the Lamps of the modern Aladdins, must have been at work; for when the privileged, admitted by the "Open, Sesame!" of the "Press," entered the Great Transept an hour before the ordinary visitors, they found the galleries and avenues they had left deformed by rough deal, noisy and busy, silent and spotless, all around glowing in crimson cloth. Even the chaos of the exhibitors' department had been reduced to order again.

Never was an inaugurating ceremony ushered in by a more favourable day—a bright sun and refreshing breeze gave clear light and shade to the well-wooded panorama which rolled from both sides of what will soon be known as the Crystal Palace Hill.

An hour before the time fixed for opening the doors, long lines of carriages were to be seen slowly toiling up the series of acclivities by which the Palace is approached from the Dulwich and Norwood side of the country, while the special railway trains deposited an army of impatient visitors at the foot of the unfinished railroad avenue which leads to the South Wing.

The police had scarcely taken up their positions when impatient knockings warned the guardians of the interior that a "crush" was gathering outside. No sooner was the word given to unbolt, than in flowed a gaily-dressed crowd, armed with cards of all the colours of the rainbow; and here it was that the first and only misadventure occurred—which, however, thanks to the tact and good temper of the police, the forbearance of the patient public, aided by the zealous exertions of the officials of the Company, ended in a manner satisfactory to all parties. By the miscarriage of a bundle of printed instructions, the police were for the most part ignorant of the hidden meaning of the various colours, and so it came to pass that some shy and unfortunate persons provided with most powerful coloured talismans, were detained in odd corners and out-of-the-way avenues, until relieved by the friendly intervention of some who held the interpreting key as well as the necessary authority. Hence arose divers comic scenes. As for instance, when a large party who had unlawfully possessed themselves of a row of chairs in the Main Avenue, near the Transept, which had been reserved for special guests, were diverted from the chorus of rebellion which met the attempt of the police to dispossess them, by a hint from the Director in-Chief that an opposite cloth-covered amphitheatre was at their service—the scramble that followed—the agility displayed by languid forms in flounces, feathers, and lace—the rush to the poll, in which "tall intended" whipped up his little beloved in his arms, like a baby, and carried her across the Nave to the top row of the new seats—might, we trust will, form a subject in Doyle's next series of the "Manners and Customs of ye Englyshe."

By degrees, order was restored. The police learned the comparative value of colour. Sir Joseph, as Commander-in-Chief, rapidly decided on the new arrangements rendered necessary by the exigencies of the moment, despatched his aide-de-camp with his orders, and himself assisted in placing guests, distinguished as foreign visitors or otherwise, in appropriate situations.

By one o'clock, almost every available part of the Nave and First Gallery was full, and the whole length of the Nave lined with fair faces and pretty bonnets—except the Dais, where the Chair of State, under a canopy suspended from the roof of the Central Transept, gorgeously emblazoned with heraldic symbols, awaited the arrival of the Queen, the Prince, and her illustrious family and Royal guests.

On the west side of the Central Transept, behind the Dais, rose up an amphitheatre covered with crimson cloth, on which were seated three bands, and a volunteer chorus of 1800 singers, including some eminent vocalists, each holding in his or her hand a sheet of music. On one of the lower benches the fine white head of Lablache was to be seen, amid other celebrities of Italian and German song; lower still, the solo singer of the day, Clara Novello; while, from a purple velvet chair, Costa took the command. Around the two other sides of the Dais the *corps diplomatique* had their seats—homely, rush-bottomed chairs; and behind these gentlemen, in their glittering uniforms, the Directors and Officers of the Company were gathered, in their Court costume. In front, towards the Garden side, were the visitors provided with reserved seats—the Lords and Commons occupying amphitheatres in the galleries. Underneath, on benches raised up to the height of the pedestals of the colossal statues of Rubens and Admiral Duguesne, were other specially invited guests—among whom several Indian Princes, in cloth of gold and turbans with egrets' feathers, tipped with monstrous jewels, glittered like heroes of the Arabian Nights.

In front, on the floor of the Transept, in all the dignity of flowing robes and fur, was a compact army of Mayors and Aldermen, headed by the Lord Mayors of London, Dublin, and York, with here and there a London citizen, who, for that day, preferred the light uniform of the

City Lieutenancy or Artillery Company, to the civic gown or the court suit.

As the great clock struck three, a cheer resounding from the outside, and then a murmured whisper rolling from the great central door to the furthest extremity of the Building, announced that the Queen had arrived. Soon, through a broad avenue (cleared in silence by the police), her Majesty appeared in the Grand Transept, preceded by Mr. Laing and Sir Joseph Paxton. Then the multitude, rising, cheered, until the crystal arches rang again and again, while the mighty living amphitheatre of singers, shouting in time, and waving the white sheets of music, produced a novel and striking effect.

Her Majesty ascended the raised Daïs, took her seat with the King of Portugal (who seemed rather startled by the cheers), the Duchess of Kent, the Duke of Oporto, and the Princess Royal and the Princess Alice on her right hand, and with his Royal Highness Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred, the Duchess of Cambridge, and Mary of Cambridge on her left. Behind stood the Duchess of Sutherland, the Duke of Wellington, the Earl of Breadalbane, the Marquis of Ailsbury, the Ladies in Waiting, Equerries, and other official personages. All were in full dress except her Majesty, who wore a blue glacé silk dress and a white lace bonnet trimmed with roses. Prince Albert wore a Field-Marshal's uniform.

So soon as the illustrious party had taken their places, and the cheers which greeted the Queen had died away, the great army of singers, accompanied by the three bands, rolled forth "God Save the Queen." Every heart thrilled, and tears rose unbidden into the eyes of many little accustomed to the luxury of tears.

The improved construction of the Building, for musical purposes, was made evident during this performance; for, as Clara Novello, with lark-like clearness, sang the solo parts, the sweet solemn strains travelled to the most distant parts of the Crystal Palace, and were heard with as much distinctness in the recesses of the Northern, as in the Central Transept.

When the music ceased, Mr. Laing, attired in the uniform of a Deputy-Lieutenant for his native county, came forward, ascended the Daïs, and read from a parchment roll the following address:—

May it please your Majesty graciously to accept the assurance of our devoted loyalty and attachment to your throne and person, and of our gratitude for the kind condescension with which your Majesty has consented to honour with your presence the ceremony of this day.

Among the many memorable events of your Majesty's happy reign, the Great Exhibition of 1851 occupied a prominent place. The idea, for which the nineteenth century was indebted to your illustrious Consort, Prince Albert, of an Exhibition open to the products of all industries and of all nations, marked of itself an era in the annals of civilisation. It marked the disappearance of old commercial jealousies and international prejudices before the combining influences of modern science and the liberal spirit of modern legislation.

The realisation of this idea was worthy of its conception. An entirely novel order of architecture, producing, by means of unrivalled mechanical ingenuity, the most marvellous and beautiful effects, sprang into existence to provide a Building. In this Building a collection of the choicest products of all that the human intellect conceives, and the human hand executes, was exhibited during a period of six months, for the instruction and delight of assembled millions.

The conduct of these millions was, of itself, one of the most remarkable features of this great event. The perfect order and decorum which prevailed, the enlightened interest and ready appreciation which were displayed, afforded the most conclusive refutation of the prejudice which regarded the industrious masses of our English nation with mistrust, and represented them as rude, destitute of refinement, insensible to the humanising influences of art, and incapable of rational and enlightened enjoyment.

The Great Exhibition of 1851 afforded a conclusive proof, by the enlightened interest and ready appreciation which were displayed, that the people of England were prepared to receive instruction when it was afforded to them, and to embrace whatever opportunities were given for the cultivation of taste and for the development of the instinctive love of the beautiful.

The establishment of this fact, and the recognition of the civilising influences so widely exerted by the Great Exhibition, led to a general feeling, when its removal from Hyde park became necessary, that some attempt should be made to perpetuate those influences in a more permanent form in another locality.

This undertaking, the inauguration of which your Majesty this day honours with your presence, originated in this feeling. Private enterprise—appealed to in the interests of civilisation—supplied the funds. The men whose names had acquired European ability in connection with the Crystal Palace of 1851, placed their services at the disposal of the Directors in their respective departments. The enlightened patronage of Royalty, the sympathy and support of public opinion, the generous co-operation of distinguished men in science and art, urged on the undertaking, and impressed it with a national character. The liberality of foreign Governments threw open every museum, and afforded facilities never before known for acquiring a complete series of the finest works of ancient and modern art.

Thus aided and encouraged, the original idea expanded into wider dimensions. It was resolved to attempt the creation of a Palace and Park which should be at once a fitting ornament of the greatest metropolis of the civilised world, an unrivalled school of art and instrument of education, and a monument worthy the age and of the British empire.

It was hoped to prove that the spirit of a free people cannot only create wealth, extend commerce and colonies, and take the lead in every department of moral and material progress, but can at the same time rival the proudest works of absolute monarchs, lavishing the resources of nations in the decoration of a favourite residence or the embellishment of a chosen capital.

With these views the Directors embraced three leading objects in their undertaking—amusement and recreation, instruction, and commercial utility.

The first object was sought to be attained by the creation of a new Crystal Palace, far exceeding the original structure of 1851 in dimensions and in architectural effect—of a terraced garden and park on a scale of magnificence worthy of the palace, and of a system of fountains and waterworks surpassing anything which the world has yet witnessed.

The educational object embraces a complete illustration of the arts of sculpture and architecture from the earliest works of Egypt and Assyria down to modern times, comprising casts of every celebrated statue in the world, and restorations of some of its most remarkable monuments.

In science, geology, ethnology, zoology, and botany receive appropriate illustrations—the principle of which had been to combine scientific accuracy with popular effect; and in its ultimate development the Directors are bold enough to look forward to the Crystal Palace of 1854 becoming an illustrated encyclopædia of this great and varied universe, where every art and every science may find a place, and where every visitor may find something to interest, and be taught through the medium of the eye to receive impressions, kindling a desire for knowledge, and awakening instincts of the beautiful.

Combined with art and science, industry receives its due representation. The Industrial Exhibition is based on principles of commercial utility, taught by the experience of the Great Exhibition of 1851. The advantage to national interests of a place where the best products of different industries and localities could be seen and appreciated was no less manifest than the importance to individual producers of such an unrivalled means of publicity, and the conveniences to buyers and sellers of such a world's fair for the exhibition and inspection of goods, and the transaction of mutual business.

The Crystal Palace of 1854 will perpetuate those advantages under regulations suited to the permanent character of the Industrial Exhibition. As in 1851, the doors will be thrown open freely for the products of all nations; and the presence of so many distinguished representatives of foreign Governments, on this occasion, affords a gratifying proof that enlightened men throughout the world are alive to the advantages of such common centres of friendly union, both to the arts of industry and to the highest interests of peace and civilisation.

Such, sir, is please your Majesty, is a brief outline of the objects which the promoters of this undertaking have proposed to realise. It will be apparent that the comprehensiveness of the plan precludes the idea of absolute completeness. The colossal scale of the proposed system of waterworks makes another year requisite to ensure their proper display. The industrial department being of a permanent character, cannot, as in the case of a temporary exhibition, be finished by a given day. The plants and flowers, which will form such a main feature of attraction, require time for their growth. The educational scheme is purposely traced so as to leave room for future development.

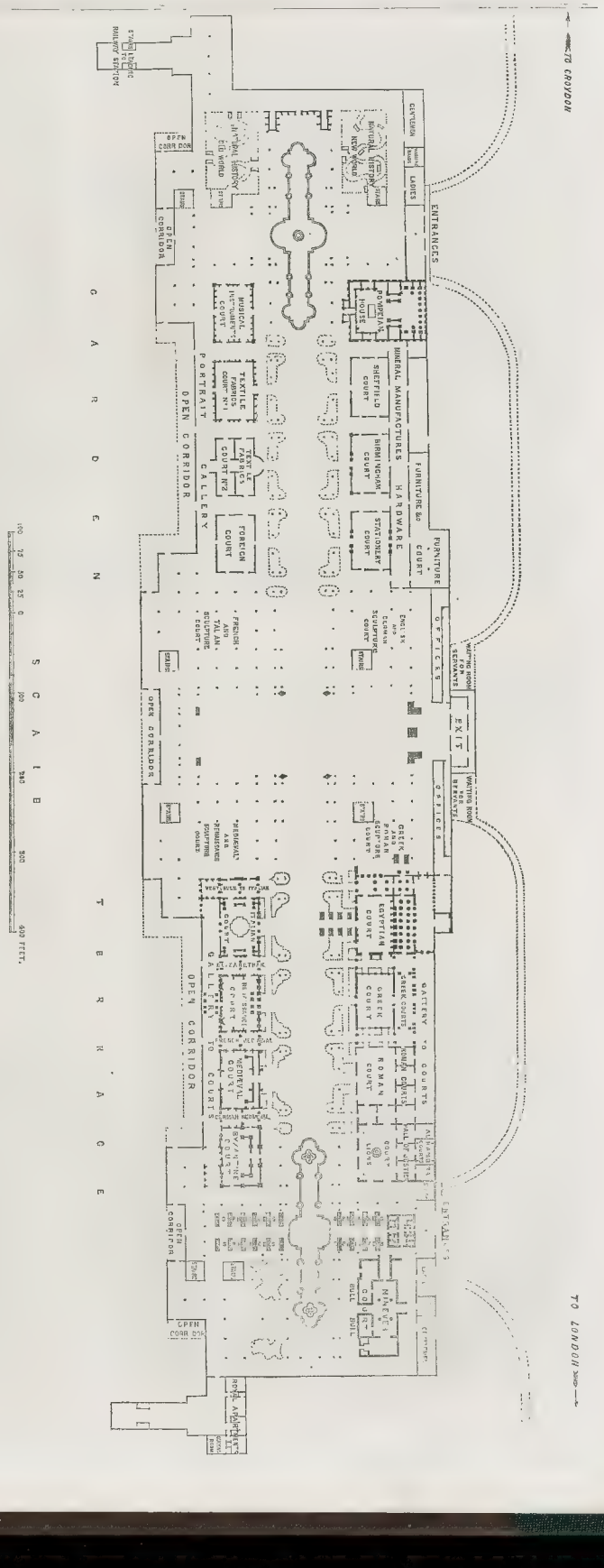
Under these circumstances, the Directors have considered it their duty to throw the Palace and Park open to the public as soon as they are sufficiently completed to enable a fair judgment to be formed how far the undertaking deserves success, and how far it has achieved it.

Your Majesty has heard the statement of the motives in which this enterprise originated, and of the principles on which it has been conducted; it rests with your Majesty now to judge whether the performance equals the promise, and whether the Palace and Park, with their varied contents which surround us, are worthy to be considered—what the Directors, whose organ I am, would think their highest praise—a legitimate offspring of the Great Exhibition of 1851, and an appropriate development of one of the noblest ideas of modern civilisation.

To this address the Queen made the following gracious reply:—

I receive with much pleasure the loyal and dutiful address which you have presented to me upon the present occasion.

It is a source of the highest gratification to myself and to the Prince



GROUND-PLAN OF THE CRYSTAL PALACE AND GARDENS, AT SYDENHAM

OPENING OF THE CRYSTAL PALACE.—ARRIVAL OF HER MAJESTY.

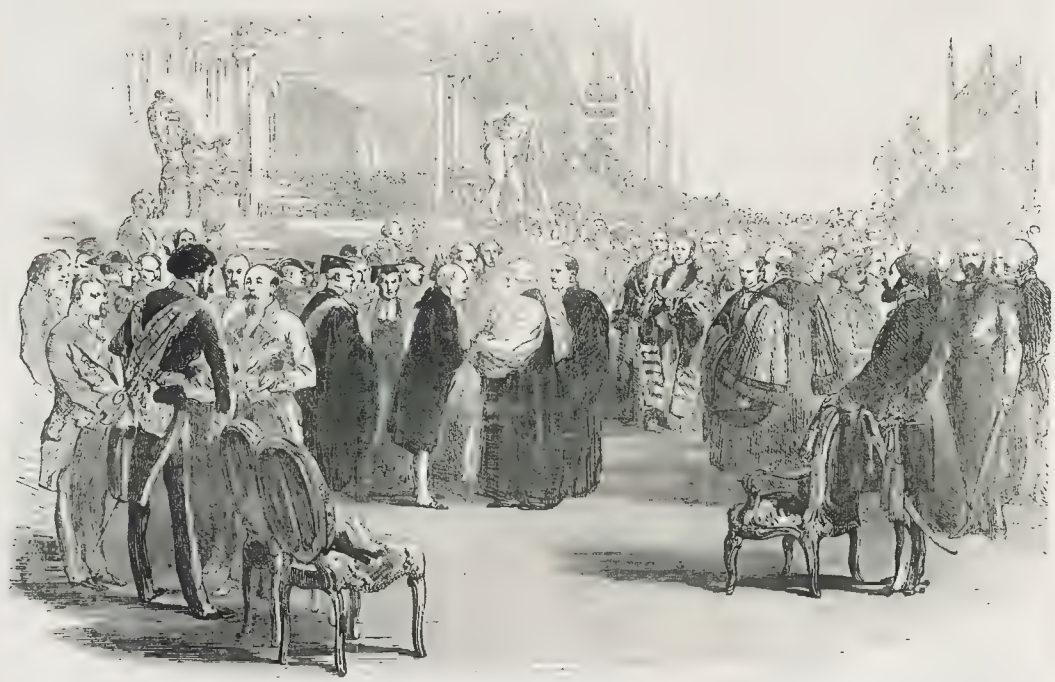
my Consort, to find that the Great Exhibition of 1851, which was so happily inaugurated under our auspices, suggested the idea of this magnificent undertaking, which has produced so noble a monument of the genius, science, and enterprise of my subjects.

It is my earnest wish and hope that the bright anticipations which have been formed as to its future destiny may, under the blessing of Divine Providence, be completely realised; and that this wonderful structure, and the treasures of art and knowledge which it contains, may long continue to elevate and instruct, as well as to delight and amuse, the minds of all classes of my people.

Mr. Fuller then, as Managing Director, presented her Majesty with a series of gold medals, struck by Messrs. J. R. Punches and Co., to commemorate the opening. Mr. Laing then successively introduced Sir Joseph Paxton, Messrs. Owen Jones, Digby Wyatt, S. Phillips, Fergusson, Professor Owen, and Mr. Waterhouse Hawkins, Dr. Latham, Professor Forbes, supported by Mr. Waterhouse, Mr. Gould, and Mr. Tomkins, who had the honour of presenting Handbooks of their respective departments to her Majesty.

A spontaneous burst of cheering was elicited by the marked graciousness with which the Queen received Sir Joseph Paxton. Mr Digby Wyatt, too, achieved a decided success by the graceful manner in which he ascended the Dais, presented his Handbook, and descended the short but difficult steep of the temporary throne. It was his second triumph that day, when, for the first time, his beautiful series of Courts were clearly seen. But some others, who had had less practice, or possessed less presence of mind, advanced with considerable timidity, retreated in great trepidation, and, more by good fortune than by skill, reached the floor on their legs, without pity from the spectators, who seemed to enjoy the interlude of awkwardness as a relief from the monotony of *seeing* a number of speeches delivered; hear one word they could not!

When the last book had been delivered, the procession of Directors, contractors, and officers, was formed and set out: the Queen and Prince, immediately preceded by Mr. Fuller, the Managing Director, attended by Sir Joseph Paxton and Mr Laing, and followed by the King of Portugal, the Royal Family, the Duke of Oporto, and their respective suites; the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Cabinet Ministers, the Foreign Ambassadors and the Foreign Ministers, proceeded down the south arm of the Nave, between a living hedge of fair faces, crowned with bonnets which were perfect gardens of flowers. Amid a rising surge of cheers, the Queen proceeded round the marble basin, still dry, adorned by Osler's Crystal Fountain, and pass the screen, where a statue of Victoria forms the central figure



OPENING OF THE CRYSTAL PALACE.—WAITING FOR THE QUEEN.

OPENING OF THE CRYSTAL PALACE.—THE ARCHBISHOP'S PRAYER.

of the complete line of the Sovereigns of England; and then along the east front, back to the Central Transept, where, diverging into the open corridor, there her Majesty paused to admire the terraces, gardens, and landscape which were, on that bright, clear day, to be seen in full perfection; and then on, across the avenue of sphinxes and date-palms which lead to the huge Egyptian gods, up to the Northern Fountain, where bronze groups, by Monti, uncovered for the first time that day, elicited a spontaneous murmur of admiration as they came upon the view of the non-official personages of the procession; and so, past the indescribably magnificent Alhambra Court, and the severer beauties of Greek and Norman art enshrined in the richest flowering shrubs, the Queen resumed her place upon the Dais, and the procession again clustered round the temporary throne, while the multitude crowding the surrounding seats cheered long and loud. Then followed the simple grand music of the Hundredth Psalm, all standing uncovered—seldom can it have been performed with more solemn, intense effect. Then his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, standing forward on the left of the Throne, offered up the following prayer:—

Almighty and everlasting God! who dost govern all things both in heaven and earth, incline Thine ear, we entreat Thee, to Thy people, which call upon Thee, and graciously receive our prayers. Without Thee nothing is strong, nothing is holy. "Except the Lord build the house, their labour is but lost who build it." And now we entreat Thee to bless the work which we have accomplished in this place, and to render it the means of promoting Thy glory. May those who admire the wonders of nature which are here displayed be taught to perceive in those the vigour of that creative wisdom by which all things fulfil the purposes which they are designed to serve; enable those who survey the wonders of art and industry which surround them, to remember that it is by Thee that knowledge is increased, and science made to minister to the benefit and comfort of mankind; for the spirit of man is from Thee, and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth him understanding; therefore, "Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto Thy name be all the praise." While we contemplate the remains of former ages and the monuments of ancient greatness, enable us to profit by the examples they afford of the instability of earthly things, and ever to bear in mind that according to Thy providence nations flourish or decay; that Thou hast but to give the word, and the richest may become poor, and the proudest be levelled into dust. Therefore, O Lord, we entreat Thee so to regulate the thoughts of our hearts, that they may not be lifted up, that we forget the Lord our God, as if our power or the might of our hands had gotten us this wealth. It cometh of Thine hand, and is all Thine own; both riches and honour come of Thee; and Thou reignest over all, and in Thy hand it is to make great and to give strength unto all. Now, therefore, O Lord, we thank Thee, and praise Thy glorious name, and beseech Thee to grant that the many blessings vouchsafed to our nation may dispose our hearts to serve Thee more faithfully, and in all that we undertake to seek Thy honour and glory. Above all, teach us to use the earthly blessings Thou givest us richly to enjoy, that they may not withdraw our affections from those heavenly things that Thou hast prepared for those that love and serve Thee through the merits and mediation of Thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, in whose prevailing name and words we further call on Thee.

The Archbishop concluded with the Lord's Prayer.

Then the orchestra performed the "Hallelujah" chorus. We dare not attempt to describe the effect of that overpowering, simple, solemn strain, performed in such a place, after such a scene.

The Lord Chamberlain, the Marquis of Breadalbane, by her Majesty's command, then declared the Palace open.

The National Anthem again resounded from the 1500 musicians

LAUNCH OF "THE ERE," AT MILLWALL.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

Her Majesty retired, and in a few minutes appeared in the Corridor, east of the Central Transept. There, in front, a line was formed by the Coldstream Guards and the Hon. Artillery Company; behind, tens of thousands of anxious loyal subjects of all degrees. Again loud shouts resounded; the carriages dashed up, the scarlet-coated outriders, pranced in front. The standard bearer saluted, the soldiers presented arms, the carriages dashed away, and the ceremony of the day was ended! Meanwhile the multitude within dispersed to begin the day's first examination of the Crystal Palace.

And so, without one accident, ended the day which launched and entrusted to public support an undertaking of a most remarkable and unprecedented nature, whether regarded in an artistic, an educational, or a commercial point of view: not perfect by any means—open, doubtless, to much criticism in matters of detail—but a wonderful advance upon any previous attempt to amuse and educate the people.

GUIDES TO THE CRYSTAL PALACE.—Under the title of Crystal Palace Library, a series of small volumes, varying in price from three-pence to eighteenpence, has been prepared and issued under the sanction of the Directors, by individuals connected with the undertaking, or gentlemen engaged to illustrate particular branches, of which their previous pursuits had rendered them competent to treat. We are obliged to defer any critical notice of them till our next.

LAUNCH OF HER MAJESTY'S SCREW STEAM-SHIP, "ESK."

THE launch of her Majesty's screw steam-ship the *Esk*, corvette, of 21 guns, designed in the office of the Surveyor of the Navy, and built by Messrs John Scott Russell and Co., took place at Millwall, on Monday last. Great crowds were collected on both sides of the river to witness the ceremony, which excited unusual interest, from the fact of the *Esk* being the first war steamer ever launched with all her machinery on board. Among the spectators were the Queen's Advocate and Lady Harding, Sir Robert Price, Bart., M.P.; Sir David Brewster, Professor Willis, Captain Washington, R.N.; Mr. Chatfield, Master Shipwright; Mr. Monshett, Store Receiver; Mr. Pearse, Master Attendant of Deptford Dockyard; Mr. Rice, Master Shipwright; Mr. Gottlieb, Store Receiver; Mr. Atherton, Civil Engineer of Woolwich Dockyard; and Mr. Baker, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Stroud, and Mr. Robinson, Directors of the Eastern Steam Navigation Company, and the Secretary of the Company, together with a number of scientific men.

The ceremony of naming was performed by Miss Martin, daughter of Captain Martin, C.B., Superintendent of Deptford Dockyard, who some time ago christened the *Hannibal*, 91 screw steam-ship, at Deptford. At half-past two she was conducted by Mr John Scott Russell to the bow of the ship, where a bottle of champagne was suspended, ornamented with wreaths of roses, pelargoniums, and calceolarias. At the appointed signal, the bottle was let fall and broke instantly, and the fine vessel glided down triumphantly into the water, amidst the cheers of the spectators on the shore and the workmen on board, which were re-echoed lustily by the passengers of an emigrant ship which happened to be passing at the time.

The *Esk* is intended to join the Baltic fleet as soon as she can be got ready for service. She is built of wood, after the model of the *Highflyer*, and has only been on the stocks ten months. Her dimensions are:—Length between the perpendiculars, 192 feet; length of the keel for tonnage, 167 feet 8 inches; breadth, extreme to outside walls, 36 feet 6 inches; breadth for tonnage, 36 feet; breadth, moulded, 35 feet 4 inches; depth in hold, 23 feet 8 inches. Her tonnage is 1153 39-94, and her horse power 250.

After the ceremony a splendid collation was given to upwards of four hundred persons, specially invited by Messrs. Scott Russell and Co. A large room in the work-yard was fitted up for the occasion. The band of the Artillery Company, which played during the earlier part of the day's entertainment, was in attendance throughout, and the proceedings terminated with several speeches and toasts. The healths of the Queen, of Prince Albert, and the Royal Family, and of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, were proposed by Mr. John Scott Russell, and received with demonstrations; and the health of the hospitable entertainer himself was boisterously responded to on all sides.

GREAT IMPROVEMENT IN THE EASTERN COMMISSARIAT.

Letters from Constantinople announce that the porter and other "good things" so long promised and sodong withheld were about to make their appearance, to the great delight of our countrymen. Previous to the departure of the troops from Soutari, a general order, part of which consists of an extract from a Treasury minute, was issued amid great cheers. It is to the following effect:—"The Lords Commissioners of the Treasuring that the efficiency of the troops proceeding on special service to Turkey would be promoted by offering them the means of purchasing the articles of diet to which they have been accustomed in England, in addition to their ordinary rations of bread and meat, have given directions that supplies (the quantities and prices are specified in a tabular statement accompanying the document) should be purchased and consigned to Commissary General Filder, in consideration of the nature of the service in which the troops under Lord Raglan's command are likely to be employed. The articles are to be supplied at their nearest whole sale cost and free of duty, the public bearing the expense incurred for freight, packages, &c.;" and a suggestion is made to Lord Raglan that, in order that the privilege of purchasing these articles at a reduced price may not be converted to any other purpose than the soldier's benefit, his Lordship should fix (more especially with respect to the beer) a limit to the quantity to be allowed to both officers and men, and devise means for ensuring, as far as possible, that the allowance is *bonâ fide* for the use of each individual for whom it is drawn.

In accordance with the above objects, Lord Raglan has issued a set of regulations to the purport subjoined:—

1. The each regiment be provided with a convenient tent, in which to deposit the stores in charge. 2. That a set of weights and measures be prov ded for each of the camp stores by the commissary. 3. That a regimental committee, consisting of a captain and two subalterns, be appointed to manage the same, and to superintend the distribution, with a sergt, sergeant under them, assisted by a private if necessary. 4. That the committee be allowed to draw, on the requisition of the president, from the commissary twice a week such quantities of the different articles specified in the schedule as they can conveniently take over, or may be likely to require for three or four days. 5. Tea, sugar, and such other articles as are usually required for the soldiers' meals, are to be paid for out of the charge for messing; but beer, porter, tobacco, &c., will be stopped daily from the pocket money of the men. 6 A pint of porter shall constitute the limit of daily issue to each man; that his be confined to those who desire it, and who enter their names on a list (to be kept by the captain for that purpose) before ten o'clock on the day on which it is to be drawn. 7. That the issue of beer or porter to the men be made at the dinner hour, and at no other ... except in the case of those who may be on duty at the ... hour, when it shall be issued to them as soon as they come off ... that issued to the officers to be confined to one sp cified hour, ... shall be named by the command officer; and that the store be kept under direction of the committee for the sale of all other articles. 8. That all money received at the store be paid over to the committee every morning, and by the committee to the paymaster at the end of every monthly period, to be by him remitted to the commissary, with the sums charged on the daily requisitions of the captains of companies.

These regulations, evidently conducive as they are to the benefit of the men themselves, are said to have given general satisfaction. There is, amongst some of the "thirsty souls" of the force, a desire that the maximum of beer should be extended; but amongst the obstacles is the necessity of harbouring supplies which, when the army is in active service, cannot be transferred from place to place with quite as much facility as from a London brewery to the cellars of the tavern-keeper.

THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE SYSTEM.—The Assistant-Judge, on taking his seat at the Middlesex Court on Tuesday observed that it was stated on the previous night, by Mr. Fitzroy, in the House of Commons, that 1196 tickets of leave had been granted to convicts, of which three only had been revoked. That was a cheering view of the system; but it should not be forgotten that the committals for theft, which for the last few years had been gradually decreasing, were, since the establishment of the ticket-of-leave system, frightfully on the increase. The committals for this county alone for the present year up to the 12th of June exceeded by upwards of 400 the number committed in the same period last year. He did not by any means intend to say that this increase was caused by the ticket system; but it was, to say the least of it, a remarkable coincidence.

A general strike of the Nottingham joiners has taken place within the last ten days. They refuse to be employed by members who use machine-made mouldings.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A. H., Gloucester.—It shall appear among our Enigmas.
CONSTANS, and C. A. W. of Birkenhead.—Look at the position again, and you will soon see your error.
B. F. D., Lisbon.—They shall be reported next week.
M. K. COOPER.—We do not understand the problem you have sent.
H. of Cambridge, DELTA, WITRAT, S. R. F.—The Problems by those contributors are either too simple, or are defective in construction or...
CHESBURGUS RUBE.—Not nearly equal to your previous production.
C. W and R. K. W. You can have as many Queens on the board at the same time as you please.
March Pawns to the adverse Royal rank.
SIGNOR D is thanked for his attention, and shall hear from us on the subject of his letter speedily.
V. H. L., Brussels.—An acknowledgment of the receipt of your welcome packet has been dispatched.
M. de R., Paris.—Full particulars shall be forwarded in a few days.
ENQUIRER.—1. The duties of Secretary to the Northern and Midland Counties Chess Association, are performed for the time by some active member of the place where the annual meeting is appointed to be held. The Secretary for the present meeting is Mr. Morton Sparke, of Liverpool.
F. F. M.—Apply to the Score any of the St. George's Chess-club, 53, St. James-street, Piccadilly.
A. T., HOLMEWOOD, and others.—The forthcoming gathering of Chess-players at Liverpool is likely to be the most numerous the association has ever had. The amateurs in Yorkshire are likely to be the most numerous the association has ever had. The amateurs in Yorkshire are pretty sure to muster in great force; and, from the spirit shown by Manchester and the neighbouring towns last year, there is no doubt whatever that the Lancashire amateurs will do their duty.
ARRAGON.—No rare is the work of Viscut (1495), that we never yet met with any person who had seen a copy. It is not improbable that some day a copy may be discovered in one of the old Spanish libraries; and, whenever this happens, the book will form a great prize.
2. The first edition of Lopez was published at Alcala (1561). It was translated into Italian by Tarsia, and published in Venice (1584). 3. The Catalogue of Chess Literature by Amos Schmid is the most copious account of Chess books we at present possess; but it is imperfect, and very inaccurate. You should consult Kenmann, who is a much more reliable authority.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 535 by Murphy, R. W. B. Ellesmere, Woolverstone, Ipswich; Pete, Perth; G. P., Yeovil, Bombardier, Cardiac, Œdipus, are correct.
SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM NO. 537, by Gamma of Shrewsbury, J. P., Œdipus, Quocste, H. F. M., M. A., Harrow Boy, are correct.
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 538, by Alpha, J. P., M. P., Brigadier, T. W. P., are correct.
SOLUTIONS OF ENIGMAS, by Regina, Miles, J. P. C., B. G., Mrs. Pilkoudy, Woolverstone, are correct. All others are wrong.
*** Any amateur desirous of a game at Chess by correspondence, may meet with an opponent by addressing to L. A. C., Mr. Doughty's, Young-street, Kensington.

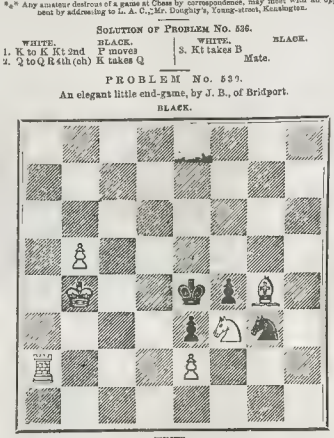
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 536.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. K to K Kt 2nd	P moves	3. Kt takes B	Mate.
2. Q to Q R 4th (ch)	K takes Q		

PROBLEM No. 539.

An elegant little end-game, by J. B., of Bridport.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in three moves.

Mr. STAUNTON gives Mr. WYVILL, M.P., the Pawn and Move.

(*Remove Black's K B Pawn from the Board*).

WHITE (Mr. W.)	BLACK (Mr. S.)	WHITE (Mr. W.)	BLACK (Mr. S.)
1. P to K 4th	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	28. Q B to K Kt 5th	K to Q 2nd (*l*)
2. P to Q 4th	P to K 4th	27. B takes Kt	Q R to R sq
3. K B to Q Kt 5th (a)	K Kt to K B 3rd (b)	28. Q B to K Kt 5th	Q R to K 7th (m)
4. K Kt to K B 3rd	Q Kt takes Q P	29. P to Q Kt 4th	B to Q Kt 3rd (n)
5. Kt takes Kt	P takes Kt	30. K to Q sq	B to Q 5th
6. P to K 5th	Kt to Q 4th	31. Q R to his 2nd	P to Q R 4th
7. Q takes P (c)	P to Q B 3rd	32. P to K B 4th	Q R to K 8th
8. K B to Q B 4th	Q to her Kt 2nd	33. K R to Q sq	P takes Q Kt P
9. Q to K 4th	K B to Q B 4th	34. K R takes B	P to Q Kt 6th
10. Castles	K to Q B 2nd	35. P takes P (*l*)	K R takes R
11. Kt to Q B 3rd	Q to her B 2nd	36. K to his B 5th (m)	Q R to K 8th (ch)
12. Q to R 4th (d)	K R to K B sq	37. K to Kt 2nd	K R takes B (ch) (o)
13. Q to K 5th	K R to K B 4th (e)	38. K to B 2nd	Q R to K Kt 8th
14. Q takes K Kt P	Q takes K P	39. K to K 2nd	Q R to K Kt 7th (ch)
15. B to K B 7th (ch)	K to Q sq	40. K to his sq	K to Q 3rd (o)
16. Q takes Q	R takes Q	41. R to K 6th (ch)	K to Q B 4th
17. Kt to Q R 4th	B to Q Kt 6th	42. P to K B 6th	Q R to Kt 8th (ch)
18. P to Q R 3rd	P to Q Kt 4th	43. R to Q 2nd	Q R to K 7th (ch)
19. P to K R 4th	P to Q 4th	44. K to Q 3rd	R takes B
20. Q B to K Kt 5th (f)	R to K B 4th (g)	45. P takes R	R takes P
21. K B to K R 5th	P to K R 3rd	46. P to Q Kt 4th (eh)	K to Q K 4th
22. P to K R 4th (h)	R to K 4th	47. R to K 7th	P to Q Kt 3rd
23. Q B takes K R P	Q B takes K R P (i)	48. P to K B 7th	R to K 4th
24. [illegible]	R to K 5th	49. R to Q 6th (ch)	P to Q 4th (ch)
25. P... B 3rd	R to K 6th	50. K to K 3rd	P takes P
		51. P takes P	K takes P
		52. P to K 6th	P to Q Kt 4th

And after a few more moves the game was drawn

(a) Until lately a very troublesome move, subjecting Black to the first [illegible] at work under most disadvantageous circumstances, from his being without the protection of the K B Pawn.
(b) In a subsequent game, to test the strength of the attack in all ways, Black took the Q P with Pawn here, but got a very bad position by the capture.
(c) P to K 5th would have given White a fine attack, but the move made is, perhaps, sounder.
(d) This affords Black temporary relief.
(e) Black is now enabled to exchange Queens, and free his game considerably.
(f) But for this he either Rooks would have to change immediately.
(g) Black remarked here that he had transposed his moves, he intended to play Rook P to K 3rd, which would have given White a fine attack.
(h) Well played.
(i) This was not sufficiently considered, and ought to have lost the game.
(k) It is impossible to save the Kt; and this is Black's only chance of getting something in return.
(*l*) The best move. If he had taken Rook with Rook, he would have found it difficult to save the game.
(m) The present puzzle is evidently played on both sides without very much exact [illegible]; but, if not so brilliant-lo as an accurately conducted contest, it is, perhaps more amusing [illegible] than the [illegible] moves which it replaces.
(n) Two moves since the game was almost lost to one in White's favour. The scale [illegible] now turned in the other direction, and Black has a fine attack.
(o) Here Black exchanged Rooks at this moment, instead of risking this super-refined manœuvre, he must have won by brute force in the end.

CHESS ENIGMAS.

No. 876.—By Mr. J. PHENIX.

White: K at K B 8th, Q at K B 2nd, R's at Q R 3rd and 7th, B's at K R 6th and 7th, Kt's at Q B 2nd and Q R 8th, P's on K R 4th and K Kt 4th.
Black: K at K B 3rd, Q at K B 6th, R's at K R 8th and Q B 8th, B at Q B 8th, Kt's at Q B sq and Q Kt 3rd, P's at Q 2nd and Q 6th.
White to play, and mate four moves.

No 876.—By an AMATEUR.

White: K at Q B 8th, R at K Kt 8th, B at Q B 8th, Kt at Q Kt 6th, P's at Q 4th, Q Kt 2nd and Q R 4th.
Blacks: K at Q B 4th, R at K B 4th, Kt at K R 3rd; P's at Q R 3rd, Q Kt 6th, Q B 3rd, and Q 4th.
White to play, and mate in five moves.

NORTHERN AND MIDLAND COUNTIES CHESS ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the members of this association is appointed to be held on the 23rd and 24th of the present month, and no efforts, we are sure, will be wanting on the part of the Liverpool Amateurs to render it one of the most attractive gatherings the society has yet held. In the list of distinguished players invited to be present, we are glad to see the name of Mr. Lewis. This is a compliment to which Mr. L. is well entitled, and the presence of the veteran writer and player, will be hailed with pleasure by every true votary of the game.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

The Empress of the French is to go for some weeks to the baths of Biarritz, near Bayonne. The Emperor will accompany her thither after the United Kingdom to have been 200 tons less in the month ending the 5th May, than that in the corresponding month of last year.

The Japanese utterly deny having made any treaty or concession whatever, to or with the Russian Government.

The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Quebec has written a pastoral letter, prescribing public prayers for the purpose of drawing down the blessings of Heaven on the Allied armies of France and England in the pending war.

The vicar of Newcastle-on-Tyne has proposed a scheme for building ten new schools in that town, at a cost of £20,000.

The recent tempestuous winds felled to the ground, in Stowe-park, the most magnificent oak on the estate. The measured estimate of its workable timber is 1000 feet, and its value £100.

Immense deposits of guano are said to have been discovered on the Galapagos island, off the coast of Ecuador, situated half way between San Francisco and Cape Horn.

Mr. G. Forster, a shareholder in Liverpool, was committed for trial, on Monday, on a charge of stealing a £1000 bank post-bill from the Borough Bank of Liverpool.

A steamer, called the *Plymouth Rock*, and measuring 345 feet in length, was launched at New York, the other day.

The following Colonial prelates have been living in England during the last eighteen months or two years:—Nova Scotia, Fredericton, Quebec, Montreal, Toronto, Jamaica, Antigua, Guiana, Sydney (deceased), Adelaide, New Zealand, Gibraltar, Cape Town, Natal, Sierra Leone. The Bishop of Calcutta was in England three or four years since.

A brilliant entertainment was given at Washington, on the 24th ult., in honour of the anniversary of the birth of her Majesty. Lord Eglin, all the foreign Ministers, the President, Cabinet, and nearly the entire Congress of the United States, were present.

The market price of Newcastle coals at Constantinople is 70s. to 85s. per ton. A few months ago it was from 30s. to 25s. per ton. Great efforts are making to obtain a sufficient supply from the mines of Ercell, on the Black Sea.

Two children were nearly poisoned the other day by chewing morse s of glazed visiting-cards with which they had been playing.

A first experiment of the electric telegraph was made on the 5th between Madrid and Guadalajara, and was perfectly successful.

The American Senate have voted a gold medal to the officers of the British steam frigate *Virago*, and 100 dollars to each of her crew, for rescuing Lieut. Strain and his party.

The resources of the fishing grounds on the eastern coast of New South Wales are about to be tested by a joint-stock company, under a vigorous management.

The Vicar of Peterborough has commenced a system of open air preaching, and announces his intention to persevere in it during the summer months.

The guests of the Clarendon, one of the most fashionable hotels in New York, are now waited upon by female waiters. The girls are selected for their neat habits; healthy, cleanly appearance; and are dressed in plain uniform.

A party of nearly 200 ladies and gentlemen of Dover and its vicinity, arrived in Paris on Tuesday evening, for a week's sojourn. Their object being to visit the public institutions and places of note, they had been honoured by his Excellency Count Walewski, the French Ambassador at London, with a letter to the Minister of the Interior at Paris, with a view to facilitate their wishes.

The redemption of the Public Debt of the United States is gradually going on at the rates adopted by the Treasury. The terms proposed are highly satisfactory to the holders, who realise a premium of 23 per cent on stock that was originally issued at par.

A Parliamentary return published the other day shows that thirty soldiers were flogged in the United Kingdom during the year 1853. In no regiment was more than one punished, with the exception of the 49th and the 2nd battalion of the Rifle Brigade, in each of which there were two.

Marshal Prince Paskiewitsch, Generals Luiders, Chrulef, Nachimoff, Dannenberg, and other military notabilities of the Russian army, are all said to be suffering from fever, the effect of the exhalations from the marshy regions where they are encamped.

The *Great Britain* steamer, which sailed from Liverpool on Monday for Port Phillip, took out about 450 adults and 90 children as passengers, besides £30,000 specie in gold.

Large numbers of hardworking, steady, industrious persons have already arrived in Australia from Germany; and an agency has been opened to encourage and aid the movement, on the principle of "assisted emigration."

The health of the Pope is said to be declining rapidly, and the affairs of State are more than ever in the hands of Cardinal Antonelli, who, they say, is already looking towards the Papal chair.

In the Fermoy Union (county Cork) there were 720 paupers in the week before last board day, which was only one-half the number in the house at the close of the corresponding week in 1853.

There is a rumour of a mercantile failure in the worsted trade, with liabilities in Bradford to the extent of £100,000.

In a recent steam-boat explosion, at San Francisco, it was proved that the engineer, who was killed, had fastened an oar over the safety-valve of the boiler in order to make more steam.

M. A. Vivien, ex-Minister of Justice and Minister of Public Works in 1848, died the other day at Paris.

Letters from St. Petersburg state that it was rumoured the Russian Government intend making a loan in Holland.

The *Dundalk Democrat* describes the emigration which is taking place from the north of Ireland as extensive as to threaten the depopulation of the country in a very few years.

The *Cheapside*, which arrived from Sydney a few days ago, brought seven bales of New South Wales cotton.

M. Etienne Arago, the celebrated astronomer, who fled from France in consequence of having taken part in the affair of June 13, 1849, has just received orders from the Belgian Government—he is charged with plotting against the French Government—to quit Belgium in ten days.

The first shot fired at the bombardment of Odessa was by a Nelson, the younger brother of the present Earl.

Count Kilvert, the eldest son of the late Joseph Henry, Esq., of Strafan, and of Emily Elizabeth, sister to the Duke of Leinster. On his marriage in 1854 with the Baroness Grey de Ruthyn, heir of the second Marquis of Hastings, he assumed the surname of Yelverton.

The latest Sydney advices report the sailing of vessels to London, now on their way, with gold-dust worth about one million and a quarter sterling on board.

The cholera has again made its appearance in Glasgow eighteen cases had occurred within four days, and a number of deaths.

A private of the 41st Regiment, Templemore, died suddenly, while on guard, last week. At the inquest on his body, the jury returned a verdict to the effect that he had died from the pressure of the boot.

The projected Roman Catholic University is making way. The total sum contributed for it amounts to £50,000.

The carver of the saloon in the steamer which brought over the King of Portugal is tapestry, containing illustrated scenes from "Uncle Tom's Cabin."

There is at present a vessel in the Thames, about to sail with goods to Melbourne, of no more than forty seven tons burden.

The King of Naples has prohibited the export of sulphur from Sicily to any port of any of the belligerent nations.

A fugitive slave, in the employ of Clark and Pond, millers, at Fulton, New York, sent a barrel of specimen flour to Queen Victoria. Soon afterwards he received an autograph letter from the Queen, acknowledging the receipt of the flour, and enclosing 300 dollars in return. *American paper.*

An extensive strike for higher wages has taken place among the labourers employed in the drainage works in King's County. Several cases of incendiarism have occurred since the strike began.

The Rev. P. Campbell, of Caputh, has been appointed Professor of Greek, in King's College, Aberdeen.

The *Cambridge Chronicle* says, that there is in the possession of Mr. Charles Marsh, of Fordham, a pair of gloves, reputed to have been worn by Oliver Cromwell. They are made of strong beaver, richly fringed with heavy drab silk fringe, and reach half-way between the wrist and the elbow.

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London: Printed and Published at the Office, 198, Strand, in the Parish of St. Clement Danes in the County of Middlesex by WILLIAM LITTLER, 198, Strand, aforesaid. SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 1854.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

No. 689.—VOL. XXIV.] SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 1854. [WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.

THE WAR, THE MONEY-MARKET, AND THE MINISTRY.

THE premature, if not absolutely false, announcement which was made on Monday morning, by a journal whose influence is unfortunately as great over the Money-market as its pro-Russian tendencies are notorious—to the effect that the armies of the Czar had received orders to retire behind the Pruth, caused a rise of two per cent in the British Funds. The Exchanges of Paris, Vienna, and Amsterdam appear to have been acted upon in a similar manner. We will not take it upon ourselves to allege the existence of a conspiracy to produce a general advance in the price of Public Securities throughout Europe; but, when it is remembered that the promulgation of the unfounded announcement was simultaneous with the publication of the terms of a Russian loan, amounting to £7,000,000 sterling, and that the obvious effect of a rise in the Funds at London and Paris was to facilitate this financial operation, it is difficult to avoid coming to the conclusion that the falsehood was deliberate, and planned in the interest of the Czar. The *Fremden Blatt*, an obscure Viennese journal, that will no doubt be as much surprised as the people of Vienna at the notice thus taken of it, was the sole authority for the "good news," which the most important newspaper in England re-issued with such complacency. But measures like these, though they may produce the momentary result anticipated from them, are certain to be exposed; so certain, indeed, that it seems unaccountable how any respectable journal should lend itself to their accomplishment—unless upon the supposition that inadvertency or credulity, and not design, was the cause of the error. However this may be in the present instance, the Czar will take nothing by the tactics of his financial allies. Great capitalists, anxious to turn their money to advantage, will not consider the morality of the war in which his wicked ambition has plunged the world. If his ultimate triumph were probable they would, doubtless, be willing to lend him money to carry it on, were his objects a hundredfold more atrocious than they are. But his retreat behind the Pruth, supposing the rumour to be realised hereafter, will not be allowed to end the war. So great an offender cannot escape the consequences of his crime by merely pleading guilty. Whatever may be the fears and liabilities of the German Powers, Great Britain and France have none. They neither fear the might of the Czar nor have entered into any compact with him or others to abstain in the moment of victory from punishing him for the past, or restraining him for the future. He may calculate that his retreat behind the Pruth would detach

VARNA BAY AND LANDING-PLACE.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

ARRIVAL OF OMER PACHA AT THE CUSTOM-HOUSE, VARNA.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

...stria, and consequently all Germany from the alliance against him, and may build his trust upon the delays of renewed negotiations, upon the chapter of accidents, and upon the fortunes of ...ter campaign; but happily the Western Powers are much too ... too clear-sighted, and too resolute, to allow the defection Germany, present or proximate, to influence their operations. ...ing what will, their course is clear before them. The Czar ...rself has taught them the value of "material guarantees;" and ...ch guarantees they will exact, however humiliating to his pride, ...numous to his position.

While the Money-market was thus agitated in the morning, the ...te of Great Britain was stirred in the evening in a nobler ...ion. Lord Lyndhurst drew the attention of Parliament to the ...emberg Memorandum, and to the supposed understanding be... Austria and Prussia on the one side, and Great Britain ... France on the other, that the war should, under no circumstances, lead to any territorial changes in the position of Russia or Turkey. The noble speech of his Lordship upon this point, and upon ... general conduct of the war, will not die with the occasion which ...ed it forth. Clear, forcible, honest, and patriotic, it rose to the ...gnity of true eloquence; and it will excite, not only in this, but in ...y foreign country where it may penetrate, a responsive echo of ...tion against the Russian Autocrat, or of agreement as to ... sures to be taken against him in the future. Whether ex... the false ambition which produced the war, or in denouncing folly of allowing so great an offender to escape punishment, ...Lordship was equally felicitous. The debate that ensued is ...y of historical importance.

...rd Lyndhurst, with the skill of a practised lawyer, and the ... of a veteran statesman, showed the impolicy and injustice of ... to any agreement for respecting the existing limits of the ...an empire. Agreements made before a war, have reference ...state of things which a war annuls, just as the regard for the ...e and liberty of an individual, which may be justly entertained ...hile he has committed no offence greater than a simple breach of ...ace, may, and ought, to be set aside, after he has ...ded highway robbery and assassination to the catalogue ...f his misdeeds. Lord Lyndhurst proved to demonstration that Europe has, and ought to have, certain well-... objects to attain in the present war—and that no treaty ...h so "shuffling," "pettifogging," and "mendacious" a potentate ... the Czar, or with his equally shuffling and mendacious diplomatists, was of higher value than waste paper. These ...jects are the freedom of the Danube and the Black Sea, ...d a guarantee against any renewed aggression upon Turkey ... ther to these should not be added the independence of ...ssia, and the restoration of the Crimea and of Finland to their former owners, is a question that, if Europe were polled tomorrow, would, in all likelihood, be decided in the affirmative by a large majority. To allow the Czar to wipe off all scores by the ... withdrawal of his felonious armies into his own ter..., would be, indeed, an act of most unparalleled and ...ic stupidity. In the first place it remains to be ...ained whether he cannot be ignominiously driven across the ... and whether his possible withdrawal is not one of those ... which merits no other response than the proverbial ...k you for nothing." In short, the attempt to create a feeling that the object of the war will be attained when the Turkish ...story is evacuated by the Russians, either voluntarily, or after ...heir signal discomfiture by the brave Turks—who seem as if they will perform the feat unaided—or by the Turks and the Allies ... ...ored, is a transparent manœuvre of the friends of the Czar. The temporary peace that might be attained by such dishonourable pusillanimity would be but the precursor of a war far more ... and terrible than the one which is now raging. As Lord ...dhurst truly says, we must "exact from Russia a pledge, or a ...gage, upon something valuable—upon something that she ... not like to risk the loss of if she violated her faith; for her ... guarantee, her faith, her honour, and her word—they are, ...and all, valueless."

The speech of Lord Clarendon in answer to, or rather in exposition of, that of Lord Lyndhurst, was equally satisfactory. ...e Foreign Minister spoke like a man of large and statesman-... views—like a man whose mind was made up—like a hater of ...chood and rapacity—and like a Minister who knew how to ...old the honour of the country in whose service he ranks so ...igh. "The policy and power of Russia," he said, "are dan...ous to the well-being of Europe: they are dangerous to its ...gress and its civilisation. The object of Europe must be to ...rtail that power, and to check that policy; and if this opportunity of doing both be neglected, it will be vain to hope that ...ch a one will ever occur again. All Europe is not to be disturbed—great interests are not to be dislocated—great commercial ... social risks are not to be run—and the greatest powers of ...rope are not to be united in arms, for an insignificant result." These are great words. They are toned to the right pitch; and will reverberate through the civilised world.

But while the Foreign Minister speaks in this emphatic manner, what says the Prime Minister of England? Lord Aberdeen, it ...ppears, retains his confidence in his "friend" the Czar. He cannot feel that "what is called the security of Europe is in very much ...anger by the chance of Russian aggression." He admits the treaty ... Adrianople to have been "onerous and disastrous," but considers that, as the Russian army at the time was within fifty miles of the gates of Constantinople, "the treaty did not show any great deof territorial aggrandisement" on the part of his friend the Emperor. "And what," says his Lordship, "has happened since that ... was made, twenty-five years ago? Since that moment has Russia acquired a single inch of Turkish territory? Has Russia had any hostility with Turkey at all? None in the world. The only interference that Russia has had with Turkey has been to save the existence of the Turkish empire by sending a Russian army to ... Constantinople to protect it against Egyptian invasion. That is ...l that has happened since the treaty of Adrianople. There has ... been no war, there has been no aggression, but only a signal ...ervice rendered to Turkey by Russia. I think that if we can secure tranquillity for twenty-five years to come we shall not do ...ch; and that ought to be the object we should have in view."

We need make few comments upon such a speech as this—so utterly at variance with historical fact, and with the feeling and common sense of the country; so utterly at variance, also, with the recorded opinions of Lords Clarendon, Palmerston, and John Russell; so unworthy, we may add, of his Lordship's own reputation and high position. To secure peace for twenty-five years—by another disastrous treaty of Adrianople, we suppose—will satisfy the Premier; but it will not satisfy England, it will not satisfy France, it will not satisfy Austria, it will not satisfy honour, it will not satisfy justice. But, we may ask, is the nominal Premiership of his Lordship essential to the maintenance in power of the present Ministry? If it be, the country, we suppose, must continue to bear the infliction; for a change of Administration at the present time would be in a high degree inconvenient to the public service. But, surely, if Sir George Grey can be introduced into the Ministry without damage, and if unoffending Mr. Strutt can be as cavalierly ousted, as if he were a junior clerk in the Custom-house, Lord Aberdeen may be induced to retire into private life without any very serious consequences. Either Lord Clarendon, Lord Palmerston, or Lord John Russell would be a Premier in whom the country would have confidence; and we are not aware of any insuperable difficulties that should prevent the other members of the Administration from acting under, as well as with, one or other of those statesmen. Lord Aberdeen has served his turn, and the sooner he retires to cultivate his heroworship in seclusion, the better for his own fame, and the better for the country.

SKETCHES AT VARNA.

UPON the preceding page we have engraved two of our Special Correspondent's Sketches, mentioned in his letter in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of June 10th. The first scene is Varna, with the Landing-place, and the *Pembam* steam-ship lying in the Bay. The second sketch shows the arrival of Omer Pacha at the Casino-house; and the upper illustration at page 589 shows the Embarkation of Marshal St Arnaud, Lord Raglan, and Omer Pacha, as described by our Correspondent at page 541.

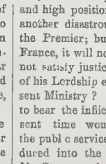
Varna lies on the north side of a semicircular bay, about a mile and a half in length and two miles across. The bay sloats up to the beach at the apex of the semicircle formed by its shores, and the land is so low at that point that the fresh waters from the neighbouring hills form a large lake, which extends for some distance through the marsh lands and plains that run westward towards Schumla. Varna is built on a very sightly elevated bank of sand, on the verge of the sea, of such varying height that, in some places, the base of the walls around it is on the level of the water, and at others twenty or thirty feet above it. Below this bank are a series of plains inland, which spread all round the town, till they are lost in the hills. A ridge, dipping into the sea in an abrupt promontory on the north-east side, rises in terraces to the height of 700 or 800 feet at the distance of three miles from the town and trend away to the westward to meet the corresponding chain of hills on the southern extremity of the bay, thus enclosing the lake and plains between in a sort of natural wall, which is, like all the rest of the country, covered with brushwood and acacia trees. A stone wall of ten feet high, painted white, and loopholed, is built around the place, and some detached batteries, well provided with heavy guns, but not of much pretension as works of defence, have been erected in advance of the walls on the land side. On the sea, while four batteries are erected, provided with heavy guns and mortars, a line of earthwork artillerists, &c. (whether bona fide or simply for show and rehearsal we cannot say) above these walls, in an irregular jumble of red tiled roofs, are the houses of the place, with a few minarets towering from the mass above them. I counted eight 32-pounders, and there were two or three 68-pounders on the upper batteries, overlooking the entrance to the harbour.

Over the principal gates of the town, and in front of a few yards of the sea and the foot of the wall, we have as a landing-place for our troops. On this beach are heaped up huge quantities of shot and shell, of every size, all rusty and rotted. Here you may tread on the round cannon-ball, and range in the horizontal bomb, or shell. Whence they came, or for what they are intended, I could not ascertain, but most likely they were used or ... against the Russians, though but ill suited for that purpose by their ... There are, however, some round and ... guns here. In the line wall, just at the same place, are about ... Turkish soldiers, a mill of the raskiest, roughest, and most ill-made ... that can be conceived.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

THE RIGHT HON. HENRY TUFNELL.

MR TUFNELL died on the 15th instant, at Cation-hall, Derbyshire.

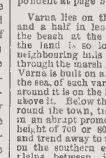


He was the elder son of the late William Tufnell, Esq., of Chichester, M.P., by Mary, his wife, daughter and co-heir of Hugh Darlington, Esq., and grandson of Colonel George Foster Tufnell, M.P., younger brother of John Jolliffe Tufnell, Esq., of Langleys, Essex. So far back as 1640, Richard Tufnalle, of Clapham (Mr. Henry Tufnell's direct ancestor), sat in Parliament for Southwark.

Mr. Tufnell, who was born in 1805, and graduated at Christ Church, Oxford, in 1829, went to Ceylon as Private Secretary to Sir Robert Wilmot Horton. He was subsequently Private Secretary to the Earl of Ripon, when First Lord of the Admiralty; was a Lord of the Treasury from 1835 to 1841; and finally filled the important office of Secretary to the Treasury from 1846 to 1850. In 1845 he contested, unsuccessfully, the borough of Colchester; in 1837 was returned for Ipswich (although unseated on petition), and represented Devonport from 1840 to 1853. On his retirement from the House in 1850, he was sworn of the Privy Council. Mr. Tufnell translated Müller's "Dorians," in conjunction with G. C. Lewis, Esq. He married first, in 1830, Anne, eldest daughter of Sir Robert Wilmot Horton, Bart., which lady died in 1842; secondly, in 1844, Frances, daughter of Lord Strafford, who died in 1846; and, thirdly, in 1848, Lady Anne Primrose, daughter of the fourth Earl of Rosebery.

SIR HENRY BLACKWOOD, BART.

THE death of this youthful Baronet, Lieutenant of H.M.S. *Leander*, took place at Athens, on the 26th ult., after an illness of four days. Sir Henry had just completed his twenty-sixth year. Having chosen the profession of his father and grandfather, he became acting mate of the *Hastings*, 72, on the East India station, in 1850; was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant in 1851; was subsequently appointed to the *Prince Regent*, 90; and finally served as Lieutenant of the *Leander*.



The family of Blackwood has long been connected with our naval annals. The Hon. Sir Henry Blackwood, K.C.B., G.C.H., the first Baronet—a very distinguished Admiral—commanded the *Euryalus* at Trafalgar, and was the bearer home of the despatches which announced that great victory. His son, Sir Henry Martin Blackwood, second Baronet (father of the young officer whose decease we record) was also in the Navy, and attained the rank of Post-Captain.

The Baronetcy now devolves on Francis, the next brother of Sir Henry. He was born 11th November, 1838.

AN AMERICAN FRIGATE IN THE BLACK SEA.—A letter from Belcos, of the 4th, states that the *Cumberland* frigate, on board which was Commodore Stringham, the Commander of the American station, has made a reconnoissance in the Black Sea.

ROYAL DISPENSARY FOR DISEASES OF THE EAR.—The annual meeting of this institution was held at the dispensary, Dean-street; Rev. T. Davis Lamb in the chair. The report detailing the progress of the institution was read by the secretary. Mr. Harvey, the surgeon, drew the attention of the meeting to the very large increase of patients, the numbers being, as he stated, 2693: of these, 610 had been cured, 501 relieved and the remainder were still in attendance. The sermon, preached by the Bishop of St. Asaph, had much improved the funds, which were still inadequate to the numerous applications for relief. A vote of thanks was passed to the chairman, and to Mr. Harvey for his services, and the meeting separated.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

En attendant the departure of the Emperor and Empress for the separate excursions, they hold every Sunday evening at St. Cloud a reception of an intimate character, to which are admitted none but those personally known to, and favourably distinguished by, the Majesties.

Though the season, properly speaking, has been some time terminated, the persistence of the cold and rain has kept so many persons in town, that evening receptions in general continue to be held, and pretty numerously attended, and the theatres rejoice in abundant audiences.

On Sunday prayers were offered up in many of the churches for a change of weather, which it is most earnestly to be hoped they will shortly bring, as the disasters which the present state of the climate threatens, become daily more imminent. Happily there is yet time, but the immediate arrival of warmth and dryness, to avert them; it is from *rouges*—as strawberries, currants, cherries, &c., are here called—have suffered astonishingly little from the want of sunshine; indeed the cherry produce an unusually abundant crop, and of a large size, though some what wanting in sweetness and flavour. In the neighbourhood of Lyons the torrents of rain that have fallen have produced a singular phenomena, for the sudden appearance of springs bursting from the earth where no symptoms of their existence were before manifest. Another remarkable feature attending the present meteorological crisis, is the state of the barometer, which seems entirely at fault, no two instruments agreeing and all veering about from fine to wet, from temperate to hot, from variable to fair, without any change following in the state of the weather or temperature.

A considerable sensation has been produced here by the arrival of Lieutenant Jerome Bonaparte, grandson of the Prince Jerome, by his marriage with Miss Patterson, contracted during his stay in America and known off by the name of Comte de Survilliers. He comes to Paris on an invitation from his grandfather and the Emperor; his resemblance to Napoleon I. is like that of his uncle the Prince Napoleon, strikingly. The Duc d'Albe, and the Comtesse de Montijo, mother to the Empress, are also among the arrivals in Paris.

A sale of the utmost interest and importance, in an artistic point of view, calls here the attention of amateurs of all nations. It consists of the collection of the pictures of the late Madame Soult de Dalmatie, among which are four immense cartoons of Jules Romain; forming part of a set of six designed to represent the history of Scipio Africanus, by Rembrandt, Jordaens, Paul Veronese, Philippe de Champagne, Boucher, and others of the first masters.

The Museum of the Thermes and the Hôtel de Cluny has just been enriched by a most interesting and valuable relic, purchased by Government from the late Comte de Bruce. It is a ... presented to the same collection some other objects, only second to the one in question for rarity and interest. The ... specimen of art consists in the famous ... given by Francis I., Emperor of Germany, to the Cathedral of Bâle. It is composed of ... gold, chased in high relief, and represents five figures of ... half a yard in height—representing the Saviour in the centre, surrounded by the Archangel Michael, St. Benoît, and the angels Gabriel and Raphael; while before him are prostrated the figures, of much smaller proportions, intended to represent the Emperor Henry II., and his wife Cluégonde. The whole of the work of the most exquisite execution; and the ornaments, symbols, &c., singularly beautiful, and enriched with precious stones. The articles presented by the Colonel de Theubet on the occasion of a golden rose of Sharonmanship, given by one of the Popes to the Cathedral of Bâle; a magnificent carpet, embroidered in gold and silk, with the arms of the thirteen Swiss Cantons; and a linen cap, trimmed with guipure, belonging to Charles V., Emperor of Germany, worn under the helmet, which bears every proof of the authenticity of its origin.

The Grand Opéra is drawing the most brilliant audience the season can afford, for the début of "Robert le Diable," with Cravelli. The Français has a very pretty and well-played piece, "La Soupe d'un Nabab," by M. E. Plouvier; and the Variétés, a sufficiently comical "Promenard and Panadier." The Porte St. Martin is preparing a spectacle with the utmost magnificence its great resources of mise en scène can produce, entitled "Schamyl." Some idea of its splendour may be conceived from the fact that the costumes, amounting to the number of 800, have been designed by well-known artists from the magnificent collection of the Prince Gagarine.

THE ANGLO-FRENCH ARMY IN ATHENS.

Several statements have been received from Greece within the last few days, which speak of severe losses inflicted on the Turkish forces by the Greeks; but they are all exaggerated reports of former occurrences. To all appearance the Greek insurrection is now pretty well over. A letter from Admiral le Barbier de Tinan to the French Minister of War, dated June 7, gives the following satisfactory report of the state of affairs in the Piræus at that period:—

The most complete tranquillity reigns at Athens, as well as in the Piræus. They are most hospitable soldiers, so good, so gay, so easily consoled for their misfortunes. They have received sympathy. The soldiers of the Greek army willingly fraternise with ours. There is not any reason for the least fear, and I gave the permission in question, even in the interest of discipline. The Minister of France was, like myself, of opinion that the sight of the French uniform could only exert a favourable results. The natural position of the troops has also improved that is to say, the establishment of the camp is in course of organisation and completion.

The English troops, an escort of 1000 men, arrived here on the 4th. We gave a salute on their arrival. The landing took place yesterday, in the afternoon, by means of the boats of the English and French vessels of war. An Austrian schooner, anchored in the roads, also assisted in the landing of the English troops, and this proof of sympathy and concordance of opinion struck everybody, and particularly the inhabitants of the Piræus, who have hitherto had doubts of the part which that Power would take.

UNITED STATES.

The *America* steam-ship, which left New York on the 6th inst., arrived at Liverpool on Monday. Nothing of importance had been transacted in either House of Congress. Upon the subject of the relations between the United States and Spain, the *New York Herald* says:—"We have received telegraphic despatches were received on Sunday from Washington, stating that the President had determined to send a message to Congress during the week, recommending extreme measures towards Spain. We have ample authority for stating that no such message will be sent."

THE BOULOGNE CAMP.—Upwards of 8000 troops are already concentrated at the Boulogne Camp; and, by the 15th of next month, that number is to be increased to 50,000, when it is expected that they will be reviewed by the Emperor, and grand fêtes will take place in honour of the imperial visit.

A DISTINGUISHED FOREIGNER.—Among the passengers who arrived at Southampton on Sunday, in the Indian mail-steamer *Colombo*, was his Highness Dhuleep Singh, the late Maharajah of Lahore, and the youthful and dethroned monarch of the great Sikh kingdom. He is the son of the late Runjeet Singh, the "Lion of the Punjab," by his mother was the Ranee who gave such trouble to the British authorities. He became the owner of the celebrated Koh-i-noor, or Mountain of Light, now in the possession of the Queen of England. On his journey he was attended with distinguished honours by the British authorities at every port at which he touched. At Malta he visited and dined at Southampton, and at Gibraltar a salute was fired in honour of his presence. His suite consists of Dr. Logan and a number of Sikhs, the latter dressed in the peculiar costume of the rich and warlike people of the Punjaub. He had on board also a superb Arab charger for equestrian exercise in this country. Dhuleep Singh is sixteen years of age, rather tall and slender, and exceedingly well formed. He speaks and East Indians usually are. His face, rather long, but his features are regular, after the European type. His servants and friends, not to be reserved before strangers. He dined with the passengers on board the *Colombo*, and occasionally played chess in the saloon. He speaks English well, and is a Christian, being a member of the Church of England. His object in coming to England is to study the manners and customs of this country.

COST OF THE BLOCKADES TO RUSSIA.—The enormous loss to the Russian Government as to private individuals of the blockades now enforced in the Black Sea and the Baltic, may be conceived from the fact that for a year before last, about 3800 vessels entered, and nearly the same number quitted, various Russian Baltic ports, the whole of the latter fully laden. The same is applicable to the Black Sea, where 2600 vessels entered, and the same number left, Russian ports, carrying with them cargoes of national produce.

THE WAR.

THE SIEGE OF SILISTRIA.—RETREAT OF THE RUSSIANS.

THE gallant resistance of the Turkish garrison has at last been crowned with success. On the 15th the Turks made a sortie from Silistria, aided by additional forces from Schumla, and drove the Russians across the Danube. Pursuing their advantage, the Turks crossed an arm of the river, seized the opposite island, and destroyed the siege works of the Russians, who had by that time fled to the Wallachian bank of the river. The Turks then brought out their guns from Silistria to play on the retreating enemy. This total defeat of the Russians quite upset the plans of the Czar, as it had been preceded by extensive movements with the object of reinforcing the army of Prince Paskiewitsch. The Russian commander, who had been seriously wounded some days before, and who is said to be threatened with paralysis of his left arm and leg, had received peremptory orders from the Czar that Silistria must be taken speedily, and at any cost. When this order arrived, the Russian army was in a most wretched plight. The men were downcast and utterly dispirited by the repeated repulses they had sustained. All the chief officers—Prince Paskiewitsch, commander of the entire army on the Danube; Prince Gortchakoff, commander of the investing corps; and General Schilders, director of the siege works, had been severely wounded or disabled while vainly striving to inspire the miserable serfs under their command with enthusiasm. The Turks, on the other hand, were elated with previous success, and rendered confident by the reinforcements from Schumla. The despatch from Silistria gives no precise intelligence regarding the arrival of Omer Pacha's army; but a letter from Vienna of the 16th inst., states that, on the 5th, Mehemet Pacha, with 15,000 Irregulars, had entered the garrison, and that Omer Pacha was at the fourteen miles to the north of Schumla, with 84,000 men. A previous despatch states that the vanguard of the relieving forces co-operated with the garrison in the affair of the 13th, when General Schilders was wounded; we may justly infer, therefore, that, on the 16th (two days later—the whole of those forces would be ready to assist the brave garrison of Silistria in driving the Russians across the Danube. In the presence of such an army, fight to Wallachia was the only course left to the Russians. At the latest date they were in the neighbourhood of Kalarasch, awaiting reinforcements and orders. At Vienna it was thought that the Russians would find it impossible again to employ the same troops before Silistria, demoralised as they are by constant failure; and that, being unable to replace them in sufficient time, Marshal Paskiewitsch would give orders to fall back on Jassy. The division under General Liprandi was said to be marching in great haste from Slatina to Silistria; but it will now be too late to prevent the severe blow which the Russian forces have sustained by so ignominious a defeat.

The *Journal de Constantinople* gives an interesting account of the attack made by the Russians on the south-west outworks of Silistria on the night of the 29th. Three storming corps of 10,000 men each were formed, with a battalion of engineer sappers, with fascines and scaling ladders at their head. Before the men set to work, they were addressed by Prince Paskiewitsch, who urged them to exertion, "as if they did not succeed in taking the fortress, he should be obliged to keep back their rations." After this encouragement, two of the corps marched towards the forts of Arab Tabia and Yelanli; the third corps was to act as a reserve. After a terrific cannonade, the storming parties advanced, but were received by the Turks with such a well-directed fire that, for a time, they made but little progress; indeed, the redoubts opened so terrible a fire of grape and shell upon them that, if they had been made of iron, it would have been impossible to stand against it; they were therefore, obliged to fall back and retreat. But, almost immediately, without interrupting the fire, the commander deployed all his forces, and brought back his columns to the assault with so much violence that the Russian troops reached the embrasures of the redoubts, through which they tried to enter; and, having managed to scale the breastwork of one of the batteries, a regular hand-to-hand fight took place. At last the Turks were victorious, and the besiegers were knocked into the ditch with the butt-end of the Turkish muskets. The Russians had evidently lost courage; and when they returned to the attack, it was only because they were forced to do so by their officers. When there was literally no more fight in them, a retreat was sounded, and the Russian troops scurried off as many of their dead and wounded as they could. The Turks, after the enemy had retired, picked up 1500 dead bodies, a great number of guns, swords, drums, musical instruments, and the colours of a battalion. The beg, the Commander of the two forts, displayed the most daring courage, "as did two Englishman and a Prussian." The Turkish loss only amounted to one hundred and fifty men killed and wounded.

General Schilders, who has lost a leg, lies in a dangerous state. He is advanced in years, and of nervous temperament. Prince Gortchakoff's wound is severe. General Lüders, who is also wounded, is said to be doing well. Count Orloff, jun., lingers without hope of recovery.

The latest news from Schumla confirm the report received otherwise of the death of Moussa Bey, the commander of the Arnaouts. He was shot by a rifle ball, which entered his left side, and he died twelve minutes afterwards. This is a great loss for everybody. Mahmoud Pacha, Vizier, and Hussein Pacha replace him. Moussa has died poor, though he refused 2,000,000 of roubles offered to him by Prince Paskiewitsch to betray Silistria. The Sultan has granted a pension of 30,000 piastres to his family.

THE BLOCKADE OF THE BLACK SEA.

The French and English fleets appear to be mainly occupied in maintaining a strict blockade of the mouths of the Danube, and of the Russian ports in the Black Sea. The results are, no doubt, most galling and disastrous to the Russian army of occupation, as well as to the powerful fleet at Sebastopol, but their orders evidently are not to venture an engagement, unless they are two or three to one, against the enemy.

On the 2nd inst. the *Vigilant* and *Tybaldie* towed six Russian and Dutch vessels into Baljik, with stores and contraband articles, average £2000 each. £12,000 will have to be divided between the two ships

CIRCASSIAN VICTORIES.

The *Egyptus*, which left Constantinople on the 10th, has brought intelligence to Marseilles that the Circassians, after a severe engagement, have made themselves masters of the pass of Mzadok, and cut off the communications of the Russian army in Georgia.

The Ottoman steam-corvette *Essevie-Hair* returned to Constantinople on the 8th, bringing accounts from the coast of Abasia of the most satisfactory nature. It was stated that the rear-guard of the Russian corps, which evacuated Soukoum-Kaleh, has suffered a serious loss in an engagement with the Circassians, near Kutais, and that most of the other divisions which garrisoned the forts along the Black Sea had been similarly harassed in their retreat, and unable to effect a junction. The Ru sian army in Asia was thus cut off, and several of its divisions were seriously compromised. A number of Mingrelian tribes, who had hitherto remained faithful to Russia, had declared against her, and now made common cause with the Lieutenant of Schamyl.

THE CZAR'S MONTENEGRIN ALLIES.

The war with which Montenegro threatened her Turkish neighbours appears to have degenerated into feats of murder and rapine. Undisciplined and lawless bands, adventurers as bloodthirsty as they are greedy, infest the plains of the peaceful Herzegovina, where they murder herdsmen and defenceless people for the savage satisfaction of carrying about in triumph the human head. "A short time back," says a writer in the *Syrian Journal*, "fifteen human heads, after their manner, were sent and on June 1st two more, were brought to Cettinje fixed on pikes. They most likely nearly all of them belonged to the Christian inhabitants of Turkey, to poor shepherds or peasants. On the 11th of this month, on which day falls the Greek Whitsuntide festival, Prince Daniele has commanded his whole army to meet at Cettinje, where he intends distributing another 7000 brass crosses, which the warriors are to wear on their field caps as the badge of the holy war which the Prince means to begin. On this occasion inflammatory speeches will be made against the Turks, and exciting songs will be sung about the old Turkish oppressions, with a view to inflame and rouse the martial frenzy of these crusaders."

A letter from Cattaro, of the 7th, says that the Montenegrins, after meeting with several partial checks, had suffered an important defeat near Sassagredo. One corps, in which a nephew of Prince Daniele was an officer, had been entirely destroyed.

RUMOURED ABDICATION OF THE CZAR.

Notwithstanding the mystery which has been preserved regarding the conference at Tetschen, it is confidently affirmed that nothing less than the abdication of the Emperor Nicholas was on the *tapis*, and that though it may not have been the only topic of deliberation, yet that it was the principal one.

Letters from St. Petersburg speak of the great change that has taken place in the Emperor, both mentally and physically. They describe him as completely broken down in health and spirits.

Advices from St. Petersburg of the 13th state that the Emperor Nicholas had ordered Prince Dolgorouki, Minister of War, to set out for the Danubian Principalities, and to draw up an accurate report of the position of affairs in a military point of view. The operations before Silistria were especially recommended to his notice. This measure has produced a profound sensation at St. Petersburg, as the Emperor never entrusts his Minister of War with such a mission except on occasions of serious importance.

THE KING OF PRUSSIA'S INVITATION TO THE CZAR.

Various reports have appeared in the German papers, since the conference at Tetschen, relative to a proposed interview between the King of Prussia and the Czar at the frontier town of St Hapoenen. One day the report was contradicted, and the day following it was reiterated more confidently than ever. The following extract from a Berlin letter, in the *Sunbian Mercury*, speaks very confidently in the affirmative:—

The last and most decisive step for the solution of the Eastern question has just been taken. The Count de Benkendorff is the bearer of an autograph letter from our Sovereign to his august brother-in-law, in which he earnestly invites him to an interview on the frontier. All the non-official and non-official information on this news do not merit any confidence. It is on account of this projected interview that the Prince of Prussia is to be with the King at Koenigsberg. The inspection of the regiments of infantry in Prussia, and in the Grand Duchy of Posen, is only a pretext. If the Emperor of Russia does not accept this invitation, and if the reply to the Austrian Note of the 3rd be negative, the mobilisation of 150,000 men will take place immediately after the return of the King.

Letters received via Hamburg state that the Czar was unable, in consequence of ill health, to accept the invitation to an interview with the King of Prussia. It is stated in Berlin, that the Czar ordered Lieut.-General Grünwald to proceed to the Prussian frontier to compliment his Prussian Majesty. It is generally believed in this that there is no probability of the Emperor arriving before the 30th.

RUSSIAN DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST AUSTRIA.

The military despatches of Russian troops on the frontiers of the east and south-east of the empire become more and more significant. All the railway carriages of the line from Warsaw to Mazeki have been retained by the Government for the conveyance of troops; and the functionaries of Gramea have received orders to put an end to all communications with the inhabitants of the Austrian territory. The movements of troops on the frontiers of the Bukowine are very active. Russian soldiers are stationed along the Sereth. They have already patrols on the Austrian frontiers. On the 26th May, an officer of the Austrian staff, accompanied by several superior officers, placed himself on some heights to reconnoitre the district of the Sereth. The Cossacks have already occupied several places on the frontiers; and it is rumoured that from 100,000 to 150,000 men from the provinces of Volhynia and Podolia are to be armed with espingoles.

Authentic intelligence has been received from St Petersburg, giving an account of the extreme irritation produced in the mind of the Czar by the reception of the Austrian summons, and especially by the imminent armed action of Austria. The public mind was full of anxiety. No answer had been sent to Austria up to the latest date. Some rash proceeding on the part of the Emperor was feared.

OCCUPATION OF THE PRINCIPALITIES BY AUSTRIA.

A convention has been concluded at Constantinople between Austria and the Porte relative to the Danubian Principalities. Its principal object is to prevent the Russians from returning, and the Austrian troops from entering Bucharest and Jassy until the peace between Russia and Turkey. If Russia refuses to retire, Austria will take the requisite measures to ensure her doing so. Opinions differ widely as to what is sent by the eventual occupation. This much, however, seems tolerably clear. The convention with Turkey provides that Austria will issue a formal declaration that she will not consent to the continued occupation by the Russians, and the arrangement with Turkey is an overt act against Russia. The German journals differ greatly as to the probability of a rapid occupation on the part of Russia, and the consent of Austria

BARO SOUND, GULF OF FINLAND, AND PART OF THE BALTIC FLEET AT ANCHOR.—FROM A SKETCH BY O. W. BRIERLY.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

"THE EUROPA" TRANSPORT SHIP, AS SHE APPEARED JUNE 1, SEVEN A.M.

THE LOSS OF THE "EUROPA."

The following is the account of Captain Gardiner, the commander of the transport:—

On the 31st May, the military officers were all suffering from sea-sickness, with the exception of Colonel Moore, who with myself had visited the 'tween decks and lower hold several times that day, and at nine p.m. we went and inspected every position that could be examined in the lower hold. There was no appearance of fire, and we returned to the cabin with the conviction on our mind that the ship was perfectly safe; but scarcely an hour had elapsed before we were startled by the alarm of fire. I immediately ran below, and discovered the fire burning fiercely in the fore peak, where we had stowed a quantity of hawsers, rope, tar, pitch, oakum, varnish, and sails. The officers, seamen, and soldiers, were on the spot almost simultaneously with myself, and every one exerted every effort in their power to extinguish the fire. The force-pumps, which had been fitted by orders of the Government to supply the troops with water from the tanks and butts in the hold, had hose attached to them, and, with those belonging to the ship's pumps, were taken below, and the jets directed in and upon the burning mass. The troops also worked vigorously in passing buckets of water to those below to check the progress of the flames, but to no purpose. The tar, pitch, and other combustibles, on igniting, sent forth an overwhelming blaze into the fore-hold and firing the bulk of tow which was on board for padding the horse-stalls. The heat and smoke now became so great that all hands were forced to quit the lower hold; many were almost suffocated. On reaching between decks we found flames ascending the fore hatchway in huge volumes, cutting off all communication with the fore part of the ship.

As hopes of saving the *Europa* from destruction were then past, and this at the furthermost was at half-past ten o'clock, just half an hour from the moment that the alarm of fire was raised, this will show the rapidity the fire gained. The volumes of smoke that rolled up the main and after hatchway overhung the main deck like a cloud: it was most suffocating, and the flames from both hatches chased us on to the poop. I have omitted to inform you that on my first coming on deck I ran the ship away before the wind, in order to near a barque and a brig that were to the leeward of us. The boats were lowered and filled with men. All were got clear except the long-boat, which from the beginning I saw it was impossible to get out. The last boat was taken off the skidds on to the poop, from whence we were compelled to launch it to save it from being burnt. It was then about half-past eleven o'clock; the main deck was then in an ignited state, and the masts and rigging aloft were in flames. I still kept the ship before the wind, to near the vessels to leeward and to keep the fire forward.

Nearly all on board had left the vessel by this time. Among them were all the officers of the ship, the adjutant, surgeon, and cornet of the troop, leaving Lieut.-Colonel Moore, with the veterinary surgeon, and about twenty-six soldiers on board, besides myself, carpenter, one ordinary seaman, and the cook, on the burning wreck.

Mr. Black, the Admiralty agent, and the second mate were in the last boat which quitted the ship. She was pulled away at half-past eleven o'clock. The mainmast went at two o'clock; then the foremast; and the ship rounded immediately afterwards. It was blowing very hard at the time, with a very heavy short sea on, raining heavily. I will not further dwell upon this painful moment than to add that, as the ship rounded with head to wind, the fire spread over to where we were and burnt us out, compelling us to seek shelter in any way we could. A number of men took to the wreck of the mainmast: some were lost in attempting to make it. I, with the carpenter, got over to the leeward, and found great difficulty in getting under the weather channel and making along the bands, to see if there was more unburnt wood to hold on by; but we were driven into the fore chains, the hull of which were still unburnt. Suffice it to say, that at three o'clock the boat of the brig *Clementina*, Captain Pike, came up and took us out of the fore-chains. The boat also picked up ten men from off the spars of the wreck. One man died in the boat. The noble old Lieutenant-Colonel, I regret to say, perished in the wreck. Several troopers implored him to leave the ship in the boats, but he would not leave his men, and shared their terrible fate.

THE LOSS OF THE "TIGER."

THE accompanying Sketch of the wreck of the *Tiger*, represents it as seen from the steam-frigate *Furious*, on the evening of the 15th May. In the letter accompanying the Sketch, the writer gives an account of the loss of the ship, which is pretty much the same as the one which has already appeared in our columns. He then proceeds:—

The Admiral despatched the *Furious* and *Vesuvius* to Odessa, to obtain any intelligence respecting the loss of the unfortunate *Tiger*, and also to render any assistance that might be allowed to the surviving officers and crew. We (*Furious* and *Vesuvius*) approached the town early on the 16th of May, with a flag of truce at the fore, and a Russian ensign at the main, to signify our desire to communicate. We found the Russian authorities much more civil than on a former occasion, the Governor sending a polite letter to the Captain, acquainting him that Mr. Giffard, a midshipman, nephew to Captain Giffard, of the *Tiger*, and three men, had been killed, Captain Giffard himself had been obliged to have his left leg amputated above the knee; but he, as also some others who were wounded, were doing well, and that every attention should be paid to them. He (the Governor) also gave permission to us to communicate with our countrymen by writing, and to send them anything we might wish. We accordingly made a collection of plain clothes, of all sizes and descriptions, as well as blankets, and all the clean linen we could spare (very little), and sent them to the lazaretto, where the *Tigers* were performing their quarantine. We subsequently received several notes from them, which, after the authorities had expended some time in deciphering, were delivered to us. They stated that they were allowed to write to England (overland), were well lodged, and, on the whole, comfortable; but, as they had been unable to save anything from the wreck, said they should be glad of apparel, pipes, tobacco, &c., as we could spare them, and seemed by no means to be out of spirits. We also sent them duck, flannel, soap, &c., for the men; and, in fact, every thing that could be spared or thought of at the moment. We left at 7.30 p.m. passing near the wreck, as shown in the Sketch.

The intelligence of Captain Giffard's death was despatched to Vienna by electric telegraph on the 1st inst., by the Austrian Consul at Odessa.

The *Kreuts Zeitung* states, that on June 2, at three p.m., the interment of Captain Giffard, of the *Tiger*, took place. By order of General Osten-Sacken, the whole crew, prisoners of war, as well as the Governor-General Annenkoff, with the other military authorities, attended the funeral. A Russian battalion in parade order formed an escort to the coffin, and fired the usual volleys over the grave. Nearly the whole

REMAINS OF H.M. STEAM-FRIGATE "TIGER," AT ODESSA, SEEN FROM H.M.S. "FURIOUS."

population was afoot, and followed the procession. The sturdy General Osten-Sacken took the deepest interest in the fate of the Captain during his illness. A little before his death, Giffard called the crew around his bed, and said, "Lads, you owe your lives to my being wounded; this hindered me from blowing up the ship. Farewell! Greet our dear England for me when you see it." After these words he asked for a glass of lemonade, turned his face from the sailors to the other side, and breathed his last

The condition of the crew has been provided for; and, in the House of Commons, on Monday, in reply to a question by Sir G. Pechell, Sir J. Graham said that every arrangement had been made which the Admiralty hoped would be conducive to the comforts of the prisoners of war belonging to the late ship *Tiger*. Communications would be made through the Foreign-office to the Minister of a friendly Power at St. Petersburg.

The lamented officer (the first, by the way, holding a British commission killed in the war) was a Devonshire man, holding relations with some leading English and Irish families. His name may be familiar to the reader as an active mover in the late Chinese war. The despatches of Lord Gough and Sir Hyde Parker bore the greatest possible test mony to his professional talent. Of late years he was under the flag of Sir Charles Hotham on the African coast. He entered the service in 1824.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, June 25.—2nd Sunday after Trinity.
MONDAY, 26.—London Docks commenced, 1802.
TUES. AY, 27.—Dr. Dodd executed for fo gery, 1777.
WEDNESDAY, 28. Queen Victoria crowned, 1838.
THURSDAY, 29.—St. Peter.
FRIDAY, 30—Earl of Argyll beheaded, 1685
SATURDAY, July 1.—Battle of the Boyne, 1690. Battle of the Nile, 1798

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,

FOR THE WEEK ENDING JULY 1.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
M h m / A h m	M h m / A h m	M h m / A h m	M h m / A h m	M h m / A h m	M h m / A h m	M h m / A h m
1 35 / 2 15	2 25 / 3 10	3 30 / 4 5	4 5 / 4 50	4 40 / 5 25	5 15 / 6 0	5 50 / 6 35

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

K. A.—The wives of the younger sons of Barons have precedence of the wives of Baronets.

DUNFERMLINE.—Lord Colborne having died without male issue, his Peerage, which was created by patent, and limited to heirs male, has become extinct. No titles, but the old Baronies by Writ, "fall into abeyance."

A NORMAN.—Robert *Courte-Heuse*, son of William the Conqueror, left, by Sibilla, his wife, one son, William Cliton, whose chequered life terminated 28th July, 1128 at the siege of Alost, where he displayed all the martial virtues of his ancestors. He died s.p.

ARIEL.—You had better apply direct to the College of Arms.

D. W.—Our Correspondent has mistaken our meaning. Charlotte Elizabeth, daughter of the Elector Palatine, and grand daughter of our King James I., was a remote ancestress of Louis Philippe, King of the French. Philip, Duke of Orleans, second son of Louis XIII., married twice. By his first wife, Henrietta, daughter of Charles I., of England, he had two daughters, from one of whom descends the Duke of Modena; and by his second, the before-mentioned grand-daughter of King James I., he was father of Philip, Duke of Orleans, whose great-great-grandson, Louis Philippe, was thus clearly a descendant of King James I.

A. B. C. must apply at the Heralds' Office.

A FREEMAN OF LONDON. The proprietors of the "Pall mall Emporium," which formed the subject of two Illustrations in No. 682, are Messrs. Harding and Company and their premises are numbered 80, 81, and 82, Pall mall, adjoining the Ordnance office.

W. H. H. CLAYTON, Burnham. All first-rate ships in her Majesty's Navy carry guns on their lower, middle, main, and upper decks; but they are called three-decked ships having but three complete tiers of guns on their broadside: the upper deck guns, no having a designation, do not count when a two or three-decker is spoken of; so the *Royal Albert* is but a three-decker.

LIEUT. H. H., Bisley Sea, is thanked for the Sketch.

*** A Large View of the Interior of the Crystal Palace is unavoidably deferred until next week.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 1854.

THE defence of Silistria by the Turks is one of the most glorious episodes in the history of that people. Europe rings with acclamations at their successful gallantry, and shares with the Ottoman population the regret that the repulse of the Russians has cost the life of so brave a soldier and so incorruptible a patriot as Moussa Pacha, the late commander of the fortress. The telegraph informs us that Omer Pacha has re-established communications between Schumla and Silistria; that he has thrown reinforcements into the town; and that the Russians, foiled and beaten, have raised the siege, and retired across the Danube, leaving the Turks in possession, not alone of that stronghold, but of Turtukai and Giurgevo. It is possible that these statements may not prove in every respect accurate; but there appears no reason to doubt that the siege has been raised, that the Russians have suffered severe losses, and that Generals Paskiewitsch, Lüders, Gortschakoff, and Schilders have been seriously, the latter mortally, wounded. So many casualties among the superior officers may prove not only the martial ardour and personal courage of the Turkish garrison, but the demoralisation of the invaders. If it was necessary for the leaders to expose themselves to such dangers, the reason must have been the discouragement or cowardice of the troops. Upon no other supposition can we account for the fact that so many officers of the highest grade, and the Generalissimo himself, should have been placed in a position to do the work and run the risks of common soldiers. It has, indeed, been reported that it was not the bullets of the Turks, but of the Russian rank and file that inflicted these wounds upon the Russian commanders. This supposition, if correct, would tell even more lamentably than the former one against the Russian cause.

The first great assault upon Silistria appears to have been made upon the 29th of May, when 30,000 men attacked it, but were repulsed after an arduous struggle, that threatened at one time to end in the capture of the fortress. The assault was renewed with an equal force on the 31st, when the Russians were beaten on every point with a loss of upwards of 2000 men. On the 2nd of June the Russians, having received orders to take the fortress "at any sacrifice," sprung a mine beneath one of the Turkish batteries. It exploded in the wrong direction, and carried havoc into the besieging ranks. In the midst of the confusion, the Turks sallied out and inflicted a severe loss upon the enemy. From the 3rd to the 9th of June, the Russians suspended operations; but, on the last-mentioned day, endeavoured to storm two detached forts, but were driven back from each of them with considerable damage. On this occasion the Turks lost their gallant Commander Moussa Pacha. On the 13th, gathering courage from repeated victories, and possibly from the knowledge that their English and French allies were advancing to their help, they made another vigorous sortie, and totally routed the Russians. It was in this engagement that General Schilders received the wound which it is expected will prove fatal.

While this successful stand has been made at Silistria—and while the Turks have been so splendidly proving to the whole world that they are not an effete and decaying people, but possess a courage and spirit worthy of any nation, and of the best days in their own history—a treaty has been concluded between Austria and the Porte which cannot but have a most salutary influence upon the fortune and progress of the war. By the consent of the Sultan, the Emperor of Austria is empowered to occupy the Danubian Principalities—in the name, and on behalf, of the Ottoman Government—and to defend the integrity of the Ottoman empire. The Czar cannot do otherwise than consider this treaty as a declaration of war against him by the Austrian Government. It is impossible to look upon it in any other light; and he must either yield to the overpowering opposition against him, and withdraw from the unequal conflict, or prepare for the consequences of open hostilities with this new and powerful opponent. One of the most speedy results of this new phase of events, and the simultaneous raising of the siege of Silistria, will be the liberation of the British and French armies to undertake the capture of Sebastopol; an enterprise which, if successful—as we imagine it must be—will end the campaign with *éclat*, and demolish the influence, and cripple the power, of Russia for half a century. The Anglo-French fleets, aided by an army of occupation, in the rear, would not fail to obtain possession of Sebastopol and the Crimea. Such a result would be the annihilation of Russian power in the Black Sea, and, once achieved, would enable the Allies to decide the all-important question, whether it should ever be restored to a possessor who had no other use of it, than to impede the commerce of all free and civilised States, to make unprovoked attacks upon the territory and independence of his neighbours, and to keep the world in a continual dread of his aggressions? The people of Europe need, we think, be under no anxiety about Cronstadt. The capture of Sebastopol is the one grand achievement, upon which all energies ought to be directed. When that place shall fall, there will be an end of danger. The war will be virtually at an end;—the ambition of Russia will be punished—and the Czar will have to reckon, not simply with outraged Europe, but with his offended and humiliated subjects. It is not surprising that rumours should reach us from St. Petersburg, that his mind is giving way, under the fearful pressure of the difficulties and perils that are rising on every side to thwart and to confound him. It appears that the day of his retribution has already commenced.

THE "domestic institution" of the Southern States of the American Union has long been a source of peril. It continually threatens mischief, if not dislocation. At one time it prompts piracy upon Cuba—at another, it menaces civil war—and at all times it keeps up irritation, uneasiness, and ill-blood.

The Nebraska Bill, after months of stormy discussion, has passed the Legislature, and only waited, when the latest accounts came away, the signature of the President to become law. In a late article on this question we pointed out its divarication from the original Constitution of the Republic, and its authorisation of the base of slavery over new territories of vast extent, so as to give the slave-holding States of the Union a great preponderance over those which are inimical to slavery, and zealous for its abolition. A striking instance of the danger that the Slavery question is perpetually evoking has just occurred at Boston. The details eminently illustrate the present condition of things between the South and the North. The arrest, under the warrant of Commissioner Loring of an alleged fugitive slave, a coloured man, thirty years of age, named Anthony Burns, and in the employ of a Boston clothier, has excited greater ferment than we ever remember in connection with the question. Burns was claimed as a slave fugitive from the service and labour of his owner, a Virginian merchant in Alexandria. He had escaped, or found his way into Massachusetts, for he states that he fell asleep, from fatigue, on board a vessel at Richmond, which sailed whilst he was unconscious of the fact! After a night's imprisonment, the case against the man was legally proceeded with, and counsel argued it stoutly on either side. But when the news of his arrest transpired, a public meeting was held in Faneuil-hall, which was thronged by an immense concourse. The circumstances were warmly stated by the Abolitionist leaders. Inflamed by the speeches, the crowd rushed from the Hall to the Court-house, which they endeavoured to force, and rescue the prisoner. This was effected by means of a battering-ram and axes, wielded both by white and coloured men; the leaders continually shouting, "To the Rescue!" At half-past nine an alarm was rung, and reports of pistols and fire-arms were heard from both sides, the rioters firing some thirty shots, by one of which a man was killed in the passage, whilst trying to oppose the ingress of the assailants. The square being filled with an armed mob, the police interfered; artillery and other troops were called in, and several arrests took place. Many lingered about the Court-house all night; and next day, Saturday, May 27th, the excitement was renewed, but with diminished violence. Burns's examination proceeded; and Suttle, the owner, was arrested on a counter-charge, and, with another person, held to bail in the sum of 10,000 dollars. The Chief Justice issued a writ of replevin, to bring up the body of Burns on the 7th of June, which the Marshal repudiated. Finally, it was negotiated to purchase the slave for 1200 dollars, and a subscription was speedily raised to accomplish this object. The bargain was made, and only required some formalities to be complete, and here the matter rests for the present.

What we have recorded as shortly as possible, however, will demonstrate the precarious condition of relations so prone to lead to conflict. It is no use for the Americans to dally with the monster evil. Expediency is no excuse for slavery—for wrong breeds wrong; and an erroneous principle, like the bad act which it sanctions, is the parent of perplexity and danger. The American Union has so much energy, its resources are so flourishing, and increase so rapidly from year to year, that her statesmen are puzzled what to do with the superabundance. Let them wisely, and manumit their slaves with it!

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

THE BALTIC FLEET.

Sir Charles Napier was to advance towards Cronstadt on the 21st, with screw ships. Admiral Plumridge was to join him on the 20th.

The *Vulture* lost a paddle-box and boat in the Gulf of Bothnia. Lieutenant Barrington, and Mon^gue, mate, were killed. Fifty-five seamen killed or missing.

STOCKHOLM, June 16.—The British took possession of Tornea on the 8th inst., unopposed. Admiral Plumridge conducted the landing personally. Tornea, it is reported, is about to be fortified, and made a station for British troops.

Tornea is a small town, having a population of about 1000 souls, situate at the mouth of the river of the same name, and is the most northerly coast town in the Gulf of Bothnia.

A letter from Lubeck, of the 11th, in *Vossi's Gazette* of Berlin, says:—

According to letters which have arrived this day from Helsingfors, it was supposed that there would soon be a naval combat, for the Russian fleet, anchored in that port, had put out to sea. It is, however, possible that its object is merely to protect the fortress of Sveaborg.

PREPARATIONS AT ST. PETERSBURG

The *National Gazette of Berlin* has the following from St. Petersburg, 11th:

For some days the troops are being withdrawn from the Narwa and concentrating themselves round St. Petersburg. It is said that Hogland is occupied by Russian troops. The rich inhabitants of the Russian capital have been lately making excursions as far as Helsingfors and Ekenaes, and even as far as Revel and Baltisch port, in order to obtain information as to the operations of the Anglo-French fleet. This curiosity has given rise to very severe observations on the part of the police. In addition to the division of the guard, there are also at St. Petersburg and neighbourhood the reserve of the light artillery, the third and fourth battalions of the reserve, and the fifth and sixth battalions of the grenadiers, of whom two regiments are in Finland. The division of the Russian Baltic fleet are at Cronstadt and one division near Sveaborg. The Gulf of Finland is full of small vessels of war. The troops stationed on the southern coast as far as Helsingfors, are ready to march at the first call.

RUSSIAN POLICY.

Letters from Vienna give some important information as to the attitude Russia is beginning to assume, in consequence of the determination of Austria to make common cause with the Western Powers in preventing the Russian army advancing into Bulgaria, or retaining possession of Moldavia and Wallachia. It would appear as if the Russian army were decidedly to retreat from the Provinces, and that the Emperor was determined in imitation of the policy of the Emperor Alexander in 1812, to concentrate all his forces exclusively for the defence of his territories. It is in consequence of this new system that Count Paul Nesselrode is said to have gone suddenly to Odessa. By this defensive policy the Czar hopes still to keep Prussia and Austria neutral, if not to attach these Powers more exclusively to his cause.

HAKEWELL *v.* INGRAM.—In the Court of Common Pleas yesterday the action against the proprietor of the *Ladies' New paper*, for libel for fleering upon the conduct of Mr. Hakewell, was heard before the Lord Chief Justice. Counsel having been heard on both sides, the jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff—damages, one farthing.

THE COURT.

The Court returned to London on Saturday, from Windsor Castle, travelling over the Great Western Railway to Paddington, and there by six of the Queen's carriages, escorted by a party of Carbineers, to Buckingham Palace. The King of Portugal and the Duke of Oporto were in the first carriage, and the Queen, Prince Albert, and the Prince of Leiningen followed in the second. The different regiments and bands of the Household Troops were stationed along the line of route. His Majesty and his Royal Highness, attended by their Gentlemen in Waiting, arrived at Buckingham Palace, from Oxford, twenty minutes past six o'clock in the afternoon. Her Majesty and the Prince Consort, with the King of Portugal and the Duke of Oporto, honoured the Royal Italian Opera with their presence.

On Sunday the Queen, Prince Albert, and the Royal family attended Divine Service in the private chapel of Buckingham Palace. The King of Portugal and the Duke of Oporto went to the chapel of the French Embassy, in King-street, Portman-square.

On Monday the Queen and Prince Albert visited her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester, at Gloucester-house. The King of Portugal and the Duke of Oporto left Buckingham Palace, at half-past eleven o'clock, to honour the Lord Mayor with a visit at the Mansion-house. His Majesty and his Royal Highness afterwards visited the House of Lords, and returned to the Palace about seven o'clock. In the evening the Queen and the Prince Consort, accompanied by their illustrious visitors, honoured the Opera Comique, at the St. James's Theatre, with their presence.

On Tuesday the Queen gave a State Ball at Buckingham Palace. The guests were unusually numerous, the invitations exceeding 2000. The state-rooms were brilliantly illuminated and decorated with a large quantity of the most exquisite flowers. Flowers were also introduced as a background to the *haut pas* on which the chairs of state were placed for the Queen, the Prince, and the King of Portugal in the Throne and Ball-rooms. The *haut pas* had canopies and draperies, made to suit the furniture of the apartment. The State Dining-room, supplied all to supper, displayed the usual massive scene. In the Ball-room, and the background of a deep square alcove at the end of the apartment opposite to the entrance, about fourteen feet in width, and, reaching at about five feet from the floor and to the height of twelve feet, it was one mass of the most beautiful flowers, on gold plate. Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, and their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess Mary, arrived at about half-past nine. The general company began to arrive soon after nine o'clock, and assembled in the Picture-gallery. At a quarter before ten o'clock, her Majesty the Queen and his Royal Highness Prince Albert were conducted from the State Drawing Room, after the Royal guests had assembled there, right through the Throne Room to the Ball-room. Her Majesty and his Royal Highness were accompanied by his Majesty the King of Portugal, his Royal Highness the Duke of Oporto, her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, and their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess Mary.

The Queen wore a dress of green tulle, over green silk, trimmed with flounces of figured green gauze ribbon, and with wreaths of shamrocks and roses intermixed with green leaves, with a corsage of the same, trimmed with green gauze ribbon, and wreaths of shamrocks and roses. Her Majesty's head-dress was composed of white and green flowers, and feathers, with the usual ornaments.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent wore a dress of white satin of British manufacture, trimmed with white tulle and white and gold bloudes, the skirt ornamented with diamonds. Her Royal Highness's head-dress was composed of white and gold bloudes and feathers, with the usual ornaments.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cambridge wore a dress of white point-lace over grey silk, trimmed with silver ribbon and marabout feathers, the stomacher ornamented with pearls and brilliants. Her Royal Highness's head-dress was composed of white and grey feathers, with the usual ornaments. Her Royal Highness the Princess Mary wore a dress of white tulle, trimmed with [illegible] and wreaths of roses and leaves, with a corsage of the same, trimmed with [illegible] and wreaths of roses and leaves. Her Royal Highness's head-dress was composed of white and green flowers, with the usual ornaments. The [illegible] wore

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE KING OF PORTUGAL.

is about a quarter of a century ago, since Donna Maria da Gloria, i but a child, and still contesting her right to a constitutional ne, paid a visit to Eng and; and now her orphan son—older than was then, and on the eve of wedding her throne—is amongst Strange changes have taken place in public affairs, and in public ng in the interval. Constitutional notions have been cast to the ds in the Peninsula. The men who fought for Donna Maria, built up her throne with blood, have been disgraced, disgusted, driven to the appeal of arms in support of very existence; , at this very moment, the "Constitution" of Portugal is ictatorship. Under these circumstances, it was curious to hear little King of Portugal, on his visit to the City of London, other day, speaking with the greatest complacency of the "in- endence" and the "liberal institutions" of his country. "England always fought for Portugal," he observed, "whenever her inde dence has been threatened;" as if any nation could truly call itself dependent" when its very existence depended upon the arms of sign Powers, and least of all when those arms were employed to sup- ss intestine disorder. "Our liberal institutions," pursued his youthful jesty, "powerfully contribute to identify the feelings and interests of jesty with those of my people." "Both countries!" Let us e that this was uttered purely in ignorance, and not with the intention cast ridicule upon a subject of grave import, but that it may be taken an indication of a sincere desire to wipe out the past and redress wrongs.

A FREE-TRADE MOVEMENT BETWEEN ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

The United States of America have hitherto been stanch Pro- tionists. Their statesmen have been afraid of Free-trade, lest the lux of British manufactured goods should injure their rising industry, it the narrow edge of the Free-trade wedge has been driven into the otectionist block. The dispute about the right of fishing in the Bay Fundy, which at one time threatened serious consequences, has been fortunately arranged, and has been made the occasion of a treaty by ich the first great step in the establishment of Free-trade between two nations has been secured. By Lord Elgin's treaty, just come to hand, the citizens of the United States are to enjoy the same privileges, regard to fishing, as are possessed by the colonists on all the coasts the British North-American provinces; that is, they will obtain the ht of fishing within three miles of all bays, inlets, coves, &c.; they ll be allowed to erect and carry on fishing establishments on British orth-American territory. The naval force hitherto kept up by Great itain to protect the provincial fishermen is to be removed. In re- urn for these privileges there is to be complete reciprocity and Free- ade between the United States and the Canadian provinces in all rticles the product of each, with the exception of sugar and tobacco ming from the United States: these are to pay the same duties as are vied upon these articles when arriving from British colonies or other rts of the world. Though manufactured articles are not to be imitted under the terms of the treaty, yet as Western Canada daily oduces more wheat, the operation of the treaty cannot fail to be of portance to the province. An effort was made by Lord Elgin to btain American registers for vessels built at Quebec, St. John's, and e other ship-building ports of the province, but the American Govern- ent declined, and this, therefore, does not enter into the treaty. ade between the United States and the Canadian provinces in all rticles the product of each, with the exception of sugar and tobacco ming from the United States: these are to pay the same duties as are vied upon these articles when arriving from British colonies or other rts of the world. Though manufactured articles are not to be imitted under the terms of the treaty, yet as Western Canada daily oduces more wheat, the operation of the treaty cannot fail to be of portance to the province. An effort was made by Lord Elgin to btain American registers for vessels built at Quebec, St. John's, and e other ship-building ports of the province, but the American Govern- ent declined, and this, therefore, does not enter into the treaty. ut on the whole Lord Elgin deserves credit for the settlement of a ifficult question, so much to the advantage of all parties.

HAMPSTEAD HEATH.

Hampstead Herth is again sparelinge for a reason: Sir T. M. Wil- on's new application—the fifth—to Parliament may prove to build pon it in spite of the prohibition in his father's will, being virtually de eated by the adverse decision of the Judges to whom in due course it was referred. The far-famed "Spaniard's" then—the cockney Cor o— still open to the votaries of donkey racing; and the invigorating reezes and noble views on the wild heath, to all lovers of nature in her impless and healthiest aspects. But will not we congratulate the public pon the issue of their cause, so far, let us not disguise the real ate of the case, and the dangers which attend the future. There re three parties in the present dispute. On the one side stands, oine, Sir Thomas Wilson; who wants to make as much money as he can out of the life-interest in the property, by granting building leases. On the other side are, first, certain persons who already rejoice in the ossession of mansions or villas on the Heath; and, wishing to keep he place select, vehemently denounce the breaking up of the land as being n opposition to the healthy and agreeable a place of resi- ence; and, secondly, the general public, who protest against being "built out" of a place of favourite resort, which they have long considered heir own property. For Sir T. M. Wilson, who, moved by the above out- ries, wants to do "what he likes with his own," we, of course, have not a ord to say; for the exclusive Hampsteadites we have few sympathies; or the public we feel largely. But sentiment has nothing to do with the ase; lawyers have no sentiment; and, unfortunately, the present dispute comes to for putting the matter upon a sure and more rational footing han it commands at present, grievous disappointment may ensue. In imple English, the public must buy Hampstead Heath if they would con- inue to eat it their own. It is saved to their use for the present, but it will probably, during the lifetime of Sir T. M. Wilson, by the generous rovisions of the late Sir T. Wilson's will; but when Sir T. M. Wilson's next heir comes into possession, he may with his son cut off the entail, and build away without let or hindrance. The Government has found money to establish Parks for the people of the south and east, at Batter- ea and Bethnal-green, both in swamps; why not now secure this splen- id site for a People's Park in the north, accessible as it is by aid of the East and West India Dock and Birmingham Junction Railway, from the extremest limits of the metropolis? By the way, if the contem- plated measure of Municipal Reform be passed next session, it will pro- bably be within the powers of the local governing body to effect this arrangement. Why should not London have the same right to purchase parks and gardens for the recreation of her hard-working denizens as Manchester and Liverpool?

THE LOS OF THE "EUROPA."

The melancholy loss of the *Europa*, by fire, with so many brave fel- lows on board, suggests the absolute necessity of establishing some stringent regulations for guarding against such catastrophes for the future, or at least mitigating their terrible consequences when they occur. Two essential points require attention—first, the supervision of the load- ing of passenger ships, to prevent the stowing away in juxta-position of articles, which, under such circumstances, naturally generate spontaneous combustion; and secondly, the provision of sufficient boats, and their proper control and regulation, in case of disaster occurring.

In the case of the *Europa*, it appears, from the statement of Captain Gardner, that the fore-part of the *Europa*, where the fire broke out, was filled with a miscellaneous collection of tow, oil, varnish, and other inflammable matters, such as the hemp in ropes, tow, sails, &c., are chemical elements of combustion; and, whenever they are packed together in the close, warm hold of a ship, the bursting out of a conflagration is only a question of time. Surely provision should be made to extend a knowledge of such simple facts as these to those to whose charge our lives and property are daily entrusted; and even to compel attention to obvious precautionary requirements, in case of neglect on their part.

With respect to the chances of escape when the mischief happens, poor indeed it is, as it always was. Either there are no boats, or the boats have been made fixtures, and crammed with, perhaps, the most unwieldy portions of the cargo; or, if they are movable and serviceable as boats, there is no authority and experience to control and regulate their use. In the case of the *Europa*, it hap- pened that there was a pretty good supply of boats, though not nearly all there available; and there is no doubt that, if they had been made proper use of, and the crew had been under any sort of discipline, every soul in the ill-fated ship—including the brave and devoted Colonel Moore—who refused to quit the vessel as long as any of the ship under his command was on board—might have been saved. It is not enough that passenger ships should carry a sufficient number of boats for escape in case of disaster, they should be compelled to exercise their crews daily at clearing, and lowering, and manning them, so as to be ready in case of need. They should be taught also, to have confidence in their com- manders in all such extremities.

THE AIR WE BREATHE.

It appears, from the reply to a question asked in the Commons, that Mr. Locke Hankinson does not intend to let the "Smoke Bill" go to sleep, but that he has sent round printed notices to the owners of factories, and eigh. hundred and odd furnaces and chimneys, to know what faithful ons of consumed carbon may be at high or moderate limits of the metropolis, that it will come into operation on the 1st of August, and will be strictly enforced. Whilst a great public boon will be achieved, and a great public scandal removed, by this enactment, it is gratifying to be able to add that it will entail no hardship upon individuals, no vexatious interference with their rights or property. On the contrary, as is now well ascertained, all so-called smoke is waste, attributable solely to the carelessness and laziness of the men employed to stoke the fires; and the money penalties inflicted by the Act will afford, to the latter, a powerful inducement to a more attentive performance of their duties for the future, which mere considerations of economy may have failed to obtain.

MUSIC.

The two Opera-houses, Covent-Garden and Drury-Lane, have presented no novelty during the week. At the Royal Italian Opera, Grisi's farewell performances have been suspended, by her severe indisposition; but she was sufficiently recovered to be able to re-appear on Thursday, in one of her greatest parts—*Lucrezia Borgia*. This evening, it is announced that she is to perform *Valentina*, in the "Huguenots." At the Royal Opera, the "Seraglio" has been three times repeated, with undiminished—we may say, indeed, with increased—success. The beauties of Mozart's delicious music become more appreciated as it is better known; and its only fault in this opera—the length of some of the airs in the heroine's part—has been removed by several judicious curtailments made by Madame Rudersdorff. "Acis and Galatea," we understand, is in preparation; with Miss Reeves as *Acis*; Galatea," we understand, is in preparation; with Miss Reeves as *Acis*; Galatea," we understand, is in preparation; with Miss Reeves as *Acis*; Galatea," we understand, is in preparation; with Miss Reeves as *Acis*; Madame Rudersdorff (who speaks and sings in English with the ease and purity of a native) as *Galatea*; and Formès as the giant *Polyphemus*.

Donizetti's pretty comic opera, "La Fille du Regiment," in its original form, as written for the French Opéra Comique, has been produced with immense success by the French company, at the St. James's. On the first night (Wednesday) the house was full to overflowing; and the Queen, with several members of the Royal family, was among the occupants of the boxes. In the part of the heroine, the little *Vivandière*, Madame Marie Cabel was entirely in her element. She performed it as a Frenchwoman only can—with an airy, graceful coquetry—a vivacity untinged with the slightest coarseness or vulgarity, and even with that exquisite perception of toilette, which the women of no other country would strive in vain to imitate. The music, though by an Italian composer, is admirably united to the Parisian singers and the Parisian public, for whom it was written, and Madame Cabel's singing was as delicious as her acting. In short, she created an absolute furore, and would do so were the opera repeated a dozen times. The representation as a whole, was very satisfactory. The other performers, taken individually, showed no brilliant powers, but they understood their parts, worked together admirably and well, and produced that completeness of ensemble which is so general on the French stage and so rare on ours.

The principal concert of the week was that of the Philharmonic Society, on Monday evening, which terminated the series of this season. It was universally deemed the best of the series, and was, probably, one of the very best ever given by this Society during an existence approaching to half a century. Every piece, vocal as well as instrumental, was a gem of the very purest water. The Symphonies were, Mendelssohn's, in A ("the Italian Symphony"); and Beethoven's in C minor. The Overtures were the "Freischütz," and "Jessonda." The pianoforte Concerto was Beethoven's, in E flat, performed by Herr Pauer. The vocal pieces were the great scena from the "Freischütz," "Before my eyes behold him," sung by Clara Novello; the aria, "Sargeto," from Rossini's "Maometto Secondo," sung by Belletti; and the charming duet in the first scene of the "Nozze di Figaro," sung by the above great vocalists. The room was crowded to overflowing, and we have never seen an audience in a state of more animated enjoyment. Once have we ever seen a Philharmonic season terminate leaving a more agreeable impression.

Miss Arabella Goddard's Concert, at the Hanover-square Rooms, on Wednesday evening, was one of the most remarkable of the season. As a pianist this young lady is now admitted to have no superior. Her powers of execution are boundless—not exceeded by those of Thalberg himself. But, unlike Thalberg and the performers of his school, she does not use her powers for purposes of mere display, or waste them on frivolous music. Her pure and refined taste is one of her most remarkable qualities. She has devoted herself to the study of the great masters, and has employed her marvellous gifts of execution in interpreting and developing their grandest and most beautiful inspirations. At this concert, her principal piece was Beethoven's Concerto in G, the most arduous of all his compositions for the piano. She surmounted every difficulty with the quietness and self-possession of one to whom difficulty has no existence; while her intelligence and expression gave an indescribable charm to her whole performance. She also played Mendelssohn's Serenade; Studies by Mayer and Kullack; and a Notturno by Chopin (in C minor). The concert was agreeably varied by a number of vocal pieces, sung by Miss Dolby, M. Miran, a timely arrival, Herr Reichart. Reeves was in fine voice and in too often the case in consequence of sudden indisposition. The room was crowded with fashionable company; and a great number of the most eminent professional musicians were present.

Princess' Theatre.—Mr. Charles Kean will produce for his benefit, on Monday next, the great attraction of a new drama, entitled the "Courier of Lyons," to be followed by a new diverting one-act farce.

Haymarket Theatre.—On Monday next the performances at this theatre will be under the patronage of Australian Colonists, and Major the Hon. H. L. Powys, Honorary Secretary of the Central Association in Aid of the Wives and Families, Widows and Orphans, of Soldiers ordered to the East. The proceeds will be given for the support of the wives and families of soldiers and sailors engaged in the war; and Mr. Coppin, the Australasian comedian (who has won golden opinions), as well by the liberality of his charitable institutions, as by his histrionic talent), has given his services gratuitously, and will appear, on Monday evening, in two favourite characters.

Cremorne Gardens.—M. Latour, the French aëronaut, ascended in a balloon, on Tuesday, from these Gardens, in a very satisfactory manner. After a journey of some four miles, at an altitude of 2000 yards, the cords were cut, and the aëronaut descended in a parachute, at a very gradual rate, occupying nearly three-quarters of an hour, during which time no apparent oscillation took place; thereby establishing the assertion of M. Latour—that he has the power, through his system, of, to some degree, sustaining and guiding himself in the air. A very large number of persons who were in the Gardens were much gratified with the aëronaut's feats.

Gore House.—The bazaar appointed to commence on Tuesday next, under the patronage of the Queen, on the estate belonging to the Commissioners of the Exhibition of 1851, will be honoured by the attendance of the Duchess of Kent and the Duchess of Gloucester. The stalls will be presided over by the Duchess of Sutherland, the Marchioness of Hastings, Viscountess Palmerston, and other ladies of rank and distinction. It is understood the tents are to be pitched on the site of the intended new National Gallery.

Accession of Her Majesty.—Tuesday being the anniversary of her Majesty Queen Victoria's accession to the throne, the morning is ushered in with the usual indications of loyalty and respect. The royal standard was hoisted on the steeples of the churches of St. Margaret's, Westminster; St. Martin's-in-the-Fields; St. Margaret's, Westminster; St. Paul, Knightsbridge; St. Luke's, and the Royal Hospital, Chelsea. In consequence of the absence of the troops engaged in the present war no review took place, the depôts of the various regiments simply going through the ordinary inspection. At one o'clock a grand *feu de joie* was fired from the mortars in St. James's park, and simultaneously the guns of the Tower the Royal Arsenal at Woolwich, Tilbury Fort, Sheerness, and other places were fired. The various steamers and vessels as usual exhibited the colours of all nations except those of Russia.

Election of Sir George Grey.—On Saturday last, Sir George Grey, whose acceptance of the Secretaryship of the Colonies, had created a vacancy in the representation of the borough of Morpeth, was re-elected without opposition.

On Monday the Lords of the Admiralty gave notice that transports were required to convey several hundred troops to Varna, on the Black Sea, for the cavalry horses; also to convey large quantities of provisions from the River Thames, 500 tons from Gosport, and 1000 from Plymouth to Malta; and 300 tons of naval stores from Deptford to the Mediterranean.

Trubey-House School, Woodford, Essex.—On the 14th inst. the annual examination of the pupils of the above school took place, before a numerous attendance of the parents and friends of the establishment. The Trubeyan silver medals and other prizes were the (Continued on page 594.)

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

The new President of the Royal Society will be, it is said, Lord Wrottesley; but the election, we believe, will not take place till St. Andrew's Day, the 30th of November next.

The Earl of Ellesmere, as President of the Geographical Society, has been giving two *conversaziones* to the members of the Society, and to people who are supposed to know as much of distant places as the members of the Travellers' Club. They have been well attended; and, though the conversation did not dwell so much on recent geographical discoveries as some were led to suppose, but turned to other familiar subjects—the fine pictures to be seen at every fresh glance—and to those common topics—

Who gave the ball or paid the visit last;

yet all seemed to agree that the meetings were of the most pleasant description. Lord de Grey and Lord Ellesmere have fine rooms for such assemblies; and any noblemen who have fine reception-rooms should, so some indifferent fellows contend, be elected presidents of learned societies. We should be sorry indeed to lose Lord Rosse or Lord Malmesbury, for noblemen better housed, but certainly less fitted (or the duties which these two distinguished noblemen discharge with so much advantage to science and antiquity.

Old books of real importance are getting up in price. A copy of the first edition of Milton's "Comus"—a very thin quarto, of the year 1637, printed for Humphrey Robinson—sold, at Sotheby and Wilkinson's, on Wednesday last, for £26. Contrast this price with the prices quoted in Lowndes! At Rhodes's sale, a copy sold for £1 3s.; Steevens's copy sold for the same sum; at Jadis's, there was an advance of five shillings, and at Hollis's, £2 10s. was considered an outrageous high price. The copy sold on Wednesday was certainly a very fine copy, but it had no extravagations of binding—it was an auctioneer's discovery, at the end of a fine copy of Simmons's edition of "Paradise Lost," the quarto, of 1668. At a country sale, the two would have sold as one—and at a "Paradise Lost" price.

We were present at the sale of Mr. Seth Stephenson's ivory carvings, to which we called attention in our column of last week. Many besides ourselves were present; collectors, keepers, dealers—

Jews from St. Mary Axe for gain so wary,
Who, for old clothes, would even axe St. Mary.

There was an eager competition. It was entered at ten guineas, and went quickly on, but by slow figures, to fifty guineas. Here it stopped for a time; and here, if we are not mistaken, it was dropped by the British Museum. Mr. Chaffers vied with Mr. Bohn; and it was, in a breathless suspense, finally knocked down to Mr. Walesby for £7. Mr. Stephenson, we have heard, gave £5 for it. Some men do meet with bargains. Nor are we disinclined to consider this casket, at its auction price, in any other light than a cheap acquisition. Here is a casket in which Alexander might have placed a Froissart or an Ivanhoe.

The English pictures at Christie's, to which we last week devoted attention, sold at Manchester and Liverpool, or rather at Agnew and Grundy prices. The "Spare Wife" of Philip brought 340 guineas; a "Hayfield," by Linnell, a picture of the year 1854, sold for 455 guineas; Callcott's "Hampstead Heath" brought 338 guineas; and Goodall's "Raising the Maypole" was knocked down at 805 guineas. What would Hayden have said to such fancy prices?

They are about to raise the Horse Guards—not the standard of the men enlisted, but the building at Whitehall, which bears their name. The architect will be either Sir Charles Barry or Mr. Pennethorne. The Horse Guards was built by Kent, after a design furnished, it is said, by Kent. That was a century ago, and its first scaffolding was about it. We are not sorry for the change, though we shall miss a London feature intimately connected with "Butcher Billy," the bluff, bold, Marquis of Granby, the kind-hearted Duke of York, and the great Duke of Wellington. As the Duke himself said, "Her Majesty's Government must be carried on;" and the present building is insufficient for the requirements of the public service. If they remove the clock, how many old gentlemen's watches will go wrong?

This change in the Horse Guards, reminds us of a piece of architectectural detail upon which we have long wished to say a few words. No one who contrasts the sculpture at Somerset House—in the part by Sir William Chambers—with the sculpture of the new building erected by Mr. Pennethorne, or the sculpture in the new front of Buckingham Palace, but sees at once how infinitely superior the old work is to the new. How is this? Mr. Pennethorne has been alive to the beauty of the old carvings, for he has had careful moulds made from every bit of stone, or bas-relief he was desirous to introduce. Perhaps he does not pay enough. Yet this, we think, is hardly the secret. Let us but remember by whom the carvings in the old building were made—by Bacon, Banks, Wilton, Nollekens, Carlini, and Flaxman. The new sculptures are probably by nameless men destined to remain nameless. Of the prices paid by Chambers, we have some curious unpublished particulars, to which we shall hereafter direct attention.

We are to have a sale, on the last two days of June, of the duplicate and imperfect books of the magnificent library of Early English Poetry, formed by the late Mr. Miller, of Craigentinny, and of Britwell, in Buckinghamshire. The collection contains some very choice articles; and all who are curious to possess treasures not of everyday occurrence, should look to this sale. Mr. Miller was so choice in the size of his copies, that he applied a foot rule—which he carried, like a carpenter, in his pocket—to every volume, before he ventured on a single bidding. We, we, consequently, known at auctions as *Measure* Miller.

The nine days' sale of Mr. Caff's coins brought £3760 1s. There is to be another nine days, commencing on Monday next, so that we may estimate Mr. Caff's cabinet at something like £6000. It was essential for a cabinet of English coins. The largest sum obtained for any one coin was £140, for the very rare and very celebrated crown-piece of Henry VIII. The King is seen in full face, and crowned, with the sword in his right hand, and the orb in his left. The next largest sum was £80 for a gold coin (or royal) of Queen Mary I. The Queen is represented standing in a ship, crowned, with a sword in her right hand, and her left resting on a shield, bearing the Royal arms. On the side of the ship is the letter T, for a pattern piece in gold of Edward VI. From its weight, it is supposed to have been designed for a three-sovereign piece. Three coins of Kings of Mercia brought £62, £51, and £48. A gold royal of Queen Elizabeth sold for £30 10s., and a spur royal of James I. brought £25 10s.

Royal Visit to the City.—Between eleven and twelve o'clock on Tuesday, his Royal Highness Prince Albert, the King of Portugal, and suite, arrived in two Royal carriages at the Mansion House, where they partook of refreshment with the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor and other civic dignitaries; after which the distinguished party proceeded to the Royal Exchange, Bank, East India House, and other public buildings. A great crowd had assembled in the City, but there was sufficient force of police present to prevent the least interruption to business.

A Monster Excursion.—Notwithstanding the war,—or perhaps, rather in consequence of it—the Parisians have schemes about monster excursions" on a greater scale than has ever been yet attempted. One attractive programme for the lovers of long voyages is that of one promising "Thirty days in the East for £40." For the trifling sum a man may visit all the ports of the Mediterranean, spend three days at Naples, "perhaps" a week at Corfu, see the Pirmus, Athens, the Archipelago, and Constantinople, then return to France by Civita Vecchia, and spend a long day at Rome.

INSPECTION OF TROOPS AT GIBRALTAR, ON HER MAJESTY'S BIRTHDAY.

CELEBRATION OF THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY AT GIBRALTAR.

HER Majesty's Birthday was kept on the 24th of May, with great spirit. Precisely at twelve o'clock the first gun of a Royal salute was fired from the Rock Gun—a height of nearly 1500 feet. The galleries then gave forth their jets of flame and smoke; and a most extraordinary sight it was to see these spouting from an almost invisible aperture in a wall of rock.

MILITARY OBELISK AT SCUTARI, ON HER MAJESTY'S BIRTHDAY.

The regiments on the plain in succession—the 13th, 39th, 92nd (Highlanders), 89th, and 17th—fired a *feu de joie*. Three cheers were then given, which made old "Calpe" ring again. The troops were commanded by Colonel Gordon, Royal Artillery. The day's evolutions concluded by marching past in slow time before his Excellency Sir Robert Gardiner, who, with a large staff, was on the ground—the gallant and honoured commander of the fortress of the world. Crowds of people came in from Spain in their national costume, giving a gay variety to the scene.

In our Journal of last week, we detailed the inspection of British troops, at Scutari, on her Majesty's Birthday. We now engrave, from a Sketch by a Correspondent, the festal obelisk which was erected on the occasion, in the centre of the Guards' camp. This tasteful design consisted of a square base, inscribed "God Save the Queen," and paneled and festooned with garlands; upon the sides were piled the drums and colours of the regiment, and above rose the obelisk, inscribed "V.," in wreaths, and surmounted with a floral crown. The loyal device was altogether very prettily executed.

TETSCHEN.

TETSCHEN or Teschen, in Bohemia, on the frontier of Saxony, the scene of the recent conference between the Emperor of Austria and the King of Prussia, had hitherto a diplomatic celebrity; for here was concluded, in 1779, the treaty between Frederick II. of Prussia and the Empress Maria Theresa, which terminated what is called the War of the Bavarian Succession.

Tetschen is the capital of the circle and the duchy of that name, and is situated at the foot of a gentle eminence, an offset of the Carpathians, on a tongue of land, formed by the river Elsa or Olsa, and a small stream called the Bober or Bobrcek. The town was mostly rebuilt after a great fire in 1739, previous to which it resembled a dirty Polish town. It is the seat of all the courts of justice and public offices of the circle and of the duchy.

The accompanying View of Tetschen is from the sketch-book of a Correspondent.

Tetschen is altogether a flourishing town, with railway communication, and enjoys one of the most romantic situations which the banks of the Elbe can afford. It lies at the foot of the tall rock, on which stands the Castle of Tetschen, the seat of Count Thun, to whom the village and adjoining domain belong. The rock on which the castle stands was strongly fortified during the Thirty Years and the Seven Years wars, and was again placed in a state of defence by Napoleon, in 1813. The present castle was finished in 1775. On the opposite bank of the river are the baths.

Below Tetschen, "the Elbe is pent up between bold cliffs and huge natural battlements of rock, clothed in rich foliage wherever it is possible for a tree to hang, and broken by smooth plots of verdure leading away into romantic dells. It has all the variety of our own Wye, on almost the scale of the majestic Rhine."—*Reeve.*

Reverting to the result of the recent Conference (detailed in our Journal of last week), the *Prussian Correspondence*, of Berlin, which is considered a semi-official journal, has the following, under date of the 13th:—

The assertions of the press relative to the late interview of the King of Prussia and the Emperor of Austria, prove that public opinion has justly appreciated the great significancy of that event. The invitation addressed to the King of Prussia by his august nephew to meet him at Tetschen, has not only furnished to the King an opportunity of renewing verbally his congratulations to the young Imperial couple, but has also

TETSCHEN, IN BOHEMIA, THE SCENE OF THE LATE CONFERENCE BETWEEN THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA AND THE KING OF PRUSSIA

OPENING OF THE IMPERIAL PETROPOLIS RAILWAY, BRAZIL.—BENEDICTION OF THE LOCOMOTIVES.

permitted the Sovereigns, as well as their advisers, to discuss confidentially the questions relative to the present European crisis. We may, for our part, confirm with entire certainty the news that the result of that interview has been most satisfactory in every respect. Not only have the relations of sympathy and confidence which before united the two Princes been again strengthened by the frank and immediate communication of their personal views, but the political deliberations have ended in a perfect understanding as to the bearing of the treaty concluded by the two Great Powers, in relation to their common action. We do not think we are mistaken in summing up the political result of the conference of Teschen in this way: that it has given fresh strength to the treaty of the 20th of April, and prevented any future misunderstanding. Whatever may be the turn that events may take, we have now a fresh guarantee that Prussia and Austria consider their interests as closely connected, as well as regards the other members of the Germanic Confederation, as the foreign Powers, and that they are decided on acting in common to bring about a prompt and satisfactory solution of the Eastern question. We learn that the two allied Sovereigns have expressed their entire satisfaction at the result of the deliberations of Teschen, and that it is in this sense that the communications which have been addressed by the two Cabinets to their diplomatic agents, have been drawn up.

OPENING OF THE IMPERIAL PETROPOLIS RAILWAY.

On the 29th of August, 1852, the Emperor of Brazil cut the first turf of the first railway in his dominions; this interesting event was illustrated in our Journal of Nov 6 following, and we have now to record the completion of the work then begun. This, however, is but a portion of the contemplated scheme, and extends from the port of Maná, at the head of the bay of Rio de Janeiro, to the base of the mountain range which runs parallel with the coast line: the continuation of the line to the river Parnahyba, and ultimately to the navigable river San Francisco, is the great undertaking on which the hopes of the country are fixed.

The inaugural section of this first section of the great future railway took place on the 30th of April, and was marked by all the ceremonials which its importance deserved

The progressive character of the Brazilians, and their appreciation of all material improvements, were strongly evinced on this occasion: and, now that they have tested for themselves the benefits of railway locomotion, they build with fervour the means which promise the opening up of those boundless and fertile tracts of their country which have remained up to this time absolutely profitless.

At an early hour steam-boats and felucks, freighted with curious and eager passengers, left the city of Rio, anxious to reach Maná before the arrival of the Emperor and Court.

At the appointed time the Royal steamer approached the pier; rockets announced the landing of their Imperial Majesties, banners of every nation waved in the breeze, and the loud welcome of human voices was mingled with military music. Two long lines of the principal personages of the realm were formed on the pier, eager to show their homage by kissing the hands of their Majesties as they passed

Their Imperial Majesties were received by the Authorities of the Railway, and conducted to the rooms prepared for their reception. One of the iron station houses had been fitted with galleries for the accommodation of spectators, and spaces in the centre were appropriated to the thrones of the Emperor and Empress, the chapel and altar of the Bishop, and the seats of the Ministers and Diplomatic Corps.

When the illustrious visitors had taken their seats, the ceremony of the benediction of the locomotives was performed by the Bishop and his Clergy, accompanied by solemn and appropriate chants.

The locomotives, which had been in waiting in the station, were then dispatched; one as a pilot, in charge of Mr. E. B. Webb, the resident

SHIPPING THE MEDITERRANEAN ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH CABLE, AT MORDEN WHARF, EAST GREENWICH.—(SEE NEXT PAGE)

engineer; and another, driven by Mr. William Bragge, the Engineer-in-Chief, brought up a train of carriages, one of which had been sumptuously fitted for the use of the Imperial Family and the Ministerial circle.

The Emperor and Empress were conducted to their seats by Senor Irenco Evangelista de Sonza, the originator and president of the Railway Company; and, the rest of the carriages being filled by the invited guests, the train departed, amidst the deafening "Vivas" of the astonished and enthusiastic crowd. A third engine followed, in charge of Mr. Charles Rolfe, who has constructed the electric telegraph on the Railway. Piquets of National Guards were stationed at regular intervals along the line, and every elevated position was crowded with spectators.

On the arrival of the train at Frazozo, it was welcomed by a discharge of rockets, and their Majesties and suite alighted and partook of slight refreshment; shortly afterwards returning in the same manner to Mauá, and travelling for some distance at the rate of thirty-five miles per hour.

The Emperor and Empress, having alighted from their carriage, expressed themselves in terms of great delight at the pleasure received from their novel journey.

The originator of the Railway then addressed his Majesty, and eloquently illustrated the great benefits which railway communication would ensure to the empire, adding:—

This Railway, Senhor, should not be allowed to remain within its present limits; and, if I may be allowed an encouragement from your Majesty, it will, assuredly, not cease to advance until its most spacious station be erected on the left bank of the Rio das Velhas. There will be accumulated, for conveyance to the great market of Rio, that enormous mass of produce which will be contributed to the public prosperity by the country, watered by that immense fluvial artery the Rio San Francisco. It will be then, Senhor, that the majesty of bay whose waters wash the shores of the capital of the empire, will have its spacious and sheltered anchorage crowded with ships innumerable. Then, Senhor, will Rio de Janeiro be a centre of commerce, industry, wealth, civilisation, and strength, having nothing to envy in any spot in the world.

His Majesty graciously answered—

The Directors of the Imperial Petropolis Railway and Steam Navigation Company may feel assured that no less than theirs is my pleasure in taking a part in the commencement of an enterprise which will so greatly encourage the commerce, arts, and industry of this empire.

The Emperor then conferred upon Senor Irenco the title of Baron of Mauá, in acknowledgment of the important services he had rendered to his native country.

Accompanied by the Baron of Mauá, and the Chief Engineer, Mr. Bragge, his Majesty then inspected the works on the line, and examined with much minuteness the construction of the locomotives

A division of the Station had been decorated and laid out for the banquet, of which the Emperor and suite, and the elite of the company, partook; whilst other trains were dispatched for the gratification of the spectators.

When we reflect that the works on this Railway were executed in the short space of twenty months, under the burning rays of a tropical sun, with labourers accustomed only to the most primitive modes of operation, and at a great distance from England, we cannot withhold our praise from those engaged in this enterprise. We sincerely congratulate the Brazilians upon the noble spirit they have displayed in the commencement of their great national undertaking.

Mr. Bragge has been honoured by the Emperor conferring upon him the title and decoration of Cavalier of the Order of the Rose.

THE BRITISH ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.

VERY few years since it would have been deemed almost an act of insanity, to have even contemplated a submarine telegraphic communication between England and the continent of Europe. The fact, however, great and important as it is, has been accomplished, and with astonishing success. In the month of September, 1851, the first Submarine Telegraph that between Dover and Calais, now hourly in use—was completed. We have since seen a telegraphic communication under the sea established between Orfordness and Ostend, between Orfordness and the Hague, between Portpatrick and Donaghadee; besides numerous short lines, such as from the Isle of Wight to Portsmouth, and across the Frith of Forth, &c. But by far the largest and most important of the Submarine Telegraphs in progress, is that of which we present an Illustration to-day. This great undertaking is intended to unite Europe with Africa (with, probably, a branch to Malta), and will, no doubt, ultimately extend to our Indian Empire, where, as a number of our readers are aware, a very extensive system of telegraph is in course of construction, under the superintendence of Dr. O'Shaughnessy. The Mediterranean Electric Telegraph cable will be in three portions: the first (about 90 miles) will be laid between the Gulf of Spezzia and Cape Corse—the most eastern point of the island of Corsica—where the submarine communication will be joined to the overland system of telegraph now being constructed throughout that island; the second portion of the cable (about ten or eleven miles) stretches across the Strait of Bonifacio, joining the Sardinian overland line near Cape Falconi; the third and longest portion will be laid from Cape Cagliari to the African coast, where it will join the French Algerian system, which was opened on the 16th January. This distance will require no less than 160 miles of submarine telegraph; and, when we consider that the whole will be in one continuous length —that its weight will exceed 1200 tons, and that it will have to be sunk in water which is, in many places, at least 600 fathoms in depth, we may well be amazed at the gigantic strides of science and enterprise in the present age. The first portion of the cable (about 110 miles) is, as we write, complete; and nearly all shipped on board the *Persian* steamer.

The contractors for the entire 250 miles of submarine, as well as the land lines, are Messrs Tupper and Carr, of Mansion-house-place, and Birmingham. The cable is being manufactured at the Wire Ropeworks of Messrs. W. Keeper and Co., Morden Wharf, East Greenwich. The insulated gutta percha wires are supplied by the Gutta Percha Company, of which Mr. Statham is the able and indefatigable director. The details of manufacture are as follows:—Round a hempen core well saturated with tar, pitch, oil, and tallow, in certain proportions, are laid or twisted, by a beautiful machine, six insulated copper wires, which, in fact, constitute the "telegraph." A worming of hemp is at the same time laid (also by machinery) between the interstices of the gutta percha, and over this again a layer of hemp of the best quality, prepared like the core, is wound, forming a total covering of considerable speed. The object of covering the gutta percha wires thus carefully and securely is to ensure their not being injured by the second and finishing process. The telegraph having been prepared as above, is covered with twelve iron wires laid by machinery into a concentric spiral form. The wires are of No. 1 Birmingham gauge, or about 5-16 of an inch in diameter, and so beautifully are they all brought together, that a section of the telegraph, when covered with the outer protection of wires, shows almost mathematical accuracy in all its details. The weight of the cable is about eight tons to the mile, and it is reckoned by the contractors that, working at present speed, the whole 250 miles, weighing about 2000 tons, will be completed and ready to lay down in the month of August. To show the speed with which things are done now-a-days, we may mention that on the 16th January last the grass was growing, where, since then, owing to the personal exertions of Mr. Glass, the managing partner of Messrs. Keeper and Co., a substantial brick factory has been erected; a tank, 75 feet in diameter, built, and in that tank has been coiled, and is now being shipped, 110 miles of telegraph cable, and fifty miles towards the second. The contract is with the Mediterranean Telegraph Company, of which Mr. John W. Brett, the eminent telegraph engineer, is the pioneer, indeed, of submarine communication—is the gérant and concessionaire from the French and Sardinian Governments.

To inaugurate the completion of the first portion was the object of the assemblage on Wednesday week, which was graced by the presence of the leading men of science in London at the rest mentioned, the Prussian Ambassador, Lord Westcote, Lord Radstock, Mr. Brown, Mr. Laing, M.P., Professors Faraday, Wheatstone, Miller, Grove, the Foreign Commissioners of the Exhibition, and a numerous party. After inspecting the works, machinery, &c., and firing guns through the cable, passing messages, and other interesting experiments, the party adjourned to the Crown and Sceptre, where an elegant déjeuner wound up the day to the satisfaction and gratification of all the visitors.

On Wednesday last the screw-steamer *Persian* sailed from Greenwich with the electric cables, for uniting Piedmont and Corsica, and Corsica and Sardinia; and the new screw-steamer *Athenian*, of 1350 tons, is engaged to take out the remaining great cable for uniting Sardinia and Africa. The cost of the shipping the cables has become a serious item in consequence of the War in the East—the *Athenian* being engaged at a sum exceeding £1000 per week, for the hire of the vessel alone; and the expenses of the *Persian*, and labour only, in shipping the present cable, have, in about a fortnight, exceeded £2000.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

CHESSMUS. Problem No. 536 is perfectly correct. Your last shall be examined. Contributors of Games, Problems, &c., should always send their names and addresses.

AMATEUR.—The *Chess-player's Chronicle* is published on the 1st of every month by Kent and Co., 58, Paternoster-row.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 537, by Chirurgus, J. M. of Sherburn, are correct.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 538, by Gregory, M. P., Sandro, P. T. W., Argus, Box and Cox, J. E. R., Stuttgardt, Chirurgus, are correct.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 539, by Hopso, R. W. B., El sennes, J. P., Box and Cox, M. P., Phil p, True Blue, Chirurgus, T. T., of Oxford, J. G. B., Jack of Shrewsbury, are correct.

SOLUTIONS OF ENIGMAS, by J. P., M. P., Dux, C. C., Ernest, Philip, S. S. T., Omega, D. D., True Blue, Jack of Shrewsbury, are correct. All others are wrong

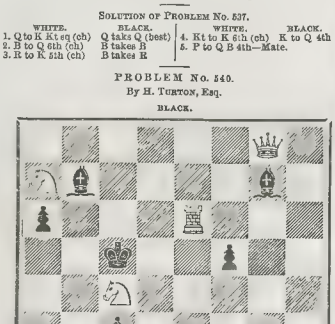
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 537.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. Q to K 8th (ch)	Q takes Q (best)	4. Kt to K 6th (ch)	K to Q 4th
2. B to Q 6th (ch)	B takes B	5. P to Q B 4th—Mate.	
3. R to K 5th (ch)	B takes R		

PROBLEM No. 540.

By H. TURTON, Esq.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play first, and mate in three moves.

CHESS IN FRANCE.

Fine Game between Messrs. SZEN and BUDZINSKI.

(*King's Bishop's Gambit*)

WHITE (Mr. S.)	BLACK (Mr. B.)	WHITE (Mr. S.)	BLACK (Mr. B.)
1. P. to K 4th	P to K 4th	29. Q R P tks R (ch)	P takes P
2. P to K B 4th	P takes P	30. Q R to Q B sq (ch)	K to Q 2nd
3. B to Q B 4th	P to K B 4th	31. P takes P	Kt to Q 4th
4. Kt to B sq	P to K Kt 4th	32. R to Q 2nd	B to Q 8th
5. Kt to Q B 3rd	P to Q 3rd	33. K R to K B sq	R to K sq (ch)
6. P to Q 4th	B to K Kt 2nd	34. K to Q 3rd	B to K B 3rd
7. Kt to K B 3rd	Q to K R 4th	35. P to K Kt 3rd	R to Q sq
8. P to K R 4th	P to K R 3rd	36. R to Q B 2nd	B to K 4th
9. P to K 6th	P to K R 4th	37. K R to K B 3rd	B to Q 3rd
10. K Kt to K sq	P takes P	38. K to Q Kt 3rd	R to K Kt sq
11. Q Kt to Q 6th	K to Q sq	39. Q R to Q B 2th (d)	B takes R
12. P takes P	Q B to Q 2nd		
13. P to K 6th (e)	P takes P	40. P takes B (e)	R to K Kt 5th
14. Q Kt tks K B P	Q to K B 4th	41. P to Q R 5th	K to Q B sq
15. B takes K P	Q to Q Kt 4th (ch)	42. P to Q B 6th	K to Q Kt sq
16. P to Q B 4th	Q to K 4th	43. R to Q 3rd	K to Q Kt 3rd
17. Q takes K Kt P	R to Q B sq	44. B takes Kt	P takes B
18. K takes B (ch)	Q takes B	45. R to Q 6th (f)	R tks K Kt P (ch)
19. K Kt to K B 3rd	P to K R 4th (b)	46. K to Q B 2nd	K to Q B 2nd
20. Q tks Kt (ch) (c)	K takes Q	47. R takes K P	R to K Kt 8th
21. Kt takes K R	R to K B sq (ch)	48. K to Q 3rd	R to Q Kt 8th
22. P to K 7th	R takes Kt	49. K to Q B 3rd	R to Q Kt 8th
23. Kt takes K B P	R to K B 3rd	50. K to K 5th	K to K B 3rd
24. K to K 2nd	R takes Kt	51. P to R 5th	K to K 3rd
25. B to K 3rd	Kt to K B 3rd	52. K to Q B 2nd	R to Q Kt 8th
26. Q R to Q sq (ch)	K to Q B 3rd	53. K to Q B 3rd	R to Q Kt 6th
27. P to Q Kt 5th	P to Q R 3rd	54. R to Q B 5th (g)	P takes R
28. P to Q R 4th	P to Q Kt 4th	55. P to Q B 7th	Black surrendered.

(a) White plays all this attack extremely well.

(b) He has an better move to play. If he play the Queen to K B 3rd, or K 2nd, to guard his Bishop, the Q Kt attacks her with terrible effect.

(c) A good move, but we believe that Q to K 3rd would have been still better.

(d) Well played

(e) No man knows the value of two such Pawns as these, or the way to play them to most advantage, better than Mr. Szen.

(f) If *sacrifice* as this move looks at first sight, it will be found to be the most expeditious mode of terminating the struggle.

(g) White's concluding moves are very clever, and remind one of some of Mr. Szen's play in his palmiest time.

CONSULTATION GAME.

Mr. LÖWENTHAL plays against the Rev. T. GORDON (Gamma) and Mr. BRIEN.

(*Allgaier Gambit*).

WHITE (Mr. L.)	BLACK (Allies.)	WHITE (Mr. L.)	BLACK (Allies.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	24. P to Q 6th	R to K B sq
2. P to K B 4th	P takes P	25. R takes P	Kt to Q B 7th (g)
3. Kt to K B 3rd	P to K Kt 4th	26. R takes B	Kt to K 6th
4. P to K R 4th	P to K Kt 5th	27. R to K 2nd	P to K Kt 4th
5. Kt to K 4th	P to K R 4th	28. R to Q sq	R to K 7th
6. B to Q B 4th	K R to Kt 2nd	29. R to K sq	R takes K Kt P
7. P to Q 4th	P to Q 3rd		(ch)
8. Kt takes K B P	R takes Kt	30. K to R sq	R to K R 7th (ch)
9. B takes P (ch)	K takes B	31. K to Kt sq	Kt to K 6th
10. B takes P	Kt to Q B 3rd (a)	32. R to K 2nd	Kt to K B 7th
11. Q to her 2nd	P to Q 4th	33. P to Q 7th	P to K R 6th
12. Castles	P to his Kt 3rd	34. Kt to Q sq (h)	R to K R 8th (ch)
13. B to K Kt 5th	B to K 2nd	35. K to K 2nd	R takes Kt
14. Q to R B 4th	B takes B	36. P to K 8th	P to K R 6th (ch)
15. Q to K B 7th (ch)	K to K R 3rd	37. K takes Kt P	R to K Kt 8th
16. P takes B (ch)	Q takes P		(ch)
17. Kt to Q B 3rd. (b)	Q to K Kt 2nd	38. K to B 4th (i)	P to K R 7th
18. Q takes Q P	Kt to Q Kt 5th	39. P to Q 7th	P to K R 8th
	(c)		(becom. a Q)
19. Q to her 4th (d)	Kt takes Q B P	40. P to Q 8th (be-	R to K Kt 6th
20. R to K B 5th	Kt takes Q R	coming a Q)	(ch)
21. R takes Kt (e)	B to K 3rd (f)	41. K to B 5th	Q to K B 8th (ch)
22. R takes Q	R takes Q	42. K to his 6th	R to K Kt 3rd
23. R to K 7th	B to Q B 5th	43. K to Q 7th	(ch)
	And the Allies give mate in three moves.		

(a) Some of the moves in this defence display a want of book knowledge.

(b) The full effects of this move were evidently not seen by the Allies. Mr. Löwenthal has now an excellent game, and his opponents are proportionately hampered.

(c) A desperate manœuvre, adopted, amongst other reasons, with the view of tempting White to save his Queen's Pawn.

(d) It was subsequently suggested by the Allies that, had Mr. Löwenthal's Queen retreated to her Kt third, the game would have been won by White, if they had ventured to take the Queen's Pawn, for instance,

19. Q to her Kt third	Q takes P (ch)
20. K to Kt sq	

And however the Black bring out their pieces, or prevent the hostile Queen's Rook from [illegible]

[illegible] the Q to Q Kt 3rd, &c.

[illegible] of the Queen's Pawn by the Black, when they moved their Knight to his 5th.

(f) The move as now given results in a very fine and interesting end game.

(g) Nothing would be gained by the advance of the Queen's Pawn, e. g.

24. P to Q 7th	P to K R 6th
25. R takes Kt (best)	R takes R

(h) Had he taken the Knight, the following train of play might have arisen—

26. K takes R	P to K R 7th
27. P to Q 7th	P to K R 8th (becoming a Queen)
28. P to Q 8th (becoming a Queen)	R to K R 7th (ch)

* 41. K to Q 3rd R to K R 6th (ch) 42. K to Q 2nd Q takes P (ch)

And wins

(i) And Black gives Mate in five moves.

41. K to his 3rd (best)	Q takes P (ch)
42. K to Q 2nd (or 4)	Q takes P (ch)
43. K to his 3rd	Q to her B 8th (ch)
	Winning easily.

If, at the 42nd move in the above variations, White moves his K to B 2nd, he is mated on the move; and if to B 3rd, mate comes in three moves.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC

The meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science is fixed for Wednesday, Sept. 20, at Liverpool, under the presidency of Lord Harrowby.

Last year the importation of tallow amounted to 1,175,754 cwt.; of which 515 901 came from Russia.

In five very short streets in Greenock, containing 336 shops of all kinds, 95 are occupied by publicans.

According to the American journals, the emigration of slaveholders to Nebraska was very extensive.

Of the total amount subscribed for the establishment of the public park in Macclesfield, the working-classes have contributed in pence one-fourth as much as the Corporation and Government together.

A magnificent album was presented to the Prince and Princess of Prussia on the anniversary of their marriage, by the Rhenish towns. It contains eighty water-colour drawings by the first German artists, and is estimated in value at 15,000 thalers (nearly £2000).

The scarcity of fruit is universally complained of this season, as the late and severe frosts have had the effect of almost annihilating all kinds of it. It is only where the greatest care has been taken that a stock of fruit has been preserved.

A letter from Hong-Kong announces that the Russian Admiral Fanunline, who had been charged with a secret mission to Japan, has been wrecked in his vessel on the coast of Sakalf.

Mrs. Thomas, formerly of Lyndhurst, Hants, is digging for coal about five miles from Geelong; she has dug 300 feet deep, and expended £3000. She has come across several seams of coal, but not thick enough to pay for working. She has been offered £23,000 for her coal-pit, which she has refused, as she is in expectation of coming across a seam that will realise a handsome fortune

The Chief Justice (Monaghan) of the Common Pleas has been appointed a member of the Senate of the Queen's University, in place of the Master of the Rolls, resigned.

MM. Jerome Bonaparte, father and son, have arrived at Havre from America. They are the son and grandson of Prince Jerome Bonaparte by his marriage with Miss Paterson, which marriage, it will be remembered, was annulled by the Emperor Napoleon.

There is a scheme getting up, "A week in the Baltic for £8." A project for a monster pleasure train through Germany has been frustrated by the indisposition of the German railway directors to lower their fares.

Several of the oldest drivers on the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway are leaving their situations, and going to India. The inducement is the high rate of wages offered.

Letters from Texas state the Indians continue to massacre brave lers without mercy. A company of eight Mexican rope dancers and six Indian harp players, travelling from St. Antonio to Laredo, lately fell victims to a party of those savages.

The imports of flax of the different foreign States into the United Kingdom, during 1853, amount to 94,163 tons, 16 cwt., and at the exorbitant price of £110 per ton—to which the average price of foreign flax has already risen—shows a sum of £10 358,007, which has been paid in cash for foreign flax fibre last year.

Alexandre Dumas' luxurious fancy villa at St. Germains, almost as well known as his favourite work, after which it was named, "Monte Christo," has been sold for 31,000 francs. It cost him 400,000.

A great quantity of grass has already been cut in various parts of Devonshire and other western counties; and the harvest, on the whole, is likely to be good.

M. Kossuth has accepted an invitation to attend a public meeting to be held at the Royal Amphitheatre, Liverpool, in about three weeks.

The King of the Two Sicilies has given his consent to the formation of a Joint-stock company, for the erection of a Crystal Palace at Naples. It is intended for a winter garden.

The remarkable state of tranquillity which at present prevails in Tipperary may be gleaned from the fact that there are only three persons in Clonmel gaol for trial at the approaching assizes.

A memorial is in course of signature in Hull, praying that, to prevent the enrichment of foreign neutral shipping, by permitting it to carry on trade between this country and Russia, "Every outlet for Russian commerce be immediately closed, and the supply of money to that country prevented as far as possible."

A Russian schooner-rigged barque, the *Ernest Merck*, which recently arrived in Hull under false colours, has been seized by the principal officers of the revenue guard. The vessel was built about fifteen months ago, and her value, including the cargo, is about £7000.

The *Moniteur de la Flotte* states that the Minister of Marine has decided that two naval engineers shall proceed to England, to visit the establishments especially concerned with the construction of steam-engines, in order to see what improvements may be introduced into that branch of manufacture in France.

The Commander of Sveaborg has been dismissed and sent to prison. He had not only stolen the copper roof of the fortress, but also guns and ammunition. Instead of iron balls, he had heaped together wooden balls painted black. He destroyed two of the bastions, and planted orchards on them. The Czar, on a visit to Sveaborg, discovered his peculations.

John Holland and James Everett, of Sheffield, the former favourably known in the literary annals of that town, are engaged upon a memoir of the late James Montgomery.

A great musical festival, in commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the Society for the Advancement of Music in Holland, will be held at Rotterdam, in the second week of July. 800 performers are engaged.

M. Victor Hugo is said to have been offered £5000 sterling for a new philosophical novel just completed, entitled, "Les Misères."

The hay harvest is going on throughout the department of the Seine, and will, it is thought, be got in in excellent condition. The quantity is very great.

The Derbyshire gold-diggings, of which the Crown is the owner, promise to be worth looking after. The stuff analysed contains twenty-five ounces of silver per ton, and an ounce and a half of gold.

A religious sect, called the Jumpers, made their annual procession at Ashtenrash the other day. The number of the Jumpers is 8000; and, in their annual procession, no walking is allowed.

A new plant has lately been introduced into France, from China, the tubers of which, from their size and delicate flavour, are likely to serve as an excellent substitute for the potato.

The Emperor of Austria, in order to give an agreeable surprise to the young Empress during her late visit to Ploschkowitz, had a room in that chateau fitted up precisely in the manner which she occupied at Possenhofen; and her Majesty even found on a table some fancy work which she had left unfinished when she quitted her paternal residence.

A severe shock of earthquake was felt at Cosenza (Naples) on the 29th ult. The motion was both undulatory and subsultory, and lasted three seconds.

Twenty thousand peasants, with their scythes, have been ordered to the province of Bessarabia, by Count Wassiliankoff, the Governor of that province, in order to assist there in making hay, as the inhabitants of those districts are otherwise employed by the Czar.

The Archduke Leopold Salvator, of Piacenza, charged to conduct the prosecution of the persons accused of having been concerned in the assassination of the Duke, was mortally wounded by three stabs of a poniard on the 16th inst.

The Lord Provost St. George's Hall, it is said, will be opened for musical purposes in the course of the autumn, and Sir Henry Bishop is to be the conductor on the occasion. It is rumoured that her Majesty will be present.

Don Genaro Perez de Villaamil, one of the most distinguished painters in Spain, died a few days ago at Madrid, aged forty-seven.

The Lisbon Board of Health has declared all vessels from England and Scotland free from quarantine, but Irish ports are still kept under interdict.

During last year the Jewish Emigration Loan Society assisted 130 poor Jews to emigrate, by advancing part of their passage money and outfit.

The Lords Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury have authorised a fixed scale of remuneration to the officers and clerks in that department, for attendance beyond the official hours.

A letter from Hong-Kong states that the Japanese Government has agreed to give the Americans two ports in Japan, and a coal depôt.

Mr. Buchanan, the chief emigration agent at Quebec, in a recent letter, says:—"Labour and service here are not to be had. I could employ 5000 men, at a dollar a day. Mechanics are also much wanted—wages, from one to two dollars per day."

The Town-council of Newcastle, on the motion of Sir John Fife, have adopted a petition to the Home-office, praying for the establishment of a separate bishopric of Northumberland; to include that county and the town of Newcastle, and having its seat in the latter; and to be supported by a portion of the present large revenue of the see of Durham.

The Board of Ordnance, have purchased, on the part of the Government, a large number, amounting to upwards of 20,0, of revolving pistols, from Colonel Colt, for the use of the public service.

NEW POSTAL REGULATIONS FOR THE ARMY AND NAVY.

The following are the Regulations under which the Correspondence for her Majesty's Forces in the Baltic, in the White Sea, and in Turkey and the Black Sea, is at present forwarded :—

Mails for the Baltic fleet are made up in London every Tuesday evening, and are forwarded, through Belgium, to Dantzic, where they arrive on Friday. Orders have been given that a steam-vessel shall be detached from the fleet, and sent to Dantzic weekly, to receive the mail from England, and to bring to that port the return mails for England, which, on arrival, are dispatched to this country through Belgium.

An officer's letter, not exceeding half an ounce in weight, sent by this route, is liable to a postage (British and foreign combined) of 8d. A seaman's or soldier's letter, not exceeding half an ounce in weight, forwarded by this route, is charged with a combined British and foreign postage of 5d. Upon both classes of letters the postage must be paid in advance.

Newspapers cannot be forwarded by the route of Dantzic, because, according to the arrangements with the Prussian Government, the Prussian postage upon *newspapers* cannot be collected in this country. If, therefore, newspapers were sent by this route, they would be detained at Dantzic, until the postage due upon them to the Prussian post-office was paid.

The above is the speediest and most direct communication with the Baltic fleet; but there are other occasions, by means of Queen's ships or transports, when letters and newspapers can be forwarded. Mails are made up to be dispatched by every vessel of war proceeding from England to the fleet, and the postage by such ships is as follows: For an officer's letter, not exceeding half an ounce, 6d.; for a seaman's or soldier's letter, not exceeding half an ounce, 1d.

Newspapers are forwarded by vessels of war, or transports, free of postage.

Letters, &c., for the Baltic fleet, should be addressed with the name of the ship for which they are destined, and the fleet to which that ship belongs, without mentioning any port or town, thus :—

"To ——
H.M. Ship ——
Baltic Fleet."

Mails for the Army in Turkey, and for the fleet in the Black Sea, are made up in London six times in each month (viz., the evenings of the 3rd, 8th, 14th, 18th, 23rd, and 28th or (when the month has 31 days) the 29th). These mails are forwarded, through France, to Marseilles, and are thence conveyed to Constantinople by the French mail-packets in the Mediterranean. By the favour of the French Government, no higher charge is made for the conveyance of the letters of British soldiers and sailors than that which is levied on the correspondence of the French naval and military forces. A letter, therefore, under a quarter of an ounce in weight, whether to or from an officer, a soldier, or a seaman, is liable only to a combined British and Foreign rate of 3d. If the letter weighs a quarter of an ounce, and is under half an ounce, the charge is 6d.; if it exceed half an ounce, and does not exceed one ounce, the charge is 1s.; and so on for heavier letters. The postage upon newspapers is 1*d*. each. The postage both upon letters and newspapers must be paid in advance.

The above is the speediest and most direct communication with the fleet in the Black Sea, and with her Majesty's forces in Turkey; but the letters of soldiers and seamen serving in Turkey and the Black Sea may also be forwarded to Malta, *viâ* Southampton, twice a month—*viz.*, on the mornings of the 4th and 20th—for the sum of one penny, under the usual regulations applicable to such letters. From Malta they are sent to their destination as opportunities offer, by a ship of war or other vessel in the service of her Majesty, without any further charge.

At the same rate of one penny, letters may also be forwarded by any vessel of war, or hired transport, proceeding from England to Turkey. By these opportunities, newspapers are transmitted for a postage of one penny each, which must be paid in advance.

Letters, &c., for the army in Turkey should be addressed to the regiment to which the officer or soldier belongs, with the addition of the words, "Army in Turkey," but without any further local address.

Letters, &c., for the fleet in the Black Sea, should be addressed with the name of the ship for which they are destined, and the fleet to which that ship belongs, without mentioning any port or town, thus—

"To ——
H.M. Ship ——
Black Sea Fleet.

Mails for the British squadron in the White Sea are forwarded from Hull every Friday by private steamers proceeding to Christiania, whence they will be dispatched by the mail-packets of the Norwegian Government.

An officer's letter, not exceeding half an ounce in weight, sent by this route, is liable to a postage (British and Foreign combined) of 1s. A seaman's letter, forwarded by this route, not exceeding half an ounce in weight, is liable to a postage (British and Foreign combined) of 9d. Upon both classes of letters the postage must be paid in advance.

The above is the speediest and most direct communication with the White Sea squadron; and all letters upon which the requisite amount of postage has been prepaid will be so forwarded, unless otherwise addressed.

Letters for the squadron will also be forwarded, should opportunities offer, by any ships of war, or vessels in her Majesty's service, proceeding to the White Sea, and upon letters so transmitted, the postage, which must be prepaid, will be—For officers' letters, 6d. the half ounce, according to the scale for charging inland letters. For seamen's letters, 1d. when sent under the usual regulations.

By ships of war, or vessels in her Majesty's service, newspapers are transmitted free of postage.

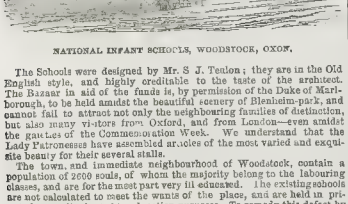
Letters, &c., for the White Sea Squadron, should be addressed thus :—

"To ——
H. M. Ship ——,
White Sea."

General Post-Office, June, 1854.

WOODSTOCK NATIONAL SCHOOLS BAZAAR, IN BLENHEIM PARK.

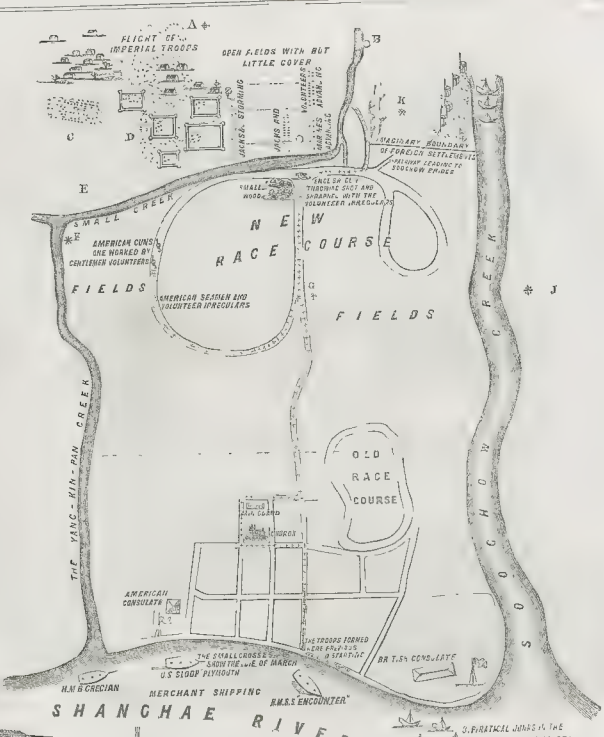
The accompanying Vignette represents the National Schools now erecting at Woodstock, in behalf of which a Bazaar will be held on Monday and Tuesday next, 26th and 27th inst., in the Park at Blenheim, under the patronage of the Marchioness of Blandford, Lady Churchill, the Countess of Abingdon, &c.



NATIONAL INFANT SCHOOLS, WOODSTOCK, OXON.

The Schools were designed by Mr. S. J. Teulon; they are in the Old English style, and highly creditable to the taste of the architect. The Bazaar in aid of the funds is, by permission of the Duke of Marlborough, to be held amidst the beautiful scenery of Blenheim-park, and cannot fail to attract not only the neighbouring families of distinction, but also many visitors from Oxford, and from London—even amidst the gaieties of the Commemoration Week. We understand that the Lady Patronesses have assembled articles of the most varied and exquisite beauty for their several stalls.

The town and immediate neighbourhood of Woodstock, contain a population of 2600 souls, of whom the majority belong to the labouring classes, and are for the most part very ill educated. The existing schools are not calculated to meet the wants of the place, and are held in private houses ill-adapted to education purposes. To remedy this defect by providing National Schools in connection with the Church of England, three several schools, for boys, girls, and infants, are now erecting, the estimated cost of which will be about £1000. Ground for the site, and all the stone and slating requisite for the work, have been given by the Duke of Marlborough. Liberal contributions have been promised by all the principal inhabitants of the town, and by some of the clergy and gentry in the neighbourhood; and the usual assistance will be granted by the Committee of Council on Education. Notwithstanding these aids and appliances, a considerable amount is still required to complete the sum necessary for the construction of the buildings; and, to provide this, the ladies interested in Woodstock and the vicinity will hold this Bazaar, and earnestly request the patronage and assistance of all who feel the importance of providing education for the labouring-classes, on the principles of the Church of England.



A Shows position of Gentlemen Volunteers under cover of cottages, firing on Imperialists whenever they attempt to rally.
B Shows position of Volunteers behind graves when Junks opened fire.
C, Advance of Rebels from City to plunder Camps, but which were set fire to as soon as taken.
D, Chinese intrenched camps, containing about 4000 men, with strong walls of turf and mud.
E, Old shrubbing ground of Rebels and Imperialists. High grasses in all directions.
F Shows the position to which the Americans advanced to storm, and where all the casualties among them occurred.
G, This was the point of halt, where the English and American troops separated to enable them to attack from two points.
J. Advance of 300 Imperialists, who were kept at bay by our field-piece. Rear-guard not mounted under its protection.
K Shows position of Rear-guard (six Volunteers and six Marines), firing from behind high grave-mound, to prevent any advance from Creek.

*** The various roads and the race-courses have been made by foreigners. The Chinese roads are mere pathways, not more than three or four feet wide. The Chinese encampments were shelled for about half an hour, and were then taken by the advance of the British southward, and the advance of the Americans westward. It was during this advance that all the casualties occurred: three killed; two dangerously, and six or eight less so, wounded.

SHANGHAE AND ITS VICINITY, SHOWING THE RELATIVE POSITIONS OF THE FORCES (AND PLACES), ON APRIL 4, 1854.

SHANGHAE.

STORMING OF THE ENTRENCHED IMPERIALIST CAMPS BY THE BRITISH AND AMERICANS.

We quote the following intelligence from the *North China Herald*, just received, with the accompanying plan of the operations :—

"In consequence of the attack made by the Imperialists, upon the foreign settlement, on the 3rd of April, the evacuation of all the camps adjoining the Riding Course, was demanded by her Majesty's Consul on the 4th. The representatives of France and America agreed with her Majesty's Consul, as to the absolute necessity, with a view to the safety of the foreign community, of enforcing this demand. Accordingly, the Imperialist authorities were informed, that, failing the abandonment of the camps by four p.m., the naval forces of Great Britain and the United States would proceed to occupy them by force of arms.

"At half-past two p.m. the men were landed from her Majesty's ships *Encounter* and *Grecian*, and from the American sloop *Plymouth*. They were drawn up in front of the church, until a few minutes before three o'clock, when, no pacific communication having been received, the columns moved forward, accompanied by the Shanghae Volunteers, to take up their positions. A halt was made half way up the riding course, while the officers went forward to reconnoitre. On their return, the attack was given to advance. The Americans, under Captain Kelly, accompanied by Mr. Murphy, United States Consul, and several volunteers, took the left branch of the ground, with three guns. The British, under Captains O'Callaghan and Keane, accompanied by her Majesty's Consul and Mr. Wade, who commanded the volunteers, took the right, with one field-piece. There was a further halt at the end of the course, during which an evasive communication was received from the Taoutae. No signs of moving being apparent in the camps, and the Imperialists having already opened fire upon the American column, the order to engage was given. Shells were thrown into the camps from the field-piece, under Lieutenant Montgomery, of the *Encounter*, with great precision and effect; while the main body of the British naval forces, in conjunction with the volunteers, moved on to occupy them. To effect this a *détour* had to be made, beyond the Riding-course, as the bridge which formerly led across the Yang-king-pang Creek, had been previously broken down.

"The creek was crossed at the wooden bridge, to the westward of Paddy Bird Grove. Six marines and six volunteers, were stationed at this point, to protect the rear of the attacking party. On crossing the bridge, the regular forces under Captains O'Callaghan and Keane, advanced to the south-eastward, while the volunteers under Mr. Wade, advanced to the south, so as to cover the flank of the main attack. The shelling had now begun to take effect, and numbers began to rush from the west side of the camps. As our men advanced upon the north front of the most northerly camp, numbers of soldiers were visible behind the embankment. On their nearer approach, and as they were concentrating upon a gateway leading into the camps, before the columns moved forward, accompanied by the Shanghae Volunteers, to take up their positions. A halt was made half way up the riding course, while the officers went forward to reconnoitre. On their return, the attack was given to advance. The Americans, under Captain Kelly, order

SKETCHES FROM THE SEAT OF WAR.

BOLEIA, NEAR GALLIPOLI.—SKETCHED BY AN OFFICER OF THE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

Riza Pacha, Marshal St. Arnaud, and Lord Raglan come on shore in the afternoon, inspected the fortifications, &c., and about midnight started for Schumla, in company with Omer Pacha, as they were anxious to see the country and the Turkish troops.

GALLIPOLI.

THE wretchedness and desertion of the villages about Gallipoli, and the reckless look which characterises them, are exemplified in Boleia. This village crowns with ruin a parcel of dry, dusty ravines, the bottoms of which constitute its streets. In these, besides the rubbish of ages never removed to the fields, lies a whole museum of bones and vertebræ in most unwholesome disorder. When the buffalo draws its life to a close, it lies down among the stones by its owner's door, and dies; the ill-visaged cure watching on the ridge see it die, and very soon devour its remains. On every broken tree, chimney, or roof presides a stork. The accompanying Illustration of this desolate scene is from a Sketch by an Officer of the Expeditionary Force.

KURDISH TROOPS AT SCUTARI.

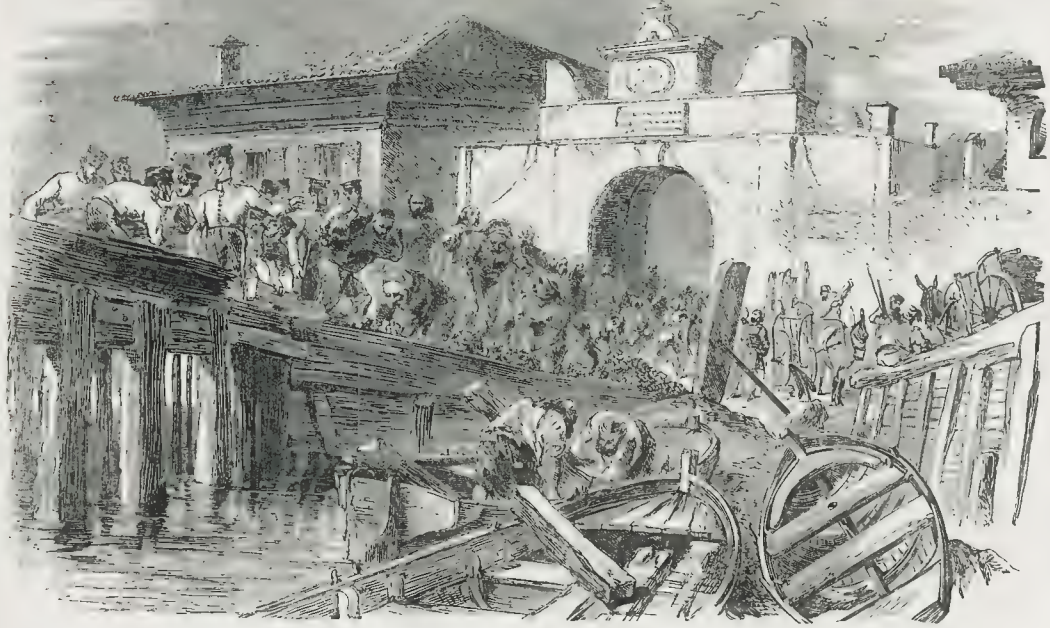
The accompanying cortége of Kurdish cavalry has been sketched by our Artist at Scutari, where they formed part of the escort of Kara Fatima, Queen or Prophetess, the new ally of the Sultan. Her company consists of 300 horsemen, whose costume and general appearance is very picturesque. Kara herself comes from Marash, a town of Kurdistan. The Kurds are a wandering tribe of Persia, whose courage, in the event of a general war in Asia, would render them a formidable ally. They effectually protect the frontier; but have themselves also become robbers, and frequently lay waste the neighbouring valleys and plains.

THE FRENCH FLEET AT KIEL.

Our Artist's Sketch represents the greater part of the French Baltic Fleet at Kiel, riding at anchor, opposite the beautiful establishment called Bellevue, belonging to a most charming watering-place, Dustern-brook, from which it is about one (English) mile distant.

The fleet consists of sixteen vessels, under the command of Vice-Admiral Parseval-Deschênes, viz.: eight line-of-battle ships, four frigates, and four steamers; they are, the line-of-battle ships, *L'Inflexible* (Admiral's ship) 90 guns; *L'Hercule*, 100 guns; *Le Trident*, 80 guns; *La Tage*, 100 guns; *Duguesclin* (flagship, Contre-Admiral Penaud), 90 guns; *Breslau*, 90 guns; *Jemappes*, 100 guns; *Duperré*, 80 guns. The frigates, *La Pourvoyeuse* (flagship), 52 guns; *Zénobie*, 52 guns; *Andromaque*, 60 guns: *La Virginie* 50 guns. The steamers are gone a little farther off, more into the harbour, and are lying close to the town of Kiel.

On Thursday, the 25th May (Ascension Day) immense crowds of people from all the neighbouring places, and particularly from Hamburg and Altona, went down to Kiel to see the fleet. There were several special trains that day from Altona, which, however, could not even accommodate all that wished to go; and on returning, about a thousand people were left behind at Kiel. All visitors were received on board the ships with great politeness, and very great attention was shown to the ladies.



THE SEA-PORT GATE, VARNA.—TURKISH SOLDIERS MOVING SHOT AND SHELL FOR TRANSPORT TO SCHUMLA.

SKETCHES FROM THE SEAT OF WAR.

MARSHAL ST. ARNAUD, LORD RAGLAN, AND OMER PACHA EMBARKING AT VARNA.—(SEE PAGE 597.)

KURDISH CAVALRY.

THE FRENCH FLEET AT KIEL.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE, AT SYDENHAM.

FETE AT THE PALACE.—Saturday was one of the most brilliant days that the season has yet produced. The Crystal Palace, owing to the inauguration dinner given by the Directors, and to the prestige which attaches to Saturday as the fashionable and exclusive day. Many of the Ministers, however, who had accepted invitations, were unavoidably compelled to be absent, in consequence of a Cabinet Council being held at the same hour. The entertainment took place in one of the large apartments on the ground floor, looking out upon the terrace; and during the morning one-half of the transept was railed off for the purpose of forming a promenade for the invited guests. The chief table was arranged in the form of a half-moon, the horns terminating at the terrace front. The other tables—thirteen in number, of unequal lengths—fill d up all the intermediate space; each of them being presided over by a director or shareholder alternately. The chair was taken, shortly after three o'clock, by Mr. Laing, the Chairman of the Directors. He was supported on his right by Count Lesseps, the French Commissioner; and on his left by the Prince of Carini, the Commissioner of the Italian States. The number of guests present was about 600, and amongst them were the Duchess of Montrose, the Earl and Countess of Howe, the Baron de Mornay, the Countess Luvradio, the Sicilian Minister, the Earl of Carlisle, Earl and Countess of Shaftesbury, the Lord Chief Justice, the Bishop of Oxford, Lord Robert Grosvenor, M.P., the Earl and Countess of Chichester, Earl of Hardwicke, Lord Stanley, M.P., Sir J Pakington, M.P., Lord Mahon, the Lord Mayor, the Duchess of Sutherland, the Duchess of Argyll, the Marquis of Granby, M.P., Mr. Liddell, M.P., the Princess Carini, Mdlle. Macedo, the Brazilian Minister, Dr. Wagen, Count Klingememann, the Earl and Countess of Mulgrave, Lady Donerailе, the Marchioness of Aylesbury, the Earl and Countess of Zetland, the Earl of Harrowby, Sir Robert Peel, and a number of foreign representatives, whose names were not ascertained. The entertainment was of the most sumptuous description, the tables being decorated with a profusion of rare exotics and emblematic devices. The Chairman gave in turn the health of the Queen, which was received with vociferous demonstrations of loyalty; the health of Prince Albert, to whom he referred as the originator of the Crystal Palace; and the healths of the rest of the Royal family.—The Chairman next gave "The Foreign Representatives," and, in the course of some observations, he paid a well-received compliment to France. Among the many beneficial influences of the Great Exhibition of 1851, which had originated the present undertaking, none was more important than the perpetuation of the humanising influences which had brought the representatives of all the nations of the earth in peace and goodwill together, and which had been exerted so conspicuously on that occasion. He looked upon that as one of the greatest triumphs of their modern civilisation. For many centuries the nations of the world had been kept asunder by a variety of hostile influences; but these were fast disappearing, through that facility of intercommunication given to us by the agencies of steam locomotion and the electric telegraph, as well as by that enlightened system of commercial legislation by which private industry was made free. After the Count Lesseps had replied to the compliment and, in the course of some observations, he paid a well-received compliment to France. Among the many beneficial influences of the Great Exhibition of 1851, which had originated the present undertaking, none was more important than the perpetuation of the humanising influences which had brought the representatives of all the nations of the earth in peace and goodwill together, and which had been exerted so conspicuously on that occasion. He looked upon that as one of the greatest triumphs of their modern civilisation. For many centuries the nations of the world had been kept asunder by a variety of hostile influences; but these were fast disappearing, through that facility of intercommunication given to us by the agencies of steam locomotion and the electric telegraph, as well as by that enlightened system of commercial legislation by which private industry was made free. After the Count Lesseps had replied to the compliment of the Chairman, the Earl of Carlisle, who was received with loud cheers, proposed, "Success to the Crystal Palace." "Success, then, to the Crystal Palace, partly on account of that liberal breadth which has distinguished the whole conception, principle, and design; for while, as we saw last week, crowned heads and their representatives, and universities and municipalities, the great, the learned, and the fair, crowded round its cradle and blessed its auspicious birth, there is not an obscure class of society, there is not a struggling son of toil, for whom it does not store up and throw open its treasures, whether for blameless recreation or wholesome instruction; and, while its contents may minister to the most refined taste and to the soundest knowledge, it seeks to provide for the common, the public, the universal enjoyment and improvement (Great cheering). Success to the Crystal Palace, since to those who, by their circumstances, to the Crystal Palace, since to those who, by their circumstances, to their means, or their duties, are confined to the narrower circuit of our own shores, it extends some, at least, of the pleasures and advantages which have been heretofore exclusively confined to the wealthy or the unoccupied (Hear, hear). I, myself, who now thus venture to address you, come here fresh with the most recent impressions of all that is most lovely in nature and most admirable in art. Yet, when I wander into the Greek, the Italian, or Byzantine Court above, I can almost feel that I am again gazing at the glittering cupolas of St. Sophia or St. Mark's, or upon those masterpieces of Phidias which still remain on their own immortal rock (Cheers). Yet, in those delicious climes the thought will too often obtrude itself which is contained in the expressive line of one of our own poets, that—

All, save the spirit of man, is divine—

(Hear, hear); but here, under our weeping skies and amid our murkier atmosphere, the spirit of man has been enabled to recall the foliage, the blossoms, and the odours of the tropics, and to retrace the unsurpassed forms of human genius. Success, again, to the Crystal Palace! because throughout its birth, its growth, and its maturity, it has been the work of private enterprise (Cheers). It is the wish of my heart that many a happy generation may there themselves beneath its gleaming roofs, all along its well-stored courts and suggestive galleries, or among its gay parterres and lordly terraces, and there feel the thrill of gratitude to that Creator who has implanted in their souls the sense of beauty, to learn lessons of that lovely reverence which offers up all the treasures of this world as an incense to the God of All" (Great cheering) There were 4333 five shilling visitors, and 7428 season-ticket holders; being a total of 11,761 admissions to the Building on Saturday

His Royal Highness Prince Albert, accompanied by the King of Portugal and his Royal Highness the Duke of Oporto, visited the Palace on Tuesday morning at ten o'clock. They were attended, during their survey of the Building and Park, by Mr. Fuller, Mr. Owen Jones, Mr. Waterhouse Hawkins, and other officers of the Company, and expressed much gratification at what they saw. The number of admissions for payment at the doors in the course of the day was 11,922, and of season-ticket holders 1338; making a total of 13,258. As an example of the success which thus far attends the exhibitors' department, we may state that during the past week the agent of the French Munich Company, which has taken space in the Mixed Fabric Court, sold 700 pounds of glass. A magnificent display of the manufactures of Sèvres, Gobelin, and Beauvais, contributed by the Emperor Napoleon, has been unpacked in the French Court. Among the objects thus liberally sent over are three splendid vases, and two exquisite specimens of painting on porcelain.

GUIDES TO THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

A series of volumes under this title have been published by Messrs. Bradbury and Evans, under the sanction of the Directors of the Crystal Palace; and are to be considered the official handbooks, or guides, to the beauties of that wonderful structure.

1. *A Guide to the Palace and Park.* By Samuel Phillips.

This volume affords a general view of the Palace and its adjuncts, leaving the details to the Handbooks devoted to their separate description. The summary, as might be expected from the position of the writer, is sufficiently rose-coloured; but the design is so stupendous, and its fulfilment within so short a time so wonderful, that we cannot be surprised at the enthusiasm of the language of its panegyrist, when the highest need of approbation is deserved even from the coldest outside critic. Speaking for ourselves, and not from motives for optimism which might be suspected having a source in private feeling, we are free to say that no eulogy which could be pronounced on this great work would seem to us beyond what it has justly earned. It is a marvellous monetary speculation, no doubt: but in the invention and collection of its attractions it does appear, that the love of lucre has not predominated over superior aims. On the contrary, pure taste, refinement, and science, the combining of educational elements and advanced instruction, something to promote the progress of the people and elevate all classes of the community, have entered so largely into the objects of the Directors, that we cannot help thinking the most prominent of their profits will consist in the good feelings and prosperity their labours are calculated to produce among millions of their fellow men. Having expressed this impartial opinion, to guard against any deductions that might be drawn as to our blindly enrolling ourselves in the corps of laudators, so naturally formed under the circumstances of this joint-stock pushession, we dismiss that superfluous portion of the case, and proceed to a brief notice of the leading characteristics of these performances.

Mr Phillips informs us that the Crystal Palace and its Grounds occupy two hundred acres, and that in the Gardens the same uniformity of parts is adhered to as in the Building itself—that is to say, the width of the walks, the width and length of the basins and fountains, the length of the terraces, the breadth of the steps, are all multiples and sub-multiples of the one primary number of eight. He appeals to a striking harmony being thus produced, without the spectator being aware of the cause. *Apropos* of this subject of dimensions—one of our best authorities stated to us on Saturday, in the Palace, that, without having made an exact calculation, he estimated the space in cubic feet to be nearly the same in the Hyde-park and Sydenham erections.

A history of the undertaking shows the enterprise, skill, and judgment of its projector—the originator of the idea being Mr. Leech, of the firm of Johnston, Farquhar, and Leech, solicitors, who communicated his idea to Mr. Francis Fuller (now Managing Director), which that gentleman—so exp rienced in the first Building, and so able to work the new plan to an eligible shape—having adopted, it was carried into effect in the spirited way the public has witnessed. England and the Continent were explored for objects to occupy the immense space, so soon to be covered with glass; and, with the exceptions of Rome (the Pope), Fedna, and Vienna abroad, and the church-gardens of Beverley Minster, at home, the missionaries were everywhere received with welcome, and permission given to make their casts and copies of remarkable objects. To afford a notion of the exertions made, at one time during the progress of the works there were as many as 6400 men employed by the Directors.

One of their chief difficulties has been to obtain the needful supply of water, the want of which—though it will be obtained in a few weeks—was the principal drawback on the spectacle of Saturday, the 10th inst. An Artesian well has been sunk at the foot of the hill, where water was found at the depth of 250 feet. It is now carried 870 feet from the surface; and the short space of time we have mentioned is stated to be sufficient to complete the operations, and secure water enough for all the novel displays intended by Sir J. Paxton and the re-creators (happily only in inanimate compositions of clay and plaster) of the extinct monsters which inhabited our planet long before man was made an inmate of it.

2. The Handbooks intermingle so much, that it is not easy to speak of them chronologically or distinctively. So we will class them as well as we can, on other grounds.

Messrs. M. Digby Wyatt and J. B. Waring are the authors of four, illustrative of the Fine Arts.

The Handbook to the Byzantine Court

may be taken as the model in construction, identical with all the rest. A Notice relates to the parties who executed the works, &c., and an Introduction gives the writer's opinions upon the value of the subject he has helped to embellish, or now describes; and in several instances, an interesting historical retrospect, as is the case with the volumes of Mr. Wyatt, who has evidently read and studied much in the way of his calling. Here he traces the Byzantine as the link between the Roman (another volume to be mentioned hereafter) and the Gothic; and panegyrizes, as it ought to be panegyrised, the Pointed Arch style, and all its accessories. The three eras of the Byzantine, as far as may be exhibited in the Palace, are well defined; but the second alone, viz., from Justinian, in the sixth, to the eleventh century, is dwelt upon; and its beauties, peculiarities, and widely-spread influences, are lucidly set forth. But we opine that the visitors to the Palace will be more interested in the Irish, Scottish, and Manx crosses, &c., to which Mr. Wyatt refers in this book, and represented in the Gallery—the entrance to which is a copy of the chancel arch of Tuam Cathedral, as many of the parts throughout the Palace are of other interesting architectural and antiquarian remains. Venice crosses hands as indigenous and very early school of art, and connect that period with the fierce Scandinavian invasions and conquests, which is at the present moment being more carefully investigated and developed by the Society of Northern Antiquaries at Copenhagen. Ireland, Scotland, and the Isle of Man, a close intercourse must have prevailed; and many Runic crosses and inscriptions in the last mentioned still bear testimony to the North men's visitations; yet they are less advanced, as work of art, than those centuries more ancient that remain in Ireland and the west of Scotland: they are about the eleventh century, when the Bishops of Man were Norwegians.

Handbook of the Mediæval Court.

One of the finest things here is a copy of an altar-frontal from Westminster Abbey—not long ago a show among the trumpery wax-works, for a sight of which the attendant visitors paid a small extra fee; but all the contents of the English division are particularly interesting, and justice is done to the multitude of subjects, however confined to brevity, by Mr. Wyatt. We felt this interest much increased by having so many specimens all collected together and brought within the scope of a single view. Antiquaries and artists will be greatly beholden to this Court; and even the average public will like it, till the time may come when, instructed here and elsewhere, by similar lessons on a comprehensive system, they will learn to judge, as well as love and admire, the true beauties of elder days. The foreign additions augment the pleasure; and, with the Effigies Gallery, as a study for costume, the whole of this part of the Palace is extremely appropriate, and the Guide is worthy of it.

Handbook to the Renaissance Court.

A *coup-d'œil* over the origin of this style, and notice of the most prominent writers upon it, leads to the catalogue description of the material. It has been the fashion of late years, like our recent pre-Raphaelism, in a desire to fall back upon nature, and ignore the conventionalities of the antique Roman. Great works were produced then; and, as Mr. Wyatt does not descend to the days of Louis Quatorze, we need not point out results in mixed conditions of the art. His Renaissance, and that exhibited, is of earlier date; and his description of the Courts, with the biographical notices of artists and subjects, is well done, and to the purpose. He alludes to the Elizabethan Court, where examples of this style are given from Holland house, and we may ourselves note a peculiarity belonging to this reign which is, we fancy, very little known. In flattery to the Virgin Queen, the nobles who built mansions during her long despotic sway, were wont to allow their Renaissance to adopt the form of the initial letter E, the three protuberances proceeding from the fronts; of which a striking instance is visible in Sir M. Wilson's seat at Charlton.

Handbook to the Italian Court.

Here the art returns more to the antique, and again, to a certain extent, supersedes nature. The English architects, however, flourish in power and originality; and we have to add to these, as Owen Jones, Wyatt, Vanbrugh, Chambers, Adam, and the rest. The Guide merits equal commendation to the three preceding.

3. *Handbook to the Courts of Modern Sculpture.* By Mrs. Jameson.

This also belongs to the Fine Arts, and the name of the writer is enough to ensure its being well done. The introductory essay is one of the most instructive of the series, and the criticisms in the best possible taste—kindly, but not misleading. The collection is as yet incomplete, but time will do what is wanted. In her remarks, Mrs. Jameson renders due tribute to the genius displayed by Gibson in his bas-reliefs; to Marshall, Bell, Lough, and other native artists, who have works in the Gallery, as well as to Thorwaldsen and other eminent foreigners. Her lessons on art, and its capabilities generally, are worth attentive consideration.

4. *The Portrait Gallery*, by S. Phillips,

Follows after the same manner: enumerates the portraits already placed, and compiles, well-written, the necessarily short notices of the artists, &c., from Biographical Dictionaries and referable authors. Criticisms upon living individuals, whose portraits appear, do not seem to have been called for; and are liable to controversy, as opinionative and out of place. Thousands may yet, and probably will be, added to this exhaustless Gallery.

5. Science demands her quota; but there are only two *brochures*—*Handbook to the Courts of Natural History*, by Dr. Latham and Professor E. Forbes; and *Geology and Inhabitants of the Ancient World*, by Professor Owen.

In the former, ethnology occupies seventy-nine out of ninety-two pages, so that zoology and botany are curtly disposed of. When the Garden, however, assumes its proper attractions, the Guide will be required for these attractive subjects. Meanwhile, Mr. Latham has ably described that contribution to science which is so much his own, and which, if

The noblest study of mankind is man,

ought to hold a foremost rank in any institution claiming to be educational. What though the are but figures. No lettered descriptions could afford us such information respecting the various races of mankind—Thibetans, Javanese, Dyaks, Negroes, Kotcoudes, Bushmen, Greenlanders, &c. The catalogue is a resumé, as much as is requisite, of the author's more important works, and is not unworthy of his reputation.

6. The second and last in this class, *Geology and Inhabitants of the Ancient World* will entice as many visitors as any of the other departments; and Professor Owen has given a nice little stimulant to the universal appetite for the wonderful. On Saturday last the huge gigantic restorations did little honour to the great science which had embodied them. They lay high and dry on gravel walks, and had no forests to eat up nor waters to wallow in. The chalk, the wealden, the oolite, the lias, and the new red sandstone, gave up their old and terrible forms in vain. Their place has yet to be made for them; but short as our English Cuvier's account is, it is clear and masterly.

7. With the single exception of the *Alhambra*, the rest of these publications rank under the name of Antiquities; and three of them are from the competent pen of Mr. George Scharf, jun. Before arriving at them, however, we have

The Assyrian Court, described by Mr. Layard—the foremost authority upon the subject of the antiquities here represented. The book is an applicable abridgment of his very popular works, to which almost the latest accounts from the locality of his noble exertions are added. Every arrival, we rejoice to say, is adding fresh materials, fresh treasures, in corroboration of the historical portions of the Bible. Mr. Fergusson, whose research and learned writings on Assyrian and Oriental architecture have thrown so much light upon the subjects, has, we observe, superintended the execution of the designs in the Courts devoted to Nineveh and its precious exhumations, and thus afforded another voucher for their authenticity.

The Egyptian Court. Described by Owen Jones.

The models in this Court are on a reduced scale, the magnitude of Egyptian monuments forbidding any realisation of size. With the aid of Mr. Samuel Sharp and Mr. Boncui, not only are they accurately and well displayed, but correctly and learnedly explained.

8. *The Greek Court.* By George Scharf, jun.

In the Greek Court great pains have been taken to be correct in the curves and mouldings, and to illustrate the peculiar features of Greek architecture. The Temple of Jupiter, at Ægina, in Argolis, is the order chosen; and, where the artist has been obliged to depart from known Greek arrangements, on account of there being no entire monument left for reproduction in exact simile, he has exercised, as it appears to us, much judgment in assimilating his component parts from various other sources, into such a general design as a Grecian architect might have been likely to adopt. Mr. Scharf, in his Guide, puts together concise and judicious observations on the Elgin marbles, and several ages of Greek art—viz., the age of Peisistratus, the Æginetan, Athenian, and Macedonian ages. The description of the mythic figures and sculptures, &c., are also very sufficient for the purpose.

9. *Apology for the Colouring of the Same.* By Owen Jones.

Mr. Owen Jones's "Apology" states and discusses the vexed question respecting the colouring and gilding of Greek temples and statues He maintains, not only that their white marble domes were ornamented with colour, but that they were entirely painted over, having a thin coating of stucco to stop the absorption of the colours by the stone. Their terra-cottas, he affirms, were similarly treated; and also Egyptian buildings and statues, the exemplars of their arts Upon this theory—in support of which he has adduced strong evidence, including historical notes, and chemical analyses of the colouring matter (picked off the objects) by Faraday—he has ventured to paint the Court, and even horses, in tolerably bright tints, though, he says, in a lower key than he believes the originals to have been painted.

10. *The Pompeian Court.* Described by G. Scharf.

This Court is one of the most interesting in the Building, and has altogether a beautiful effect. The ceilings and cornices, and other ornamented passages, possess infinite taste and elegance. We could have wished that the allegorical and characteristic figures had adhered more strictly to the antique, every departure from which is a step towards the commonplace or vulgarity. From Tacitus, Pliny, Gell, Bulwer, and the latest descriptions, Mr. Scarf has produced a pleasing and intelligent volume.

11. *The Roman Court*, by the Same, is ably sketched and interpreted.

12. *The Alhambra.* By Owen Jones.

Here Mr. Jones is perfectly at home. It is many years since his magnificent work on the "Alhambra" was published, and it was probably in consequence from that publication that the present variety was added to the Courts of the Crystal Palace. It is certainly not the least novel and interesting of the number. As its just encomium, we may quote a verse from an Arabian poem in honour of its Moorish builder:—

Look attentively at my elegance, thou wilt reap the benefit of a commentary on decoration.

Mr. Jones, in his introduction, lauds the Crystal Palace still higher as a source for cultivating the national taste; and says, "if the Art Collections are received by the public in the right spirit—not simply as material enjoyment for the eye, but as affording subjects for contemplation and study—the Exhibition of 1851 cannot fail to exercise a most important influence upon the arts of this country. It may become the commencement of a new era, in which public taste will be raised from its present low standard, and our age, perhaps, but sure steps, be prepared to rank with the most brilliant periods of the past."

So mote it be! The effort to render this service to mankind is, at least, worthy of every praise; and there cannot be a doubt that, from the contents of the Crystal Palace, a vast amount of information may be acquired, a great degree of taste be cultivated, and a thousand lessons of wisdom learnt. Within the last thirty years our Botanical and Zoological Gardens, and other useful institutions, have done much towards feeding and exercising the intelligence of the people; and it is a noble stride in the right direction to see a museum, a temple, a mighty and brilliant transparency like this created within a few short months, and so richly stored with treasures as almost to exhaust the imagination, and yet set so plainly before the sight, that he who runs may read the whole of the inculcable volume.

We have only to add, that the engravings and illustrations, profusely given in these sixteen Handbooks, are quite in unison with their textual merits.

UNITED LAW CLERKS' SOCIETY.—The twenty-second anniversary dinner of this association was held on Thursday evening, at the Freemasons' Tavern. Sir W. Page Wood was in the Chairman; and Chief Justice Knight Bruce, Justice Turner, Mr. Serjeant Shee, and several gentlemen connected with the Chancery Bar were present. The Report was read by the Secretary; and a very handsome subscription made for the funds of the Society. Several toasts in connection with the Law were given during the evening; and the vocal department, under the superintendence of Mr. George Genge, was ably assisted by Miss Poole, Mr. F. Frodsham, Mr. Kennedy, and Mr. Lawler) performed its duty with entire satisfaction.

M. CLAUDET'S DAGUERREOTYPE GALLERY.—The reception-room of this establishment has been rebuilt, in the Anglo-Saxon style, after drawings by Messrs. Banks and Barry. The interior is very appropriately decorated with fourteen medallion portraits of the inventors and improvers of photography, and of the philosophers and artists who discovered the principles which led to the invention of those two arts; amongst others Porta, who, about 1590, invented the camera obscura; Daguerre, the inventor, in 1839, of the photographic process on silver, called daguerreotype; Talbot, the inventor, in 1839, of the photographic process on paper, called talbotype; Wheatstone, the inventor, in 1838, of the stereoscope, an instrument elucidating the principle of binocular vision, by which two flat pictures of the same object can give the illusion of it singly in perfect relief. Newton, Wollaston, Dalton, and Arago, whose discoveries are too abstruse to need particular mention. Brewster, Leonardo da Vinci, the first alluded to the phenomenon of binocular vision; Scheele, who first pointed out the chemical properties of the chloride of silver, the principle of the daguerreotype image, by which colours can be applied, who also discovered a very ingenious process for etching, by chemical action, by daguerreotype plate; and Niepce de St. Victor, who has added to the process of photography on paper the mode of taking negatives on albumenised glass, and who has been the first to use temporarily the chloride of iodine to increase the camera obscura. His idea is a very good one, and has been well carried out.

THE STALE-QUO CHESS-BOARD.—In this invention a convenience long since desiderated by chess-players has been attained—viz., the peremptory and instantaneous fixing of the men, and the power of deferring the completion of the game. A simple, but most effectual, mechanical process secures these advantages. By pressing a pair of small buttons on the outer rim of the board, the pieces are secured firmly on whatever squares they may happen to be; while a counter pressure on the button in the inside as immediately releases them. The value of a chess-board of this character does not require to be pointed out. Students of the game—those who investigate the theory of openings, who try combinations, and who work out problems, with a view to elucidate and confirm principles—will perceive its utility at a glance; while players of a less critical class will not be uninterested to know that a board is now within their reach which will allow them to discontinue a game at will, and recur to it just as often as opportunity permits. The action of the *Stale Quo Chess-board* is quick and facile. It is, as far as we have had the means of testing, not liable to disarrangement, and does that completely which it undertakes to do It is, in short, an ingenious piece of mechanism, and reflects great credit upon the inventor and patentee, Mr. John Jaques, of Hatton-garden.

A PLEA FOR THE MERCHANT SERVICE.*

The condition of our merchant service is beginning to attract the attention, with a view to amelioration, which it has long stood in need of. The increasing demand for hands, occasioned by the recent impetus given to emigration, and to our colonial trade; and later still by the requirements of a state of war, in the face of an insufficient supply, has been attended with serious inconvenience and loss to our shipping interest; vessels being frequently detained in harbour for want of men to work them, or—awkward alternative—forced to put to sea with insufficient and unmanageable crews, the bulk of which, for the first week's voyage, have proved little better than so much live lumber. Fearful disasters, as in the cases of the *Tayleur*, the *Dalhousie*, and the *Europa*, have multiplied in consequence, to the dismay of shippers, passengers, and all who have occasion to cast their treasures upon the waters in such frail and reckless keeping. Steps towards improvement have been taken, however, in Government quarters, or rather, as we should say, are about to be taken; for nothing has yet been actually done in the matter, beyond indicating the first course of procedure. Dr. Lyon Playfair states that he was "in the act of receiving instructions from the President of the Board of Trade, in regard to the general promotion of Schools of Navigation in our principal sea-port towns," when the author of the work before us called upon him, and asked him to aid him in passing it through the press. The request, harmonising so well with official duty on hand, was willingly acceded to, and the result is the production of this well-timed work, which, if it do not pretend to exhaust the subject, will afford many useful suggestions for its treatment.

The author is a thorough sailor—having, in the course of a long apprenticeship, had actual experience of every branch and every requirement of the service. Moreover, he loves his profession, and seeks its advancement in efficiency, and to that honourable *status* which he considers it to be entitled to hold. His observations are full of practical good sense—touching with more or less precision upon almost every duty, incident, and interest involved in the sailor's life, both before and behind the mast:—as elementary instructions to those entering on a sea life; hints to a youth who is in earnest; description of "types of youths of promise," and the reverse; suggestions connected with the loading of a ship, keeping the log, watches, &c., which will prove of value to those [illegible] to aspire to rise to distinction. In connection with the "log," Captain Methven especially insists upon the importance of keeping it in a neat and readable form for after reference; and of enriching it with as many circumstantial details as possible, and with sketches of objects which can be better described by the aid of the pencil than the pen, and he gives as examples of his method from recent pages from the log of the *Valetta*, one of the fastest clippers in the Peninsular and Oriental Company's service, which he commands; and which do equal credit to his spirit of observation, his orderly arrangement, and his graphic pencil. Captain Methven—referring to the congress recently held at Brussels, for the purpose of organising a system of meteorological observations, to be included in the logs of merchant vessels—is alive to the importance of the object desired, both in the interests of science and of the seaservice; but it is evident, from his remarks, that he considers the attainment of it out of the question in the great majority of cases, so long as the careless and comfortless arrangements in connection with the "Logslate," and log-keeping generally, continue unaltered.

But to return to the larger question which we pointed to in the opening sentence of this brief notice—namely the inefficient condition of the merchant service, and what is to be done to improve it. The Government appears to consider education as a sufficient panacea for the evil; and contemplates the formation of schools of navigation in our principal sea-port towns. We more than doubt, however, that the remedy does not go to the seat of the evil; indeed that it will treat the second cause instead of the first. Undoubtedly, the ignorance of the sailor-craft is lamentable, even in what relates to the ordinary routine of their duties; but will the establishment of schools alone, induce men to learn? Indeed where could be a better school than shipboard itself? Yet Captain Methven observes:—

> Every officer who has had an experience in shipping crews must have been startled with the difficulty he found to get men who could be entrusted with the duties of petty officers—such as boatswain's mates, or quartermasters, who have to undertake a class of duties in which the simplest education requires to be added to good seamanship; but reading or writing are not such very frequent accomplishments as to be a necessary condition for a boatswain's berth, for which good seamanship is not even always attainable. It might have been supposed that from among the crowds of seamen there would have been many pressing forward for such berths. But it is not so; few have courage to undertake them, so conscious are they of their deficiencies; and it often happens that the first officer, selecting one of his steadiest men, has to encourage him to undertake an advanced position, although it involves an increase of pay.

The secret of this distinclination, even on the part of men themselves pretty well qualified for the purpose, to undertake posts of control and responsibility, is doubtless to some extent attributable to their knowledge of the rough and unmanageable materials of which their fellows in the forecastle, with whom they have to deal, are composed; and the disorders and discomforts of the forecastle itself; and this leads directly to the conclusion that shipowners must improve the social condition of ship life before they can reasonably expect to attract to it men of superior *morale* or intelligence. Our author speaks strongly and feelingly upon this subject in a chapter from which we extract the following passage.

> Notwithstanding the competition of rates of freight and passage, much has been done to improve the accommodation of seamen by the good feeling of shipowners, and somewhat, though not as much as might be expected, by the clauses in the late law for the improvement of mercantile discipline. Nevertheless, it is important yet to make great amelioration in the accommodation provided for the labouring occupants of a merchant ship; for when it is considered that this is the home-life of men who have to do the brunt of the work, and that the home of the working-man should be a rest from his labour, the short periods which the sailor has below, should be both a relaxation and an enjoyment to him. The forecastle should, therefore, at least contain provision for a clean, dry bed, a comfortable, well set out meal, with space, light, and ventilation; and these, it will be candidly admitted, are in theory the minimum conditions for comfort. The crowding up of this space, as is generally the case, by filthy bunks, or still more filthy hammocks, occupied by discontented idleness, under the baneful system of watch and watch, makes it a place whence the fair sisters, Godliness and Cleanliness, have withdrawn shuddering.
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> Some other points also he then proceeds to touch upon—as the "watch and watch" system, which he deprecates, contending that the watches below at night should be undisturbed, if possible; the "Sailors' Home," which he denounces as a satire upon the home of an Englishman; the importance of encouraging seamen to become domestic men, by establishing family ties at home, &c.; and he sums up the hopeless character of the present system by observing—
>
> There is no inducement, on the part of well-bred men, to enter the merchant-service, even as officers, for it involves a loss of caste, exposes them to battle with an imperfect discipline, and, after all, to receive inadequate pay for their duties and responsibilities; neither is there any inducement on the part of the labourer, for he is subjected to great discomforts and privations, separating him from those ties which make life valuable.

This puts the matter upon a broad, intelligible, and, we think, its true basis. Shipowners would do well to consider it, and whether a little increase of liberality in respect of the pay and accommodation of their crews might not prove to be a wise economy. To a certain extent, to use no higher argument, they might thus become their own insurers, by diminishing the risks of voyages; when the premiums demanded by underwriters would be proportionally reduced. To the merchant and the travelling community the gain would be beyond price.

In conclusion, we have to compliment the author upon the admirable pictorial illustrations, with which his pages are interspersed, and which have been well executed, in lithography, by Hanharts.

* The Log of a Merchant Officer; Viewed with reference to the Education of Young Officers and the Youth of the Merchant Service. By Robert Methven, Commander in the P. and O. Company, with an Editorial Preface, by Dr. Lyon Playfair. Folio. John Weale.

LITERATURE.

THE MICROSCOPE: its History, Construction, and Applications, &c. By JABEZ HOGG, M.R.C.S. Illustrated London Library. Milford House, Strand.

The object of this handsome volume, which is adorned with more than five hundred carefully executed and beautiful illustrations, is to give a popular explanation of the uses of a scientific instrument, hitherto understood only by the erudite, either in its principles, or in the results which it is made so wonderfully to subserve.

It was the remark, if we remember aright, of Buffon, that the infinity of littleness, so to speak, yielded not to the infinity of magnitude in the marvels which it unfolded, in the lessons which it preached, in the value of the discoveries and studies of which it furnished the field, or in the sublimity of the contemplations which it was capable of suggesting. And, in truth, to any man who closely considers this subject, it is questionable whether the minutest particle of organic matter does not afford the self-same intimations of the glory of the Creator—we do not say a part of the intimations, but absolutely the very same which are given by the firmament of Heaven. *Cœli enarrant* the heavens relate, just what is related in this respect by the acorn which has dropped from the branches of the oak. The perfect elementary form of the oak is detected by him who, with the aid of scientific instruments, examines the acorn; and in that seminal eidolon of the future tree, there is one thing which (in equally undeveloped form and proportion) is not omitted—that which is yet to be assimilated and nurtured into the future acorn itself. What, then, if we had instruments so perfect as to repeat on this last object the same scrutiny? Should we then see the shadows, or rather the perfect embryo tracery, of still minuter and less-developed arboral formations, and on them again the likenese of the same prolific fruit, in their inexhaustible progression of littleness? Truly, whatever illustration you please to take, only follow the investigation out to its full range of suggestiveness, and where sight and instruments fail, let the mind pursue the direction, according to the laws observed, while observation was possible to bodily organs; and it will be felt that the abyss of minuteness in the creation is as boundless, as bottomless, as unfathomable, as truly and as literally *infinite*, as those realms of astronomic space which have moved the adoration of all who could lift themselves to the august and awful survey. The creation, as a whole, appears without limits; but the marvel is that this image of eternity is found in each separate particle of the creation as complete as in the collection and the aggregate of all. Whether your mind ranges abroad through the open expanses, or descends into the cavity of one minute specimen of organic nature, an infinite journey stretches before it, an expedition of discovery which it will never complete.

But this is enough on the particular aspect in which we have chosen for a moment to view such studies: we dare not continue, or we should hardly know how to break away from the reflections which crowd upon us. There is a practical, every-day, common-place side to this question; and the microscope can be made the instrument of both useful and agreeable investigations, quite irrespectively of the more transcendental truths with which the thought of it is connected.

Mr. Jabez Hogg seeks, by means of his present work, "to bring the value and charm of microscopic studies home, so to speak, to the firesides of the people." His theme needs no adornments of style; so important a branch of experimental science as that which he undertakes to expound can afford to be treated plainly. A practical explanation and a practical account are allowable and suitable.

The first part of the work contains simply the history of the microscope, which instrument, he conjectures, was known, before the time of Christ, but in a rude form, and consisting of but one lens. After some remarks on the mechanical and optical principles involved in the construction of the instrument, directions are given for its use. We are next treated to a peep into the microscopic world, and, probably, this is the most interesting part of the work. From living things, which cannot be seen without the microscope, our author proceeds to objects which cannot be thoroughly seen without it; and much interesting information is given about insects, and about animal and vegetable structure.

Mr. Hogg avails himself very judiciously of the discoveries, opinions, and remarks of almost all who have signalised themselves in this department of instrumental science.

THE RAILWAY MUSIC-BOOK: A New and Simple System of Music, adapted expressly for Self-tuition. By Mrs. JOSEPH KIRKMAN.

Though there is no "royal road" to music, nor indeed, to any other art or science, yet the ordinary roads to most arts and sciences are much more tedious and rugged than is at all necessary; and this is especially the case with such of them as furnish a livelihood to a great professional body. Musicians, and teachers of music, have no interest in shortening to others the road which they have travelled themselves. It is obvious, indeed, that the very reverse is naturally the case; and it is hardly to be expected that they will look with friendly eyes on anything which may interfere with their own occupation and emoluments. It can only be for this reason that Mrs. Kirkman's ingenious and useful works of construction, though well known to the musical world, and admirably calculated to simplify and abridge the labours of the teacher, have not been adopted by the musical profession.

The "Railway Music-book," the last of Mrs. Kirkman's publications, is, as she states, expressly adapted for self-tuition. Now, a proficiency in music cannot be gained by self tuition; nor, indeed, can even a beginning be made without some assistance. A teacher must show the learner how to emit the voice properly in singing even a scale, and to place the fingers on the keys of the pianoforte. But there are many things which learners, with the help of intelligent written instructions, may teach themselves; and these are the things which form the substance of the "Railway Music-book:" so much, indeed, as the sense of the easy and rapid progress to be made in music by its means. Its form is that of a sort of map or chart, printed on a large sheet of strong paper, folded, and enclosed for preservation in a pasteboard cover. It presents to the eye a view of the musical scale as represented by the white and black keys of the pianoforte, and showing how the one set of keys forms the *natural* scale, while the other set raises or depresses the natural sounds, by making them sharp or flat. It exhibits the circle of major and minor keys, showing the order of their succession, and their relations to each other. It explains all the varieties of time, or measure, and all the signs and characters used in the notation of music. And lastly, it gives a series of exercises for practice, whereby the learner will acquire a correct method of fingering in every key. It teaches, in short, the elements of musical knowledge, in a manner so concise, clear, and simple, as to be perfectly intelligible to every young person of ordinary capacity, and we therefore recommend it to the attention of mothers of families, and of all who are engaged in the education of youth.

LONDON IN 1854. By PETER CUNNINGHAM, F.S.A. Murray.

The requirements of the stranger in London have increased year by year, with the great town itself, until the visitor becomes almost as perplexed as the native in the curious web of the multitudinous wealth around him. The services of a "well-informed guide," who directs the inquirer to the objects most worthy of his curiosity, must lead to the economy of time and enjoyment; and no guide-book of the present day possesses these recommendations in so high a degree as the volume before us. The introductory chapter of Hints and Suggestions, extending to some fifty pages, contains a vast amount of condensed information, especially adapted for persons of taste, upon objects and collections of art and virtu best worth seeing, and how they are to be seen. The meaner things, and more substantial delights, are likewise provided for; and where to find a good dinner is cared for equally with a visit to a priceless picture. The arrangement of the book is the most tangible that could be devised; it is straightforward, direct, and instant—just what is wanted, and no more. This is the third edition, and has been corrected to the present moment.

THE HAUNTED GARDEN.

"GOD bless the Marquis of Saluzzo!" exclaimed an old soldier, as he emerged from the Col de Viso. He was descending towards the city of Saluzzo as fast as was possible, under the weight of a heavy peasant's blouse, a heavy cavalry sword bulging out under it, a heavy knapsack, very heavy boots, and one of those heavy cocked hats which the Piedmontese still persist in wearing.

The young man whom he had overtaken, and to whom he addressed these abrupt words, walked on silently. He either did not wish for any company, or did not like that of the rough wayfarer who had got abreast of him. But there was no escape.

"I say again," repeated the old man, "God bless the Marquis of Saluzzo!"

"Well; say it," answered the youth, gruffly; "I don't hinder you Though I don't see the use of wasting prayers upon a beggarly Marquis."

"Beggarly! Didn't he cut the wonderful road across the Alps, that shortens my march from Lucerna—and, for the matter of that, yours, too?"

"*I* don't come from Lucerna," was the sulky answer.

"Well, wherever you do come from, you ought to be thankful to the old nobleman, who, in past times, cut such a capital road."

"I have other things to think about," returned the gloomy young man. "Besides, if you have any prayers to spare, offer them up for our beloved exile, Charles Albert, whom God preserve!"

"Take care," said the old soldier, looking round cautiously; "mind what you're talking about. Who knows?—that wayside cross, that rest-and-be-thankful, that boulder, may be ambuscades. *You* may be a white-livered Austrian spy for aught I know."

"Don't provoke me, old fellow!"

"Not I." The old man stopped to look fixedly at his new friend. "I don't care a pinch of gunpowder what you are, but if you're an honest man—there! take it!" He thrust out his hand. The young man grasped it. "If you *are* a spy, denounce me as soon as you get into the town—for here goes plump into your trap (if you are setting one)—may God, in his mercy, preserve our dear master Charles Albert, in his cheerless exile!" They both stood in the road, right hand in right hand; and, lifting their hats, jointly offered up a fervent prayer to heaven. Alas, history (if events of yesterday may be deemed history) attests that their prayer was not heard.

There were no more reserves after this, especially when the young peasant showed under his frock part of an infantry uniform. The older pedestrian never kept secrets, and was very fond of talking. Like most individuals of his class, his own affairs formed the staple of his talk; because, what interested him was pleasing, he thought, to his listeners.

"As for me," he began, "I was born, to the best of my belief, at Turin; though as both my parents were in the army (my mother was a vivandière), I cannot be sure of my birthplace to within a hundred miles. I was bred with a sword in my hands, and was hardly able to toddle, when they clapped me on horseback. That's a few years ago; yet, I may say, I've only just dismounted."

"On the retired list, I suppose," said the youth.

"Right," replied the veteran, flourishing his walking-stick like a drum-major on parade. He added, "our Royal master, Charles Albert, God bless him, requited me also with the highest rank it is possible to attain."

"Indeed!" The younger pedestrian looked at the humble attire and heavy knapsack of his companion with some surprise.

"You seem astonished, young man; but know that in me you behold an ex-troop full sergeant-major of the King of Sardinia's Second Dragoon Guards. Don't be diffident, for though you are only a private, I am not prand."

Being now put at his ease, the youth joined more freely in the conversation. He narrated, in turn, his private history. His native village lay on the other side of the Alps; and, after the rising at Milan he had taken up arms with the rest. "Alas!" he continued, "in vain; the Austrians beat us at Novarra. Our independence is, for awhile, destroyed; and our King is a miserable exile. I shall never bear to see my home again."

"Then do you not intend to return to it?"

"Never. The city of Saluzzo is my adopted abiding place: I mean to die there."

The dragoon-sergeant looked towards his companion, and saw that he covered his eyes with his sleeve as if to hide tears. "Halt!" he exclaimed, "what's this? a soldier, and snivelling? But I forgot, perhaps you can't help it; for now I look again at your colours, you are only a *Provinciale*—a mere militiaman."

"I cannot help it," replied the stranger, "and would not help it if I could. It is not for myself, but for others, that I feel. If you had had everybody you cared for dragged away from you, besides being yourself beggared, perhaps you would find a tear in your eye, Monsieur ex-troop sergeant-major."

Perhaps I should," returned the old trooper, burning priming in

an old pocket pistol to light his pipe. "I have had my troubles too. By-the-by, whereabouts on the other side of the Alps were you born?"

"At Bagnolo. My father was a farmer. He died when I was ten years old. Two years after, my mother was taken from me, and I became destitute; but I hired myself to a neighbouring proprietor, who proved to be better and kinder to me than a father. He had a sister: she taught me to read. You know," continued the narrator, "that we of the other side frequently cross the Alps to purchase milk from the people of Saluzzo. On these occasions I found that I made the best bargains and got the best milk from a maiden who lived near the city. After we had met three or four times, we agreed to correspond, for she had taught herself to write."

The sergeant-major sucked in a prodigious whiff of smoke, "Ah, a love-story; is there much more of it?"

"No more at present. Pestilence came, and then war."

"Ah, those cursed Austrians! I know they brought the cholera amongst us," said the veteran, furiously knocking off the heads of a dozen hairy rose-bushes that grew by the wayside.

"Worse than cholera. A dreadful disease, which scarred the face, and made its victims too hideous to behold. The dregs of it still remain; and the sanitary police, established when it first appeared, is still in existence. The moment people are seized, they are hurried off to a sort of dungeon hospital, and are never heard of more."

Here the listener yawned, "Of course, you are going to tell me that the next time you went to fetch milk your lovely dairymaid had vanished, and——"

"No, no. I had to take a load of cheese to Turin. It took me a week. On returning through Saluzzo I met her, and a blissful meeting it was. I was returning with my milk, thinking——"

"Love and milk," murmured the veteran: "how very tender!"

"Thinking what constant employment our cheese-presses would have; when, on reaching home, I found the doors blockaded. The Government seal was upon them. I fled to the neighbours to learn the cause; but they were as much astonished as myself. All they knew was, that, the night before, a party of the sanitary police had arrived—that they went straight to my benefactor's house, and took away both himself and his sister. All their property was seized——"

"And," interrupted the old sergeant-major, grinding his teeth, "of course confiscated. Oh, those Austrians!"

"You are right. Again I was destitute—doubly destitute, for the people of Bagnolo shunned me, as having lived in an infected house. The mystery which overhung my master, moreover, stigmatised me. I fled, and naturally turned my steps towards one whose plighted troth I held, and——"

"The milk curdled, of course. She sent you to the right about, like the rest of 'em, eh?"

"Yes," answered the lover sorrowfully, "at least they told me as much, and I believed them. I enlisted as a *remplaçant*, and fought in all Charles Albert's battles. Months of anguish have convinced me that her crime still remains to be proved. It is the hope of finding her guiltless that brings me to Saluzzo."

"Poor fellow," exclaimed the sergeant, obscuring his head in a cloud of smoke, "I pity you; I know the sex; and, mark my words—well, never mind, here we are in sight of the city; another step, and——"

The speaker stopped; for, as he spoke, a turn of the hill laid open before them one of the most beautiful views that even this picturesque country affords. Beneath them lay the valley through which the river Po and its tributaries thread their silvery way. Saluzzo itself, with its antique ruins and fine cathedral, glistened in the beams of a brilliant sun. The coldest heart could not view such a scene without emotion. The old sergeant's pipe fell from his lips, and he stood, gazing on the scene, making mighty efforts at composure; but, in spite of them, he covered his face with his hard sunburnt hands and wept. His companion—more with a desire to say something cheering than to wound him—retorted: "What! a soldier, and snivelling? Come, my regular, that's only allowed in the militia."

"Well," replied the veteran, dashing off his tears with a desperate laugh, "I don't like you the worse for your joke. I allow it is childish to weep; but let me ask you one question—had you ever a daughter? Of course not; for you only just show the beginnings of a beard. Well, suppose you *had* a daughter born in one hour, for the wife of a twelvemonth to die the next. Suppose that for a time your daughter had been the most affectionate of children. Suppose that, to cheer the heart of her father in absence, she had taught herself to write. Suppose that, suddenly, she forgot the old man; that she ceased to write; that all his inquiries about her were fruitless, or were answered indirectly by suspicions. Suppose yourself on the eve of meeting her after an absence of several years, and of seeing her, perhaps, a dishonoured outcast." The old man could not forbear, and wept again. His companion did all he could to soothe him; for a strong feeling of sympathy had sprung up. It seemed as if their respective errands to Saluzzo were akin. Both had been disappointed—both deceived.

As they trumped along they conversed on different subjects, as if to check the emotions to which their respective thoughts gave rise. "Ah!" commenced the younger man, "we both think our fate hard; but what is it to that of the poor wretches confined in the old castle

by courtesy called an hospital?" As he spoke, he pointed to a sombre castellated ruin which rose above the southern outskirts of the city.

"Are there many in it?" asked the sergeant.

"There were only two when I last left Saluzzo," replied his companion. "Nobody can find out who they were. The police forbade any person going even within the garden, for fear of infection; and the names of all the inmates are kept secret, out of regard to their relatives. The place where they are penned up is that part of the castle that abuts upon an old Roman wall which formerly surrounded the city. At least, that's what my master told me one day, as we were coming to market. It is built of the marble with which the ancient fortification was faced. People call it the "Goblin's Keep," because it was, even within my recollection, haunted."

"Then the ghosts have marched off. Who gave them the route?" asked the sergeant-major, with mock interest.

"The bishop," was the answer. "He exorcised them, to make room for the victims of the horrible disease."

By this time they were crossing the bridge that spans the Po, not far from the city. When they reached Saluzzo, they stopped at the nearest inn; and, seated themselves at the door, under the arch of vines trained across the road—a shady arrangement very general in that part of the country.

Having dined, it was agreed that they should make inquiries of the landlord regarding the persons whom they sought. When that individual appeared, his aspect did not prepossess his guests in his favour.

"Landlord," began the old soldier, "as you are, I perceive, the postmaster of this good city, you must know every man, woman, and child in the place."

The host replied, in a half-surly, half-civil tone, that he believed he did know every soul in the neighbourhood—except the strangers and the scamps.

"Then," rejoined his guest hurriedly, lest his courage should fail him in the midst of his inquiry, "you must know Anzel Costa?"

"Anzel Costa!" repeated both the innkeeper and the younger guest together.

"Well," continued the former with a tinge of bravado, concealing a rising embarrassment, "what if I do know Anzel Costa?"

By this time the *Provinciale* had risen, and was once more grasping the hand of his travelling companion, "You, then, my good old man, are her father. It is Anzel Costa whom I love."

A scowl passed over the landlord's face; but the speaker did not notice it. "It is for her," he continued, "that I have journeyed so many weary miles to set up my rest in this city. For whether she be innocent or guilty, Saluzzo shall be either my home or," he added, lowering his tone, "my grave."

Old Costa jumped up from his seat in an ecstasy; then, prudently checking himself lest he should be too rash in accepting an utter stranger as a kinsman, he placed his hand at arm's-length upon the lover's head, eyed him from top to toe, as if to take measure of him for a grenadier; and satisfied himself that he could conscientiously "pass" him as a thorough soldier and an efficient son-in-law. Laughing and weeping by turns, he shook him heartily by the hand, remarking that the girl would now be doubly dear to him, for having chosen such a straightforward and perfectly "set up" soldier. "But," he added, his little dash of merriment melting away into a sigh, "supposing that our faint suspicions should be strengthened, and that she prove unworthy of you?"

"It is not wise to fear the worst," replied the other.

"Right, comrade, therefore attention, *Trinquons!* Fill out, landlord! You must join us. Let us drink to the success of our inquiries; and a good husband to Anzel Costa."

"Of course," said the host, arresting the drinking-horn half-way to his lips; "only if she deserve him."

None of the wine was tasted. Costa asked roughly, "Do you know anything to the contrary?"

"What I do know about the girl Costa," he replied, "is nothing to her credit. However, I am not going to turn informer. If you want to know particulars, inquire of the police; for she is under their surveillance." With these words, the man went into the house, leaving the full goblet on the table.

The strangers sat for several minutes as if stupified with grief and disappointment. "It is then true!" exclaimed Costa, at length.

"At least," replied the lover, Martin Brandt, quickly, "before we give way to despair, let us seek further. I do not like the look of that fellow: he seemed to shun us the moment he knew for whom we are in search. I will hasten to the police-office, and learn the worst at once."

Martin strode hastily away towards the Prefecture; which he soon found out. Interrogating an inspector of police, in the hard tones of suppressed emotion, he watched for an answer, trembling like a culprit awaiting sentence. The cool deliberation of the officer (an Austrian) aggravated his agonies. Without speaking, that worthy functionary did not lay down his pipe until he had carefully applied the tobacco-stopper, to prevent it going out. He then slowly pulled down a huge index from a shelf, and laid it on a desk. "Was Costa the name? Ah! Costa! So. That must be letter C." The leaves were turned over one by one. Letter A and letter B contained so many entries, that the fatigued official was obliged to have recourse

to his pipe before he could encounter letter C. "Well. Letter C. Here begins letter C. So. C—o—s, Cos." The official finger slid slowly down the paper, Martin Brandt following it with eager eye, and lips quivering with expectation. Presently the dreadful digit stopped: Brandt held his breath. "Christian name?" asked the policeman.

"Anzel," answered the lover, now almost choked with suspense.

"Wrong!" exclaimed the officer; and took a few more whiffs before his lazy finger continued to track its way to the bottom of the page. "So," he said, "Anzel—at last. Ah, Anzel Costa! See Offence-book, No. 9, page nineteen ten. Here, lend a hand," he added to Brandt, as he moved to another shelf. "This is the heaviest book in the bureau. It is two mens' work to lift it."

"So, nineteen ten. Here she is!" said the sluggish functionary at length, as he obscured the page with smoke.

"Let me know the worst without more delay," exclaimed Brandt.

"Don't be in a hurry—for, first of all, ten centissimi, if you please. Fees in advance is our rule."

Martin paid the money, and then heard his doom read in syllables long drawn out:—"September 26th, 1848, Anzel Costa, suspected of treasonable correspondence with a soldier. Sentenced to three years' surveillance. December 24, 1848, confined in the town jail, for habitually breaking the sanitary laws of the State in reference to infectious diseases." The man shut the book, and turned away into an inner room to enjoy the rest of his pipe in peace.

Martin returned to the inn a prey to the bitterest thoughts. Perhaps he told his news too abruptly, for, on hearing it, the old soldier became almost frantic. Bred from childhood amidst scenes of strife, he had never known the consolations of religion, nor how to exercise those influences of self-control which lessen disappointment and check the violence of passion. The imprecations he uttered, not only against his daughter, but upon that destiny which had denied him death in battle, terrified even the hardened landlord. He raved like a madman. "Is it for this day," he exclaimed, "that I have hoped and striven? Have I fought and bled for her, to find her a traitress?"

Brandt had great difficulty restrain him. When, however, he had sufficiently recovered, he determined to go at once to the suspected place in which the girl was said to live. He would wreak a full measure of revenge upon her. "At least," he exclaimed, "I can die—how it matters not?" A terrible resolution which he had formed was no mere outburst of passion. Had there been an opportunity, he would have fulfilled it. Yet the old man—a compound of levity and impulse, in whom the fiercest passions were easily roused—had induced Saluzzo, with the hope of settling down in easy contented retirement.

Brandt, dreading his intention of wreaking a sudden vengeance upon his daughter, could he find her, held him, to prevent his escape. Costa, however, strong in his rage, broke away, and ran towards the Turin road. Passion seemed to give the old soldier nerve, and he sped so fast that it was a long time before Martin was able to overtake him. Having passed the ruins of the Castle, the young pursuer came up with him opposite the Goblin's Keep. At this place Costa, completely exhausted, fell, and, on reaching him, Brandt found him in a state of insensibility. A gate in the wall stood partly open. Looking in, he beheld a lovely garden. He entered, and laid the exhausted old sergeant on a rustic seat, while he returned to the town for assistance.

When he recovered his senses Costa thought he had been dreaming. He beheld before him a beautiful garden. He looked up at the ruined castle, and remembered that opposite to it he fell. The scene was so enchanting, so tranquil, that it calmed and soothed him. He tried to rise, but his strength was gone. He rubbed his eyes. Was it a vision? Had he suddenly passed away into regions of love and beatitude? For the first time for years he muttered a prayer.

In the midst of a reverie, his eye suddenly caught the figure of a man

whose face was concealed by a huge slouched hat, leaning against a tree, with his hands crossed, in devout contemplation.

"Away, away!" said the man, in a tone, not of anger, but the deepest sorrow, "I am a leper."

"And I am an old soldier," continued Costa. "Why should I shun you?"

"Because the law decrees imprisonment to whoever is found here; so great is the dread of infection."

"I love misery, and those who are miserable," said the soldier, "for I am a wretched old man myself. Besides, though longing to fulfil a wretched errand, I am exhausted. Let me then rest here a little longer."

"You are welcome," said the leper, "for it is seldom I hear the sound of human voice. Human sympathy has long been denied me. But I again warn you that, should you be discovered, you will yourself be made to suffer imprisonment, as one infected."*

Nothing daunted, however, the soldier solicited permission, when fully recruited, to remain, and to explore, not only the garden, but the far famed Goblin's Ruin. The deep melancholy and resignation of the leper, the quiet beauty of the garden, had worked powerfully on the soldier's mind. For the time, he forgot his daughter, and his own troubles concerning her.

When Costa was able to rise, the leper, disposing his ample slouched hat so as to completely hide his features, carefully fastened the gate.

"Pass on," he exclaimed. "Examine my flowers. Some of them are rare. Gather such as you may deem worthy of acceptance."

Although Costa felt the deepest pity for the leper in his cheerless solitude, yet the melancholy tones of his voice and his gentle manners inspired the rough old campaigner with a respect for the calm contentment in which he appeared to live. "I," thought the old man, "am now equally solitary. There is no being whom I have to live for. Would I could feel as this leper feels." The unfortunate being looked on Costa with pleasure as he plucked the flowers, for he seemed to read his thoughts.

"You love flowers?" he asked.

"I love them now," was the reply; "for I see how much they must relieve the lonesomeness of solitude. A great many must die."

"The brightest," answered the leper, "are gathered every morning."

"By whom?" asked Costa, wondering.

The leper checked himself, hesitated, and turned away.

"So," thought the old soldier, "he has a secret. Perhaps, after all he is not left entirely alone. Some one comes to console him."

"Occasionally," said the leper, returning, "children from the town play under the wall, and some of them, though strictly forbidden by the police, now and then climb over, and steal my flowers. I watch them from the window. When they know I am there, they look up; and, on going away, hold up in playful triumph the nosegays they have taken, crying 'Good-bye, leper!' Oh, how I love to see them!"

"Are they your only visitors?" inquired Costa.

Again the leper seemed confused, and changed the subject; asking the sergeant if he were afraid to inspect the interior of the dwelling?"

"What," thought Costa, abstractedly, "are my misfortunes compared with those of this poor wretch."

In truth, the afflicted man seemed comparatively happy, while the old sergeant was a prey to the deepest affliction, and but a few hours before contemplated suicide.

Anxious to know how the recluse had attained such a state of tranquil contentment, Costa, on entering his cell, inquired what train of events had brought him into the castle. "Is it," he asked, "your birthplace?"

"I lost my parents in childhood," he was answered. "Being comparatively wealthy, they left me a small patrimony, and I left the church, for which I had been training myself, to cultivate it; but they also bequeathed a constitution which rendered me an early prey to the terrible epidemic lately brought amongst us. My sister was the only friend I ever had. Yet no." He checked himself, "I have one other."

"A visitor or an inmate?" inquired the soldier.

The leper evaded the question. "When," he continued, "the malady with which you see me afflicted made its appearance both in my sister and myself, the sanitary police hurried us away to this habitation."

"Your sister, then—"

"Is dead!"

"Another deep affliction," thought Costa, "yet how patiently he bears it."—"You must," he said aloud, "find the solitude very irksome?"

"The feeling of solitude is tempered by labour. In the summer season the cultivation of my garden occupies me pleasantly, and almost entirely. In winter I make baskets and mats, and my own clothes. Books and prayer fill up the hours I am not thus employed. Indeed, so far from time hanging heavily, when the year has passed it seems to have been very short."

"Were you always so resigned and contented as you now appear to be?" inquired the guest.

"Far from it," replied the leper, "I will not deceive you. I have not arrived at my present state of content without strong mental contests. Neither is a complete sacrifice of all human affections yet accomplished. Even now I have struggles which the power of religion is not yet able to overcome. My imagination sometimes carries me back to the world which I have left, and fills me with chimerical desires. I ascend the castle watch-tower, and view the magnificent spectacle of mountain and valley. I see the glaciers of Stroppo; I behold the forests on the sides of the mountains, and long to wander through them. I perceive the rich fields spread below, and human beings gambolling in them, or strolling along in quiet happiness. Some of them I picture as lovers, or married people, whom health, youth, and fortune unite to load with blessings. I envy their lot in proportion as my own is miserable. I feel the confused sensation of an immensity of felicity, the reality of which is denied to me. Once, towards sunset, a young couple who had been but a short while married, made their appearance close under the walls of my garden. Happiness, unalloyed and pure, was stamped on their features, and they walked slowly with their arms entwined. Suddenly they stopped, the young wife leant her head on her husband's shoulder, and he clasped her in his arms with fervent ardour. My heart was ready to burst—I strained my vision after them to the end of the meadow—and was losing sight of them among the trees, when shouts of gladness arose. Their relations had come to meet them, and they were surrounded by old men, women, and children. I heard their confused murmurings of joy, and saw their gay dresses between the trees. The whole group seemed to breathe an atmosphere of happiness. I could not bear the sight—the contrast was too great. The Creator, I cried, has distributed pleasure every where—he has sent it in torrents upon everything that breathes!" I went up into the tower, and looked down upon the city and its busy and cheerful people—I stretched forth my hands, and, groaning, demanded from them my portion of happiness. In my wild transport, I descended again to my garden, and clasped the trees in my arms, praying the Almighty to put life into them, and to give me a friend."

"Can nothing be done to restore you to your place in the world—Is there no cure for your disease?" Costa asked.

"No cure now. I am doomed. My sentence is for life—my only remedy is in the grave. See!" The leper removed his overshadowing hat, and turned his face towards the soldier. The disfigurement which the leprosy had wrought was greater than Costa was prepared for. "Who, think you, would willingly be the companion of such a hideous form as mine?" asked the sufferer. "It is the duty of my fellow-creatures to shun me."

"I, it appears, am not shaken by seeing you. Are there not others like me?" inquired Costa.

The leper paused for a moment, and then replied, "I do frankly confess, there is *one* who sometimes visits me at the risk of liberty—even of reputation."

"Who?" the soldier asked eagerly.

"That is my secret," the recluse answered coldly.

"Forgive, if I have offended!" With these words the old man made an involuntary movement, as if he would have taken the outcast's hand. He drew it back quickly, exclaiming, "Imprudent man, would you touch me?"

"Yes; and would press your hand as that of a friend and comrade."

"Such happiness is denied me," exclaimed the prisoner, with emotion.

"You said you had a sister; did she never press your hand?"

"Alas! she formed the last link between me and humanity. It pleased Heaven to sever it, and to leave me the isolated, unconsoled being you see me. We lived almost always separated. We avoided looking at each other, lest the sight of our deformity might be too shocking for us to bear. But we prayed together, each in our separate solitude."

"Her loss must have left you lonely indeed."

"It was the example of my dying sister that conquered all turbulent and disquieting thoughts."

The rough old soldier tried to utter some hearty words of sympathy and consolation.

After a moment's pause, the leper rose: "Stranger, when I first beheld you in my garden, grief or some mightier passion had overcome you. Whenever it threatens to master you again, think of the leper."

Costa felt that a Providence had directed him to this man of many sufferings. He rose to depart, having asked permission to return on the morrow, to tell him all his griefs. The leper, cautioning him of the risk he ran, consented.

Before he left the castle, the moon shone brightly, and the Solitary, fearful that Costa's exit would be observed, went first. A low murmuring sound proceeded from the road. Alarmed, he motioned his guest to be still. The old sergeant retired a few steps; by which means he got a view of the ruined garden, which had formerly belonged to the leper's sister: to his surprise he beheld a figure crouching behind the trellis-work partition, as if to avoid observation. It was that of a female. The leper who had also drawn back, trembled visibly. He murmured loud enough for Costa to hear, "Imprudent girl!"

"Leper, stand back," cried a harsh voice suddenly at the gate. A gendarme appeared, the bright barrel of his firelock, pointing at the person he addressed, gleamed in the moonbeams. The leper retired to his hut, at the window of which he instantly presented himself. Under the direction of his chief, who had now entered the garden, another police officer went cautiously to the opposite side of the trellis; and, presenting his musket, cried, "Stand, woman! Attempt to escape and I must fire." The person thus spoken to burst into tears.

"Spare her, spare her!" cried the leper, from his window. "It is true," he continued, addressing the Lieutenant, "that she has broken the sanitary regulations of the State by visiting me. But this she has done since my dear sister's death, without either taking or communicating the infection. She sells my flowers to procure me comforts that I should otherwise be without."

"So," said the officer, "this explains the mystery. This accounts for her living in so suspicious a manner, in the ruined hut a mile hence. Though under surveillance, she eluded our vigilance till this moment. Now, however, our duty is imperative."

While these words were being uttered, old Costa discovered that the girl was his own child!

His heart, so lately turned against her, was now touched; and he exclaimed, "My dear daughter!" running forward to embrace her The soldier, however, levelled his piece, exclaiming, "Touch her at your peril. She may be infected!" Costa, yearning to take his daughter to his arms, was obliged to retreat.

The Lieutenant ordered the girl to retire. Such was the dread of infection, that no actual arrest took place; but the police-soldiers kept their pieces levelled at the girl and her father as they slowly retired from the garden. The gensdarme had not thus driven their prisoners far before them before the Lieutenant was again obliged to interfere. Another person came up, and had nearly come into forbidden contact with the girl. Martin Brandt would have folded her in his arms. Repulsed at the point of the bayonet, however, he stood like one transfixed, his face turned towards the castle. The moon was shining full upon it when the voice of the leper, from the window of his hut, was heard—"In the name of Heaven, young man, tell me your name!" he exclaimed.

"Martin Brandt," was the reply.

"Heaven be praised!" ejaculated the leper; and nothing was audible for some moments but his sobs.

"My dear master," exclaimed Martin. "You, then, are the dreaded leper? But Mademoiselle, your sister——"

"Hush!" whispered Costa.

The momentary interruption which the appearance of Brandt had caused, now ceased, and the officer gave the word "Forward!" The father and daughter were driven towards a carriage, painted yellow; they were made to enter it, each occupying a separate compartment, and were driven off.

The innkeeper had been watching under the garden wall. He could conceal his exultation no longer. "Ha, ha!" he said, "I dare say she would be glad to be an innkeeper's wife now."

These words gave to Martin a clue to Anzel's misfortunes. The fellow, being a rejected suitor, had possibly originated the suspicions concerning Anzel, and had caused the misfortunes occasioned by them. Meanwhile, the prisoners were conveyed to the Intendant's house. Having heard the statement of the police, and looked into the carriage to see if the occupants were really the persons described, that functionary signed a warrant for their detention. Upon this, Costa and his daughter were conveyed back to a part of the castle at a distance from that occupied by the leper.

The day after, there was a great bustle in the town of Saluzzo. News went about that, early in the morning, Hans Duppa, the innkeeper and postmaster, had been arrested, and that in his house documents had been found which afforded grounds for a charge against him. His accuser was Martin Brandt. The examination before the Intendant cleared up the mystery which overhung the character of Anzel Costa, and which had caused so much grief and doubt to her father and lover.

It appeared that when Martin and Anzel first met, she was in the service of the innkeeper as dairy-maid, and that, rejecting his suit, she left his service. He vowed vengeance, and took a wicked mode of satisfying it. As postmaster, he not only suppressed all the letters which came, either from or for Anzel Costa, but made use of one of them to accuse her of corresponding with a soldier of the enemy—which he represented Martin to be—during the Austrian occupation. In course of time Anzel gave new ground for suspicion by her secret but benevolent visits to the leper, whose flowers she arranged, and regularly sold for his benefit. She supported herself by selling milk for anyone who would employ her, at the seasons when the people from the mountains came to buy it or their cheese. Concealed in the inn were found two letters, which Anzel had written to her father, and which were quite sufficient to convict Hans Duppa of letter-stealing.

After this, the Intendant—a benevolent man—interested himself in favour of Costa and his daughter. All fear of infection having subsided, the sanitary laws were relaxed; and the prisoners, having been certified free of infection by the physicians of the district, were liberated, and Anzel was allowed to continue her ministrations to the leper.

The Intendant did even more: he gave to Martin Brandt the office of postmaster, vacated by the treacherous innkeeper; and, in due time, the lovers were married. Costa ended his hitherto turbulent life in peace; and never allowed a night to pass without a visit to, and a prayer for, the leper; who, years afterwards, expired tranquilly and happily in Anzel's presence.

* The existence of a leper at so modern a period as the date at which this story is laid may require a word or two of explanation. The Count Xavier de Maistre wrote at the beginning of the present century concerning a person similarly afflicted, and confined in a lazar house at Aosta. The Government provided him with such requisites as his unhappy condition admitted of, the hospital of St. Maurice being appointed to see to his maintenance. He was supplied with some furniture, and implements necessary to cultivate his garden. Until the present century a lazar house was established in or near every town both in Europe and Asia, for the separation from the rest of mankind, of persons afflicted with leprosy—a term which appears to have been used to express and loathsome affection of the skin. These numerous cutaneous diseases have been divided by modern physicians, and variously designated, but that which appears to have prevailed under the name of leprosy is now called elephantiasis. So wide were its ravages, that, in the year 1226 there were in France 2000 lepers, and the ritual of the church in that kingdom retained, until very recently, the forms which were used in separating the leper from his fellow creatures. The tainted wretch was carried to the altar, and clothed in a funeral pall; mass was sung as for the dead; he was conveyed to the hospital, invested with the garb of the lazar, and furnished with the *cliquettes* or clapper, which he was to sound when any one came near to him; the priest then solemnly interdicted him from all intercourse with the people, exhorted him to patience, and, after having cast a little earth on his head, closed upon him the grave of the dreary mansion. The disease appears to have prevailed in Scotland, about the beginning of the thirteenth century. Its victims in Edinburgh were banished to Inchkeith, a small island in the Firth of Forth, opposite Leith. The following notice of a receptacle for lepers in Aberdeen, occurs in a manuscript of Sir James Gordon—"Such as goe out at the Gallowgate-port, towards Old Aberdeen, half way almost, may see the place wher of old stood the Leper's Hospital, called the Seich hous, hard by the way side, to which ther was a chapell adjoyned dedicated to St. Anne, who was accounted patroness of the lepers." The diseases which the general term was supposed to include have ceased to commit the ravages of former years; but in some of the secluded and ill-aired valleys of the Alps, they have not entirely disappeared—a fact which the subject of this sketch exemplifies.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

SMOKE PREVENTION.

The Earl of ABERDEEN, in reply to an inquiry from Lord Redesdale, said, the Secretary of State for the Home Department had instructed the Commissioners of the Metropolitan Police to give notice to all owners of furnaces, of which there were 3862 within their district, that the Smoke Prevention Act would come into operation on the 1st of August next, and that its provisions would be enforced.

THE GERMAN CABINETS AND THE WAR.

Lord LYNDHURST drew attention to the terms of the memorandum, relating to the Eastern question, transmitted by the Cabinet of Vienna and Berlin to their Envoys at the Diet of Frankfort. It had given rise to much discussion, and it had been read with anxiety and uneasiness. It was somewhat obscure in language, but he apprehended it to mean that after the war the territorial position of Turkey on one side, and Russia on the other, should remain as before. The protocol of the 5th September, which referred to this memorandum, meant, placed this beyond doubt, for it was to the same effect. So that, according to the agreement between the four Powers, no alteration in the territorial limits of Turkey on the one side, and Russia on the other, was to take place, whatever might be the result of the war. This protocol was agreed to before the declaration of war; but, after war had been declared against Russia by England and France, we conformed to the principles upon which the protocol of the 5th of September had been framed. It was, therefore, extremely difficult, under these circumstances, to say by what principles England, France, Austria, and Prussia were guided; but it appeared to him clear to demonstration that at this very moment they were acting upon this principle, that if Russia guaranteed the integrity of the Ottoman empire, and the independence of the Sultan, the war with Russia must be terminated with the *status quo ante bellum*. Describing the importance of the Danube to Austria and Central Europe, and the circumstances under which, by the treaty of Adrianople, which he characterised as unfortunate and disastrous, the core of the mouths of that river had been given to Russia, he contended that the mode in which this engagement had been neglected by Russia, in order to encourage the port of Odessa, rendered it impossible for the Powers to consent to place that power in her former territorial position. This was absolutely necessary, from the state of this great river, that a change should be made in this respect. If this was the case on the western coast of the Black Sea, the duty was stronger on the coasts of Circassia. Amidst cheers from many noble Lords, he asked the House whether it was possible for this country to consent to restore to Russia the territory she had lost, or might lose, in Circassia? It might be said that, if certain guarantees were given for the integrity of Turkey, we might easily return to the *status quo*. The guarantee of the Four Powers, he admitted, might be of great value so long as they were united, and no collision occurred between them upon other points; but could that be depended upon? Then, if he was told we should have the positive engagement of Russia not to infringe upon the independence or territory of Turkey; but any guarantee of Russia, after what had occurred, was perfectly valueless. It was not worth the paper upon which it was written. The history of Russia was a history of fraud, duplicity, trickery, and violence. It had been such as ought to put us upon our guard against placing the slightest reliance upon any of her assurances. A new phrase had been introduced into the language of diplomacy by Russia—"material guarantees." If she would give the Allied Powers a material guarantee, a pledge of something so valuable that she would not like to risk its loss, perhaps it might be accepted; but as to a moral guarantee, the pledge of her honour, it was perfectly worthless. Under all circumstances we could never assent to restore the basis of the *status quo ante*. We must only, at the close of the war, diminish her means of aggression. But these objects would never be attained, and Turkey would never be safe, until the fleet in the Black Sea had been destroyed, and Sebastopol taken.

The Earl of CLARENDON, after some complaints of the irregularity of discussing a document not under the cognisance of their Lordships, said, the memorandum alluded to had exclusive reference to German interests and that it did not touch any engagement which had since have been made by Austria and Prussia with England and France. On the contrary, it strengthened them. He could not, of course, undertake to say upon what terms peace might be made. But the Allied Powers knew that the policy of Russia were dangerous to the tranquility of Europe, and were bent on the cause of peace and the progress of civilisation. The object of Europe must be to cripple that power and to check that policy; and the Allied Powers knew that the best way for doing that was now to carry on the war, while the opportunity for it was so wonderfully favourable, that it would be wise to delay the war any longer than necessary. All Europe was not to be disturbed, and great interests were not to be dissevered, for insignificant purposes; and the Allied Powers were all agreed that mere repression would not postpone the danger.

The Earl of DERBY contended that the noble Earl had passed too lightly over the pinching part of the case. He rejoiced, however, at the expressions of the noble Earl, because it showed that the people of this country would never be satisfied with a mutilation of Russia prohibited and her aggressions restricted. It was our bound a duty not to desert the Circassians. It was impossible to put the Black Sea to remain a Russian lake, or the Danube a Russian ditch, and he was sure that the noble Earl's language, if followed up by the whole of the Government, would give unbounded satisfaction.

The Earl of ABERDEEN said, [illegible] speech might have [illegible] in the [illegible] but he hardly [illegible] necessary [illegible] would have been more [illegible] before the declaration of war was [illegible]. The object of the war being to protect an ally against an unjust aggression, it had never occurred to provide beforehand for Russia's conquests upon Russian territory. The intention was to protect the independence and integrity of Turkey; consequently there might be some ambiguity in documents which were prepared some time before. Active negotiations were going on between the different courts of Europe; and therefore he attached no importance to the ambiguity to which complaint had now been made. The conditions of peace must depend on the progress of the war; but, observing that Russia had not pledged herself to make reparation for the wrongs she had committed, it should, so soon as he saw a prospect of a just and honourable peace, recommend its conclusion. And keeping this object in view, the war would be carried on with vigour.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

MR. STRUTT'S EXPLANATION.

Mr STRUTT entered into an explanation of the circumstances under which he had resigned the office of Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster; observing that erroneous and injurious reports upon the subject had been published. He had been originally asked to take office by Lord John Russell, on the part of Lord Aberdeen. The offer had been unexpected by him. He had known nothing of the duties of the office, but supposing that, though comparatively unimportant, they could be combined with others, he had accepted the offer, stating that he placed his whole time at the disposal of the Government. He found that the duties of the office were not more laborious than he expected, and also that he had no parliamentary duties connected with the Government. Such, at all events, was the opinion of one who had served [illegible] duties to the country; but, having accepted the office he did not intended to resign it. But upon his return to town after the Whitsun holidays, he received a letter from Lord John Russell, on the part of Lord Aberdeen, the result of which, and of an interview with the former, was his learning that the Government were in a difficulty as to arrangements which they thought important, and that the disposal of his office would relieve them. He found, on inquiry, that all other arrangements had been made, and that his acquiescence of other parties had been obtained, and that nothing was wanted but his concurrence. There was no other course for him but to give this instantly. He had sedulously abstained, in making those remarks, from a single observation on the conduct of any other person; and that he had made this statement with some pain and much embarrassment.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY BILL.

The House went into Committee on the Oxford University Bill.

Lord J RUSSELL stated that the two new commissioners were the Earl of HARROWBY and Mr. Cornewall Lewis.

Mr. FREMANTLE moved the addition of a clause designed to prevent credit from being given to students, and by which he proposed to prohibit actions against students for any debts contracted when they were under age.

Mr BENLEY opposed the clause, believing that the true remedy for University extravagance would be the imparting sounder views to the young men themselves.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER also opposed it, admitting that the evil complained of was serious, but not considering that a sufficient case could be made out for exceptional legislation.

After further discussion, Sir. FINNN postponed his motion.

Several other amendments were moved, but none of them were carried; the bill at last passed through Committee, and the report was ordered to be brought up on Thursday.

PRISON CHAPLAINS.

The House having gone into Committee of Supply on the Civil Service Estimates, it was proposed that the sum of £164,105 should be granted for the maintenance of prisoners in county jails and lunatic asylums.

Mr SCHOLEFIELD moved the reduction of the vote by £100, being the salary for chaplain, on the ground that the same rule laid down by the Committee ought to be extended to all creeds.

Sir G. GREY said that the sum in question was given between the Roman Catholic and the Protestant chaplains; and that, if this vote were refused, the unhappy individuals in the asylum would be deprived of all religious consolation.

Mr H DRUMMOND said that the Government had no right to provoke such discussions while blowing hot and cold on the subject of Catholicism and Protestantism.

After some observations by Mr Phinn, Mr. Adderley, and Lord Seymour, Mr. Sydney, Lord Palmerston, and other members, the Committee divided, and the numbers were—For the original vote, 246; for Mr. Scholefield's amendment, 28: majority for the vote, 218.

The vote was agreed to, as were other items, and the House resumed soon after midnight.

Lord PALMERSTON obtained leave to bring in a Bill for the Reformation of Juvenile Offenders.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

WRECK AND SALVAGE BILL.

On the question that the Wreck and Salvage Bill be considered in committee, Mr. Cardwell stated that the object of the bill was to make uniform throughout the kingdom the laws relative to wreck and salvage. To secure the desirable object, it was proposed to transfer all authority on the subject from the Admiralty to the Board of Trade.

The bill passed through Committee.

THE BARON DE BODE.

Mr. M. CHAMBERS called attention to the case of the Baron de Bode, and moved a resolution: "That the national good faith requires that the just claims of the Baron de Bode, established after protracted investigation, should be satisfied." Upon a point involving the honour of the country, Mr. Chambers hoped he would not appeal to the Commons of England in vain.

Mr DRUMMOND, in seconding the motion, would not argue the question on legal grounds. Every legal point had been fully established. The Baron had had to contend with every obstruction and every quibble which legal ingenuity could devise. Mr. Drummond would appeal from lawyers and law, from Chancellors of the Exchequer and from Attorney General, to honest men, to English gentlemen, and to common honesty.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said the question was not whether the Baron de Bode was a British subject, the question was whether he was within the meaning of the treaty. The Attorney-General believed that he was not a British subject in that sense; and proceeded to maintain his views by reference to the terms of the treaty, and to special claims of the Baron. The property was not confiscated because the Baron was a British subject, but because he was a French subject, and had emigrated.

After upwards of six hours of discussion, the House divided. The resolution was lost—for Mr. Chambers's resolution, 67; against it, 89: majority against it, 22.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

ABOLITION OF CHURCH-RATES.

Mr. MIALL moved the second reading of the Church-rate Abolition Bill.

Mr. A. PELLATT supported the bill, observing that a third of the people of England had already relieved themselves from these rates, while another third was still liable to them for the benefit of the remaining third. He deemed the only just principle to be that of voluntaryism.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER admitted that the case of Church-rates was a wrong for which there ought to be a remedy; but he did not see the advantage of a demon-tration in the form of a measure which could by no possibility become law during the present session; and, therefore, he could not assent to the proposition that the alternative lay between countenancing these rates and abolishing them. The case for a change was irresistible, and the Government was prepared to encounter the difficulties attendant upon legislation upon the subject and would endeavour to deal at an equitable adjustment of the question. If the rates were abolished, we must not stop there, or the Church would be placed in a condition of inequality.

Mr PACKE opposed, and Mr. BASS supported the bill.

Mr INGHAM said that he was unable to understand the view of the Chancellor of the Exchequer on the subject of these rates, but it was evident that ministers were upon other matters not of the same opinion in the Cabinet.

Lord J. RUSSELL said that the proposal for ungiving [illegible] Church-rates was intended to forward the view [illegible] opposed to all establishments, and, as he [illegible] the Established Church, he could not [illegible]. He referred to the admirable manner in which Dissenters [illegible] said that, considering the services they had rendered [illegible] education and religion, he should be glad to make any reasonable concession; and the whole dispute in the present day arose, not upon the great evils arising from these rates, but in reference to the question [illegible] whether we could be [illegible]. It would be inconsistent with the principle of a Church establishment, and would be also unjust [illegible] Churchmen, were no funds provided for the maintenance of [illegible] which had not been erected by dissenting chapels, marl, for [illegible] who required them, but not all. We had a national Church, an hereditary aristocracy, and an hereditary monarchy; and these must stand or fall together. As this bill was subversive of one of these great institutions, he should oppose it.

Sir W. CLAY briefly replied, and the House divided.

The numbers were—For the second reading, 182; for Mr. Goulburn's amendment, 209: majority against the bill, 27. The bill is therefore lost.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY

The Marquis of [illegible] called attention to a letter [illegible] a branch of the [illegible] of their Lordships' House. On the 7th April Earl Grey made a considerable speech upon the [illegible] of the administration of the Army, and moved for a return of the correspondence between the different departments of the Government, and [illegible] addition made to the department of the Secretary of State for War and the Colonies; and also with regard to any changes made in the transaction of business relating to the administration of the Army. The irregularities of which he (the noble Marquis) complained was first—that a portion of the correspondence produced took place subsequently to the date of Earl Grey's motion; and, secondly, that certain observations were made by the subordinate officers of the Government upon the speech of Earl Grey, and were annexed to returns produced [illegible] officers of the Commander-in-Chief, and officers of the Commissariat, but the [illegible] of the Colonial-office were so overworked during the session that it was almost impossible to keep up with the strict letter of the returns. As to that part of the charge, he was prepared to take the entire responsibility upon his own shoulders, as those papers were produced with his entire approbation. As to the observations made by the subordinate officers in connection with those papers, he (the Duke of Newcastle) was not aware of the fact until the noble Marquis brought it under the consideration of the House.

The Earl of DERBY said he thought that this was more than a technical violation of the rules of the House; and, if it were sanctioned by their Lordships, he feel ever it would lead to serious inconvenience, and would greatly endanger the freedom of speech in their Lordships' House.

Upon a suggestion of Earl FITZWILLIAM, the Duke of NEWCASTLE consented to a withdrawal of those papers, with a view to an amended return being laid before the House.

The Encumbered Estates (West Indies) Bill was read a second time.

The following bills were read a third time and passed:—The Church Buildings Act Amendment Bill, the Episcopal and Capitular Estates Management (1854) Bill, the Witnesses Bill, and the Customs Duties Bill.

The Public Statues Bill passed through Committee.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

The House met at twelve o'clock, and was occupied until four o'clock in discussions upon the clauses of the Drainage of Lands Bill. The bill ultimately passed through Committee.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY BILL.

At the evening sitting, the Oxford University Bill, as amended, was considered.

Mr HEYWOOD moved certain clauses, with a view, as he said, of assimilating the University of Oxford to that of Cambridge; but, substantially, to abolish certain oaths in Oxford, with a view of admitting Dissenters into the University.

Mr. COLLIER seconded the motion.

Mr. S. HERBERT said that the Government concurred in the principle of admitting Dissenters to all the rights and privileges of the University, but they thought that the House would act wisely by leaving the question to be determined by the governing body appointed under the bill. The adoption of the clause would only endanger the passing of the measure in another place.

Mr. H. BERKELEY warmly supported the motion.

A lengthened debate then took place, in the course of which the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Lord J. Russell repeated the objections urged by Mr. S. Herbert to Mr. Heywood's propositions.

The House then divided upon the first clause, which was, to admit Dissenters as students in the University. The numbers were—For the clause, 252; against it, 161: Majority against the Government, 91.

The result was received with loud cheering.

Mr. DUNCOMBE moving the second clause, which would admit Dissenters as members of the governing body,

Lord J. RUSSELL said that, after the decision to which the House had come, he would not put them to the trouble of another division.

Sir J. PAKINGTON and Mr. WALPOLE then complained of the conduct of the Government upon this subject, and urged a division.

A division accordingly took place, when the numbers were—For the second clause, 104; against it, 265: majority, in favour of the Government and against the clause, 161.

The further proceeding upon the report were then postponed until the following day (Friday).

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

The Divorce and Matrimonial Causes Bill passed through Committee.

The Vaccination Act Amendment Bill and the Witnesses Bill were read a third time and passed.

The Public Statues Bill, as amended, was reported.

The Earl of ABERDEEN gave notice that on Monday he would explain the speech he had made a few nights ago in reference to the present war.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

Mr. LAYARD gave notice that, on Thursday next, he would move a resolution that, in the opinion of the House, the language held by the First Minister of the Crown was calculated to raise grave doubts in the public mind on the subject of the war, and to lessen the prospect of an honourable and durable peace (Loud cheers from the Opposition). The motion would be to that effect, but not exactly in those words.

Lord J. RUSSELL said, the motion would have precedence on Thursday next.

In reply to Captain SCOBELL, Sir J. GRAHAM said, the loss of the *Europa* had not only affected him, and had given rise to severe reflections, partly professional. Strict injunctions had been given that no soldiers and sailors on the lower deck should be [illegible] A fire which had taken place the day before Cork and the *Europa* had been clearly traced to smoking (Hear).

Mr OLIVEIRA read the report of a [illegible] bel, recently in the newspapers, and in which Lord Drumlanrig was concerned. The noble Lord had backed a bet of 1000 sovs. against Mr. Walker. He rose to ask the noble Lord at the head of her Majesty's Government whether a nobleman having such proper ties was the fittest person to be in close connection with her Majesty (Loud laughter)? Would this Inquiry not present ("Hear, hear," and laughter)

Lord J. RUSSELL should not think it necessary to order any inquiry at present ("Hear, hear," and laughter)

OXFORD UNIVERSITY BILL.

On consideration of this bill as amended, Mr. R. D. MANGLES moved the omission of the names of the Hon. Sir John Taylor Coleridge and Sir John Arthur Awdrey from the list of Commissioners. He objected to them on account of their certain tendencies; and went over the religious history of the last few years, in order to show the justice of his charge.

The resolution having been seconded,

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said, the hon. gentleman had spoken of the merits of the name of Sir J. Coleridge as though it was a Government appointment, whereas the name had been merely suggested, subject to the approval of that House. He believed the learned judge had the confidence of the University of Oxford, and that the names proposed by the Government as Commissioners were those of men known for their moderation, and for their ability to discharge the duties that would be imposed upon them. The former rejection of Mr. Justice Coleridge from a commission on which High and Low Church men might properly sit, would be a judicial sentence upon one of the Judges of the land; and he trusted the House, before coming to a vote, would well weigh the evidence which had been adduced in support of the motion.

Mr. WALPOLE asked the House to acquiesce in the names proposed, and passed a [illegible] eulogium upon the character and professional reputation of Mr Justice Coleridge.

After some discussion on the motion was withdrawn, and the names of the Commissioners proposed by the Government were agreed to.

Several verbal amendments having been made in the bill, it was ordered to be read a third time on Monday.

The TOWN Improvement (Ireland) Bill passed through Committee.

The CORNEY Prisons (Ireland) Bill was read a second time.

OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS.—Sir G. Grey has appointed Lord Hobart and Mr. Samuel Whitbread, M.P., to be his parliamentary secretaries at the Colonial Office. Mr. Whitbread receives no salary in consequence of having a seat in Parliament. Colonel Cecil Wray Forester, late of the 52nd regiment, is appointed Assistant-Sergeant at the House of Commons, in room of [illegible] promoted to be Deputy Serjeant-at-Arms, in room of Mr. Clementson, retired after many years' service. Captain Charles Frederick Wyvill, R.N., is appointed Captain Superintendent of Chatham Dockyard. Captain John Jervis Tinker, R.N., is appointed Captain Superintendent at Sheerness Dockyard, vice Wyvill. Messrs. Henry J. Allan, George F. U. Nott, Henry Dimsdale, and Frederick Richard are appointed third-class clerks in the Accountant-General's department of the Admiralty, Somerset-house.

A CANNON-BALL FROM ODESSA.—In the Underwriters' room, at Liverpool, may be seen a curious relic of the bombardment of Odessa, namely, a 68-pound cannon-ball fired by the Russians on that occasion, and which failed in its murderous purpose by killing James Shaker, a seaman on board her Majesty's steamer *Terrible*. It is apparently a 32-pounder.

A QUICK SEA PASSAGE.—The *Atrato*, the largest paddle-wheel steamer in the world, left Southampton on the 12th ult., and arrived at Colon, Panama, a distance of 4700 miles on the 26th ult. She attained, on the average, 12½ miles an hour for 272 consecutive hours, or 11 miles a day for eleven successive days. Her greatest performance was on the 13th ult., when she ran 287 miles. With the exception of her first day of starting, she never did less than 300 miles a day.

A NEW RUSSIAN LOAN.—The terms of the Russian loan contracted in Holland, for £7,500,000 sterling, are—A five per cent loan, to be paid up in full before the 9th of July, with dividend from the 1st of April, at 93. The houses by whom it is introduced are Messrs. Stieglitz, at St. Petersburg, and Messrs. Hope, at Amsterdam. The introduction of this new loan is caused a heavy fall in Russian Stocks at Amsterdam.

DEFENCE OF MORECOMBE BAY.—It is understood that Lieut. Moody, on his recent inspection of the coast, fixed upon the hill to the south east of the North-Western Hotel for a battery of three long guns of large calibre, the works to be commenced forthwith.

EFFECTS OF THE WAR ON RUSSIA.—The present war, in the midst of which we are encouraging the useful and liberal arts to an extent, and by means previously unknown in this country, has already crippled Russia to a serious extent. The Czar's Minister of Domains has just announced, by Imperial ukase, that, on account of the war, the preparations for all the agricultural classes of the population in Russia, the industrial and manufacturing exhibition in the provinces of New Russia and Lesser Russia cannot take place this year.

THE BREVET.

(From the *Gazette* of Wednesday Evening.)

WAR-OFFICE, JUNE 20.

Officers promoted by the following Brevet will receive their promotions, subject to new regulations about to be promulgated by Royal warrant.

TO BE LIEUTENANT-GENERAL IN THE ARMY.—Major-General H R.H. the Duke of Cambridge.

Her Majesty has been pleased to appoint the following officers to take rank by Brevet, as undermentioned. The Commissions to be dated the 20th June, 1854:—

TO BE GENERALS IN THE ARMY.—Lieutenant-Generals S Brown, D Herbert, Viscount O'Neill, Sir E Blakeney, Sir T Hasker, Sir J Wilson, Lord Seaton, Sir D Pitcairn, Sir A Woodford, Earl of Westmoreland, Lord Raglan, Lord C S Manners, R Ellice, G Gordon, Viscount Gough, Sir J Macdonnel, J W Sleigh, Sir W G Davy, J Yates, Sir J P Fitz Gerald, Sir A B Clifton, W C Eustace, Earl Cathcart, Sir A Leith Hay, D'Oyly, Hon H Arbuthnot, Sir J Douglas, Sir W Macbean, Viscount Hardinge, Sir W Cotton, Sir J Hanbury, Earl Beauchamp, Hon E P Lygon, H Shadforth, J M Hamerton, Sir W Tyrly, Sir G H Fitzroy, C H Berkeley, H Fonnen, Sir H King, Sir G F Napier, Sir G Scovell, Lord Downes, Marquis of Tweeddale, Sir F W Trench, H Wyndham, Sir E Bowater, Sir W M Gomm.

TO BE LIEUTENANT-GENERALS IN THE ARMY.—Major-Generals C E Conyers, G A Henderson, R B Macpherson, P Hay, A Money, J F Ewart, H A Proctor, W Jervois, Sir F Cockburn, Right Hon Sir G Arthur, Bart, K Farquharson, R Llanlyn, F A Maxwell, E Egerton, Sir W Chalmers, J C Boucher, L Argumbau, Sir H G W Smyth, Bart, F Calvert, Sir De L Evans, W H Scott, Sir T Wiltshire, Bart, Hon H E Butler, E F Lennox, J Hoste, Bainbrigge, J E Napier, N Thorne, W F Eeswe l, W L Darling, Sir J Touchwe., Sir W L Herries, J M'Donald, J W Paty, Lord J Hay, T J Wemyss, M Thomas, W Rowan, J S Kennedy, A W Lord Saundys, Sir T H Brown, A Maclachlan, Sir F Ainsworth, H Bauerwis, G L Goldie, G P Higginson, Sir G Bowles, T Bunbury, Hon H F Cavendish, J W Aldred, F W Robbins, K Madden, W Sutherland, H Rainey, Hon G Gore, W L Watson, G K Fox, G A Shawe.

TO BE MAJOR-GENERALS IN THE ARMY.—Colonels H Dwyer, J Taylor, F J Jones, J Fenet, A Pearl, M Pearshouse, C B Chatterton, J H Lefroy, Howden, J A Earl of Rosslyn, W T Knolys, E Sudd, C S Campbe., Sir H R F Davie, E F Gascoigne L B Loveu, Sir J A Cuerke, Sir H Bo elli, H J W Bentinck, J Reed, H Viscount Melville, A C Kennedy, W J Brooke, Sir C Campbell, P E Craigie, E F Murra, H Colvile, E W Bouverie, Hon T Ashburnham, M White, J Scott, J L Pennycuick, W Bird, F T Bullen, H Leopard, E W Bell, J Reed, J Jones, B G , Hon J Horace, T S Trafford, H Bristow, G S Thwaites, J Jerrard, A M , Lord Gordigan, W C Colet, Sir M Dacyll, Eden, H R H rt, C Yorke, J Campbell, Hon G Cadie, T Eddes J Perry, H Dixon, R Ketchin, A Robertson, W H Cornwall, S Stanhope, C M Hay, H Lo , Hon F Rous, J D Rundon, W Beckwith, R E Robinson, H W B , Sir A Alexander, the Duke of Wellington, J W Sandwith, P Mayo, Hon A Bourke, Menus, W Cox, G M Eden, G Dixon, F Maunsell, W J C , Hon C Turner, W Rudyer, J W Frith, T Falls, J Hails.

TO BE COLONELS IN THE ARMY.—Lieutenant-Colonels F Meade, J Williams, W F Forster, W Beetham, F Johnston, W Bragge, A Gosmide, G W Prosser, E M'Arthur, D H Macdowall, J P Hely, C B Bowers, J Arnaud, F Bowers, Sir T Bell, C Campbell, Hon A Gardiner, F M Williams, W Negan, A B Trevor, R R W Brett, W H Dalton, Earl of Albemarle, G T Colomb, Marquis Conyngham, S J Cotton, H Barlow, P Wilson, J Nadge, Hon J St V Saumarez, W J Codd, Hon R Bruce, A C V N Pole, E W F Walker, Sir C J J Hamilton, T A Drought, T H Franks, C Stuart, Hon A A Spencer, C Assmore, A Monteson, H M E Lottle, J Lawrenson, W Holmes, C Cranklyn, G C Mundy, F H C Seymour, H W Hartley, A Mackworth, L D Williams, R B Wood, C E Gold, C A Ainslie, W Gun Gell, W Pringle, J Musgreve, Sir J Lumley Longland, C Balders, F W Hamilton, W Denny, C H Doyle, Horn, J F G Campbell, H F Bonham, Lord F Fitzt. Mower, J R Smyth, W Pitman, Hon J Ward, Earl of Dunmore, R Hon Sir J Lindsay, Hon G A F Liddell, W Sutton, H Hartwright, Creagh, J H Bainbridge, A A T Conyngham, H Beadle, W Jervis, Rickets, W Baugh, Hon H G Boyle, Hon A Gordon, Le Mesurier, J Swinburn, R Kelly, G Stuart, F K , Hon Forester, G Foster, T G Harriott, J K Ross, B S Brooke, E G W Kepp, Hon A Hood, J Campbell, J C Young, H Marsh, Hon A Hood, Hon W N H ll, H Gibbon, F C Irwin, R Parker, J Brown, C Ingram, A T Hemphill, Lord G A F Paget, S Taylor, G A Windham.

TO BE LIEUTENANT-COLONELS IN THE ARMY.—J Pearson, H C Wallington, J Douglas, W J Myers, J Paterson, H C B Daubeney, F Lassington, T White, F Whittingham, G Bridge, E Bond, H Smyth, E R Holmes, Hon Conway, A B Smith, J S Smith, W Fope, H A Bosanquet, P Adams, W L Tudor, T Graham, G Pinder, G Green, R A Cathbert, M J Westrin, C Herbert, Lord A Paget, E R King, J Singleton, M B Childers, R W Disney, H H Greathead, A St G H Stepney, S Fisher, Hon H R Handcock, Hind, A F Ansell, G F F Boughey, T H Pearson, L Eyre, W Anson, G F Long, W Waugh, A Reed, J Bergeron, S Wynyard, W Hale, D C Cooper, Foster, A Campbell, J Draper, J Gerrard, A Anderson, J E Alexander, F Brown, E Lestrange, R H J B Mc Donnell, Hon Annesley, A Hamilton, W Robinson, R W Bamford, W Gordon, Deverell, M Orr, W B Caldwell, H F Hawker, J A Robertson, G Keane, E Trevor, A B L Wyatt, G H F Campbell, J B Creagh, J M Rudd, H B Harvey, E A G Muller, C F Parkinson, A Bolton, A Speidel, W Gordon, Colville, H L Pipon, J Tulloch, W Campbell, A Osterman, E Sandys, J L Cooke, G S Darrell, W J Crompton, T E Lyons, Bloomfield, J Gray, T Frost, J Imgart, J Cooper, C Wood, J F du Vernet, W T B Mountsteven, R Gong, W Cald , J P Boger, M S H Lord, O James, J Stuart, H Anderson, J Keane, Stewart, Martin, W H Colman, J Wegg, W Phillips, R C Hamilton, A Barnes, G F C Scott, A T Lockhart, W Macpherson, J Forbes, H B Rogers, G Mac beth, W R Halliday, W Johnson.

TO BE MAJORS IN THE ARMY.—E L Ingall, W Lodder, B C Mitford, J H Lye, J Richardson, W Lindsay, H S Marsden, A W Wood, H B Wayard, J D de Wend, R Dodd, B Watson, B G Legrel, W Bell, H J Day, J E Symons, J D G Tulloch, J B Sharpe, H Russell, J Kensall, R M Sutherland, W R emay, E J Vaughan, A Sandilands, A A Bruce, G Lewis, Hon R Rollo, J Butler, W O'Neil, A H Russell, A Herbert, W H H Anderson, H B Sawyer, W Carruthers, P R Jennings, J K Wilson, J H C Robertson, R Knox, F E Palmer, J A West, H C Powell, W C Stuart, S R Herdmore, G W Meehan, A Cameron, J Travers, T O W Ingram, J K Mackenzie, J H Rose, A Donegan, H Grierson, A D Fan hawe, C Gordon, J W F Audain, Hon F J E Freke, G B C Creagh, J Seward, R D Campbell, J G Stock, W Mauleverer, A G Vesey, J F Grant, W Gunn, G King, J H Strachan, W F Hardy, W Fenwick, C W Sibley, J Bruce, F W Horne, M Andrews, E Hooper, F B Stevens, T F E Chardson, E R Greg, G Reane, E G Wynyard, W Warde, M Hall, W F B Lee, J Murray, A T Heyland, E W Scovell, A Scott, D Gordon, Jackson, S E Smith, G F S Call, H D Smart, F C A Stephenson, J F Mayer, H T Bowen, G Erskine, C W Thompson, C S Teale, C P Ibbetson, T M Byrne, J D Maitland, J S Hawkins, H C O Bannerman, A D Pane, J S Wood, T Carey, H J Savage, A Low, W L Seward, A Mackay, W Carpenman, A Pigott, A C Anderson, C Murray, E L Bloose, W P Young, J Nugent, W H H Clarke, J Forster, J Crawley, W C Molina, R B Prestley, G Maxwell, J E Robertson, A R Margary, F G Hanley, J Henderson, M S I Dennis, J Beatty, H D Neville, G Frend, G B Hilton, C D Plunkett, T H L Wegsalin, J Foster, J J Bull, H F Waechter, Illis Seren, Highness Prince of Saxe-Weimar.

The undermentioned officers have been appointed AIDES-DE-CAMP to the Queen, with the rank of COLONEL in the ARMY, from the 20th June, 1854.—Lieut-Colo H V Brooke, G G T C Napier, E Lugard, H I Tucker. Honorary Aide-de-Camp—Sir R M Lawrence.

Her Majesty has been pleased to appoint the following officers of the Royal Artillery and Royal Engineers to take rank by Brevet as undermentioned. The commissions to be dated the 2 th June, 1854.

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT, ROYAL ARTILLERY.

TO BE GENERALS IN THE ARMY.—Lieut-General A Armstrong, H Eveleigh, Hon W H Gardiner, F Walker, J W Tobin.

TO BE LIEUTENANT-GENERALS IN THE ARMY.—J Lving, F Campbell, W G Power, A Mc.donald, T J Forbes, J Paterson.

TO BE MAJOR-GENERALS IN THE ARMY.—Colonels R Douglas, P M Wallace, R Jones, J E Jones, J Michell, E C Whinyates, T Dickenson, T Dyneley, G Cobbe, A C Mercer, Sir W M G Colebrooke, W Cator, J Chesser, A Maclachlan, J Connor, E Kirby, J W Kettlewell, G C Collin, J S Rawlins, D Grant, H A Scott, W Wyde, H C Russell.

TO BE COLONELS IN THE ARMY. J Gray, J Foot, Hon W Arbuthnot, H Bleoley, W L Bury, G J Belson, Lieut. Col. R F Romer, R C Maitsward, J Gordon, J H Wood, G Durnford, R B Rawnsley, R Hardman, J Hanwell, A Andrews, W E Lock, P Sandilands, B Wills, B H Vaughan Arbuckle, F F Strangways, J H Freer, A W Hope, J L Smith, J Eyre, C Oliwy, W C Hawkins, R Palmer, R S Armstrong, G T Rowland, A R Harrison, H R Wright, W H Bent, R Clarke.

TO BE LIEUTENANT-COLONELS IN THE ARMY.—W H Askwith, H S Rwan, C Dickson, Hon R C H Spencer.

TO BE MAJORS IN THE ARMY.—F Duclop, F Dick, A Tyler, G J Dalton, D E Wood, R M Tulle, F M Kardley Wilmot, J W Fitzmayer, G R H Kennedy, G Sandham, C V Cockburn, J H Franklyn, G Gamber, F S Hamilton, E W Crofton, S P Towns end, P E , N E Harrison, G J Buchanan, W E Gilbert, H Aytoun, C B Levinge, A G W Hamilton, A Irving, C Bingham, J N A Freese, F D Cuevedand.

ROYAL ENGINEERS.

TO BE GENERALS IN THE ARMY.—Sir G Wilmore, F R Thackeray, J F Birch, G Nicols, G Wright.

TO BE LIEUTENANT-GENERALS IN THE ARMY.—G Cardew, E Fanshawe.

TO BE MAJOR-GENERALS IN THE ARMY.—Sir J M F Smith, J Oldfield, M C Dixon, P D Cu der.

TO BE COLONELS IN THE ARMY.—Lieut.-Colonels R S Piper, M A Waters, P Cole, E Mason, J C Victor, C Grierson, L A Hall, P Yule, W M Goreat, D Bolton, F W Whinyates.

TO BE LIEUTENANT-COLONEL IN THE ARMY —Major J C Burmester.

TO BE MAJORS IN THE ARMY Captains W E D Broadhton, R J Nelson, G Burgoynne, J Naylor, Sir W P Denison, J Williams, G W Durnford, E T Lloyd, H James, T R Mould, G Wynne, W C Sacre, H D Harness, E T Ford, W Yo.land.

ROYAL MARINES.

Her Majesty has been pleased to appoint the following officers of the Royal Marines to take rank by Brevet, as undermentioned. The commissions to be dated June 2 :—

TO BE LIEUTENANT-GENERALS IN THE ARMY.—Major-Generals E Nicolls, G Lewis, F Lawrence, G Jones, W H Connolly, G Best,

TO BE MAJOR-GENERALS IN THE ARMY.—Colonel-Commandants C Mullins and W Fergusson.

TO BE COLONEL IN THE ARMY.—Lieut Colonel D Cumph R.

TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL IN THE ARMY.—Major W Plangford.

TO BE MAJORS IN THE ARMY.—Captains J Ross, A Anderson, R Wright, J Fraser, T Holloway, J C G Courtis, P B Nolloth, F A Campbell.

EAST INDIA COMPANY'S FORCES.

Her Majesty has been pleased to appo nt the under-mentioned officers of the East India Company's Forces to take rank by Brevet in her Majesty's Army in the East Indies as follows. The commissions to bear date 20 h June, 1854.—

TO BE GENERALS IN THE ARMY.—H S Osborne, Sir J L Caldwell, G Carpenter, Sir D Leighton, J We sh Sir J Russell, M White, R Polwhele, Sir R Louston, J Greenstreet, G B Kemp, J Munro, J A P Macgregor, Sir J Frederger, Sir W Roberts A Duncan, R J Later, J F Dyson, J Doyston, A Fair, Sir J S Lushington, W C Fraser, W Gilbert.

TO BE MAJOR-GENERALS.—J Henry, C R Skar n, S Sandys, J Anderson, F Hearle, T M Douglas, W K G Bostley, C Herbert, G P Wyner, J Paul, J G Griffith, S Shaw, F L Doveston, C B Jones, J H Dawes, M Paul, C Payne, J Palmer, Sir J Cheape, J Low, J Lutrs, J Tulloch, R Powney, Sir H M Wheeler, G E Gowan, P Montgomery, J Stuart Cowens, W H Hewitt, J Hoste, G W A Lloyd A ton, A B D , J W Cleveland, R Bird, D Cannon, W D Bruce, J Cox.

TO BE COLONELS.—Lieutenant-Colonels R Burd G Hicks, H Bailey, H Dick, W Mactier, J Nash, J Alexander, J Hume, Hon A Ashley, S Stewart, E Pettingal, H Hancock, H J Wood, R Hawkins, R C Griffin, G C Whitlock, F G Lister, D Downing, P Thomson, I Mackenzie, A Goldie, W H Wake, T M Sherry, W N T Sneu, J C Pitt, F Beandye, R Bithell, H Pitt, R Johnson, J Mayle, L Layrie, J Tulloch, T Powhele, J H Hamilton, P Bernie, J H Bruce, C Cumberlege, Fisnes, J T Boileau, A W Lbarlow, W J Cosens, J H Lawrence, J Crauford, H Stewart, Hon A Gardiner, J A Sabapaw, Æneas Shiress, I. Hessiter, W Forster, S Stuart, H Tennant.

TO BE LIEUTENANT-COLONELS.—Majors J Nesom, H P Burn, E R Meinwaring, A C , J Nesom, J H , H P Burn, E R Meinwaring, A C , J Nesom, J H , H P Burn, E R Meinwaring, A C , J Nesom, J H ,

RECRUITING THE ARMY.

After paying for these items, not much can remain for the individual's benefit out of £5 5s. 6d. There are other small sums allowed by Government to officers of various departments on passing a recruit, but they in no way affect the soldier.

In the infantry, the bounty is thus apportioned:—On attestation, 2s. 6d.; on intermediate approval, 7s. 6d.; on final approval, and to provide himself with a kit, £3 10s.: total, £4. Like the cavalry recruit, the whole of his miscalled bounty is expended on his necessaries, exclusive of the half-crown and 7s. 6d. paid to him as already shown. Continuance of so penurious an arrangement will never lead men to enter the service during the war. Raise the infantry bounty to £5, and the cavalry in proportion. When passed, let the inspecting field-officer pay the money into the recruit's hand. Furnish him with a kit free of expense on joining his regiment or dépôt, and the difficulty at present experienced in raising soldiers will cease to exist.

INSPECTION OF THE ESSEX MILITIA (GARRISON) AT THE TOWER OF LONDON.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

CEREMONY OF LAYING THE FOUNDATION-STONES OF THE NEW PIERS AT THE MOUTH OF THE TYNE.

LAYING THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE TYNE PIERS.

The important ceremony of laying the foundation stones of the Piers at the mouth of the Tyne took place on Thursday, in presence of the River Tyne Commissioners, the members of the Corporation of Newcastle, the Mayor and Corporation of North and South Shields, many of the clergy and influential gentlemen of all the towns on the borders of the Tyne, and a large concourse of spectators. The amount of property destroyed and the number of lives lost within the proposed area is unequalled in any harbour in the kingdom, and the inhabitants of the Tyne will not soon forget the awful spectacle which ushered in the year 1854, when upwards of twenty vessels were stranded at the very entrance of the port, occasioning grievous loss of property, and many a mourning and desolate hearth

In both the towns at the mouth of the Tyne the day was observed as a general holiday; and in Newcastle, though no holiday was kept, yet there also it was observed as a day of rejoicing; and the River Commissioners, the Masters and Brethren of the Trinity House, the Corporation, the Vicar of Newcastle, the Rector of Gateshead, &c., proceeded, at ten in the forenoon, with a number of the inhabitants, in the city barges, steamers, &c., to take part in the proceedings. About twelve o'clock the marine cortége landed at the South Shields Ferry, where they were joined by Matthew Poppelwell, Esq., the Mayor of Tynemouth, and received by the Deputy-Mayor of South Shields with a short and appropriate address of welcome; to which Mr. Cowen, on the part of the Commissioners, appropriately responded. The address and the response were both received with loud and repeated cheering; and after the procession was marshalled, and with the bands playing national airs, the gentlemen proceeded down King-street, towards the place of their destination. The Corporations of South and North Shields, the Clergy of the borough, and great numbers of the principal inhabitants, took part in the ceremony. Bodies of seamen and pilots also attended with flags; and along the line of march the windows were thronged with ladies, who welcomed the procession by the waving of handkerchiefs.

Arrived at the place for the ceremony, everything under the able direction of Mr. Brooks, and his intelligent lieutenant, Mr. Gibson, was found to be in preparation, and, an active body of police having cleared a space, the procession formed a circle round the stone, with the principal actors on the occasion in the centre. The foundation-stone of the Pier lies considerably below high-water mark, and of course it was necessary that the time of the ceremony should be when the tide was out. A breast-work of stone was thrown upon the line of the intended pier, and at the termination shears were erected, to the ropes of which was suspended the foundation-stone. On the stone being placed, the Chairman of the Commissioners adjusted it with a plumb-line and struck it with a mallet. As soon as the proceeding was over, the Rev. S. B. Brasher, Incumbent of St. Stephen's, offered up an appropriate prayer—a part of the ceremony which was conducted with great reverence, and joined in by all the persons around with becoming respect and feeling. The foundation was then declared to be laid, and the bands played the National Anthem, amidst loud and continued applause. The Chairman

OPENING OF THE NEW THEOLOGICAL INSTITUTION, AT CUDDESDEN.—THE ADDRESS OF THE BISHOP OF OXFORD.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

of the Commissioners, standing on the stone, then addressed the persons assembled at some length. The proceedings closed with a round of cheering; and after the company had partaken of wine, which was plentifully supplied by the commissioners, the procession formed and marched to the ferry landing.

Here they crossed the river in the ferry, barges, and steamer, which received a hearty welcome from the Mayor and Corporation of North Shields, who headed the procession to the New Quay in Tynemouth, the Commissioners coming next, followed by the Corporation of Newcastle and South Shields, and accompanied by those of the inhabitants.

The procession, having with some difficulty made their way over the rocks and slippery stones, formed in circle round the stone, and the inscription having in like manner been read, the Chairman of the Commissioners (as at South Shields) was presented by Mr. Ivens with a silver trowel, which he adroitly traced over the surface of the mortar, and the stone was swung in to its bed, and its adjustment tested by the Chairman with plummet and line; after which he tapped on the stone with a mimic oaken hammer, and declared the foundation duly laid. The ceremony took place about three-quarters before three. The Rev. Christopher Reed, Vicar of Tynemouth, then offered up an appropriate prayer, which (as at South Shields) was [illegible] by the company, with great reverence and respect.

The inaugurative proceedings of the day were appropriately terminated by a banquet in the Assembly-rooms, North Shields, given by Matthew Popplewell, Esq., the Mayor of Tynemouth, and to which he had invited the members of the River Commission, the principal members of the civic and municipal bodies of Newcastle-on-Tyne and Gateshead, and of North and South Shields, with the [illegible] guests of each place, and the neighbourhood, more particularly of Shields.

OPENING OF THE CUDDESDEN THEOLOGICAL INSTITUTION.

THE opening of this Institution took place, on Thursday week, with an impressive ceremony, which is fully reported in the *Oxford Chronicle*. It will be remembered by our readers that the chief corner-stone of the new building was laid in April, 1853, by the Lord Bishop of the diocese, and during the comparatively short period which has intervened, a handsome building has been erected, to be devoted to the purpose of supplying a want which is greatly felt in the Established Church. The Institution was opened at Whitsuntide for the reception of students, members of the Universities who have passed their final examinations, and to students of King's College who have passed the two years course there, or graduates of Trinity College, Dublin, holding the Divinity testimonium.

The new College has been erected from designs furnished by Mr. Street, architect, of Oxford. It is situated just opposite the Episcopal Palace, and contains rooms for twenty-one students, a dining hall, common room, oratory, and rooms for a vice-principal. The style is Decorated Pointed. The rooms are of very different sizes, and the upper story is lighted with large dormer windows with hipped gables on the side of the principal roof. An elaborate staircase turret, with pyramidal spire, makes a conspicuous and very ornamental feature on the exterior.

At the ceremony, on Thursday week, no less than eight prelates of the Establishment and two hundred and fifty of the clergy congregated together. There was also a large attendance of laymembers of the Church from the surrounding district. A choir of about 100 voices, elected from Culham and Oxford, under the direction of the Rev. Mr. Fisher, sang greatly to the solemnity of the ceremonial.

The ceremonial commenced about twelve o'clock at the parish church; the Provost of Oriel and attendant members of the College and clergy of the Church, and preceded by the choir, walking in procession from the Palace. The Rev. G. W. Huntingford chanted the sublime Litany; after the Church was said by the Rev. J. Gept and the choir sang Anthem the Lord Bishop of New Zealand preached an eloquent sermon, selecting his text from Isaiah lx. 22 verse. "The little one shall become a thousand."

The procession at the church being concluded, the persons [illegible] re-formed and advanced to the Collegiate buildings. Having reached the ground in front of the College, the clergy and choir being arranged on either side in places appropriated to them, the special service of the day commenced. The appearance of the assembled multitude in front of the College at this moment was most interesting and imposing. Among the company present were the Bishop of Oxford, the Bishop of Lincoln, the Bishop of Chichester, the Bishop of Worcester, the Bishop of Bangor, the Bishop of St. Asaph, the Bishop of Natal, the Bishop of New Zealand, Sir George Grey, the Dean of Peterborough, Archdeacon Bickersteth, Archdeacon Clerke, the Warden of Radley, the Warden of Bedford, the Master of Balliol, the Rev. Thomas Bowdler, Prebendary of St. Paul's, the Rev. A. C. Hall, Principal of Culham Training School, &c. The service being concluded,

The Bishop of Oxford addressed the assemblage at considerable length, the object of [illegible] respect of the institution.

The Bishop of Lincoln then address[illegible] and was followed by the Bishop of Chichester, who spoke of the great advantages which had resulted from the establishment in Chichester of a similar institution to the present.

The Bishop of St. David's, the Bishop of Worcester, and the Bishop of Natal, next spoke; and the Bishop of New Zealand referred to an establishment which he had founded in his infant diocese, 15,000 miles from any University at all.

The Bishop of Oxford then brought the services to a close, by thanking the choir for their attendance. His Lordship pronounced the Benediction in his peculiarly impressive manner, and the interesting services of the day terminated.

We understand the collection at the conclusion of the service at the parish church amounted to £400

The period of the proceedings represented by the Artist is that of the Bishop of Oxford addressing the assembly from a raised platform; the clergy being drawn up in two lines from the outer gate to the door of the College. The Bishops were on the Bishop of Oxford's right hand, in a semicircle. The several Bishops in turn spoke from the platform.

There was a crowd of laity, ladies and gentlemen, outside the clergy; outside the wall were rustics, &c.

OPENING PUBLIC LIBRARIES ON SUNDAYS.—At the last meeting of the Oxford Town council, the Mayor presiding, at which he had received from the parishioners of St. Martin's, assembled in vestry on Holy Thursday, protesting against the opening of the Public Reading Room on Sundays. A discussion ensued, extending over several hours, and ultimately a resolution, "that the memorial is mischievous and uncalled for," was carried by 12 votes to 11.

THE NEW DEAN OF WINDSOR.—The Hon. and Rev. Gerald Wellesley, who has been appointed to the deanery of Windsor, is a son of the first Baron Cowley—who was our Ambassador at Paris, Ambassador at the Court of Vienna, and who filled other diplomatic situations—and brother of the present peer.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

HAMPTON RACES. WEDNESDAY.

Stand Plate.—Banstead, 1. Cranbourne, 2.
Surrey and Middlesex Stakes.—Cock Pheasant, 1. Allington, 2.
Claret and Stakes.—Tiburnus, 1. Bee, 2.
Corinthian Stakes.—Tweed the Plough, 1. Gossip, 2.
The Innkeepers' Plate was won, in four heats, by Mr. Patteson's Merry Peal, beating Herbert and New Brighton.

THURSDAY.

Visitors' Plate.—Master Adam, 1. Jessamine, 2.
Queen's Plate.—Exact, 1. Crosslanes, 2.
Railway Plate.—Hannibal, 1. Eccleston, 2.
Richmond Plate.—Roebuck, 1. Master Adam, 2.
Plate of 80 sovs.—Economy, 1. Speed the Plough, 2.
Scurry Stakes.—William Rufus, 1. Sandhurst, 2.

NEWCASTLE ON-TYNE MEETING. TUESDAY.

Trial Stakes.—Monimia, 1. Sheriff, 2.
North Derby.—Mar ey Hill, 1. Aribbas, 2.
Members' Plate.—Knight of St. George, 1. Revolver, 2.
Tyro Stakes.—Saraband, 1. Nettle, 2.
Selling Race.—Maid of Balmoral, 1. Tom Bintord, 2.

WEDNESDAY.

Grand Stand Stakes.—Eldersdale filly, 1. Lord Alfred, 2.
Northumberland Plate.—Grapeshot, 1. Kingston, 2. Sixteen ran.
Free Handicap.—Nelly Hill, 1. Horatio, 2.
Her Majesty's Plate.—The Skimmer, 1. Captain Cornish, 2.

THURSDAY.

Scurry Handicap.—Bourgeois, 1. Eva, 2.

Lottery Stakes.—Jetty Irdz 1. Bellerophon, 2
Gold Cup.—Ripperda[illegible] Monarch, 2. Goorkah, 3.
Consolation Plate.—Ne[illegible] Sheriff, 2.
Corporation Plate.—Nonpareil 1. Dandy, 2.

CRICKET.—Of the first matches of the season was played on Lord's on Monday and Tuesday—the M. C. and Ground against the Gentlemen of Hertfordshire. The latter obtained 77 runs in their first innings, and 61 in their second. The M. C. had 75 runs in their first, and 69 in their second, thus winning by four wickets.—The First and Second Eleven of the Gentlemen of Middlesex played a match at the Oval, on Monday, when the first battalion won by ten wickets.

RACES TO COME.—On Monday, and following days, the Carlisle take place, the Beverley, Hull and East Riding, on Wednesday and Thursday; the Bibury also on Monday; Sandwich, on Tuesday; Ludlow, on Friday and Saturday; and on Friday, the Winchester meeting takes place.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

The arrival of news from the East to the effect that the Russian troops have received orders to re cross the Pruth, added to their severe losses before Silistria, and the firm attitude which Austr is now resuming, have had a most influence upon the market for the Funded Debt. An increase in prices equal to *three per cent* has taken place, and there appears so be every prospect of even a greater improvement in them. The great scarcity of money and the large temporary expenditure of millions from various quarters, have, no doubt, given strong support to the market; whilst the second issue of £2,000,000 Exchequer Bonds, at 97 15-16, or terms which pay exactly four per cent, has put at rest, at least for the present, all speculative rumours that the Chancellor of the Exchequer was about to come into the money market for a few [illegible]. The first instalment upon the £2,000,000 has been paid; the second will become due on the 8th of July; the third on the 22nd of August, and the fourth on the 10th of October. It has been agreed that no further issue of these bonds will take place within the next ten weeks.

[illegible] Exchequer Bills have now been admitted [illegible] Consols. This is an important step, and our fundholding private bankers should have no long opposed their [illegible] holding, because [illegible] that bankers now [illegible] more simplified and [illegible] of cheques. [illegible] part of silver has been [illegible] at 5s. 2d. per ounce, being [illegible] of 1d. per ounce since [illegible] sale.

The Consol-market [illegible] very active, and prices advanced 2 per cent. Great complaints were made of a scarcity of stock. The Three per Cents Reduced were done at 92¾ to 93; Consols for opening, 92½ to 93⅜; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 93⅜ to 93⅝. Long Annuities, 1860, were 6 9-16ths; India Bonds, 3s. prem.; Exchequer Bills, par. to 3s. prem.; Exchequer Bonds (Serip), ½ prem. On Tuesday prices were tolerably firm, but the business done was not to say extensive. Bank Stock sold at 206 to 208. The Three per Cents Reduced marked 92¾ to 93⅛; Consols for Account, 92⅞ to 93⅛; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 92⅞ to 93⅜; Long Annuities, 1860, were 6 9-16ths to 11-16ths; Ditto, 1859, 4⅜; India Bonds were done at 3s. prem.; Exchequer Bills, par to 1s. dis.; Ditto, Small, 1s to 2s. prem.; Exchequer Bonds (Serip), ½ prem. Prices showed a tendency [illegible] on Wednesday, and the Three per Cents Reduced were [illegible] to 93⅛; Consols for Account, 93 to 93⅜; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 93⅜ to 93⅝. Long Annuities, 1860, were 4⅜. India Bonds were quoted at 2s. dis.; Exchequer Bills 1s. to 4s. prem.; and Exchequer Bonds (Serip), 2 to 3s. prem. Considerable animation in the Consol-market on Thursday, and prices steadily improved. The Three per Cents Reduced realised 93⅜ to 94⅛; the Three per Cents Reduced, 93⅝ and 94; Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 93⅝ to 94; and India Bonds, 2s. dis. Exchequer Bills were tolerably firm, at 2s. dis. to 2s. pm. Towards the close of the day stock was unusually scarce.

For all Foreign Bonds the market has been active, and a considerable business has been done at improved quotations. Equador Bonds have marked 4; Granada, One-and-a-Half per Cents, 13; Mexican Three per Cents, 24⅜; Peruvian Three-and-a-Half per Cents, 67⅛; Ditto Three per Cents, 45; Ditto New Deferred, 8½ ex div.; Spanish Three per Cents, 41; Ditto New Deferred, 19½; Belgian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 94; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 58⅞ to 59; Dutch Four per Cents, 97½; Chilian Five per Cents, 95½; Chilian Three per Cents, 75¾; Dutch Five per Cents, 10.; Russian Five per Cents, 98; Ditto Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 86.

Most Miscellaneous Securities have been in good request, and the quotations have had an upward tendency. Australian Agricultural have [illegible]. Australian Freehold Land and Emigration, Ditto Land Company, Crystal Palace, 1½; Ditto, New B Shares, 4; Electric Telegraph, 18¾; London Dock, 103½; Peel River Land and Mineral, South Australian Company, 4½; Van Diemen's Land Company, 2½; Canada Land Company, 3½; Ditto Land and Emigration, 2½; Ditto Land and Canada Investment, 1½; Ditto Land and Mortgage, 1½; Ditto Land and Timber, 1½; Ditto Land and Railway, 1½; Ditto Land and Loan, 1½; Ditto Land and Mortgage, 1½; Ditto Land and Mortgage, 1½; Ditto Land and Mortgage

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE, Oxford-street.—MONDAY (BENEFIT of Mr. CHARLES KEAN) and (by particular request) Wednesday next, and THURSDAY (LAST NIGHTS), and Thursday, June 29, and SATURDAY (LAST NIGHT) with other Entertainments. The New Ms. of Every Evening.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.—The KNIGHTS of the ROUND TABLE every night, after which, at Seven o'clock, the [illegible] Mr. BUCKSTONE'S Farce "A Cool Hundred." On Thursday, for the last time, Mr. Buckstone.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.—On TUESDAY NEXT, JUNE 27th, for the Benefit of Mr. BUCKSTONE, 5th night of the KNIGHTS of the ROUND TABLE, after which first time of a Farce, entitled A HUNDRED POUNDS REWARD. To be Re-Lettered (in Complete), Mrs. Fitzwilliam and Mrs. L. Boucicault; with other entertainments. Tickets and places at the Private-street, Pall-Mall, and at the Box offices.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.—OPERA HOUSE.—BOXES and STALLS in the best situations and on the most reasonable terms may be secured at the MUSIC WAREHOUSE, LYALL'S, 24, New-street opposite the Clarence Hotel. Opera Tickets and Private Boxes at all the Theatres.

MALAKOFF TRIUMPHANT EXHIBITION.—A MILITARY and HISTORICAL GALLERY, which opened on March 15th, 1854, and contains 1,200 pictures, including Napoleon Relics, and celebrated Panorama, where rage Constantinople. Open from 11 till 10 at night.—Bazaar, Baker-street.

ROYAL GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street.—SEBASTOPOL, with a... the Fortifications is now added to the DIORAMA of the DANUBE and BLACK SEA. Daily at Three and Eight.—Admission 1s., 2s., 3s.

CONSTANTINOPLE and the ADRIATIC.—A LECTURE illustrating the ROUTE OVERLAND, at the ROYAL POLYTECHNIC, is delivered on WEDNESDAYS and SATURDAYS DAILY by Mr. [illegible], and on the other days by Mr. G. BUCKLEY. Lights at half-past Two and Eight. Admission 1s.

MR. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC, including the Persons described and the Panorama, EVERY EVENING, at Eight o'Clock, except Saturday; and every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday morning, at Three.—Stalls 3s.; Admission to the Gallery, 1s.—EGYPTIAN HALL, Piccadilly.

SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER-Colours.—The FIFTIETH ANNUAL EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN at their Gallery, 5, Pall-Mall East, from 9 till dusk. Admittance, 1s. Catalogue, 6d.

JOSEPH J. JENKINS, Secretary

THE NEW SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER-COLOURS. Their TWENTIETH ANNUAL EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN. Gallery, 53, PALL-MALL. From Nine till dusk. Admission 1s.

GALLERY of GERMAN PAINTINGS.—The SECOND ANNUAL EXHIBITION of the Works of Modern German Masters is NOW OPEN DAILY, from Nine a.m. till Dusk. Admission, 1s.—Gallery, 168, New Bond street, next door to the Clarendon.

WILL CLOSE on FRIDAY, 30th JUNE.—The EXHIBITION of the WORKS of the STUDENTS of the SCHOOLS of ART both Local and Metropolitan, now OPEN DAILY, at Gore-House, Kensington, will close on the 30th June. Admission Free.

MISS ARABELLA GODDARD.—The Solo Pieces played by the distinguished Pianiste at her Concert, on Wednesday evening, were M. STEPHEN HELLER'S STUDY IN F, FOR TAINT prize, 3s. 6d.; CHOPIN'S NOCTURNE, in B minor, 3s. 6d.; and KULLAK'S FANTASIA STUDY (SERIES D'ETUDES) in B flat, which she was honoured by a double encore. Each of these pieces is copyright. Published only by Wessel and Co., 229, Regent-street.

MADAME CORNET'S MATINEE MUSICALE will take place at the ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, Covent-garden, on TUESDAY, the 27th inst., when occasion she will be assisted by Madame Castellan, Frau Anna Hehn, Herrmann, Penny and Arlo Cornet, and Van Noorden (pupils of Madame Cornet), Herren Reichardt, Pizzi, Mr. Herbert Perkins, and Sig. Cassilli, Violin, Herr Ernst, Conductor. Mr. Oscar Comettant, Secretary. Stalls 10s. 6d.; Gallery, 5s. At all the Music Warehouses, and of Madame Cornet, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury.

MUSICAL UNION.—Director's Matinée, TUESDAY, JUNE 27th, WILLIS'S ROOMS. Doors open at Half past Two, Concert to begin at Three.

Quartet.—"God preserve the Emperor" (Haydn); Septet, D Minor, Op. 70, Pianoforte, &c. (Hummel.) Solo, Violin, H. Vieuxtemps in Notturno, D Flat (Spohr); Master Arthur Sullivan, Pianoforte, in Quartet, Op. 20, Tasma and Finale (Beethoven). Solos Pianoforte, Vocalist, M. John Sainton. Executants, Herr Hallé, Piatti, Van Oudenaren, Howell, Romanet, Sarasi, Lazarus, Baumann, Harp; and Signor Regondi. Tickets limited to this season.

Extra seats will be provided; members are requested to present tickets for visitors, at Cramer and Co.'s, Oliver's, and Chappell's, Conduit-street. Free admittance to members' private box.

ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, REGENT'S PARK.—Fellows and Visitors are informed that a GIANT ANTEATER, an adult pair of INDIAN LIONS, and a pair of LEOPARDS have been added to the collection. The Band of the First Life Guards will perform (by permission of Colonel Hall) every Saturday, at Four o'clock. Admission, 1s.; Monday, 5s.

CREMORNE.—Admission, One Shilling.—OPEN DAILY, with an occasional round of varied and attractive Amusements. Grand Equestrian Feats by the French and American Company. Splendid Ballets. Vocal and Instrumental Concert. Beautiful Troupe of Dogs and Monkeys. Bostock's Band. On Monday next, the 26th inst., Grand BALLOON ASCENT; and Second Descent of Mr. Lane in his Newly-Invented FLYING MACHINE, which was so successfully accomplished on Tuesday last.

ROYAL PANOPTICON of SCIENCE and ART, Leicester square.—Programme for the Ensuing Week: Fashionable Promenade, Mr. W. H. Birt, Monday 3 (Tuesday 3.15; Wednesday, 7.45. Voltaic Electricity—Mr. R. Preston, Tuesday and Friday 3.45. Experimental Chemistry—Mr. G. F. Ansell, Monday 3.15; Wednesday 3, Friday 3.15; Saturday 3. Explanation of Steam-Power, Mr. Tarr (optician, Thursday, 3.15. Decimal Division of Money, Mr. Reid Thursday, 3. Musical Illustrations, by Mr. A. West, Monday, 7.45; Friday, 8. Popular Songs—Mr. Lee, Tuesday, 7.45; Saturday, 3. Oriental Music, Wednesday, 3.15; Thursday, 7.45; Saturday, 8. Explanation of Machinery and Manufactures, by Mr. C. Richmond, daily at 1 and 8.45. Mourns Hole-Jo's Diving Apparatus in operation daily at 4 and 9. Fountains High Pressure, at 4.45 and 9. Organ by Mr. W. T. Best, at Intervals. The Photographic Gallery open as usual, with a variety of extra charges. Rooms of Exhibition.—Morning, 12 to 5; Evening, 7 to 10 (Saturday evenings excepted); admission 1s. Schools and Classes (children under ten, half price) Life Admission, £10 10s; Annual Subscription, Guineas, £2 2s.; Lady, £1 1s. &c.

ORIENTAL and TURKISH MUSEUM, 307, HYDE-PARK CORNER.—The Public are respectfully informed that, early in JULY next, there will be OPENED, at ST. GEORGE'S GALLERY, Hyde-park corner, a Collection of Oriental Curiosities, Models, Manufactures, Costumes, &c., of the Ottoman and neighbouring Countries, illustrative of the Social and Moral Habits, &c., of the Inhabitants, and forming a complete Museum of Turkish Art. The Collection will be arranged in the Rooms lately occupied by Mr. Burford, and will be under the superintendence of Mr. Thomas Allom, who has recently returned from Constantinople, and has had the opportunity of personally collecting the greater portion of the Objects which will be exhibited

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2 Gravy Spoons	0 15 0	1 4 0	1 8 0
1 Soup Ladle	0 14 6	1 0 0	1 4 0
1 Fish Slice	0 14 6	1 0 0	1 4 0
4 Sauce Ladles	0 14 0	1 4 0	1 8 0
6 Salt Spoons (gilt bowl) ..	0 6 0	0 10 0	0 12 0
1 Mustard Spoon (gilt bowl) ..	0 1 6	0 2 6	0 3 0
1 Tea Spoon	0 4 0	0 5 0	0 6 0
1 Sugar Tongs	0 4 0	0 5 0	0 6 0
1 Sugar Sifter (pierced) ..	0 4 0	0 5 0	0 6 0
1 Moist Sugar Spoon ..	0 3 0	0 5 0	0 4 0
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London: Printed and Published at the Office, 198, Strand, in the Parish of St. Clement Danes in the County of Middlesex, by WILLIAM LITTLER, 198, Strand, aforesaid.—SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 1854.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

No. 690.—VOL. XXIV.] SATURDAY, JULY 1, 1854. [WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.

ALLEGED RETREAT OF THE RUSSIANS.—LORD ABERDEEN'S EXPLANATION.

THE week has been fruitful in great events. The raising of the siege of Silistria has been confirmed; the Czar has consented to evacuate the Danubian Principalities; and the Prime Minister of Great Britain, made painfully aware that he had shocked the feelings of the people, and imperilled the existence of the Administration of which he is the head, by his untoward speech in answer to Lord Lyndhurst's eloquent denunciation of Russia, has made the *amende honorable*, and endeavoured to place himself right in the estimation of the world. The most important of these events is the raising of the siege of Silistria. The Turks have fought their own battle, and demolished the favourite fiction of the Czar, that Turkey is "a sick man." Simultaneously with the confirmation of this news, Europe is informed that, in consideration of what he calls his "high regard" for the Emperor of Austria, the Emperor of Russia has consented to withdraw his invading armies from the Turkish territory. This news, however, has not yet reached us in a positively authentic form. It would, doubtless, be a salve to the wounds which the vanity of the Czar has received, if he could persuade his subjects that his personal friendship for the Emperor of Austria, and not his wholesome fear of the valour and energy of his foes, had induced him to withdraw his troops into his own territories; but we doubt whether even the Russians will be deceived by such a romance. The serfs are willing to believe a great many extraordinary things, especially if they tend to the glorification of the Emperor; but Napier is so close to St. Petersburg, that the task of deception is not easy either for the Emperor or his people. Like the rest of the world, the Russians will, perhaps, discover that if the brave Turks had not made so noble a defence of Silistria, and if that fortress had fallen under the attacks of Paskiewitch, Gortschakoff, Lüders, and Schilders—all wounded beneath its walls—they would have heard nothing of the high regard of Nicholas for his Austrian friend, and have seen no change in his determination to march across the Balkan. The arguments of Francis Joseph and his Ministers were, doubtless, quite sound—but the bullets of the Turks, and the fleets and armies of the Allies, were the real persuaders and convincers. A further application of the same kind of reasoning—the only kind that is of the least efficacy with such persons as the CZAR—will, doubtless, be tried with all possible speed.

We need be under no apprehension of the results which the retreat of the Russians—supposing it to be confirmed—will produce upon the policy of Austria and the other German Powers. Though the occupation of Moldavia and Wallachia by the Austrians would give as much trouble to Europe as their invasion by Russia, if Austria were to turn traitor, or had been acting throughout in collusion with the Czar, there is no reason to anticipate such suicidal folly on the part of that Power. Austria, we have not the slightest doubt, is acting honestly; while, as regards Turkey and the Allies, the retreat of the CZAR'S armies will but induce them to press upon him with greater vigour. Even were Great Britain and France inclined—which, fortunately, they are not, and cannot be—to spare the arch offender, and to accept his evacuation of the Danubian Principalities as the natural conclusion of the war, and a sufficient atonement for his misdeeds, Turkey has gallantly established her right to settle the question for herself. She is no longer in the condition of a helpless protégé of the great Powers, but stands as their equal, and will have an equal, if not a superior, voice in the arrangements of pacification. Full indemnity for the past, and ample security for the future; the annulment of all previous treaties, and the restoration of the Crimea—these are the objects which the Turks will not only have the right to demand, but, with the exception of the Crimea, the power to enforce. On the last-mentioned point the Allies will have the casting vote, for without their aid it would be impossible for Turkey to regain that valuable possession. It may be anticipated that, in this instance, the Allies will not fail to see that their interests and those of Turkey are identical. The total freedom of the Black Sea is essential, not only to the security and independence

VARNA.—PUBLIC FOUNTAIN.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

of Turkey, but to the future tranquillity of Europe. Even Austria and Prussia are as much interested in it as the Maritime Powers. Confined to the Baltic, Russia could not become a naval Power of sufficient magnitude to trouble the peace of the world; but, with the command of the Black Sea, and with her present policy of aggrandisement and aggression, she would always be a dangerous nuisance to every State in Europe. The war will, therefore, proceed; and Austria and Prussia, if inclined to back out of it, may do so without in the least degree interfering with the plans of those who have hitherto borne the brunt of it, and earned the right to say what its aims and objects shall be. The game is in the hands of the Three Powers; and if Austria and Prussia really desire to befriend the vanquished, they must wait until he be vanquished a little more signally. They must hold on until his final and utter discomfiture, when they may perhaps be allowed to plead for as much mercy as will be consistent with justice to the States which he has injured, and to the mighty interests of civilisation which he has imperilled. The *prestige* of Russia is at an end. Not only for the five-and-twenty years, which Lord Aberdeen seems to have once considered a long and satisfactory term to keep the monster at arm's-length—but for a whole century, it will be impossible that the name of Russia should excite in Europe the same vague ideas of power and terror that it excited for the twenty-five years previous to the Emperor's late onslaught upon Turkey. The delusion is self-exposed. The fraud has tumbled to pieces. The mighty giant that loomed on the far horizon, filling statesmen with perplexity, and nations with dread, turns out to be a giant in outline only—a mere giant of mist and rain, that dissipates at the first collision with a hard reality.

Lord Aberdeen's explanation was much needed. A very painful impression was created by his speech of the 19th of June. While the two extreme parties of Opposition—parties that are agreed upon the justice of the war, and upon the necessity of its vigorous prosecution—united in their interpretation that his Lordship was at the best but lukewarm in the cause, his own friends and supporters came to the melancholy conclusion that personal predilection for the Czar had blinded him to the motives and consequences of Russian ambition; and that, in his desire for peace, he was not sufficiently sensible of the evils that would result, if peace were too hastily made, or of the encouragement that would be given to the disturber of the world, if he were not signally punished for his nefarious aggressions. But it appears from Lord Aberdeen's explanations of Monday last, that he has not, and never had, any such ideas. He utterly disclaims them, and attributes to his own imperfect utterances and ambiguous phrases the misunderstanding, which was unfortunately but too prevalent, as to his real meanings and intentions. If his honesty ever stood in need of vindication, it would be sufficiently cleared by the obviously sincere and genuine expression of his sentiments as soon as he was made aware of the doubts and misgivings that his previous speech had produced on the public mind. There are, however, but few, if there be any, who believe that his Lordship is not a thoroughly honest public servant. Those who have but little faith in the capacity to guide the fortunes of England at the present time, are more considerable in number; but we think that the majority even of these will, after his last speech, give him credit both for honesty and sagacity. What he may have done or said on the occasion of the extortion from Turkey of the disastrous Treaty of Adrianople a quarter of a century ago, is—though interesting, and even important in an historical point of view—but of little consequence compared with his present sentiments upon the Russian aggression, and upon the efforts necessary to restrain and to punish it. Upon this point his Lordship's explanations prove that he agrees with the public sentiment of his own and every other civilised country; and that, if he were misunderstood, his oratorical powers, and not his principles, were to blame. Under the circumstances, Mr. Layard has acted wisely in withdrawing his motion. It would, however, conduce, we think to the satisfaction of the public, and to the influence of the British Government throughout Europe, if an opportunity were afforded for a debate on the whole question, when the Ministry, through the medium of Lord John Russell, might repeat in Parliament what has been said beyond its walls by the leader of the Lower House. Lord Aberdeen's explanations satisfactory as they may be, would be all the better for a little cackling on the part of some more popular and more brilliant member of the Ministry.

THE WAR.

PLAN OF THE ALLIED OPERATIONS.

By the arrival of the *Indus*, we have intelligence from Constantinople to the 20th ult. The embarkation of French troops for Varna still continued. Prince Napoleon's division had sailed. The general impression at Constantinople was that an attack on Sebastopol was in contemplation. Admiral Brust has been ordered to join the Allied squadrons of the Black Sea—an immense number of shells of enormous calibre had arrived at Varna—and the scheme of the army destined for the East now includes a hundred thousand men.

The attack on Sebastopol will be both by sea and land. Nothing is known as to the number of Russian troops in the Crimea; some accounts represent them at 30,000, others at 100,000. The retreat of the Russians from the Principalities will enable them to concentrate their forces in the direction of the Crimea. The Russian army in Asia is said to be acting only on the defensive. It has lately sustained great losses from desertion.

Letters from Kars, bearing date the 30th ult., state that a Circassian army corps, chiefly composed of Russian deserters, had completely routed a Russian division, from 14,000 to 15,000 strong, near a place called Kiresch. Two thousand Russians were slain on the field of battle, and three guns have been captured. Emir Emin—or, according to other accounts, Emir Mehemet—the leader of the victorious troops, closely pursued the fugitive Russians, and few of them are said to have escaped the general massacre.

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

THE news from the seat of war since the 15th ult. has been exceedingly meagre. All accounts agree in representing the Russian army as retreating *en masse* from its head-quarters at Kalarasch *viâ* Schodjak, Ibrailla, and Galatz, but very little is said as to any movement of the Turks. The desperate conflict, reported last week, in which the Russian army was said to have been driven across the Danube, has not yet been confirmed. The formal order of the Czar for raising the siege of Silistria is said to have been received at Kalarasch, on the 23rd, previous to which Prince Gortschakoff had gone to Bucharest, while Prince Paskiewitsch had been ordered to proceed to Kiew, for the purpose, as is reported, of meeting the Czar, who is anxious to learn why his peremptory orders have not been fulfilled.

The entry of the Austrians into the Principalities is decided on; and Count Coronini, with the first division, to be followed closely by a second, is ready to descend the Danube to Giurgevo, whence he will march to Gliargevo, whence he will march to Bucharest. M. de Bruck is to communicate with the Porte as to the steps necessary to be taken with a view to the occupation of the Principalities by the Austrians.

The treaty between Turkey and Austria provides that the earliest order of things shall be re-established in the Principalities; and that military measures shall be concerted between the two Powers regarding the treaty. The evacuation of the Principalities to take place on the conclusion of peace. The latter to be based upon the maintenance of the sovereignty of the Sultan, and the integrity of the Ottoman Empire.

A letter from Vienna, in the *Moniteur* of Wednesday, states that Colonel Hallk (of the Austrian army) is about to start for the headquarters of Omer Pacha, "in order to have an interview with that General, and with the commanders of the English and French troops, so as to combine the operations of the three armies." This piece of intelligence is, to a certain extent, confirmed by the *Soir*, which states that it is believed in high circles that the occupation of the provinces of the Danube by Austria will not prevent the Turkish army and the armies of the Allies from entering the provinces for the purpose of pursuing the war against Russia.

Letters from Londberg, of the 18th, state that Russia continues to send considerable troops towards the Austrian frontier. There is not a single town in the government of Kiew that has not a garrison. A camp has been established near Dubner. Three regiments of the Guards, which had recently arrived at Kiew, have received orders to proceed to the frontiers of Gallicia. On the 25th th. Cossack pickets entered into the Rothenthurm pass, in Transylvania. In several places on the Transylvanian frontier supplies for the Russian cavalry have been collected.

ARRIVAL OF THE FIRST DIVISION AT VARNA.

The first division arrived at Varna on the 13th ult., and the Duke of Cambridge, his staff, and the Brigade of Guards, landed on the following day. Lord Raglan was unable to go along with it in consequence of indisposition, which confines him to his quarters at Varna. The vessels in which the divisions commanded by his Royal Highness arrived were the *Melbourne*, the *Jason*, the *Hydaspes*, the *Andes*, the *City of London*, the *Emperor*, and the *Golden Fleece* steam-ships, and the *Sir George Pollock*, the *Pyrenees*, the *Colgraine*, the *Marquis of Anglesea*, the *Armadale*, the *Neptaliator*, and the *Monarchy* sailing transports. The division, consisting of the Brigade of Guards and the Highland Brigade (42nd, 79th, and 93rd Regiments), was conveyed with the greatest comfort and celerity from Scutari, and was speedily landed with baggage, stores, horses, &c., complete, as the boats of the English, French, and Turkish men of war lying in the bay all worked in friendly rivalry, rowing the troops on shore as fast as they could.

The *Himalaya*, with the 5th Dragoon Guards on board, arrived in the bay on the previous Monday evening, having left Cork on the 23rd May. She carried 330 horses and 323 men of the regiment, and she reached Malta in seven days and twenty-two hours (all well)—the quickest passage ever known. The feat is no easy one, as few vessels, if any, have ever gone over the same course, but it will be difficult hereafter to match her astonishing performance. From point to point she was only eleven days and nineteen hours under steam between Cork and Varna.

The men disembarked on the 14th, in fine order and spirits. Every man rode his own horse (a fact, perhaps, without a parallel, after such a voyage); and both the French and the natives on shore testified in the liveliest way their admiration at the gallant martial look of the regiment as it formed on the beach, and rode away to its camp, by the side of the bay, opposite the town of Varna. Only two horses were lost on the passage, and nineteen troopers. From point to point she was only eleven days and nineteen hours under steam between Cork and Varna.

The Dragoons were white calico covers to their helmets, but Sir George will not allow them to wear them if he can help it. He dislikes these covers exceedingly, because they are, he thinks, unsoldierlike; and his own division (the Light) is forbidden to wear them on any account.

Upon the preceding page is a Scene sketched at Varna, showing one of its principal Fountains, and a group of its people in their picturesque costumes.

THE ALLIED TROOPS AT VARNA.

Although it is only a few weeks since the Allied forces arrived in Varna, the appearance of the principal streets has been completely changed by the restless activity and energy of the French. Old blind side walls have been broken down, and shops opened, in which various necessaries, but even luxuries, can be purchased; the streets, once so dull and silent, re-echo the laughter and rattle of dominoes in the newly-established cafés. Wine-merchants and sutlers from Algiers, Oran, Constantinople, Marseilles, Toulon, have set up booths and shops, at which liqueurs, spirits, and French and country wines can be purchased at prices not intolerably high. The natives have followed the example. Strings of German sausages, of dried tongues, of wiry hams, of bottles of pickles, hang from the rafters of an old Turkish khan, which, but a few days before, was the abode of nothing but unseemly insects; and an empty storehouse has been turned into a nicely whitewashed and gaily painted "Restaurant de l'Armée d'Orient pour Messieurs les Officiers et nous Officiers." The names of the streets according to a Gallic nomenclature, painted in black on neat deal slips, are fixed to the walls, so that one can find his way from place to place without going through the serpentine wanderings which generally mark the stranger's progress through a Turkish town. One lane is named the Rue Ibrahim, another Rue de l'Hôpital, a third Rue Yunuf; the principal lane is termed the Coso, the next is Rue des Postes Françaises; and as all these names are very convenient, and have a meaning attached to them, no sneering ought to deter the English traveller from confessing that the French manage these things better than we do. Where is the English post office? No one knows. Where does the English General live? No one knows. Where is the hospital to carry a sick soldier to? No one knows. Does any one want to find General Canrobert? Ask the first Frenchman you meet, and he will tell you to go up the Coso, turn to the right, by the end of the Rue de l'Hôpital, and then you will see the name of the General painted in large letters over the door of his quarters. The French Post-office and the French Hospital are indicated sufficiently by the names of the streets. Our Sappers and Miners have done useful works by the sea-side, have built piers, trenched up the shore, and deepened the little harbour. The French have done the same. They have built piers and banked up the shore, and erected a sea-wall to land at. Lord George Paulet has been inexhaustible in his hospitalities on board the *Bellerophon*, and has done much to "amalgamate" the high officers of both armies by his friendly *réunions*, so that they become better friends every day. There is no jealousy between the men, or any rivalry, except in the path of honour.

THE ENGLISH CAMP AT ALADEEN, NEAR VARNA.

Never were tents pitched in a more lovely spot. When the morning sun has risen and dissolved the rich landscape of foliage-covered hills and broad downs, and lake and river with its light, it is scarce possible for one to feel he is far from England. At the other side of the lake, which leaves the meadows beneath the hill on which the camp is placed, there is a range of high ground, so finely wooded, with such verdant sheets of short crisp grass between the clumps of forest timber that every one who sees it at once says "surely there must be a fine mansion somewhere among those trees!" Once the traveller leaves the sandy plain and flat meadow lands which sweep westward for two or three miles from Varna, he passes through a succession of fine landscapes, with a waving outline of hills, which he can see on all sides save the thick mass of scrub or cover, fenced by the road, or rather the track, made by the horsemen and arabe drivers. The open country is finely diversified, and abundance of wood and water lies all around, within easy distance of the route. Long lines of storks fly over head, or hold solemn reviews among the frogs in the meadows. As for the latter they are innumerable, and their concerts by day and night would delight the classical scholar who remembers his Aristophanes, and who can test the accuracy of the chorus. Eagles soar overhead looking out for dead horses (the noble bird is not above eating carrion), and vultures, kites, and huge buzzards scour the plains in quest of vermin, hares, or partridges. Beautiful orioles (a blaze of green and yellow), gaudy woodpeckers, jays, and grosbeaks, shriek and chatter among the bushes, while the bulbul (the nightingale) pours forth a flood of plaintive melancholy from the brake, aided by a lovely little warbler, in a black cap and red waistcoat with blue-ish facings, which darts about after the flies, and which, when he has caught one, sings, lights on a twig and expresses his satisfaction in a gush of exquisite music. Blackbirds and harsher jays join the chorus, and birds of all sorts, fit around in multitudes. The commonest bird of all is the dove, which is found so good to eat that his coocy is often abruptly terminated by a dose of No. 6. A small kind of deer has been seen close to the camp, in herds of fifty or sixty, and the sportsmen have found out the tracks of wild boar through the neighbouring hills. Hare carp abound in the lake, and very fine perch, enormous bream and pike, can be had for the taking; but tackle, rods, and lines are very scarce in the camp. There are no trout in the waters, but perch and pike take large flies very freely, whenever the angler can get through the weeds and marshy borders to take a cast for them.

The camp life is quiet, and soon told: between six and half-past six o'clock the seven regiments parade, each in front of their own encampment; but nearly two hours before that time, the straggling noises of the sounds of the camp, if he has been able to sleep through the challenges of the sentries along the lines and the monotonous cry running from man to man, "Number One, All's well!" "Number Two, All's well!" &c., will be awaked by the bugles and trumpets sounding the réveil. The noise of conversation around his tent, and the chopping of wood for the camp fires. Parade over, there is a general rush for breakfast, which takes place at eight o'clock. The meat (beef) served out for rations is good, though very lean; and the supply preserved potatoes most acceptable. Sir J. Brown will not allow the porter which has been sent up to Varna for the use of the troops to be forwarded to the camp; but if the men had rations of weak spirits and water, it would be better for them than their beer. As it is, they get neither, and the heat accordingly (the thermometer is great; but perhaps it does not much exceed the average temperature of a fine sunny day in England, about the same time of year) is one to which they are not accustomed, and which they feel severely. When all is sounded, and all the regiments playing, the silence which reigns over the camp would be profound, but that the vigorous breathings of the sleepers frequently attain the dimension of snoring; and that the challenge of the sentry to the stragglers for half an hour are frequent. Fatigue parties are appointed, and relays are sent out about half past two o'clock in the morning. These pickets are posted around the camp at the distance of two or three miles.

THE TREATY OF ADRIANOPLE DESPATCH.

The despatches from the Duke of Aberdeen to Lord Ponsonby respecting the treaty of peace between Russia and Turkey, signed at Adrianople on the 14th of September, 1829, is a document of so much importance at the present moment, that, but for its length, two columns of the *Times*—we should have given it entire.

After some preliminary remarks on the professed policy of Russia, his Lordship proceeds to examine the conditions of the treaty of Adrianople, which, he remarks, appear wholly to affect the interest, the strength, the dignity, the present safety, and future independence of the Ottoman Empire." The territorial acquisitions of Russia, he admits, are small; but they are "commanding positions, far more valuable than the possession of barren provinces and depopulated towns, and better calculated to rivet the fetters by which the Sultan is bound." The Asiatic fortresses, for example, "not only secure to Russia the uninterrupted occupation of the eastern coast of the Black Sea, but place her in a situation so commanding as to control at pleasure the destiny of Asia Minor." Thus she has advanced into the very centre of Armenia—thus holding the keys "both of the Danube and the Turkish provinces; and, whether she may be disposed to extend her conquests to the east or to the west, to Teheran or to Constantinople, no serious obstacle can arrest her progress." "In Europe, the Principalities of Wallachia and Moldavia are rendered virtually independent of the Porte," while the effect of the stipulations respecting the Islands of the Danube must be as he remarks, "to place the control of the navigation and commerce of that river exclusively in the hands of Russia."

Having commented on other provisions of the treaty equally objectionable, and dwelling at some length on the precarious condition of the Ottoman Empire, Lord Aberdeen winds up by saying that the anxiety felt by the other European Powers, on account of "the unavowed views of the Russian Government," is greatly increased by finding that fresh causes have been brought into action, by the treaty of Adrianople, "which are obviously calculated to hasten and ensure its utter dissolution. The evils attending upon uncertainty, expectation, and alarm, must be greatly felt throughout Europe. Encouragement will be afforded to projects for revolution, the general tranquillity and the different Powers, so far from disarming, will probably augment their warlike preparations, already too extensive for a state of peace." This latter sentence shows that the Premier was in favour of reducing the national armaments of Europe long before Mr. Cobden took up that question; and that at that time he looked upon Russia as the greatest promoter of war.

THE BALTIC FLEETS.

Letters from Finland, of June 21, state that the united fleets of England and France—comprising twenty-eight sail of the line, five first class frigates, and eighteen steamers; in all fifty-one sail, were then at anchor, off the island of Renskar, in Baro Sound; affording a spectacle, the grandeur of which in a naval point of view, it is more easy to conceive than describe. There fly the flags of the two Great Maritime Powers of the world, who have cordially united in one common cause, that of avenging the unprincipled aggression of Turkey by the despot of the north of Europe.

On the 16th ult., the day after the junction of the two fleets, Sir C. Napier, accompanied by Rear-Admirals Corry and Chads, paid an official visit to Vice-Admiral Parseval Deschênes on board the *Inflexible*, 90, the yards of all the French ships being manned, and their crews giving three hearty cheers. The French Admiral having signified his intention to return the visit on the following day, the captains of the various English ships repaired on board the *Duke of Wellington* at an appointed hour, to be present on the interesting occasion, and as a mark of respect to the senior officer of the French fleet, who received compliments similar to those given the day previously to our gallant Commander-in-Chief.

During the forenoon of the 16th, the ships of the English division of

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CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—*Deanery*: The Hon. and Rev. G. Wellesley to Windsor, with the registry of the Knights of the most noble order of the Garter thereunto annexed. *Precentorship*: The Rev. B. Heathcote to Salisbury Cathedral. *Rectories*: The Rev. H. Atkinson to Edermine, Wexford; Rev. E. Bowen to Little Wigborough; Rev. H. B. Burlton to Farway, Devon: Right Rev. T. Carr (late Bishop of Bombay) to Bath; Rev. H. W. Coventry to Woolstone, Gloucestershire; Rev. J. Griffiths to St. Fagan's, near Cardiff; Rev. J. F. Linyham to Lambeth. *Vicarages*: The Rev. M. Austis to Cubington, Warwickshire; Rev. C. Hensley to Cabourn, Lincolnshire; Rev. J. T. Oldrini to Beeston, near Nottingham; Rev. H. F. Seymour to Barking, Essex. *Incumbencies*: The Rev. J. Chapman to St. Peter, Bolingbroke; Rev. E. C. Hubbersty to Carlmel, Lancashire; Rev. S. R. Tucker to Castle Northwich, Cheshire. *Perpetual Curacies*: The Rev. J. Chamney to Meigh; Rev. G. W. B. Daniell to Martin, Wilts.

AN EPISCOPAL DILEMMA.—The Bishop of New Zealand, who is now in England, attended a general meeting of the Church Missionary Society last week, and after recommending a plan for the subdivision of his diocese, announced his intention of appropriating the whole of his annual income, namely, £800 a year, towards the endowment of the new See. On Monday night last Sir George Grey, the new Colonial Secretary, announced the determination of Government to discontinue the annual allowance of £600 hitherto made by vote of Parliament to the Bishop. The right rev. prelate's income was £1200 a year, derived from these two sources, so that he is now left without a shilling of regular stipend.

Two of the curates of St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, have resigned their appointments, and returned to the Bishop of London their licenses, on account of circumstances arising out of the late ecclesiastical disputes in that district.

PENSIONS ON THE POST-OFFICE REVENUE.—From a return to the House of Commons it appears, in the year ended the 5th of January, the following payments were made:—To his Grace the Duke of Marlborough, £4000; to his Grace the Duke of Grafton, £3407 10s.; and to the heirs of his Grace the Duke of Schomberg, £2800.

DINNER BY THE SHERIFFS TO THE JUDGES.—On Tuesday evening a banquet was given at Girdlers' Hall, Basinghall-street, by the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex, in honour of her Majesty's Judges. Mr. Alderman and Sheriff Wire and Mr. Sheriff Wallis presided, and alternately proposed the various toasts which were honoured during the evening. The company included Vice-Chancellors Stuart and Page Wood, Mr. Baron Parke, Mr. Baron Alderson, Mr. Justice Williams, Mr. Alderman Humphery, the Hon. and Rev. Mr. Legge, Sir John Shelley, Bart., M.P., &c.

the fleet went to general quarters, firing shot and shell at targets moored at distances of 800 and 1000 yards. The *Porcupine*, steam-sloop, Lieut.-Commander Jackson, was dispatched to Stockholm, to procure fresh provisions.

The *Gorgon* was dispatched on the 18th to Svesborg, returning the next day to the anchorage of the fleet. The *Bulldog* and *Alban* arrived in Baro Sound on the 19th, from a cruise; the *Penelope*, 16, and French war steamer *Milan*, paired company on particular service. The boats of the various ships comprising the British division of the fleet, manned by the seamen, marines, and marine artillerymen, and armed with field pieces, carbines, revolvers, &c., landed at the island of Ranskarn, under the command of Rear-Admiral Chads, transported the field-pieces over the rocks, fired three rounds of blank cartridges, and performed various military evolutions.

It was probable that a portion of the Allied fleets would proceed up the Gulf of Finland as far as the island of Hogland, in a day or two, and make a demonstration off Cronstadt. There was no prospect, however, of any active operations being undertaken.

THE GAMLA CARLEBY AFFAIR.

By letters from the Baltic fleet, of June 20, we have received a more accurate account of the melancholy affair at Gamla Carleby. It appears that after the crews of some of the steamers of Admiral Plumridge's division had destroyed the shipping and marine stores in Ulesborg and Brahestad, in the Gulf of Bothnia, the *Vulture* and *Odin* approached Gamla Carleby (Old Carleby), on the evening of the 7th ult., but could not get nearer than about four miles and a half, as they drew too much water for the narrow creeks leading to the town. The *Vulture* and the *Odin*, in fact, although the former is only a six-gunner, were unable to render any assistance to their officers and crews for using the expedition, and hence, in a great measure, the deplorable loss of life.

About seven p.m the boats of the two steamers were manned and armed —there being in all nine boats, two pinnaces, two paddle-box boats, four cutters and one gig, with 160 officers and men; the entire expedition being under the command of Lieut. C. A. Wise, of the *Vulture*, who was accompanied by Lieut. Madden, Lieut. Burton, of the Royal Marine Artillery, and by Dr. Duncan, all of that steamer. The boats were then rowed towards shore, and, after a long pull, anchored near the storehouse at the entrance of one of the creeks leading to the town. Lieut. Wise and Lieut Burton went on shore—a flag of truce having been previously displayed and communicated with the Burgomaster. The other boats remained about half a mile distant. Lieut. Wise demanded the delivery up of all the ships in the harbour and all the Government property, promising, in case of compliance, not to molest the town or the inhabitants. He and his men, however, were not allowed to enter Carleby, although he offered to go unarmed, and declared that he merely wished to ascertain whether there were any Government stores in the place. Whilst Lieutenants Wise and Burton were holding a parley with the Burgomaster of Old Carleby, the latter had at his side a military-looking person in plain dress, no doubt a high Russian functionary, as the Burgomaster and the other municipal authorities appeared to be guided by his advice. To the twice or thrice repeated question whether there were any Russian troops in or near the town no answer was given, and that silence was considered by Messrs Wise and Burton as significant. The latter observing, after pushing off from the shore, "We shall have certainly have a fight."

Lieut. Wise having returned to the boats forming the expedition, the flag of truce was withdrawn; some boats were sent ahead for the purpose of sounding, and the others followed closely. One of the boats of the *Odin* was ordered to reconnoitre one of the creeks leading to the town; on passing near some buildings the boat's crew perceived a number of soldiers, an turned back in order to report the discovery. That moment, however, a temporarily raised wall was thrown down, and a volley of musketry was poured into the boat, killing Lieutenant Carrington; Mr. Montague, mate; and Mr. Athorne, a midshipman; and wounding Lieutenant Lewis, R.M., and Mr M'Grath, midshipman, as well as fourteen seamen and marines. The boat itself was disabled, and was towed by another one to the *Odin*, which was still lying in the roads. The other boats, which had on board four 24-pounders, howitzer and two light field-howitzers, immediately opened fire, one gunner of the *Vulture* boats excellent firing not less than twenty-seven times before he fell wounded. The fire was steadily maintained on shore, but the boats, with the exception of one belonging to the *Vulture*, were soon rowed out of range. The unfortunate exception was one which got aground in the creek. It was distinctly seen it was disabled, and drifting with the current. By this time the number of the enemy had greatly increased, and it was calculated that there were not less than 800 riflemen. There is some obscurity, or rather diversity, of opinion as to the fate of the missing boat. Some think a shell burst right over it, killing or wounding all in it; others, that it got aground on the piles in the creek, and that it was captured by the enemy. In that boat—which was the paddle-box boat of the *Vulture*—were Mr. N. L. Morphy, mate, and twenty-five seamen; and, in another boat belonging to the same steamer, one marine was killed and six were wounded; so that the entire loss of the two steamers in killed, wounded, and missing, was 52. In one boat alone—of 18 persons, less than 11 were killed or wounded. In the beginning of what may be called the action, the enemy had only one field-piece; but, towards the close, they had trained up five.

The firing from the Russian troops lasted an hour and ten minutes, and had the elevation of their guns been too high, the loss on the side of the English would have been still greater. Moreover, the Russians commenced firing too soon; had they waited until the boats got further into the creek, and then opened their volley, not a single Englishman, it is calculated, would have escaped. One of the boats of the *Vulture* was pierced in numerous places with grape shot, and had two of her oars broken

One Russian cavalry officer and an infantry one were seen to fall, and many Russians were wounded. After the firing was over, the enemy set to work making breastworks and stockades, fearing probably that the assailants would return. Next day a regiment was drawn to the shore, and the people on board the *Vulture* and *Odin* set it down as a detachment of the Imperial Guards. Previously to the departure of the *Vulture* from its fellow sufferer, the officers of the former assisted at the interment of the killed of the *Odin*, and the ceremony was a deeply affecting one. All the boats' crews behaved with the utmost intrepidity and coolness and the expedition was ably commanded

CAPTAIN GIFFARD'S WIDOW.—The widow of the lamented Captain Giffard visited Odessa, in the *Penwiras*, under the safeguard of a flag of truce. She was permitted to land, accompanied by Captain Powell, and remained there twenty-four hours collecting particulars of her husband's dying moments, which were those of a hero desirous to the last for his country's cause. The crew of the *Tiger*, on seeing a British naval uniform pass their place of confinement, were about hailing the wearer with a British cheer, thinking their moment of deliverance from captivity had arrived, but were very judiciously silenced in time by a sign from Captain Powell. The junior officers, such as midshipmen and cadets, have been placed in a naval college to improve them in their profession; the seniors are said to have been removed to Moscow, the Emperor having refused to listen to any exchange.

ACCIDENT TO THE "HIMALAYA."—As the large screw steamship *Himalaya* was steaming up the Solent, by Hurst Castle, on Wednesday evening, in endeavouring to clear a brig she touched the shore opposite the Castle, and it being an ebb tide, she was obliged to remain until next evening, when she was once more afloat with very little injury.

THE *Tonning*, which sailed on Sunday from Portsmouth with twenty-three Dragoons of the 6th Enniskillens and fifty-six horses, takes on board thirty-eight men saved from the *Europa*; so that in a few days the regiment will be in the East, complete in every detail notwithstanding the recent melancholy disaster. She also had 20 men for the Fifes the Rifle Battalion. It is intended to complete to 1000 rank and file the six regiments forming the 1st division, under the command of the Duke of Cambridge. The regiments of General Sir Lacy Evans's division will also be made up to the same strength, and before the end of next week an addition of 3700 bayonets will have been made to the infantry force in the East; the twenty-five battalions thus posted amounting to 25,000 rank and file, and the entire army consisting of 30,300 effectives.

RUSSIAN agents having tried to excite differences between the Greeks and the soldiers of the Anglo-French army of occupation, General Kalergi, the Minister of War, has thought it right to publish a proclamation, intended to re-assure the country as to the benevolent intentions of England and France, in sending their troops to combat a policy condemned by the whole of Europe.

GERMAN SURGEONS FOR THE BRITISH FLEET.—The *Independance* of Brussels publishes, on the authority of its Hamburg correspondent, the extraordinary statement, that owing to the want of surgeons in the English ships in the Baltic, endeavours have been made within the last few days in various German towns to engage practitioners with the stipulation of good pay.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

The resignation of M. de Persigny of the post of Minister of the Interior is the principal event of the day; and the appearance of his official report in the *Moniteur* excites much interest and attention, more especially such portions as relate to the changes effected in the administration of the public press, since it has become dependent on the Ministry of the Interior. Under the former organisation, the Préfets being at liberty to use their own discretion in giving *avertissements*, an ill-directed and over-jealous zeal was displayed, and a degree of rigour employed which become daily more intolerable. As it is, we have our own opinion on the state of the press present with respect; but we must admit that a certain amelioration has been produced under M. de Persigny's administration. At present the following journals lie under *avertissements* given since last year:—*La Constitutionnel*, one *avertissement*; *La Patrie*, two; *La Presse* (the journal of the largest circulation in Paris), one; *L'Estafette*, one; *L'Union* and *Ami de la Religion* (both religious journals), one each; *L'Echo Agricole*, one; *Le Journal des Economistes*, one; and the *Assemblée Nationale*, suspended for two months, and now revived. Our readers are doubtless aware that the third *avertissement* is the signal for the suspension of a paper—final or temporary, as the Government may decide. The *Moniteur* publishes a most flattering letter from the Emperor to M. de Persigny, on the occasion of his retiring, in which he expresses his sense of the long and valuable services of the Minister in his private and public character, and his regret at his quitting the post he had filled so much to his Majesty's satisfaction. In conclusion, he bestows upon him, as a mark of his "particular satisfaction," the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour. M. and Mme de Persigny have started for Switzerland, intending to make a tour for the benefit of the health of the late Minister

The military post obtained by Hon Mazo, in Asia, has caused considerable dissatisfaction to the Generals engaged in the Algerian campaign, and the appointment once met with some degree of opposition on their parts, but it has nevertheless been confirmed

The organisation of the corps of the *cent gardes* is completed, and the whole body is assembled at Versailles, where the various uniforms of the regiments from which they have been drawn—that they are to wear not being yet adopted—produces a most singular and pretty effect

The works at the Palace of the Elysée are proceeding with the utmost activity, and a long gallery for the personal suite of the Emperor is being constructed along the front which looks on the Faubourg St. Honoré. As it will be overlooked by the houses on the opposite side of the street, it is expected that these will be pulled down. A petition has been presented to the Emperor by a large number of the inhabitants of three of the *arrondissements* of Paris, that the Rue de Rivoli may be prolonged as far as the Barrière du Trône. At the same time, and in the same course of works, it is proposed to create a new Boulevard similar to the Boulevard de Strasbourg, to bear the name of Napoléon III.—30,000 signatures are said to be appended to the petition

An intention is spoken of, of establishing prizes for the best books appearing within a year, whether published in the libraries, magazines, or editions of the principal journals

The funeral of Mdlle. Rebecca Felix, sister to Mdlle. Rachel, took place last week. In order to testify the regret felt in the theatrical and literary circles for the premature loss of a most promising actress, the Théâtre Français closed for a night, and all the artists of the theatre besides some of the principal illustrations of the literature of the day—such Jules Janin, Théophile Gautier, Paul de St. Victor, Amedée Achard, Méry, Mallard de Lyonne, Edouard Thierry, &c.—attended the funeral; and M. Samson and M. Jules Janin each pronounced a valedictory panegyric over the tomb.

A few words on the musical intelligence of the day. Meyerbeer is gone to Berlin, but promises to return in the autumn to produce his new opera of the "Africaine," at the Académie Imperiale de Musique, already do the wise ones declare *monts et merveilles* of the work of the maestro, the *reprise*, whose "Robert le Diable," with Cruvelli, has, for the last ten days, been drawing crowded houses, they say, to attend the farewell; however, remark, in parenthesis, that Cruvelli's performance of *three* characters, in the midst of traits of beauty and genius, all the defects which have so often been noticed in her performances, and which seem rather to increase than to diminish: a total want of unity—all these mark the exception of every rule conducive to taste and render her to real connoisseurs, very incomplete and imperfect artist. The Prince de la Moskowa, whose musical talents have long been acknowledged, not merely in the *salons*, but in the artistic world, has composed an opera, which has been composed and executed between the performance of his functions as a senator and soldier. The Prince has confided his work to the manager of the Opéra Comique, where it is to be brought out as soon as the necessary preparations can be made. It is said the Moskowa will probably join the Eastern expedition, in the event of a fresh envoy of troops. A new march, entitled the "Occidentale"—which is said to be a very fine composition is, we are told, being studied by all the bands of the garrison of Paris, and is to be shortly performed on the Boulevards, by some hundreds of musicians. The Déassemens Comique announces the appearance of a piece, in four acts, bearing the singular title of "Aventures d'un Jeune Homme de Quatre Mois;" followed by a great work in eight tableaux, "Les Métamorphoses de Grandville, ou les Animaux Peints par eux-même." Fifteen dramatic writers are engaged in the execution of this piece.

UNITED STATES.

The *Asia* steam-ship, which left New York on the 14th ult., arrived at Liverpool on Sunday morning. The popular excitement on the subject of slavery still continues. President Pierce and several officials had been hung in effigy at Westfield, Mass., by the Abolitionists During the ceremony the church bells were tolled. The Judge of the Wisconsin Supreme Court had declared the Fugitive Slave-law unconstitutional, and refused to convict.

On the 9th ult the Rev. T. W. Higginson was arrested at Worcester and conveyed to Boston, charged with being engaged in the riot at the court-house when Batchelder was killed. He was held to bail in 3000 dols. The rev. rioter, who, when asked to subscribe funds for the purchase of the slave Burns, replied that he "had nothing but brains and bullets to bestow," is yet at large.

Later accounts from Texas represent the ravages committed by the Indians during their late forays to have exceeded anything heretofore experienced. Great destruction is reported to the crops on the Brazos by the overflowing of the banks of that river.

Advices from Havanna to the 8th ult. had been received, detailing the plan of operations resolved upon by the Cuban Government in the event of the descent of an armed force upon the Island; but it does not differ materially from the course pursued towards the party of General Lopez.

THE OVERLAND MAIL.

Letters from India and China have been received by the Overland Mail. The dates by this arrival are:—Calcutta, May 16th; Madras, 21st; Hong Kong, 6th; Singapore, 15th; Penang, 18th; Galle, 26th; Bombay, 23rd; Burmah, 3rd.

The news from India is not of much importance; but, in the absence of anything surprising in the Presidencies, the correspondence of the *Delhi Gazette* continues to furnish our Oriental contemporaries with an unfailing supply of marvels from Central Asia. The *Gazette* has now a new correspondent," who has discovered that—

The Russian troops have not only reached Khiva, but have built several forts within its territories. The Khan found himself unable to resist, and deemed it best to close an alliance with the Emperor of Russia, the more so since in doing so he followed the example of Persia It is also reported in Cabul that the King of Bokhara has allied himself with Russian agents, to induce Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan to enter into friendly negotiations. The Ameer, however, refuses to have any intercourse with his Majesty of Bokhara; but does not absolutely refuse to treat with the Czar through the agency of Persia.

To complete the mystification, we are told that Nazir Khairoola Khan had written to Dost Mahomed, informing him of persons sending news to the English papers, which might produce much mischief. "The consequence was that Mirza Nubbee was seized on suspicion of being the news-sender, but was dismissed, after clearing himself by oath." The *Friend of India* makes the very probable suggestion that these correspondents of the *Delhi Gazette* may be agents used by Dost Mahomed, in order to increase the value of his offer of amity to the British Government.

From China we have reports that the Emperor *de jure* of the Celestial Empire is about to divide the kingdom with Tsae-ping-Wang, the insurgent chief, but the rumour is not generally credited At Nankin the insurgents are settling down, and assuming the character of a settled Government Shanghai still holds out against the Imperialists, and appears likely to do so. At Amoy preparations were going forward for another endeavour on the part of the insurgents to retake the city, which, if vigorously followed up, will probably be successful.

THE COURT.

The King of Portugal and the Duke of Oporto left Buckingham Palace on Monday morning, to make a tour of the manufacturing districts.

His Royal Highness Prince Albert inspected the Essex Rifles in Hyde-park on Monday morning. In the evening, the Queen and the Prince honoured the Princess's Theatre with their presence.

On Tuesday the Queen, with Prince Arthur and the Princess Louisa, took a drive in an open landau and four. In the evening her Majesty and the Prince Consort honoured the Royal Italian Opera with their presence.

On Wednesday the Queen and Prince Albert, with the Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred, the Princess Royal, and the Princess Alice, went to the Egyptian-hall, Piccadilly, and honoured Mr. Albert Smith's entertainment, "The Ascent of Mont Blanc," with their presence. Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester visited her Majesty at Buckingham Palace, on the same day. In the afternoon, the Queen, accompanied by the Princess Mary of Cambridge, took a drive in an open landau and four

On Thursday the Earl of Aberdeen had an audience of the Queen, at Buckingham Palace. The Prince Consort, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, went to Harrow at half-past twelve o'clock, to be present at the annual delivery of speeches. In the evening the Queen and the Prince honoured the Opera Comique with their presence.

The Duke of Devonshire has sufficiently recovered from his recent attack to remove to Brighton. His Grace takes daily carriage exercise.

The Marquis of Lansdowne gave a grand concert on Monday evening, at Lansdowne House. Their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess Mary honoured the noble Marquis with their company.

THE ENTERTAINMENTS AT OXFORD

RENOWNED as the city of Oxford has ever been for its hospitality, and for the liberal spirit which has characterised those who have filled the office of Chief Magistrate, it has been the particular study of the present Mayor (R. J. Spiers, Esq.) to place his native city in a still prouder position in those respects. On Tuesday, the 22nd ult., a banquet was given at the Town hall, which, in point of elegance and splendour, far surpassed the ordinary style of corporation entertainments. On this occasion, in addition to his corporate friends and fellow-citizens, the Mayor had invited the leading members of the University and county gentry—including Sir H. Peyton, Bart.; the High Sheriff; the Right Hon. J. W. Henley, M.P.; Mr. J. H. Langston, M.P.; the Right Hon. E. Cardwell, M.P.; Mr. G. Harcourt, M.P., &c

On Thursday evening the Mayor and Mayoress had a reception in the Town-hall, which we have illustrated upon the next page

In addition to the evening party on Friday, the seniors, under the able and gentlemanly direction of the Mayor and Mr. John Henry Parker, were conducted over the Colleges of Worcester, St. John's, Wadham, Architectural Society's rooms, Bodleian Library, Theatre, and Divinity School. The company were then sumptuously entertained in the common room of Christ Church, by Mr Stokes, the Junior Proctor.

At Magdalen College, the company were entertained at dinner by the Senior Proctor, Mr. Cholmondeley; the fine old President, Dr. Routh—now in his ninety-seventh year—having granted the use of the Hall for the occasion. Dr. Routh took advantage of this opportunity to present to the College a handsome silver-gilt dish, which he had received as a gift from the Emperor Alexander of Russia, in the year 1814 And the Vice-President, Mr. Harris, in announcing the presentation of the piece of plate, made a most ingenious speech in which he pointed out no occasion could have been more appropriate for giving and accepting the offering. He pointed out how the present Emperor of Russia was conducting a system just the opposite to that maintained by his grandfather's predecessor. "Alexander," he said, "manfully defended his country against the lawless aggressions of the greatest despot the world ever knew, and therefore deserved the esteem of every true patriot; but Nicholas, the present Emperor, had committed the very crimes which had been punished by his brother" The President could not, on account of his great age, be present at the entertainment; but the window was opened, in order that he might hear the hearty cheers with which his host finally said kindness were greeted

In the evening Dr. Daubeny, the Professor of Botany, gave a soirée at his residence

THE ILLUSTRATIONS.

The *Antique Gallery*, which we engrave, forms a part of the Randolph and Taylor Buildings, in Beaumont-street. At the foot of the staircase is a beautiful statue of Bacchus, presented by a Countess of Pomfret; opposite, in a niche in the side wall, is a statue of Minerva, in good preservation; and through the archway, with its columns on either side, are seen a number of antique statues, arranged in niches. In the centre is the torso of Theseus; and, in the extreme distance, the Laocoon. In this Gallery there is a part devoted to the works of Chantrey; and also, in the vault beneath, are to be seen many models of his mural monuments.

The *Schools Gate*, so named as leading to the Divinity Schools, is represented as seen within the Quadrangle, and is a curious specimen of architecture, and more pleasing from its picturesqueness than elegance of style. This is the principal entrance, on state occasions, into the Divinity Schools and Theatre. The front, facing the street, is very bare of decoration.

The *Reception by the Mayor and Mayoress* in the Town-hall on Thursday evening was brilliantly attended The invitations were extended to 1000 The object of this gathering was to bring again together the most distinguished members of the University, the county gentry, and the citizens, and to place before their notice works of art, rare literary works, and other objects calculated to gratify intelligent curiosity, and afford intellectual enjoyment. In this object the Mayor and Mayoress most eminently succeeded.

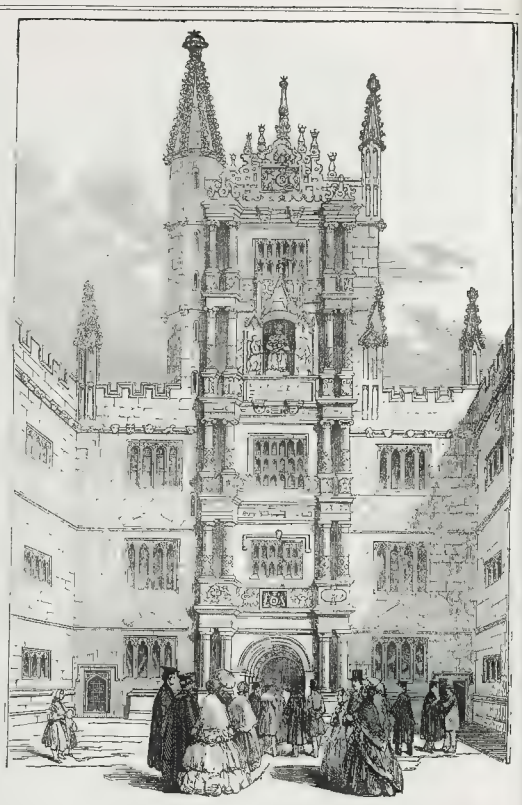
The Town-hall presented a most brilliant appearance, for around its walls were hung some of the choicest works of Millais, Hunt, Collins, Ansdell, Allom, Frost, D. Cox, and others illustrious in art; while on stands in many parts of the room were ranged a collection of water colour drawings, by some of the most distinguished artists of the present day. In the various recesses and in the centre of the room were models of the most finished pieces of sculpture by Calder Marshall, Macdowall, and others, imparting a degree of grace and beauty to the scene which could not be surpassed.

Soon after eight o'clock the company began to assemble. The list of guests included many of the most distinguished names in literature, science, and art. As they arrived they were introduced by Stewards to the Mayor, who then introduced them to the Mayoress, and she, as well as the Mayor, gave to each a cordial welcome. About ten o'clock the whole of the company had arrived, and, notwithstanding that upwards of 1000 persons were congregated together, there was an entire absence of confusion and pressure, owing to the excellent arrangements laid down, and the admirable manner in which they were carried out by the Stewards, who undertook, as a labour of love, the duties which were assigned to them.

In the great hall, the draperies of the windows and the heraldic adornments of the walls, as arranged for the banquet on Tuesday, had been retained, superadded to which, that spacious apartment was ornamented throughout by a profusion of painting and sculpture. In the Council-chamber there was a collection of drawings of the ancient masters, copies of the Queen's collection and stereoscopes; in the City Committee-room, microscopes, drawings, carvings, &c.; in the Public Library a collection of illustrated books and other works of art—including some of the finest works of modern eminent artists, besides productions of others more immediately connected with the locality. The Microscopic and Stereoscopic Department was superintended by F. Symonds, Esq., and the Rev. A. Wood, who attended during the evening and explained the various illustrations; and the Fine Arts Department was attended by Mr. Harvey, to whom much of the credit of the general arrangement is due.

The Town-hall-yard was covered with a spacious tent, in which refreshments were dispensed. The Public Library was crowded during the night with parties examining the beautifully illustrated works, lent for the occasion by the Architectural Society, other public bodies, and private individuals. The musical department was sustained

THE ANTIQUE GALLERY, TAYLOR AND RANDOLPH-BUILDINGS, OXFORD.

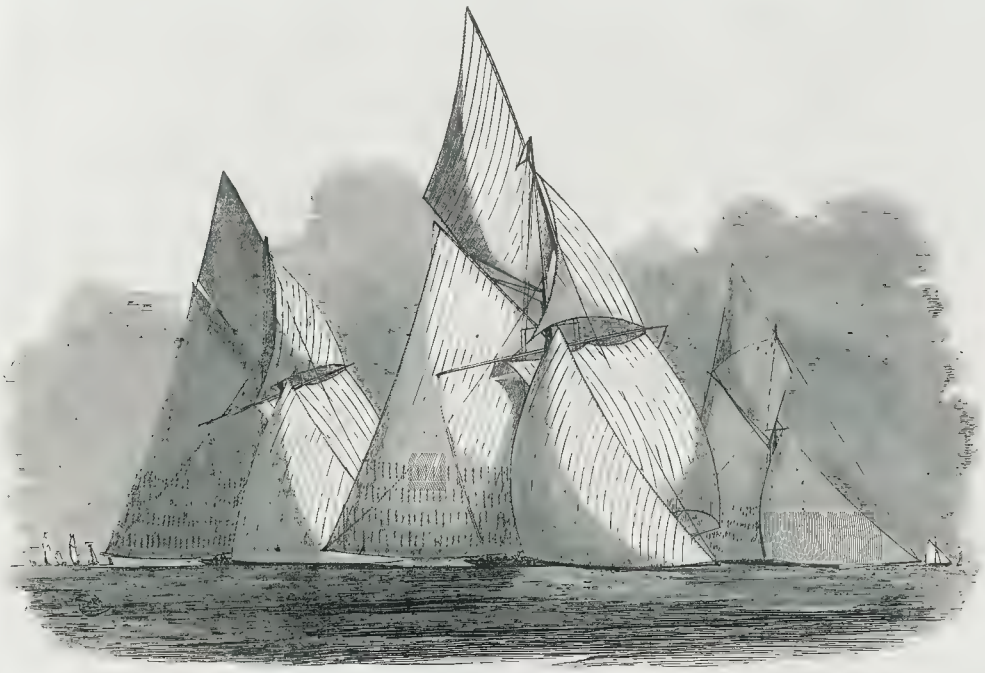


THE DIVINITY SCHOOLS GATE, OXFORD.

by Adams's new Oxford Sax-Tuba band; and the vocal, by the Misses Birch, aided by amateurs, choristers, and others. The hall and other apartments were brilliantly lighted, and the *tout ensemble*, when the company had assembled, was extremely rich and imposing. The invitations exceeded 1000 in number, comprising the resident families of the University, with those of the county, the city circles, &c.

On the two following days the hall and other apartments were visited by upwards of 20,000 persons, including schools, some accompanied by banners and bands of music.

THE RECEPTION, BY THE MAYOR AND MAYORESS, IN THE TOWN-HALL, OXFORD.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)



THOUGHT. PHANTOM. VAMPIRE.

THE ROYAL LONDON YACHT CLUB MATCH.

M. BILLAULT, MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR UNDER LOUIS NAPOLEON.

M. ADOLPHE BILLAULT, the new Minister of the Interior under the Emperor Napoleon III., was born in the year 1805. He began his career as an advocate at Nantes, where he became so distinguished for his eloquence and industry, that he was nominated a member of the General Council of the *Loire Inférieure*. But M. Billault was destined

M. BILLAULT, MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR.

to shine in a higher sphere. In 1837 he was elected a member of the Chamber of Deputies. M. Billault then, for the first time, gave the measure of his faculties. He proved himself to be a man of the most varied talents, which accommodated themselves to all political questions. He became in a short time one of the most indefatigable orators of the Chamber of Deputies: civil and military affairs, finance, diplomacy—on all these questions he spoke in the most masterly manner. On his first entrance into Parliamentary life he attached himself to that section of the Opposition known under the name of the "Constitutional Opposition," and of which M. Odilon Barrot was at that time the leader; but in 1840 he went over, "*sans transition*," to the side of M. Thiers, and was shortly afterwards made Under-Secretary of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce. On the downfall of the Administration of M. Thiers, he joined the Opposition against M. Guizot, and was one of the most troublesome opponents of that Minister. M. Billault was one of those men who denounced the English predilections of M. Guizot. He took part in the debates relative to the famous "Right of Search," carried on for the amusement of the *badauds* of Paris; as well as in those excited by the conduct of the French at Tahiti, when the celebrated "*affaire Pritchard*" threatened to bring England and France into collision; and when the French press teemed with accusations against "perfidious Albion."

In 1847, M. Billault spoke with much force on the question of Electoral Reform; and, after the Revolution, was elected Representative of the People in the Assemblée Constituante. This portion of the political career of M. Billault is distinguished by vacillations of principle that do not say much for the earnestness of his convictions. He was the ardent promoter of the proposition of inquiry into the condition of the working classes, and defended the absurd "right of labour" question against M. Thiers. His Republican zeal led him to moot and support the most dangerous questions; and he became the champion of the National Assembly in the differences that arose between the majority of that body and Louis Napoleon, at that time President of the French Republic. This devotion had its reward. He was first made a member of the Provisional Committee of the Council of State; and subsequently, on two different occasions, he was named one of the Vice-Presidents of the National Assembly.

It was with no small astonishment, therefore, that the public, after the establishment of the Empire, received the intelligence, that this ancient disciple of M. Odilon Barrot, this confederate of M. Thiers, and opponent of Louis Napoleon, was promoted to the important position of President of the *Corps Legislatif*. In this capacity, however, he appeared to have given satisfaction, and his promotion to the Ministry of the Interior has not excited surprise or much remark from any section of politicians.

The character of M. Billault is thus described by M. de Cormenin, in his "Sketches of the Parliamentary Celebrities of the Reign of Louis Philippe":—"M. Billault has as much principle as most advocates, and more than many Ministers of our day. He is a remarkable orator."

ROYAL LONDON YACHT CLUB MATCH.

THIS event, the second and concluding match of this Club for the season, was sailed for on Tuesday, the 20th ult. The competitors were but three: the *Thought* and *Phantom*, in one match, and the *Vampire*, unopposed, in the other; and all three cutter-rigged.

Yachts.	Tons.	Owners.
Thought	32	G. Cooper, Esq.
Phantom	29	S. Lane, Esq.
Vampire	18	C. Wheeler, jun., Esq.

The course, on this occasion, was from Erith to the Nore-light and back, for a purse of forty sovereigns for the first-class, and a purse of thirty sovereigns for the second-class vessels. The *Mars* steamer—always

PARIS FASHIONS FOR JULY.—(SEE NEXT PAGE)

excellently worked above, and well-provisioned below—with the band of the Royal Artillery, accompanied the match.

The starting gun was fired at thirteen minutes to twelve, and the vessels got under way beautifully, the *Vampire* leading. There being no restriction as to what canvas the vessels might carry, or how used, as upon former matches in the Thames, the vessels mounted all their large canvas; the *Thought* and *Phantom* carrying square sails in addition to the ordinary ones—a novelty in a yacht match; but the rules of the Club most judiciously allow the vessels to make the most of the wind blowing on the occasion. The appearance of the yachts with this crowd of canvas was most beautiful, the hulls of the vessels being at times almost hidden by the immense jibs they carried. The yachts were each, for their size, the most celebrated craft afloat; and, in the early part of the match, were together for some time; but the *Phantom* gradually increased the distance between herself and the other vessels, and they arrived at the Nore Light as follows:

	H.	M.	S.
Phantom	3	16	15
Thought	3	30	30
Vampire	3	31	25

At this point the *Phantom* shortened sail, and still continued to drop the other vessels. Off Southend the *Thought* took the ground, and had to be towed off by the *Mars*, which assistance disqualified her for gaining the prize, even could she again by sailing have overtaken her celebrated rival. The *Phantom* arrived at Erith at sixteen minutes to eight, and the *Vampire* at one minute past eight.

The successful competitors, Mr Lane and Mr. Wheeler, then came on board, and the Commodore presented the prizes in the usual manner; the two victors returned thanks; and the health of the Queen and the ladies being responded to, the *Mars* returned to London with her visitors, much gratified with the attention paid to their comforts, and the general excellence of the arrangements.

PARIS FASHIONS FOR JULY.

Our duty this month is rather to describe what should be worn at this season, than to describe the toilets worn; for the unpropitious weather has kept in the shops the charming dresses that would otherwise have been displayed out of doors.

Scotch plaid sarcenet is the material most worn for silk dresses; the ground is generally plain, and of a light colour; the lines of the squares are composed of very small narrow close stripes of showy colours; and separate stripes pass through the middle of the large square. A great many muslin dresses are made with coloured embroidery; very few running patterns are worn, small separate designs, spots, stars or very small flowers dotted on the plain ground, sometimes lozenges or squares are woven on the material, of the same colour as the ground, when the embroidery is made to match the figures of the dress. Book-muslin is worn with the same sort of ornament; the favourite colours are blue, lilac, pearl-grey, of the lightest shades; above all, white is worn. These dresses are generally made with three flounces; the petticoat is separate from the body, as it serves for ball-dresses in the country, as well as for walking-dresses; for the evening a body of a similar material is made plain with a point, and without *basques*; low, with short sleeves, for the ball; during the day, it is replaced by a *canezou*, either of black lace, or white muslin, with trimmings of sarcenet ribbon of the same colour as the stars or flowers embroidered on the petticoat. The morning caps worn with these dresses should be trimmed with ribbons of a colour similar to that of the dress; they are embroidered in amour-stitch (*point d'armures*), or with lace insertions or in guipure stitch (*point de guipure*), or with the fancy embroidery, which completely imitates lace. The mantillas are also made of muslin, entirely covered with embroidery in satin-stitch, and trimmed with lace; they are short, in the form of a scarf behind, and the two points in front are round. Silk mantillas are made of light-coloured sarcenets; white is preferred, as it may be worn with every shade; they are stamped with open patterns, and the openings are embroidered in satin-stitch, which produces a charming effect; and are completed with a single row of fringe, with a guipure footing. A few China crape shawls are still seen; but only those that are embroidered with brilliant colours, and very much embossed. White shawls, embroidered in white, are gone out of fashion. Some very light printed barège shawls have been also made, with India patterns for the borders, and are well suited for this season.

THE ILLUSTRATIONS.

No. 1. *White Muslin dress*, with three flounces; the large running patterns at the bottom of the flounces are also white, like the ground of the dress; the spots dotted on the muslin are pink, or blue, according to taste; the body of a similar material, is plain under basques, trimmed with sarcenet ribbon of the same colour as the spots, the inside of the collar open in front, is trimmed with Valenciennes lace; the cap and the sleeves, made of embroidered muslin, are trimmed with the same lace.

No. 2. *Scotch plaid sarcenet dress*: plain body, fastened at the top, trimmed with ribbons, which form braces, of the same colour as the large stripe of the squares.

No. 3. *Black barège dress*, with flounces trimmed with a ruche.

No. 4. *Pearl-grey watered poplin dress*, a printed barège shawl; white crape bonnet, ornamented with flowers.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,
TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, JUNE 29

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest in the Day.	Thermometer. Lowest Reading.	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
	Inches	°	°	°	°			Inches.
June 23	30.108	77·0	56·0	64·9	+ 4·3	79	S.W.	0.80
„ 24	30.158	78·0	54·0	63 2	+ 2·5	81	S.W.	0.00
„ 25	29.941	80·0	55·0	65·2	+ 7·3	74	S.E.	0.00
„ 26	29 682	67·0	52·5	63 1	+ 2 1	71	S.W.	0.00
„ 27	29.260	66·2	49·0	58 8	— 2·0	66	S.W.	0.18
„ 28	29.500	68·2	49·8	56 4	— 4 9	75	S.	0.12
„ 29	29.566	69 7	46·0	57 1	— 4·4	78	W.S.W.	0.00

Note. The sign + denotes above the average, and the sign — below the average.

The corrected reading of the barometer decreased from 30.11 inches at the beginning of the week to 30 08 inches by the 23rd; increased to 30.11 inches by the 24th; decreased to 29 61 inches by the 26th; increased to 29.76 inches by the 27th; and decreased to 29.56 inches by the end of the week. The mean for the week, at the height of 82 feet above the level of the sea, was 29.806 inches.

The mean daily temperatures have varied from 7·3° above, to 5·4° below their average values. During the time they were below their average values, viz., from May 22 to June 22, the mean defect was 3·7°.

The mean temperature of the week was 61·3°, being 0·2° below the average of 38 years.

The range of temperature during the week was 33°, being the difference between the highest reading of the thermometer on the 25th, and the lowest on the 29th.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 16·9°. The greatest was 22° on the 26th, and the smallest 5° on the 28th.

Rain fell during the week to the depth of three-tenths of an inch.

The weather, during the first four days of the week, was fine and warm; during the rest of the week it was showery and changeable.

Lewisham, June 30, 1854. JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—Within the week ending June 24 the births of 1682 children were registered: 829 were boys, and 803 were girls, exceeding the average of the same week in nine years by 127 males and 146 females. The number of deaths within the week was 1153—of these 563 were males, and 590 females; exceeding the corrected average of the same week in ten years by 40 males and 114 females.

ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S CORONATION.—Wednesday being the anniversary of the coronation of her Majesty, at an early hour the bells from the steeples of the various metropolitan churches sent forth merry peals in honour of the occasion. At one o'clock a grand *feu de joie* was fired from the guns in St. James's Park, the Tower, the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, and Tilbury Fort. The vessels and numerous steamers on the river also were decorated with flags and streamers in honour of the occasion.

ELECTION OF SHERIFFS.—The annual election of Sheriffs and other officers who are chosen on Midsummer-day, took place in the Guildhall on Saturday last, when Alderman Muggeridge and Mr. Charles Decimus Crosley were duly elected, and the return was made to the Court of Aldermen, who at once confirmed it. Sir John Key was unanimously elected Chamberlain for the ensuing year.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, July 2.—3rd Sunday after Trinity.
MONDAY, 3.—Dog days begin. J. J. Rousseau died, 1778
TUESDAY, 4.—St. Martin.
WEDNESDAY, 5. Sovereigns first issued as currency, 1817.
THURSDAY, 6.—Old Midsummer-day. Adam Smith died, 1790
FRIDAY, 7.—Thomas à Becket's scandal-ated, 1170.
SATURDAY, 8.—Fire Insurance due Edmund Burke died, 1797.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE
FOR THE WEEK ENDING JULY 8, 1854.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday	Saturday
M. A.	M. A.	M. A.	M. A.	M. A.	M. A.	M. A.
h m h m	h m h m	h m h m	h m h m	h m h m	h m h m	h m h m
0 13 0 49	1 7 1 39	2 1 2 35	2 55 3 29	3 55 4 33	5 1 5 39	6 1 6 40

THE WAR WITH RUSSIA.

On SATURDAY, JULY 15,

A GRAND DOUBLE NUMBER

OF

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS,

CONTAINING

A SERIES of ENGRAVINGS and INCIDENTS, from Sketches by the Artists of this Journal, at the SEAT of WAR. With the above DOUBLE NUMBER will be Presented

A LARGE PRINT

OF

THE SULTAN, AND THE ALLIED COMMANDERS IN THE EAST.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JULY 1, 1854

THE Law of Partnership, though, at first glance, a dry legal question, is a subject of great importance, not so much to the legal profession, as to the public generally, and amongst the public, especially to the small capitalist and struggling tradesman. Everybody knows that, according to the present state of the law, capital cannot co-operate with talent or industry by going into a limited partnership with it, that is by supplying a limited amount of capital to work upon; for the instant such an arrangement should be attempted, the capitalist would become involved for the whole value of his estate. As a natural consequence, the millionaire is very chary of having anything to do with such speculations; and, what then? He puts his millions into the Funds, and draws his three per cent with out risk and without advantage to any one single fellow-being. What is true of the millionaire is true also of the owner of a few hundreds—the savings, perhaps, of years: he cannot invest them as a limited share in partnership with larger capitalists in any ordinary commercial transactions. And why? The Triton and the Minnow cannot swim in the same sea; the man of pounds cannot work with the man of pence in the same field—where both pretending to a rateable return of profit, each is liable, in respect of all he possesses, for the other. And what, then, becomes of the small capitalist's hard-earned hundreds? They are too often invested in foreign Funds, or at home in some bubble joint-stock speculation, exempted by charter or Act of Parliament from the operation of the Partnership Laws; and, in nine cases out of ten, become sunk—swallowed up—irretrievably lost!

This is only the case in England—commercial England—where every encouragement ought to be given to honest enterprise, and the sympathy of capital for labour, and labour for capital Abroad exists a very useful system, that of partnership *en commandité*, whereby a certain number of persons registered as a trading partnership, and being themselves unlimitedly liable, may yet employ the capital of other persons, who are permitted to share the profits to the extent of the capital respectively contributed by them; and beyond that amount being held exempt from all responsibility. This system, first introduced into Italy, has spread into France, Holland, Germany, and finally to America, with the most beneficial results to the parties engaged. Furthermore, under its influence, trading firms, established in foreign parts, have extended their branches into England, engrossing many important departments of trade, to the utter exclusion of British capital and industry.

Having briefly glanced at some of the more prominent evils of the present state of the law, it is with much satisfaction that we announce the probability of its being altered, before very long—not in this session, certainly, but possibly in the next. Two Committees and a Commission have already deliberated and reported upon the subject; and, although their opinions are not unanimous, the declaratory motion of Mr. Collier in the House of Commons on Tuesday last, was met with such an expression of concurrence both from members of the Government and from the House generally—being itself in the end affirmed without a division—as not to leave a doubt as to the result. Of course, in the new law, whatever it be, provision will have to be made to prevent fraud, by duly registering the names of all partners, and the account of their shares; but, this being done, capital, great and small in amount, will be left to trade and develop itself freely; and we have no doubt that, amongst other advantages, a more genuine system of credit and of trade transactions generally than any that has hitherto prevailed will be the consequence.

WHILE the Bill for the Reform of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge is dragging its tortuous length through the House of Commons, another species of reform has been inaugurated in the city of Oxford, under promising auspices. Though the ancient feuds and fights between "Town and Gown" have happily become matters of history, it cannot be said that Town and Gown in Oxford have entirely forgotten their former jealousies. A remnant of the old feeling still subsists, but with greatly diminished intensity, and every year that passes tends to obliterate it, and to remove from the mind of both classes the impression that the other is not as worthy as itself of respect and honour. To cement this good understanding, and to lead to its extension, appears to have been the object of the Mayor of Oxford in inviting to that city, during the past week, to partake of his civic hospitalities, a large number of persons well known in the world of art, of science, and of literature. It was a matter of considerable interest to ascertain whether the University would receive with distinction the guests of the municipality. The result was in the highest degree gratifying. So far from treating with neglect, or even with indifference, the ladies and gentlemen who had been honoured with the Mayor's invitation, the Heads of Houses and Colleges adopted every possible method of showing them attention and respect. The reception at the Town hall was one of the most brilliant gatherings ever seen at Oxford; and the principal functionaries of the various Colleges vied with each other in supporting the Chief Magistrate of the city in his recognition of that outer literature, science, and art, which have their seats in London; and the students and undergraduates the most distinguished for their rank, wealth, and social position, eagerly claimed the distinction of acting as stewards on the occasion. Nor did the University authorities confine their sympathy to the festivities of one evening, but threw open their venerable Colleges during successive days; some of them doing the guests the rare honour of receiving them uncovered at the entrance, escorting them through the halls, libraries, and gardens; and bidding them farewell, personally and collectively, with as much distinction, as if an honour had been conferred upon the University by the visit. In former days the Universities were reproached with being ignorant of the actual life around them, and of existing in an atmosphere of antiquity, that often disqualified them for companionship with the busy and bustling world of modern civilisation. Whatever truth there may have formerly been in the imputation, there is little in it at the present time; and such social gatherings as those of which Mr. Spiers has set the example will, if imitated, remove all pretext for the allegation. The past glories of the Universities are among the most precious remembrances of the British people; and anything that tends to increase their present popularity, and to extend their usefulness, must be considered in the light of a public benefit. The "Town and Gown" antagonism—no longer existing in Oxford—was but a type of the antagonisms that, at no very distant period, prevailed throughout the country, and that separated class from class by an almost impassable barrier of mutual jealousies and dislikes. Our civilisation has been gradually breaking down these bonds, and though some of them still remain to reproach us—such, for instance, as the antagonism between large employers and their workpeople, and the still more unchristian demarcation between masters and servants, in which the feelings, sympathies, and modes of thought of each class are almost as distinct as those that separate the white men from the negro in the United States of America—the lines of separation are gradually growing fainter. For these and other reasons we are glad that the city of Oxford has made so fortunate a movement. Perhaps, at some future day, the University will still more emphatically testify its approbation, by returning the compliment.

THE Society of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce will open an Exhibition for the Encouragement of Education, by a *conversazione*, in St. Martin's Hall, on the evening of the 4th inst., when his Royal Highness Prince Albert, the President of the Society, will attend. The Exhibition will be opened to the public on the 6th July, and remain open till the 20th of September. The Hall will be filled with models, maps, diagrams, apparatus, books, and other articles relating to education, contributed by the friends of instruction, not only in the United Kingdom, but in the most enlightened countries of Europe and the United States of North America. Lectures will be delivered, and discussions held, at suitable hours, illustrative of the objects exhibited, and of the systems of education recommended or followed in different countries and districts. The price of admission will be so low that the practical teacher may study there without encroaching perceptibly on his income. The Committee of the Society have expressed a desire that landowners, magistrates, and benevolent individuals all over the United Kingdom interested in schools, should second their efforts to render the Exhibition generally useful, by organising local committees to collect funds to send the common schoolmasters of the country to London for a week to visit the Exhibition; and we hope that they will admit such teachers free. Every one conversant with the state of education in the United Kingdom, must be aware of the low quality of the instruction given in most of our common schools, and also of the imperfections in the modes of teaching. There are numerous exceptions highly creditable to particular teachers; still a large mass of ill-informed men are in possession of our public seminaries, and it has been found difficult to rouse them to improvement. No means, in our opinion, could be devised better calculated to produce this effect than sending the schoolmasters to visit the Exhibition, and converse with the enlightened persons whom they will find there, examining the objects and methods with a view to their practical adoption. The country schoolmaster, unaccustomed to mingle freely in the educated society of his district, and confined to the routine of communicating the simplest elements of instruction to children who leave school before their intelligence has had time to awaken, has few motives for self-improvement; and when books calculated to help him forward in his art are presented to him, he feels small inclination to study or apply them. Were he to pass one week in London, and to visit this Exhibition daily, he could not return and sit down contentedly to follow the dull course of his previous life. If there was a spark of mental energy within him, it would be awakened, and he would desire to advance. Besides, he would have learnt how much other men know of education and its appliances, and no visitor could enter his school without his being led to think that "probably this stranger has seen the London Exhibition, and will try me by its tests."

Were the railway directors of the United Kingdom appealed to, we have good reason, from their conduct on previous occasions, to anticipate that they would second the efforts of the local committees, by reducing their fares in favour of teachers visiting the Exhibition.

The Crystal Palace, the British Museum, the National Gallery, and other institutions of the metropolis, also, are highly calculated to give an impulse towards self-improvement to the schoolmaster.

NOTES OF THE WEEK

THE POLICE BILL.

We are sorry to observe that Lord Palmerston, yielding to senseless and interested clamour, has announced his intention of abandoning his County and Borough Police Bill; or, at any rate, of sacrificing its most essential and useful features. The heart that Russia could not soften, nor Austria beguile, has quailed before the "bureaucracy" of Manchester, Birmingham, Chester, and a deputation of county wisdom. We dare to say we have as exalted a notion of a provincial mayor, or a bench of justices, as Lord Palmerston, and that we fully share his views as to the "great advantages which arise from the cordial and harmonious co-operation of the local authorities with the Administration;"—but what if efficiency require something more than all this? The opposition to this attempt to establish an efficient police force throughout the country, has consisted chiefly of the old cry against "centralisation," the old generalities about "self-government," and so forth. Centralisation! is not the Post-office establishment one of centralisation? The Exchequer? Are not the railways, the electric telegraph, centralisation? the administration of the law by the Judges on Circuit centralisation? the whole Sheriff system centralisation? And why should not the mere executive function of thief-catching and crime-prevention have the operative efficiency and uniformity of action result ing from centralised organisation also? With the management or micromanagement of purely local affairs—those which especially concern the health, cleanliness, comfort, and decent appearance of local communities, and the dis osal of their special funds, and small patronage—we would not, for an instant, think of interfering; but the repression and punishment of crime is a national, and not a local question, and the machinery employed for the purpose should be commensurate with the requirement, and co-extensive with the field over which it acts or ranges. We do not wish to disparage the good intentions of local authorities in this matter; but it has long been too notorious, that the police forces maintained by them, are neither numerous enough, nor sufficiently "up to their work," to be of any use with the metropolitan police, or against metropolitan thieves. The consequence is that crime in its most atrocious and alarming forms, scared away from the range of the London authorities, ravages peaceful suburban quarters, and quiet provincial towns, to the scandal, not only of the immediate neighbourhood, but of the community at large; and immediate powerless are the local functionaries to detect the criminal, that in cases of very flagrant character the London policeman has to go down to investigate the matter, to fix upon the culprit, and materially assist in the matter of the conviction. The recent supply the necessary chain of evidence for his conviction. The recent atrocious murder case near Slough was one of many similar, where from the stupidity of the rural tipstaff, the murderer was allowed, under his very nose, eight-and-forty hours to make away with the evidence of his guilt, and was within an ace of escaping the gallows in consequence. And yet in the face of such facts as these, borough dignitaries and county magistrates boast about independence, self government, &c., and loudly deprecate any interference of central authority. We regret that we are sorry that Lord Palmerston has given up what he persists in believing, and that we join with him in believing, to be a good measure, from deference to such prejudices as these.

HAMPSTEAD-HEATH.

It appears that we, last week, reckoned without our host.—" cried before we had got out of the wood" — when we gave credit to the House of Lords for sufficient consistency, and, we may add, sufficient sense of justice, to reject, for the sixth time, as they had on five occasions previously, the modest pretensions of Sir Thomas Maryon Wilson to enclose Hampstead-heath, in defiance of his fathers will, and the solemn decisions of the Judges upon the law and merits of the case. The "Finchley-road Estate" Bill was read a second time on Tuesday. No one denies that Parliament has the right, in its discretion, to grant powers of life estates powers to the right, in its discretion, to grant powers of life estates powers to grant long leases, for building or other purposes, which they would not otherwise be able to do; but it does so only in cases where it is for the benefit of the estate, and where there is no ground to the less obvious one, that the leasing power is granted with the intention of the donor that it should be exercised by the life interest was made. Now, in the case of the late Sir T. Wilson's will, there is every reason to presume that he did intend to withhold such powers in respect of Hampstead-heath because while he gave power to the tenant for life to grant leases not to certain and many portions of his estate, he, in the very same instrument, omitted to do so as to that particular portion. As to the motives which induced him to make the exception, we are not bound to inquire; though Lord Campbell, in the course of debate, went so far as to suggest, that he had done so "cautious-ly, and as he believed from motives of patriotism and benevolence"—a suggestion which was, to their great credit, received with "laughter" by the House of Lords.

We are simply pleased and grieved at the result. We blush for the bard, mercenary feeling which can set the sacred associations of the past and the most innocent aspirations of the living—the fond associations of childhood, recreation, at defiance, for the benefit of a few. Shame, also, heathful recreation, at defiance, for the benefit of a few. Shame, also, heathful recreation, at defiance, for the benefit of a few. Shame, also, heathful

OPENING OF THE CRYSTAL PAL

AT SYDENHAM.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

OPENING OF THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

UPON the two preceding pages we have engraved the scene of the impressive ceremony of the Opening of the Crystal Palace, on June 10, by her Majesty, in person. Happily, in this enlightened age, Sovereigns are accustomed to lend the grace of their presence to the pageants of peace, as well as to the pomp and circumstance of war. In our Journal of last week we illustrated the inauguration of a railway in Brazil by the Emperor and Empress of that country; and to-day we present a scene of kindred interest in our own country. Both the railway and the Crystal Palace are the triumphs of our own times; and, although both works have a national importance and character, still they are private enterprises, emanating from the people themselves, but not, on that account, less worthy of Royal countenance. Such was the opening of the Crystal Palace at Sydenham, on the 10th ult. The details of the very interesting ceremony were given in our Journal of June 17. The point selected by our Artist, in the prefixed Illustration, is her Majesty reading her gracious reply to the Address of the Directors. On the right of her Majesty are the Royal children and the Prince Consort. To the left of the state chair are the King of Portugal, the Duke of Oporto, the Duchess of Kent, and the Court. Upon the floor of the building, at the foot of the dais, is a crowd of the representatives of foreign Powers, in their varied brilliant official costumes.

The Directors of the Crystal Palace Company have been honoured by the following very gratifying expression of her Majesty's opinion as to the mode in which the inaugural ceremonies were conducted:—

Whitehall, June 20, 1854.

Gentlemen,—It is with much satisfaction I inform you that I have received the Queen's commands to convey to you the high approbation of her Majesty and of his Royal Highness Prince Albert of the admirable manner in which everything was arranged and conducted on the occasion of the opening of the Crystal Palace at Sydenham, on Saturday, the 10th inst. The Queen has been pleased to express the especial gratification she derived from the very magnificent music which was performed; and has graciously signified her opinion that it had the finest effect which her Majesty had ever heard.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

PALMERSTON.

The complimentary allusion to the music is unusually strong; but those of the public who had the honour of participating in her Majesty's gratification will freely admit that the Royal expressions by no means exaggerate the merits of Signor Costa, and the large and talented band, vocal and instrumental, by whom the music of the Opening Day at the Crystal Palace was executed.

The sum her of shilling visitors, which, on Monday, was 10,728, and, on Tuesday, 13 186, rose to 16 826 on Wednesday. The number of season-ticket holders, for the corresponding days, was 907, 1218, 1424. On Saturday last the number of 5s. visitors was 2883; of season-ticket holders, 5166; on Friday there were 4264 2s. 6d. visitors, and 1093 ticket holders. The receipts in the Refreshment department continue to increase also, and the arrangements appear to give general satisfaction. A time-table has been issued for the starting of trains to and from the Palace, which prevents unnecessary delay. In other respects the working of the establishment steadily improves, and there seems no reason to doubt that a prosperous and brilliant career awaits the enterprise of the Company. Between the money taken at the doors and in the refreshment department, the receipts cannot be less than £1000 per day, so that the financial prospects of the undertaking are highly encouraging. A considerable amount of work is still carried on, both in the Building and in the Park, without any inconvenience to visitors. Thus, Mr. Owen Jones has been enabled to complete the Court of Lions, with its gilded pillars and pretty flower-garden. The arrangements connected with the machinery in motion are also making rapid progress under Mr Fothergill, and it is expected that the fountains of the Nave and the Upper Terrace will be ready to play in a week or fortnight. The North Wing is now finished, and Mr. Henderson and Mr Cochrane will be able henceforth to give their undivided attention to the construction of the great water towers, which will differ materially in design from those at first contemplated, and add greatly to the architectural effect of the Palace. Although, in the lower portion of the grounds especially, a good deal of work still remains to be done, the additional expenditure required need not frighten the shareholders.

Next to the Refreshments, the Commercial department exhibits the most decided symptoms of success. The applications for space become daily more numerous, and those tradesmen who have been installed from the first are carrying on a flourishing trade. The agent for the sale of French moulin de rose informs us that he comes to the Palace and Mr. Rimmel, the perfumer, eighty pounds' worth of his odoriferous compounds. The latter paid last week £55 rent, being the quarter of his gross receipts—a fact pleasantly indicative both of the increase of his trade and of the moderate rate of his profits. Mr. Sandars, also, the representative of the Paris Chocolate Company, who pays an enormous rent, is entirely satisfied with his bargain, and his assistants at the various stalls are hardly able to supply the public demand for his chocolate. The stall for Irish bog oak ornaments has been twice exhausted, and various other *boutiques* announce an equal amount of prosperity.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

CARLISLE RACES.—MONDAY.

Corby Castle Stakes.—Lord Alfred, 1. Nelly Hill, 2.
Grand Stand Plate.—Gamelad, 1. Fair Helen filly, 2.

TUESDAY.

Cumberland Plate.—Aribbas, 1. La Belle, 2.
Trade-men's Plate.—Colsterdale, 1. Patience, 2.
Speculation Plate.—Fairthorn, 1. Mary Ann, 2.
Carlisle Stakes.—Rick, 1. Brother to British Farmer, 2.

WEDNESDAY.

Lottery Handicap.—Bobby horse, 1. Guiscower, 2.
Her Majesty's Plate.—Aribbas, 1. The Skinner, 2.
Commercial Travellers' Stakes.—Mary Ann, 1. Fairthorn, 2.

BIBURY CLUB RACES.—WEDNESDAY.

Sweepstakes of 50 sovs.—Ch f by Robert de Gorham walked over.
Bibury Stakes.—Cock Pheasant, 1. Garforth 2.
Champagne Stakes.—Lady Alicia, 1. Sancebox and Lambswool, 2.
Andover Stakes.—William Rufus, 1. Welshman, 2
Plate of 50 sovs.—Master Adam, 1. B f by Harkaway, 2.
Plate of 50 sovs.—Cardinal Wiseman, 1. Orpheus, 2.

STOCKBRIDGE—THURSDAY.

Two Year Old Triennial.—Bonnie Mord, 1. The Hind, 2.
Four Year Old Triennial.—Cobnut. 1. William Rufus, 2.
Three Year Old Triennial.—Andover, 1. Ivan, 2.
Stewards' Plate.—Hermit, 1. Little Davie, 2.

BEVERLEY.—THURSDAY.

East Riding Handicap.—Ann Eliza, 1. Cardsharper, 2.
Hull Stakes.—Sylvia, 1. Lord Alfred, 2.
Hunt Stakes.—Surveyor, 1.

WINCHESTER RACES.—FRIDAY.

Triennial.—Bribery, 1. Dan Cupid, 2.
Queen's Plate.—Aeneas, 1. Colonel, 2.
Hampshire Stakes.—Bribery, 1. Cleveland, 2.
Grange-park Stakes.—C. by Red Heart out of Reflection, 1. Saucebox, 2.

LATEST BETTING

GOODWOOD STAKES. 10 to 1 agst Hesspy; 12 to 1 agst Diana and Troa.
DERBY.—10 to 1 agst Bonnie Mord

NEXT WEEK'S RACES will open at Newmarket, on Tuesday, for three days, with the July meeting; the same day, and following one, the Worcester Races take place; and on Thursday and Friday the Lancaster meeting will be held.

GENTLEMEN OF MARYLEBONE CLUB *v.* GENTLEMEN OF ENGLAND.—This match was brought to a close on Tuesday, when the score was as follows:—England, first innings, 58; second innings, 166. Marylebone, first innings, 77; second innings, 85.

BAZAAR AT GORE HOUSE.—The noble institution devoted to the alleviation and cure of consumption shared the sympathies of a goodly assemblage of the fashionable world on Tuesday and Wednesday, at a BAZAAR originated in aid of the funds of the charity, and held on the grounds of Lady Blessington's once celebrated residence at Kensington. The Duchess of Sutherland, the Marchioness of Allesbury, the Countess of Jersey, Viscountess Combermere, the Marchioness of Hastings, and many other distinguished ladies, presided at counters, and carried on a thriving trade. The bazaar was much crowded, but the admirable arrangement of the marquees, under the superintendence of Mr. Edgington, prevented the possibility of inconvenience resulting, and the fête gave perfect satisfaction to all parties.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

LORD ABERDEEN'S EXPLANATION.

The Earl of ABERDEEN, with the view of removing certain misapprehensions as to the character of his speech in reply to Lord Lyndhurst, moved for the production of a despatch addressed by himself, when Foreign Minister in the Government of the Duke of Wellington, to Lord Heytesbury, our Ambassador at St. Petersburg, upon the subject of the treaty of Adrianople. The noble Earl declared that there was nothing in his speech which he had to retract or to contradict, though he readily admitted that there might be grounds for making further development of that which he had intended to say. He had said the other night that, however disastrous and prejudicial the treaty was to Turkey, Russia had acquired no territorial possessions in consequence of it. This he said in answer to the exaggerated and unfounded declarations of the extension of the Russian Empire since that period. It might be comparatively incorrect to say that she had acquired no extension of territory; but there certainly had been no extension to the degree asserted. At the same time he was not unaware of the value of the acquisitions made by the treaty in respect to the navigation of the Danube, and of several posts in Asia, small in extent, but of the highest strategetical importance. In proof of this the noble Earl read one paragraph from his despatch to Lord Heytesbury, which strongly condemned the proceedings of Russia in making these acquisitions; and mentioned, in reply to a question, that the despatch was dated the 31st December, 1829. With the treaty of Adrianople a change commenced in the policy of Russia. Had the Empress Catherine had the execution of it, Russia would probably have obtained great acquisition under it; but about that time it had been the policy of Russia to look for the extension of political influence rather than increased territory. The policy was to attempt the same object by different means, in order not to alarm the European Powers. It had been said that he had expressed his disbelief in Russian aggression. On this subject he had been misunderstood. He had expressed the greatest alarm at Russian aggression upon Turkey, and said that Turkey must be protected against it; but as to the danger of Russian aggression upon Europe, he had certainly expressed no fear, because he felt none; and he was inclined to feel less every day. Declining to reply to absurd and malignant personal imputations, he admitted that he had, perhaps more than any other person, striven to maintain peace, because it was a duty he owed to God and man to endeavour to avoid the calamities of war; and he had been told, in consequence, that, if he had such a love of peace, he was unfit to make war. But how did he wish to make war, now we were at war? Why, by carrying it on with the greatest vigour and determination, in order the sooner to secure the return of peace. And his colleagues knew that he had always been most ready to co-operate with them in the most active measures of hostility and warlike preparation. Nay, more; he had personally been more urgent than any other man for a speedy advance and concentration of the Allied forces to the north of the Balkan, in order to support the gallant army of Omer Pacha, and for enabling Austria to take a more effectual part in the war. This, perhaps, he ought not to have said, but it was the truth, and he had invariably pursued the same policy. Now that we were entered into the war—a war which he unequivocally declared to be perfectly just—it should, so long as he had anything to do with its conduct, be carried on in the manner best calculated to lead to a speedy, safe, and honourable peace.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE reviewed at much length the Ministerial career of Lord Aberdeen from the date of the treaty of Adrianople, and through his connection with several different Administrations. Through all he declared that the noble Earl had shown himself the constant supporter of arbitrary power in every nation of Europe, a partisan of Russia, and an opponent of every national effort to obtain constitutional liberties wherever undertaken. The noble Earl had, on assuming the position which he now occupied, declared that the foreign policy of this country had not varied for thirty years past, however its execution might have varied. He (the Marquis of Clanricarde) differed from the noble Earl in this respect, and considered that the differences in our foreign policy during that period had been fundamental and differences of principle; and that, from the first—from 1829, when the noble Earl was at the head of foreign affairs, down to 1839, when again the noble Earl was in the same position—the noble Earl had been the consistent, the most zealous, and most earnest supporter of arbitrary Governments.

The Earl of ABERDEEN (with angry irony): Hear, hear.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE: The noble Earl (he repeated) had been the supporter of all the arbitrary Powers of Europe, and at all times the advocate and adherent of the Emperor of Russia.

The Earl of ABERDEEN—(angrily)—Hear, hear.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE: Yes! The noble Earl had, on every possible occasion, befriended those arbitrary Powers.

The Earl of ABERDEEN: No!

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE: The noble Earl cried no; but he would give the noble Earl some reasons for the statements which he made. He would refer back to the period of the treaty of Adrianople. The noble Earl had told their Lordships that he had regarded that treaty as disastrous; that he had written a despatch to our Ambassador at Constantinople about it. But what their Lordships wanted the noble Earl to tell them was, what despatch the noble Earl had written to our Ambassador at St. Petersburg about it (Hear, hear), before the treaty was signed (Loud cries of "Hear, hear"). Their Lordships wished to hear what steps the noble Earl had taken for the purpose of preventing the treaty from being signed (Hear, hear). The noble Earl had stated on a former occasion that the Russian Emperor, at that period, was in the position of a conqueror—virtually master of the country, and rapidly advancing on Constantinople. But the noble Earl, if he did not know at the time (as he ought to have known), certainly must know now that the contrary had been the fact—that the Russian General commanding at Adrianople had not above 16,000 men with him, of whom not above 5000 were effective, while the Turkish General was at no great distance with an army of 25,000 Albanians. So that, if the Turks had been furnished with the least information as to the true state of affairs, that disastrous treaty would never have been signed (Hear, hear). If the noble Earl, as the Foreign Minister of this country, had only held up his finger, the treaty need not have been concluded (Loud cries of "Hear, hear").

The Earl of ABERDEEN (ironically): Hear, hear (A laugh).

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE: What was the course the noble Earl had pursued? The Russian General of course allowed a short time to the Turkish General to consider whether he would sign the treaty, well knowing that if he refused to sign it his own game would be discovered; and when the treaty was taken to Constantinople the Minister of Turkey summoned to his councils the Ambassadors of Austria, Prussia, and England, and asked their advice; and what was the advice of the English Ambassador? Why, to sign the treaty—that treaty which the noble Earl now said was so disastrous (Loud cries of "Hear, hear"). Who was our Ambassador at that time? The late lamented diplomatist Sir R. Horton (who had shortly before displaced Sir S. Canning)—one who, doubtless, was the repository of the sentiments of the noble Earl on the subject at the time he offered to the Turkish Government that advice to sign the treaty of Adrianople (Hear.) And when the noble Earl referred to the period of the treaty of Adrianople as affording proofs of what his feelings were as to Russian aggression, let the noble Earl state what steps he took to prevent the treaty from being signed—(hear, hear), not talk about a despatch written after it was concluded (Loud cries of "Hear"). To the present Government he contended that the Prime Minister was an evil genius. Attributing to his influence the fact that Lord Palmerston was not made War Minister, though best fitted by abilities for the post, and called to it also by the public voice, Lord Clanricarde referred to the acknowledged talents of other members of the Ministry, all of whom also led sections of representatives in the House of Commons; and yet their combined forces had proved unable to save from defeat every measure of importance they brought forward (Loud cries of "Hear"). The paralysis of governing power resulted, he believed, from the presence of Lord Aberdeen. It was his own conviction that the continuance in office of the Prime Minister was contrary to the interests of the country; and the only reason why he did not propose a formal vote to that effect was the doubt he entertained respecting the further arrangements which such a vote, if successful, would necessitate.

Lord BEAUMONT asked as to the truth of a statement in the newspapers to the effect that Prince Metternich, at the request of his Sovereign, had sketched a plan for negotiations, which had been communicated to the noble Earl at the head of the Government?

The Earl of ABERDEEN said there was no truth in the rumour.

Lord BROUGHAM expressed his satisfaction at the speech of the noble Earl, but was afraid that as Russia seemed about to abandon the Principalities, Austria would consent to peace on that basis alone. He hoped that France and England were in no way committed to the same conditions as might be agreed at by Austria and Prussia.

The despatch was then ordered to be produced, and the subject dropped.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

EVACUATION OF THE PRINCIPALITIES BY THE RUSSIANS.

Lord J. RUSSELL said, it was stated in the public papers that the Russian Government had assented to the invitation of the Austrian and Prussian Governments to withdraw from the Principalities. No official intelligence to that effect had reached the Government; but it had that day received despatches from the Earl of Westmoreland, in which it was stated as certain from Bucharest, that the siege of Silistria had been raised.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY BILL.

The Oxford University Bill having been read a third time,

Mr. HEYWOOD brought forward a modified form of the resolution which was defeated on Thursday night, with the view of admitting Dissenters to take degrees at Oxford. By the amended resolution the tests of the Thirty-Nine Articles were not to be tendered to bachelors of arts, law, or medicine, who would have no votes in the government of the University.

After some discussion, the debate was interrupted by the SPEAKER, who intimated that, by the standing orders of the House, notice should be given of any clause to be moved on the third reading of a Bill. The hon. gentleman (Mr. Heywood) had so far changed his clause that it could not be considered to come under the notice which he had given if only single member objected.

After some discussion, it was arranged that notice should be given, and that the discussion should be renewed on Thursday next, Mr. Layard consenting to postpone his motion of want of confidence in the Earl of Aberdeen until Friday.

CONSTITUTION OF NEW ZEALAND.

On the order of the day for the House resolving itself into a Committee of Supply,

Mr ADDERLEY called attention to the conduct of the late Governor of New Zealand in delaying and partially frustrating the new constitution granted to that colony.

Mr PEEL urged the same defence for the Governor as he had formerly urged in reply to questions from Sir J. Pakington.

Sir J. PAKINGTON did not think these explanations satisfactory.

After some remarks from Sir G. Grey, the House went into Committee, and the discussion of the Estimates occupied the remainder of the evening.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

PROPOSED INCLOSURE OF HAMPSTEAD-HEATH.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE moved the second reading of the Finchley (&c.) Bill, which he stated had been erroneously described as a bill for the purpose of enclosing Hampstead-heath. Nothing could be more absurd than to make such an allegation, as the bill was merely to enable Sir Thomas Wilson to build houses on the Finchley New-road, a place which had no more to do with Hampstead-heath than it had to do with the Regent's-park.

Lord BROUGHAM said, that in rising to move that the bill be read a second time that day six months, he, and those who with him opposed the bill, were not taking away the rights or the property of Sir T. Wilson, but were objecting to his encroachment upon the property and rights of others.

Lord CHICHESTER said that the will was made so long ago as 1806, when the property was not considered fit for building upon: but circumstances had greatly changed since then, and as no one would be injured by granting the power asked for, he thought it unjust not to grant it.

Lord CAMPBELL entertained the opinion which had been expressed by his predecessors. Lord Denman and Lord Tenterden, namely, that it would be contrary to the principles of their jurisprudence to pass the bill. If they passed this bill they might be called on to enclose Hampstead-heath on the same principle, for there was no difference between Hampstead-heath and Finchley-road.

Lord St. LEONARDS should vote for the second reading of the bill.

The Bishop of OXFORD was glad of the opportunity granting this *privilegium*. It was in the nature of a favour, and no injustice would be done by its refusal. To grant it would be an injury to the public.

The Earl of DERBY believed that Sir Thomas Wilson had never asked for power to build on Hampstead-heath himself, but on the neighbourhood. This bill related to an estate which was not even within view of Hampstead-heath; therefore, the right rev prelate's anxiety for the interests of the poor was misplaced.

On a division the numbers were—For the second reading, 24; against it, 31: majority, 23. The bill was accordingly read a second time.

The Witnesses Bill was read a third time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.

Mr. LAYARD, referring to the notice he had given for calling the attention of the House to a speech attributed to Lord Aberdeen in the other House on Monday week, and adverting also to a second speech delivered there by him on Monday last, said he trusted that the latter speech would have the effect of removing misapprehensions from the public mind, and of confirming public confidence in the policy so ably, and with so much English spirit, carried out by Lord J. Russell and Lord Clarendon, and he thought he should be acting in conformity with the feeling of the House if he withdrew the notice he had given; but, considering the state of public affairs, he was of opinion that, before the close of the session, there should be some discussion in that House regarding our foreign relations, and some expression of its opinion upon the subject.

LAW OF PARTNERSHIP.

Mr. COLLIER moved a resolution, "That the law of partnership, which renders every person who, though not an ostensible partner, shares the profits of a trading concern liable to the whole of its debts, is unsatisfactory, and should be so far modified as to permit persons to contribute to the capital of such concerns on terms of sharing their profits, without incurring liability beyond a limited amount." The subject, he observed, was one of considerable importance, and he was anxious it should not be misunderstood, that, because it was taken up by a lawyer, it was a mere technical question. Briefly explaining the law of partnership in this country—which, although it did not absolutely prohibit limited liability, did so practically, unless sanctioned by Parliament or granted by charter from the Crown, he observed that the law was peculiar to this country; it was at variance with the civil law, and was not the law of foreign countries, where the *commandite* principle which had extended to the United States, was adopted. He denied that it could prejudice the farmers themselves, or the directors of the undertaking, or the public, and he argued against another objection, that it would damage the commercial credit of the country. He had great faith, he said, in the principle of unrestricted competition, the benefits of which had been not only demonstrated by argument, but verified by experience.

Lord GODERICH, in seconding the motion, strongly urged the evils and embarrassments which resulted from unlimited liability—a restriction which prevented engagements for beneficial industrial purposes. He contended that all our great works were carried on for the benefit of the wealthy classes, the humbler capitalist having no means of advantageously investing his gains. He thought that great social benefits would be derived from the proposed change.

Mr. CARDWELL cautioned the House against coming to an irrevocable decision before the whole of the information was before them, and he stated some of the difficulties in the way of the question and the conflicting opinions of the commissioners upon it, remarking that the opinion of the minority as well as that of the majority should be respected. They would carry the confidence of the community with them by not legislating except upon mature consideration.

Mr. LUCAS urged the special case of the condition of Ireland, and moved the addition of words to the effect that the modification of the partnership law was especially necessary in that country.

Mr. GLYN observed that the evidence recently presented appeared to have been obtained from one class only, that of the capitalist, and that it was to a certain extent class evidence, and not an expression of the opinion of the humbler orders of men of business, who would be greatly benefited by a change in the law.

Mr. MALINS regretted to gather from Mr. Cardwell's tone that he was opposed to an alteration of the law, and he bore professional testimony to the great mischiefs it occasioned.

Mr. GLYN admitted that the commercial law of the country was in a most anomalous state; but the evidence which had been taken did not satisfy him that the House had information enough before them to justify them in making the proposed change.

Mr. J. G. PHILLIMORE ridiculed the idea that the House had not suf-

ficient information upon a subject which had been under discussion so many years.

Mr. LEVESON GOWER, in an effective maiden speech, supported the resolution, expressed his opinion that the present age tended to association, the power of which was only beginning to be appreciated, and insisted upon the advantage of extending the benefits of association to honest and prudent men, instead of to gamblers.

Mr. Digby Seymour and Mr. Kendal supported the resolution.

Mr. BROWN considered that limited liability would be injurious to the credit of the country, and to the interests of the lower classes.

Mr. SOTHERTON suggested that, instead of the resolution itself, a bill should be brought in authori-ing loans for business purposes, on the principle of the French law of partnership *en commandite*.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL was a decided friend to the proposition; but the question was now brought under the notice of the House for the first time; and evidence was before them which they had not had time to consider. He recommended Mr. Collier to be satisfied with the attention the subject had received, and with the assurance that it should be fully considered by Government

Mr. NAPIER concurred in this suggestion.

Lord PALMERSTON also thought that the resolution should not be pressed to a division. It could not be expected that Government should rush to a decision, or should declare, without more time for consideration, which opinion they might ultimately feel it right to submit to the House.

Mr. RICARDO contrasted the frank statement of the Attorney-General with the evasive speech of Mr. Cardwell, and said that, as for alleging that a study of the report was necessary for a right understanding of the question, he had read twenty pamphlets, any one of which was worth a dozen of such reports.

Mr. CAIRNS urged that a division should be taken, in order to mark the point to which the House had come.

After a little more discussion, Mr. Lacy's amendment was added to the original resolution; and the latter, having been put, was agreed to without division.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

On the order of the day for going into Committee on the Mortmain Bill, Mr. GREENE appealed to Sir Headlam to postpone the motion, no member of the Government being present.

Mr. HEADLAM declined to do this; and, after a discussion, and observations upon the absence of the law officers of the Crown, and other members of the Government,

Mr. MOWBRAY moved that the Committee be postponed until after the fourth order of the day should be disposed of.

On division this motion was carried by 74 to 5 – majority 19; and the postponement took place.

The Public Libraries Bill went through committee.

Mr. NAPIER, for Mr. Whitside, withdrew the Property Disposal Bill.

The Tithe-rent Charge (Ireland) Bill was postponed.

The fourth order having been disposed of in a few minutes, a fresh discussion arose as to proceeding with the Mortmain Bill in the continued absence of the Government. An unsuccessful attempt was made to obtain further postponement, and the House at length went into Committee, Mr. Headlam undertaking to postpone certain clauses to which it was understood that the Attorney-General was opposed.

In the course of the subsequent discussion two divisions took place, and, after disposing of six clauses, the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

The Right Rev. Lord Auckland, the new Bishop of Bath and Wells, took the oaths and his seat upon his elevation to the Episcopal Bench.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL (CANADA) BILL.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE having moved that their Lordships go into Committee on this bill,

The Earl of DERBY rose to move the postponement of the bill for the present session, on the ground that it was of too important a character (being no less than a measure to destroy the constitution of one of our most important colonies) to consider within the remaining few weeks of the session.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE expressed surprise at such an objection being made by the noble Earl, who, when at the head of the Government, framed a similar measure for the Cape of Good Hope.

After some discussion their Lordships divided, when the numbers were —For the Earl of Derby's amendment, 39; against it, 61; majority against the amendment, 24. The bill then passed through Committee.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

The House met at twelve o'clock.

The West London and Crystal Palace Railway Bill was read a third time and passed.

The Common Law Procedure Bill went into Committee, when, after much discussion, clauses up to 37 were agreed to.

The Chairman reported progress at four o'clock, and the House adjourned until six o'clock.

THE NEWSPAPER-STAMP.

Mr. LUCAS (at the evening sitting) inquired whether the Government had decided on any step in reference to the Newspaper-stamp, in accordance with the resolution of the House?

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said that the question was under the consideration of the Attorney-General. The Government were not at present prepared with any bill upon the subject; when they were, due notice would be given to the House.

THE AUSTRIAN AND TURKISH CONVENTION.

Lord J RUSSELL, in reply to Lord D. Stuart, stated that intelligence had been received by the Government of the intended occupation of the Danubian Principalities by the Austrian troops, in conformity with the Convention recently entered into with the Sublime Porte; and that such a course would be adopted, whether the Russian army retired from the Principalities or not. The Government had not received any official information of the acceptance by Russia of the Austrian ultimatum; but as regarded the Convention between Austria and the Porte, England was no party to it.

COLONIAL CLERGY DISABILITIES BILL.

In reply to a question from Sir J. Pakington, Lord J. RUSSELL said it was not the intention of the Government to proceed with the Colonial Clergy Disabilities Bill this session.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY REFORM BILL

The adjourned debate on the third reading of this bill was resumed.

Mr. HEYWOOD renewed his motion, to add the following clause to the bill:—"From and after the first day of Michaelmas Term, 1854, it shall not be necessary for any person, upon taking the degree of Bachelor in Arts, Law, Medicine, or Music, in the University of Oxford, to make or subscribe any declaration, or take any oath, save the Oath of Allegiance, or any equivalent declaration of allegiance—any law or statute to the contrary notwithstanding."

Mr. E. DENISON seconded the motion.

After some discussion, the House divided, when the numbers were—For the additional words, 129; Against it, 139: Majority against the Government, 10 (Immense cheering).

The Bill then passed.

OUR FLEET IN THE GULF OF BOTHNIA

Mr. M. GIBSON called attention to the destruction of a large amount of private property at Uleaborg and Brahestedt, by Admiral Plumridge's squadron, and asked Government for an explanation.

Sir J. GRAHAM warmly justified the proceedings of the fleet, and stated that the despatches on the subject would appear in the *Gazette* of to-morrow (Friday) night.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

Lord St. LEONARDS called attention to the present state of business in the offices of the Masters in Chancery, and suggested certain alterations, which would simplify the process and lessen the expense to suitors. The noble and learned Lord condemned the proposed scheme for transferring the Testamentary Jurisdiction and the Divorce Causes to the Court of Chancery, which was already encumbered with a larger amount of business than it could satisfactorily perform.

After some conversation, the subject dropped.

The Divorce and Matrimonial Causes Bill passed through Committee.

The Gaming-houses Bill, and the Encumbered Estates (West Indies) Bill, also severally passed through Committee.

The Bleaching Works, &c., Bill was read a second time.

The Legislative Council (Canada) Bill was read a third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

Sir J. PAKINGTON called attention to the circumstances under which the allowance heretofore voted for the Bishop of New Zealand had been removed from the Estimates, and stated that the Bishop's salary had been abruptly stopped without any official notice having been forwarded to the Bishop or the Colony.

Sir G. GREY said that no disrespect had been intended towards the right rev. prelate, whose conduct was most disinterested, and in every respect praiseworthy. The fact was that the right hon. baronet had himself arranged that, if the original estimate of £10,000 were agreed to, it should be reduced to £5000 the following year, after which it was to disappear from the Estimates. The vote, upon this understanding, was agreed to. It did not now appear that the Estimates, if being considered that the colony of New Zealand was in a position to liquidate its own ecclesiastical expenditure. The Colonial Government were perfectly competent to take upon itself the payment of the Bishop's salary.

In reply to Colonel Blair, Lord PALMERSTON said, it was not his intention to have the Scotch militia embodied this autumn, as it would only take the men away from their various occupations for no good purpose.

In reply to Mr. Massey, Lord PALMERSTON said, he should move to discharge the order for the second reading of the Police Bill. He hoped to bring in another bill upon the subject in the course of the present session.

Lord D. STUART, in the course of an amusing speech, drew attention to the want of accommodation for the members of the House of Commons in the House of Lords, and hoped the Speaker, or the First Commissioner of Works, would make some representations upon the subject.

Lord R. GROSVENOR said, that when he went to hear Lord Aberdeen's speech, a few evenings since, he had to go down upon his knees—so incommodious was the place (Laughter).

THE EDUCATION VOTE.

The House went into a Committee of Supply, and

Lord J. RUSSELL made a statement as to what had been done in promoting the education of the people, and stated that it was not the intention of the Government to introduce any measure for a general system of education this session. He concluded by moving a grant of £263,000 for educational purposes.

Sir J. PAKINGTON expressed his regret at hearing that it was not the intention of the Government to introduce a new measure upon this most important and interesting subject in the present session.

Mr. MIALL said, however anxious he was to see an efficient system of general education established throughout the kingdom independent of Government interference, he could not understand why the vote of this year should be so largely increased. Last year it was £150,000, whereas in this year it was £263,000. He proposed to reduce the vote to the amount it was last year.

Mr. COBDEN said that owing to the way in which the question had been hugged it had got back in that House, for which he thought the noble Lord (Russell) was in some measure to blame. He was of opinion that they must come at last to a local rating for educational purposes.

Lord J. RUSSELL in reply said that no system of education, in his opinion, would be effectual that did not take into account the feelings and opinions of the denominational bodies. He did not think that a mere secular system of education would give general satisfaction.

Mr. MIALL having withdrawn his amendment, the original vote was assented to.

Several other votes were agreed to during the remainder of the night.

NATIONAL FESTIVAL IN CELEBRATION OF THE UNION BETWEEN ENGLAND AND FRANCE.

A numerous and influential meeting, convened by public requisition, was held in the Egyptian hall, Mansion-house, on Wednesday, for the purpose of devising the best means of entertaining worthily a number of distinguished French Citizens in the course of the present summer, as a return for the courteous hospitality exhibited towards the English Visitors to Paris in the autumn of 1851.

The chair was taken by the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, who opened the proceedings by stating that, on the 7th of June last, a number of gentlemen, principally in connection with Mr. James Anderton, met at the Mansion-house, to consider whether it would be possible to entertain some distinguished citizens of the neighbouring country, France, in such a way as should worthily return the splendid hospitality established towards numerous classes of the people of this country by the French nation in the autumn of the year 1851. At that time his Corporation of London, many of our men of science, and the Commissioners of the Great Exhibition, were most regally received by the city of Paris, and the hope was entertained by most of the visitors that the time might come when a suitable return might be made in London. At the meeting of the 7th June, it was ultimately decided that, before taking any steps of a public character, the committee should ascertain what was the feeling of her Majesty's Government on the subject. An important deputation waited on Lord Palmerston, who communicated with his colleagues; the matter engaged the attention of the whole Cabinet, and they were unanimous that the proposed object was a very proper one, and met with the entire concurrence of the Government. (Loud cheers.) Similar views had since been expressed by the Earl of Clarendon, who said, so lately as on Monday last, that her Majesty's Ministers all concurred as to the propriety of the step. The second meeting was held, and a resolution was carried, unanimously affirming the propriety of the object, and pledging the meeting to the exercise of the best exertions in carrying it out. That resolution was carried unanimously, and a committee was formed, which soon found themselves in a condition to add the names of about 350 men of distinction to their numbers, all anxious to see this national object carried out to a successful issue. The committee had thought right to call the public together on the present occasion, to lay the plan of operations before them, and to invite the suggestions of any gentlemen present for or against the project. Movements of this nature necessarily involved a large expenditure, and up to this time the subscriptions had been only partial; but if the people of England approved of this enthusiastic manifestation of courtesy and friendship to our allies, there would be no want of that most important ingredient in all movements of this kind—namely, money (Hear, hear). They had already got more than £3500, and he might add for public information that it was not intended by the committee to raise money to defray the expense of whatever banquets might be given, as many public corporations and scientific bodies would render their powerful aid in giving to our foreign friends a worthy series of entertainments (Cheers). But still there were various expenses which would require very liberal aid on the part of the public (Hear). The Government being entirely with them, would give the strangers every facility of seeing the various public works and buildings, and every celebrated Gallery and collection of works of art would also most probably be thrown open (Hear).

Mr. Masterman, M.P., was fully sensible of the kindness shown by the people of Paris to the Corporation of London in 1851; and it was only natural to them, as Englishmen, to wish to make a suitable return for that hospitality (Cheers). He was one of those who thought that public friendships were the subject of opinion that some of the most distinguished men, connected with legislation, arts and sciences, literature, manufactures, commerce, and agriculture, should be invited to visit this country, with the view of demonstrating to the world how much of the alliance now happily subsisting between the two nations—an alliance the continuance of which is eminently calculated to promote in all countries the permanency of peace, and its consequent blessings—order, prosperity, and happiness.

Mr. Brown, M.P., felt honoured in being permitted to second a resolution which had for its object the cementing of the friendly connection between England and France. The French people had invited the English people in commemoration of the first Crystal Palace, and it so happened that we had now another Crystal Palace of greater magnitude and splendour to show them (Hear, hear). He believed that in that Crystal Palace they would have room to entertain all their French guests, and that it was also provided with an excellent kitchen—no mean desideratum when dining was the occasion was a public entertainment (" Hear, hear," and laughter). He thought, therefore, that the present was a propitious moment for inviting the French people over to see us; and that a time when our soldiers and sailors were fighting side by side in the same battles was the very best possible time for the civilians of the two countries to become better acquainted (Loud cheers). He believed that the results, both political and commercial, must follow the more intimate alliance of the two countries (Hear, hear). Mr. Brown concluded by seconding the resolution, which, having been supported by Mr. Davis, was carried unanimously.

The following resolutions were also carried unanimously:—

That the Aldermen and Common-council, the Livery Companies, and Mercantile Corporation of the City of London, the Lord Mayor of Dublin, the Lord Mayor of York, the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, the Lord Provost of Glasgow, the Mayors and Municipalities of the other Cities and Boroughs of the United Kingdom, the Chancellors, Vice-Chancellors and Principals of our Universities and Colleges, as well as the Heads of the Learned and Scientific societies, be invited to afford their valuable co-operation

That a subscription be entered into for carrying into effect the object of the meeting; and that the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor be appointed treasurer; and the Right Hon. Lord John Russell, M.P., Lord Viscount Ebrington, John Masterman, Esq., M.P., Sir James Duke, Bart., M.P., and the Baron Lionel de Rothschild, M.P., be respectfully requested to act as trustees.

TOWN AND TABLE-TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

The great literary feature of the week has been the publication of the seventh and last volume of Lord Mahon's "History of England," from the Peace of Utrecht to the Peace of Versailles—a work written with infinite care and skill, with great moderation, and a knowledge of the times and of the men who figured to advantage or disadvantage during the last century. In reading Lord Mahon's history, one feels most pleasantly that his Lordship is not a partisan—that he is neither Whig nor Tory, Churchman nor anti-Churchman—that he understands the events he describes as if he had lived at the time they occurred, while he reasons upon them with the calmness of a philosopher and the freedom and power of a great historian. We had no good history of the same period, so that this is a work which is really an addition to our knowledge.

The largest sum ever given for a single coin was given on Monday last at Mr. Cuff's sale, at Sotheby and Wilkinson's: £220 were given—not for a Greek or a Roman coin, not for an Alexander or a Cæsar, an Otho or an Oliver, but for a pattern piece in gold of King Charles I. of England. This highly-interesting coin was intended, it is thought, for a £5 piece. It was never published. It bears the King's bust, to the left, bareheaded. Over his armour is a lace collar. Its history is curious. It was purchased about ten years ago by Lieutenant-Colonel Drummond of the Rev. Mr. Commeline, of St. John's College, Cambridge, a collateral descendant of Bishop Juxon, to whom it was presented by Charles I. a little before his death. The Bishop devised it by will to Mrs. Mary Guyters, from whom it descended to her granddaughter of the same name, who married the Rev. James Commeline, the grandfather of the Mr. Commeline from whom it was bought by Colonel Drummond.

There is still a stranger story connected with it. Mr. Tull, the late worthy coin-dealer, in Russell-street, Covent-garden, bought it from Colonel Drummond for £50. He then offered it to the British Museum for £80, but the Trustees refused to purchase, and it was immediately sold by Mr. Tull to the late Mr. Cuff for £60. That the present Trustees lamented the short-sightedness of their predecessors is evident from the fact that the recognised agent of the Museum contended for it at the sale the sum the trustees might have had it for some twenty years ago.

The public will naturally inquire for the name and rank of the romantic gentleman who gave two hundred and sixty pounds for a single coin. We can answer the inquiry. The coin was bought by a dealer for Mr. Brown, of the eminent publishing firm of Messrs. Longman, Brown, Green, and Longman. Some one asked at the sale if Mr. Brown was likely to pay for it in the clipped coin which old Jacob Tonson tried to impose upon Dryden. But no one who knew Mr. Brown would have asked such a question; and no one who had seen his cabinet would imagine for a moment that a clipped coin of "hook-nosed William" was to be found in the entire collection. Bookselling is looking up. Publishers are becoming men of taste out of their profession. We have heard, indeed, of one distinguished publisher who gives more for standard roses than for standard authors

An excellent early Turner has been on view at Christie's during the present week—a picture of the year 1799, "Kilgarran Castle, on the Twyvey, in Wales." The effect which Turner sought to represent, he tells us, was that of a sunrise as seen through a hazy summer mist. Not much of the artist's intention is at present to be seen in the picture: it is rather a struggle of pictorial effect through dirt. The picture was once in the famous collection of Lord de Tabley.

Tuesday and Wednesday next will disperse all that remains to be sold of the pictures, drawings, and engravings of the late John Martin. Among the lots we observed some handsome Sèvres china, presented to the great painter by King Louis Philippe, and a pair of candlesticks, a present to him from King Joseph Bonaparte.

Mr. Cuningham and Mr. Morris Moore will be glad to learn what Dr. Waagen is really doing in this country. We can tell them. He is engaged in naming, classifying, and cataloguing the collection of Early German Art, at Kensington Palace. The collection is the property of Prince Louis D'Ottingen Wallerstein, and will repay a visit. The task of arranging could not be in better hands.

Antiquaries who recollect to what advantage Oxford was seen at the recent congress there, of the Archeological Institute, are preparing for a similar treat, next week, at Cambridge. The sister University, it is said, is to rival Oxford, in liberality. We shall look in, and shall have words to say, in our column, about the meeting.

A choice literary treasure has just turned up, and is now in Mr. Wilson Croker's hands—an unpublished character, in verse, by Pope (the character of the great Duke of Marlborough), intended for insertion in his "Moral Essay on the Use of Riches." Pope never wrote more vigorous lines. That such a character had been in existence is evident from two passages in Spence. Mr. Croker's copy is written in Pope's own hand, on a suppressed edition of the "Essay." The copy belonged to Warburton.

Last week brought to light another literary treasure, though of a different kind—a copy of Shakspeare's "King Richard II." with the following title:—

"The Tragedie of King Richard the Second. As it hath been publikely acted by the Right Honourable the Lord Chamberlaine his servantes. By William Shake-speare. London, Printed by W. W. for Mathew Law, and are to be sold at his shop in Paules Church-yard, at the signe of the Foxe. 1608.

The Duke of Devonshire's copy of this edition is now no longer unique. Mr. Halliwell was the fortunate purchaser—the price nineteen pounds, and not too much.

MUSICAL TESTIMONIAL.—A very gratifying testimonial of public esteem has recently been presented to Mr. J. Baptiste Calkin, by the Warden and students of St. Columba's College, in Ireland, upon Mr. Calkin being about to take up his residence in London, after holding the offices of organist choir-master, and precentor in the above college for seven years. The gift is an elegantly-ornamented baton, of bog-elm, manufactured by Mr. West, of Dame-street, Dublin. The lower ornament represents the ferule of an ancient Irish crosier The staff is decorated with harps, and a large one at the top; these instruments being such as were used by the Irish bards of olden time Round the top is engraved the music of the opening of an anthem ("It is a good thing to give thanks," 92nd Psalm), composed by Mr. Calkin, for the College choir, at the request of the Warden. The baton is enclosed in a black case of bog-oak, bearing a silver inscription-plate.

GARIBALDI AT ROME, PAINTED BY G. H. THOMAS.

FROM THE ROYAL ACADEMY EXHIBITION.

WHEN the Duke of Wellington was asked what he thought of Sir William Allan's picture of the "Battle of Waterloo," he replied, "Good — very good; not too much smoke." The Duke confirmed his criticism by purchasing the picture.

Mr. George Thomas has, in the picture engraved in our present number, worked in the spirit of the Duke's comment. His "Garibaldi at Rome" is a clever picture of the Varnet school, grasped with a skilful eye, and painted with a firm and dexterous hand.

Mr. Thomas was at Rome in 1849, and the sketch of this picture was made by him at the time. He had peculiar opportunities of catching the figure and face of Garibaldi, and has turned his opportunities to excellent account. A white dress and a grey horse are difficult objects to render with a true sense of the harmony of colour, but Mr. Thomas has struggled successfully with his difficulty.

The horrors of war Mr. Thomas has softened with one of those touching incidents only too rarely seen on the battle-field. The consolation offered by a female hand is very happily introduced. Penrose has made good use of a touching incident of the same character, in his clever poem of "The Battle-Field."

Mr. Thomas's picture is hung in the West-room.

GARIBALDI AT ROME, 1849.—FROM A SKETCH MADE DURING THE SIEGE.—PAINTED BY G. H. THOMAS.—FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY

SCENE FROM MOZART'S "IL SERAGLIO," AT THE ROYAL OPERA, DRURY-LANE.

ROYAL OPERA, DRURY-LANE.

We have selected for Illustration, from Mozart's "Il Seraglio," fully noticed in our Journal of June 17, the tableau in the last scene (a hall in the *Pacha's* palace), immediately before the fall of the curtain. Here the two pairs of lovers have attempted their escape, but their flight has been intercepted. They have been seized by the guards, and brought before the *Pacha*, who is at first enraged; but the magnanimity of his nature prevails, and he resigns his fair captive to her lover. On the right side of the scene is a group formed by the *Pacha* (Herr Hoizel), *Constance* (Mdme. Ruderdorf), and *Belmonte* (Herr Pace). On the left are *Pedrillo* and *Blonda* (Castelli and Mdlle. Büry). In the middle, the *Pacha* is giving orders to *Osmin* (Formes) to convey the liberated captives safely on board their vessel; while the jealous old Turk is giving vent to his rage and disappointment.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT-GARDEN.

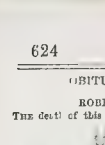
THE management have recently produced a Divertissement of a very gay and sparkling character. The tale is Eastern, and the principal characters are a Sultan and his son. Our Artist has selected for Illustration the opening scene, which represents the interior of the Harem. The *Prince* is discovered lulled to sleep by the music to the dances of the Odalisques, who then noiselessly retire. Thereupon the scene opens, and discloses the figure of a beautiful female, gazing at the *Prince*, from a radiant star. The vision gradually fades. The *Prince* starts, and rushes forward, but is in despair at finding it only a dream. The *Sultan* now enters; and, on learning the cause of his son's grief, tenderly reproves him. The *Prince* then explains to his father that a beautiful being, a Star of the Heavens, constantly appears to him in his dreams, and fears that she has cast a spell over him. The *Sultan* entrusts his son to dismiss from his mind such illusions, and prevails upon him to see new slaves that have been purchased for him. At a signal, a group of Bayadères bound upon the stage, a grand *pas* follows; the *Prince* retires, and the *Sultan* dismisses the Harem. The scene then changes to the Gardens of the Harem by starlight. The *Prince* enters, and invokes one of the Stars to leave the firmament, and assume a mortal form. A Star glides to earth; a rose-bush expands, and discloses *Stella*, who, however, eludes his grasp and disappears. The *Prince* follows her: music is heard, and a *Demon* rises from the earth: the *Prince* is thrown into a sleep; the *Demon* calls up a slave, whom he metamorphoses into an exact counterfeit of the *Prince*, and to whom is entrusted the task of ensnaring *Stella*. The antagonism is carried on through a variety of choregraphic forms, as a grand Pas de Fascination, a Bacchanalian Waltz, &c., by *Stella* and her sister Stars.

SCENE FROM THE NEW BALLET OF "UNE STOILE," AT THE ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

ROBERT EARL OF CASTLE-STUART.

THE death of this nobleman occurred on the 10th ult., at his seat, Stuart-hall, county Tyrone, from an attack of bronchitis. His Lordship was born 19th August, 1784, the elder son of Andrew Thomas Stuart, Esq., of Irry, county Tyrone, who established his right to the old Scotch barony of Castle-Stuart and was eventually created an Earl in 1800. His ancestors, sprung from a son of King Robert II. of Scotland, were for several generations



Lords Aberdale and Oehltrie. Lord Castle-Stuart married, April 24, 1806, Jemima, only daughter of the late Colonel Robinson, R.A., and had five sons and two daughters. The eldest of the former, Edward, is the present and third Earl of Castle-Stuart.

LORD AUGUSTUS FITZCLARENCE.

LORD AUGUSTUS FITZCLARENCE, Rector of Maple Durham, Oxfordshire, and Chaplain to the Queen, died the 14th ult. His Lordship was fourth son of King William IV., and brother of William George, 1st Earl of Munster. He was born in 1805, and married, in 1845, Sarah Elizabeth Catherine, eldest daughter of Lord Henry Gordon, by whom he had a son, Augustus, born in 1849, and other issue.

LIEUT.-COL. HANDCOCK.

RICHARD BUTLER HANDCOCK, formerly Lieut.-Col. of the 13th Light

Infantry, died at Pisa, on the 4th May, in his seventy fourth year. Having graduated in the Dublin University, where he obtained distinguished honours, he joined his regiment in 1793, being then eighteen years old. His first campaign was under Sir R. Abercromby, at the memorable landing in Egypt, 1801, where he was severely wounded. He was afterwards on active service in various parts of the world for upwards of twenty years; and his able defence of La Colle Mill an important post during the American war—is recorded as a brilliant exploit in the annals of the 13th. He was son of Matt Handcock, Deputy Muster-Master-General of her Majesty's forces in Ireland, whose ancestor, Matt. Arch leacon of Kilmore, was son of William Handcock, M.P. for Westmeath, from whom Lord Castlemaine's family, and also the Handcocks (now Pemples), of Waterstown, are descended. The family is very ancient, being on record many centuries in England, and hath come originally from Sweden.

LIEUT.-COLONEL CHARLES AUGUSTUS WEST.

THE death of this gallant officer occurred on the 20th ult. Col West commenced his military career as a Cadet in 1782, and attended King George's III.'s Prince of Wales, for four years, until he received his commission in the 3rd Regiment of Guards, in March, 1794. Very shortly after, he proceeded to Holland, and was present in all the affairs wherein his regiment was engaged. During the Rebellion of 1798, he was Aide-de-Camp to Lord Cornwallis, and in the second expedition to Holland, June, 1799, he also took part, being severely wounded on more than one occasion, and always distinguishing himself in the several encounters in which he was engaged. Accompanying his regiment to Egypt, he participated in all the glorious actions attending the surrender of Alexandria, when he returned to England; and, in May, 1804, was promoted to the rank of Lieut Colonel. In 1806 he served in Germany; in 1807, embarked upon the expedition to Zealand and Denmark, person ally assisting at the Siege of Copenhagen; and, in 1808, joined the army in the Peninsula, where he fought at the Passage of the Douro and the battles of Salamonde and Talavera. In the last conflict, during the charge of the brigade of Guards, Colonel West fell into the hands of the enemy, but was rescued by the advance of the reserve corps. Not long after, he retired, invalided, on half-pay, but was promoted to the full pay commission of Lieutenant-Colonel of the 1st Royal Veteran Battalion, together with the Lieutenant-Governorship of Landguard Fort.

GODFREY MEYNELL, ESQ., OF MEYNELL LANGLEY, COUNTY DERBY.

THIS respected country gentleman, a magistrate and Deputy-Lieutenant for Derbyshire died on the 18th ult., at Meynell Langley, aged seventy-four. He succeeded to the estate in 1802, at the decease of his father, the late Godfrey Meynell, Esq., and served as High Sheriff for the county of Derby in 1811. The Meynells of Langley are a younger branch of the present family of De Meynell, founded by Hugo de Grave Meinill.

Mr Godfrey Meynell married, first, 14th June, 1803, Mary Anne, only daughter of Avery Jebb, Esq., of Tapton-grove, county Derby; and, secondly 28th April, 1816, Mary, only daughter of David Balfour, Esq.; and had issue by both.

MR. PROSSER, C.E.

MR. RICHARD PROSSER, the eminent civil engineer, was one of those men who carve out a path for themselves. In early life he was employed in the then extensive brass foundry establishment of Penn and Williams, Broomgrove-street, Birmingham. Here he spent his leisure hours in the examination and study of the principles of mechanics and drawing. By these means he qualified himself for the profession of a civil engineer, in the active duties of which he was, with much and deserved enthusiasm, engaged until his death, which took place on the 28th ult., at his house, near Kings Norton.

On matters relating to inventions or the processes carried on in the manufactures and trade of the town of Birmingham, Mr. Prosser was a high authority. He was appealed to on the occasion of the trials of several important patent cases; and seldom, if ever, was his aid sought in vain. The late agitation respecting the Patent Laws, which secured the now improved law of property in inventions, found Mr. Prosser among the most earnest advocates of patent reform. In the summer of 1851 Mr. Prosser was examined before the Parliamentary Committee of the House of Commons for the purpose of giving important information as to the defective state of the Law of Patents. Mr. Prosser was also employed by the Government to purchase the invaluable Indexes of Patents, compiled by Professor Woodcroft.

THE FRENCH EXHIBITION OF 1855.—The East India Company, which took such a highly significant share in the Exhibition of London, has voted £50 000 to defray the expenses of carrying goods from the East: Australia also—that distant colony of farmers, shepherds, and seekers for gold—has voted £5000, in order to be better represented at Paris than it was at London. The Duke of Newcastle has written to all our Colonies, to stimulate the preparations for sending goods to the Exhibition. An idea may be formed of the sympathetic movement which will bring the English population to France, by the solid fact, that the workmen of Norwich have been for some months putting each a small sum apart, in order to raise a fund, to enable them to go *en masse* to Paris. Everything announces that Prussia will reciprocate worthily the hospitality of France before the close of the first great industrial exposition of 1855.

THE AT OMIC—NARIN SIXTY HOUSES BURNT.—About two o'clock on Monday afternoon a disastrous fire broke out at Olney, which continued through the night, burning nearly sixty houses to the ground. Many of the inhabitants have to mourn the loss of their furniture. During the night, between 4 and 500 women and children were sheltered in the National Schoolroom and other places. The fire is supposed to have been the result of accident. A great amount of farming property, such of hay and straw, and outhouses, were destroyed, but no live stock was burnt, except a few pigs.

AMMUNITION FOR THE EAST.—Sixty tons of ammunition were shipped on board the iron screw steam troop ship *Falcon*, on Wednesday for conveyance to the East. It is chiefly for the Minie rifle, and was brought down this morning by railway train. The Falcon leaves our Colonies, to the East about 500 men belonging to the three regiments of Foot Guards, together with some 300 men of various other regiments, to join head quarters. Having shipped the ammunition at Sheerness, she steamed away for Cowes, on Wednesday afternoon, the wind, also, being fair.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

The amount of money purchases of stock having been comparatively small, the market for National Securities has been less active this week; nevertheless, prices have been up remarkably well. The news from the East, to the effect that the Russian troops are rapidly retiring from the Principalities, has failed to have any material influence upon the quotations. We may observe, however, that the rapid increase in the imports of bullion has led many persons to the conclusion that the decision to call in the Bank of England will now rapidly increase; and that, as a consequence we shall have money more abundant, with a lower rate of discount. At present there are no indications of a return of the late heavy exports to the Continent, and the exchanges are decidedly against exports; yet it is by no means improbable but that another drain, to pay actual balances, will be made upon us. From Australia and America we shall, no doubt, draw largely, as our trade in those quarters is still very extensive, and legitimately on the increase; but an large accumulation of the precious metals cannot reasonably be anticipated, as we have yet large payments to make for foreign coin. To China, we shall make extensive remittances of silver, arising from the high value of that metal at Canton. This week several parcels have changed hands for that destination at 63d per ounce. The importations may be summed up at about £700 000, the greater portion being silver from Mexico.

On Monday the Consol Market was very inactive, and prices fluctuated to some extent. Consols for the Account varied from 93⅜ to 94¼; the Three per Cents Reduced, 93⅜ to 94; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 93⅜ to 94. India Bonds sold at 1s pr prm.; Exchequer-bonds, 2s pr prm.; Exchequer-bills to 2s prm.; Exchequer-bonds, Scrip, A Series, ½ prm.; Long Annuities, 1850, 4 11-16. The transactions, on Tuesday, were limited, and the quotations showed a tendency to decline. Bank Stock was 205. The Three per Cents Reduced realised 94¼ to 93⅝; the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 94¼ to 93⅝; and Consols for Account, 94¼ to 93⅝. India Bonds sold at 2s prem.; Exchequer-bills, 2s prem to 2s dis.; Exchequer-bonds, Scrip 1858, ½ prem. Jobbers were alternately buyers and sellers on the following day, when the Three per Cents Reduced were officially marked 94⅜, 93⅝ 94⅜; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 94⅜ 93⅝. India Bonds were 2s, prem.; Long Annuities, 4 7-16; Exchequer-bills, 2s dis. to 2s prem.; Exchequer-bonds, Scrip, 1858, ⅜ ½; Ditto, 1859, ⅝ ¾ prem. There was considerable firmness to the close on Wednesday. The Three per Cents for the Opening were 94¼ to 93⅜ ex div. The Three per Cents Reduced marked 94 to 93⅜; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 94¼ to 93⅝. India Bonds, 2s to 3s prm. Bills to 2s prm.

The business doing in the Foreign-house has been but moderate. In prices, no material change can be noticed. The following are the leading quotations for the week:—Brazilian Five per Cents, 100 to 100½; Ditto, Small; 99½; Buenos Ayres Six per Cents, 1853, 93; Chilian New Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 1852, 93; Equador Bonds, 29½; Mexican Three per Cents, 24½; Peruvian Three per Cents Deferred, 13½; Ditto, Active, 13½; Portuguese Four per Cents, 44½; Russian Four and-a-Half per Cents, 91½ to 91¼; Dutch Two and-a-Half per Cents 61¼; Dutch Four per Cents, 99 to 99⅝; Granada Onesand-a-Half per Cents, 18½; Ditto, Deferred, 6½; Spanish Bonds (Blind), 22½; Russian Five per Cents, 1822, 98½; Sardinian Five per Cents, 88; and Venezuela Three-and-a-Half per Cents ....

There has been a fair business transacted in foreign-exchanges; but we understand that advances have not been freely made, either by bill-brokers or private bankers.

The business doing in Joint-Stock Bank Shares have been very moderate. English North American have marked 65; Colonial, 18; English, Scottish, and Australian Chartered, 9; London Chartered of Australia, 21¾; London Joint Stock, 27; London and Westminster, 39¾; Ditto, Scrip, 1½; Provincial of Ireland, New, 19½; Union of Australia, 71. Miscellaneous Shares have sold rather briskly. Australian Agricultural 4¾; Crystal Palace, 17¾; Ditto, Preference, 15¼; Ditto, Deferred, 5¾; Ditto, Scrip, 1½; Hungerford Market, 3¾; Ditto, New, 1¾; Land Corporation of Canada, 1¾; Canada Land, 1¾; Crown Lands, 1¾; Canada Land Company, 1¾; Queen's Canada, 1¾; Canada Land Company, 1¾; Queen's Canada, 1¾; Canada Land Company, 1¾; Queen's Canada

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.—Every Evening this Week KING'S No. 4 OF THE ROUND TABLE, and the successful new Farce, entitled as LIKE AS TWO PEAS.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE Oxford Street. Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, the CURRICLE DANCE Tuesday and Thursday, the FAIR HEARGUERITE, with other Entertainments. The New Ballet Every Evening.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.—OPERA BUFFA and VAUDEVILLE in the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, at moderate terms, can always be secured at HAMMOND'S MUSICAL LIBRARY, 9, New Bond-street, opposite the Clarendon Hotel. Opera Fan Tickets and Private Boxes at all the Theatres.

CONSTANTINOPLE and the WAR.—The LECTURE illustrating the MOVING DIORAMA of the EGYPTIAN-HALL is delivered on WEDNESDAYS and SATURDAYS, by Mr. STOCQUELER; and on the other days by Mr. G. KENNEY. Daily, at half-past Two and Eight. Admission, 1s.

MR. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC being the Entrance Overland and the Simplon, EVERY EVENING, at 8 (except Saturday), at Three o'Clock Saturday Morning. MONTAGU'S BRITISH ARMY IN TURKEY, with the BLACK SEA. Exhibiting daily, at Three and Eight. Admission, 1s., 2s., and 3s.

BOTTLE of CHAMPAGNE UNCORKED, by HORACE PLASTIC a Comfeel, Musical, Polyphonic Hermaphrodite. MONDAY, JULY 3, commences at Eight. Stalls, 3s.; Unreserved seats, 1s. LOWTHER ARCADE EXHIBITION ROOM, Adelaide-street.

SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER-COLOURS.—The FIFTIETH ANNUAL EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN at their Gallery, 5, Pall-Mall East, from Nine till Dusk. Admittance, 1s. Catalogue, 6d. JOSEPH J. JENKINS, Secretary.

THE NEW SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER COLOURS.—Their TWENTIETH ANNUAL EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN. Gallery, 53, Pall-Mall. From Nine till dusk. Admission 1s. JAMES FAREY, Secretary.

GALLERY of GERMAN PAINTINGS.—The SECOND ANNUAL EXHIBITION of the WORKS of MODERN GERMAN MASTERS is now OPEN daily, from 9 a.m. till dusk. Admission, 1s. Gallery, 168, New Bond street, next door to the Clarendon.

ROYAL ACADEMY of MUSIC.—TWENTY-FIFTH CONCERT, for the Exhibition of the Students will be held in HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, on SATURDAY MORNING, next JULY 8th, to commence at Two o'Clock. Single Tickets, half a Guinea; Reserved Seats, One Guinea. To be had at the principal Music-sellers, and at the Royal Academy of Music, Tenterden-street, Hanover-square.

MUSICAL UNION.—EIGHTH and LAST MATINÉE this Season, on TUESDAY next, July 4, at Three o'clock precisely. Quartet in G, No 8 (Royal Ed.) Haydn, Trio in C minor, No. 1, Op. 66, Mendelssohn, Solo, Pianoforte, Miss Clauss; Solo, Violin, Signor Sivori; Solo, Violoncello, Signor Piatti; Vocalist, Madame Lemaire, accompaniment M. Benedict. Conductor, Mr. Sainton. Subscription to this season 3 Guineas—Visitors' Tickets, 10s. 6d. and Pattie. Tickets, Mr. Mitchell's Library, 33, Old Bond-street, and Cramer and Co.'s, Regent-street; Chappell and Co.'s, New Bond-street. Members are requested to pay subscriptions per Post, without delay.

J. ELLA, Director.

ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, REGENT'S PARK.—Fellows and Visitors are informed that a pair of GIANT CRANES, an adult pair of INDIAN BISONS, and a pair of LEIPOAS have been added to the collection. The Band of the 1st Life Guards will perform (by permission of Colonel Yorke) on Saturday, at Four o'clock, until further notice. Admission, 1s. 6d. each. SCLATER, Secretary.

ROYAL PANOPTICON of SCIENCE and ART, Leicester-square.—Popular Lectures every Afternoon at Three and Evening at Eight; also Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday Mornings at Eleven. Dr. Bachhoffner on Electricity, Mr. Barlow on Mechanics, Dr. Ryan on Chemistry, Mr. F. Arnold, Monday, 3, 15; Wednesday, 7, 45; Friday, 3, 15; Saturday, 11, Mr. Pepper on Optics, Tuesday, 3, 15; Thursday, 7, 45; Saturday, 3, 15. Mr. Pepper's Ghost Lecture, Monday, 8, 15; Wednesday, 7, 45; Friday, 3, 15

THE BARRACKS, AT SCUTARI.—FROM A DAGUERREOTYPE BY J. ROBERTSON, ESQ., OF CONSTANTINOPLE.

SCUTARI.

CONSTANTINOPLE is well provided with Barracks. Four vast quadrangular building have been erected on the European side without the walls; and one at Scutari, founded by Selim, has been restored. Within Stamboul are three or four smaller ones for infantry; one for cavalry at Dolma Baghdahah; two for artillery at Tophana; and a handsome edifice on the hill beyond Pera. It will be recollected that the extensive Barracks at Scutari was allotted to the British troops. We have already described their internal economy; and we now engrave an Exterior View, from a Daguerréotype by Mr. Robertson, of Constantinople, which shows the buildings in their full extent.

Our own Artistic Correspondent at Constantinople also enables us to illustrate a recent visit of the Sultan to the English camp. His Highness rode a black horse, and wore wide white trousers, a plain cloak and coat, a small fez. His guard consisted of a few grenadiers, wearing small round blue jackets, the collars and cuffs laced with gold, and the firelocks without bayonets. The Sultan was met, on his landing, by M. Pisani, of the English Embassy; and the advancing group consists of the English Ambassador, Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, with Lord Raglan on his left, on his right the Duke of Cambridge; and on the extreme right is Lord Cardigan. In the background are seen the Barracks, and upon the hill below are tents. In the left-hand distance, seen beneath the noble tree, is the Sea of Marmora; the landing-pier, and the Sultan's barge, awaiting his return. In the extreme distance is the European shore, with the *pointe du Sérail*, and a forest of minarets rising from the trees.

Our Artist chanced to be at Scutari, expecting to find little beyond the usual routine of garrison and camp life, when he heard the roar of cannon, and soon perceived the object of the salutes of the ships in the harbour, which was nothing less than the approach of the Sultan in his barge. Our Artist hastened to the Marmora shore, and there saw the Sultan land, without ceremony. He was dressed in a very plain manner, having neither the stars nor decorations he usually wears when going to the mosque; nor was he in such full costume as when he attended, a few days previously, an examination of the Military School, a ceremony of less importance than his present visit.

The Sultan having met the English Commanders and staff, as our Artist has illustrated, the whole party rode up the hill towards the Barracks. The bystanders were few; but, from the review offering little worthy of particular notice, the visit is presumed to have been intentionally private. Had a Turkish military turn-out taken place, numberless caïques would cover the Bosphorus, bearing a multitude of curious visitors; whilst the road to the review-ground would have been covered with arabas and horsemen.

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

SCHUMLA, June 13, 1854.

THE details of the engagement which took place at Nicopolis on the 5th inst. have reached me: they are of the most remarkable import. It seems that, by order of Sali Pacha, Commandant of the fortress, two companies of the 2nd Regiment of Redifs and 280 Albanians crossed the Danube, and landed on the opposite bank, for the purpose of attacking a battery raised there by the Russians. This force, however, had hardly landed, when Sali Pacha observed the enemy

VISIT OF THE SULTAN TO THE ENGLISH CAMP, AT SCUTARI.

MILITARY EXECUTION OF A RUSSIAN SPY, AT SCHUMLA.

moving out from Turna in force, having three battalions of infantry, with four guns. Orders were instantly despatched to recall the Turkish force, which was considered too small to oppose the Russians. The Redifs retired into their ships instantly on the order being given; but the Albanians, who were men of Scutari and Ghega, refused to turn back, declaring that they had come to fight and not withdraw. The Albanians, being thus left to themselves, advanced against the Russian battery, which they stormed and took, having disposed of the enemy which it contained. It was held by four companies. Here they stood awaiting the attack of the Russians, who were n t long in advancing to the rescue. In addition to the force already sent out, they surrounded the doomed Albanians with two more battalions, making in all five, and with eight more guns; making a total of twelve; or a battery and a half. For four hours the fire was kept up on both sides. At last the Russians stormed the place with the bayonet, and destroyed or took prisoners the whole of the Albanians. They succeeded, however, only after a severe struggle, the Turks defending themselves desperately with their long knives, their ammunition having been previously expen'ed. One single Albanian escaped by swimming, although wounded. He affirms that the loss of the enemy was 700 men killed.

Yesterday, or the day before, 4000 English landed in Varna. The main force of the French are on their way hither, and will, probably, by this time be in Adrianople.

We have been much amused, and the person most concerned seriously annoyed, by the long accounts published in the European journals of the death of Col. Dien in a skirmish near Kalafat. As I have the honour of being personally acquainted with that gentleman, I can safely affirm that he is here and in very good health.

As for Kalafat, there remains in it only a part of the garrison, the remainder having advanced to the town of Krajova. The Russians, according to the last accounts, were on the opposite side of the river there.

A great murmur throughout the town, and the sounds of drums and music announced, on the 10th, that some extraordinary ceremony was about to take place. Crowds were flowing with a rapidity seldom witnessed amongst Turks, to the Konah of Ismail Ferik Pacha. Companies of infantry were marshalled in the court-yard, and drums beat a slow movement, whilst a brass band performed a series of joyful airs. Presently a Bulgarian, dressed in the black skin cap of the country, was led from one of the cells of a prison which forms one corner of the court. His hands were tied behind his back, and his elbows firmly pinioned. He was marched to the front of the battalions by two Saptics and a guard of soldiers; and, on the word of command being given by Ismail Pacha—the band and drummers marched out, followed by the prisoner and eight companies of infantry. Whilst the culprit was thus marched out and taken round the town, Ismail Pacha, with his suite, issued out in the direction of the plain, and was followed by the people in silence. The prisoner was a spy about to be taken to execution. The spot chosen for the fatal operation was the level ground south of the town, where the camp of the Artillery and Chasseurs is pitched. The distance walked by the culprit was about two miles; and he proceeded through the whole of the way with a firm and unflinching step. The crowd which surrounded and followed him was perfectly silent; and nothing was to be heard in addition to the drums and music, except that vague murmur and rushing sound which accompanies even the most decorous movements of large bodies of men. The ground on which the execution was to take place was guarded by files of soldiers, who kept the mob from pressing forward. The music and drummers wheeled to the rear. As they reached they spot the Saptics retired on each side from their prisoner, after binding his eyes; and a platoon of nine men, in three ranks, advanced to within twenty paces of the spy. At the word of command they fired. But one shot told, and the man fell. Two additional files were moved forward and fired, but the execution was still incomplete. Three men then came forward and bayoneted the wretch's body, which still writhed however, and it was not till an officer came forward and almost severed the head from the body that life appeared to be extinguished. The man who did this must have been a very fanatic Mussulman, for he raised his dripping sword to his mouth and licked the blood, probably to fulfil the letter of the Koran, which says "Thou shalt drink of the blood of the infidel."

I have endeavoured to write with coolness of a scene which made the deepest impression upon me. The death of a spy is well-merited, but it should be instantaneous. In Europe his execution is seldom delayed more than an hour after capture; for dead men tell no tales; but in the present instance the wretched man had been taken in the vicinity of Karasu, bearing upon him Russian gold and letters. There was a promise to him of 15,000 piastres, if he brought back intelligence to the Russian camp where the combined fleets had gone after the bombardment of Odessa, and he had also the mission generally to discover as much as possible the force and position of the Turks. The unfortunate wretch was a schoolmaster in the Dobrudja, and spoke perfectly Bulgarian, Turkish, Greek, Russian, and German. He was a native of Kasan, where his family still resides, and from the energy which he exhibited on his road to execution he must have been a useful agent in the hands of the Russians. As to the conduct of the Turkish officer, comments are unnecessary to qualify it. Turks at the present day, as this instance proves, are still in some measure possessed of the fanaticism of the immediate descendants of Mahomet; but I should be sorry to answer for the conduct of English or French spectators of such a scene as was enacted on the 10th.

Prince Napoleon Bonaparte is shortly expected here from Varna, where he most probably has already arrived. Within the last few day

OMER PACHA GOING ON BOARD "THE CHEK PER," AT VARNA.

we have already received several French officers. Colonel the Marquis de la Tour du Pin, an officer of the African army, *en retraite* because of deafness, has come to follow the campaign for pleasure; and with him is the Baron de Bussillet, who takes Turkish service also for the purpose of amusing himself. A more extraordinary novelty still is a female chief of Bashi bozouks, Fatima Hanoum, or Kara Gurel, an old Kurdish woman of seventy-eight, who rides astride of splendid Arab chargers at the head of 400 Kurds, and who astonishes the spectator by her dirty appearance, and the skill with which she fires pistols. She is of considerable wealth, and courageous, has her face uncovered, contrary to the practice of the Osmanlis, and expresses her disapproval of what she calls the antiquated and foolish custom of her countrywomen, who remain at home and veil themselves from sight, as if it were not far preferable for them to follow their husbands, and aid them in the holy war about to be waged against the Russians.

(The incident of the second Illustration, on the preceding page—Omer Pacha going on board the *Check Per*, at Varna, to meet the French and British Commanders, was described in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of June 24.)

THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND ART.

THE first Report of the Department of Science and Art, just issued, is a substantial octavo volume, of 643 pages, and contains copious information upon the history and present prospects (Dec., 1853) of the new scheme for promoting art-education amongst the multitude, more particularly in reference to manufacturing and other industrial pursuits. The project is an extremely interesting and laudable one, and is entitled to encouragement and support both from individuals and from the State—from individuals, because there is scarcely one who is not directly interested in the application of principles of beauty and convenience to some or other of the objects in every-day use; from the State, because some or other of the objects in question, avowedly unrivalled in respect to the essentials of economy of production, strength, and durability, is yet, to some extent, endangered by the competition of foreign producers in the matter of decorative design. Upon this subject we are not so sanguine as to imagine that the neglect of ages can be redressed in a day, nor even in a generation; or that amongst the hundreds who, under the auspices of the Department, attend for the first time lectures upon composition, in form and colour, the principles of ornamentation, &c., out of a hundred, after a sessional course, is able to discriminate between what is in good taste and what bad; to explain the grounds of distinction, and to exemplify his view by placing the two objects palpably on paper, something will have been gained, from which much will sooner or later follow.

Undoubtedly, in this education, the first step is to acquire the power of figuring, either by means of drawing or modelling the colours, forms, &c., of various objects. This hand-skill is the arts what, writing is to literature; and, without it, the would-be student has not even the means of study. We are glad to observe, therefore, that the directors of the new Department (which, as our readers are probably aware, superseded the former establishment at "Schools of Design") have paid great attention to this subject, and made it the necessary preliminary to all other instruction, laying down precise rules for the order of study. The system, as it at present is carried on, consists of—1. Schools for elementary instruction, established in various towns and throughout the country—either self-supporting, or partly self-supporting and partly supported by the State; this assistance of the State being given under the form of guaranteeing properly-qualified masters a minimum salary, the remainder of their remuneration then becoming dependent upon the fees from pupils; and the supplying of books, diagrams, models, &c., for teaching, at a reduction of a third or a half upon the price, and also in the gratuitous loan of models from the central museum in London; and 2 Courses of instruction in the principles of "applied design" to various processes in manufacture, given in the central institution in London; and to which pupils recommended from provincial elementary schools are, after examination, admitted gratuitously as pupil-teachers, to be afterwards accredited as teachers in provincial schools.

The general results of the last year's experience is, that there are at present 218 schools, chiefly for the poor, in different parts of the United Kingdom (exclusive of those in Ireland, from which the returns are incomplete), with an average of 33,709 scholars—each school having purchased copies and models to an average amount of £5, being half the cost to the State; and that eighty-six public schools, having 7313 children, chiefly of the poorer classes, have obtained the services of masters of the department employed in the local schools in their respective neighbourhoods, to teach elementary drawing, "which is now beginning to be recognised as necessary to all handicrafts:" the gross total of pupils in elementary design being thus upwards of 55,000. Further, "in concert with the Committee of Council on Education, 921 candidates as schoolmasters, educating in the several training-schools in England and Wales have been examined in elementary drawing; and 1060 schoolmasters and pupil-teachers have obtained for themselves or the use of the means of learning geometrical and free-hand drawing in the schools of the Department, with the view of teaching it in their schools."

As a proof of the growing desire which has been created for instruction of this kind, we are informed that "at present the demand for masters of Schools of Art very far exceeds the supply. The following places are now waiting to receive certificated masters—Bath, Barnsley, Birmingham, Bradford, Burnley, Caterham, Carlisle, Cheltenham, Clonmel, Dublin, Dunfermline, Exeter, Gloucester, Nottingham, Shrewsbury, Truro, and Worcester."

Two exhibitions of the productions of students from the schools of the whole country were held at Gore House during the past year (1852), those of elementary studies at Christmas, and those of advanced work in June and July; to which it may be added that similar exhibitions have been held during the current year. The awards of prizes to the advanced works were made by Sir C. L. Eastlake, P.R.A.; Mr. Maclise, R.A.; and Mr. Redgrave, the Art-Superintendent; those to the elementary works by the Art-Superintendent, assisted by Mr. Hudson, the Superintendent of Surface Decoration; and Mr. Robinson, the Curator of the Museum. The Report of the former gentlemen bears testimony to the improvement which has been made in some branches of study—notably those of artistic anatomy, of china painting, of woven fabrics, and of wood-engraving. The Report of the Art-Superintendent and his colleagues, however, contains a complaint upon a ground which it is not altogether uninteresting to observe upon. The course of elementary studies is divided into twenty-two classes, some of them having subdivisions, and specimens of each class and subdivision are required to be sent in by each school, not so much as an evidence of the various pupils' talents, as "to test the qualities of the teaching in them, and to prove that the course of instruction is in full operation in all its various stages, and that no stage is neglected, overlooked, or disregarded by the masters." It appears, however, that many of the schools have failed of sending in the prescribed number of examples of every kind, which elicits a severe rebuke from the reporters. But we very much doubt whether the rebuke is called for; and whether the Department is right in insisting upon the production of examples in every branch of art from every school, however contrary some of them may be to the prevailing tastes, dispositions, and industrial bias of the scholars. What is remarkable is, that we find it stated, a little further down in the same Report, that, "as regards one of these schools—Sheffield it would have stood high in its response to the demands of the Department, but for the continued deficiency in the course of design, but it is but just to remark, as a letter from the Head Master has been received, wherein he explains the difficulty he has had in bringing the painting stages into operation, but intimates that this deficiency (a deficiency remarked on at some length last year) is likely to be remedied without delay." It is elsewhere shown that Sheffield, as well as Birmingham, the Potteries, and the Metropolis school, has been successful in respect of "outlines of figure from the cast;" and of "flowers and fruits modelled from nature;" whilst, on the other hand, Manchester, exhibiting satisfactorily in all other branches, is chargeable with a "deficiency in the modelling stages." Without arguing the question, may it not be very reasonably conceived that, looking to their peculiar industries, Sheffield, Birmingham, and the Potteries may show greater aptitude and predilection for the modelling process, and Manchester to that of painting, and other branches of surface decoration?

And this leads us to some consideration of the arrangement by which the higher functions of the Department, that relating to "Applied Design," are all carried on in a central institution in London. Is it reasonable to suppose that poor would-be artificers in pottery work, iron and brass-work, and textile manufactures of various kinds, should leave the seats where those several industries are carried on, to learn the arcana of their respective arts in London? Would it not be more convenient and more useful to bring the particular school for each home to the spot where it is most needed, and where the instruction given in it would be daily tested and illustrated by experience of actual manufacture? Whatever may be our opinion upon this point in the abstract, the evidence afforded in the Reports of the various professors at Marlborough House is certainly curiously significant. Whilst the 218 elementary schools distributed throughout the country have 35,794 scholars amongst them, being an average of about 170 each, the still more important schools of the Central Department present a very meagre array. During the year 1852, that for Practical Construction, Architecture, and Plastic Decoration, had only 17 pupils; the Textile classes for Surface Decoration had but 22 students; the School of Science applied to Mining and the Arts enlisted 10 students, and 10 training masters; the School of Foreign Painting boasted 8 students, up to Easter, when one resigned; and Mr. Hudson, in reporting upon the school which he superintends, that of the Textile Classes for Surface Decoration, uses a remark which appears to us very pertinent, and one which might be equally applied to the other cases:—

The comparatively limited number of pupils arises, in a measure from the great distance from the seats of manufacture, which forbids persons engaged, or preparing to be engaged, in manufactories making use of the advantages held out to them; besides, their pecuniary circumstances prevent the possibility of a course of study in London.

The difficulty thus hinted at is well worthy of consideration, if we would increase to the utmost the usefulness of the Department.

It remains to be stated that the most recent branch of the Department—that of Science—has been received with marked appreciation by the public, and particularly by the working-classes, who have attended the lectures with avidity, and, in many instances carried away copious notes of the information afforded. Much yet remains to be done, however, before the important truths intended to be developed by the labours of the lecturer can be brought to the manufacturing districts throughout the land; the Report informs us (in not very good English—a peculiarity, by the way, observable in many other passages) that "the recent creation of the Scientific Division of the Department has not enabled it to provide a staff of trained teachers, and in consequence there are many applications from the seats of industry, which cannot for the present be supplied with competent teachers in Science."

LITERATURE.

SILURIA: The History of the Oldest Known Rocks containing Organic Remains; with a Brief Sketch of the Distribution of Gold over the Earth. By Sir RODERICK IMPEY MURCHISON, G.C.St.S., and Member of many Learned and Scientific Societies. Murray.

In this truly rich and splendid work Sir Roderick Murchison has happily condensed and displayed the consummation of the System upon which he has laboured with unceasing zeal for so many years; and, as far as geological research can go, described to us—What our Island was in long bygone ages: How it was changed by natural causes: And What it is now. No mundane inquiry can be more attractive; and the design is notably carried out as its aim is worthily conceived, viz., to mark the most ancient strata in which the proofs of sedimentary or aqueous action are still visible; to note the geological position of those beds which, in various countries, offer the first ascertained signs of life; and to develop the succession of deposits, where not obscured by metamorphism, that belong to such protozoic zones. Thus directing attention to the first stages of the vast series of former accumulations, and the creatures entombed in them, the author has proceeded on visible and practical grounds, and caused Mother Earth to reveal to us, from her deepest and most secret places, the wonders which can engender, the existence, during cycles long the ken of man can appreciate, of successive, and permian, or upper paleozoic strata: and thence into the secondary or mezozoic, or more modern, new red sandstone, trias, and superincumbent lias. Of these a clear and excellent map is prefixed to the volume, and the whole subject is simply and lucidly treated and illustrated. The popular form of treatment is delightful, and we shall endeavour to preserve it in our analysis and remarks. The science of astronomy is sublime, mathematics and physics learned and recondite, elementary learning the statistics and political economy useful, but the youngest of the numbers, in this mood, so far from being dry, combines nearly all the attributes of these congenial sciences, and adds to them a degree of entertainment which is not to be found in any other direction of mind or intellectual pursuit.

Our leader, like Thor, with his mighty hammer, battering and crushing whatever came in his way, or opposed his researches, conquered the lower, and ascended into the upper regions of the Cambrian, from his first achievements on the old western Cambrians, as called by the Romans—the British Caradoc of old—led his valiant Silures against the invaders of their country, he has given the name of Silurian to his system, which has since been extended and confirmed by investigations in Russia, Sweden, Bohemia, France, Spain, Canada, the United States, and other parts; so that the correspondence must be pronounced most comprehensive, if not universal. With regard to the contest between him and Professor Sedgwick—whether the Lower Silurian is a contemporaneous with the Cambrian, or posterior to that formation, we shall be silent—

When Greek joins Greek, then is the tug of war;

and, though they met as giants, the good feeling so prevailed over the disputatious spirit, that it was, in truth, "as if a brother did a brother dare;" and we are not of a disposition to throw oil upon the lambent flame which shines innocuous throughout the book of which we are now speaking, and on which we are about to enter.

Before we proceed to the consideration of the subject matter of this book, we must impress our readers with a sense of its importance. Heat, steam, and electricity noting together with an intensity very powerful in former periods—less influence, perhaps, than it deserves being attributed by geologists to the last-mentioned element—have evoked to account for the phenomena of the earth we inhabit, and the wonderful gradations by which it has arrived at its existent form. Fifty years ago the sequence of fossil remains, as a means of determining eras in the age of our planet, was undreamed of; and even the tracing, classing, and application of these memorials of elder times in regard to the strata we had so long trampled under our feet without a notice, was a novelty to science. To William Smith, the uncle of Professor Phillips, we owe the origination of that species of inquiry which Sir Roderick Murchison has so ably seconded and successfully pursued, and the results of which are now before us in this handsome volume, so copiously illustrated by woodcuts and plates, that its author may well and literally say of it—

Exegi monumentum ære perennius.

We may sum up the argument concisely thus. Sir Roderick holds—

1. That, although there is a great difference in their organic remains, the Upper and Lower Silurian strata consist of a union of the two groups in one system of life; and, having thus explored the lowest known burial-places of former beings, he proceeds—

2. To the consideration of the younger races which successively occupied the higher tiers in the vast necropolis of primæval life. In the first instance, the bottom of the sea was, to a very wide extent, occupied by vast deposits of dark grey-coloured mud, above which came equally vast red deposits, for the most part sandy, caused by the diffusion of iron oxides in the waters; and here other animals, suited to the altered condition of the areas of these ancient seas, took the place of those successfully pursued, and the results of which are now before us in this handsome volume, so copiously illustrated by woodcuts and plates, that its author may well and literally say of it—

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Sir Roderick utterly repudiates the doctrine of a transmutation from lower to higher grades of being: men are not monkeys, who have rubbed off their tails by sitting upon them, nor will they get furnished with wings. There must be another new creation before the earth is *peopled* by angels! We leave minor arguments untouched, though the author's reasoning against contrary speculations are very cogent. A general map of the world, at page 475, affords an instructive view of the regions where the primæval fossil groups are known to exist, and of the crystalline rocks which were formed before or associated with them, and corroborates the Silurian explanation; and fer immense transformations, we are referred to the fractures on the crust of the globe by the violent outbursts of igneous matter from the interior, of which earthquakes and volcanoes within the historical era are comparatively but feeble and insignificant phenomena. Did primordial internal heat operate upon chaos, before the sun and moons were made? are we in a transition state under solar influence? and may not ice, instead of fire, terminate the existence of the human race, and prepare the way for our successors—another example of creative power, and successional progress? Imagination, excited by the retrospect, sinks before the vision of such a future, and the hero who

A painted vest had on,
Which from a naked Pict his sire had won,

(it must have been his bodily cuticle) would be as competent to penetrate the prospect as all the greatest geologists and philosophers who adorn our enlightened times.

The whole structure of the past is based upon the generally-received opinion or hypothesis that our planet assumed the form of a flattened spheroid from rotation on its axis when in a fluid state, and that the interior was molten with fire. The central heat radiating into space and losing its force, allowed the superficial portion to cool and become solid. Through this crust the raging element broke with prodigious force at intervals and thrust the oldest massive granite and other igneous rocks into the places where they became the centres and axes of our mighty mountain chains. As they cooled, when raised into the atmosphere, wasting agencies acting upon them produced the stratified deposits of which we have been speaking, and sea and land often changing position will account for the forms and phenomena which challenge the labours of geological science. By his labours the author has nobly endeavoured to trace a clear general outline of the succession in primæval life, and render the earlier periods of geological investigation intelligible (in a single volume) to ordinary readers. He holds, and great authorities agree with him, that he has demonstrated the truth of the theory, that during the formation of the sediments which compose the crust of the earth, the animal kingdom has been, at least, three times entirely renovated, and that the secondary and tertiary periods have been as completely characterised by a distinct fauna, as the primæval series. This great primæval or Paleozoic series (*palaio* ancient, and *zoe* life), is now ascertained to terminate in Europe, (*pace* the deposits called Permian, a group originally classed with the new red sandstone (trias), of which it was supposed to form the base, but extended investigation has shown, from the nature of its imbedded remains, that it is linked to the carboniferous deposit on which it rests, and is altogether distinct from the trias, which, overlying it, forms the base of all the secondary rocks.

Our endeavour to make a readily-understood digest of this very instructive work, will, we trust, materially afford a general idea of its leading feature, but impress our readers with a sense of its importance. Heat, steam, and electricity noting together with an intensity very powerful in former periods—less influence, perhaps, than it deserves being attributed by geologists to the last-mentioned element—have evoked to account for the phenomena of the earth we inhabit, and the wonderful gradations by which it has arrived at its existent form. Fifty years ago the sequence of fossil remains, as a means of determining eras in the age of our planet, was undreamed of; and even the tracing, classing, and application of these memorials of elder times in regard to the strata we had so long trampled under our feet without a notice, was a novelty to science. To William Smith, the uncle of Professor Phillips, we owe the origination of that species of inquiry which Sir Roderick Murchison has so ably seconded and successfully pursued, and the results of which are now before us in this handsome volume, so copiously illustrated by woodcuts and plates, that its author may well and literally say of it—

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It is remarkable that, consistently with the appearance of fishes, a diminutive, yet highly organised, tree vegetation is detected; the antecedent existence of any vegetable production being doubtful, though possible; since such relics, as well as those of vertebrated creatures, may yet be found in lower strata. Analogy, however, is against the supposition; and that this was the first great step in a progressive order of creation, is corroborated by the fact that, in the succeeding, or Devonian period, we are surrounded by a profusion of larger fossil fishes, with vertebræ for the most part very imperfectly ossified, and with dermial skeletons of very singular forms—all differing vastly from anything of their kind in previously-existing strata. These fishes were thus clearly added to the primeval forms of marine life, and with them well defined land plants of much larger dimensions than the very rare specimens of the uppermost Silurian (as at London); and, towards the close of the period we meet with an air-breathing reptile, the little telerpeton. Next follow the true osseous fishes, becoming more and more numerous as we ascend in the deposits; and in like manner the productions of the land, to use a trite expression, bear them company, and an abundant terrestrial flora lays the foundations of the next carboniferous strata. Hence the coal-fields, in which occur the same common species of marine shells, all indicating a more or less equable climate from Polar to Intertropical regions, quite at variance with the present distribution of animal and vegetable life over the surface of our planet.

Sir R. Murchison's next era is designated the Permian, from a large district in Russia, where he pursued the researches which confirmed the system he had framed on Shropshire, and adjacent parts of England and Wales; and here a great number of the primeval types disappear, those that remain are essentially modified, and a thecoudont, a large animal of a higher grade than any belonging to any past era, is found.

But at the close of the Permian, an infinitely greater change took place in life, than that which marked the ascent from the lowest Silurian to the overlying groups. All the species of the earlier races then disappeared, and were replaced by an entirely new creation, the generic types of which were continued through what geologists term the secondary or mezozoic age of sentient beings. Here again one formation followed another, characterised by different creatures, many of them, however, exhibiting, near their downward and upward limits, certain fossils which link one reign of life to another. The medla in which animals have been fossilised, show the intimate connection between the condition of the earth and their existence and preservation. As Sir Roderick does not treat of the secondary and tertiary formations which intervened between those we have cursorily described, and the sediments of the present day, we shall merely observe that every portion harmonises with the theory of successive extinction, new creation, and progression. After the oolitic formations, charged with monstrous saurians, very unlike the lizards which preceded them, and the bones of huge large-winged reptiles (the pterodactyle), we obtain evidence of mammalia, first glimmering in rare and strange specimens, three-toothed and oddly shaped; and some singular exceptions forces us to doubt of certain data; but we at last come to shores deposits, and thence the superabundance of plants, reptiles, and sea and land mammalia, which flourished and fed on the territories now occupied by Man. These are the main facts supported by and supporting the Silurian System.

Sir Roderick utterly repudiates the doctrine of a transmutation from lower to higher grades of being: men are not monkeys, who have rubbed off their tails by sitting upon them, nor will they get furnished with wings. There must be another new creation before the earth is *peopled* by angels! We leave minor arguments untouched, though the author's reasoning against contrary speculations are very cogent. A general map of the world, at page 475, affords an instructive view of the regions where the primæval fossil groups are known to exist, and of the crystalline rocks which were formed before or associated with them, and corroborates the Silurian explanation; and fer immense transformations, we are referred to the fractures on the crust of the globe by the violent outbursts of igneous matter from the interior, of which the earthquakes and volcanoes within the historical era are comparatively but feeble and insignificant phenomena. Did primordial internal heat operate upon chaos, before the sun and moons were made? are we in a transition state under solar influence? and may not ice, instead of fire, terminate the existence of the human race, and prepare the way for our successors—another example of creative power, and successional progress? Imagination, excited by the retrospect, sinks before the vision of such a future, and the hero who

A painted vest had on,
Which from a naked Pict his sire had won,

(it must have been his bodily cuticle) would be as competent to penetrate the prospect as all the greatest geologists and philosophers who adorn our enlightened times.

The whole structure of the past is based upon the generally-received opinion or hypothesis that our planet assumed the form of a flattened spheroid from rotation on its axis when in a fluid state, and that the interior was molten with fire. The central heat radiating into space and losing its force, allowed the superficial portion to cool and become solid. Through this crust the raging element broke with prodigious force at intervals and thrust the oldest massive granite and other igneous rocks into the places where they became the centres and axes of our mighty mountain chains. As they cooled, when raised into the atmosphere, wasting agencies acting upon them produced the stratified deposits of which we have been speaking, and sea and land often changing position will account for the forms and phenomena which challenge the labours of geological science. By his labours the author has nobly endeavoured to trace a clear general outline of the succession in primæval life, and render the earlier periods of geological investigation intelligible (in a single volume) to ordinary readers. He holds, and great authorities agree with him, that he has demonstrated the truth of the theory, that during the formation of the sediments which compose the crust of the earth, the animal kingdom has been, at least, three times entirely renovated, and that the secondary and tertiary periods have been as completely characterised by a distinct fauna, as the primæval series. This great primæval or Paleozoic series (*palaio* ancient, and *zoe* life), is now ascertained to terminate in Europe, (*pace* the deposits called Permian, a group originally classed with the new red sandstone (trias), of which it was supposed to form the base, but extended investigation has shown, from the nature of its imbedded remains, that it is linked to the carboniferous deposit on which it rests, and is altogether distinct from the trias, which, overlying it, forms the base of all the secondary rocks.

Our endeavour to make a readily-understood digest of this very instructive work, will, we trust, materially afford a general idea of its leading feature, but impress our readers with a sense of its importance. Heat, steam, and electricity noting together with an intensity very powerful in former periods—less influence, perhaps, than it deserves being attributed by geologists to the last-mentioned element—have evoked to account for the phenomena of the earth we inhabit, and the wonderful gradations by which it has arrived at its existent form. Fifty years ago the sequence of fossil remains, as a means of determining eras in the age of our planet, was undreamed of; and even the tracing, classing, and application of these memorials of elder times in regard to the strata we had so long trampled under our feet without a notice, was a novelty to science. To William Smith, the uncle of Professor Phillips, we owe the origination of that species of inquiry which Sir Roderick Murchison has so ably seconded and successfully pursued, and the results of which are now before us in this handsome volume, so copiously illustrated by woodcuts and plates, that its author may well and literally say of it—

Exegi monumentum ære perennius.

We may sum up the argument concisely thus. Sir Roderick holds—

1. That, although there is a great difference in their organic remains, the Upper and Lower Silurian strata consist of a union of the two groups in one system of life; and, having thus explored the lowest known burial-places of former beings, he proceeds—

2. To the consideration of the younger races which successively occupied the higher tiers in the vast necropolis of primæval life. In the first instance, the bottom of the sea was, to a very wide extent, occupied by vast deposits of dark grey-coloured mud, above which came equally vast red deposits, for the most part sandy, caused by the diffusion of iron oxides in the waters; and here other animals, suited to the altered condition of the areas of these ancient seas, took the place of those tenants of the deep which had disappeared in consequence of the superincumbent

steps and other traces on the coal, intermixed with aqueous and vegetable types, still further illustrating the then condition of life.*

4. The Permian rocks are supposed to have been the effects of internal convulsions, which projected them through the quietly-deposited contents of the great upper coal-fields, formed by repeated downward movements of low lands beneath the waters. Such ruptures necessarily interrupted the order of ancient sedimentary succession. These upheavings constituted portions of mountain chains; and their fossils—on the whole, different from those of pre-existing palæozoic rocks—are more connected with the carboniferous fauna and flora, than with the organic remains of any secondary or mesozoic rock subsequently formed.

This Permian constitutes the Upper Silurian System; and with it our essay to render it plain to every class of our readers, whether studious or ignorant of geology.

Of Sir Roderick's sketch of the distribution of gold over the earth, we have not room to say much. Gold only exists in quantity to be profitably extracted, in the stratified formations of crystaline and palæozoic rocks, and not in secondary or tertiary deposits. The most original position of the metal is in quartzose vein-stones that traverse altered, palæozoic slates, frequently near their junction with eruptive rocks; or it has been deposited in rivers and lower depressions, from the abraded ancient rocks, as they have undergone a metamorphosis or change of structure by igneous, aqueous, or atmospheric agency. From England, Scotland, or Ireland, Sir Roderick looks for no produce worthy of consideration. He contemns extravagant fears or apprehensions respecting an excessive production of the ore, and maintains that the supply must ever be limited, whilst that of silver may be very greatly enlarged. It would be too long to state the geological data from which these conclusions are deduced, and we shall only repeat the quotation from the Book of Job in support of them: "Surely there is a vein for the silver . . . The earth hath *dust of gold*."

Yet we fancy no geologist can tell us whence the gold comes; where is its bed, and how has it been mixed up in granite and the oldest rocks, and protruded from the bowels of the earth upon the surface? From the diggings of Timon of Athens to the diggings of California and Australia, the history is tolerably clear, but all before is mystery; and in mystery as to what may yet be discovered, we must leave it, in the hope that, whatever betide, a portion of it may speed in our direction. Till that fortunate time, we have again to recognise and applaud the great service rendered to science by Sir Roderick Murchison, in this publication—which may fairly be deemed a sufficient *vade mecum* for the structure of our world, an admirable guide through the vestiges of creation, and an interesting and instructive exposition of the science of geology.

RIDICULOUS THINGS: SCRAPS AND ODDITIES, SOME WITH, AND MANY WITHOUT, ANY MEANING. By JOHN PARRY. T. Maclean.

John Parry, the well-known singer, being prevented by severe illness, from appearing before the public in his capacity of musical "entertainer," has allowed his humour to flow into a new channel—new, at least, to the public, though not to his acquaintance—that of comic sketching. The "Ridiculous Things" before us, consisting of 32 plates of caricures and other sketches, display talent of no mean order, and much originality of conception. The confusion of odd images in some of the plates seem as if they owed their conception to the influence of Hashish, or of the Nightmare; while some of the illustrations are so irresistibly comic, that they might force a laugh from an anchorite or a brother of the Oratory. One page (plate 10) is devoted to the science or art of "*Hairyology*" and consists of representations of the different styles of dressing ladies' hair, as professed by a certain Mons. Papillotini, *Artist in Hair*; "Vagaries in a Verandah; or, the Sprites' Delight on a Moonlight Night" (plate 12), is a higgledy-piggledy of the most grotesque shapes; and "What Happened to Fanny's Favourite Doll, Miss Clementina," is the very perfection of the ridiculous, and is in itself sufficient to place the author in a high rank among caricaturists.

It would require more space than we can spare to detail the various characteristics of this amusing book. Let it suffice to say that for comicality, devoid of every trace of vulgarity, and for genuine humour, there are few publications of the class that excel John Parry's "Ridiculous Things."

THE TWO ANGELS.

A poem just published in America (Putnam), by H. W. Longfellow, the exquisite pathos of which is not lessened by the fact that it was inspired by the birth of a child to the writer, and the death of Mrs. Maria Lowell, the wife of another American poet, on the same day, at Cambridge, U.S. In honour of the American muse, we copy it for our readers.

Two Angels, one of Life and one of Death,
Passed o'er the village as the morning broke;
The dawn was on their faces, and beneath
The sombre houses heared with plumes of smoke.

Their attitude and aspect were the same,
Alike their features and their robes of white;
And one was crowned with amaranthine wreath,
And one with asphodels, like flakes of light.

I saw them pause on their celestial way;
Then said I, with deep fear and doubt oppressed:
"Beat not so loud my heart, lest thou betray
The place where thy beloved are at rest!"

And he who wore the crown of asphodels,
Descending, at my door began to knock;
And my soul sank within me, as in wells
The waters sink before an earthquake's shock.

I recognised the nameless agony
The terror, and the tremor, and the pain—
That oft before had filled and haunted me,
And now returned with threefold strength again.

The door I opened to my heavenly guest,
And listened, for I thought I heard God's voice;
And, knowing whatsoe'er He sent was best,
Dared neither to lament nor to rejoice.

Then, with a smile that filled the house with light—
"My errand is not Death, but Life," he said:
And ere I answered, passing out of sight,
On his celestial embassy he sped.

'Twas at thy door, O Friend, and not at mine,
The angel with the amaranthine wreath,
Pausing, descended; and, with voice divine,
Whispered a word that had a sound like Death.

Then fell upon the house a sudden gloom—
A shadow on those features fair and thin;
And softly, from that hushed and darkened room,
Two angels issued, where but one went in.

All is of God! If He but wave His hand
The mists collect, the rains fall thick and loud,
Till, with a smile of light on sea and land,
Lo! He looks back from the departing cloud.

Angels of Life and Death alike are His;
Without His leave they pass no threshold o'er
Who then would wish or dare, believing this,
Against His messengers to shut the door?

* Was fresh water introduced upon the face of the earth contemporaneously with this great land vegetation, of which nearly 1000 plants can be determined, from impressions and fossilliferous remains? It seems probable; for here begin both fresh-water shells and land shells, reptiles, insects, and breathing creatures, for the sustenance of which rivers and lakes were needful; and, as appears from the mixture with marine deposits in estuaries, Nature had now superadded new elements, as well as new creatures, in renovating the globe.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

H. O., Queenstown: J. W. B., Dublin; Chicory, Bath.—They shall be examined and reported on shortly.

J. F., Carlisby. Send your name and address to the Secretary of the St. George's Chess-club, 53, St. James's-street.

MORAY. We are too much pressed for space to give an account of the Liverpool Chess meeting this week, but have no doubt you will find it fully reported in the July Number of the *Chess Player's Chronicle*.

DOVER. While, having a Pawn more, ought to win, if either could; but we believe, with the best play, the game must be drawn.

A. F., CARLOW. It is quite true that some Chess MSS. of great value and antiquity have been lately brought to light. An account of them will be found in another part of our present Number.

CONSTANT.—The gentleman named resides in the country; but letters addressed to the St. George's Chess-club, 53, St. James's-street, Piccadilly, will find him.

W. N. There is an excellent Cigar and Chess Divan at the "Wellington" *Saloon*, in St. James's-street, Piccadilly.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 539, by Arnold, Phiz, Derevon, S. H., Norwich, O. N. T., M. A., York, D. P., Miss Fenner, W. J. A., Lyons Road, Liverpool.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 540, by M. M. J. P., Nautilus, M. P., Perseus, T. W. P., F. S. A., Oneida, Omar Pacha, E. H., are correct. All others are wrong.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 538.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. R to K B sq	P takes R, becoming a Q, or (a)	2. R to K B 3rd	K takes Kt
		3. R to Q 2nd—Dis. Checkmate.	
(a) 1.	P to K B 6th	2. R to K 4th—Mate.	
	Anything		

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 539.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. R to Q R 3rd	Kt tks P (best)	2. B mates	
2. R to Q 3rd	K takes R		

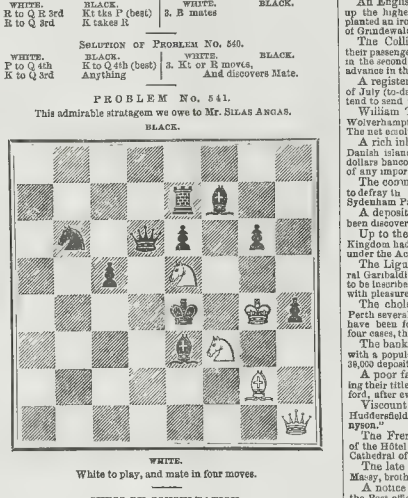
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 540.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. P to Q 4th	K to Q 4th (best)	2. Kt or R moves,	
2. K to Q 3rd	Anything	And discovers Mate.	

PROBLEM No. 541.

This admirable stratagem we owe to Mr. SILAS ANGAS.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in four moves.

CHESS BY CONSULTATION.

The following game came off on Friday last, in presence of a numerous assemblage of players, at the Great Chess Gathering in Liverpool: the combatants on one side being Messrs. Staunton, De Riviere (Hon. Sec. of the Paris Cercle des Echecs), and Kylman; and, on the other, Sir John Blunden, Herr Löwenthal, and Mr. Kipping.

WHITE. (Messrs. S., De R., and K.)	BLACK. (Messrs. L., K., and Sir J. B.)	WHITE. (Messrs. S., De R., and K.)	BLACK. (Messrs. L., K., and Sir J. B.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	21. P to K 4th	Q to K R 6th
2. Kt to K B 3rd	Kt to Q B 3rd	22. P to K 6th (*f*)	K B P takes P (*g*)
3. B to Q B 4th	B to Q B 4th	23. Q takes K Kt P	Castles (on Q side)
4. P to Q Kt 4th	B takes Kt P		(*h*)
5. P to Q B 3rd	B to Q R 4th	24. B to K Kt 5th	Q to K R 6th
6. P to Q 4th	P takes P	25. B takes Q R	R takes B (*k*)
7. Q to Q Kt 3rd	Q to K 2nd	26. Q to Q B 6th (*i*)	R to K Kt sq
8. Castles	B to Q K 3rd	27. B to K B sq	Q to K R 4th
9. B to Q R 3rd	Q to K B 3rd	28. Q R takes Q P (*l*)	Q to Q B 4th (ch)
10. P to K 5th	Q to K Kt 3rd		(*l*)
11. P takes P	Kt takes Q P	29. K to R sq (*m*)	Kt to Q sq
12. Kt takes Kt	B takes Kt	30. K R to Q B 4th	K takes R (*n*)
13. Kt to Q B 3rd	B takes K (*a*)	31. B takes Q	P takes R
14. Q takes B	Kt to K 2nd	32. K to Kt sq	B to Q 4th
15. Q R to Q sq	P to Q Kt 3rd	33. P to Q R 3rd	Kt to Q B 3rd
16. K R to K sq (*b*)	B to Q Kt 2nd (*c*)	34. B to Q Kt 6th	R to Q Kt sq
17. P to K B 3rd	Kt to Q B 3rd (*d*)	35. B to Q R 4th	K to Q 3rd
18. B to Q 3rd (*e*)	Q to K R 3rd	36. P to K B 4th	P to Q B 5th
19. B to Q B sq	Q to K R 5th	37. P to Q R 4th	K to B 4th
20. K R to K 4th	Q to K R 4th	38. Q to K Kt 7th	

And Black struck their colours.

(a) Had they taken the King's Pawn, they would have fallen into White's net, Q to K sq, P to K B 4th &c.

(b) This move was evidently unadvised forsooth of it. Kr Kylman—who, by the way, is a young player of great modesty and great talent—suggested Q to K 2nd, which would, undoubtedly, have been better. Mr. S. perceived the more attacking play of P to K 6th, the probable result of which it may be instructive to seek. Let us then suppose—

16. P to K 6th	B P takes P (best)	16. B takes Kt	K takes B
17. K R takes P	Q P takes R (best)		

(It should be remarked that if White, instead of taking off the Kt here, take the Q B P with the Q—en, Black may Castle, and come out of his difficulties with little, if any, inferiority of situation.)

19. Q takes Q B P (ch)	K to B 2nd	22. Q to Q B sq	
20. Q to Q 6th	P to K 8th (best)	And surely White ought to win without much trouble.	
21. Q R to K B 4th (ch)	K to K Kt 4th		

(c) By this counter attack Black gain invaluable time.

(d) That appeared an agreeable surprise to White, as Mr. S. had previously demonstrated to his allies that the danger of Kt to K to K sq was, that it afforded Black an opportunity of throwing forward their Pawn to Q B 4th, and thus paralysing the action of the White Q's Bishop. There can be no doubt, we believe, that P to Q B 4th would have been a much better line of defence.

(e) It was suggested afterwards, with much show of truth, that White would have done well at this instant to sacrifice the Q's Pawn with Q to Q B 3rd. Had they done so, the following is a likely continuation:—

18. Q R takes Q P	K takes R	19. P to K 6th (ch)	Q takes P
19. B takes K B P	Q takes B	20. Q takes K Kt P (ch)	
	And we don't see how Black can avert defeat.		

(*f*) This will be found, upon analysis, we think, to be preferable to the obvious move of P to K Kt 5th, and, indeed, to any other moves at White's command.

(g) Had they taken now with the Queen's Pawn, White's best course probably would have been to play K B to Q K 5th, which would have gained them a piece at least.

(h) Instead of so playing, they might have taken the K B Pawn, which would probably have led to the following variation:—

25.	Q takes K B P	27. K R to K sq	
26. B to K B 4th	Q takes Q R (ch)	And White must win.	

(i) Threatening to win the adverse Queen by B to K B sq.

(k) This is an excellent coup as unexpected too, as it is clever.

(l) If he had taken the proffered Rook at this moment it would have cost his Queen

(m) It was anything but indifferent whether they moved this, or K to Kt 2nd, as the reader will find on attentively examining the position.

(n) If they had played the natural move of Q to K B 7th, the game would have proceeded thus—

30.	Q to K B 7th	33. Q to K Kt 5th (ch)	K to Q B 3r
31. K R takes Q R P (ch)	B to K 3rd	34. Q Mates	
32. Q R takes Kt (ch)	K takes K R		

CHESS ENIGMAS.

No. 877.—By A. H., of Gloucester.

White: K at his sq. Q at K R 2nd, B at K 4th, Kt at K 6th, P's at K Kt 3rd and 4th and R 3rd.

Black: K at his R 4th, B at Q 8th; P's at K Kt 2nd, K 4th, Q 6th, and Q B 6th.

White to play, and mate in three moves.

No. 878.—By J. B., of Bridport.

White: K at Q 4th, B's at K R 2nd and Q B 4th, Kt at K 7th, P's at K R 4th and Q 3rd.

Black: K at K B 3rd, P's at K R 3rd and Q B 4th.

White to play, and mate in four moves

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

The charter granted to the Australian Direct Steam Company in June, 1853, has lap ed, owing to the conditions not having been complied with.

A San Francisco paper states that Madame Pfeiffer, the celebrated German traveller, has arrived in California.

The receipts of specie and bullion last week amounted to nearly £890,000, of which £510,000 was gold from Australia, and the shipments are valued at about £530,000.

The journal *Italia e Popolo*, published at Genoa, was seized on the 18th, on account of an article entitled "Utopia," in which the writer advocated Mazzinian doctrines.

The Queen's Body Guard for Scotland are to meet at Montrose about the middle of this month, to compete for the Silver Arrow.

Five newspaper writers were arrested the other day, at Madrid, and sent off in a post-carriage under a strong escort, for the Balearic Isles, where they are to be placed at the disposal of the civil governor.

M. Kossuth is so unwell as to be unable to leave home, consequently his intended visit to Newcastle is of necessity postponed.

The French Consul at San Francisco is under a bond of 2000 dollars to answer for the offence of having assisted the Filibusters.

In the year ended the 5th January last, the aggregate importation of cheese was 396,403 cwt. 2 qr. 9 lb.

The Duchess of Sutherland, the Marchioness of Ailesbury, the Countess of Jersey, and a large number of peeresses, were present in the Gallery of the House of Lords, on Monday evening, to hear Lord Aberdeen's self-exculpation.

An English tourist, Mr. John Blackwell, climbed, on the 13th, up the highest peak of the Wetterhorn (12,600 feet), from which he planted an iron flag. His guides were Balmat, of Chamouny, and Blauer, of Grindwald, besides four other mountaineers.

The Collins and Cunard steamers have resolved to increase their passenger fares from this time—ten dollars in the first cabin, and five in the second. The additional charge is rendered necessary by the great advance in the price of coal, wages, and provisions.

A register will be opened at the Hôtel de Ville, Paris, on the 1st of July (to-day), for the inscription of the names of the persons who intend to send their productions to the Grand Exhibition in May next.

William Thornely, Esq., nephew of Mr. Thornley, M.P. for Wolverhampton, has been appointed distributor of stamps at Liverpool. The net emolument of the office is about £1600 a year.

A rich inhabitant of Yeiad, a town situated nearly opposite the Danish island of Bornholm, in the Baltic—has promised to give 1000 dollars bance to the poor, on the day that he receives certain intelligence of any important defeat of the Russians.

The committee of St. Paul's School, Liverpool, have voted £10, to defray the expenses of their master coming to London to visit the Sydenham Palace.

A discovery of coal, which appears to be very extensive, has just been discovered on the heights of Hillesborg, near the sea, in Sweden.

Up to the 15th May, 946 licenses to be at large in the United Kingdom had been granted to convicts under sentence of transportation, under the Act of last Session.

The Ligurian Naval Commercial Society, wishing to give General Garibaldi a testimony of their esteem, requested him to allow his name to be inscribed on the list of its honorary members. The General accepted with pleasure.

The cholera has re-appeared in some parts of Scotland. In Perth several cases have already terminated fatally: at Barrhead there have been four fatal cases during the past week; at Darry there were four cases, three of which have terminated fatally.

The banking statistics of Victoria indicate great prosperity; with a population of 300,000 persons, there were, at the close of 1853, 36,000 depositors, whose balances amounted to nearly £9,000,000.

A poor family in Skibbereen have just succeeded in establishing their title to £15,000, the property of Mr. Thomas Bane, of Old Brentford, after a very opposition in the English Chancery Court.

Viscount Goderich, M.P., gave a lecture to the members of the Huddersfield Mechanics' Institution, last week, on the "Poetry of Tennyson."

The French Government has just purchased for the Museum of the Hôtel de Cluny, the famous golden altar which was given to the Cathedral of Basle, by Henry II., Emperor of Germany.

The late Colonel White has left to his nephew, the Hon. John Massy, brother of Lord Massy, £3000 a year in landed estates.

A notice has been posted up in Paris by the Director-General of the Post-office, informing the public that from the 1st of July pre-paid letters for France will only be liable to a charge of 20c., and those not pre-paid to 30c.

A work on the law of storms, by Mr. Piddington, has been translated into Chinese for the benefit of the seafaring Chinamen, at the expense of Sir John Bowring.

A Boston shipbuilder has returned from Europe, with contracts from merchants for the construction of a number of first-class ships, to the value of about 1,000,000 dollars.

Mr. Edward Duffy, M.P., has been obliged to leave Parliament for Malvern, where he says he is "paying the penalty, in an intense dyspepsia, of a brain long overworked, and a body stinted of exercise and fresh air."

A telegraphic communication along the whole line of the Danube is about to be established, and M. Duval, a French engineer, has arrived, to carry the measure into execution.

The Queen of Spain has presented to the Rector of the Church of St. Louis des Français, at Madrid, a Royal mantle of the time of the Saint, and a complete toilette of great richness for the Virgin. A veil, remarkable for its Spanish embroidery, is to be another statue of the Virgin in the same church, in the name of the Infanta.

The following are the distinguished individuals upon whom the honorary degree of D.C.L. is to be conferred at the approaching Oxford Commemoration:—His Highness Prince Louis Lucien Bonaparte; Sir George Grey, K.C.B.; Sir George Bach; John Pass, Esq., Mr. Wormsley, High Sheriff; the Right Hon. Joseph Warner Henley, M.P.; Dr. Grant, Edinburgh; Admiral Moresby; Sir George Young, Garter King-at-Arms.

A farmer in the neighbourhood of Melbourne is now realising no less than £100 per week by the sale of fresh and potted butter in that town. This is better than gold-finding any day.

Two young men and three young women were drowned in the Isis, near Oxford, on Friday week, by the upsetting of a boat.

Mercantile letters from Paris state that the Russian loan is not allowed to be dealt in, and that the Government have forbidden all transactions in Russian stock.

The Federal Council of Switzerland has directed a telegraphic line to be established between Rigi and Lucerne.

The number of chargeable lunatics and idiots in Middlesex last year was 2,866, being an increase, as compared with the preceding year, of 159, and, as compared with the year 1851, an increase of 433.

The *Moniteur* publishes a decree abolishing the duty of 5f. on cotton and wool from the French colonies.

The Electric Telegraph has been opened between Bombay and Calcutta; and official messages have been transmitted from the one Presidency to the other. A room has been prepared in the Secretariate for the use of the public, where the editors, or their reporters, can go every day, and take copies, or consult any papers they like to ask for.

In Holland the crops of corn and potatoes present a very satisfactory appearance; but the fruit-trees have suffered by the cold and high winds which prevailed a month ago.

Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton has followed up his brilliant address of last winter to the Edinburgh students by the intimation of a University prize for the best essay "On the influence exercised by the mind over the body, in the production and removal of morbid and anomalous conditions of the animal economy."

While Prince Charles Lucien Bonaparte was riding in the Bois de Boulogne, on Tuesday, in company with his brother, Prince Pierre Napoleon, and some other gentlemen, a horse ridden by one of his friends suddenly lashed out, and striking the Prince with violence fractured his left leg.

In the 80th Regiment, which has recently arrived from India, after an absence of eighteen years, there are several private soldiers who have saved from £500 to £1000 each.

In Bombay the heat, combined with scarcity of water, has been the occasion of a great deal of mortality amongst both Europeans and Natives. Cholera has been committing fearful ravages all over the country, and fevers are very prevalent.

The telegraph from Edinburgh to Dundee has at length been completed, and messages are now regularly forwarded between the two places by the submarine wires laid across the Forth and Tay.

Mr. Joseph Mitchel, editor of the *Jewish Chronicle*, committed suicide, on Monday evening, during a fit of temporary insanity.

Asiatic cholera has re-appeared in the West Indies, in its worst form. In various parts of Jamaica it is making serious ravages.

Out of 462 members of the Scottish bar, no less than 92 are authors, 6 are, or have been, editors of newspapers, and 20 are contributors to the provincial press.

BARO SOUND.—VIEW IN THE DIRECTION OF HELSINGFORS.

BARO SOUND.

This excellent anchorage was fully described in our own Correspondent's letter last week, with a general view of the Sound, and the fleet at anchor (See page 589). We now engrave an additional sketch, in the direction of Helsingfors, with the *Hecla* going up to examine the passage between the islands.

The following extract from a letter dated Baro Sound, June 13th gives an account of a short surveying excursion in the neighbourhood of Helsingfors:—

About half-past five o'clock on the 12th we got under way, and steamed on towards the "Gibraltar of the North," in two lines—one consisting of *Hogue*, *St Jean d'Acre* and *Austerlitz*, led by the *Duke of Wellington*; the other consisting of *Cressy*, *Princess Royal*, and *Blenheim*, led by *Edinburgh*, the *Bulldog*, *Driver*, and *Esmeralda* in company. The *Impersuse*, *Arrogant*, and *Basilisk* joined us, when we brought up about eight miles from Sveaborg, although it did not appear more than half that distance. The *Dragon*, *Driver*, and *Basilisk* were now sent on to survey the waters close in by the fortress. They went within 800 yards of the shore, in a position where evidently there were no guns to bear upon them, otherwise the ships must have been fired upon. The troops swarmed in great numbers along the shore, looking magnificent in their polished cuirasses and glittering helmets. The steamers did not fire, unprovoked, they could not have done so. The water has been found quite deep.

The view of Sveaborg and Helsingfors from the ships was most picturesque. The day was sunny and warm, and not a ripple disturbed the tranquillity of the water. Helsingfors stood before us resplendent, from the whiteness of its palaces, in the noonday glare. Its principal cathedral, surmounted by a graceful and lofty dome decorated with purple, and crowned by a golden globe, sparkled and flickered with a lustrous and tremulous light. Its classical colonnade stood out in bold relief, while its minaret-looking angular towers reflected bright flashes from their small gilded points.

A three-decker is moored head and stern right across the harbour's mouth, a long, narrow, rocky island, with an irregular spire, forming a natural sea wall, runs along the eastern side of the harbour, over which the tall masts of the ships of the line are showing. To the westward the land is apparently more broken and irregular, and seems to be occupied by some of the forts in the sea front. The town seems to be of vast extent.

H.M.S. "DAUNTLESS," WITH RUSSIAN PRIZES, PASSING THE SWEDISH FLEET.

THE LANDING OF CAPTAIN HALL (OF H.M.S. "HECLA") AT STOCKHOLM.

RECEPTION OF CAPTAIN HALL AT STOCKHOLM.

It will be recollected that, after the gallant affair at Eckness, the *Hecla*, on May 29th, went to Stockholm, where she became an object of great interest to the Swedes, who visited the ship in considerable numbers. Few things could more powerfully show the Swedes' hatred of Russia than the impetuosity with which they rushed on board the *Hecla*, which had been so recently in hot engagement with that Power. Altogether the scene was strangely significant of the Swedish feeling towards Russia, and plainly showed "which way the wind blew." The brave fellows of the *Hecla* were delighted with this unmistakable demonstration; and on the 31st, a sort of return visit was paid to Stockholm and great was the enthusiasm of the Stockholmers upon the landing of the brave Captain Hall and the officers from the *Hecla*. The scene, here engraved, was sketched by Mr. Dolby, who is now with the Baltic fleet.

The Swedish sentry is saluting the two officers, above whose heads, upon the other side of the river, is seen the residence of the British Minister, and immediately adjoining the Russian Minister's residence. The statue is that of Gustavus III. The women on the right are from the province of Dalecarlia, and seem to possess an exclusive right to all the ferries in Stockholm. During his stay, Captain Hall visited the dockyards and arsenal of Stockholm, and was loudly cheered wherever he went; and for some days the gallant Captain continued to be the lion of the city.

MIRAGE IN THE BALTIC.

The phenomenon of Mirage is, doubtless, familiar to most readers of works on popular science. The accompanying instance was recently witnessed in the Baltic, where the English fleet of nineteen sail, cruising off Gothland, was seen one foggy night, early in May, from the quarter-deck of H.M. screw steamer *Archer*, Captain Heathcote, his officers, and ship's company, stationed off the Isle of Osel, Gulf of Riga, distance from the fleet twenty-five or thirty miles. The View is from a Sketch by one of the officers of the *Archer*.

We are reminded of this mirage of a most remarkable instance mentioned by Captain Scoresby, who, in 1822, recognised his father's ship, the *Fame*, by its inverted image in the air, although the ship itself was below the horizon, and thirty miles off

H.M.S. "DAUNTLESS," AND RUSSIAN PRIZES.

We have been favoured by a Correspondent at Copenhagen with the accompanying Sketch.

The *Dauntless*, 23 guns, screw steam-frigate, Captain Alfred P. Ryder, on the morning of the 9th ult., arrived in Hango Bay, and found the *Penelope* there. The *Alban* came in on the same day. She left at ten a.m., and at six p.m., sighted and communicated with Admiral Corry's squadron off Dago Ort, consisting of nine sail of the line, &c., as follows

MIRAGE OF THE ENGLISH FLEET IN THE BALTIC.—SKETCHED FROM "THE ARCHER" STEAM-FRIGATE.

Neptune flagship, *Boscawen*, *Cumberland*, *James Watt*, *Nile*, *Royal George*, *St. George*, *Prince Regent*, *Monarch*, *Euryalus*, and *Rosamond*. At mid-day she passed by the French fleet between Dago Or; and Gotska Sandoe. At nine a.m. the following day she anchored in Faro Sound, where she found nine prizes taken by the *Amphion*. She remained three days coaling and fitting out the nine prizes referred to, all of which were detained under suspicious circumstances, breaking the blockade.

Our Correspondent adds:—"The five prizes that appeared most likely to sail well were then placed under the command of Mr. Herbert, Second Master, and Messrs. Cowburn, Hill, Thompson, and Hancock, Mids of the *Dauntless*. The crews were completed to ten men each, including the Captain, the mate, and the officer in charge. The vessels were started in company on Tuesday, the 14th, at two o'clock. The *Dauntless*, with four large Dutch galliots in tow, started on Wednesday night, after returning from the offing, where she had towed an unseaworthy prize, and set fire to it, after sinking it to the water's edge by shot and shell practice. On the same day she fell in with the Swedish and Norwegian fleet. On the 17th, at one p.m., consisting of eight sail, as follows:—two line-of-battle ships (one bearing the flag of a Rear-Admiral), four frigates, one corvette, and a brig. She exchanged salutes with the fleet, which our Correspondent represents in the accompanying Engraving. On the 16th she communicated with the *Cuckoo* steam gun-boat, Lieutenant-Commander Murray, off the north end of Bornholm. After passing through the Cattegat, it blowing heavy gales from the south-west, she was obliged to cast off the vessels, and send the prize crews on board to convey them to England. She arrived at Copenhagen on the 18th, and found the *Zephyr* steam gun-boat there, which vessel left for the fleet the same day. She sent on shore twenty-three Russian merchant seamen, taken out of the prizes. Twenty-seven others, including masters, mates, and seamen, are coming home in their respective vessels.

The *Dauntless* arrived at Sheerness on Saturday last, bringing home sixteen invalids.

The *Dauntless* has been employed during the last ten weeks in cruising between Hango and Sveaborg, reconnoitring the Russian fleet, which consists of ten sail of the line, one frigate, and two steam-vessels of war. The ten sail of the line are all moored in the harbour in such a position as to be able to concentrate their broadsides on the entrance of the harbour, into which only one ship can pass at a time. Frequently during her cruising within from a mile and a half to two miles of the batteries of Sveaborg, the Russian officers and soldiers could be clearly seen at their guns, while the officers of the *Dauntless* were quietly taking the soundings and sketches of the batteries, ships, dockyard, town, &c. Although she has come home with machinery, boilers, &c., deranged, she is very far from being inefficient as a sailing man-of-war, having a thoroughly well-disciplined and well-officered crew. She brought home large mails from the Baltic fleet.

REMARKABLE DISCOVERY OF VALUABLE MSS. ON CHESS.

A discovery of singular interest not simply to the votaries of Chess, but to all who have a taste for mediæval lore has recently been made in two of the fine old libraries of Florence. Signor Fantacci, Minister dell' Interno, has succeeded in disinterring from the dust in which they have slumbered, uncatalogued and unknown for centuries, some MSS. on Chess, of priceless rarity. Immediately upon the discovery of these treasures, M. Fantacci, with a liberality rare as the MSS. themselves, set about procuring copies of the chief works; and, with the sanction of the Grand Duke, placed the whole, in the most flattering manner, at the disposal of our countryman, Mr. Staunton, as a compliment to that amateur's services in the promotion of the game of Chess.

Some idea of the value and importance of these MSS. both to the Chess-player and the bibliopole, may be formed from the following list of those of which copies have been completed, or are in progress:—

1. A beautiful parchment MS., in Latin, by Bonus Socius (evidently a pseudonym) containing finely executed diagrams, in colours, of Problems, and curious End games, supposed to be one of the earliest European works on practical Chess extant, and to have been written at the latter end of the thirteenth, or beginning of the fourteenth century.

2. A parchment MS., in Latin, of the fifteenth century, containing Problems and critical positions.

3. A Latin MS., on paper, of the fifteenth century, containing Chess Problems.

4. A MS., on paper, in the Italian language, containing beautiful Chess Problems, &c., of the fifteenth century.

5. A MS. on paper, of the sixteenth century, by an anonymous author, entitled "Delle origine, et Invention della Virtuosissima professione [illegible]," [illegible] followed by an original work by some Italian dilettante, in which the Spanish writer Ruy Lopez, composed his treatise.

6. A parchment [illegible] MS. "Compendium edilli novo Scacchi [illegible]" [illegible] per Lucam Cianchi, al [illegible] Cosmo de' Medici [illegible] della Repubblica Fiorentina circa 1460."

7. A rich parchment MS. "Trattato [illegible] Scacchi [illegible] il quale è ritratto di guerre e divazioni di stato, divisato Scaratti, Parise, Gambetti, et di molti moderni, con bellissimi tratti e concetti tutti diversi di Giochino Greco Calabrese."—Not completed.

This appears, beyond all question, to be an original work, presented by Greco to the King, to whom the dedication is addressed. The frontispiece and dedication are in pen and ink, and are profusely ornamented, and the binding is of gold stamped with gold decorations and the arms of the King of Naples upon it. To the practical Chess player, Greco's MS. will probably be of higher interest than any other, since it contains scores of games and several problems, by the famous old Calabrian, which have never yet been published.

The additions thus made to our previous stores in the literature of Chess, may of themselves, or by the stimulus their discovery is likely to give to future research, clear up many a doubtful question touching the ancient form and powers of the Chessmen. Who knows but they may even supply the long-sought link which is to connect in one unbroken chain the *Chaturanga* of ancient India, with its almost fabulous antiquity of 5000 years, and the game of Chess we play to day? Already the discovery has awakened the attention of several gentlemen eminent for their research and learning. Sir Frederic Madden, whose admirable Essays in the "Archæologia," on the Introduction of Chess into Europe, are too well known to need description, has kindly undertaken to enrich our columns with a series of papers, historical and antiquarian, on the subject of Medieval Chess. The subject of these articles will probably comprise a chronological account of all the [illegible] observable with regard to the early form and movements of the piece, illustrated by engravings and descriptions of the celebrated Charlemagne said to have belonged to Charlemagne, the Chessmen found in the Isle of Lewis; those more recently dug up at Warmington, and other Chessmen of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. A description of the Latin poems which treat of Chess in the twelfth century; the Anglo-Norman treatise of the thirteenth century; the Moralizatio, addressed to Pope Innocent; the MSS of Nicholas de S. Nicolai, in the Imperial Library at Paris, and the other writers on the subject, of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, before the date of printing. To be followed by a description of the printed works of the Middle Ages, and a comparison of the various readings, in comparing them with the known MSS and printed works on the same subject in the principal libraries of Europe, and in preparing for us a detailed account of each, with copious remarks upon the treatises by Ruy Lopez, Gianutio, Salvio, Greco, Gustavus, Selenus, and Carrera.

But the labours of these gentlemen, however well directed and complete in themselves, would still fall short of presenting a perfect view of the progress of Chess without the assistance of some one conversant with the most ancient form of the game in India. This indispensable assistance, we are happy to say, will not be wanting. At the request of Sir Frederic Madden and Mr. Staunton, Dr. Forbes, the well-known Oriental scholar, who, fortunately, combines with his knowledge of Eastern languages, great practical skill in the modern game of Chess, and a more perfect acquaintance, probably, than any one living with its Asiatic predecessor, has favoured us with an appropriate introduction to the forthcoming articles of those gentlemen, in a paper on Oriental Chess. This Essay (the first chapter of which we give in the present number) contains a description of the ancient Hindoo Chessboard and [illegible] ram of the board and men arranged for battle; [illegible] an explanation of the Persian game, with diagrams [illegible] of the three Eastern MSS. in the British Museum, and [illegible] Asiatic Society, to show the *Identity* of the principal moves with those in the ancient MS., quoted by Hyde, now in the [illegible] at Oxford, and, consequently, with those [illegible] Europe [illegible] rod from whence Sir Frederic Madden commenced [illegible] research.

THE FRENCH COURT.—It is believed that the Emperor and Empress will leave Paris on the 20th inst. for the Pyrenees, or perhaps on the visit which has never been [illegible] to the camp at Marseilles. The Empress, whose health is [illegible] appears robust, will pass some time in the [illegible] often visited in other times, and preparations are already making [illegible] which is only distant about half an hour from Bayonne.

THE AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION OF FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

WHILE the Government of France has conciliated the good-will of the people of this country by a temperate and straightforward foreign policy, it has done much to secure the respect and obedience of the French themselves, by a course of strenuous exertion to promote industrial and productive pursuits, and a sustained endeavour to concentrate the attention of the nation on objects more in accordance with the spirit of the age than the empty glories of military strife. During the long residence in England of the present ruler of the French, he had ample opportunities of studying the sources and means of our prosperity and greatness; and he has since employed the vast power at his command, in stimulating the French people to follow in our footsteps.

Among the many other efforts to render the "Era of Peace" a reality, and not a phrase, the French Government has, of late, devoted much attention to improving French agriculture. What with us is done by the voluntary efforts of the various branches of the Royal Agricultural Society, in France is necessarily done by the Government, which takes the initiative, and stimulates, by every species of patronage and emulation within its means, the personal exertions of proprietors and cultivators. A very flattering result of their joint exertions was witnessed from Wednesday to Saturday (in the week before last), when was held, for the first time in Paris, a grand Exhibition of Farming Stock, implements, and agricultural productions generally, which attracted crowds of visitors from all parts of France, and which taken as a whole, must be admitted to have been remarkably successful.

It was in the year 1850, that the Minister of Agriculture, acting on the decision of a General Council of Agriculture and Commerce, organised a periodical Exhibition of Agricultural Stock and Implements, more or less formed on the model of those which have rendered such immense service to agriculture in this country. The impulse thus given by the Government, aided by the Inspector-General of Agriculture and the Inspector-General of the Veterinary Schools and Imperial Pastures, was responded to very generally throughout France, by proprietors and cultivators of the soil. Already since 1850 there have been two of these Exhibitions—the first at Versailles, the second at Orleans. A progressive improvement was thus far manifest; and this third and Metropolitan Show has far excelled the others. The Government wisely avoided, from the first, an error which brought down much well-founded censure and ridicule on our own earlier Exhibitions of the same class—"Fat cattle" were expressly excluded; and the competition was confined, as far as animals were concerned, to breeding stock—to male and female horned cattle, sheep, and pigs, born and bred in France, the cattle and sheep to be at least a year old (the males), the females eighteen months, and the swine at least eight months. They are required to have belonged to the exposition more than three months; and any animal brought expressly for the Show from local agricultural societies, is excluded. In other respects, most of our rules are followed. The agricultural implements must be of French manufacture; the prizes are in money, medals, and honourable testimonials; and a special provision authorises the Jury to give medals, if they should think fit, not merely to the owners of the animals, but also to farm superintendents or labourers who may have been directly instrumental in perfecting the stock. Besides animals and implements, specimens of all kinds of agricultural produce are admitted to these shows—such as corn, seeds; tubers; all sorts of textile plants and fruits; wool, silk, butter, cheese, honey, wax, wines, spirits, artificial food for beasts; in short, every article of produce embraced in agriculture and the industry of the farm.

The Champ de Mars, which has so often been the scene of military displays, was chosen as the place of this Exhibition—itself a pledge of the new-born devotion of the French nation to one of the noblest and most useful of the arts of peace. The reader, acquainted with Paris, will understand the position and relative size of this Exhibition, when we state that it occupied in breadth about one-fourth, and in length about one-half of the vast area called the Champ de Mars; that the entire was on the side parallel with the Seine, and nearly facing the Pont de Jena; and that, by consequence, the space occupied extended towards the Ecole Militaire, forming a long narrow parallelogram. The structures for the reception of visitors, and for the distribution of prizes, and the sheds for the animals and other things exhibited, were necessarily of the slightest kind—more so than similar constructions with us. But, on the other hand, that indefinable taste which more or less prevails in such cases in France, was employed to render the more ornamental parts of the whole as elegant and imposing as possible.

The interior proceedings commenced on the 2nd instant, when the various objects intended for exhibition arrived, and were duly placed; then the jury commenced their examination and adjudged the prizes. The President of the Jury for the Animals was the Baron de Béville; the President of the Jury for the Instruments was the Count de Gasparin; and for the general Agricultural Produce, the Count Beaumont. On Wednesday, the 7th, the Exhibition was opened to the public, on the payment of a franc for each person, and on Thursday gratuitously to all comers.

If in size this Exhibition could not compare with the grand periodical gatherings of our Royal Agricultural Society, it certainly merited all praise on the score of quality. The total number of animals of the three species already designated was 689; and it is not too much to say that so large a number, and so remarkable for beauty, have seldom, if ever, been collected together. It must be borne in mind that the Exhibition was of breeding stock; and if here and there might be observed

BRETON BULL. 1ST PRIZE.

animals somewhat too plump for our English notions on this head, still, on the whole, it was remarkable how the qualities necessary for the connoisseur were found united with extreme beauty of form and delicacy of coat. The bovine species was divided into races, of which the prize cattle afforded the most perfect specimens. There were the pure French breeds; the pure foreign breeds, born and reared in France; and the mixed races. There were the Normandy cattle, immense in size, with their great sharp bones, and for the most part brindled, contrasting with the red Flemish, so plump and soft-coated; the cream-coloured Charolaise; the black and white Bretonne, about the size of the Kilkennies; the buff-coloured Garonnaise; the Comtoise; the Limousine, a mountain breed; the Parthenaise, the pure Durhams, and the various crosses of that race. The exhibition of sheep was very fine: the total number was 240 of almost every variety. Amongst the porcine species two attracted especial notice—a boar, of considerable size, and a very fine Berkshire sow. Add to these, 55 lots of cocks, hens, ducks, geese, turkeys, pigeons, and rabbits, and 619 specimens of the various kinds of agricultural produce already mentioned, and we have a very respectable collection, considering that this institution is still in its infancy. Every year will increase the number of exposition, as the facilities of conveyance become multiplied. In regard to the quality of the various things exhibited, more especially the breeding stock, it will not be very easy to advance much further.

Our neighbours manage the honorary portion of these celebrations after their own fashion. With us the dinner is an indispensable wind-up of the proceedings; the French finish with a grand ceremonial, at which the Minister of the Department, and all the officials of a certain rank assist, all decorated and *en grande tenue*. To each nation its customs. The French perform their work none the worse because they are fond of a little display. On Friday, at two o'clock, the distribution of prizes took place, by the hand of the Minister of Agriculture, M. Magne. A magnificent tent of crimson cloth, with gold ornaments, and bearing the Imperial insignia, had been erected for the purpose. M. Magne was assisted by M. Pourrier, Councillor of State and Director-General of Agriculture and Commerce; M. Monny de Mornay, Chief of Division in the Department of Agriculture; M. Lefebvre de St. Marie, Inspector-General of Agriculture and the Commissary-General of the Exposition; the Count de Beaumont; the Count de Gasparin, and the Baron de Béville, and the Presidents of the Juries. A brilliant assemblage of persons of distinction in various departments of the State, and in private society, added, by their presence, to the interest and importance of the ceremony. Before distributing the prizes, the Minister of Agriculture delivered a speech, in which he congratulated the agriculturists and the country at large, on the vast improvement and rapid progress attested by the Exposition. The implements, more particularly those working by steam, were especially mentioned, amidst the loud applause of the spectators, as multiplying human labour—the insufficiency of which, in agricultural France, had been so often regretted. M. Magne also explained the efforts that were being made to spread a knowledge of the principles and practice of drainage; and his final allusions to the personal interest taken by the Emperor, in promotion of industrial pursuits were received with an approval it was impossible to mistake.

The prizes were then distributed. It would not interest our readers to give the complete lists; we may mention, however, the names of two or three of the exhibitors who were most successful. The cultivator who carried off the largest number of prizes was Mr. Allier, the director of the Colony of Petit Bourg, in the Department of Seine-et-Oise. He gained the first prize for the best bull of the Breton race, the first prize for cows of the same race, with an honourable testimonial to another; also, the sixth prize, for pure Durhams male: and the fifth for cows of the same race; among the exhibitors of sheep he gained the first prize for long wool, the first for short wool, the first for rams of mixed breed, and the fourth for ewes of the same race. Among the exhibitors of swine, Mr. Allier carried off the first prize for native sows, the first for foreign hogs, the first for foreign sows, and an extra honourable testimonial for all those which did not receive a prize; he also carried off the fourth prize for the minor farm yard animals, and a gold medal for his exhibition of general agricultural produce. M. Morin, who gained the second prize for a bull of the Normandy race at Orleans, in 1853, was the next most successful exhibitor. The two first prizes for the Charolaise were carried off by M. Louis Massé, of La Guiche; the first prize for bulls of the Normandy race being awarded to M. Lesenne, of Froberville.

At about five o'clock a great sensation was produced by the arrival of the Emperor, accompanied by the Empress. Attended by the chief functionaries already mentioned, and by the general auditors, proprietors, and others, their Majesties proceeded to inspect the whole of the Exhibition, stopping before the most remarkable and beautiful specimens. The gainer of the second prize for bulls of the Breton race was Goëllo, of Morbihan, a cultivator, who, on the arrival of the Emperor, showed him his medal. The Emperor shook him by the hand. Goëllo was dressed in the Breton costume, with the broad hat, long flowing hair, short jacket, and trousers fastened at the knees. When about to leave, the Emperor again saluted the honest peasant, who took his Majesty's hand and pressed it with an expression of gratitude. M. Allier, the gainer of so many prizes, was necessarily an object of interest to their Majesties.

On arriving at the shed where was the beautiful Breton bull with which M. Allier had won the first prize for animals of that race, the Emperor spoke to M. Allier, complimenting him on his signal success as an exposition—a success testified by his having carried off nine gold medals, five in silver or bronze, and three testimonials of the first class. The worthy chief of the colony of Petit Bourg—a better courtier, perhaps, than Goëllo—replied that his success was, in a great measure, due to the Emperor himself, who had been the means of giving to France the tranquillity and security she at present enjoyed. The Empress also spoke to M. Allier, inquiring if the Bretonnaises were good milch-cows? M. Allier was, a little later, again complimented on his Merinos, first prize for sheep. The public and unannounced visit of the Emperor appears to have given great satisfaction, as identifying him directly with the patronage of industrial pursuits.

On Saturday, there was a public sale of the animals, which fetched extremely good prices. Upon the whole, this Exhibition reflected the highest credit on French agriculture. The progress made in so short a time indicates that the energies of the people have not hitherto been fairly developed. It was satisfactory to see in the catalogue the names of so large a portion of the nobility here competing—and not always of so large a portion of the nobility here competing—and not always with success, like our own Richmonds and Dudleys—against small cultivators and proprietors. The attendance, too, on the first day, comprised a vast number of the nobility, of a class generally exclusive, and but rarely seen in public.

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